

Project Update: October 2013

In autumn 2013, the migration of raptors at the eastern Black Sea coast in the Republic of Georgia was monitored daily with support of RSG and other donors. More than 1,100,000 raptors were recorded by over 60 international volunteers from about 15 countries. The season started with steady migration of European honey buzzards with max daily counts of 68,000, 42,000 and 52,000 individuals. At the end of the season the weather was often poor with a lot of rainy days. This caused congested migration with two explosive days with 104,000 and 168,000 raptors counted. Throughout the season our team was able to identify a large proportion of eagles and harriers and we recorded important data on the age composition of migrants.

In coming updates we report how the daily migration counts have served as a great platform for environmental education and for trainings to build capacity among young regional conservationists.

