



PROGRAMME



World Owl Conference 2017

Évora – Portugal

26 to 30 September 2017

Colégio do Espírito Santo

University of Évora

PROGRAMME

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WORKSHOP DAY PROGRAMME

Amphitheatre 131 and Auditorium

26 September - Tuesday

Amphitheatre 131		Auditorium
09:00 – 17:30		Registration
09:45 – 11:05	Workshop 1 – Part I Effective Owl Education Methods Organizers: Karla Bloem and James Duncan	
11:05 – 11:20	Coffee break	
11:20 – 12:50	Workshop 1 – Part II Effective Owl Education Methods Organizers: Karla Bloem and James Duncan	Symposium Impacts of Human Infrastructures on Owls Organizers: Rui Lourenço and Ricardo Tomé
12:50 – 14:20	Lunch	
14:20 – 15:50	Workshop 2 – Part I Telemetry, Nestcams and Data Analysis Organizers: David Johnson and Dries Van Nieuwenhuyse	Round Table Barn Owls Know No Boundaries: the Role of Nature Conservation in Peace Organizers: Alexandre Roulin and João E. Rabaça
15:50 – 16:05	Coffee break	
16:05 – 17:25	Workshop 2 – Part II Telemetry, Nestcams and Data Analysis Organizers: David Johnson and Dries van Nieuwenhuyse	

DETAILED PROGRAMME

Workshop 1 | **Effective Owl Education Methods** | Karla Bloem and James Duncan

An open, respectful and inclusive discussion of owl education methods used in the field, classroom, and online in different cultures around the world.

Objectives: Share owl education methods used in different countries and cultures. Learn the difference between interpretation and information. Discuss regulations and their impact on education. Rejuvenate enthusiasm for conserving owls through education.

Target audience: Anyone who does owl education in the field, classroom, or online.

Maximum number of participants: Limited by the number of places available in the room.

Panelists: Raju Acharya (Nepal), Suruchi Pande (India), Jonathan Haw (South Africa), Trystan Williams (Scotland), Karla Bloem (USA), James Duncan (Canada)

Themes: Public attitudes about owls. Purpose of the programs. Description of their audience(s). Description of their program(s). Challenges.

Workshop 2 | **Telemetry, Nestcams and Data Analysis** | David Johnson and Dries Van Nieuwenhuyse

A workshop focused on the equipment, digital, and methodological aspects of owl studies.

Objectives: To offer information and insights into key technologies for owl research, conservation, and monitoring.

Target audience: Ornithologists and managers whose work involves owls and raptors.

Maximum number of participants: Limited by the number of places available in the room.

Panelists: Dries Van Nieuwenhuyse, David Johnson, Sarah Levett, Ronald van Harxen, Ingrid Kohl

Themes: Telemetry, Geolocators, PinPoint Tags, Data Loggers and New Harnessing Material. Video/Nest Cams (equipment and methods). Data Processing. Data Depository/Warehousing.

Symposium | **Impacts of Human Infrastructures on Owls** | Rui Lourenço and Ricardo Tomé

Objectives: Review and discuss the effects that human infrastructures (roads, powerlines, windfarms) have on owl populations.

Target audience: Researchers, technicians and workers from environmental and infrastructure companies, decision-makers.

Maximum number of participants: Limited by the number of places available in the room.

PROGRAMME

Owls and roads: a review of the impacts and solutions | **Rui Lourenço** (University of Évora, Portugal)

Electric powerlines and owls: situation in mainland Portugal | **Julieta Costa** (SPEA, Portugal)

Owls and windfarms: review of the conflicts and parallels with diurnal impacts | **Ricardo Tomé** (Strix, Portugal)

Owl casualties on Portuguese roads: results of the IP National Monitoring Program | **Graça Garcia** (IP, Portugal)

Round Table | **Barn Owls Know No Boundaries: The Role of Nature Conservation in Peace** | Alexandre Roulin and João E. Rabaça

Objectives: The aim is to show that the study of owls can go much beyond the usual scientific aspects of nature conservation. This can bring people together and help develop trust between communities that are in conflict.

Target audience: Ornithologists but also any conservationists and general public.

Maximum number of participants: Limited by the number of places available in the room.



MAIN CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Auditorium

27 September - Wednesday

- 08:15 – 09:00** Registration
- 09:00 – 09:25** **Opening session**
- Ana Costa Freitas, Rector of the University of Évora
- Carlos Pinto de Sá, President of the Municipality of Évora
- Roberto Pereira Grilo, President of CCDR Alentejo
- Pedro Rocha, Director of ICNF Alentejo Department of Nature Conservation and Forests
- João Rabaça, Head of LabOr/ICAAM
- 09:25 – 09:30** **Welcoming address** | Inês Roque
- 09:30 – 10:05** **Keynote presentation**
- 52 years among Ural and Tawny Owls *Strix uralensis* and *S. aluco* – Why? (**Pertti Saurola**)
- 10:05 – 11:05** **BREEDING BIOLOGY AND BEHAVIOUR** | Moderator: Al Vrezec
- The breeding density of the Eurasian Scops Owl *Otus scops* along the eastern Adriatic coast: Slovenia, Croatia and Montenegro (**Tjaša Zagoršek**)
- The reproductive success of Lanyu Scops Owls (**Lucia Severinghaus**)
- Breeding Desert Owl *Strix hadorami* in Egypt, and notes on behaviour (**Mohamed Habib**)
- Breeding ecology of captive-released and wild Western Burrowing Owls (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) in southwestern Manitoba, Canada (**Alexandra Froese**)
- 11:05 – 11:25** **Coffee break**
- 11:25 – 12:40**
- How do Barn Owl nestlings share food? An automatic interactive playback experiment (**Pauline Ducouret**)
- Detailed analysis of Eagle Owl behaviour during courtship and egg incubation based on continuous IR-video recording at the nest site (**Christian Harms**)
- Vocal development of the Great Horned Owl (**Karla Bloem**)
- Male Little Owl *Athene noctua* taking over broodcare (**Ronald van Harxen**)
- Owls in the realm of avian anatomy (**Arnold van den Burg**)
- 12:40 – 14:00** **Lunch**
- 14:00 – 15:30** **CONSERVATION** | Moderator: João E. Rabaça
- Global owl distribution, diversity, and conservation hotspots (**Steve Sheffield**)
- Knocking on the door of extinction: population dynamics and conservation measures for Little Owl in the Czech Republic (**Martin Šálek**)
- Reintroducing the Ural Owl *Strix uralensis* to Austria - ingredients for a successful comeback (**Richard Zink**)

Field observations of Pere David's Owl *Strix davidi* in Central China, 140 years after its first description (**Wolfgang Scherzinger**)

15:30 – 16:00 Coffee break

Owl conservation efforts in Nepal (Raju Acharya Sharma)

“Why Hoot?” – an evaluation of motivations and scientific attitudes of citizen science owl surveyors in Manitoba, Canada (**James R. Duncan**)

Impact of forestry on a population of Tawny Owls *Strix aluco* in northwestern Switzerland (Michel Juillard)

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MAIN CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Auditorium

28 September - Thursday

08:45 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	Announcements and introduction
09:10 – 09:45	Keynote presentation Owls in myth and culture – Insights from 30 countries (David H. Johnson)
09:45 – 11:15	<u>CULTURE</u> Moderator: David H. Johnson Understanding the illegal owl hunting and trade dynamics in Nepal (Yadav Ghimirey) Social perception about Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i> role and abundance in an agricultural landscape in the North of Spain (Rubén Hernández-Soto) From cures to curses - Owls and their place in traditional healing in Southern Africa (Jonathan Haw) Perceptions and beliefs about owls in Turkey (Elif Göçer) Social aspects as part of conservation targets for owls in Greece: Data analysis from cultural history and recent surveys (Vasileios Bontzorlo)
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee break
11:20 – 12:35	Owls in myth and culture - Interviews from Slovakia (Vladimír Nemček) Attitudes and beliefs towards owl in the Calakmul Biosphere Reserve (Campeche, México): an approach to improve conservation (Paulina Camarena) <u>METHODS</u> Moderator: Dries Van Nieuwenhuyse Using bioacoustics to study habitat use and vocal behaviour of Barred Owls, Boreal Owls and Great Horned Owls (Julia Shonfield) Snowy Owls sit on high - selection of vantage points revealed by number of owl pellets (Roar Solheim) Using the MP3-trap technique to capture male Burrowing Owls (David H. Johnson)
12:35 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:30	Snowy Owl hunting behaviour and prey spotting distance revealed by vole lures (Roar Solheim) Breeding biology of the Mottled Wood Owl in west-central India (Satish Pande) <u>EVOLUTION, TAXONOMY AND PHYLOGENY</u> Moderator: Dries Van Nieuwenhuyse Omani Owl <i>Strix butleri</i> – its taxonomy, distribution, vocalisations, diet, and relationship to Desert Owl <i>S. Hadorami</i> (Magnus Robb) Evolution and phylogeny of owls (Michael Wink) Barn Owl <i>Tyto alba</i> colour cline in Europe: the exception proves the rule (Ana Paula Machado) Evolutionary dynamics of colour polymorphism in Tawny Owls <i>Strix aluco</i> (Patrik Karell)
15:30 – 17:00	Buffet and informal poster session
17:00 – 19:00	Welcome to Portugal Evening (see Side Events Programme)



MAIN CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Auditorium

29 September - Friday

08:45 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	Announcements and Introduction
09:10 – 09:45	Keynote presentation Being with owls – From faunistic surveys to ecosystem research (Al Vrezec)
09:45 – 11:00	<u>MONITORING</u> Moderator: Ricardo Tomé Insights into the distribution of Pueo or Hawaiian Short-eared Owl: Utilizing citizen science to aid monitoring survey (Javier Cotin) An evaluation of 25 years of volunteer nocturnal owl surveys in Manitoba, Canada (James Duncan) Status and monitoring of Short-eared Owls <i>Asio flammeus</i> in North and South America (Marcel Gahbauer) Program NOCTUA-Portugal – studying the trend and distribution of owls (Rui Lourenço) The Eurasian eagle owl <i>Bubo bubo</i> as biomonitor of contaminants in Southeastern Spain: an overview of 25 years of study (Pilar Gómez-Ramírez)
11:00 – 11:20	Coffee break
11:20 – 12:35	Monitoring owl populations in a natural mountainous forest in the Austrian Alps (Duerrenstein Wilderness Area, IUCN Category I) (Thomas Hochebner) Monitoring of owls in Europe – results of pan European EURAPMON inventory of raptor monitoring schemes (Al Vrezec) <u>MIGRATION AND DISPERSAL</u> Moderator: Ricardo Tomé Tyto Tagus: Barn Owl post-fledging dispersal in the Tagus Valley (Portugal) (Inês Roque) Juvenile Barn Owl dispersal: a radio tracking study (David Ramsden) Migratory behaviour and breeding dispersal of Burrowing Owls in the western United States (David H. Johnson)
12:35 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 15:15	Discovery of fall migration of Northern Saw-whet Owls <i>Aegolius acadicus</i> in the Ozarks of Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma (USA) (Kimberly Smith) <u>MOVEMENT BEHAVIOUR AND HABITAT</u> Moderator: James R. Duncan Home range, perch heights and reactions to approaching humans by three radio-tagged Ural Owls (Roar Solheim) Long-term telemetry study of reintroduced Ural Owls <i>Strix uralensis</i> in the Duerrenstein Wilderness Area, Austria (Ingrid Kohl) Home-range and habitat of the Barking Owl <i>Ninox connivens</i> in Southern Australia (Rod Kavanagh)
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break



MAIN CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Auditorium

30 September - Saturday

08:45 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:10	Announcements and introduction
09:10 – 09:45	Keynote presentation Living in a variable environment: Tengmalm's and Pygmy Owls and the three-year high-amplitude population cycle of voles (Erkki Korpimäki)
09:45 – 11:15	ECOLOGY Moderator: Rui Lourenço The irruptive nature of Snowy Owls: going full cycle (JF Therrien) How does diet influence the breeding's success of the Tawny Owl <i>Strix aluco</i> in the forests of Burgundy? (Hughes Baudvin) How Tawny Owls <i>Strix aluco</i> survived in a dynamic guild of predators and turned from a source into a sink population (Fred Koning) Birds as food of owls – an intra- and inter-specific comparison (Simon Birrer) Modeling voles' spatial distribution through Barn Owl diet analysis: Setting the scene for a pest-control nest box scheme in Thessaly, Greece (Vasileios Bontzorlos) Age and sex of Snowy Owls during summer irruption on Belyi Island, Yamal in 2015 (Roar Söhleim)
11:15 – 11:35	Coffee break
11:35 – 12:35	Closing session
12:35 – 14:00	Lunch Free afternoon: consult side events programme

Notes:



POSTER COMMUNICATIONS

1. **Migration of Eurasian Sops-Owl *Otus scops* over north of the Sahara fringe and Southwestern Mediterranean** | Barriocanal, Carles; Gargallo, Gabriel and Robson, David
2. **Distribution and current state of the short-eared owl *Asio flammeus* in Ukraine** | Bashta, Andriy-Taras
3. **Biogeographic analysis of Eurasian Eagle Owl's *Bubo bubo* diet across the Palearctic Region** | Crisóstomo, Luísa; Lourenço, Rui; Delgado, Maria del Mar and Penteriani, Vincenzo
4. **The status and conservation of owls in China** | Yun, Fang; Lei, Zhu and Yue-Hua, Sun
5. **Designs for nest box, owl stopper, and patio trap for *Otus scops* research** | Göçer, Elif; Johnson, David H.; Bilgin, C. Can and Türk, Mehmet Gürkan
6. **Does moonlight really stimulate the vocal activity of Eagle Owls?** | Harms, Christian T.
7. **Status and distribution trends of Little Owl *Athene noctua* in Bulgaria** | Ignatov, Assen; Simeovov, Vasil and Nedyalkova, Miroslava
8. **Monitoring, ringing and demographic parameters of two Eurasian Eagle Owl populations in the Iberian Southeast** | León-Ortega, Mario; Pérez, Eloy Lacalle, José A., Martínez, José E. Calvo, José F.
9. **The Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* as a breeder on buildings** | Lindner, Martin
10. **Fine-tuning the acoustic discrimination of individuals in Little Owls** | Linhart, Pavel and Šálek, Martin
11. **Illegal bird killing and captivity of owls in Portugal** | Lopes, Paula; Costa, Julieta; Leitão, Domingos
12. **The wintering of the Long-eared Owl in Italy** | Mastroilli, Marco and Cipriani, Alice
13. **Impact of the environment on the number of Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* territories in the MaléKarpáty mountains** | Nemček, Vladimír
14. **History of Northern Saw-whet Owl *Aegolius acadicus* in North America: First discovery to present day** | Pruitt, Mitchell L. and Smith, Kimberly G.
15. **Study of Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* Population in Central and Northern Ribatejo, Portugal** | Rodrigues, João and Mota, Nuno

16. Variation in the abundance of the Barn Owl *Tyto alba* in the Tagus Estuary: Effect of land use, grazing and soil interventions | Roque, Inês; Marques, Ana; Machado, Filipa; Godinho, Carlos; Pereira, Pedro and Rabaça, João E.

17. Monitoring organochlorine compounds in feathers and livers of Barn Owls *Tyto alba* from South Portugal: Variations with sex and age | Roque, Inês; Lourenço, Rui; Marques, Ana; Martínez-López, Emma; Espín, Sílvia; García-Fernández, António Juan; Rabaça, João E. and Alexandre Roulin

18. The summer diet of the Snowy Owl *Bubo scandiacus* in Iceland | Stenkewitz, Ute and Nielsen, Ólafur K.

19. Comprehensive molecular phylogeny of Barn Owls and relatives (Family: Tytonidae) | Uva, Vera; Cibois, Alice; Paeckert, Martin; Fumagalli, Luca and Roulin, Alexandre

20. Occurance of Barn owl *Tyto alba* parasites in the Netherlands: A recent survey | Van Leeuwen, Marc

21. The influence of weather conditions and forest management on the number of Tawny Owls *Strix aluco*, a case study from eastern Poland | Wiącek J., Polak M., Filipiuk M., Grzywaczewski G. and Dawidowicz, Ł.

22. 10 years of monitoring a Tawny Owl *Strix aluco* population in oak forests of Eastern Ukraine |

Yatsiuk, Yehor

23. Prey caching of the Boreal Owl *Aegolius funereus beickianus* at Lianhuashan in Gansu, China | Yong-Ke, Zhu; Fang, Yun; Tang, Song-Hua; Gu, Yuan; Shi, Mei and Sun, Yue-Hua

Notes:



SIDE EVENTS PROGRAMME

Photo Exhibition | **Owls of Portugal**

by STRI-ALDEIA in partnership with LabOr-UÉvora, sponsored by ALTRI FLORESTAL

During the conference | Downstairs to the Auditorium

STRI-ALDEIA in partnership with the local WOC2017 Organization will proceed to the inauguration of the collective photography exhibition **Owls of Portugal** on **September 26th**. This exhibition will remain at the Conference venue during the event and will then have a traveling itinerary. The purpose of this exhibition is to raise awareness for the importance of owl conservation. The exhibition is sponsored by Altri Florestal.

Cultural Event | **Welcome to Portugal Evening**

28 September

17:00 – 18:00 Commented wine taste by Companhia das Lezírias, S.A. | Downstairs to Auditorium

18:00 – 19:00 Fado concert by Ana Roque | Auditorium

<http://www.tytoalba.pt/> | <http://www.anaroque.net/>

Walking Tour | **Best of Évora**

by Évora Cultural Experience

30 September | Departure from the University of Évora after lunch

Discover the most impressive treasures of this UNESCO World Heritage City, awarded in 1986. Visit the main monuments of this extraordinary Museum City, principal representative of the golden age of Portuguese maritime discoveries. Ideal for visitors wishing to get an overview of the major events that marked the city of Évora, which has always been linked to the most significant moments of Portugal history.

Registrations open until **28 September** by email: info@evoraculturalexperience.pt with the subject **“WOC2017 Best of Évora”**, indicating name, age, and country.

Conference price: **20€** - Amount payable to the guide at the start of the walking tour (14:30 at the Cloisters of the University of Évora). Includes tickets into monuments with entrance fee.

Duration: **2:30 – 3:00 hours**

Difficulty: **Medium**

Main Attractions: **Giraldo's Square, Roman Temple (Diana Temple), Cathedral (includes visit to the Cloisters), St. Francis Church and Bones Chapel**

The WOC2017 partner **Évora Cultural Experience** offers a **discount of 15%** to conference participants and accompanying persons on all the experiences available at:

<http://www.evoraculturalexperience.pt/en/>

Post-conference Trip 1 | **Coruche cork and owls cultural tour**

by LabOr-UÉvora and Municipality of Coruche - Cork and Cork Oak Observatory

1 October

09:00 Departure from Évora

10:15 Arrival to the Cork and Cork Oak Observatory

11:00 Departure to Coruche | Landscape vantage point viewing followed by a walking tour at the historical centre

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Visit to a montado area

16:30 Departure to Évora

*Alternative buses to Lisbon from Coruche Bus Station: departure **17:50** and **18:25** – ticket is not included in the cost of the visit.*

Post-conference Trip 2 | **Companhia das Lezírias montado and birdwatching tour**

by LabOr-UÉvora, Companhia das Lezírias, S.A. and Municipality of Évora

1 October

09:00 Departure from Évora

10:30 Arrival to the Companhia das Lezírias (charneca) | Guided tour in the farm with reference to LabOr research projects

12:30 Arrival to EVOA visitors centre | Lunch

13:30 Visit to EVOA visitors centre

16:30 Departure to Évora

*Alternative buses to Lisbon from Vila Franca Bus Station: departure **17:18, 17:51, 18:18, 19:18** and **20:38** – ticket is not included in the cost of the visit.*

Contact List

Emergency number: 112

Taxi: +351 266 734 734

Hospital

Address: Largo Senhor da Pobreza | Phone number: +351 266 740 100 | 38°34'07.2"N, 7°54'11.1"W

Police Station

Address: Rua de Eborim 18 | Phone number: +351 266 760 450 | 38°34'23.0"N, 7°54'30.1"W

HOTELS

Évora Olive Hotel ★★★★★

Address: Rua de Eborim 18 | Phone number: +351 266 760 050 | 38°34'6.64"N, 7°54'22.66"W

Vila Galé Évora ★★★★★

Address: Avenida Túlio Espanca | Phone number: +351 266 758 100 | 38°34'1.57"N, 7°54'56.39"W

IBIS Hotel Évora ★★★

Address: Rua de Viana 18, Quinta da Tapada, Urbanização da Muralha | Phone number: +351 266 760 700
| 38°33'56.97"N, 7°54'43.59"W

Hotel Riviera ★★★

Address: Rua 5 de Outubro 49 | Phone number: +351 266 737 210 | 38°34'16.37"N, 7°54'30.23"W

Moov Hotel Évora ★★

Address: Rua do Raimundo 99 | Phone number: +351 266 240 340 | 38°34'7.14"N, 7°54'43.92"W

Solar de Monfalim ★★

Address: Largo da Misericórdia 1 | Phone number: +351 266 703 529 | 38°34'13.36"N, 7°54'25.77"W

HI Hostel Évora - Pousada da Juventude

Address: Rua Miguel Bombarda, 40 | Phone number: +351 266 70 60 50 / 963 344 595 | 38°34'11.68"N,
7°54'26.11"W

Welcome to Évora!



LEGEND

-  1 TEMPLE OF DIANA
-  2 CATHEDRAL OF ÉVORA
- 3 CHURCH OF GRAÇA DE DEUS
- 4 CHURCH OF S.FRANCISCO
- 5 CHAPEL OF BONES
-  6 GIRALDO SQUARE
- 7 PALACE OF D. MANUEL
- 8 AQUEDUCT OF ÁGUAS DE PRATA
-  9 OLIVE HOTEL
- 10 SOLAR DE MONFALIM HOTEL
- 11 RIVIEIRA HOTEL
- 12 MOOV HOTEL
- 13 IBIS HOTEL
- 14 VILA GALÉ
-  HOSPITAL
-  PHARMACY
-  BUS STATION
-  TRAIN STATION
-  PARKS
-  SUGGESTED ROUTE
-  SITE OF THE WORLD OWL CONFERENCE

In a week where owls are the main focus, we invite you to participate in a nocturnal walk through the city. During this walk we will visit cultural sites in the city that, besides being beautifully lit at night, also, on occasion, allow for observation of nocturnal birds of prey.



Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*



Little Owl *Athene noctua*



Barn Owl *Tyto alba*

ORGANIZATION & PARTNERS

