

Eastern Austria in spring

16th – 22nd May 2010



A male Dotterel from our mountain trip, Seewinkel meadow, Variable Bluet male and River Warbler.

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Leader

John Muddeman (The Travelling Naturalist)

Introduction

Austria is traditionally thought of as a country of mountain and forests, but tucked away in the south-east is a very different area, and often surprising to the first time visitor accustomed to thinking of the country as rugged and Alpine. Here, between the Alps and the Hungarian *puszta* lies a unique landscape on the western side of the Little Hungarian Plain - the *Kisalföld*. The cross-border National Park formed by the Seewinkel in Austria and the *Fertő –Hanság* in Hungary contains a mosaic of steppic lakes, salt-marsh, wet pastures and flower-rich grazing meadows within a matrix of arable fields, vineyards and woodland. It also includes a huge belt of reed-bed that surrounds the 320 km² Lake Neusiedl. The lake itself has an average depth of

just 1.5m and to the south and to the east lies the *Hanság*, a former fen, now covered by woodlands and wet meadows.

This is one of Europe's jewels, rich in a wide diversity of wildlife. As since our first visit here back in the late 1980s, our natural history holiday in spring 2010 was centred on the lakeside town of Neusiedl-am-See in Burgenland. The whole area is an important European breeding ground for avian life as well as providing rich feeding for migratory birds that pass through central Europe. Special projects to preserve ancient domestic livestock are being carried out in various locations and throughout the landscape one can come across rare breeds, such as Hungarian Grey Cattle, Mangalitza Pigs, White Donkeys and Przwalski Horses. But with access to the woodlands of the Danube and March rivers –forming the boundary with the Czech Republic and Slovakia to the north, plus visits to the limestone cliff and pinewoods of the *Hohe Wand* (“High Wall”) and alpine habitats of the nearby mountains a little further to the W, the trip encompasses a superb range of habitats present in the region, with a correspondingly wide array of birds, in particular.

Between the ash from *that* Icelandic volcano and a planned BA strike, things were looking a little troubled before we even left, but thankfully, the trip was completely unaffected in the end. Read on for more details...

Daily diary

Sunday 16th May

Vienna airport, Neusiedl-am-See, Podersdorf, Oberstinkersee.

Chilly and heavily overcast with gale force NW winds and light-moderate intermittent rain.

Arriving in Vienna we were soon off towards our hotel, including a relaxing lunch break en route, which was even more enjoyable as we delayed returning outside into the driving rain! After checking in to the Hotel Wende and taking a short break, we left again to take our first look at the area, and drove along the E edge of the lake S from Podersdorf. Wet Blackbirds, Eurasian Tree Sparrows and White Wagtails were soon spotted sheltering in the lee of buildings and low hedges, while small groups of unhappy-looking Barn Swallows rested on the road and tracks in the most sheltered spots.

The cover afforded by a few walnut trees meant a few Spotted and single female Pied Flycatcher could feed from the upper wires of a vineyard which extended below the leaf cover, with our first European Goldfinches, Eurasian Serins and Common Linnets feeding on the ground between the lines of vines. A large European Hare also feed between the rows, while a Sand Martin or two were mixed among the swallows.

Given rain, we stayed in the vehicle, taking a quick look at the flooded lake edge, noting a few ducks, large numbers of Greylag Geese (including goslings) and a pair of Common Shelduck, and though even the rare Mangalitza pigs were in hiding, a couple of European Turtle Doves hid less well in some bushes in their pen along with another female Pied Flycatcher.

After a few Pied Avocets and Mute Swans on one pool, plus a flying Eurasian Skylark over a small meadow as we left, we returned to the hotel for a welcome shower and brush-up before dinner.

Monday 17th May

Podersdorf, Oberstinkersee, Illmitz marina, Illmitz, Hanság.

Heavily overcast, gale force NW winds decreasing to moderate and turning NE p.m. Occasional rain after 4 p.m.

Although the conditions were still looking poor at breakfast, it was at least dry, and despite the chilly wind, we decided to retrace our route from the previous afternoon and see what was actually there once using telescopes! The vineyards contained slightly fewer flycatchers, but the first of several Red-backed Shrikes and even a fine Hoopoe started us off well.

The partially flooded area adjacent to the lake also held a number of birds which weren't Greylag Geese (!), including a few summer-plumaged Black-tailed Godwit, Ruff and Dunlin, a couple of Black-winged Stilts and Little Ringed Plovers, and a selection of ducks, including a feisty Ruddy Shelduck (of unknown origin), plenty of Red-crested Pochard, three Common Teal and a male Garganey of most note. Great White Egrets (including one catching and eating a vole!), Purple Herons, Eurasian Spoonbills, Western Marsh Harriers and a passing Common Gull made up the rest of the cast. The

Mangalitz Pigs were out in force today, and very friendly, while the pen also contained a few birds such as some migrant Yellow Wagtails, including a fine male *thunbergi*, or “Grey-headed” Wagtail. The nearby Oberstinkersee was basically birdless, but the pool opposite, despite having deeper water than usual, produced a fine Temminck’s Stint picking its way quietly along one spit.

We moved on again for a coffee, heading to the Illmitz marina, but a Pygmy Cormorant perched in reeds and a Great Crested Grebe required pauses before we found the restaurant was shut! With the waves crashing up over the edge, we didn’t get too close, and after a quick comfort stop and look around at birds sheltering from the wind, we returned to look at a small lake nearby with more passing Pygmy Cormorants of most note.

We returned to Illmitz for a lighter and very enjoyable lunch in a local baker's before heading off again to the extreme SE corner on the Hungarian border.

This proved to be very productive, since despite the wind, a few birds were singing including Common Nightingale, Marsh Warbler and Barred Warbler, though almost all remained unseen. A superb Short-eared Owl hunting off to one side though gave prolonged views and was justifiably admired at length. Common Stonechats, Whinchats, “Blue-headed” Yellow Wagtails, a Corn Bunting and various Common Buzzards and Western Marsh Harriers were also noted, along with snatches of Tree Pipit song.

The Einsler Kanal, part of the former Iron Curtain and the location of spy-swapping activities in a darker past was very full of water and remarkably quiet for once, though a loudly singing Icterine Warbler was glimpsed and a Great Reed Warbler ‘grinded and grunched’ from the reeds.

With time running on and light rain starting, it didn’t seem like great conditions for finding anything new, but much to our delight we came across a small flock of huge male Great Bustards standing heads and necks above the long grass, with one slightly closer showing its barred, cocked tail. A really terrific end to the day’s observations!

Tuesday 18th May

Neusiedl-am-See, Hohe Wand, Schönauer Teich.

Cool. Heavy cloud lifting mid p.m., gale force NW wind and rain Hohe Wand, though much stiller under the wall. Wind easing late p.m.

With continuing NW winds, we decided to head to the Hohe Wand, which faces somewhat SE. Indeed, as we arrived, it was virtually still at the bottom despite thick cloud racing over the top and ‘out’. Several Red-backed Shrikes in the bushy meadow below, a flying pair of Yellowhammers, calling and singing Coal Tits, Common Chiffchaff, Blackcaps and even a calling, but unseen Rock Bunting set the scene, with the high limestone wall towering overhead.

Once we’d also looked at passing Peregrine and European Honey-buzzard, a short walk into the local woodland revealed a superb and dark Red Squirrel, and, while we looked for a rather elusive singing Wood Warbler, a few Marsh Tits were also enjoyed. A harsh call at least revealed the presence of a Spotted Nutcracker as we returned, though it refused to show, along with a calling Green Woodpecker. Back in the vehicle a call of two big passing birds saw us leap out as two Black Storks headed S parallel to the cliffs, before we lost them in the murky conditions.

With light rain in the offing we moved up to the Gasthof Postl, where powerful biting winds with light rain meant it was a good time for a coffee! Indeed, with some heavy squalls blowing through, we extended this through lunch, but nonetheless enjoyed the birds coming to the feeder there, including a pair of Eurasian Nuthatches, a few Coal Tits and plenty of European Greenfinches.

The short walk after lunch was good for blowing the cobwebs away (!), at least until we reached the relative shelter towards the edge of the cliff, this being slightly lower and also behind a row of trees. The views were good, despite the thick lower cloud racing over, which we could see was in fact rapidly broking up towards the east and it was looking notably brighter in the lowlands where we were headed. Singing Firecrests in the moving trees naturally remained unseen, but were at least noted!

Dropping into the lowlands we headed for a few fishponds and a lake, the Schönauer Teich. The first had plenty of Tufted Duck, fewer Common Pochard and three Little Grebes, plus numerous Barn Swallows, House and particularly Sand Martins skimming low over the water’s surface in the chill wind. A huge shoal of young Common Carp were also an impressive sight in the remarkably clear water. The second was totally devoid of birds, apart from a couple of Tufted Duck sheltering along

one bank, while the last, the main lake, held almost 50 Red-crested Pochard, plus a couple of Great Cormorants, Great Crested Grebes, and Common Pochard.

After detouring, we rounded off the day with a drive through some arable land for a couple of key species. European Hares were just about everywhere, with several small groups of 3 or 4 together, a few Common Buzzards and Western Marsh Harriers came close past, and even a fine Black Stork cruised over (to our surprise). But best were a pair of Grey Partridge which ran into a pea field, and then reappeared in a bare tractor rut for us to enjoy them, followed shortly afterwards by a superb pair of Saker Falcons, which were first sat out in full view, before the male finally took off and flew past and away, only to be followed by the female when he was almost out of sight. These are majestic and rare birds and the sighting made a superb finale to the day.

Wednesday 19th May

Neusiedl Marina, Marchegg, Hohenau, Rabensburg.

Sunny start, soon turning cloudier and then complete cloud cover all p.m. Stiff, chilly breeze all day, with some very light rain p.m.

Leaving at our usual 8:30 time, we once again popped down to the local marina to see if we could track down Alan's Bluethroat of the day before. No luck, but with slightly less wind and sunnier conditions, birds were a little more evident, allowing good views of a couple of singing Marsh Warblers, male Reed Bunting and best of all, a pair of Penduline Tits at a nest. With this sometimes swinging wildly in the wind we wondered how the birds coped while incubating or how it affected chicks! Dozens and dozens of Variable Damselflies were emerging and gathering along the paths in the shelter of the tall grass, and were far more welcome than a few huge tawny-coloured mosquitoes present!

We finally pulled ourselves away and after stopping in Neusiedl-am-See for hand cream, glasses mending and then a small flock of European Bee-eaters, we headed N over the Danube (which surprisingly looked relatively low) and quickly reached the reserve at Marchegg. A Black Kite cruised slowly past overhead, while a Grey-headed Woodpecker on a dead snag close to a White Stork nest (complete with occupants) was a superb find by Judith. Spotted Flycatcher and Great Spotted Woodpecker were noted within the *Schloss* courtyard before we moved back towards the main part of the reserve, only to discover that it was deep in flood water! Indeed, it was barely possible to get further than the entrance bridge, so we content ourselves with a short walk along the high flood bank instead, despite horribly muddy conditions, and were well rewarded. A fine Icterine Warbler broadcast its loud squeaky song from an exposed perch on one side, and two dapper male Collared Flycatchers tried to outsing each other, one each side of the path, just ahead. Passing Middle Spotted Woodpeckers refused to perch in view though, so we looked in the car park area instead and were rewarded with a Middle Spotted Woodpecker before a confusingly similar juvenile Great Spotted Woodpecker showed up with an adult for good measure. Alan also latched on to a Short-toed Treecreeper, and we left content after excellent sightings of some star local birds.

Moving N the weather deteriorated a little, with very light rain making an appearance, so after pausing for a fine Red Kite en route, we found a fine little restaurant in Hohenau, where an open buffet was being served – Ursula being presented with no less than three whole breaded plaice fillets at no extra cost! – and this gave time for the majority of the rain to pass through. The local fishponds had little in attendance, though a raft full of nesting Common Terns was a fine sight, so we popped round the corner to some old settlement pits. One distant bird high in a tall tree was puzzling, but after flying fast for 4-500m to another spot, we were able to enjoy a fine Great Grey Shrike perched on a couple of posts before it flew off, never to be seen again! With scope views of brief Marsh Warbler, Red-backed Shrike, female Gadwall and a fine Roe Deer to fill in time, we kept watching the area given a male Bluethroat which intermittently came up to sing from some reeds, finally giving us all good views, plus a showy Sedge Warbler, a rather brief Common Whitethroat, and most confusingly at first, a female Common Cuckoo which flew in, carrying an uneaten egg in its beak, making it look like some sort of weird huge-billed African bird!

Being just a few minutes from Rabensburg, we continued N, and the day just got better and better. A high passing bird was a surprise adult Black-crowned Night Heron, and down on the flood bank, with incredible areas of water covering the wet 'meadows' in front, the sight of flocks of Tufted Ducks was remarkable! The almost still conditions in the lee of the trees created superb conditions for small bird activity, with calling Green Woodpecker and Wryneck, singing Blackcaps, a reeling River

Warbler which eluded most (despite some hard searching), a few passing Golden Orioles, a flitting female Pied Flycatcher and generally high levels of song including a lovely purring European Turtle Dove. Common Terns and Black-headed Gulls fished the floods, while an all-too-brief White-tailed Eagle flew off being mobbed by Hooded Crows. Black Kites and Marsh Harriers completed the raptors, though half the group were treated to a brief male Garganey, even briefer flying Hawfinch and fly-by Common Redshank! Fortunately, just before leaving (albeit late, given so much activity), another singing River Warbler sat low down in reeds and cow parsley, giving excellent scope views for all.

This was another excellent end to the day, but did not actually end until we were back on the outskirts of Neusiedl-am-See again, where in the middle of an empty car park, a lone Crested Lark picked its way gently around (and almost under the minibus at one point), giving superb views. It had been a truly memorable day!

Thursday 20th May

Hochwechsel and area.

Cloudy with some sunny patches, chilly with strong NNW wind in exposed areas.

Our one sight of the Schneeberg during the entire trip was of the lower slopes bathed in sun, but thick wreath of cloud surrounding the whole of the top as we headed W. But with snow still showing well down the steep gulleys below the cloud, our decision to change to an alternative mountain to look for higher altitude species looked good. And with persistent cold, gale force winds all day in exposed areas, the choice was a good one!

Turning S and then W again we worked our way across towards the Hochwechsel, with its toll road and track leading right up to the peak, but up the sunny S side. A stop in the valley beside the river before we started to ascend revealed almost nothing except a brief Firecrest in pines, but a welcome comfort stop turned into a coffee break in a pleasant *Gasthof* before we started climbing. An aggressive interaction between a Carrion and a Hooded Crow showed that despite hybrids in this area, not all was always well between them! The lower very mixed woodlands gradually changed to more open mid-level meadows among the forest, but our first stop in a rather open pinewood produced singing Goldcrests and a noisy and mobile group of fine Common Crossbills. Great!

A short walk near the junction of several tracks seemed remarkably quiet (as was most of the upper forest in general), until a loud call rang through the woodland. A Black Woodpecker then continued to call intermittently until shortly after we'd located it perched, remarkably, right at the tip of a small pine, but only Judith managed good views before it moved on. However, another crossing the valley below as we were leaving was also noted by Kate from the moving vehicle late in the day.

After a simple but good lunch, despite a Willow Tit all too briefly outside (and before we started food!) which was only being noted by Alan and Kate, the highest forest suddenly became the best, with a fine male Ring Ouzel collecting food on the forest floor. A Eurasian Treecreeper showed well here too, though a singing Dunnock refused to appear in a windier spot.

Climbing again, we began to enter more open grassland around and above the treeline, though a powerful cold wind was keeping activity very subdued. However, single Water Pipit and male Northern Wheatear showed for a few before we reached the summit. It was still dry, and the decision to brave it out and start walking down, despite a gusting cold wind on our backs, turned out to be very fortunate. Virtually nothing was visible for the first 200m, so I turned back to get the vehicle and pick the group up as they descended. But on driving down, the group had barely moved, and some beaming faces and intent watching over the slopes suggested something interesting was present. A trip of five beautiful summer-plumaged Dotterels in fact, which despite starting to disappear as we approached, later turned and returned, passing close beside us, even when only two of us remained to get pictures as driving sleet pelted our backs and our hands froze! A mixture of males and females, they made a fabulous sight on the rather desolate mountaintop! Various Eurasian Skylarks here barely got a look-in, though the male Northern Wheatear also returned to show that it too was worth looking at!

Elated at our luck, we started gently down, looking (unsuccessfully) again for small birds as we went, though thanks to the Satnav, we took the alternative route down, passing some areas of terrific forest. But it wasn't until a shout from Alan that something was moving on the roadside almost under the front wheels on the roadside that we even noticed a stunning female Capercaillie! Slewing to a

halt we watched through the back window as it walked quietly up the bank and into the forest, with a couple more glimpses of it disappearing into the woods after we'd got out, too! Just as unexpected as the Dotterel, this was actually a new species for all the group's participants. What an afternoon!

Returning out of the toll area we headed down through more excellent forest, and despite two calling Spotted Nutcrackers, only one was seen briefly by Alan as it flew across two gaps in the canopy before disappearing for good. This really called an end to quite a long day, but we started the return journey gently, finally making it to a petrol station in order to refuel when on worryingly low fuel levels (!), but then had a fine clean run 'home' to enjoy another superb buffet dinner at the hotel.

Friday 21st May Zicklacke, Illmitz Marina, Warmblüterkoppel, Warmsee, Apetlon, Graurinderkoppel, Podersdorf.

Very wet and windy start, rain easing, becoming largely sunny midday, then broken sunshine. Cool breeze but warm in sun.

The day was organised to try and maximise our chances of a few of the migrant species passing through the Seewinkel National Park area, which had appeared with and were being held up by the bad weather. And with some 20 new species recorded, most of which were waders, this was a very good choice!

Starting at the Zicklacke, one of the first birds noted was a fine summer-plumaged Red Knot, and despite the rain intensifying and in the end driving us back into the vehicle, we enjoyed reasonable views of this, plus distant Common Ringed and Kentish Plovers, and a few Wood Sandpipers.

The wind and rain meant almost nothing was moving as we drove down to Illmitz marina, so we turned round at the end and came back to the Warmblüterkoppel. I got out to check, despite light rain, but the skies started to brighten a little, and when a Great Bittern started calling, most of us got out to listen. Indeed it was a great haul of calling and singing birds, including Hoopoe, Common Nightingale, Golden Oriole and even Moustached Warbler, showing the diversity of the birds present, with distant flying Pygmy Cormorants, Purple Heron and Great White Egrets, plus perched Eurasian Turtle Dove, and a flighty Eurasian Penduline-tit (plus a distant nest!) adding 'visual spice'. Indeed, it wasn't until the bittern finally decided to call again that we remembered why we'd got out!

Another stop at Zicklacke was windy, but dry, and we now had better views of a Wood Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, a male Northern Pintail, two tiny Temminck's Stints and a Common Sandpiper amongst others. Two flying Eurasian Curlews landed near two Roe Deer, Black-winged Stilts and Pied Avocets vied for being the smartest, while a small flock of jinking Black Terns graced the far side near the large and noisy Black-headed Gull colony. This was a great site!

We finally pulled ourselves away again and headed for a coffee in Apetlon, complete with nearby White Stork on nest! The nearby Warmsee was fairly quiet, though a Corn Bunting flew off as we arrived, and Northern Lapwings and their chicks, a few Little Ringed Plovers and a Common Sandpiper were seen extremely close from the vehicle. A number of flowers appearing in the ancient grasslands were a lovely sight too.

With a little time before lunch we decided to take a look at the nearby Graurinderkoppel, which was very rewarding, since not only were a number of new birds present, including some stunning summer-plumaged Grey Plover, a pair of Eurasian Wigeon and all three marsh terns, but a large herd of Hungarian Longhorn Cattle made not only a fine sight, but were grazing the partially flooded grasslands to perfection. The views were excellent, and the newly erected hide (it was just 3 weeks old!) provided a superb vantage point from which to survey a huge area of wet grassland and reedbed bordering the lake, plus large numbers of waders, terns and waterfowl present.

A late lunch with the sun fully out (but outside) showed that the conditions were 'safe' enough for a walk, so we strolled down the Sandeck track (not far from where we'd just been) to a couple of flooded fields. A female Ferruginous Duck swam out from just in front before suddenly flying off and another pair fed in the emergent reeds, several Whiskered plus more Black Terns dipped gracefully over the water, dapper Black-winged Stilts cried out in alarm as we passed, and 'booping' Fire-bellied Toads were clearly common in certain well-vegetated areas! Just a couple of hours of sun had led to a sudden emergence of Common Blue butterflies, and given the chill wind, most were clustered in small groups in the lee side of the longer grass bordering the track, where a Small Heath was present too.

Saturday 22nd May

Parndorfer Platte, airport and home.

Dry. A fine sunny start, broken cloud appearing. Stiff, cool N-NW breeze.

With just a couple of hours spare before leaving for the airport, most of us took a slightly earlier breakfast and were out promptly at 8 a.m.

Despite ostensibly going only to look for a few of the larger species we hadn't seen well until then, we first nipped round the back of the hotel to peer over the reedbed for a few minutes. Reeling or is it buzzing Savi's Warblers were the first new bird, and a briefly 'squealing' Water rail the next. A Great Reed Warbler, Great Spotted Woodpecker, and single male Reed Bunting and Red-backed Shrikes did show, albeit briefly, too.

The next stop was for a little longer to look over an extensive area of grassland, where a couple of pairs of Montagu's Harriers are supposed to breed. But with a keen chill breeze, it was perhaps no surprise that in such a short time we saw none, despite picking up a long-distance Black-tailed Godwit sitting on a post and hearing singing Eurasian Curlew.

The drive up onto the Parndorfer Platte was also not surprisingly uneventful, despite stopping on various occasions for more interesting looking birds, including Western Marsh Harriers, Common Buzzards and even passing Golden Orioles. However, one raptor looked a little different and we watched as a migrant European Honey-buzzard spiralled up and the headed off NE. This was a good omen, and on approaching our final destination we noticed a pair of very large raptors hanging in the wind off to one side. Stopping on the roadside meant trying to talk over the top of the noise of passing cars, but it was well worth it as we watched a superb pair of adult Eastern Imperial Eagles circling or drifting in the wind, with the female particularly characteristic with two huge white scapular patches. They finally drifted off and we moved on happily to our final spot.

Driving off the road and onto a track, we parked and then walked up onto a small, flower-rich hilltop with views out to the N and with a few small copses around. Singing Tree Pipit, Corn Bunting and Yellowhammer were all seen, as well as the same female Eastern Imperial Eagle again (at length), plus another, possibly third bird rather briefly, plus another fly-over European Honey-buzzard. With a host of flowers around our feet (including large numbers of fluffy seedheads of Pasque-flowers), and a few passing Golden Orioles, it was a superb spot to bide out the remainder of our time in the field. Even as we left, a pair of Common Partridge in a field beside us gave good views.

We returned to the airport in sunshine and plenty of time to get the early afternoon flight back to the UK. However, a minor diversion very close to the airport produced our last new species. Parking on the verge allowed the majority out to contemplate a few delightful little European Souseliks. These were happily out enjoying the sunshine too, and largely ignored the group's presence, making a fine finale to the tour.

We bade our farewells at the Terminal (as my flight was several hours later), despite meeting up again briefly inside at the check-in queue, and went our separate ways back to our respective destinations.

Despite the cold and the rain and the wind (!!!), once again we enjoyed a productive spring trip to Central Europe. Despite being unseasonably chilly, windy and wet – also perhaps linked to the atypical jet-stream alignment – we still recorded the second highest number of bird species ever recorded on this tour (despite also having one less day in total!), including most of the really key species for the region, plus several rarities that we found for ourselves. Indeed the windy and largely cloudy weather was responsible for grounding a good number of migrants, especially waders, on their passage, and so we delighted in finding new species throughout the week, including right to the very end.

Highlights are difficult to decide, but almost undoubtedly include the trip of five stunning Dotterel and a roadside female Capercaillie, within 45 minutes of each other, though I'm sure that the pair of Sakers, pair of Eastern Imperial Eagles and sheer numbers of wildfowl, waders and terns on the various lakes and shore of Lake Neusiedl will all remain long in the memory. While the large numbers of European Hares and Roe Deer (both present in artificially high numbers for hunting) were impressive too, perhaps the cute little European Souseliks, just a stone's throw from the airport departure terminal will perhaps steal pride of place among the mammals!

Finally I'd like to thank Dr Graham Tebb in Austria for keeping me up to date with the presence of migrants in the area, for suggesting we visit the Hochwechsel and a couple of other sites, and also for reading the report over and making a few suggestions to improve its content.

We look forward to seeing you again on a Travelling Naturalist and/or Limosa tour, and wish to thank you for helping make this such a rewarding holiday.

Very best wishes, John Muddeman (www.iberianwildlife.com)

SPECIES LISTS

Before reading, please note that the bird names and list follow the taxonomy and names used by F. Gill and M. Wright. 2008. *Birds of the World: Recommended English Names*. Princeton University Press.

This differs significantly in order, but only slightly in the common and scientific names used when compared to most field guides currently in use. Most significant name changes are also included to avoid confusion.

BIRDS - AVES

GROUSE, PHEASANTS & allies - Phasianidae

Western Capercaillie *Tetrao urogallus*: 1 female Hochwechsel on 20th.

Grey Partridge *Perdix perdix*: 4 en route on 18th, 3 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*: Noted daily, with a few to plenty at numerous sites.

GEESE, SWANS & DUCKS - Anatidae

Greylag Goose *Anser anser*: Plenty Podersdorf and other sites on 16th, lots various sites on 17th, abundant various sites on 21st.

Mute Swan *Cygnus olor*: Noted on 5 days with several Podersdorf and other sites on 16th, plenty various sites on 17th, 8-10 Schönauer Teich on 18th, a few various sites on 19th, several various sites on 21st.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*: Two Podersdorf on 16th, plenty various sites on 17th and 21st.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*: A male Podersdorf on 17th and 21st.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*: Pairs Podersdorf on 16th and 17th, at Hohenau on 19th, plenty various sites on 21st.

Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope*: Pair Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*: Noted daily and widely in small to moderate number.

Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*: Noted on 4 days: a male Podersdorf on 16th, several various sites on 17th, a male Hohenau on 19th, plenty various sites on 21st.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*: 1 male Zicklacke on 21st.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*: A male Podersdorf on 17th, a male Rabensburg on 19th, 7-8 various sites on 21st.

Eurasian Teal *Anas crecca*: A single male + a pair Podersdorf on 17th, a pair Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

Red-crested Pochard *Netta rufina*: A pair Podersdorf on 16th, lots various sites on 17th, 46 Schönauer Teich on 18th, 100s various sites on 21st.

Common Pochard *Aythya ferina*: 10+ Schönauer Teich on 18th, 6-8 Hohenau on 19th, 15+ various sites on 21st.

Ferruginous Duck *Aythya nyroca*: 3 Sandeck + 1 Podersdorf on 21st.

Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula*: A male in flight Podersdorf on 17th, c. 15 Schönauer Teich on 18th, lots Hohenau + Rabensburg on 19th.

GREBES - Podicipedidae

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*: 3 Schönauer Teich on 18th.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*: A few Illmitz Marina on 17th, 4 Schönauer Teich on 18th, 2 Hohenau on 19th, 4-5 Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

STORKS - Ciconiidae

Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*: 2 Hohe Wand + 1 en route on 18th.

White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*: Noted on 5 days. A few various sites on 16th, 1 en route on 18th, plenty various sites on 19th, 2 en route on 20th, 4-5 various sites on 21st.

IBISES & SPOONBILLS - Threskiornithidae

Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia*: noted on 3 days with 1 Podersdorf on 16th, several various sites on 17th, c. 10 various sites on 21st.

HERONS & BITTERNES - Ardeidae

Eurasian/Great Bittern *Botaurus stellaris*: 2 heard Illmitz Marina + 1 heard Sandeck on 21st.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*: 1 adult Rabensburg on 19th.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*: Seen almost daily in small to moderate number at a variety of mainly wetland sites.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*: 3+ Podersdorf and other sites on 17th, 2-3 various sites on 21st.

Great [White] Egret *Ardea alba*: Noted daily in variable number around Lake Neusiedl and hinterland.

CORMORANTS - Phalacrocoracidae

Pygmy Cormorant *Phalacrocorax pygmeus*: 6+ Illmitz Marina on 17th and 2-3 there on 21st.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*: Singles Podersdorf + Einser Kanal on 17th, 2 Schönauer Teich on 18th, 1 Hohenau + 1 Rabensburg on 19th, 3-4 Illmitz Marina + 3 Podersdorf on 21st, 1 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

FALCONS & allies - Falconidae

Common/Eurasian Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*: Noted daily and widely in moderate to large number.

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo*: 1 Podersdorf on 17th, 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, 2 Neusiedl-am-See + 1 Hohenau on 19th, 1 Illmitz Marina on 21st, 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

Saker Falcon *Falco cherrug*: A pair en route on 18th.

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus*: 1 Hohe Wand on 18th.

HAWKS, EAGLES & allies - Accipitridae

European Honey-buzzard *Pernis apivorus*: 2 Hohe Wand + 1 en route on 18th, 4+ various sites on 19th, 2 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Red Kite *Milvus milvus*: 3-4 various sites along March River on 19th.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*: 2+ Rabensburg + 1 en route on 19th, 1 en route to airport on 22nd.

White-tailed Eagle *Haliaeetus albicilla*: 1 very briefly Rabensburg on 19th.

[Western] Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*: Common, widespread (except in mountains) and seen almost daily in moderate number.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*: Singles en route on 18th and Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo*: A few various sites on 17th, a few en route on 18th, a few various sites on 19th, several en route on 20th, 2-3 various sites on 21st, a few Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Long-legged Buzzard *Buteo rufinus*: 1 Sandeck on 21st.

Asian/Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca*: 2-3 adults Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

BUSTARDS - Otidae

Great Bustard *Otis tarda*: 10 males + 2 females Hanság on 17th.

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS - Rallidae

Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus*: Heard Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*: A few various sites on 17th, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 19th, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

Eurasian/Common Coot *Fulica atra*: Several Podersdorf and other sites on 16th, lots various sites on 17th, several Schönauer Teich on 18th, plenty various sites on 19th, plenty various sites on 21st.

STILTS & AVOCETS - Recurvirostridae

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*: 2 Podersdorf on 17th, 10+ various sites on 21st.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*: A few Oberstinkersee on 16th, plenty various sites on 17th, 25-30 various sites on 21st.

PLOVERS & LAPWINGS - Charadriidae

Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus*: Noted quite commonly and widely almost daily (except 20th).

Grey/Black-bellied Plover *Pluvialis squatarola*: 9+ Graurinderkoppel plus 1 Zicklacke on 21st.

[Common] Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*: Lots Zicklacke + Podersdorf on 21st.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*: 3-4 Podersdorf on 17th, plenty Zicklacke + Podersdorf on 21st.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*: 6-8 Zicklacke + Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

Eurasian Dotterel *Charadrius morinellus*: 5 Hochwechsel on 20th.

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES & allies - Scolopacidae

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*: 2 Podersdorf on 17th, c. 10 various sites on 21st, 1 en route on 22nd.

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*: 1 Podersdorf on 16th, 12+ Hanság on 17th, 2 + plenty heard Zicklacke+ on 21st, heard en route on 22nd.

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*: 1 full summer plumage bird Zicklacke on 21st.

Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*: 3-4 Podersdorf on 17th, 1 Rabensburg on 19th, lots various sites on 21st.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*: 1 Zicklacke + 1 Podersdorf on 21st.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*: Several Zicklacke on 21st.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*: 2 Zicklacke + 1 Warmsee on 21st.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*: 2 Podersdorf on 21st.

Red Knot *Calidris canutus*: 1 Zicklacke on 21st.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta*: 1 Podersdorf on 21st.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*: 1 Oberstinkersee on 17th, 2 Zicklacke on 21st.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*: 2 adults Podersdorf on 17th, 5 Podersdorf on 21st.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*: 12+ Podersdorf on 17th, 12-15 Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

GULLS, TERNS & SKIMMERS - Laridae

Common Gull *Larus canus*: 1 1st-winter in flight Podersdorf on 17th.

Yellow-legged Gull *Larus michahellis*: Several Podersdorf and other sites on 17th, several various sites on 21st.

Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*: Noted commonly and quite widely daily.

Mediterranean Gull *Larus melanocephalus*: 1 in flight Warmsee on 21st.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*: 4-5 various sites on 17th, 30-35 Hohenau + Rabensburg on 19th, several various sites on 21st.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*: 2 Graurinderkoppel + 4-5 Sandeck on 21st.

White-winged [Black] Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*: 1 Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

Black Tern *Chlidonias niger*: 150-200 Graurinderkoppel + Sandeck on 21st.

PIGEONS & DOVES - Columbidae

Rock Dove / Feral Pigeon *Columba livia*: Noted widely and daily.

[Common] Wood Pigeon *Columba palumbus*: Noted daily in small to moderate number.

European Turtle Dove *Streptopelia turtur*: Noted on 5 days: 2 Podersdorf on 16th, 4-5 various sites on 17th, 2-3 Neusiedl-am-See + heard Rabensburg on 19th, plenty various sites on 21st, several various sites on 22nd.

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*: Noted commonly, widely and daily.

CUCKOOS - Cuculidae

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*: Common at numerous sites! 6-7 on 17th, 3-4 seen + heard on 18th, 1 female seen and several males heard on 19th, 1 + plenty heard on 20th, heard en route on 22nd.

OWLS - Strigidae

Tawny Owl *Strix aluco*: Heard Neusiedl-am-See on 17th.

Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus*: 1 Hanság on 17th.

SWIFTS - Apodidae

Common Swift *Apus apus*: Noted in small to good number widely almost daily (except 16th).

BEE-EATERS - Meropidae

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster*: 20-25 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th, 2 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

HOOPOES - Upupidae

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*: 2 Podersdorf on 17th, 2 en route on 18th, 1 heard Illmitz Marina + 1 seen Podersdorf on 21st.

WOODPECKERS - Picidae

Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*: Heard singing Rabensburg on 19th.

Middle Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos medius*: 2 Marchegg on 19th.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, several various sites on 19th, 1 en route on 20th, 2-3 various sites on 22nd.

Black Woodpecker *Dryocopus martius*: Fresh borings (!) Hohe Wand on 18th, 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

[European] Green Woodpecker *Picus viridis*: 1 Einser Kanal on 17th, heard Hohe Wand on 18th, heard Marchegg + 1 seen Rabensburg on 19th.

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*: 1-2 Marchegg on 19th.

SHRIKES - Laniidae

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio*: Plenty various sites on 17th, 3 males Hohe Wand + a few en route on 18th, plenty various sites on 19th, a few various sites on 21st, a few various sites on 22nd.

Great Grey Shrike *Lanius excubitor*: 1 Hohenau on 19th.

OLD WORLD ORIOLES - Oriolidae

[Eurasian] Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus*: 2 males + 1 female Podersdorf on 17th, 4-5 Rabensburg on 19th, several in flight various sites on 21st, 8-10 various sites on 22nd.

CROWS, JAYS & MAGPIES - Corvidae

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*: Heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica*: Noted widely in small number almost daily (except 21st).

Spotted Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes*: Heard Hohe Wand on 18th, 3 heard + 1 seen Hochwechsel on 20th.

Western Jackdaw *Corvus monedula*: Noted widely in variable number on 6 days (except 16th).

Rook *Corvus frugilegus*: Quite common and widespread and noted on 5 days.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*: Black, Carrion Crow-like birds were seen on a few days but true Carrion Crows only occur in a line W from Vienna S to Graz. Plenty various sites on 18th and 20th + 1 en route on 19th.

Hooded Crow *Corvus cornix*: Noted commonly daily, including a few obvious hybrids.

Northern/Common Raven *Corvus corax*: 2+ Hohe Wand on 18th.

TITS & CHICKADEES - Paridae

Marsh Tit *Poecile palustris*: 2 Hohe Wand on 18th.

Willow Tit *Poecile montana*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Coal Tit *Periparus ater*: A few Hohe Wand on 18th, several Hochwechsel on 20th.

[European] Crested Tit *Lophophanes cristatus*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Great Tit *Parus major*: Noted widely in small – moderate number on 6 days (except 21st), including fledglings Neusiedl-am-See on 18th.

Blue Tit *Cyanistes caeruleus*: Singles Einser Kanal on 17th, Hohe Wand on 18th, & Hohenau on 19th.

PENDULINE TITS - Remizidae

Eurasian Penduline Tit *Remiz pendulinus*: 2 heard + nest seen Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, 2 + nest again Neusiedl-am-See on 19th, 1 + heard + nest Illmitz Marina on 21st, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

SWALLOWS & MARTINS - Hirundinidae

Sand Martin / Bank Swallow *Riparia riparia*: 1 Podersdorf on 16th, several various sites on 17th, lots Schönauer Teich on 18th, several Neusiedl-am-See+ on 19th, plenty various sites on 21st.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*: Noted daily in small – large number at numerous sites.

[Common] House Martin *Delichon urbicum*: Noted daily in small – large number at numerous sites.

LARKS - Alaudidae

Crested Lark *Galerida cristata*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

Eurasian/Common Skylark *Alauda arvensis*: Noted daily in vary variable number, but most in lowland arable and steppe habitats and the bare tops of the Hochwechsel!

OLD WORLD WARBLERS - Sylviidae

River Warbler *Locustella fluviatilis*: 2 Rabensburg on 19th.

Savi's Warbler *Locustella luscinioides*: 2-3 heard Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*: Heard Oberstinkersee on 16th, 1 Illmitz Marina + 1 Einser Kanal on 17th, 1 + heard Neusiedl-am-See + heard Schönauer Teich on 18th, 2 seen + plenty heard various sites on 19th, heard en route on 21st, several heard Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

Moustached Warbler *Acrocephalus melanopogon*: Heard Illmitz Marina on 21st.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*: Heard Hanság on 17th, heard Schönauer Teich on 18th, 2 Hohenau on 19th, heard Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

[Eurasian] Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*: 2 in flight + heard Hanság on 17th, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, several various sites on 19th.

Icterine Warbler *Hippolais icterina*: Singles singing and seen Einser Kanal on 17th, 1 Marchegg on 19th.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*: 1 + heard Hohe Wand on 18th, heard Rabensburg on 19th, heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*: 1 Hohe Wand on 18th.

Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*: 1 + heard Hanság on 17th, several Hohe Wand on 18th, plenty Rabensburg+ on 19th, several Hochwechsel+ on 20th, heard Illmitz Marina on 21st, several heard various sites on 22nd.

Barred Warbler *Sylvia nisoria*: 1 + heard Hanság on 17th.

Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*: Singles Hanság on 17th & Hohenau on 19th.

CRESTS & KINGLETS - Regulidae

Firecrest *Regulus ignicapilla*: Heard Hohe Wand on 18th, heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*: 1 + heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

NUTHATCHES & WALLCREEPER - Sittidae

Eurasian Nuthatch *Sitta europaea*: 2 Hohe Wand on 18th, 1 Rabensburg on 19th.

TREECREEPERS - Certhiidae

Eurasian Treecreeper *Certhia familiaris*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Short-toed Treecreeper *Certhia brachydactyla*: 1 Marchegg (Alan) on 19th.

STARLINGS - Sturnidae

Common/European Starling *Sturnus vulgaris*: Widespread, abundant and noted daily in moderate – large number.

THRUSHES - Turdidae

Ring Ouzel *Turdus torquatus*: 1 male + 1 female (in flight) Hochwechsel on 20th.

Common Blackbird *Turdus merula*: Common, widespread and noted daily.

Song Thrush *Turdus philomelos*: Widespread in small number, and noted daily (except 22nd).

Mistle Thrush *Turdus viscivorus*: Several en route on 18th, lots various sites on 20th.

OLD WORLD CHATS & FLYCATCHERS - Muscicapidae

European Robin *Erithacus rubecula*: 1 en route on 16th, heard Neusiedl-am-See on 17th, heard Hohe Wand on 18th, 2 + plenty heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

Bluetthroat *Luscinia svecica*: Single males Neusiedl-am-See (Alan) on 18th & Hohenau on 19th.

Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos*: Heard Hanság+ on 17th, plenty heard various sites on 19th, heard Illmitz Marina on 21st, heard Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Black Redstart *Phoenicurus ochruros*: Widespread, common and noted daily in small – moderate number.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*: 7+ Hanság on 17th.

European/Common Stonechat *Saxicola rubicola*: 1 Podersdorf on 16th, plenty Hanság+ on 17th, several various sites on 19th, a few various sites on 21st, a few Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*: 1 fine male Hochwechsel on 20th.

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata*: Several Podersdorf and other sites on 16th, lots various sites on 17th, 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, a few various sites on 19th, 1 en route on 20th.

[European] Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula hypoleuca*: 2 females Podersdorf on 16th, 1 female Rabensburg on 19th.

Collared Flycatcher *Ficedula albicollis*: 2 superb males Hohenau on 19th.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS & allies - Passeridae

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus*: Very common, widespread and noted daily.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*: Common, widespread and noted daily, even _-way up the Hochwechsel.

ACCENTORS - Prunellidae

Dunnock / Hedge Accentor *Prunella modularis*: Heard Hochwechsel on 20th.

WAGTAILS & PIPITS - Motacillidae

Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava*: 15+ at various sites were presumably all *flava* except for a male *thunbergi* at Podersdorf on 17th, 1 male *flava* Hohenau on 19th, a few *flava* various sites on 21st.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*: 1 + heard female en route on 20th.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*: Common, widespread and noted daily in mostly small number. One at Podersdorf on 17th has a dark back + mantle, like *yarrellii* “pied” Wagtail, but disappeared before it could be confirmed.

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*: One heard singing Hanság on 17th, 1 + heard Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Water Pipit *Anthus spinoletta*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

FINCHES & allies - Fringillidae

Common Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*: Widespread, common and noted daily except on 16th.

European Serin *Serinus serinus*: Widespread, common and noted daily except on 20th.

European Greenfinch *Carduelis chloris*: Heard Podersdorf on 16th, plenty various sites on 17th, plenty various sites on 18th, plenty various sites on 19th, a few en route on 20th.

European Goldfinch *Carduelis carduelis*: Widespread, quite common and noted daily.

Common Linnet *Carduelis cannabina*: A few Podersdorf and other sites on 16th, c. 20 Hanság on 17th, a few Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, a few en route on 21st, several Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Common/Red Crossbill *Loxia curvirostra*: 15+ Hochwechsel on 20th.

Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*: One in flight Rabensburg was only very poorly seen by Alan on 19th.

BUNTINGS, NEW WORLD SPARROWS & allies - Emberizidae

Corn Bunting *Emberiza calandra*: 1 Hanság on 17th, 1 Warmsee on 21st, 1 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Yellowhammer *Emberiza citrinella*: 2 + heard Hohe Wand on 18th, several various sites on 19th, a few Hochwechsel on 20th, 1 male Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Rock Bunting *Emberiza cia*: One heard Hohe Wand on 18th.

Common Reed Bunting *Emberiza schoeniclus*: Heard Podersdorf on 17th, 1 male Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, several various sites on 19th, several various sites on 21st, a few Neusiedl-am-See on 22nd.

MAMMALS - MAMMALIA

RABBITS & HARES - Leporidae

Brown/European Hare *Lepus europaeus*: Very common, widespread and noted daily in lowlands (except 20th).

SQUIRRELS - Sciuridae

Eurasian Red Squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris*: 1 Hohe Wand on 18th.

European Sousek *Spermophilus citellus*: 2-3 en route on 22nd.

MICE, RATS, VOLES & GERBILS - Muridae

Field Vole *Microtus agrestis*: 1 dead in Great Egret beak, Podersdorf on 17th!

SHREW-MOLES, MOLES & DESMANS - Talpidae

European Mole *Talpa europaea*: Hills various sites on 17th, 1 corpse Rabensburg on 19th.

DEER - Cervidae

[Western] Roe Deer *Capreolus capreolus*: 4 Hanság on 17th, 1 en route on 18th, 8+ various sites on 19th, 1 male Hochwechsel on 20th, 2 Zicklacke on 21st, several Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

AMPHIBIANS - AMPHIBIA

Fire-bellied Toad *Bombina orientalis*: Plenty heard calling Sandeck on 21st.

Common/European Tree Frog *Hyla arborea*: Large numbers calling Neusiedl-am-See on the evening of 21st.

Marsh Frog *Rana ridibunda*: Heard Neusiedl-am-See + Rabensburg on 19th, heard Sandeck on 21st. It appears that the water/pond frogs in the Seewinkel area are difficult to ascribe to a particular species, probably being of hybrid Pond X Marsh Frog hybrid origin.

BUTTERFLIES & MOTHS - LEPIDOPTERA

Small White *Pieris rapae*: One or two of the very few small white butterflies in the Seewinkel on 21st were this species.

Green-veined White *Pieris napi*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Pale/Berger's Clouded Yellow *Colias hyale/alfacariensis*: 1 Graurinderkoppel on 21st.

Common Blue *Polyommatus icarus*: 15+ Graurinderkoppel + Sandeck on 21st, 1+ Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Red Admiral *Vanessa atalanta*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Glanville Fritillary *Melitaea cinxia*: 1 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Wall Brown *Lasiommata megera*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

Small Heath *Coenonympha pamphilus*: 2 Sandeck on 21st, 1 Parndorfer Platte on 22nd.

Hummingbird Hawkmoth *Macroglossum stellatarum*: 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Barred moth sp.: 1 Hohe Wand on 18th.

DRAGONFLIES & DAMSELFLIES - ODONATA

Variable Damselfly *Coenagrion pulchellum*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 18th, 100s Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

Common Bluetail *Ischnura elegans*: 1 Sandeck on 21st.

Green-eyed/Norfolk Hawker *Aeshna isoceles*: 2 Warmsee on 21st.

OTHER TAXA

Tick ?*Ixodes* sp.: 1 Rabensburg on 19th.

Roman Snail *Helix pomatia*: noted on 2 days with 2 Hohe Wand + 1 Schönauer Teich on 18th, 1 Hochwechsel on 20th.

Common Carp *Cyprinus carpio*: 1000s Schönauer Teich on 18th.

Field Cricket *Gryllus campestris*: Plenty heard Graurinderkoppel, Sandeck, etc. on 21st.

Hornet *Vespa crabro*: 1 Rabensburg (Alan) on 19th.

Solitary Bee ?Andrenidae: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

White-tailed Bumblebee *Bombus leucorum*: 2 Hohe Wand on 18th.

Red-tailed black bumblebee *Bombus confusus*: 1 Neusiedl-am-See on 19th.

SELECTED PLANTS:

<u>Pinaceae:</u>	<i>Larix decidua</i>	Larch
<u>Ranunculaceae:</u>	<i>Caltha palustris</i> <i>Pulsatilla pratensis</i>	Kingcup / Marsh Marigold Spring Pasque Flower
<u>Papaveraceae:</u>	<i>Nigella damascena</i> <i>Papaver rhoeas</i>	Love-in-a-Mist Common Poppy
<u>Caryophyllaceae:</u>	<i>Agrostemma githago</i> <i>Silene viscosa</i> <i>Dianthus pontederiae</i>	Corncockle White Sticky Catchfly Tall Pink
<u>Rosaceae:</u>	<i>Fragaria sp/p.</i>	Wild Strawberries
<u>Fabaceae:</u>	<i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i> <i>Lotus maritimus</i> <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	False Acacia Dragon's Teeth Honey Locust
<u>Linaceae:</u>	<i>Linum austriacum / hirsutum</i>	Blue flax sp/p.
<u>Geraniaceae:</u>	<i>Geranium pratense</i> <i>Geranium phaeum</i>	Meadow Cranesbill Dusky Cranesbill
<u>Santalaceae:</u>	<i>Thesium sp.</i>	Bastard Toadflax sp.
<u>Viscaceae:</u>	<i>Viscum album</i>	Mistletoe
<u>Euphorbiaceae:</u>	<i>Euphorbia cyparissias</i>	Cypress Spurge

	<i>Euphorbia glareosa</i>	Spurge sp.
<u>Elaeagnaceae:</u>	<i>Elaeagnus angustifolia</i>	Oleaster
<u>Violaceae:</u>	<i>Viola canina</i> <i>Viola tricolor</i>	Common Dog Violet Wild Pansy
<u>Salicaceae:</u>	<i>Salix</i> spp.	Several large willow spp.
<u>Ericaceae:</u>	<i>Vaccinium myrtillus</i> <i>Vaccinium vitis-idaea</i>	Bilberry Cowberry
<u>Primulaceae:</u>	<i>Primula veris</i> <i>Soldanella alpina</i>	Cowslip Alpine Snowbell
<u>Asclepiadaceae:</u>	<i>Vincetoxicum hirundinaria</i>	Swallow-wort
<u>Rubiaceae:</u>	<i>Galium odoratum</i>	Woodruff
<u>Valerianaceae:</u>	<i>Knautia arvensis</i>	Field Scabious
<u>Boraginaceae:</u>	<i>Cerinthe minor</i> <i>Echium vulgare</i> <i>Symphytum</i> sp.	Lesser Honeywort Viper's Bugloss Comfrey sp.
<u>Scrophulariaceae:</u>	<i>Rhinanthus borbasii</i> <i>Verbascum phoeniceum</i>	Yellow-rattle sp. Purple Mullein
<u>Plantaginaceae:</u>	<i>Plantago media</i>	Hoary Plantain
<u>Lamiaceae:</u>	<i>Thymus</i> sp/p. <i>Salvia pratensis</i> <i>Salvia austriaca</i>	Thyme sp/p. Meadow Clary 'Austrian' Clary
<u>Asteraceae:</u>	<i>Petasites</i> cf <i>albus</i> <i>Tussilago farfara</i> <i>Carlina acaulis</i>	White Butterbur Colt's-foot Stemless Carline-thistle
<u>Alliaceae:</u>	<i>Allium ursinum</i>	Ramsons / Wild Garlic
<u>Orchidaceae:</u>	<i>Orchis palustris</i>	Bog Orchid
<u>Cyperaceae:</u>	<i>Cladium mariscus</i>	Saw-sedge

John Muddeman, May 2010

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