

Counts of breeding colonies of Great Cormorants in Europe



Birds in Europe 3, Feb. 2012

The European Commission has hired a contractor to conduct a project called 'Sustainable Management of Cormorant Populations' (= "CorMan").

Two main aims :

- To develop an online information platform about Cormorant conflict and management
- To organise a pan-European count of the cormorant population during breeding and in winter together with Wetlands International Cormorant Research Group

The breeding colonies should be counted in as many countries as possible in spring 2012 (areas not covered in 2012 should be counted in 2013)



Cormorant counts in the Western Palearctic – Organised by the EC initiative CorMan
in collaboration with the IUCN-Wetlands International Cormorant Research Group



Aim of breeding count

Track changes in overall population size (area = Western Palearctic)

Identify regional changes in trends and distribution

Assist countries in monitoring numbers at the national level

Ease public access to information about cormorant numbers in Europe (EU Cormorant Platform)



A count of all breeding colonies in 2012



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How will the counts be organised?

The project has designated 2-3 coordinators within 4 areas



Area Coordinators are establishing and maintaining contact with National Coordinators

National Coordinators are institutions or persons, of which most have experience from earlier counts of cormorants (several BirdLife partners involved)



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Communication with reporters and handling of data

A project home page has been developed :

www.cormocount.eu

Cormorant counts in the Western Palearctic

Home Instructions Colonies Counts Results Login

Welcome to the homepage developed as an aid for organizing and conducting counts of Great Cormorants in the Western Palearctic.

The home page is developed under the project "Cormorant counts in the Western Palearctic". The overall aim of the project is to update our knowledge of the abundance and distribution of Great Cormorants in the Western Palearctic both during breeding and winter.

The project is led by a group of persons from the IUCN/Wetlands International Cormorant Research Group (CRG) and persons from the project "CorMan". The CorMan project was launched by the European Commission in 2011. A description of the count project is given further down this page.

By use of this home page you can define the location of a breeding colony or a night roost. Furthermore you can enter results from counts and add relevant information about the colonies or roosts counted.

Most of the pages are aimed for coordinators and counters only. The use of these pages requires you to log on. Quick guides and fuller guidelines are available to the right and under "Instructions".

Counters can register [HERE](#).

This site is organized by the Cormorant Research Group and the EU project "CorMan".



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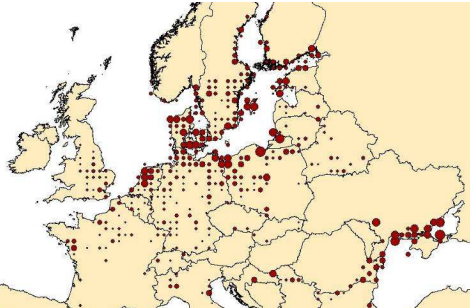
It offers facilities for the coordinators and the counters

It includes a facility for entering counts directly and denoting the location of the counted site by use of Google Maps

Rules for use of count results will be agreed with each country



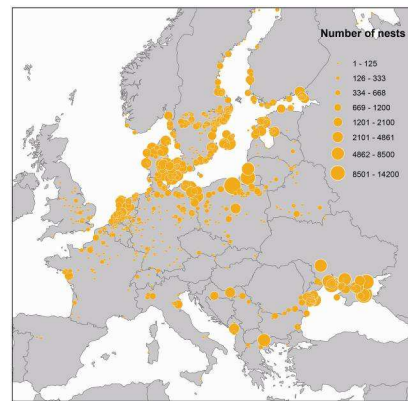
Pan-European level - distribution of breeding cormorants



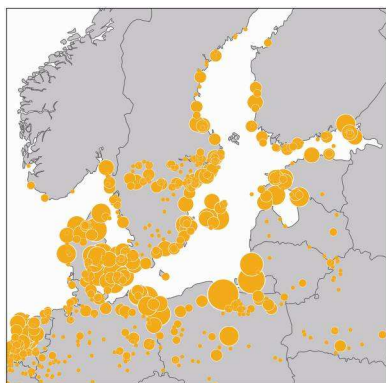
The last pan-European count of colonies was in 2006

Source: IUCN/Wetlands International Cormorant Research Group

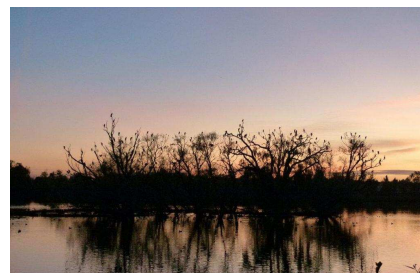
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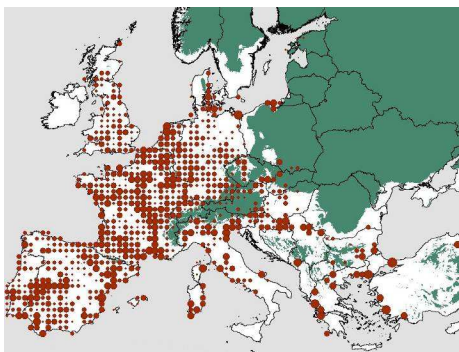
A count of night roosts in January 2013



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Winter count in January 2003



Source: IUCN/Wetlands International Cormorant Research Group

Important web sites :

The Cormorant Research Group web site :

<http://cormorants.freehostia.com/index.htm>

The EU Platform on Cormorant :

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/cormorants/home_en.htm



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Thank you !



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