



RAPTORS  
MOU

# Conservation of birds of prey in Norway

---

Paul Shimmings  
Senior consultant  
BirdLife Norway - Conservation Science Dept.

*Fourth Meeting of the Raptors MOU Technical Advisory Group  
13 - 15 December 2021*





# Raptors in a Norwegian context

51 species recorded, of which 25 regular breeders (15 spp. diurnal raptors and 10 spp. owls)

English name	Scientific name	MoU Cat.	Occurrence	Migration Strategy
European Honey Buzzard <b>NT</b>	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	2	Scarce passage migrant	Scarce migrant
Red Kite	<i>Milvus milvus</i>	1	Scarce passage migrant <sup>1</sup>	Scarce migrant
White-tailed Eagle <b>LC</b>	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident
Western Marsh Harrier <b>VU</b>	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	3	Regular breeder	Migrant
Hen Harrier <b>EN</b>	<i>Circus c. cyaneus</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Pallid Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	1	Scarce passage migrant	Scarce migrant
Northern Goshawk <b>NT</b>	<i>Accipiter g. gentilis</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident
Eurasian Sparrowhawk <b>LC</b>	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	3	Regular breeder	Resident/migrant
Common Buzzard <b>LC</b>	<i>Buteo b. buteo</i>	3	Regular breeder	Migrant
Rough-legged Buzzard <b>LC</b>	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Migrant
Golden Eagle <b>LC</b>	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident/migrant
Osprey <b>NT</b>	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Migrant
Common Kestrel <b>LC</b>	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	1	Scarce passage migrant	197 records
Merlin <b>LC</b>	<i>Falco c. aesalon</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Migrant
Eurasian Hobby <b>NT</b>	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Gyrfalcon <b>NT</b>	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident/migrant
Peregrine Falcon <b>LC</b>	<i>Falco p. peregrinus</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident/migrant
Eurasian Eagle Owl <b>EN</b>	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	-, F	Regular breeder	Resident
Snowy Owl <b>EN</b>	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>	<b>2</b>	Regular breeder	Nomadic
Northern Hawk Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Surnia ulula</i>	3	Regular breeder	Nomadic
Eurasian Pygmy Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Glaucidium passerinum</i>	-	Regular breeder	Resident/irruptive
Tawny Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Strix aluco</i>	-	Regular breeder	Resident
Ural Owl <b>VU</b>	<i>Strix uralensis liturata</i>	3	Regular breeder	Resident
Great Grey Owl <b>VU</b>	<i>Strix nebulosa lapponica</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident/irruptive
Long-eared Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Asio otus</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Short-eared Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	2	Regular breeder	Migrant
Boreal Owl <b>LC</b>	<i>Aegolius funereus</i>	3, F	Regular breeder	Resident/irruptive

# Using Raptors MoU guidelines

## How we used MoU guidelines in the process?

In 2012 the Raptors MoU produced Guidelines for Preparing National or Regional Raptor Conservation and Management Strategies (Kovács, A. & N.P. Williams. 201.) Guidelines for Preparing National or Regional Raptor Conservation and Management Strategies. CMS Technical Series. Abu-Dhabi, UAE).

Proposed format for the national strategies:

Key aspects for inclusion are: (i) What is the broader context and aim of the Strategy? (ii) Geographical scope. (iii) An overview of the conservation and the legal status of species covered by the Strategy. (iv) Principal threats affecting the species. (v) An overview of species, site and habitat priorities. (vi) Goal of the plan. (vii) Objectives and top priority actions. (viii) Guiding principles of the Strategy (e.g. the importance of regular co-operation between stakeholders).

At the request of the Norwegian Environment Agency, BirdLife Norway have begun the process of collating information necessary to start the process towards a national strategy for raptors in Norway, and we have prepared reports that include data that can be used to achieve this.

# Conservation of birds of prey in Norway

## Our approach towards a national strategy:

- Implementation of a national strategy under Raptors MoU is coordinated by the Norwegian Environment Agency
- Goals and objectives – address important threats and priorities to improve conservation and maintain a favourable conservation status for all species regularly breeding in, or migrating through, Norway.
- First step towards the preparation of a national strategy for raptors in Norway was the production of a report on conservation status of all raptors, published in 2014. The report was commissioned by the Norwegian Environment Agency.
- The next step was to prepare a document summarising main threats, national objectives and relevant activities to maintain a favourable conservation status for all species regularly occurring in Norway. This report was also commissioned by the Norwegian Environment Agency, and this is the report which we are now presenting here.

# Contents of latest report

## National strategy for period 2020-2035

- List of species – complete list
- List of raptor and owl monitoring programmes – all known monitoring (both governmental & NGOs, also databases)
- Site inventory – list of IBAs supporting raptors
- Important migration sites – several knowledge gaps identified
- Important breeding areas – areas with nationally significant number of breeding pairs
- Habitat inventory – overview over the importance of different habitats for various species of raptors
- Threat assessments – list of threats and which species are affected
- Conservation guidelines – recommendations to alleviate / eliminate threats

# Priority conservation actions

## Some of the main issues addressed in the report

- Habitat conservation and sustainable management
- Protection and management of important sites and flyways
- Improvement of legal protection
- Reduction of infrastructure mortality
- Prevention of poisoning
- Monitoring and research
- Conservation of selected species
- Raising public awareness
- International cooperation

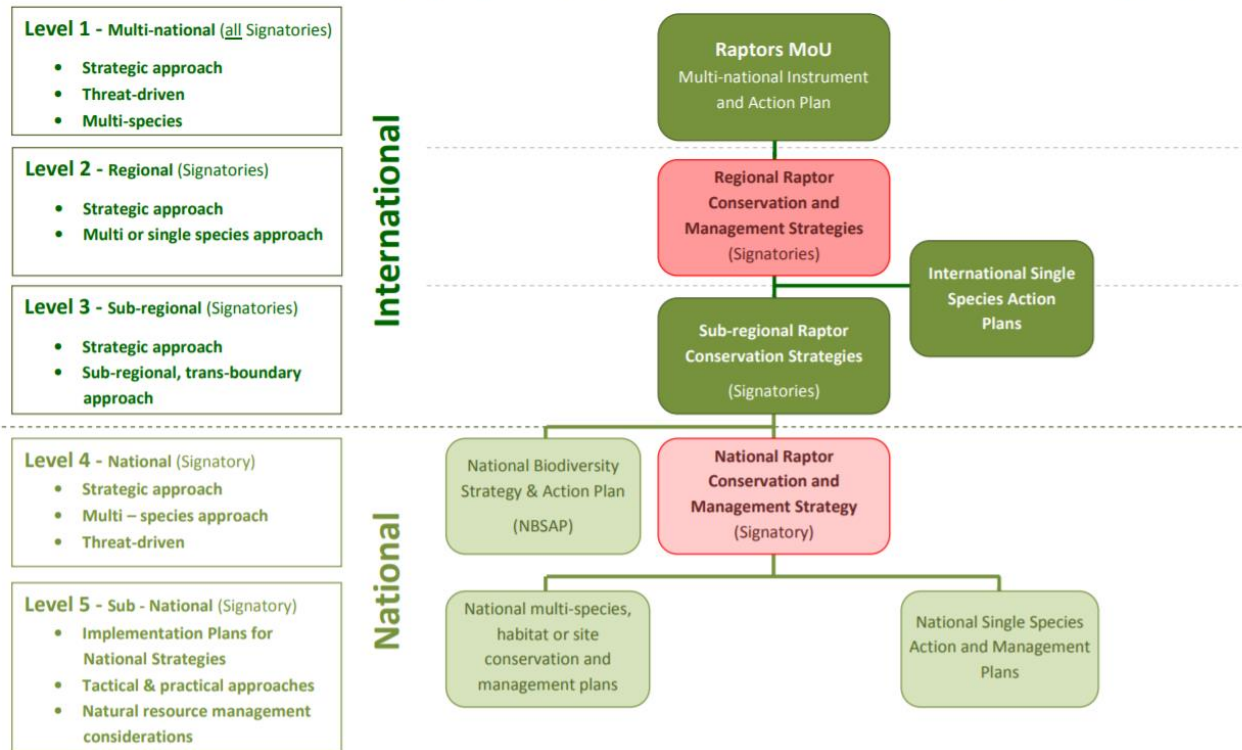




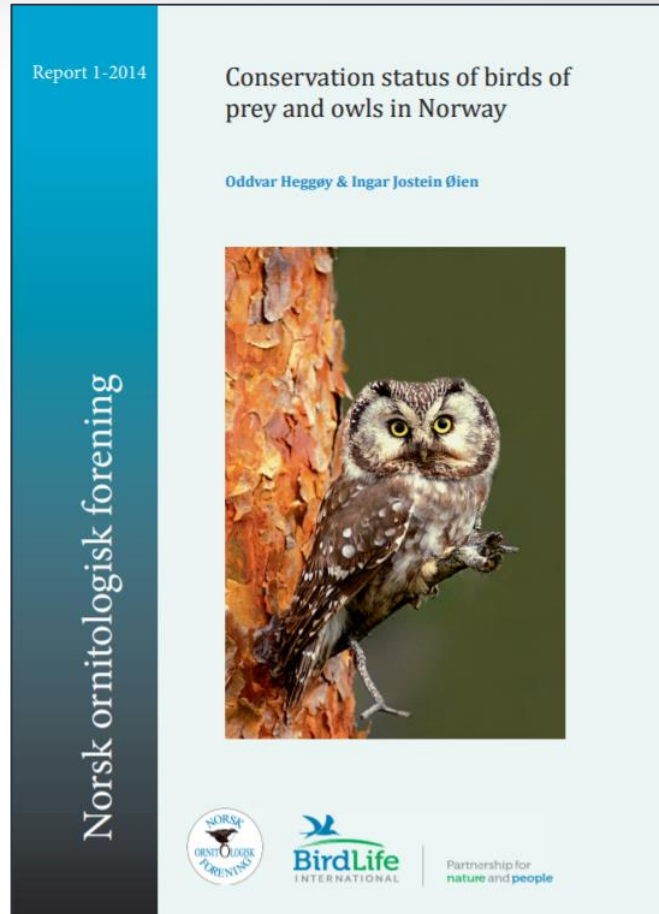
# Where do we go from here?

We have progressed towards fulfilling the aim of para. 12 of the MoU towards preparing a national strategy

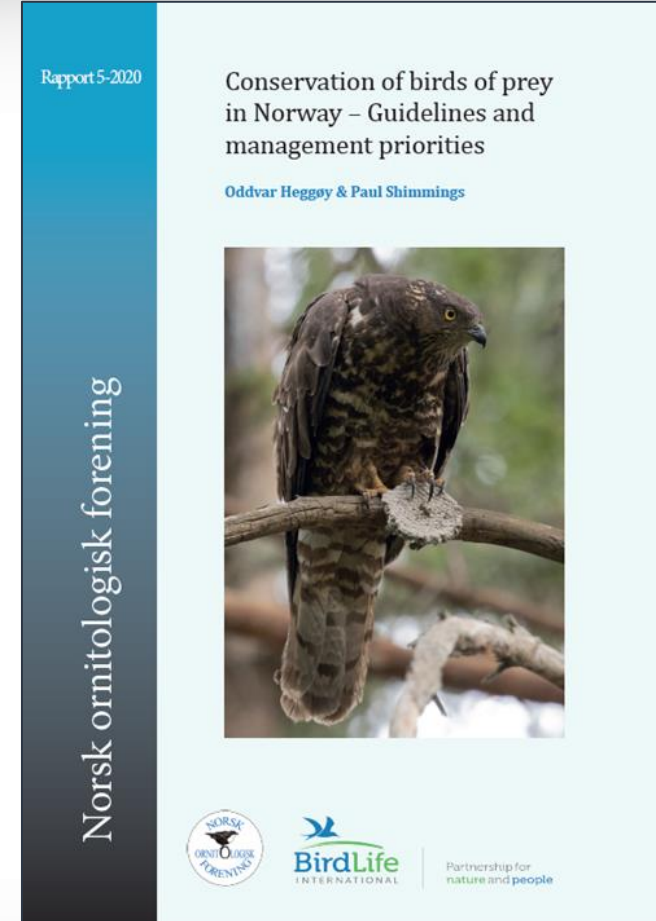
Figure 1 - National and Regional Raptor Conservation and Management Strategies set within the framework of national and international conservation planning activities.



# Recommended further reading



[https://www.birdlife.no/prosjekter/rapporter/2014\\_01\\_NOF.pdf](https://www.birdlife.no/prosjekter/rapporter/2014_01_NOF.pdf)



[https://www.birdlife.no/prosjekter/rapporter/2020\\_05\\_NOF.pdf](https://www.birdlife.no/prosjekter/rapporter/2020_05_NOF.pdf)

