

## Ecology session

**Martins Briedis** – Migration and wintering ecology of Tawny Pipits  
Evidence of a migratory divide, two wintering sites, one possibly a moulting site

**Tom Finch** – Migration ecology and connectivity in European Rollers  
“Low” connectivity and the need and value of sharing data across Europe

**Arndt Wellbrock** – Migration connectivity and routes in Common Swifts  
All European swifts converge in spring in Liberia and most make loop migrations

**Olivier Biber** - Adaptation of bird migration to modified environmental conditions  
A reminder of the MLSG’s link to the Convention for Migratory species and how climate change might reduce relative competitive advantages for migrants such as ring ouzels

**Jesko Partecke** - Understanding mechanisms of flexibility in migratory strategies of blackbirds  
A combination of methods is needed to keep effective track of even short distance and partial migrants, but much can be learnt from such intensive studies

**Hassiba Berrai** – Common Starlings wintering in Algeria  
A reminder that many European migrants winter in North Africa and that valuable research can be directed there

**Lykke Pedersen** – Responses to variation in habitat conditions through the annual cycle  
A search for generalities in connectivity using red-backed shrikes as a model, and how when comparing migrants it is “best not to compare apples and oranges”

**Rebecca Thomas** - Disease issues in turtle doves  
Turtle doves have a very high infection rate of protozoan parasites; further research is needed to determine what effect this might be having

**Wouter Vansteelant** – Wind conditions and the migration of honey buzzards  
Migratory routes arise through weather patterns but then get improved by social learning as the maturing juveniles start following adults

**Kalender Arikan** – Migration through the Hatay – Belen pass area of Turkey  
There are many less well known potential raptor count points in Europe that can provide information on populations.

## Conservation session

**Nathalie Gilbert** – Climate change and breeding success in white storks  
The potential for adaptation by migrants: 16,000 storks now wintering in Spain, all eating landfill that will be removed by EU legislation shortly.

**Dimitri Giunchi** – Conservation of Stone-curlews during the non-breeding period  
Some shorebirds are landbirds – stone curlews are increasing as winterers in Italy perhaps due to climate change, they migrate short distances and like orchards

**Anny Anselin** – Marsh harrier conservation in fragmented, intensive agricultural habitats

How some marsh harriers have adapted very successfully to agricultural habitats and whether the result is two effectively separate populations of “agricultural” and reedbed harriers

**Catriona Morrison** – Europe wide variation in population demography to identify drivers of population change

How analysis of variation in European wide population data can highlight drivers of migrant declines (which shows what an informative title Catriona had in the first place) and highlight priority areas in Europe.

**Juan Arizaga** – The importance of stop-over ecology in front of geographic barriers

How we can progress from descriptive studies to experimental studies to identify the importance of stop-over sites before barriers

**Tony Morris** – Development of Agricultural Environment Schemes for foraging Turtle Doves

Research needs to lead to conservation recommendations and then trialling to address turtle dove declines, but this is all at an early stage in all three areas.

**Tara Proud** – Hunting - a conservation issue for turtle doves?

A million turtle doves are being killed each year by hunters across Europe, at least. We do not know yet if this is important in their declines but the issue needs addressing urgently. Operation Turtle Dove on a flyway scale may help.

**Johannes Kamp** – Critical decline of the yellow-breasted bunting

The next passenger pigeon. Unsustainable hunting has resulted in the extinction and massive decline of the bunting all across Asia.

**Phil Saunders** – Climate and land use change effects on European Rollers

Rollers in Cyprus show that local idiosyncracies can determine the dynamics of a population and so the need for repeated studies.

**Basak Senturk** – Wind farms and soaring migrant conflicts in Turkey

How methods in common across Europe need to be used to assess local wind farm impacts in a standardised way.

**Alejandro Gutierrez** – Turtle doves at high breeding density in Spain

Local good news! A part of Europe where there are still lots of turtle doves and so an opportunity to study a population and what is important pre-decline.

## Methods session

**Jen Stockdale** – Updating dietary data: use of genetic markers

New technology can allow us to get excellent detailed information about diet from faeces

**Cosme López Calderón** – Stable isotopes to identify wintering areas in house martins

Stable isotopes, at least in house martins, can provide some information about approximate range.

**Brian Cresswell** – How to tame your telemetry equipment provider: how researchers and suppliers/designers can work better together for mutual benefits

Communicate, communicate, communicate – those that build and sell tags need feedback

**Chris Hewson** – Tag effects and best tagging practices

Tag effects can be species and context specific, and can vary between years. We need more carefully collected data and repeated studies, and most importantly reporting of results.

**Eldar Rakhimberdiev** – Analysis of geolocator data

Geolocator data analysis is tricky because of the various uncertainties but FlightR (available on github) can help

**Gizem Yilmaz** – Standardising and collating European migratory raptor watch data

Don't reinvent the wheel with respect to monitoring raptors in Europe by counting at migratory bottlenecks – this has been standardised across the US and similar methods can be used here.

**Hansoo Lee** – GPS and phone based telemetry systems on Cinereous Vultures

Build your own tags to understand what species are doing in remote places

**Leila Walker** – Testing the efficacy of different Agricultural Environment Schemes

Post conservation assessment is essential and the importance of model validation across replicated plots.

**Baptiste Schmid** – Using radar data to study migration

How a bit of lateral thinking can use the mountain of existing weather radar infrastructure and data to help us understand patterns of migration

**Rien van Wijk** – Studying weather related migration phenology using geolocators

Clever application of sensors to existing tags can greatly enhance their value