

Events Calendar of FULMAR WRECK North Sea, JANUARY 2009

Please send additions / comments to jan.vanfraneker@wur.nl

summary (until 1st Mar 2009): after a long "absence", a sudden increase in coastal passage and first dead beached Fulmars were reported in the Netherlands on 4th Jan 2009. In the following 10 days, densities of *ca* one Fulmar per km of North Sea beach were regularly observed in the north of the Netherlands, with remarkable proportions of coloured birds up to *ca* 50% ('coloured' plumage indicating high arctic origin). Locally very high proportions of coloured birds were also reported at sea. With a short delay, similar densities and colour proportions of beached Fulmars were reported from all of the German coast, and the south and southwest Norway, with possibly a gap in the well inspected Skagen area in northern Denmark. Fewer birds were found further south in Netherlands, none at all in Belgium and nothing special happened in or south of the French Channel. There are some reports from a limited area in the southeast of England, but nothing special was observed further north in England, Scottish mainland, Orkney, Shetland and the Faroe Islands.

In the most regularly inspected area in the Netherlands, no birds were found after the first survey on Jan 5th, so the wreck seems to have been of short duration. However, in late January, incidental records far south have occurred. A Fulmar was found in Portugal, which is a rare event in the region. But the most remarkable observation came from the south of France. On the 25th of January the first Mediterranean Fulmar ever was observed and photographed in the Camargue. It was an weakened dying bird that was photographed showing an extremely dark plumage.

Please be aware that an earlier wreck in winter 2004 preceeded high mortality in May-June which was less noted because of fast decay of corpses, beach-cleaning and lower intensity of beached bird surveys! A subsample of corpses from the wreck from the Netherlands and Germany has been necropsied in the lab. Unlike the wreck in 2004, when most birds were adult females, the current wreck seems to involve a mix of sexes and ages that died. Also different is that the outer plumage of birds is in fine condition, with only some showing defects in down feathering. All birds were completely emaciated.

date(s) of observation	Type of observation	country	location	observation	info from
14-Dec-08	coastal seawatch	Scotland UK	Shetlands	8 dark in <i>ca</i> 1000 passing, which is exceptionally high	Martin Heubeck
4-Jan-09	coastal seawatch	Netherlands	Egmond (Noord Holland)	first Fulmar passage along Egmond since long time, with \geq 2 dark; recommendation to watch beach	Chris Winter
4-Jan-09	rehab centre	Netherlands	Ecomare Texel	Double Light colourphase (LL) Fulmar brought in; but dies within hour	Salko de Wolf
4-Jan-09	rehab centre	Netherlands	Vogelospitaal Haarlem	Double darkcolourphase (DD) Fulmar from Zandvoort beach brought in dead	Roel Draijer
5-Jan-09	coastal seawatch	England UK	Spurn Point, East Yorkshire (near Hull)	316 Fulmars passing including 13 dark-phase birds.	Mark Grantham
5-Jan-09	BBS	Netherlands	Schoorl a/z -Groote Keeten <i>ca</i> 20km	14 fresh fulmars found and collected, of which 6 coloured	Arnold Gronert
6-8 jan-2009	BBS	Netherlands	Norh Sea beach of Texel	on about 30km of beach, 26 Fulmars of which 12 coloured	Jan v Franeker, Kees Camphuysen, Arnold Gronert, Laurens v Kooten
before 8 jan 2009	BBS	Germany	Schleswig Holstein	no reports of Fulmars on beaches	Nils Guse

8-Jan-09	at sea survey	Netherlands	2nm north of Texel	up to a 20 Fulmars in Sprat area where also Gannets, Kittiwakes and Humpback; all or most coloured	Bram Fey
9-Jan-09	BBS	Netherlands	Norh Sea beach of Ameland	on 15 km 14 Fulmars (of these 8 collected) ; half or more coloured individuals	Jeffrey Huizenga & Edward Soldaar
around 9 jan 2009?	at sea survey	Germany	at sea off Schleswig Holstein	ca 50% of fulmars dark	Jana Kotzerka via Nils Guse
8-13 jan 2009	BBS	Germany	Schleswig Holstein	on Sylt and Föhr at least 17 Fulmars beached; on Föhr 5 out of 7 were dark	various observers via Nils Guse
up to 13 january 2009	BBS	Germany	East Frisian Islands	48 Fulmars; 12 on Wangerooge being over 1 per km beach	various observers via Nils Guse
up to 13 january 2009	BBS	Netherlands	Norh Sea beach of Vlieland	on 14 km, 8 Fulmars of which at least 3 coloured	Carl Zuhorn & Leon Kelder via CJ Camphuysen
up to 16 jan 2009	BBS	Netherlands	Frisian dykes inside Waddensea	no Fulmars yet	D&B&C Kuiken
9 and 15 jan 2009	BBS	Netherlands	south Delta; Walcheren	7 birds on 33 km of Walcheren and Oosterschelde dam (identified 4 double light and one very dark)	Pim Wolf, Sander Lillipally, Mark Hoekstein, en Rob Strucker
13-Jan-09	BBS	Norway	Rogaland Brusand ca 58°31'N 05°43'E	16 dead Fulmars reported	Tycho Anker-Nilssen
13-16 jan 2009	BBS	Norway	Rogaland SW Norway	now up to 49 registered, many if not most dark colourphase	Tycho Anker-Nilssen
14 and 18 Jan 2009	BBS	Norway	far south Norway; Lista area	5 fulmars over 4.5 km of beach inspected; probably 4 of these dark coloured	Kare-Olav Olsen
14-21 Jan 2009	BBS	Germany	various reports from German North Sea coast	this week at least 33 additional beached Fulmars found in addition to 65 reported for Germany up to 13 January	many German observers via email Nils Guse
15-21 Jan 2009	BBS	Germany	Schleswig Holstein; Föhr	38 fulmars found on Föhr so far, 28 collected for EcoQO study	Walter Stubenrauch, Achim Steinbeck, Florian and Caro of Schutzstation Wattenmeer via N.Guse
18-Jan-2009	BBS	Denmark	Skagen	5 Fulmars (scarce old remains) on 4 km of beach; all LL phase; but otherwise very little reports from well inspected beach section	John Pedersen
21/23 Jan 2009	BBS incidental	NE-England SE Scotland UK	near Newcastle (Marsden) and North Berwick	just few hundred meters surveyed on both locations; no dead Fulmars; many live good looking birds on Marsden cliffs	Dan Turner & Jan van Franeker
24-Jan-2009	BBS incidental	England UK	Channel coast; Dungeness, near Dover	2 fulmars on just few hundred meters of beach; both double light phase	Chris Winter
until 24 jan 2009	BBS & coastal watches	Scotland UK	Shetlands	no indications of Fulmars beaching; still dark ones present in birds passing	Martin Heubeck
until 26 jan 2009	BBS	Faroe Islands	Faroe Islands	no indications of Fulmars beaching;	Bergur Olsen

until 26 Jan 2009	BBS	Germany	various reports from German North Sea coast	a further 24 Fulmars reported from German coast; total now up to 122 birds reported; high proportion dark birds	extensive German network via Nils Guse
total january	BBS	Germany	various reports from German North Sea coast	new finds after 20 January fairly rare. Total for the month ends at 126 Fulmars found on the German coasts	extensive German network via Nils Guse
1 to 26 Jan 2009	BBS	Netherlands	total coast all processed forms	in (not yet complete) overview of January BBS for the Netherlands (including inside Waddensea) density of 0.44 birds per km (74 birds)	extensive Dutch Seabird Group BBS network (NZG-NSO) via: http://home.planet.nl/~camphuys/NSOJan2005.html
9 to 26 Jan 2009	BBS	Norway	far south Norway; Lista area	overall 9-26 Jan 34.5km of beach had 26 Fulmars (includes earlier 5 birds), suspected beached mainly 9-14 Jan period; birds very dirty probably most coloured; 17 collected	Kare-Olav Olsen
26 - 31 Jan 2009	BBS	Norway	far south Norway; Lista area	situation in Lista area back to 'normal' that is only 2 further Fulmars found on 22.5 km of beach survey	Kare-Olav Olsen
mid-Jan 2009	BBS incidental	England UK	SE England	ca 6 Fulmars collected	Mark Grantham
January 2009	BBS	England UK	NE England	remains of only one single Fulmar found over 30.5 km of January surveys	Dan Turner
up to 26 Jan 2009	BBS	Scotland UK	Orkneys	no indications of special nrs of birds beached	Keith Fairclough
up to 1 feb 2009	BBS	France	Normandy	no indications of Fulmars beaching	Gilles le Guillou
up to 1 feb 2009	BBS	France	Brittany	no indications of Fulmars beaching	Jane Gollan
up to 1 feb 2009	BBS	Belgium	whole coast	During full BBS mid-January and later other surveys NO Fulmars found	Eric Stienen
after 5 Jan 2009	BBS	Netherlands	Schoorl a/z -Groote Keeten ca 20km	No further Fulmars beached after the 14 found on 5th Jan	Arnold Gronert
up to 1 feb 2009	dissections	Netherlands	Texel (25) and Zeeland (3)	among 28 Fulmars dissected: 12 female (6adult; 7coloured) 11 males (5 adult; 4 coloured) and 5 unsexed (3 coloured). All emaciated, no other indications of cause of death.	Jan van Franeker
25-Jan-09	incidental obs	France, Mediterranean	Camargue, Vaccarès, 1 km south of la Capelière,	An extremely dark Fulmar was seen and photographed in very poor condition	http://oiseauxprovence.free.fr/news.html Beillard, Devèze, Chappuis and Birot-Colomb (alert by Jane Gollan)
31-Jan-09	incidental obs	Portugal	coast	An LL Fulmar - rare on these coasts- was found dead	Magnus Rob
1-Mar-2009	feb summary all	all	all	<i>no special reports on events during February from any of the locations</i>	<i>many</i>
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