

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



CREDITS

Livro de Resumos do 13.º Encontro de Jovens Investigadores da U.PORTO

Universidade do Porto

Vice-reitor para a investigação, inovação e internacionalização
Professor Doutor Pedro Rodrigues

ijup@reit.up.pt

ISBN

978-989-746-253-5

Design

Serviço de Comunicação e Imagem da U.Porto

- **16750 | The migration of the common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) in the Western Palearctic**

Moreira, Francisco S., Departamento de Biologia, Faculdade de Ciências da Universidade do Porto, Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Rodrigues, Tiago M., DRRF, Direção Regional dos Recursos Florestais, Portugal

Gonçalves, David, Departamento de Biologia, Faculdade de Ciências & CIBIO - Centro de Investigação em Biodiversidade e Recursos Genéticos, InBIO Laboratório Associado / Universidade do Porto, Portugal

Climate change is modifying bird species distribution, behaviour, phenology and migration. Understanding migratory connectivity of migrant populations is fundamental to adjust management and conservation policies. Despite the advances in bird tracking technologies, bird ringing still provides a broad spatial and temporal data series. The common snipe (*Gallinago gallinago*) is a migratory bird, widely distributed in the Western Palearctic. It is also a game species. Consequently, its management and conservation constitute a complex task. We aim to test possible changes in its post-reproductive migration over the last decades. Given the current scenario of climate change, we hypothesise an increase in the angle of migration, corresponding to further north migrations. We analysed 20,934 ringing and recapture events of the species, registered on the data base of EURING (the coordinating organisation for European bird ringing schemes). We used generalized linear models to test temporal and spatial variations on the proportions of recaptures and to evaluate changes in the direction of post-reproductive migration of the Icelandic population and of those populations from the remaining Western Palearctic. The number of birds ringed varied over time; most of the records occurred after the 1960s, 5.7% where ringed as chicks and most recaptures were of dead birds, from which 72.1% were hunted. The proportions of birds recaptured varied among decades and ringing schemes. The mean value (\pm confidence interval at 95%) of the angle of migration of the Icelandic population was $150.5 \pm 4.6^\circ$ and for the remaining populations was $232.9 \pm 2.9^\circ$. On both sets of populations, between 1961 and 2010, the variation on this angle was not significant. Unlike expected, the common snipe may not be adapting to climate change. However, it was not possible to get the variation on ringing and recapture efforts. The communication between the regional ringing schemes and EURING must be improved.