



## FIRST DATA REGARDING THE AVIFAUNA OF THE BUZAU LAND GEOPARK (BUZAU MOUNTAINS, ROMANIA)

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### INTRODUCTION

There are only two papers dealing with the avifauna of the Buzau County: the first of Catuneanu (1934) recording 102 species of birds in the Tohani region, the western limit of the county. The second paper (Giurginca & Vanoaica, 2005) records 53 species of birds in the Meledic Plateau (the southern area of the Buzau Mountains). As a consequence, our work represents the first attempt to investigate the avifauna of the south-western part Buzau Land Geopark, thus continuing our observations on the avifauna of the Buzau County.

The observations took place between March and October 2017 at the following locations Aluniș (647.72 m altitude), Schitul Fundu Peșterii (716 m altitude), Biserica lui Iosif (823.5 m altitude), Schitul Agatonul Nou (960.1 m altitude) and Schitul Fundătura (715.88 m altitude), all part of the Rupestral Assembly from Aluniș-Bozioru.

#### Biserica Rupestra Alunis

Altitude : 647.72 m

**Bird Species:** *Pernis apivorus*, *Buteo buteo*, *Accipiter nisus*, *Cuculus canorus*, *Dryocopus martius*, *Picus viridis*, *Dendrocopos major*, *Hirundo rustica*, *Motacilla alba*, *Troglodytes troglodytes*, *Sylvia atricapilla*, *Phylloscopus collybita*, *Ph. trochilus*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Phoenicurus ochruros*, *Turdus merula*, *Parus palustris*, *P. ater*, *P. major*, *Aegithalos caudatus*, *Sitta europaea*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax*, *Passer domesticus*, *Fringilla coelebs*, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*, *Emberiza citrinella*.

#### Schitul Fundu Pesterii

Altitude : 716 m

**Bird Species:** *Ciconia ciconia*, *Buteo buteo*, *Accipiter nisus*, *Merops apiaster*, *Dryocopus martius*, *Dendrocopos major*, *Motacilla alba*, *Troglodytes troglodytes*, *Lanius collurio*, *Sylvia atricapilla*, *Phylloscopus collybita*, *Ph. trochilus*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Turdus merula*, *T. viscivorus*, *Parus palustris*, *P. ater*, *P. major*, *P. caeruleus*, *Sitta europaea*, *Certhia familiaris*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax*, *Fringilla coelebs*, *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

#### Biserica lui Iosif

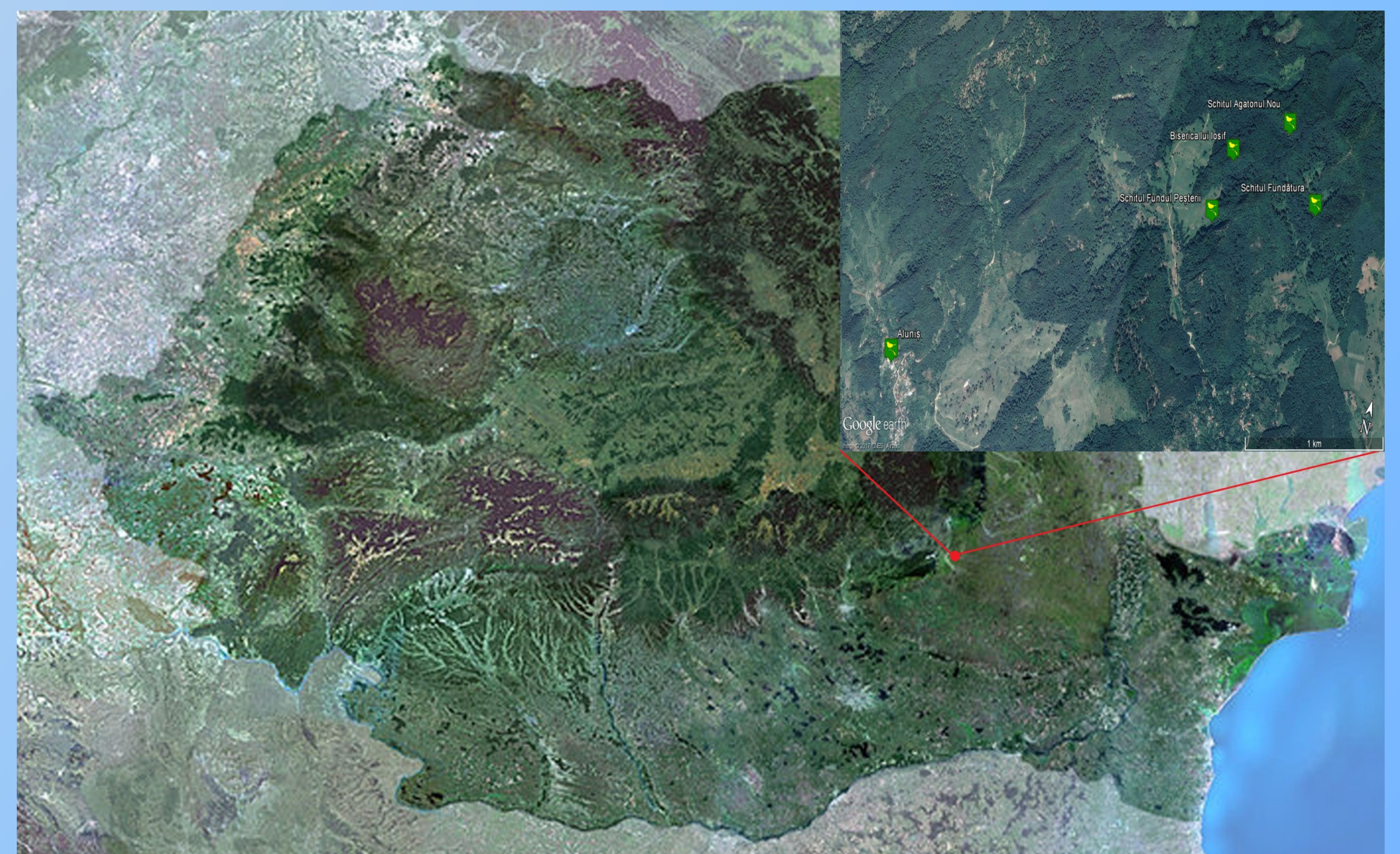
Altitude: 823.5m

**Bird Species:** *Buteo buteo*, *Columba palumbus*, *Cuculus canorus*, *Picus viridis*, *Ficedula albicollis*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Parus palustris*, *P. ater*, *P. major*, *Sitta europaea*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax*, *Fringilla coelebs*.

#### Schitul Agatonul Nou

Altitude : 960.1 m

**Bird Species:** *Buteo buteo*, *Columba palumbus*, *Cuculus canorus*, *Ficedula albicollis*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Turdus viscivorus*, *Parus palustris*, *P. ater*, *P. major*, *Regulus regulus*, *Sitta europaea*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax*, *Fringilla coelebs*, *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.



**Fig.1: Rupestral Assembly from Alunis-Bozioru**

#### Schitul Fundatura (715.88 m altitude)

**Bird Species:** *Buteo buteo*, *Accipiter nisus*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Cuculus canorus*, *Dryocopus martius*, *Dendrocopos major*, *Troglodytes troglodytes*, *Sylvia atricapilla*, *Phylloscopus collybita*, *Ph. trochilus*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Turdus merula*, *T. philomelos*, *T. viscivorus*, *Parus palustris*, *P. caeruleus*, *P. major*, *Regulus regulus*, *Sitta europaea*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax*, *Fringilla coelebs*, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*.

### CONCLUSIONS

There are 40 bird species belonging to 8 orders and 23 families. Most orders (Ciconiiformes, Accipitriformes, Falconiformes, Columbiformes, Cuculiformes, Coraciiformes and Piciformes) are represented by only one family, while the Passeriformes include 15 families.

The Turdidae (5 species), the Paridae (4 species), the Fringillidae (4 species), the Accipitridae (3 species) are the best represented families.

Most birds (13 species) are recorded only from a single site: *Ciconia ciconia*, *Pernis apivorus*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Merops apiaster*, *Hirundo rustica*, *Lanius collurio*, *Phoenicurus ochruros*, *Turdus philomelos*, *Aegithalos caudatus*, *Certhia familiaris*, *Passer domesticus*, *Serinus serinus* and *Emberiza citrinella*.

Nine species are recorded from three sites: *Accipiter nisus*, *Dryocopus martius*, *Picus viridis*, *Troglodytes troglodytes*, *Sylvia atricapilla*, *Phylloscopus collybita*, *Ph. trochilus*, *Turdus merula* and *T. viscivorus*.

Eight species are recorded from two sites: *Columba palumbus*, *Dendrocopos major*, *Motacilla alba*, *Ficedula albicollis*, *Parus caeruleus*, *Regulus regulus*, *Pyrrhula pyrrhula* and *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*.

Eight species (*Buteo buteo*, *Erithacus rubecula*, *Parus palustris*, *P. major*, *Sitta europaea*, *Garrulus glandarius*, *Corvus corax* and *Fringilla coelebs*) are recorded from all five sites.

Two species are recorded from four sites: *Cuculus canorus* and *Parus ater*.

Out of the 40 species, 5 are included in the Red List of the Vertebrates of Romania (*Ciconia ciconia*, *Pernis apivorus*, *Falco peregrinus*, *Corvus corax* and *Ficedula albicollis*), 27 species are included in Bern II, 8 species in Bern III, 14 species in Bonn II. The species *Ciconia ciconia* is also included in the AEWA.

Also, four species are included in the CITES: *Falco peregrinus* in CITES I and *Pernis apivorus*, *Buteo buteo* and *Accipiter nisus* in CITES II.

### REFERENCES

Catuneanu, I. (1934): Note asupra faunei Ornithologice a judetului Buzau. Buletinul Societatii Naturalistilor din Romania, 5: 15-21.  
Giurginca, A., Vănoaica, L. (2005): Bird Fauna from Meledic Plateau. Scripta Ornithologica Romaniae, II: 43-45.

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