

## Project Update: January 2013

We performed second simultaneous count at both straits on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2013. It was the first simultaneous whole day count that lasted continuously from 8:30 in the morning to 16:30 in the evening.

For the next fieldwork we performed a Bosphorus count from four points along the Bosphorus coast to check whether we do double counting and if so, from which point the birds are returning mostly. For this count we organised a team of 10 people from local birdwatchers. This was the second count from several points; the first one was performed in 2011.

We are known from our previous project that early February is the most important period of Yelkouan shearwater passage. The numbers reached up to 75,000 last year. So it is possible to have a new world record this year if we can catch the right time. That's why the team started to enthuse birdwatchers to participate the fieldwork in February and is trying to reach as many people as possible. In order to achieve this goal we are promoting the project with the results of previous year's counts on social media and e-mail groups. We also made a presentation on 23<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at the weekly meeting of Istanbul Bird-watching Society which held in the Asian part of Istanbul and will be presenting it second time in the coming weeks for the European side meeting.

I am working on setting an agenda for boat based counts but have some problems with Ro-Ro companies which we will be using their ships to count birds. I am trying to get permission from different companies and hope to perform boat based counts in February.



