

Programme and Abstracts

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12th European Ornithologists' Union Congress

26 – 30 August 2019

**Cluj Napoca
Romania**

TUESDAY, 27TH AUGUST, 2019

UNIVERSITY BUILDING

PP-127

Behavioural responses to human disturbance in an alpine bird

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Mountain habitats are threatened by several factors, including human activities at high elevation, although the negative impacts can sometimes be balanced by positive effects related to human presence. However, knowledge of such interactions is limited in alpine ecosystems. Here we assessed the extent of behavioural responses of the alpine chough *Pyrrhocorax graculus* to different levels of human disturbance in two alpine sites, a very popular ski resort area ('disturbed site'), and a natural park with little human activity ('undisturbed area'). As the accessibility and distribution of food is a potential factor affecting bird behaviour, we focused on the availability of food types to discriminate between the effect of food and direct disturbance. We found that human presence was negatively associated with intake rates and amount of time spent in a foraging patch ('stay time'). Moreover, vigilance and flushing distances were shorter in the disturbed site than in the undisturbed area. However, intake rates were highest and stay times were shortest in the site where anthropogenic food was available. The abundance of grasshoppers (a key prey), changed significantly over space and time and was lower in the ski area, probably due to the presence of ski pistes. In conclusion, the study highlighted that human disturbance potentially affects foraging behaviour in alpine choughs, but the effects could be both positive and negative. Further investigations are needed to better disentangle the effects induced by direct and indirect disturbance and, more generally, to evaluate the potential benefits and negative effects of anthropization on mountain biodiversity.

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Number and distribution avian dangerous species on the territory of Omsk Airport in current period

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The maximum total abundance of birds at Omsk Airport in 2017 was noted in the second half of May on the territory of the airfield of local airline, which is explained by the preference of this territory by forest-steppe species. Rook (81 individuals/km²) and euroasian skylark (87) are dominants. We found that in the second half of summer and autumn of 2017 the rock dove (42 individuals/km² - 21%), Caspian gull (37 individuals/km² - 19%) and the black-headed gull (27 individuals/km² - 14%) are dominant. In the second half of July rock dove (133 individuals/km² - 76%) dominates. In the second half of August, rook (24 individuals/km² - 96%) dominates. October is the most dangerous period for planes at the Omsk Airport. During this period, a gray partridge concentrates on the areas of the weed vegetation of the territory of Omsk Airport. We found five flocks of gray partridge numbering from 12 to 25 birds. In October is this species dominant. In the first half of November field sparrow is dominant (10 individuals/km² - 32%). In the second half of November, the gray dove dominates (25 individuals/km² - 50%). Thus, during the research period on the territory of Omsk Airport, we found that the abundance is dominated by Euroasian skylark, rook, the black-headed gull, and western yellow wagtail. Potentially dangerous birds for aviation on the territory of the Omsk Airport marked 8 species: gray partridge, rock dove, gray pigeon, carrion crow, rook, common magpie, black-headed gull, Caspian gull and common kestrel.