

## A RECENT EVIDENCE OF THE SPRING MIGRATION OF MEDITERRANEAN SHEARWATER *Puffinus yelkouan* ALONG THE BULGARIAN BLACK SEA COAST

### Novi dokazi o pomladni selitvi sredozemskega viharnika *Puffinus yelkouan* vzdolž obale Črnega morja v Bolgariji

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After the 1970s, the Mediterranean Shearwater has been observed passing along the western Black Sea coast in flocks of up to 13,500 or even 20,000 individuals in some years (SIMEONOV *et al.* 1990). It is known that the species is more numerous near the Bulgarian Black Sea coast between July and October (SIMEONOV *et al.* 1990). The data presented below for the past four years shows that the species passes in significant numbers near the Bulgarian Black Sea coast also in April and May.

In 2003: on 28 Apr, a flock of 30 Mediterranean Shearwaters was observed offshore in the region of Durankulak Lake (UTM PJ23); on 29 Apr, two groups of birds (consisting of 170 and 70 birds) were seen flying to the north offshore near Cape Kaliakra (UTM PJ01); on 5 May, a group of 272 Mediterranean Shearwaters flying to the north at about 1 km far from the coast was seen in the region of the village of Kamen Brjag (UTM PJ12) (NIKOLOV, B., NIKOLOV, S. & DUCOV, A. *pers. comm.*); on 10 May, a flock of 2,000 individuals was seen off the coast of Lake Atanasovsko (UTM NH03) (MICHEV *et al.* 2004); between 14 and 17 May, several groups consisting of 1,200 to 10,000 birds were observed feeding at the entrance of Varna

Gulf (UTM NH87) (MITEV, D. *pers. comm.*); on 19 and 20 May, few groups consisting of 5,400 to 12,000 birds were observed feeding at a distance of 400 to 2,000 m from the coast and spending the night in smaller groups (up to 500 – 1,000 individuals) in the region of Cape Kaliakra; on 28 May, a flock of 50 birds was seen flying to the north at a distance about 1 km from the coast in the region of Lake Alepu (UTM NG95). In 2004: on 9 May, two flocks consisting of 100 and 200 individuals were observed in the gulf of the Sveti Vlas village (UTM NH25) (PAPPS, S. *pers. comm.*); on 10 and 11 May, groups of respectively 6 and 21 birds were observed at the foregoing site; on 11 May, a flock of 10 birds was seen offshore flying to the south near Irakli Bay (UTM NH73); on 13 May, 8 individuals were observed flying to the north on Cape Kaliakra; on 30 May, 2 birds were seen near the Sveti Vlas village. In 2005: on 10 May, one Mediterranean Shearwater was seen in the sea flying to the east in the region of the Sarafovo village (UTM NH41) and 9 birds (6 flying to the south-east, and 3 to the north) were observed offshore on Cape Emine (UTM NH72); on 12 May, a flock consisting of 450 individuals was observed offshore in the region of Durankulak Lake. In 2006: on 23 May, 50 birds were seen flying to the south at 1 km offshore in the region of Durankulak Lake at 9.30 h and a group of about 1,300 individuals was observed feeding together with 10 dolphins at a distance of 500 – 800 m from the coast at 16.30 h in the region of the Kamen Brjag village; on 25 May, a group of 3 birds was seen flying to the north at about 1.5 km distance from the coast in the region of Nesebar town (UTM NH25) at 10.00 h and 53 birds were seen feeding at a distance of about 2 km offshore in the region of Cape Kaliakra at 16.30 h; on 26 May, a group of 4 birds flying to the north at about 1 km distance from the coast was seen in the area of Lake Durankulak at 10.05 h and two groups consisting of 1,300 and 1,000 individuals were observed simultaneously flying to the north at distances 1.5 and 2 km respectively from the coast in the region of the Kamen Brjag village between 16.20 and 16.50 h.

#### Povzetek

Avtorji podajajo nove dokaze o spomladanski selitvi sredozemskega viharnika *Puffinus yelkouan* vzdolž obale Črnega morja v Bolgariji; navajajo podatke za zadnja štiri leta (2003 – 2006), ki kažejo, da se sredozemski viharnik pojavlja redno in v precejšnjem številu, največje zabeleženo število pa je bilo 12.000 osebkov.

## References

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## EVIDENCE FOR THE REGULAR SPRING AND AUTUMN MIGRATION OF TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus* ALONG THE WESTERN BLACK SEA COAST

### Dokazi o redni spomladanski in jesenski selitvi sabljastega martinca *Xenus cinereus* vzdolž zahodne obale Črnega morja

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The Terek Sandpiper is a regular migrant to the region of the eastern Black Sea with important route between the Ural and Volga rivers and birds also passing through Transcaucasus and Ukraine (DEMENTIEV & GLADKOV 1951). The species is considered to be a rare visitor or vagrant farther west, including the Balkans (CRAMP 1983) and there are few published observations in Bulgaria (NANKINOV *et al.* 1997, MICHEV *et al.* 2004).

On 16 Sep 2002, a juvenile Terek Sandpiper was seen on the beach of nature protected site Poda (UTM NH03). The species was observed at the same site in the ensuing year (on 16 Sep). A Terek Sandpiper was seen on 22 and 31 Sep 2004 at Shablenska Tuzla salty lake (UTM PJ22). The observed individuals stayed separately from the other Waders presented at the foregoing sites. On 14 Aug 2005, two adult Terek Sandpipers in summer plumage were seen together at 14.00 h in the northern part of Pomorie Lake salt pans (UTM NH51). The birds were staying close (3 – 5 meters) to a number of Curlew Sandpipers *Calidris ferruginea*, Little Stints *C. minuta*, Dunlins *C. alpina*, Kentish Plovers *Charadrius alexandrinus*, Avocets *Recurvirostra avocetta* and one Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* all feeding around. The two Terek Sandpipers flew away together at 14.15 h. The species was observed during the next year at the same site: