**Birdwatching in Northern Greece April 2014 Update**

p.16 track now surfaced between point c to b and partway to a

p.17 site 2 a quicker way back to Igoumenitsa, rather than retracing your steps, is to follow the road east from Sagiada towards Asprokklisi and then, just east of the village, taking a right to head south towards Fragma Kalama and then over the river to Ragio. Continue south to Igoumenitsa.

p. 43 these works appear to be under new ownership and the yellow gate has been locked on our last two visits. However we understand that access on foot is permitted along the western track between the lagoons and the sea.

p.52 track e it’s now possible to continue along the river beyond the buffalo ranch, with nesting Bee-eaters in 2012. Note that flooding has made reaching track e from track c difficult or impossible.

p. 53 site 3 heavy rains in the winter of 2010 – ’11 caused the river to break its bank and enter the lake at an earlier point further east than before, rather than through the drowned forest. This has meant that the embankment along site 3 is now considerably shortened. Work is underway to reroute the river along its earlier course.

p. 53 site 4 the new course of the river has had a detrimental effect on this site. Previously a favourite spawning ground for fish, with resulting feeding frenzies involving pelicans, cormorants, egrets etc. close to shore in spring, this is now the river course as it enters the lake and the spawning grounds have gone because of the strong current.

p. 61 site 1 is becoming less productive and overgrown.

p. 62 GPS for site 3 should read 41.370, 23.366. Directions at Angistro: take the middle track after heading up to the right of the church for Orphean Warbler in the scrub just beyond farm sheds.

p. 63 site 8 Rock Nuthatch bred opposite the ice-cream shop in 2013

p. 65 site 11 for clarification: the six tit species are Blue, Great, Coal, Long-tailed, Crested and Marsh.

p. 70 site c a major deliberate poisoning incident near here in 2012 is estimated to have killed 20 – 30 Griffons and 4 Golden Eagles, in effect the whole population of both species.

p. 79 site 6 hide 1 has disappeared (Feb ’14)

p. 80 site 7 the characteristic ‘Salt wark’ sign has disappeared. These works appear to be under new ownership which has led to a reduction in nesting opportunities as bunds have been repaired so where erosion had previously created small islands feral dogs now have access. Our organisation, Birdwing, is looking at alternatives here.

p. 84 site 16 unfortunately there was a further incident where a mass grave of pelicans, egrets etc. was found here in January 2012. One response by the fish farm to the resulting publicity was to restrict access much beyond the gate and to ask visitors to leave. This happened to us in February 2012 but not in September 2013 or February 2014. However it may continue to be a possibility.

p. 93 site 1 the access restrictions by car seem to have been lifted.

p. 94 site 3 this is the spot to look for Little Bustard during the winter. They occur irregularly and usually only in small numbers but a flock of 45 in January ’13 was exceptional. White-tailed and occasional Imperial Eagles often sit around on the ground here during the day in winter. February ’11 saw an astounding 2000 Ruddy Shelduck here. February ’14 saw 57 Lesser White-fronts and 20 Red-breasted Geese.

p. 99 site 15 during the winter of 2013/14 the vast majority of swans preferred Drana and Paloukia

p. 100 site 16 flood repair work has made this less attractive to Pygmies.

site 18 be aware that this track takes you to the river which forms the border between Greece and Turkey. The army have been on heightened alert because of illegal immigration and it is possible you will be asked to leave.

p. 103 site 3 this site has deteriorated with some of the seasonally wet areas now drained and ploughed up.

p. 106 site 4 be aware that ‘feeding day’ at Dadia is currently (March 2013) on Mondays with the result that fewer vultures are likely to be around this site early in the week.

p. 107 site 5 the supplementary food is laid out on Mondays (March 2013).

p. 111 site 3 quarry had breeding Rock Nuthatch in 2012.