

MBCC  
Migratory Birds Conservation in Cyprus

Zero tolerance of illegal killing of wild birds



**Cyprus Annual Report 2015**

No, we fight back – that's what we do.

Bee-eaters need help

Spring migration



Cover: Cyprus Warbler (a Cyprus endemic bird ) by Nicolas Baiker

## Autumn 2015 Report

Over the years that MBCC Migratory Birds Conservation in Cyprus has been involved in the fight against illegal bird trapping in the South-East Peninsula with Cape Greco, political attitudes vis-à-vis wildlife crime in Cyprus have veered several times from benign indifference to signs of improvement, to stagnation – and now back again to the original starting point of virtual collusion.

The wildlife criminals as a body are determined to continue trapping; calculating landowners weigh up their chances of getting away with it in the courts; the general population is largely indifferent; the judiciary face mountains of EU procedural documents; meanwhile the island's politicians perform regular U-turns and sometimes go so far as to side openly with the criminal interests of the *Ambelopoulia* trade. The cast of actors occasionally changes, but the picture remains the same: a permanent stalemate that is enormously costly to all parties concerned in terms of time, money and energy. Action Plans against wildlife crime have already been set out and agreed to on paper, but then sabotaged in practice. - Can we do nothing but look forward to more years of wearisome, monotonous and unchanging wrangling?

The answer is **no: we fight back** – that's what we do. MBCC Migratory Birds Conservation in Cyprus is engaged in something that is essential for this society. In the absence of any opposition voice, things could quickly become dangerous, on all sides of the political spectrum. That the fight against illegal bird catching has for over 20 years been regarded as legitimate by Cypriot public opinion has also been a good sign for democracy. We must be the more careful to continue the resistance now, for public anger over wildlife crime can never be taken for granted and the trappers, hunters and politicians would be only too glad to see it ebb away.

### Our coverage of the South-East Peninsula with Cape Greco

Since 1993 we have used the principles of modern criminalistics against illegal trapping. Across the 2,750 hectares of the South-East Peninsula we have been in the field during every migration season since 2001 with teams of volunteers, investigating one trapping site after another and where necessary involving the police and getting trappers arrested. Over the years, every known trapping site has been observed and visited countless times, to the point where in many cases bird catchers gave up their activities for fear of arrest and prosecution.

By concentrating on the same area we have been able to guarantee a constant presence and continual, focused intervention, instead of dissipating our forces throughout the whole island. That approach has paid off handsomely: the entire 2,750 ha area, notorious for bird catching and infested with bird killers in the 1990s, has seen levels of trapping fall to below 10% of previous rates in the 15 years of our activity – a unique, stand-out success along the south coast of Cyprus. Only a handful of diehard orchard owners have remained active as trappers.

Despite these achievements, the area cannot be left unsupervised, at least so long as the current government continues to waver in its condemnation of wildlife crime, holding out false hopes to the trapping lobby. Many of the local population would still catch wild birds illegally if they thought they could get away with it, and indeed some do seize any opportunity to set out a few lime sticks or a mist net. Clandestine lime stick factories are still occasionally discovered.



## Lime stick factory



Sticks smeared with wet glue are drying on two iron poles; finally the trappers put the fresh lime sticks in bushes to catch the wild birds.

## **Fighting back against wildlife crime is more important than ever**

During the night of 27 September in the Sotira Forest (close by the Cape Greco Natura 2000 SPA) we heard a migrating flock of about 1,000 bee-eaters passing high overhead in the darkness. The birds had decided to fly past the island and head directly for Africa. They were guided by some lucky instinct, since hunters were again lying in wait at Cape Greco.

## **Cape Greco Natura 2000 SPA – one of the Mediterranean’s big migration bottlenecks**

We face major difficulties in protecting large-scale migration movements of birds through the broader area of Cape Greco. The hunting pressure is not sustainable, but covering the whole area is extremely problematic for us. As a result, birds migrating through this bottleneck area face huge dangers.

Since 2014 we have been particularly active in protecting migrating bee-eaters, which are shot down by the thousand as they pass through Cyprus. In September 2015 we noticed a significant decline in numbers of bee-eaters present at sites where shooting was taking place. As a result, fewer of these birds were shot than in 2014, although the hunters tried to attract their victims using beehives and also bee-eater decoys. The bee-eaters were in flocks mixed with many migrating swallows.

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## **The 2005 bird count highlighted the fact that the number of bee-eaters migrating over the South Eastern Peninsula with Cape Greco must exceed 1% of the European breeding population.**

Following the important Bird Area criteria system (Waliczky,2000), the “C3” criterion is met when a site is known to regularly hold at least 1% of the flyway of migratory species not considered threatened at the EU level. In Iezekiel et.al.(2004) the threshold for European Bee-eater to fulfil this criteria is stated as 13,000 individuals. In our case, this threshold is complied with by the number of counted birds alone – **17,145** – even without being complemented by an estimation of the amount of birds overlooked and without those migrating at night.

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From 15 September we carried out regular patrols as observers along the track to Agios Ioannis, close by the Cape Greco Natura 2000 SPA. The scrubby slopes along this old walking and pilgrims’ trail from the church Panagia (Protaras) to Agios Ioannis provide a perfect habitat for hunters to lure unsuspecting migratory birds.

On the last day of the hunting season, 30 September, we three observers were set upon by two hired thugs who made it quite clear to us that we were unwelcome at this hunting site, repeatedly shouting ‘Go home!’.

The barefaced brutality of this aggression was compounded by the thugs’ obvious assumption that this, like any other criminal behaviour against humans or animals while hunting, would be neither witnessed nor punished. In this context it must be stressed that we received huge support from the Famagusta/Paralimni police – we fully appreciated the engagement and perceptible willingness to help of all their officers.

**Resistance against wildlife crime is more important than ever**, in order to offset these malicious trends. The fight has become dangerous, in the current political landscape on Cyprus, but for that very reason remains crucial.

## **Acknowledgement**

The autumn camp of the MBCC from 15 September to 22 October 2015

We warmly thank the long term volunteers for their help in this rather difficult project

Alberto Köhl, Switzerland

Martin Schneider, Switzerland

Evgeniy Chuprenski, Bulgaria

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### **Some figures from the Cape Greco SPA bottleneck site**

Autumn bird count 2005

Swallow *Hirundo rustico* 38,955

Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* 17,146

Crane *Grus grus* 2,500 (7,000 in 2004)

Raptors 5,153 (Species 26)

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## **Spring Camp Report 2015**

The Cyprus camp took place from 31 March to 3 May 2015. The key player in our bird conservation work this spring was the weather. Rain was forecast continually and the spring winds were unbroken in strength that made it impossible to set out lime sticks or nets. The bird trappers did not put their trust in the short, windless and dry intervals and did not even visit their gardens, where they otherwise busied themselves in the early mornings.

On the first camp weekend, we found 2 bushes with 18 limesticks, a decoy device and 11 glued but live Blackcaps near some houses. The large number of empty cartridges indicated that hunters use this area in winter. On the Monday morning a loud decoy device was located at a further trapping site with 47 limesticks in two bushes and two trapped Lesser Whitethroats. However, the weather then deteriorated so that subsequently only a single trapping site with limesticks was found. The trappers sometimes hope for more success by setting out their limesticks in very high trees. At a site well guarded by watchdogs, we later found a mist net 7 m in length and 4 m high. The wind had driven it however against the bushes rendering it unusable.

Despite the cold, rainy and windy weather, we were continuously underway and checked the complete south-eastern peninsula and Cape Greco for signs of illegal trapping. We found a considerable number of traces from the winter hunting season. Former trapping areas, from which we had for years cleared of poles, iron bars and ground carpets, were no longer active. Five new trapping sites, which were used not only by hunters for target practice, but also as illegal trapping sites with large nets and limesticks, appeared to be active.

The five volunteers participating in this year's spring camp had their hands full destroying the trapping paraphernalia and removing the heavy concrete-filled vehicle tyres and mist net poles embedded in concrete. In places, the long net poles were still lying around.

From as early as 20 April, it became clear that the trappers had given up on spring trapping. Watchdogs were removed from gardens and there were no limesticks to be found in the loquat bushes with their ripe fruit. They did not even harvest the fruit, but left it to rot on the branches. Could this be an indication that these bushes are cultivated solely to trap birds?

When we did find limesticks, there were always trapped birds on them. The wind condition for bird migration from Africa were favourable with winds from ESW.

Over the Cyprus Easter holiday from 12 to 13 April, **all 'floodgates' for migratory birds appeared to be open. Following the spell severe of weather Nicolas Baiker, our ornithologist, observed a vast number of birds arriving on the Konnos plateau. He noticed in particular the exceptional number of Whitethroats. Strong harrier migration was recorded this spring. This migratory phenomenon in spring can only be observed in this area of Cape Greco and hinterland.** On 16 April, the numbers of returning migrants had sharply declined.

The Bee-eaters arrive later this year and in very small numbers. First of all a single Bee-eater was heard calling, several days later we observed two birds, and only as late as 18 April did we see a flock of ten birds. This whole passage of Bee-eaters was rather disappointing.

## **Acknowledgement**

We warmly thank the long term volunteers who did support this camp with hard work and intensive bird observation

Marios Grigoriou, Cyprus;  
Ben Reid, Scotland;  
Michael Woodhouse, England;  
Nicolas Baiker, Switzerland;  
Olivier Zobrist, Switzerland





Cliff with Konnos plateau, the door to Africa



## Species List (SPA Cape Greco Area and hinterland)

Dates: 11–26 April 2015

List and photographs by Nicolas Baiker Switzerland

### **Little Grebe** (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

Two observations, near Paralimni Lake (12.04) and in the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04).

### **Black-crowned Night Heron** (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)

Recorded on several days (22.04 – 25.04) on Cape Greco. Above all individuals that flew calling over Konnos Bay shortly after dusk. In addition, two individuals were observed at rest after a short thunderstorm in the groups of bushes north-west of Konnos Bay (22.04).

### **Squacco Heron** (*Ardeola ralloides*)

Two individuals were observed. One bird was present near the small pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04). A second migrating individual was observed on the Konnos Plateau (20.04).

### **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*)

Observed on a number of occasions in the vicinity of the Cape Greco SPA. Observations were also made on the Konnos Plateau (20/21.04) and at least one individual was present at the Paralimni Lake (12.04).



Photograph 1: Little Egret

**Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*)**

Observed on several occasions in the Cape Greco SPA. Of special interest is an observation of 11 individuals at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04). Large groups of herons were also observed flying over the open sea. Due to the great distance involved the species could not be identified

**Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis falcinellus*)**

A single bird flew southwards along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (20.04). An observation was also made at Paralimni Lake (12.04).

**Western Marsh Harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)**

Individuals on migration, as a rule solitary birds, were observed in the Cape Greco area (13/15/23/25.4). Some six birds were sighted between 11-26 April.

**Pallid Harrier (*Circus macrourus*)**

An adult male migrated over the Konnos hinterland (14.04) and a further bird hunted on the Konnos Bay cliffs (21.04).

In addition, there were possible sightings of other migrating Pallid Harriers with female plumage. Due to the conditions (great distance) the possibility that they were Montagu's Harriers cannot be completely ruled out.

**Montagu's Harrier (*Circus pygargus*)**

Several migrating individuals were observed over the whole south-eastern peninsula and Cape Greco (11/14/19/20/21.04). In addition there was a number of not precisely identified harriers (Montagu's or Pallid Harriers). As a rule the birds were solitary migrants. In the complete time frame - 11- 26 April - there were reliable sightings of some six Montagu's Harriers. Strong harrier migration was recorded this spring.

**Common Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)**

Common species in the Cape Greco SPA, on Konnos and the south-eastern peninsula. The species was observed daily.

**Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)**

The species was observed almost daily on Cape Greco, Konnos and its hinterland.



*Photograph 2: Eurasian Hobby*

**Chukar** (*Alectoris chukar*)

Records of this species were made almost daily in the Cape Greco SPA (12/13/14/20/21/22/23/24.04.) along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau)



*Photograph 3: Chukar*

**Black Francolin** (*Francolinus francolinus*)

Individual records on Cape Greco and the south-eastern peninsula, in particular at least one calling bird on Phanos and several more on the fields in the vicinity of the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church. Unfortunately no direct sightings.

**Common Quail** (*Coturnix coturnix*)

A number of individuals recorded on several occasions, both along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (a maximum of some seven birds) as well as in the Cape Greco hinterland.

**Common Moorhen** (*Gallinula chloropus*)

Only a few records. A single bird was observed near Paralimni Lake (12.04) and a further individual at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland).

**Eurasian Coot** (*Fulica atra*)

Only a few records. Several individuals were observed at Paralimni Lake (12.04) and further individual sat the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church in the Cape Greco hinterland.

**Black-winged Stilt** (*Himantopus himantopus*)

Small resting flocks were observed, especially at Paralimni Lake (12.04). A further two individuals were recorded at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (12.04.)

**Eurasian Stone-Curlew** (*Burhinus oedichnemus*)

A number of individuals were recorded on several occasion. The observations were mainly made in the National Forest Park (Cape Greco) as well as along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau). In the latter location up to six individuals were observed simultaneously (19.04).



Photograph 4: Eurasian Stone-Curlew



**Little Ringed Plover** (*Charadrius dubius*)

Only a few individuals were observed on Paralimni Lake (12.04).

**Spur-winged Lapwing** (*Vanellus spinosus*)

Several individuals were observed at the known breeding site at Paralimni Lake (12.04). In addition two birds present along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (21.04).



Photograph 5: Spur-winged Lapwing

**Sanderling** (*Calidris alba*)

A single individual was present at Paralimni Lake (12.04).

**Jack Snipe** (*Lymnocyptes minimus*)

A single individual present on the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (16.04).

**Common Snipe** (*Gallinago gallinago*)

At least two individuals were observed at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland).

**Common Greenshank** (*Tringa nebularia*)

Individual birds were present at Paralimni Lake (12.04) and at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (15.04)

**Green Sandpiper** (*Tringa ochropus*)

At least one individual was present at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04.).

**Wood Sandpiper** (*Tringa glareola*)

Individual birds were present at Paralimni Lake (12.04). In addition a migrating bird was observed over Konnos Plateau (Cape Greco) (20.04).

**Common Sandpiper** (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Individual birds were present on the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (20/21/23/24.04). Also sightings at Paralimni Lake (12.04).

**Audouin's Gull** (*Larus audouinii*)

All observations were made in Konnos Bay and other areas on Cape Greco. Maximum numbers sighted were some five individuals. (13/14/15/16/19/21/22/23.04).



Photograph 6: Audouin's Gull

**Lesser Black-backed Gull with characteristics of the Baltic subspecies**

(*Larus fuscus fuscus*)

At least one individual overflew Konnos Bay (13.04.).

**Yellow-legged Gull** (*Larus michahellis*)

Individual birds overflew Konnos Bay (22.04.).

**Common Wood Pigeon** (*Columba palumbus*)

Several individuals observed in the Cape Greco area (11- 17. 04). Thereafter probably present but not recorded. The species is relatively common in the Cape Greco SPA.

**Eurasian Collared Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*)

Several individuals observed daily.

**European Turtle Dove** (*Streptopelia turtur*)

Several individuals observed; after 18 April a marked increase in the population was noticeable.

**Common Cuckoo** (*Cuculus canorus*)

Recorded on several occasions on the south-eastern peninsula and Cape Greco, but mostly only the call was heard (17/18/19/23.04).

**European Nightjar** (*Caprimulgus europaeus*)

In the course of a deliberate search after dusk on unmade roads and tracks, at least three individuals were observed (in the vicinity of Agia Napa sewage works) in the Cape Greco hinterland (21.04).

**Common Swift** (*Apus apus*)

Several individuals were observed almost daily.

**Alpine Swift** (*Apus melba*)

Several individuals were observed (12/13/14/23/24.04).

**European Bee-eater** (*Merops apiaster*)

Only a few Bee-eaters were seen on migration this spring. Three observations: in the Cape Greco hinterland (18.04), in Sotira Forest (19.04) and in the Konnos area (20.4). The largest flock numbered some 11 individuals.

**European Roller** (*Coracias garrulus*)

Only a few individuals were observed. One bird was seen in the Cape Greco hinterland. Further sightings were made on electricity pylons on the roadside between Paralimni and Agia Napa and in Sotira Forest (both 19.04). A total of five individuals was therefore recorded in the time frame 11- 26 April.

**Eurasian Hoopoe** (*Upupa epops*)

Only a few individuals were observed. One bird was seen near the Moonshine Ranch (Konnos). Further individuals were present in the rest of the Cape Greco hinterland as well as along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (20/21/23.4).



Photograph 7: Eurasian Wryneck



**Eurasian Wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*)**

Recorded on several occasions, especially in the National Park and along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau). At the latter location the species was observed regularly (13/14/15/16/18/19/20.4).

**Greater Short-toed Lark (*Calandrella brachydactya*)**

Two large resting flocks of a maximum of 13 individuals were observed (13/20.4). Both observations were along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau).



*Photograph 8: Greater Short-toed Lark*



**Crested Lark** (*Galerida cristata*)

A common species on Cape Greco and its hinterland. Thriving populations also present along the coastline north of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau). The species was observed daily.



Photograph 9: Crested Lark

**Sand Martin** (*Riparia riparia*)

Only two individuals recorded among other swallow and martin flocks Observations made along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (20.04) and in the Cape Greco hinterland (24.04).

**Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*)

Very common species, observed daily, on the south-eastern peninsula and Cape Greco.

**Red-rumped Swallow** (*Cecropis daurica*)

Individuals were present in the larger swallow flocks. Observations made along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) and in the Cape Greco hinterland (14/20/21/23/24.04).

**Common House Martin** (*Delichon urbicum*)

Observed almost daily throughout the Cape Greco SPA and in the hinterland.

**Tawny Pipit** (*Anthus campestris*)

Several individuals recorded, especially along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (12/13/19/20/21/22/23/24.04). Maximum number was some six individuals.



Photograph 10: Tawny Pipit



Photograph 11: Tawny Pipit

**Tree Pipit (*Anthus trivialis*)**

Many migrating individuals were observed and the species was seen almost daily, especially in the Cape Greco hinterland and in the National Forest Park.



*Photograph 12: Tawny Pipit*

**Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*)**

Several individuals were observed, especially along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (13/14/21/23.4).

**Western Yellow Wagtail with characteristics of the *thunbergi* subspecies**

Several individuals discovered along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau).



*Photograph 13: Western Yellow Wagtail*

**Western Yellow Wagtail with characteristics of the eastern feldegg species 'Black-headed Wagtail'** (*Motacilla flava feldegg*)

At least one individual was observed on the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau).

**Common Nightingale** (*Luscinia megarhynchos*)

The species was observed daily throughout the Cape Greco SPA and its hinterland.

**Common Redstart** (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*)

Only two individuals were observed. One bird in the Konnos area (13.04), and a further individual at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (26.04).

**Whinchat** (*Saxicola rubetra*)

Several individuals were observed along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (11/12/17/19/20/21/22/23.04).

**Northern Wheatear** (*Oenanthe oenanthe*)

The species was observed daily, primarily along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (SPA Cape Greco). Maximum numbers sighted were some eight individuals (Konnos Plateau).

**Cyprus Wheatear** (*Oenanthe cypriaca*)

The species, almost probably a breeding pair, was observed almost daily along the coastline north of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) Further observations were made in the Cape Greco SPA.

**Black-eared Wheatear, probably the south-eastern subspecies 'Eastern Black-eared Wheatear'** (*Oenanthe melanoleuca*)

Only two individuals were observed. One bird was present in the Cape Greco- Konnos area (22.04) and a further bird near the Agia Napa sewage works (Cape Greco hinterland) (24.04).



Photograph 14: Eastern Black-eared Wheatear





Photograph 15: Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush

**Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush (*Monticola saxatilis*)**

One individual was observed along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (19.04.).

**Cetti's Warbler (*Cettia cetti*)**

Several individuals were heard at Paralimni Lake (12.04), at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04.), and in the area around the Paralimni landfill site (24.04). The species was however absent from the Konnos area.

**Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*)**

Several individuals were sighted at Paralimni Lake (12.04), in the Cape Greco SPA and the area around Phanos (Cape Greco hinterland). The species is common there and was observed almost daily.

**European Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus scirpaceus*)**

Two individuals were present in the Konnos - Cape Greco area (14/16.04).

**Eastern Olivaceous Warbler (*Iduna pallida*)**

Several singing individuals were observed in the gardens around the Paralimni landfill site (18.04), near Phanos, and at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (26.04).

**Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata*)**

The species is relatively common on Cape Greco and its hinterland. Along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) it can be observed almost daily. During the first week following heavy rain particularly numerous individuals rest at this location.



*Photograph 16: Spectacled Warbler*

**Sardinian Warbler (*Sylvia melanocephala*)**

A few individuals were observed on a slope at Rayies (Cape Greco hinterland) (13/14.04), in the Konnos area and in Sotira Forest (23/24.4).

**Cyprus Warbler (*Sylvia melanothorax*)**

This species can be observed almost daily in the Cape Greco SPA (13/14/16/17/19/20/21/22.04).



*Photograph 17: Cyprus Warbler*

**Rüppell's Warbler** (*Sylvia rueppelli*)

A few individuals were observed at Rayies (Cape Greco hinterland) (12.04), as well as in the National Forest Park, Cape Greco SPA (23/24.4).

**Lesser Whitethroat** (*Sylvia curruca*)

A common species with observations almost daily, especially along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau).



Photograph 18: Lesser Whitethroat

**Common Whitethroat** (*Sylvia communis*)

Possibly the most common migratory 'Sylvia' warbler in the Cape Greco SPA. Observations can be made every day, especially along the coastline north of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau). There were high numbers of migrating Whitethroats between 12 and 16.4.

**Eurasian Blackcap** (*Sylvia atricapilla*)

Observations of this species can be made almost every day. There is strong migration over Cape Greco.

**Eastern Bonelli's Warbler** (*Phylloscopus orientalis*)

A single individual was observed in the bushes on the slope between Konnos Bay and the Grecian Park Hotel (Konnos Beach road), National Forest Park (13.04).

**Wood Warbler** (*Phylloscopus sibilatrix*)

Two individuals were observed together on the slope between Konnos Bay and the Grecian Park Hotel (Konnos beach road) (21.04).

**Willow Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochilus*)

Individuals were observed in Cape Greco Park (12/13/14.04).





Photograph 19: Willow Warbler

**Spotted Flycatcher (*Muscicapa striata*)**

Individuals were observed in the Cape Greco SPA as well as in the hinterland near the sewage works (Agia Napa (23.04).

**Collared Flycatcher (*Ficedula albicollis*)**

A single individual was present in the bushes in the National Forest Park (14.04).



Photograph 20: Eurasian Golden Oriole



**European Pied Flycatcher** (*Ficedula hypoleuca*)

Individuals were present in the National Forest Park.

**Great Tit** (*Parus major*)

Observed almost daily, especially in the gardens in the Cape Greco hinterland.

**Eurasian Golden Oriole** (*Oriolus oriolus*)

Individuals observed on Cape Greco (23.04) and near Phanos (22/24.04).

**Lesser Grey Shrike** (*Lanius minor*)

One individual observed along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (17.04).

**Woodchat Shrike** (*Lanius senator*)

Several individuals were observed, especially along the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) where three individuals were observed simultaneously. Additionally, individuals were observed in the National Forest Park and in the Cape Greco hinterland (Agia Napa, sewage works) (19/20/21/22/23/24.04).



Photograph 21: Woodchat Shrike

**Masked Shrike** (*Lanius nubicus*)

Individuals observed in Rayies (Cape Greco Hinterland) (13/20.04) as well as at the pond below the Agia Paraskevi church (in the Cape Greco hinterland) (16.04).

**Eurasian Magpie** (*Pica pica*)

One individual near the motorway between Agia Napa and Larnaca (26.04).

**Western Jackdaw** (*Corvus monedula*)

Individuals on the high cliffs, Cape Greco (21.04).

**Hooded Crow** (*Corvus cornix*)

The species is common here and can be observed almost daily.

**House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*)

The species is common and can be observed daily.

**Spanish Sparrow** (*Passer hispaniolensis*)

The species can be observed daily.

**European Greenfinch** (*Carduelis chloris*)

The species is common here and can be observed daily.

**European Goldfinch** (*Carduelis carduelis*)

The species is common here and can be observed daily.



Photograph 22: European Goldfinch

**Ortolan Bunting** (*Emberiza hortulana*)

Individual birds were observed on both sides of the National Forest Park, as well as on the coastline north-west of Konnos Bay (Konnos Plateau) (13/14/18/19.04).

**Cretzschmar's Bunting** (*Emberiza caesia*)

A single individual was observed in the bushes of the National Forest Park (24.04).

**Black-headed Bunting** (*Emberiza melanocephala*)

This common breeding bird with its striking song arrived on the south-eastern peninsula and Cape Greco on 22 April 2015. At least one individual was present in a garden near Phanos (22.04). Further singing males were heard and observed in the National Forest Park (23.04).



*Photograph 23: Black-headed Bunting*

Resist wildlife crime –

Be the change that you wish in the world



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Gwatt, 15 November 2015