



Society for Conservation Biology

A global community of conservation professionals

Europe Section



ANNUAL REPORT 2011

www.conbio.org/join

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The **Society for Conservation Biology (SCB)** is an international professional organization dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of biological diversity. The **Europe Section** was founded in 2002 and its members are present in 27 countries.

The mission of the Europe Section is to promote conservation biology and its application to conserve Europe's biological diversity.



The Board of Directors and the Local Organizing Committee of ECCB2012 in Glasgow, February 2011

The Section has an international 12 member Board of Directors with President (András Báldi), President Elect (Barbara Livoreil) and task-oriented committees including Policy (Chair: Pierre Ibisch), Education (Chair: Rob Marrs), Communication, Membership and Chapters (Chair: Raphael Arlettaz) and Student Affairs Committee (Chair: Nuno Curado).

Would you like to help the Section's work in your country as a **National Contact Person**? Join our National Contact Network! Currently we are looking for candidates from Belarus, Estonia, Finland and Iceland.

Board Meetings

The Board of the Europe Section held its meetings in **Glasgow** at the end of February 2011 and in **Bern**, October 2011. During the 3 day-meeting in Glasgow, the BoD met the enthusiastic Local Organizing Committee of the 3rd European Congress of Conservation Biology (ECCB 2012), chaired by Owen Nevin of Cumbria University. The Board also visited the venue of the congress: the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC).

In Bern, the Board was hosted by Raphael Arlettaz, chair of the Membership and Chapters Committee. The first day of the meeting was dedicated to the upcoming ECCB2012. Besides the long discussions, there was also time to visit the beautiful town of Bern and for a one-day excursion in the Alps.



Birdwatching in the Alps after the BoD Meeting, October 2011

Elections

Four new members started their term in 2011: Pierre Ibisch (Germany), Andrew Ramsey (UK), Mikko Mönkkönen (Finland), and Margherita Gioria (Germany) with Gábor Lövei being re-elected as the fifth member.

Building the network – Chapter Initiative in Europe

The Section has decided to further develop the SCB activity through the creation and support of a range of **chapters**. An announcement was sent out in the autumn of 2011 asking for contribution from the SCB members residing in Europe and Section members in establishing local groups as SCB chapters.

JOIN THE INITIATIVE, CREATE YOUR OWN CHAPTER!



Why are Chapters important?

Chapters are local SCB groups active in a particular geographical area (in a country, region, town or university) with a special focus and range of activities. They can provide opportunities for the promotion of conservation biology knowledge transfer backed by a professional society.

What can Chapters do?

Almost anything relevant to conservation biology and linked to a particular geographical area: organize meetings, workshops, summer schools, maintain a conservation website, provide scientific background for conservation advocacy, etc. For more on chapters see: <http://www.conbio.org/Chapters/> or email us: europa@conbio.org.

Hungarian SCB Chapter established

The Hungarian SCB Chapter was successfully registered at the end of 2011. This chapter aims to organize a series of different meetings, workshops and conferences for conservation biologists and conservation professionals in Hungary, including the Hungarian Conference for Conservation Biology (HCCB) (www.mtbk.hu).

Greek Summer School 2011

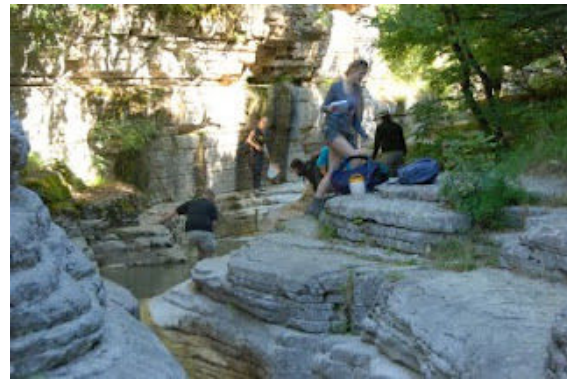
The Greek Summer School was held between 26 June and 10 July in Papingo, Greece, and was attended by fifteen Erasmus-supported students coming from 7 countries, including the three additional SCB fellowships from Portugal, Poland and Greece.



Following theoretical sessions, field excursions, toad and bird censuses and mountain trekking challenged the students. During the course, participants had the opportunity to design a small study, do field work, evaluate the results, and present them on the final day.

All projects ranging from census of birds to assessing predation rates using plastic caterpillars were of high standard – giving good grades to the students and enthusiastic feedback to the professors.

For more see: www.cbcd.eu/gss



Student Spotlight Award

The first SCB Student Spotlight Award was announced among the Section student membership in 2011 spring. Members of the Board evaluated the submitted research reports. Finally the winner was chosen: **Jasper Kenter**, a PhD student in Environmental Sustainability at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland. Congratulation, Jasper!

For more see: <http://scb-students.wikispaces.com/Student+Spotlight>

IPBES – Focal issue for SCB

The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) process remains a priority for the Europe Section. Bengt-Gunnar Jonsson (SCB-ES Board Member) has been working in the SCB IPBES Ad-hoc Committee in order to position the Society in the IPBES-process. He participated in the first IPBES plenary session, co-organized a discussion in the ICCB2011 about the issue. As the second IPBES plenary is coming in 2012 spring, he is actively involved in the preparations. For more information email:

Bengt-gunnar.Jonsson@miun.se.



Bengt-Gunnar Jonsson
Member of
IPBES Ad-hoc Committee

What is the IPBES?

IPBES (www.ipbes.net) is a currently shaping global framework that aims to provide scientific expertise advice on biodiversity issues to the policy sector and to build capacity for and strengthen the use of science in policy making. IPBES structure and function can be considered as a sort of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), but applied to the even more complicated realm of biodiversity and ecosystem services.

The establishment of the IPBES was finally approved by the UN General Assembly in December 2010. The first session of the Intergovernmental meeting on IPBES was held 3-7 October 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya where a total of 115 countries were represented. The meeting focussed on the structure and the work program carrying out the four functions (Assessments, Knowledge generation, Policy support and Capacity building) of the IPBES.

IPBES will certainly play a substantial role in providing an international, global-scale policy framework for addressing the biodiversity crisis. If successfully established and operationalized, IPBES will open new ways for SCB to contribute to better conservation policy.

For Students

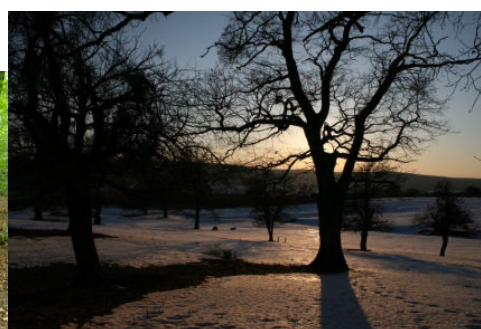
Student listserv

Would you like to join the student listserv for SCB members (and non-members also)? To join click here:

<http://groups.google.com/a/conbio.org/group/SCB-Students/topics>

Student wiki-page - current news and information

<http://scb-students.wikispaces.com/>



Current BoD members (2012)

Name and Email	Office	Country
Raphaël Arlettaz raphael.arlettaz@iee.unibe.ch	Board Member, Chair Membership C.	Switzerland
András Báldi andrasbaldi@gmail.com	President	Hungary
Margherita Gioria margherita.gioria@ucd.ie	Board member	Ireland
Tibor Hartel hartel.tibor@gmail.com	Board Member	Romania
Pierre L. Ibisch pierre.ibisch@hnee.de	Board member, Chair Policy C.	Germany
Bengt Gunnar Jonsson bengt-gunnar.jonsson@miun.se	Board Member	Sweden
Barbara Livoreil barbara.livoreil@fondationbiodiversite.fr	President Elect	France
Gabor Lövei gabor.lovei@agrsci.dk	Board member	Denmark
Rob Marrs calluna@liv.ac.uk	Board member, Chair Education C.	United Kingdom
Mikko Mönkkönen mikko.monkkonen@jyu.fi	Board member	Finland
Guy Pe'er guy.peer@ufz.de	Board Member	Germany
Piero Visconti pierovisconti@gmail.com	Board Member	Italy

3rd European Congress of Conservation Biology

28 August - 1 September 2012, Glasgow, UK

Organisation of the 3rd European Congress of Conservation Biology (ECCB2012) has been on its way to reach a successful meeting. ECCB is one of the most important events for conservation biologists, practitioners and students in Europe, which will bring together distinguished plenary speakers: Ian Boyd, Ilkka Hanski, Peter Vitousek and Hugh Possingham with the opening speech of Bob Watson highlighting the conference.

For more details and updates see www.eccb2012.org and join the **ECCB 2012 Facebook** group!



3rd European Congress of Conservation Biology



Venue of the Congress – Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre (SECC)

SEE YOU IN GLASGOW!

Get in touch with the BoD

The Section established a Facebook group and is maintaining its blog with the latest news. Feel free to contribute the blog and post on current hot topics in conservation biology!

Visit: <http://euroconbio.blogspot.com/>

Email: europe@conbio.org