



PRELIMINARY

PROGRAM

03-06 February 2026

Prague - Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

Photos :
© Florian
Möllers & Kim
Billedgaard



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



Funded by the
European Union



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website



POSTERS

03–06 February 2026

Prague – Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

Photo :
© S.Volponi

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.



Funded by the
European Union



Visit our
conference
website



PROGRAM

03 February 2026

Prague - Czechia
Czech University of Life Sciences

17:00 - 20:00

20:00 - 21:00

Arrival

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

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



Funded by the
European Union



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website



PROGRAM

04 February 2026 MORNING

Prague - Czechia
Czech University of Life Sciences

Photo :
© Florian Möllers
& Kim Biledgaard



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 Másík & Matthias Ruff

EU perspective

Anna Cheilari

Lunch



ProtectFish



Funded by the
European Union



Cormorant
Research
Group



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website



PROGRAM

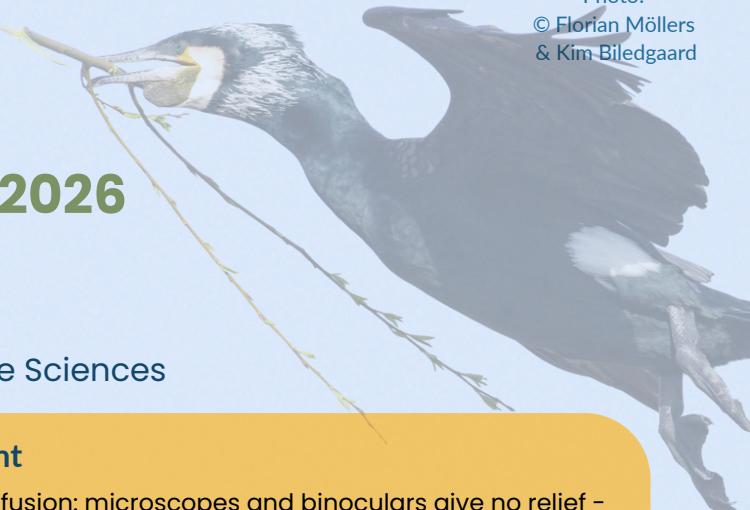
04 February 2026

AFTERNOON

Prague – Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

Photo:
© Florian Möllers
& Kim Biledgaard



13.20-17.00

13.20-13.50

13.50-14.10

14.10-14.30

14.30-14.50

14.50-15.10

15.10-15.40

15.40-16.00

16.00-16.20

16.20-16.40

16.40-16.50

16.50-17.00

17.00-18.30

18.30-19.30

20.00-21.00

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

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

Frederick Fleet

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

Robert Gwiazda

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

Monica Mion et al.

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

Kunter Tätte

Coffee break

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

Rasa Morkūnė et al.

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

Monica Mion et al.

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

Martin Čech et al.

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

Alma Mikuška et al.

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

Mauro Cosolo

Poster session

Dinner

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



ProtectFish



Funded by the
European Union



Visit our
conference
website



Photo :
© Florian Möllers
& Kim Bilegaard

PROGRAM

05 February 2026

Prague – Czechia
Czech University of Life Sciences



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



ProtectFish



Funded by the
European Union



Cormorant
Research
Group



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website



PROGRAM

06 February 2026

MORNING

Prague – Czechia

Czech University of Life Sciences

Photo :
© Florian Möllers
& Kim Bilegaard



09.00-12.20

9.00-9.15

9.15-10.00

10.00-10.20

10.20-10.40

10.40-11.00

11.00-11.20

11.20-11.40

11.40-12.00

12.00-12.20

12.20-13.30

Session 4 - European Shag, Pygmy Cormorant & Great Cormorant

Opening remarks

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

Francis Daunt

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

Karl Lundström et al.

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

Louie Taylor et al.

Coffee break

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

Emiliano Verza et al.

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

Paolo Salvador et al.

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

Bálint Preiszner et al.

Changes in migration patterns of Baltic Sea Cormorants

Christof Herrmann

Lunch



ProtectFish



Funded by the European Union



Cormorant
Research
Group



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website



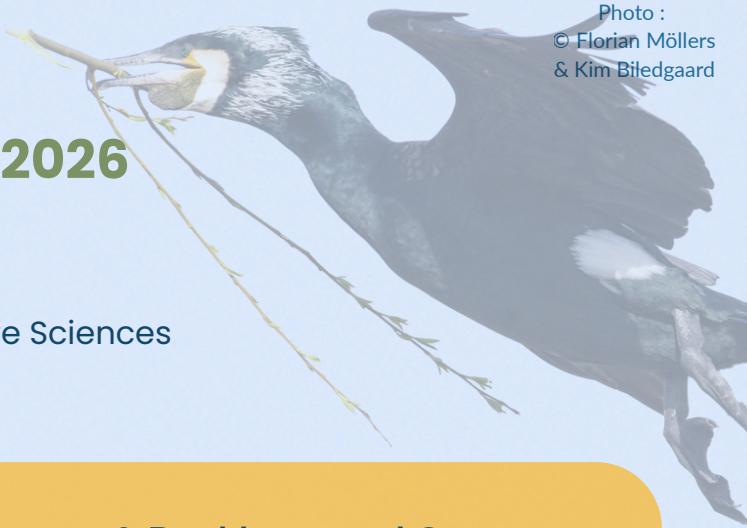
PROGRAM

06 February 2026

AFTERNOON

Prague – Czechia
Czech University of Life Sciences

Photo :
© Florian Möllers
& Kim Bilegaard



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



ProtectFish



Funded by the
European Union



Faculty of
Environmental Sciences



Visit our
conference
website