



# PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

**03-06 February 2026**

Prague - Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

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**03  
TUE**

17.00-21.00

17.00-20.00

20.00-21.00

**Arrival, Ice-breaking session & Dinner**

**Evening talk : Gordon McMullan**

*Cormorant: A cultural history of Greed and Prejudice*

**04  
WED**

9.00-21.00

09.00-12.15

**Session 1 - Great Cormorant**

Welcome, opening of the conference

Keynote (**Mennobart van Eerden**)

Presentations

12.20-13.20

Lunch

13.20-17.00

**Session 2 - Great Cormorant**

Keynote (**David N. Carss**)

Presentations & poster pitches

17.00-20.00

Poster session

Dinner & drinks

20.00-21.00

**Evening talk : Jens Gregersen**

*50 years obsession with the world of cormorants*

**05**

**THUR**

9.00-17.00

09.00-10.00

**Session 3 - Pan-European Counts**

10.00-11.00

Cormorant Research Group meeting

11.00-17.00

Excursion - Lunch en route

17.00-20.00

Joint dinner

**06**

**FRI**

9.00-16.00

09.00-12.20

**Session 4 - European Shag, Pygmy Cormorant & Great Cormorant**

Opening remarks

Keynote (**Francis Daunt**)

Presentations

12.20-13.30

Lunch

13.20-15.00

**Session 5 - Great Cormorant & Double-crested Cormorant**

Presentations

15.20-16.00

Wrap up & closing of conference



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## POSTERS

03-06 February 2026

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### **Loss of avian biodiversity on small Baltic islands after the establishment of Great Cormorant breeding colonies: revelations from a 62-year dataset**

*Aare Verliin et al.*

### **Great Cormorant as Model Species for Biomonitoring of Heavy Metal Pollution in Kopački Rit (Croatia)**

*Alma Mikuška et al.*

### **How to catch adult Great Cormorants: field experience from tree nesting colonies**

*Julius Morkūnas et al.*

### **Reducing Seal and Cormorant Predation to Understand Fish Stock Recovery – A Government-Mandated Research Initiative Led by the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)**

*Maria Ovegård & David Hammenstig*

### **Managing Great Cormorant colonies in the Baltic Sea region: Actions taken and lessons learned**

*Thomas Bregnballe et al.*

### **Using drones to monitor nest numbers and breeding success in cormorant colonies**

*Thomas Bregnballe et al.*

### **Migration dynamics of Pygmy Cormorant (*Microcarbo pygmaeus*) and variation in flight corridors to roost along the Danube River in Novi Sad**

*Nikola Veljković et al.*

### **Diet of Great Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) in the Øresund Region: A hotspot for post-breeding cormorants**

*Malin Karlsson et al.*

### **Changes in the size of the Great Cormorant breeding colony on the Golem Grad Island, Lake Prespa, North Macedonia: Overview of the colony counts in the period 2010-2025**

*Danka Uzunova et al.*

### **The management of the Great cormorant in the upper Adriatic Sea: equilibrium reached?**

*Mauro Cosolo*

### **Recent developments of Great Cormorant population in Estonia**

*Meelis Leivits*

### **Breeding population of Great Cormorants in Czechia**

*Petr Musil et al.*

### **Pygmy Cormorant: An expanding waterbird species in Czechia**

*Petr Musil et al.*





## PROGRAM

**03 February 2026**

Prague – Czechia  
Czech University of Life Sciences

17:00 - 20:00

### Arrival

- *Ice-breaking session; and*
- *Dinner*

20:00 - 21:00

***Evening talk: Cormorant: A cultural history of Greed and Prejudice – Gordon McMullan***



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# PROGRAM

## 04 February 2026

### MORNING

Prague – Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

#### 09.00-12.30

9.00-9.15

9.15-9.30

9.30-10.15

10.15-10.35

#### 10.35-11.00

11.00-11.20

11.20-11.30

11.30-11.40

11.40-11.50

11.50-12.00

12.00-12.20

#### 12.20-13.20

#### Session 1 - Great Cormorant

Welcome & opening of the conference

Introduction to ProtectFish

*Niels Jepsen*

**Keynote :** Cormorants in a changing world: don't kill the messengers within the realm of aquatic top-predators indicating the state of coastal and inland water systems

*Mennobart van Eerden*

Wintering Cormorants in Czechia: Changes in numbers, distribution and habitat selection

*Adéla Šenkýřová et al.*

#### Coffee break

Inefficiency of shooting to regulate the numbers of Great Cormorants wintering in France

*Loïc Marion*

Cormorants in Switzerland: population trends and political implications

*Stefan Werner & Claudia Müller*

On the development of winter cormorant populations in Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany

*Melanie Wagner*

Management of cormorants in Sweden

*Jens Andersson & Paula Jonsson*

Cormorant management in Bavaria – current situation

*Jan Másíľko & Matthias Ruff*

EU perspective

*Anna Cheilari*

Lunch



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## PROGRAM

**04 February 2026**  
**AFTERNOON**

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**13.20-17.00**

13.20-13.50

### Session 2 - Great Cormorant

**Keynote:** There's too much confusion: microscopes and binoculars give no relief – the diet of Great Cormorants in Scottish rivers as a starting point for wider thoughts of birds, fishes, and people

*David N. Carss*

13.50-14.10

Long-term Great Cormorant diet data as a tool for understanding fish-bird interactions in Danish coastal ecosystems (1980-2024)

*Frederick Fleet*

14.10-14.30

Comparison of the diet and prey characteristics of Great Cormorants in rivers and reservoirs during the migration and wintering period

*Robert Gwiazda*

14.30-14.50

Diet composition of great cormorants in a fish protection area on the Swedish west coast

*Monica Mion et al.*

14.50-15.10

Are cormorants eating all the fish? A reality check using long-term data from Estonia

*Kunter Tätte*

**15.10-15.40**

### Coffee break

15.40-16.00

Great Cormorants as natural indicators and control agents of invasive round goby

*Rasa Morkūnė et al.*

16.00-16.20

Cormorants do it better: Cormorant pellets as natural monitors of coastal fish diversity

*Monica Mion et al.*

16.20-16.40

Cormorant census on selected trout-grayling fisheries: realistic estimate of predation pressure and the role of other fish-eating predators

*Martin Čech et al.*

16.40-16.50

Great Cormorant as Model Species for Biomonitoring of Heavy Metal Pollution in Kopački Rit (Croatia)

*Alma Mikuška et al.*

16.50-17.00

The management of the Great cormorant in the upper Adriatic Sea: equilibrium reached?

*Mauro Cosolo*

17.00-18.30

Poster session

18.30-19.30

Dinner

**20.00-21.00**

Evening talk: *50 years obsession with the world of cormorants* - Jens Gregersen





# PROGRAM

## 05 February 2026

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### 09.00-11.00

9.00-9.15

#### Session 3 - European Counts

Development of the breeding population of cormorants in the Baltic Sea region

*Thomas Bregnballe et al.*

9.15-9.35

Long-term population trends and spatial distribution of breeding Great Cormorants in the Russian part of the Gulf of Finland

*S.A. Kouzov & A.V. Kravchuk*

9.35-10.00

Pan-European counts of breeding and wintering cormorants in 2027

*Thomas Bregnballe et al.*

### 10.00-11.00

#### Cormorant Research Group Meeting

### 11.00-17.00

#### Excursion (*lunch en route*)

### 17.00-20.00

#### Joint dinner



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# PROGRAM

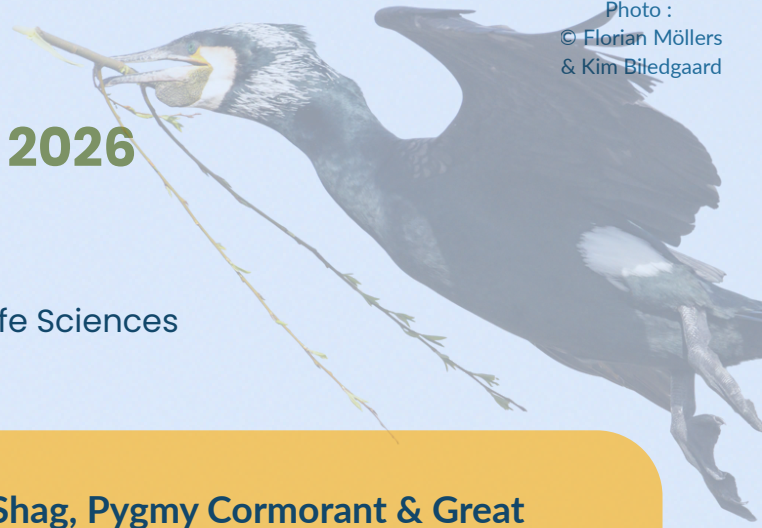
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## MORNING

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09.00-12.20

### Session 4 - European Shag, Pygmy Cormorant & Great Cormorant

9.00-9.15

Opening remarks

9.15-10.00

**Keynote :** Shags in a changing world: What can we learn from long-term studies?

*Francis Daunt*

10.00-10.20

Diet of the European shag: Novel information on the feeding ecology of a species recently colonising the Swedish west coast

*Karl Lundström et al.*

10.20-10.40

Non-breeding population size and movements of Mediterranean Shags in the Adriatic Sea

*Louie Taylor et al.*

10.40-11.00

Coffee break

11.00-11.20

Colonisation Dynamics and Range Expansion of the Pygmy Cormorant (*Microcarbo pygmeus*) in Italy: A 30 Year Assessment (1994–2023)

*Emiliano Verza et al.*

11.20-11.40

Long-term GPS tracking reveals behavioural differences between breeder and nonbreeder Great Cormorants

*Paolo Salvador et al.*

11.40-12.00

Movement Diversity in an Inland Breeding Population of Great Cormorants: Management Implications from GPS Tracking

*Bálint Preiszner et al.*

12.00-12.20

Changes in migration patterns of Baltic Sea Cormorants

*Christof Herrmann*

12.20-13.30

Lunch



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**06 February 2026**

**AFTERNOON**

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**13.20-15.00**

## **Session 5 - Great Cormorant & Double-crested Cormorant**

13.20-13.40

Evolution of the breeding and wintering population of Great Cormorant in Belgium, a small country with contrasted environmental conditions and cormorant-fisheries conflict management choices  
*Jean-Yves Paquet et al.*

13.40-14.00

Population explosion of the Great Cormorant in the Lake Baikal basin  
*Evgenia Badmaeva*

14.00-14.20

Change in the timing and duration of breeding season of Great Cormorant in Kopački Rit Nature park  
*Tibor Mikuska & Alma Mikuska*

14.20-14.40

Seasonal Population Dynamics and Breeding Phenology of Great Cormorants at an Inland Urban Reservoir in South Korea  
*Sung Jin Park*

**14.40-15.00**

**Coffee break**

15.00-15.20

Management of cormorant numbers and conflicts in the US  
*Brian Dorr*

**15.20-16.00**

**Wrap up & closing of conference**



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