

Illegal Hunting Monitoring in Batumi, 2015

SABUKO – Society for Nature Conservation

SABUKO, a conservation NGO working in Georgia, is looking for motivated people who want to help solving a key conservation problem in the Batumi Bottleneck through understanding the effect of illegal shooting of raptors, and changing the attitudes towards birds of prey in a non-confrontative way.

If you are interested in working with us, it is important that you know you are able to stay neutral and diplomatic when faced with people shooting down birds in front of you. It is crucial not to provoke hunters. Getting angry with them will lead you nowhere and will close the door for further research and constructive dialogue.

We offer two positions at the moment:

HUNTING MONITORING COORDINATOR

You and your team will be conducting a systematic monitoring of hunting pressure according to protocol developed for this task. The exact duties include everyday visits to a spot near Station 1, where the migration count is going on, and regular visits to another village nearby, as well as daily data entry on computer. During the time of your visit, you will collect data on the number of hunters seen, shots heard, shot birds, species targeted, etc.

The duration of the position: **11 September-7 October 2015.**

What we provide:

- **Free accommodation and food** together with the volunteers of the Batumi Raptor Count;
- A fantastic working environment where thousands of raptors pass every day;
- Work in a team (with at least one other surveyor);
- Two days off per week, when you can enjoy some birding in the area, visit one of the National Parks nearby or just take it easy on the beach.

Your profile:

- You are interested in the conservation question of illegal killing of birds;
- You have a basic knowledge of European raptors;
- You enjoy interacting with local people – they are very friendly and will often invite you for food and a coffee or some local spirits.
- You have your own laptop, and an independent mobile phone that you can use with a Georgian SIM card.

Due to the limited funding available for this project, we cannot provide full coverage of flight expenses, but will reimburse you **200 EUR for your travel costs.**

Further information:

anna.sandor@batumiraptorcount.org

sabuko.org

HUNTING MONITORING VOLUNTEER

You and your team will be conducting a systematic monitoring of hunting pressure according to protocol developed for this task. The exact duties include everyday visits to a spot near Station 1, where the migration count is going on, and regular visits to another village nearby. During the time of your visit, you will collect data on the number of hunters seen, shots heard, shot birds, species targeted, etc.

The full duration of the monitoring season: **18 August-7 October 2015.**

2-week blocks to apply for:

1. Block 1. 18 August-1 September
2. Block 2. 1-15 September
3. Block 3. 15-29 September
4. Block 4. 29 September-7 October (1 week)

We will give preference to candidates who are able to join us for the whole season or for more subsequent blocks, but do not hesitate to apply if you are very motivated but able only to come over for a shorted period.

What we provide:

- Accommodation and food together with the volunteers of the Batumi Raptor Count for a **50% discounted price** (8 EUR/day).
- A fantastic working environment where thousands of raptors pass every day;
- Work in a team (with at least one other surveyor);
- Two days off per week, when you can enjoy some birding in the area, visit one of the National Parks nearby or just take it easy on the beach.

Your profile:

- You are interested in the conservation question of illegal killing of birds;
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