

**SPA - Stiftung Pro Artenvielfalt**

**CAMP DIARY November - December 2017**

Day 1:	<p>3 active trapping sites found in the night. 2 visited by police. At first site they removed 3 nets and tape lure. 8 song thrushes rescued. At second site they removed 1 net and tape lure. They allowed us to rescue the birds from nets. We released 5 song thrushes and 1 long-eared owl!</p> <p>1 active trapping site found in the day. Reported to game wardens. They respond and arrive from Larnaca to Protaras. 38 limesticks removed and 1 robin rescued. Owner left but one of game warden was motivated to find and prosecute him. And he succeeded. The trapper was found, he admitted the trapping and was charged with 200 € fine</p>
Day 2:	<p>2 active trapping sites found in the night. At first site we found only tape lure calling. It was a place for limesticks but they were not set out in the night. At second site we found 2 nets and tape lure. We reported the site to the APS. They seized the nets and rescued 10 song thrushes.</p> <p>1 active trapping site was found in the morning. We found set limesticks and an active tape lure. We reported the site to game wardens. They promised to send a team. As nobody arrived in 1 hour, I called them again. They said that the team is not available but they will try to get it. They promised to call me back. As nobody called in half an hour, I called them again. They said that they don't have a team available. I called police officers at Paralimni station. They arrived in 15 minutes and they seized 52 limesticks. The tape lure was gone. We rescued 1 blackcap and 1 willow warbler</p>
Day 3:	<p>4 active trapping sites found in the night. All were reported to SBA police and they seized 29 nets and rescued 80 birds from them!!!</p> <p>First 2 sites were reported to the police officers on duty at Dhekelia police station. At first site they seized 8 nets, tape lure and rescued 24 birds. 21 song thrushes, 2 blackcaps and 1 redwing. They also found 6 dead birds. As we found many dead birds in the nets, we assume that trapper set birds in the evening and left them all night without checking the birds. Very cruel way to trap birds</p> <p>At second site police found 5 nets and tape lure. 12 birds were freed. 10 song thrushes, 1 robin and 1 blackcap. Police officers decide to end their work in the</p>

	<p>field as their shift ends in one hour. They leave. We locate 2 more trapping sites and report them to the anti-poaching unit.</p> <p>At third site they seize 8 nets and tape lure. 22 birds are rescued. At the fourth place reported by us they also find 8 nets. Tape lure was not found. Also here they rescue 22 birds</p> <p>After that we searched for good place to release birds rescued from nets. We stopped at 3 places within Republic and every time we stopped we heard tape lure playing so we couldn't release the birds! We heard also a lot of shots of hunters We had to drive all the way to Cape Greko to release the birds</p>
Day 4:	<p>5 active trapping sites found in the night. 3 reported to APS. At first site they seize 4 nets and caller. 5 thrushes released from nets. Trapper is caught and prosecuted. As they had to wait for a long time to make an arrest, they were unable to investigate other 2 sites. 1 site is in the ESBA and we report it to SBA Police officers, We don't know yet the results of their investigation</p> <p>1 site is found in the Northern part of Cyprus. We go to check point in Pergamos and report the site to Turkish-Cypriot police. They tell us we need passports as we should report the site to the police station. As we don't have passports with us, we postpone the reporting to another night</p>
Day 5:	<p>(We received information about the site reported to SBA Police on the previous day. They seized 4 nets and caller)</p> <p>4 active trapping sites found in the night. 2 sites were located in the Northern part of Cyprus. One site is left for another time to be reported as we didn't have time to determine the exact location. We report the second site to Turkish-Cypriot police in Durtiol. They go immediately to investigate. We don't know the results yet. 2 sites are found in ESBA. At first site we seize 1 net and caller. Second site is reported to SBA Police. They seize 3 nets and caller. 5 birds are freed</p>
Day 6:	<p>(we received information from Kuskor about the site reported to the Turkish-Cypriot police. The military took over the case as it was close to border. They found 3 nets and they kept an eye on them the whole last night. Caller was not active. Nobody came so they seized them. 1 dead bird was found in one of the nets).</p> <p>3 active trapping sites found in the night. At first site we observed 2 nets and caller. Reported to APS. Unfortunately the nets were already gone when they visited the site. At second site we observed 3 nets and caller. Reported to APS. They seized the nets and caller and released 2 birds. At third site we found and seized 1 net and caller.</p>

	<p>2 active site found in the day. At first we found 52 limesticks. Reported to Paralimni Police and they seized the limesticks. 1 stonechat released</p> <p>At second site we found 36 limesticks. Reported to Paralimni Police and they seized the LS. 2 willow warblers released</p>
Day 7:	<p>3 active trapping sites found in the night. At first site police seized 5 nets and caller. 10 birds freed. At second site we observed 3 nets and caller. Trapper saw us. When police visits the site, the nets and caller were not there anymore. Same thing happened at third site. Trapper saw our car and has removed the nets and caller. There was nothing when police checked the site.</p>
Day 8:	<p>1 active site found in the night. 53 limesticks.</p> <p>1 active site found in the day. 50-60 limesticks observed. We will report the site to the game wardens in the following morning.</p>
Day 9:	<p>2 active trapping sites found in the night. Both reported to SBA Police. At first site they seize 1 net and caller. At second site they seize 3 nets and caller. They also caught a trapper. He will be prosecuted.</p> <p>1 active site found in the morning. It is the place I found one day ago. Today I brought wardens to this place. Limesticks were still there and this morning also an electronic caller was active. Wardens prepared an ambush and caught a trapper. He was brought to station where he received a fine.</p>
Day 10:	<p>0 active trapping sites found</p> <p>4 illegal hunting sites found. At 2 sites we found song thrush callers used for hunting. 1 caller was reported to APS and they seized it. Another caller was reported to game wardens, but they said they will come in 2-3 hours. That is too late as caller is used only in early morning time. At 2 sites we found quail callers. Both were seized</p>
Day 11:	<p>1 active trapping site found in the night. It is the site of notorious Vrysoulles trappers that have attacked us last winter. Last January they have repeatedly hit our car in presence of SBA Police.</p> <p>We report the site to the police and they seize 5 nets, 2 electronic callers and release 25 birds from the net. These trappers are most active this Camp. We found them active already 3 times. First time police seized 8 nets and second time they manage to remove the nets themselves before police reached the site.</p> <p>5 illegal hunting sites using callers to attract birds found in the morning. We</p>

	<p>report them to game wardens. Together we visit all sites. At first two sites the callers were off when we visit them. At 3rd site wardens seize song thrush caller. Hunters escape. At fourth site they seize skylark caller. Hunters escape. They don't investigate the fifth site as they are in hurry to return to Larnaca.</p>
Day 12:	<p>1 active trapping site found in the night. Reported to the police. They seized 2 nets and caller</p>
Day 13:	<p>0 active trapping sites found in the night</p>
Day 14:	<p>0 active trapping sites found in the night and day</p> <p>3 illegal hunting sites found. At all 3 sites song thrush callers were used to hunt. At one site hunting was taking place in the area where hunting is prohibited. First site was reported to game wardens. They were unable to come as they are in Larnaca. Second site was reported to officers at Deryneia police. They arrived in 20 minute but it was too late as hunters already left. Third site was not reported as it was discovered when it was getting already getting dark.</p>
Day 15:	<p>1 active trapping site found in the night. 2 nets and 1 caller seized by SBA Police officers. 1 song thrush released from nets.</p> <p>1 illegal hunting site found in the morning. Hunting with song thrush caller in wildlife protected area. Reported to SBA Police officers. At time of their visit caller was off and no hunters were seen.</p> <p>1 active trapping site found in the day. 2 forgotten limesticks found and removed.</p>
Day 16:	<p>0 active trapping sites found in the night</p> <p>We had meeting with SBA Police officers in the day. All leading officers, including the commander were present. We both agree that cooperation was successful and has resulted in substantial decrease of trapping since the start of the Camp. We point out that majority of trapping activity was detected in Ayios Nikolaos and they promise they will increase their presence in that area after the Camp.</p>
Day 17:	<p>2 active trapping sites found in the day. At both I found just 1 forgotten limestick. One dead robin found on one limestick.</p> <p>2 trapping sites with old limesticks found. All together I collected 35 old limesticks. They were around 1 month old. Half of them were still a bit sticky and half were not sticky anymore. 1 dead blackcap found on 1 limestick.</p> <p>At one site I found a place with lots of feathers and wings of thrushes trapped and killed on that site.</p>

	<p>I called game wardens to report them aviary with 10 protected wild bird (thrushes, wood pigeons, starling chaffinch) but they were in Larnaca District and unable to come.</p>
Day 18:	<p>0 active trapping sites found in the night</p> <p>1 illegal hunting site found in the morning. Hunters were using electronic caller to attract song thrushes. I have reported the site to game wardens but as like it is often with them, both patrols were working in Larnaca District and were unable to come. As i was unable to get game wardens, I called Deryneia Police and they said they will send the patrol. I waited for half an hour but nobody came.</p>