

6th Session of the Meeting of Parties

Prague, Czech Republic, 20 – 22 September 2010

Resolution 6.8

Monitoring of Daily and Seasonal Movements of Bats



The Meeting of the Parties to the Agreement on the Conservation of Populations of European Bats (hereafter “the Agreement”),

Recalling that the Agreement was concluded under the auspices of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (Bonn, 1979);

Remembering that migration is well recognised as a keystone character of European bats, not only regarding long distance migratory species but also for the role of daily and seasonal movements that are undertaken by species crossing boundaries sometimes beyond the current geographical borders of the Agreement;

Recognising that many species are able to undertake long distance movements, also beyond the borders of a country and the geographical scope of the Agreement, for example *Miniopterus schreibersii*;

Considering that an Intersessional Working Group was established at the 5th Session of the Meeting of Parties to collect information on migration of species in the range of the Agreement, submit related questionnaires to scientific focal points and collect information from the different specialists;

Noting that information about many species is still scarce and there is a necessity to determine possible migration corridors, commuting routes and daily movements;

Remembering that migration can also be important for understanding the spread of infections that can be harmful to bats and also to humans;

Underline the importance to use mainly non invasive methods as quoted in “Guidelines for surveillance and monitoring of European bats, Eurobats publication n.5”;

Aware of the potential impact of wind farms, in particular when placed on migration routes;

Pointing out that a recent publication summarised the migration information from banding in Europe and that the recent Berlin Conference on Bat Migration documented new techniques and processes available to evaluate bat movements;

Urges Parties and Non-Party Range States to:

1. Encourage research in daily and seasonal movements;
2. Undertake priority studies to identify long distance migration routes with the use of modern (e.g. genetics and isotope analysis) or classical methods, and in particular provide opportunity to do them in a transboundary agreement;
3. Recognize that different methodologies apply for short term studies on daily and seasonal movements and for long term migration studies. The long term studies should be conducted with non invasive methods, should be carried out on a limited number of bats and with major positive consequence for bats conservation. If bat banding is really necessary, it should be done according to resolution 4.6, annex 9.C.
4. Collect, with references, information concerning migration within their country, for inclusion in their national reports;
5. Increase the co-operation with bird banding organisations, both because bats can be caught during bird ringing activities and also because data on bird migration can indicate some of the migration routes of bats; increase interest in bat migration and related studies;
6. Consider that since the migratory routes and local movements can be heavily affected by infrastructure developments a detailed assessment of the presence of bats at different times of the year is required; considering wind farms the assessment should be done in accordance with the “Guidelines for consideration of bats in wind farm projects”(Eurobats Publication Series No. 3) and considering Resolution 6.11 on Wind Turbines and Bat populations.