

Project Update: December 2012

The Yalkouan Shearwater Project started with simultaneous counts at the Dardanelles and Bosphorus on 8th December 2012. We have shared the duties within the team and have gathered a small number of volunteers.

As we expected, the number of the birds increased in the Bosphorus. This was the first count of the first systematic YS monitoring programme at the Dardanelles. We noticed the importance of the area after we saw amazing multi-species feeding behaviour.

The project website and social media pages have also created and published. We have bought two binoculars instead of one for the volunteers and have ordered a telescope from UK.

This weekend we performed the second fieldwork at the Bosphorus under cloudy, windy and very cold weather conditions. The movements of the Yelkouan shearwaters were very surprising. At this time of year we are expecting to see an intense passage towards south but instead huge number of birds passed towards north. Although a seasonal pattern that we have revealed with the past studies there are still a lot of secrets to discover on Yelkouan's behavior in the Marmara Sea.

