

Favourable Reference Values in Andros

Summary

The Favourable Reference Values (FRV) for the four species are the basis for the Determination of Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) and hence of the setting up of interventions and conservation actions in the Special Protection Area of Andros. With just a few words, the data can be the tool for decision making in which the ecological requirements and threats of every species are included. Also, population comparisons can be done. This can lead to assessment of the state of the population and be used to set conservation goals.

Several methodologies have been developed to calculate FRVs in several countries and between species. The calculation methodology can not follow a specific pattern and be applied to different regions and species. The variety of methods is due to many factors. The main reason is the specificity of every species. Even between the same species, in different geographical areas, there are differences in habits and habitats, as well as in population characteristics, such as mortality rate, reproductive success etc. These factors make it impossible to adopt a certain pattern and transfer the methodology. For the priority species of the present study, significant is the contribution of expert opinions, which avoids mistakes being introduced by adopting an incorrect input method. At the same time, however, it is important to minimize its contribution and not precede the implementation of scientific methods.

The avifauna populations studied show a time dynamic that depends on biotic and abiotic factors that determine the geographic area selected, as well as on external factors. For the specific area, it is proposed to continue to monitor the target species as well as the changes of the environmental, biological or anthropogenic parameters that affect them in the long run, so that there is a continuous knowledge of the conservation status of these species.