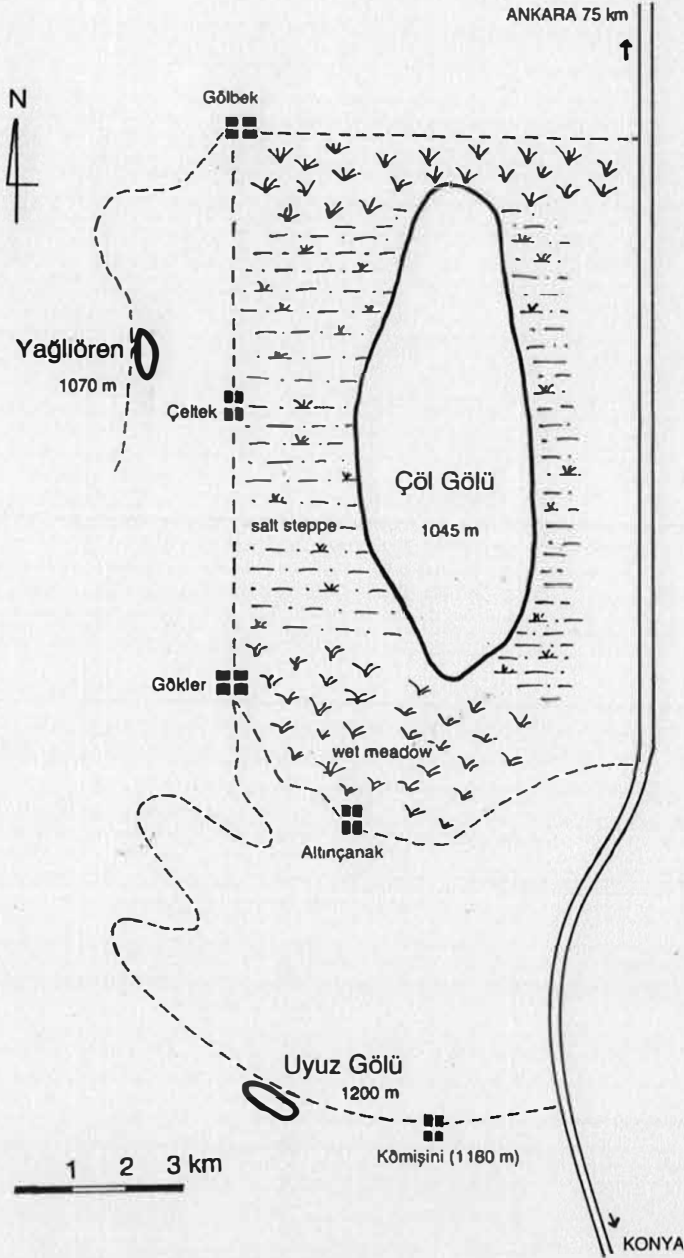


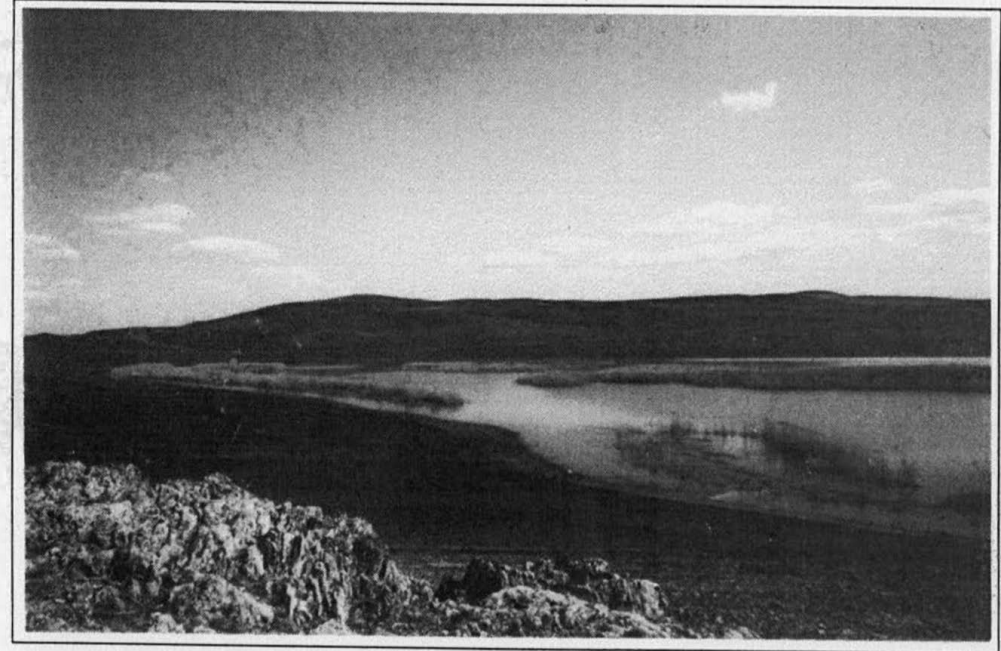


# BIRDS OF TURKEY

## TÜRKİYE KUŞLARI



size and shape of Çöl Gölü varies with season



10  
Çöl Gölü

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## The birds of Çöl Lake, Uyuz Lake and Yağlıören Pool

by Sühendan Karauz Kırac

### 1. Area and geographic position

The study area is located west of the Ankara - Konya highway nearly 80 kilometers south of Ankara and comprises a shallow salt lake (Çöl Lake) and two fresh water lakes (Uyuz Lake and Yağlıören Pool). The area is characterized by typical salt plain and steppe characteristic of Inner Anatolia.

The study area has been previously identified as either "Gölbek Lake" or "Bezirhane Lake" by several investigators (e.g. DIJKSEN & WOLF 1987, DIJKSEN & BLOMERT 1988). However, this wetland is actually called "Çöl" by local people (cf. map).

Çöl Lake is located on the plain between Karaca and Teke mountains (39°12'N, 32°45'E) (cf. TÇSV 1989). Uyuz Lake is 2 km. away from the village of Kömişini and is located to the south-west of Çöl Lake and is connected to the latter area by a primitive road. It is not possible to see Çöl Lake from Uyuz Lake because of a hill between them. The small wetland west of Çöl Lake is called "Yağlıören Pool" by local people.

### 2. General description of the area

Çöl Lake, also known by local people as Altınçanak or Kuruçöl, is a shallow salt lake with an area of approx. 600 hectares and an altitude of 1050 m above sea level. The lake is fed from the east and south ends by streams originating in the Karaca mountains. The volume of the lake expands during the autumn and winter seasons due to rain while in the summer part of the lake dries up. The maximum depth of the lake is 1 m. (TÇSV 1989).

There are lots of salt plains surroundings Çöl Lake. They have a relatively poor flora with a low species diversity. *Salicornia prostrata* is one of the most characteristic and numerous species.

Çöl Lake is surrounded by four villages: Çelték, Gölbek, Gökler and Altınçanak. Local people graze their cattle and sheep on the salt steppes around the lake and

use the nearby fields for agriculture. Mainly wheat, barley, lentil and chickpea and secondarily sun-flower, corn and cumin agriculture are practiced in the study area.

Uyuz Lake is approx. 1 km x 100-150 m. and is at an altitude of 1185 m. There is some Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*), and *Schoenoplectus* sp. is also found. The reeds are nearly 4 m high. The bottom of the lake is solid and its depth does not exceed 1.6 m.

At the beginning of the 1970's the water level of Uyuz Lake was very high and the surface area very large. Between 1974-1976, the lake dried up. The lake is fed by a small underground water source at its south end. The water level of the lake rises following the autumn and winter rains. The lake is surrounded by agricultural fields except for a narrow meadow strip around it (cf. map).

Normally, the lake is frozen in winter. It thus may play an important role for wintering waterfowl only in mild winters.

Yağlıören Pool is approx. 700 m. x 300 m. and is at an altitude of 1070 m. It is shallow with some reeds. A large portion of the wetland dries up in summer leaving only reed beds some of which consist of *Typha* sp. This wetland was larger before 1990. However, the General Directorate of Village Services (Köy Hizmetleri Genel Müdürlüğü) has dig a channel which should drain the lake during high water level when nearby agricultural fields are inundated. After protests of farmers from Balçıkhisar (southwest of Gölbek) who did not want the drainage channels passing through their fields, the project was partly cancelled and at present, there are half opened drainage channels around Yağlıören Pool.

### 3. Ornithological importance of the area

The area is of considerable importance for birds particularly for those which breed and visit during spring and early summer. The total number of bird species observed in the study area by the author and other birdwatchers is 133. An inventory of the Turkish wetlands (TÇSV 1989) listed Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), Avocet (*Recurvirostra avocetta*), Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*), and Black-bellied Sandgrouse (*Pterocles orientalis*) among the breeding birds. The area is an important resting place for waders and waterfowl in spring and autumn. TÇSV (1989) mentioned 2000-3000 White-fronted Geese (*Anser albifrons*), Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*), Ruddy Shelduck (*T. ferruginea*), Teal (*Anas crecca*), Pintail (*A. acuta*), Mallard (*A. platyrhynchos*), Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*), and waders.

The most important breeding species is the White-headed Duck (*Oxyura leucocephala*). Courtship of two pairs has been observed and most probably 5-10 pairs breed at Uyuz Lake. Other breeding species include Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*) (10 pairs), Black-necked Grebe (*Podiceps nigricollis*) (at least 12 pairs, probably at least 20-30 pairs), Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) (two

pairs), Pochard (*Aythya ferina*) (two pairs), Ferruginous Duck (*Aythya nyroca*) (three pairs), Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*) (11 pairs), Coot (*Fulica atra*) (at least 10 pairs), Lapwing (at least 2 pairs), Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*) (at least two pairs), Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) (at least one pair), Great Reed Warbler (*Acrocephalus arundinaceus*), and Black-headed Wagtail (*Motacilla flava feldegg*).

Since the wetlands are small and a portion of them dries up in summer, only a few species of wader can use the area for feeding in summer. For example, most wader species left the region in the mid-summer of 1991 and only Black-winged Stilts and Kentish Plovers remained after that period. Black-winged Stilts, Redshanks and Lapwings were seen feeding or resting on Uyuz Lake and Yağlıören Pool. However, their preferred habitats are around Çöl Lake and they move only after disturbance there. Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) and Avocet leave the area in the summer. In 1993, Çöl Lake did not dry up due to much rain. Therefore Flamingoes did not leave the area and were observed by July.

Çöl and Uyuz lakes are used by certain waders as feeding and breeding ground during spring migration and in summer. According to the observations made some passage visitor species are as follows; White Stork (*Ciconia ciconia*) (max. 471), Greater Flamingo (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) (max. 5500), White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) (max. 14,000), Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*) (max. 203), Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) (max. 131) and Red-throated Pipit (*Anthus cervinus*).

White-headed Duck, for which courtship and an immature individual has been observed, most probably breeds on Uyuz Lake. Lesser Kestrel (*Falco naumanni*) breeds in the village of Kömişini and Gölbek. Both species are globally threatened.

### 4. Fauna (excluding birds)

European Suslik (*Spermophilus xanthoprimum*) has been frequently observed adjacent to the study area. Green Toad (*Bufo viridis*) and Marsh Frog (*Rana ridibunda*), two species of amphibia, have been identified in and next to the lakes.

### 5. Human activities and nature conservation

The area is surrounded by agricultural fields. Most local people make dry-agriculture. Another important activity is stock-breeding mainly sheep but, to a lesser extent, cattle.

The most important problem facing the birds of these wetlands is illegal hunting. Local hunters and those from outside have been involved in several illegal hunting activities; according to reports by villagers and our own observations. Such illegal

hunting disturbs the existing waterfowl and probably plays an important role in decreasing the breeding success of some species. The hunting of *Oxyura leucocephala*, which is under strict protection throughout the world including Turkey is regrettable and reprehensible (IWRB 1990). The author observed that two male White-headed Ducks were shot on 1.6.91. The hunting occurs particularly round Uyuz Lake.

In addition to hunting, reed cutting has a negative effect on both breeding and visiting (migrant) birds at Uyuz Lake. Some species, such as White-headed Duck, Moorhen, Water Rail, Coot, Marsh Harrier and Great Reed Warbler, are completely dependent on reeds for their breeding success. Absence of reed in the non-breeding season also dramatically affects visiting bird populations. The reeds are only harvested for local roofing so it is fortunate that in the last few years tiles have begun to subplant reeds for roofs. Finally farm animals have been observed to destroy the nests of some ground nesting waders near Çöl Lake.

At the present, there are no regulations for the preservation and the protection of the wild life in the vicinities of Çöl Lake and Yağlıören Pool. But Uyuz Lake has been declared as a "First Degree Natural Site", a top priority given to endangered areas, by the Ministry of Culture, Council for Protection of the Konya Cultural and Natural Assets on 1 July 1992.

## 6. Bird-watching activity

Bird-watching activity has been scarce in the area, and most bird-watching has been restricted to daily visits.

The wetland was visited by the author 19 times between April 1991 and July 1993. Regular visits were paid between April 1991 and May 1992, with a few additional visits in June and July 1993. The area has been divided into a main and an auxiliary area. Most of the studies have been made around Çöl and Uyuz Lakes, with a few visits to Yağlıören Pool. No published information has been found on either Uyuz Lake or Yağlıören Pool.

It was planned to make regular winter counts in the winter 1991-92. However, since the wetlands in the region were frozen, only a few species were observed until October 1991, but none after October until March 1992.

The list of bird watching activities in date order are as follows;

1969	17.11	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	16.12	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
1970	06.01	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	25.01	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	20.11	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
1971	10.01	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	22.11	L. J. Dijkse, F. Koning & J. Walmsley

1972	14.12	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	21.02	L. J. Dijkse & F. Koning
	09.03	J. Berg et al.
1986	06.04	Ch. Husband et al.
	17.07	R. Webb, R. Brace, P. Morris & R. Thomas
	22.01	L. J. Dijkse & P. van der Wolf
1987	29.06	T. Lund
	22.01	L. J. Dijkse & A.-M. Blomert
1988	06.06	J. R. Hough, B. Lee, G. Sharrock & G. S. Smethurst
	22.07	G. Kirwan & R. Martins
1989	07.01	L. J. Dijkse & A.-M. Blomert*)
	18.06	A. Forsten & T. Numminen
1990	07.04	S. Karauz Kiraç, G. Magnin, M. Yazar & U. Özsesmi
	26.05	S. Karauz Kiraç & G. Kirwan
	31.05	G. Kirwan & G. Magnin
1991	01.06	S. Karauz Kiraç
	08.06	S. Karauz Kiraç, H. Nijmeijer & U. Özsesmi
	06.07	S. Karauz Kiraç
1992	11.07	S. Karauz Kiraç
	21.07	S. Karauz Kiraç
	06.10	S. Karauz Kiraç
1993	26.10	S. Karauz Kiraç
	21.12	S. Karauz Kiraç
	17.01	L. J. Dijkse & M. Klemann
1994	28.03	S. Karauz Kiraç
	05.04	S. Karauz Kiraç
	11.04	S. Karauz Kiraç
1995	02.05	S. Karauz Kiraç, G. Kirwan & U. Özsesmi
	09.05	S. Karauz Kiraç & U. Özsesmi
	19.06	A. Johnson, G. Magnin & U. Özsesmi
1996	02.06	S. Karauz Kiraç, C. O. Kiraç, F. Yavuzdemir & K. Önder
	19.06	U. Özsesmi, O. Görgün & T. Watts
	03.07	S. Karauz Kiraç
1997	17.07	S. Karauz Kiraç
	24.07	S. Karauz Kiraç

\*) No birds have been observed during the mid-winter count performed in 1990 winter.

## 7. Hints for bird-watchers

This area can easily be reached by Ankara-Konya highway. It takes one hour from Ankara by car. Although there is no place to stay, you can find suitable grounds for camping around the lakes.



## 8. Acknowledgements

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SIMON ALBRECHT, LIEUWE J. DIJKSEN and GUY KIRWAN read drafts of the paper and made useful suggestions.

## 9. Abbreviations

Ber	=	J. Berg et al.
DB	=	L. J. Dijkzen & A.-M. Blomert
DK	=	L. J. Dijkzen & F. Koning
DKle	=	L. J. Dijkzen & M. Klemann
DKW	=	L. J. Dijkzen, F. Koning & J. Walmsley
DW	=	L. J. Dijkzen & P. van der Wolf
FN	=	A. Forsten & T. Numminen
Hu	=	Ch. Husband et al.
HLSS	=	J. R. Hough, B. Lee, G. Sharrock & G. S. Smethurst
Kir	=	G. Kirwan
KKi	=	S. Karauz Kiraç & G. Kirwan
KKO	=	S. Karauz Kiraç, G. Kirwan & U. Özsesmi
KKYO	=	S. Karauz Kiraç, C. O. Kiraç, F. Yavuzdemir & K. Önder
KMY	=	S. Karauz Kiraç, G. Magnin & M. Yazar
KO	=	S. Karauz Kiraç & Uygur Özsesmi
KOMY	=	S. Karauz Kiraç, U. Özsesmi, G. Magnin & M. Yazar
KON	=	S. Karauz Kiraç, H. Nijmeijer & U. Özsesmi
Lu	=	T. Lund
MK	=	G. Magnin & G. Kirwan
MO	=	G. Magnin & U. Özsesmi
MOHJ	=	A. Johnson, G. Magnin & U. Özsesmi
ÖG	=	U. Özsesmi & O. Görgün
Öz	=	U. Özsesmi
Süh	=	S. Karauz Kiraç
WBMT	=	R. Webb, R. Brace, P. Morris & R. Thomas
Ya	=	M. Yazar

\* = Breeding has been confirmed

## 10. Species List

### *Tachybaptus ruficollis*\* (Little Grebe, Küçük Batağan)

Breeding bird at Uyuz Lake. Breeding has been confirmed on 3.7.93 when an adult with two young was observed and on 24.7.93 when 13 adults were seen together with their young (Süh). Otherwise low numbers during the breeding season (e.g. 10 on 2.5.92, KKO, eight on 9.5.92, KO, seven on 31.5.91, MK, seven on 2.6.93, Süh). Numbers also low in autumn, e.g. seven on 6.10.91 and eight on 26.10.91. No winter records.

### *Podiceps nigricollis*\* (Black-necked Grebe, Kara boyunlu Batağan)

Breeding bird at both Uyuz and Çöl Lakes with an estimated population of at least 20-30 pairs. Breeding has been proved several times: 10 pairs with young plus 33 adults without young on 3.7.93, one pair with two young plus 30 adults on 6.7.91 and six females with young plus 15 adults on 21.7.91 at Uyuz Lake (Süh). At Çöl Lake, one adult with two young and another adult with four young on 3.7.93 (Süh). Five pairs in courtship display at Uyuz Lake on 1.6.91.

Highest counts are 63 on 31.5.91 at Uyuz Lake (MK), 51 on 2.5 and 52 on 9.5.92 at Uyuz Lake (Süh), >50 at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT), >50 on 24.7.93 (Süh), 40 on 17.7.93 (Süh), 32 on 2.6.93 (Süh), 25 on 26.5.91 (KKi) and 20 on 1.6.91 (Süh) at Uyuz Lake.

No autumn and winter records. Earliest spring record is 15 at Uyuz Lake on 5.4.92 (Süh).

### *Phalacrocorax pygmeus* (Pygmy Cormorant, Küçük Karabatak)

Two on Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh) and one at Çöl Lake on 6.6.89 (HLSS) are the only records.

### *Pelecanus onocrotalus* (White Pelican, Ak Kutan)

One on 6.6.89 (HLSS) is the only record.

### *Ixobrychus minutus* (Little Bittern, Küçük Balaban)

A female on Uyuz Lake on 31.5.91 (MK) is the only record.

### *Ardeola ralloides* (Squacco Heron, Alaca Balıkçıl)

Summer visitor with records in May and June: two at Yağlıören Pool and two on Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (KKi), one on 9.5.92 (Süh), one on 2.6.93 (KKYO) and two on 19.6.93 (OG) at Uyuz Lake.

***Egretta garzetta*** (Little Egret, Küçük Ak Balıkcıl)

Summer visitor with records in May and June: two at Uyuz Lake on 9.5.92 (Süh), two at Çöl Lake on 8.6.91 (KON) and one at Uyuz and two at Çöl Lake on 2.6.93 (Süh).

***Egretta alba*** (Great White Egret, Ak Balıkcıl)

One on 11.4.92 at Yağlıören Pool (Süh) is the only record.

***Ardea cinerea*** (Grey Heron, Gri Balıkcıl)

One at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91, two at Yağlıören Pool on 11.4.92 (Süh), one at Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (KKi) and one at Uyuz Lake on 9.5.92 (Süh).

***Ardea purpurea*** (Purple Heron, Erguvani Balıkcıl)

Summer visitor with records from Uyuz Lake and Yağlıören Pool between April and June. At Yağlıören Pool one on 11.4.92 (Süh) and two on 2.5.92 (KKO); at Uyuz Lake one on 9.5.92 and one on 2.6.93 (Süh).

***Platalea leucorodia*** (Spoonbill, Kaşıkçı)

The only record is one at Çöl Lake on 6.6.89 (HLSS).

***Ciconia nigra*** (Black Stork, Kara Leylek)

Summer visitor. One at Çöl Lake on 2.6.93 (Süh) and one feeding at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh).

***Ciconia ciconia*** (White Stork, Leylek)

Although courtship of some pairs has been observed, no other evidence for breeding of White Stork in the area has been found. An empty nest in Bezirhane on the Ankara - Konya highway close to the study area in 1985 was mentioned by KILIÇ & KASPAREK (1989a).

Observed mostly on the wet meadows around Çöl Lake. Large groups were observed between March and July: 200 around Uyuz Lake on 28.3.92 (Süh), 471 on 26.5.91 (KKi), 150 at Çöl Lake on 6.6.89 (HLSS), 86 north of Çöl Lake on 8.6.91 (Süh) and 150 at Yağlıören Pool on 11.7.91 (Süh). Otherwise only single individuals or groups less than 15 were present. While those birds recorded in March can be attributed to spring migration (for the phenology see KILIÇ & KASPAREK 1989b), those individuals seen from May to July may be flocks of non-breeders.

***Plegadis falcinellus*** (Glossy ibis, Çeltikçi)

Irregular visitor with records between April and July. At Çöl Lake 150 on 17.7.86 (WBMT), five on 29.6.87 (Lu), one on 26.5.92 (KKi) and four on 1.6.91 (Süh); At Yağlıören Pool one on 11.4.92 (Süh) and one on 2.5.92 (KKO). At Uyuz Lake one on 2.5.92 (KKO).

***Phoenicopterus ruber*** (Greater Flamingo, Flamingo)

Regular visitor with up to some thousands between March and June. All records are from Çöl Lake. Maximum counts are 5500 on 17.7.86 (WBMT), 4000-5000 on 6.4.86 (Hu), 1500 on 6.6.89 (HLSS), 1000 on 9.3.89 (Ber), >350 on 29.6.87 (Lu), 331 on 2.6.93 (KKYO), 131 on 26.5.91 (Süh), 128 on 7.4.91 (KOMY), and 110 on 3.7.93 (Süh). As the lake is usually frozen in winter, only one winter record: two on 10.1.71 (DK). No Flamingoes were seen in July and autumn 1991.

***Anser albifrons*** (White-fronted Goose, Sakarca Kızı)

Winter visitor. Maximum is 14,000 on 20.11.70 (DK). Other counts are 9365 on 17.11.69 (DK), 6050 on 6.1.70 (DK), 3200 on 22.1.87 (DW), 1800 on 22.1.88 (DB), 102 on 10.1.71 (DK) and 126 on 22.11.71 (DKW) at Çöl Lake; >250 at Çöl Lake still on 6.4.86 (Hu) and 20 on the meadows east of Çöl Lake on 7.4.91 (MOY). A late record of four on 6.6.89 (HLSS).

***Anser anser*** (Greylag Goose, Boz Kaz)

Two were observed at Çöl Lake on 22.1.87 (DW), one on the meadows of Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi) and one at Uyuz Lake on 31.5.91 (MK).

***Anser* sp.** (Goose sp. Kaz sp.)

A flock of 35 geese flying over Uyuz Lake on 6.10.91 and two at Çöl Lake on 11.4.92 (Süh) were not specifically identified.

***Tadorna ferruginea*** (Ruddy Shelduck, Angit)

Breeding bird in small numbers and regular visitor sometimes in large numbers. Breeding season records include 300 on 18.6.90 (FN), >150 on 29.6.87 (Lu), 56 at Yağlıören Pool on 2.5.92 (KKO), 150 at Çöl Lake on 6.6.89 (MLSS), 57 at Çöl Lake on 8.6.91 (KON), >100 on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and 20 on 1.6.91 (Süh).

Large concentrations in winter with maximum counts of 6,847 on 17.11.69 (DK), 1,760 on 20.11.70 (DK), 1,296 on 6.1.70 (DK) and 233 on 10.1.71 (DK). Only one on 22.1.88 (DB) and one on 22.1.88 (DB).

***Tadorna tadorna*** (Shelduck, Suna)

No evidence of breeding. All records are from Çöl Lake in autumn and winter. 209 on 17.11.69, 190 on 6.1.70, 88 on 20.11.70, 12 on 10.1.71 (DK) and 16 on 22.1.87 (DW).

***Anas penelope*** (Wigeon, Fiyo)

Winter visitor. All records are from Çöl Lake. 1760 on 6.1.70, 470 on 10.1.71, 358 on 17.11.69 (DK), 10 on 22.1.87 (DW) and 11 still on 2.5.92 (KKO).

***Anas strepera*** (Gadwall, Bozördek)

Three on 2.5.92 (KKi) and a female on 24.7.93 at Uyuz Lake are the only records.

***Anas crecca*** (Teal, Çamurcun)

Records are from all lakes, but most of them refer to Çöl Lake. Largest concentration 10,486 at Çöl Lake on 17.11.69. Otherwise e.g. at Çöl Lake 4,300 on 22.1.87 (DW), 540 on 6.1.70, 10 on 20.11.70 (DK) and 40 on 22.11.71 (DKW). Some breeding season records (13 at Yağlıören Pool on 11.4.92, Süh, a few at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86, WBMT, and six on 2.5.92 at Uyuz Lake, KKi) may indicate breeding.

***Anas platyrhynchos***\* (Mallard, Yeşilbaş)

Breeding resident, especially numerous in early winter. Records are from all lakes. Breeding has been proved on 17.7.93, when a female with four young was observed at Uyuz Lake and another with four young (plus 16 adults without young) at Çöl Lake (Süh). Numbers during breeding season are low, e.g. one pair at Uyuz Lake on 5.4.92, four at Çöl Lake, eight at Uyuz Lake and eight at Yağlıören Pool on 11.4.92, two at Uyuz Lake and two at Yağlıören Pool on 2.5.92 (KKO), two at Çöl Lake on 9.5.92 (Süh), four at Çöl Lake on 18.6.90 (FN), two on 29.6.87 (Lu) and >30 at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT).

Maximum counts are 12,379 on 17.11.69, 1,800 on 22.1.87, 1,750 on 20.11.70, and 920 on 6.1.70, all at Çöl Lake (DK, DW).

***Anas acuta*** (Pintail, Kılördek)

Winter visitor; may well breed, although only three breeding season records: a male on 6.6.89 (HLSS) and two both on 2.5.92 (KKi) and 9.5.92 (Süh). All records from Çöl Lake. In winter 477 on 6.1.70, 10 on 10.1.71, 25 on 21.2.74 (DK) and 15 on 22.1.87 (DW).

***Anas querquedula*** (Garganey, Çıkrıkçın)

Summer visitor which may breed. Records are from all lakes. At Çöl Lake two on 17.7.86 (WBMT); at Uyuz Lake one each on 26.5.91 (KKi) and on 8.6.91 (KON) and two on 2.5.92 (KKO); at Yağlıören Pool three on 11.4.92 (Süh).

***Anas clypeata*** (Shoveler, Keççel)

Winter visitor with records from November to April. Maximum counts are 849 birds on 17.11.69, 880 on 6.1.70 and 500 at Çöl Lake on 20.11.70 (DK). 184 still present on the east side of Çöl Lake on 7.4.91 (MO). No observations during autumn and winter 1991/92 until March 1992. 15 at Uyuz Lake on 28.3.92, one pair at Çöl Lake on both 5.4 and 11.4.92 (Süh).

**Anatidae** (unidentified)

19,800 unidentified ducks on 17.11.69, 7,300 on 6.1.70, and 1,095 on 10.1.71 at Çöl Lake (DK). 200 on 18.6.90 (FN).

***Marmaronetta angustirostris*** (Marbled Teal, Yaz Ördeği)

One at Uyuz Lake on 26.5.91 (Ki). The species probably breeds at nearby Kulu Gölü.

***Netta rufina*** (Red-crested Pochard, Macarördek)

Status uncertain. May breed. During the breeding season, six at Çöl Lake on 18.6.90 (FN), two males at Uyuz Lake on 31.5.91 (MK), one pair and another adult at Uyuz Lake on 2.6.93 (Süh), a pair at Uyuz Lake on 19.6.93 (OG) and one pair (most probably always the same) regularly observed at Uyuz Lake on 5.4.92 (Süh), 2.5.92 (KKO) and 9.5.92 (Süh). 400 at Çöl Lake on 6.1.70 (DK) is the maximum.

***Aythya ferina***\* (Pochard, Elmabaş)

Breeding resident. Courtship display of three pairs was noted on 1.6.91. Three males and a female with six chicks and a female with 10 chicks on 21.7.91 (Süh). Records during the breeding season include 23 on 2.5.92, 25 on 9.5.92, six males on 26.5.91 (KKi), 39 on 31.5.91 (MK), 43 males and eight females on 1.6.91, 55 males on 2.6.93 (KKYO), 80 on 19.6.93 (OG), 49 males and three females on 8.6.91 (Süh). This may suggest an actual population of 20-30 pairs.

The numbers remain low in the immediate post-breeding period, but rise in autumn. The maximum is 3,000 at Çöl Lake on 20.11.70 (DK). Other records are all from Uyuz Lake. In spring, 100 birds on 28.3.92, 20 on 5.4.92 and 30 on 11.4.92.

A male Pochard and two male White-headed Ducks were found shot by a hunter from Kömisinl village on 1.6.91. The hunter was interviewed and reminded that he

shot the Pochard outside the hunting season and the White-headed Ducks which are under protection. According to local villagers, some foreign hunters came to the region on 8.6.91 and did a lot of shooting at Uyuz Lake. It is possible that Pochard left Uyuz Lake because of the hunting pressure (Süh).

***Aythya nyroca*** (Ferruginous Duck, Pasbaş Dalağan)

Summer visitor. Breeding was confirmed on 17.7.93, when three females with five, seven and nine young were seen and on 24.7.93 when three females with their young were observed at Uyuz Lake (Süh). Otherwise at Uyuz Lake one male on 31.5.91 (MK), one female found dead shot by hunters on both 21.7.91 and 26.10.91 (Süh), one pair on 5.4.92 (Süh), one pair plus a single individual on 9.5.92 (KO), four on 2.6.93 (Süh) and six on 19.6.93 (OG).

***Aythya fuligula*** (Tufted Duck, Tepeli Patka)

Two on 28.3.92 (Süh), three on 2.6.93 (Süh) and a pair on 19.6.93 (OG). All records are from Uyuz Lake.

***Bucephala clangula*** (Goldeneye, Altıngöz)

80 at Çöl Lake on 6.1.70 (DK) is the only record.

***Oxyura leucocephala*** (White-headed Duck, Dikkuyruk)

5-10 pairs are thought to breed in Uyuz Lake. In 1991, 20 males and seven females on 26.5 (KKi), 10 males and two females on 31.5 (MK), six males on 1.6 (Süh), 16 males and four females on 8.6 (KON), three males and two females on 6.7 and 12 males on 21.7.91 (Süh). In 1992, eight males and three females on 5.4, 10 on 11.4 (Süh), four males and two females on 2.5 (KKO) and two pairs plus five males and three females on 9.5 (Süh). In 1993, seven males, three females and an immature on 2.6 (KKYO), six males and two females on 19.6 (OG), three males and a female on 3.7 (Süh), four males on 17.7 and three males on 24.7 (Süh).

All records from Uyuz Lake. White-headed Ducks have always been observed on the middle of the lake or behaving shyly at the inner edge of the reeds round the lake.

As stated above two dead male White-headed Ducks shot by hunters were seen and photographed on 1.6.91. According to a hunter from Kömişini village the lake is shallow and does not have a soft muddy bottom, so one can easily wade across the lake and reach every point by walking. As a result one can hunt White-headed Ducks retrieving them from inside the reeds where they hide.

The White-headed Ducks still inhabits the lake and probably breeds, although the hunting pressure is heavy. The observation of two pairs in courtship on 26.5.91, the presence of up to 20 males (with a lower number of females) and the regular

presence during all visits to the lake within the period between May-July supports breeding at Uyuz Lake.

***Haliaeetus albicilla*** (White-tailed Eagle, Deniz Kartalı)

One at Çöl Lake on 25.1.70 (DK) is the only record.

***Neophron percnopterus*** (Egyptian Vulture, Mısır Akbabası)

One was observed at Yağlıören Pool on 19.6.92 (MOJ).

***Circus gallicus*** (Short-toed Eagle, Yılan Kartalı)

One at Çöl Lake on 31.5.91 (MK) and one of the light phase over Uyuz Lake on 1.6.91 (Süh) are the only records.

***Circus aeruginosus*** (Marsh Harrier, Saz Delicesi)

Regularly present between March and October. It is thought that one pair breeds. Winter records are still missing. Records are from Uyuz Lake and Yağlıören Pool. At Uyuz Lake: one on 26.5.91 (KKi), a female on 31.5.91 (MK), one each on 1.6 and 8.6.91, two on 6.7.91, one each on 21.7.91 and on 6.10.91, three on 26.10.91, one on 28.3.92, four on 5.4.92, two each on 11.4.92 (Süh) and on 2.5.92 (KKO), one pair 9.5.92, one pair on 2.6 and 24.7.93 (Süh). At Çöl Lake: one on 18.6.90 (FN); at Yağlıören Pool: two on 11.4.92 and two on 2.5.92 (Süh).

***Circus cyaneus*** (Hen Harrier, Gök Delice)

A female on 17.1.92 (DKle) is the only record.

***Circus macrourus*** (Pallid Harrier, Bozkır Delicesi)

One male observed flying over Yağlıören Pool on 2.5.92 (Kir) is the only record.

***Circus pygargus*** (Montagu's Harrier, Çayır Delicesi)

Status uncertain. May breed. One pair observed flying over Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (Kir), one adult male at Çöl Lake on 18.6.90 (FN) and one there on 29.6.87 (Lu).

***Accipiter nisus*** (Sparrowhawk, Atmaca)

One at Çöl Lake on 22.1.88 (DB) is the only record.

***Buteo buteo*** (Buzzard, Şahin)

Rare species in the area. One at Yağlıören Pool on 2.5.92 (KKO).



***Buteo rufinus*** (Long-legged Buzzard, Kızıl Şahin)

Regular visitor. At Uyuz Lake: one on 22.1.88 (DB), one on 2.5.92 (KKO), one on 9.5.92 (KO), one on 1.6.91 (Süh) and three on 26.10.91 (Süh). At Çöl Lake one on 8.6.91 (Süh).

***Aquila chrysaetos*** (Golden Eagle, Kaya Kartalı)

Two recorded on 16.12.69 (DK) and one at Çöl Lake on 22.11.71 (DKW).

***Hieraetus pennatus*** (Booted Eagle, Küçük Kartal)

One dark phase individual hunting over the steppes near Uyuz Lake on 2.6.93 (Süh).

***Falco naumanni***\* (Lesser Kestrel, Küçük Kerkenez)

There are breeding colonies in both Kömisini and Gölbeke villages. A total of 11 pairs was recorded. 15 were seen on 28.3.92 in Kömisini village (Süh). Three pairs with juveniles and five pairs in Kömisini village on 3.7.93 (Süh), a pair feeding four young and a pair with a juvenile and a pair and two single males in Gölbeke village on 24.7.93 (Süh). Otherwise two at Çöl Lake on 29.6.87 (Lu), four at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi), five at Çöl Lake and one at Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (Süh), and one at Çöl Lake on 9.5.92 (KKO). Earliest two on 28.3.92.

***Falco tinnunculus*** (Kestrel, Kerkenez)

Common in the area.

***Falco columbarius*** (Merlin, Boz Doğan)

Winter visitor. One at Çöl Lake on both 22.1.88 (DB) and 17.1.92 (DKle).

***Falco cherrug*** (Saker, Ulu Doğan)

One at Uyuz Lake on 26.10.92 (Süh) is the only record.

***Falco peregrinus*** (Peregrine, Doğan)

One seen while chasing an Isabelline Wheatear (*Oenanthe isabellina*) near Uyuz Lake on 24.7.93 (Süh).

***Perdix perdix*** (Partridge, Çil Keklik)

10 at Çöl Lake on 17.11.69 (DK) is the only record.

***Coturnix coturnix*** (Quail, Bildircin)

Summer visitor. May breed in the agricultural area around the lakes. One singing at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi), two heard on 18.6.90 (FN) and two at Çöl Lake on 8.6.91 (Süh).

***Rallus aquaticus*** (Water Rail, Su Kılavuzu)

Five at Uyuz Lake on 8.6.91 (KON) is the only record.

***Porzana parva*** (Little Crake, Benekli Yelve)

Two females and two males at Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (KKO). This is the only record.

***Porzana pusilla*** (Baillon's Crake, Küçük Yelve)

One at Uyuz Lake on 11.4.92 (Süh) is the only record.

***Gallinula chloropus*** (Moorhen, Saz Tavuğu)

Uncommon. A few pairs probably breed. All records are from Uyuz Lake. 1991: three on 31.5 (MK) and two on 8.6 (Süh); 1992: 10 on 2.5 (KKO) and 10 on 9.5 (Süh). 1993: three on 19.6 (OG), two on 3.7 and one on 24.7 (Süh).

***Fulca atra***\* (Coot, Sakarmeke)

Breeding resident. At least 10 pairs, probably 20-30 pairs seem to breed. Breeding was proved on 1.6.91, when a female with young was observed, on 8.6.91, when two females with their chicks were observed and on 3.7, 17.7 and 24.7.93 when around 100 adults, juveniles and young were recorded (Süh). During the breeding season, some 50 birds are regularly present at Uyuz Lake (e.g. on 28.3.92, 5.4.92, 11.4.92, 2.5.92, 9.5.92, 1.6.91, 8.6.91, 21.7.91), but higher numbers e.g. 143 on 31.5.91 (MK), 100 at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT), >150 at Uyuz Lake on 6.7.91 (Süh).

The numbers during autumn are low, e.g. 10 in Uyuz Lake on 6.10.92 and 23 on 26.10.91.

Highest numbers were counted during winter 1969-70 when the water level was very high and the surface of the lake not frozen. 15,815 were then counted at Çöl Lake on 17.11.69 and 14,240 on 6.1.70 (DK). Absent in many years, when the lake is frozen. So, no observation during winter 1991/92.

A *Fulca atra* chick was shot by hunters on 21.7.91 and an adult on 26.10.91 (Süh).

***Grus grus*** (Crane, Turna)

Two birds recorded on 17.11.69, two on 6.1.70 (DK), nine on 6.4.86 (Hu), two on 26.5.91 (KKi), 15+ on 6.6.89 (HLSS), 18 on 17.7.86 (WBMT), and. All records from Çöl Lake. The breeding season records may be birds from nearby breeding places.

***Otis tarda*** (Great Bustard, Toy)

Two, sexes not noted, at Çöl Lake on 24.7.89 (KIRWAN & MARTINS, in prep.).

***Himantopus himantopus***\* (Black-winged Stilt, Uzunbacak)

At least two pairs breed in the area, but the actual breeding population may be considerably higher. Breeding was confirmed by a pair with two young on 11.7.91 (Süh), two juveniles in a group of 12 adults on 21.7.91 (Süh) and a pair with one young on 3.7.93 (Süh).

Maximum counts are >1000 birds at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and >200 birds on 29.6.87 (Lu). However, numbers are usually lower, e.g. five on 7.4.91 (KMY), 30 at Çöl Lake on 11.4.92, 28 on 26.5.91 (KKi), six on 1.6.91, four on 8.6.91 (Süh), one on 31.5.91 (MK), 10 on 6.7.91, 20 on 11.7.91 at Yağlıören Pool (Süh), five at Uyuz Lake and six at Çöl Lake on 2.6.93 (KKYO).

The records are from whole region.

***Recurvirostra avosetta*** (Avocet, Kılıçgaga)

The Avocet breeds at Çöl Lake according to TÇSV (1989), but actual records are lacking. A few pairs may breed, but confirmation is required. Spring and breeding season records include eight at Uyuz Lake on 28.3.92, seven at Uyuz Lake on 5.4.92 (Süh), 131 on 7.4.91 (KMY), 100 at Çöl Lake on 11.4.92 (Süh), 11 on 26.5.91 (KKi), 15 on 1.6.91 and six on 8.6.91 on the salt plains of Çöl Lake (Süh). 22 at Çöl Lake on 18.6.90 (FN) and 'common' on 6.6.89 (HLSS). After the breeding season, 22 at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and 37 at Çöl Lake on 20.11.70 (DK).

***Burhinus oedipnemos*** (Stone Curlew, Kocagöz)

A few pairs seem to breed. 1-2 birds recorded on 6.4.86 at Çöl Lake (Hu), two on 6.6.89 (HLSS), at least 4 calling at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and three on the meadows north of Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi).

***Charadrius alexandrinus***\* (Kentish Plover, Küçük Cılibit)

Breeding bird. 10 adults with chicks at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT), >80 at Çöl Lake on 29.6.87 (Lu), two males and two females on 26.5.91, 15 on 6.6.89 (HLSS), nine on 8.6.91, one on 18.6.90 (FN) and >10 on 11.7.91 (Süh). In the spring 1992 three on 11.4.92 (Süh), five on 2.5.92 (KKi) and 50 plus a female with a chick on

9.5.92 (KO). The records are from the salt plains of Çöl Lake with courtship behaviour. In 1993 10 at Çöl Lake on 2.6 (KKYO). The actual population seem to be 10-20 pairs.

***Charadrius leschenaultii*** (Greater Sand Plover, Büyük Cılibit)

Apparently breeding bird. All records from Çöl Lake. 16 birds, most of them juveniles, but also 2-3 non-breeding adults, were recorded on the northern edge of the lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT). 21 on 18.6.90 (FN), 42 on 29.6.87 (Lu), one on 7.4.91 (Ya) and three on the salt plains of Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi). In spring 1992, six on both 2.5.92 (KKO) and 9.5.92 (KO).

***Vanellus vanellus***\* (Lapwing, Kız Kuşu)

Most of the records are from Çöl Lake and only a few from Yağlıören Pool and Uyuz Lake. Observed mostly on the salt plains around Çöl Lake.

Breeding species. At least two, probably four pairs, breed here. Breeding was confirmed by a pair with an egg and another pair with their chick on 8.6.91, by a female with a chick and another female with two chicks on 11.4.92 and by two chicks on 3.7.93 (Süh). The population during the breeding season usually does not exceed 50 individuals, e.g. >50 at Çöl Lake on 29.6.87 (Lu), 19 at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91, 18 at Uyuz Lake on 2.6.93 (KKYO), 10 at Çöl Lake on 1.6.91, 10 at Yağlıören Pool on 11.7.91 and 10 at Çöl Lake on 2.5.92 (Süh), but 128 at Çöl Lake on 18.6.90 (FN).

In winter, 18 birds on 17.11.69, 70 on 6.1.70, seven on 20.11.70 (DK) and 36 on 22.1.87 (DW) at Çöl Lake.

***Calidris alba*** (Sanderling, Ak Kumkuşu)

Two at Uyuz Lake on 6.10.91 (Süh) is the only record.

***Calidris minuta*** (Little Stint, Küçük Kumkuşu)

Migrant in May and June and again in October. Records are from Çöl and Uyuz Lakes. At Çöl Lake two on 26.5.91 (KKi) and 18 on 6.6.89 (HLSS); at Uyuz Lake 16 on 6.10.91, seven on 26.10.91 (Süh), one on 2.5.92 (Kir) and four on 9.5.92 (Öz).

***Philomachus pugnax*** (Ruff, Döğüşkenkuş)

Records are from all three wetlands. Two on 17.11.69 at Çöl Lake (DK), >30 on 6.4.86 at Çöl Lake (Hu), four on 7.4.91 (KMY), and one male on 21.7.91 at Çöl Lake. In the spring 1992 28 on 28.3.92, 10 on 5.4.92 (Süh) and 50 on 2.5.92 at Uyuz Lake (KKO), 203 on 11.4.92 and 162 on 2.5.92 at Çöl Lake and 50 on 11.4.92 (Süh), 65 on 2.5.92 (KKO) and 14 on 9.5.92 at Yağlıören Pool (Süh).

**Gallinago gallinago** (Snipe, Su Çulluğu)

Four on 17.11.69 (DK) and one on 9.5.92 (KO). Both were at Çöl Lake.

**Limosa limosa** (Black-tailed Godwit, Batak Çulluğu)

>30 at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT). This is the only record.

**Numenius arquata** (Curlew, Kervan Çulluğu)

Two at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi). This is the only record.

**Tringa erythropus** (Spotted Redshank, Benekli Kızılback)

Five on 28.3.92 and two on 5.4.92 (Süh). Both of the records are from Uyuz Lake.

**Tringa totanus\*** (Redshank, Kızılback)

Breeding resident. One pair during breeding behaviour at Yağlıören Pool (MOJ). Numbers during the breeding season are usually low; at Çöl Lake: one on 29.6.87 (Lu), three on 26.5.91, 30 on 8.6.91 (Süh), one on 31.5.91 (MK), three on 11.4.92, one on 9.5.92 and two on 11.4.92; at Uyuz Lake 10 on 6.7.91 and two on 2.5.92 (Süh); at Yağlıören Pool four on 11.7.91 (Süh) and three on 2.5.92 (Süh).

In winter: 20 on 17.11.69, 10 on 6.1.70 and four on 20.11.70 (DK) all at Çöl Lake.

**Tringa nebularia** (Greenshank, Yeşilback)

One at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi) and one at Uyuz Lake on 8.6.91 (KON).

**Tringa ochropus** (Green Sandpiper, Yeşil Düdükçün)

All records are from Uyuz Lake. One on 8.6.91 (KON), a flock of 40 on 6.7.91, one on 21.7.91 (Süh) and 32 on 28.3.92 (Süh).

**Tringa glareola** (Wood Sandpiper, Orman Düdükçünü)

Records are from all lakes between April and July. At Çöl Lake >8 on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and one each on 6.6.89 (HLSS) and 2.5.92 (KKi). At Uyuz Lake a flock of 50 on 21.7.91 (Süh), one on 2.5.92 (KKi), one on 19.6.93 (OG), nine on 3.7.93 and five on 24.7.93 (Süh). At Yağlıören Pool one both on 11.4.92 (Süh) and 2.5.92 (KKi).

**Actitis hypoleucos** (Common Sandpiper, Dere Düdükçünü)

One at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT), one at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh), 10 at Çöl Lake on 2.5.92 (KKi) and three at Uyuz Lake on 24.7.93 (Süh).

**Arenaria interpres** (Turnstone, Taşçeviren)

One at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (Kir) is the only record.

**Phalaropus lobatus** (Red-necked Phalarope, Kızılboyunlu Kumkuşu)

A flock of 98 on 6.6.89 (HLSS).

**Larus melanocephalus** (Mediterranean Gull, Akdeniz Martısı)

23 (many juveniles, but also 1st winter and 1st summer birds) at Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT).

**Larus ridibundus** (Black-headed Gull, Karabaş Martı)

Although there is no direct evidence, the Black-headed Gull may breed in the area due to regular observations during the breeding season and juveniles in mid-summer.

10 on 29.6.87 at Çöl Lake (Lu), four on 31.5.91 (MK), six adults and 16 juveniles at 6.7.91 at Uyuz Lake (Süh). In 1992 37 on 28.3 and two on 5.4 at Uyuz Lake, four on 11.4 at Yağlıören Pool (Süh) and seven on 2.5 at Çöl Lake (KKi). In 1993 two at Uyuz Lake and five at Çöl Lake on 2.6 (KKYO), two at Uyuz Lake on 19.6 (OG), 11 at Uyuz Lake on 3.7, one there and two at Çöl Lake on 23.7 (Süh).

**Gelochelidon nilotica** (Gull-billed Tern, Gülen Sumru)

Although there is no direct evidence, a few pairs of the Gull-billed Tern may breed in the area. The highest count was 30 birds comprising both adults and juveniles at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh). Two each on 6.6.89 (HLSS) and 18.6.90 (FN). In 1993, six at Uyuz and two at Çöl Lake on 2.6 (KKYO), four adults and two juveniles at Uyuz Lake on 3.7. (Süh), one at Uyuz Lake on 17.7 and three adults and two juveniles at Uyuz Lake on 24.7 (Süh).

**Sterna hirundo** (Common Tern, Sumru)

Two at Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (KKO) and one at Çöl Lake on 24.7.93 (Süh) are the only records.

**Chlidonias hybridus** (Whiskered Tern, Bıyıklı Sumru)

Summer visitor between April and July. At Çöl Lake >20 on 24.7.93 (Süh), 20 on 6.6.89 (HLSS) and >10 on 17.7.86 (WBMT); at Uyuz Lake 17 on 3.7.93 (Süh), 14 on 2.6.93 (KKYO), two on 19.6.93 (OG), two on 2.5.92 (KKO), two on 31.5.91 (MK), one on 24.7.93 (Süh), one on 11.4.92 (Süh) and one on 9.5.92 (KO); at Yağlıören Pool two on 11.7.91 (Süh).

***Chlidonias niger*** (Black Tern, Kara Sumru)

One at Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (KKO) and one there on 3.7.93 (Süh) are the only records.

***Chlidonias leucopterus*** (White-winged Black Tern, Akkanatlı Sumru)

Summer visitor with records between May and July. Maximum counts are 70 at Uyuz Lake on 9.5.92 (KO), 55 on 2.5.92 (KKO) and >50 at Uyuz Lake on 24.7.93 (Süh). Otherwise only small numbers.

***Pterocles orientalis*** (Black-bellied Sandgrouse, Bağırlak)

Apparently breeding in the surrounding area. Four on 6.4.86 (Hu), 14 on 17.7.86 (WBMT), two on 29.6.87 (Lu), two on 28.3.92 and two on 2.6.93 (Süh) at Çöl Lake and 26 on 2.5.92 at Yağlıören Pool (KKO). In winter 300 on 17.11.69 (DK), 12 on 20.11.70 (DK) and 49 on 22.11.71 (DKW).

***Columba livia*** (Rock Dove, Kaya Güvercini)

Common in the area.

***Cuculus canorus*** (Cuckoo, Guguk Kuşu)

One at Çöl Lake on 1.6.91 (Süh) is the only record.

***Athene noctua*** (Little Owl, Kukumav)

At Çöl Lake one on 22.1.88 (DB) and one on 8.6.91 (KON).

***Apus apus*** (Swift, Karasağan)

Common at Uyuz Lake and Kömisni village in summer with a maximum of 500 on 21.7.91. Nests have been seen at Kömişini village (Süh).

***Caprimulgus europaeus*** (Nighthawk, Çobanaldatan)

A dead individual was found near Çöl Lake on the village road on 3.7.93 (Süh).

***Merops apiaster*** (Bee-eater, Arıkuşu)

One around Çöl Lake on 2.5.92 (KKO).

***Coracias garrulus*** (Roller, Gökkuşgun)

Seen rarely on the road west of Çöl Lake.

***Upupa epops*** (Hoopoe, İbibik)

Two around Uyuz Lake on 24.7.93 (Süh).

***Melanocorypha calandra*** (Calandra Lark, Boğmaklı Toygar)

Common in the area with the highest count of more than 1000 at Çöl Lake on 26.10.91 (Süh). Many juveniles around Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT).

***Melanocorypha bimaculata*** (Bimaculated Lark, Küçük boğmaklı Toygar)

Two at Uyuz Lake on 1.6.91 (Süh).

***Calandrella brachydactyla*** (Short-toed Lark, Kısa parmaklı Toygar)

Regular but scarce in the area. Many individuals at Çöl Lake on 6.4.86 (Hu), three recorded at Çöl Lake on 7.4.91 (MO), four at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi), one at Çöl Lake on 1.6.91 (Süh), one at Çöl Lake on 8.6.91 (KON), one at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh), three at Çöl Lake on 11.4.92 (Süh), two at Yağlıören Pool on 19.6.92 (MOJ).

***Calandrella rufescens*** (Lesser Short-toed Lark, Çorak Toygar)

Breeding resident. Breeding was confirmed by family parties with fledged young on 3.7.93 and 24.7.93 (Süh). Also song flight of males and courtship display was observed in the area.

During the breeding season e.g. 'many' on 17.7.86 (WBMT), >100 on 2.5.92 (KKi), 100 on 9.5.92 (KO) and at least 100 on 2.6.93 (Süh) at Çöl Lake; at Uyuz Lake, one on 1.6.91 (Süh); at Yağlıören Pool two on 19.6.92 (MOJ). In winter e.g. 20 at Çöl Lake on 16.12.69 (DK).

***Galerida cristata*** (Crested Lark, Tepeli Toygar)

Common in the area.

***Alauda arvensis*** (Sky Lark, Tarla Kuşu)

Apparently breeding bird. Highest numbers at Çöl Lake 'many' on 6.4.86 (Hu) and >25 on 29.6.87 (Lu); at Yağlıören Pool 10 on 11.4.92 and a few on 2.5.92 (Süh). Winter visitor with >10 on 22.1.88 (DB) and 15 on 17.1.92 (DKle).

***Eremophila alpestris*** (Shore Lark, Kulaklı Toygar)

A flock of 60 at Uyuz Lake on 21.12.91 (KO) is the only record.



***Riparia riparia*** (Sand Martin, Kum Kirlangıcı)

A flock of at least 150 on 26.5.91 (KKi), 1000 on 31.5.91 (MK) and 170 on 1.6.91, >100 on 2.5.92 (KKO), 100 on 9.5.92 (Süh) and 100 on 2.6.93 (KKYO) at Uyuz Lake. 20 over the meadows north to Çöl Lake on 1.6.91 (Süh) and 50 at Yağlıören Pool on 17.7.93 (Süh).

***Hirundo rustica*** (Swallow, Kır Kirlangıcı)

Scarce visitor to both Çöl and Uyuz Lakes.

***Anthus campestris*** (Tawny Pipit, Kır İncirkuşu)

Apparently migrant and breeding bird. The records are: Two on 11.4.92 (Süh), one on 26.5.91 (Kir), one on 6.6.89 (HLSS) and three on 18.6.90 (FN) and at Çöl Lake.

***Anthus cervinus*** (Red-throated Pipit, Kızılgerdan İncirkuşu)

Passage migrant during spring migration. One at Yağlıören Pool on 11.4.92 (Süh), >100 at Çöl Lake on 2.5.92 (KKO). A week later, on 9.5.92, only two were recorded (Süh).

***Motacilla flava feldegg***\* (Yellow Wagtail, San Kuyruksallıyan)

It has been observed commonly at Çöl and Uyuz Lakes and at Yağlıören Pool. Breeding was confirmed at Uyuz Lake by the observations of juveniles on 6.7.91 and on 21.7.91 (Süh).

*Motacilla f. thunbergi* was observed around Uyuz Lake in small numbers.

***Motacilla alba*** (White Wagtail, Ak kuyruksallıyan)

A rare visitor to the area.

***Erithacus rubecula*** (Robin, Kızıl Gerdan)

One near Uyuz Lake on 26.10.91 (Süh) is the only record.

***Oenanthe isabellina***\* (Isabelline Wheatear, Boz Kuyrukkakan)

Summer visitor. 15 birds, including juveniles, around Çöl Lake on 17.7.86 (WBMT) and >50 birds including many juveniles there and 30 birds including juveniles around Yağlıören Pool on 24.7.93 (Süh). Fairly common in summer but rare in other seasons (Süh).

***Oenanthe oenanthe*** (Wheatear, Kuyrukkakan)

A scarce visitor to the area.

***Monticola saxatilis*** (Rock Thrush, Kaya Ardıcı)

One on 9.5.92 at Çöl Lake (Süh) is the only record.

***Acrocephalus melanopogon*** (Moustached Warbler, Bıyıklı Saz Bülbülü)

10 on 2.5.92 (KKO) and two on 9.5.92 (Süh) at Uyuz Lake.

***Acrocephalus sclirpaceus*** (Reed Warbler, Saz Bülbülü)

A rare visitor to the Uyuz Lake.

***Acrocephalus arundinaceus***\* (Great Reed Warbler, Büyük Saz Bülbülü)

Breeding species. Many young at Uyuz Lake on 21.7.91 (Süh) and again many young at Yağlıören Pool on 19.6.92 (MOJ). Fairly common at Uyuz Lake in spring and summer 1991, but only rarely seen at Uyuz Lake in spring 1992.

***Phylloscopus trochilus*** (Willow Warbler, Göçmen Söğüt Bülbülü)

A rare visitor to the area.

***Muscicapa striata*** (Spotted Flycatcher, Benekli Sinekkapan)

One at Uyuz Lake on 6.10.91 (Süh).

***Panurus biarmicus*** (Bearded Tit, Bıyıklı Baştankara)

A scarce visitor to Uyuz Lake.

***Lanius collurio*** (Red-backed Shrike, Kızılsırtlı Örümcekkuşu)

One female at Çöl Lake on 26.5.91 (KKi).

***Lanius minor*** (Lesser Grey Shrike, Karaalınlı Örümcekkuşu)

One at Uyuz Lake on 31.5.91 (MK) and a male at Çöl Lake on 26.5.92 (Süh).

***Pica pica*** (Magpie, Saksagan)

Rare visitor to the area. A juvenile near Gölbeğ village on 17.7.93 (Süh).

***Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*** (Chough, Kızılgagalı Dağ Kargası)

Two above Uyuz Lake on 2.5.92 (Kir) is the only record.

***Corvus monedula*** (Jackdaw, Küçük Karga)

Scarce spring and summer visitor.

***Corvus frugilegus*** (Rook, Ekin Kargası)

50 around Uyuz Lake on 3.7.93 (Süh), 30 on 11.7.91 and 14 on 2.5.91 at Çöl Lake (Süh) are the only records. They may suggest breeding somewhere in the surroundings of the study area. Breeding colonies are not known from this region (KASPAREK 1989), but birds are also regularly seen in the nesting season around Kulu, thus suggesting breeding somewhere.

***Corvus corone cornix*** (Hooded Crow, Leş Kargası)

Rare summer and winter visitor.

***Sturnus vulgaris*** (Starling, Sığırcık)

Rare near human settlement.

***Passer domesticus*** (Sparrow, Serçe)

Common around human settlements.

***Passer hispaniolensis*** (Spanish Sparrow, Söğüt Serçesi)

Four in Kömisini village on 19.6.93 (OG) is the only record.

***Carduelis cannabina*** (Linnet, Keten Kuşu)

>10 at Çöl Lake on 22.1.88 (DB) is the only record.

***Rhodopechys sanguinea*** (Crimson-winged Finch, Alamecek)

15 at Çöl Lake on 14.12.72 (DK) is the only record.

***Emberiza schoenioides*** (Reed Bunting, Batak Kirazkuşu)

Three at Uyuz Lake on 26.10.91 (Süh).

***Emberiza melanocephala*** (Black-headed Bunting, Karabaşlı Kirazkuşu)

Common summer visitor.

***Millaria calandra*** (Corn Bunting, Ekin Kirazkuşu)

Common summer visitor.

## Özet (Turkish summary)

### 1. Bölge ve coğrafik durumu

Çalışılan bölge, Ankara'nın yaklaşık 80 km. güneyinde ve Ankara-Konya Karayolu'nun batısında yer almaktadır. Bölgede sığ bir tuz gölü (Çöl Gölü) ve iki tatlısu gölü (Uyuz Gölü ve Yağlıören Bataklığı) bulunmaktadır. Bölge, Orta Anadolu'ya özgü tuz düzlükleri ve step özelliklerini göstermektedir.

Bu raporda Çöl Gölü olarak verilen yer, bazı ornitologların yayınlarında Gölbeğ Gölü olarak geçmektedir (örneğin, DIJKSEN & WOLF 1987, DIJKSEN & BLOMERT 1988). Ancak arazi çalışmamız sırasında, yerel halk tarafından bu göle, Çöl Gölü denildiği anlaşılmıştır (haritaya bak).

Teke ve Karaca Dağları arasındaki düzlükte yer alan Çöl Gölü'nün koordinatları 39°12'K - 32°45'D'dir. Uyuz Gölü, Kömişini Köyünden 2 km. uzaklıkta olup Çöl Gölü'nün güney-batısında yer almaktadır. Uyuz Gölü bozuk bir yolla Çöl Gölü'ne bağlantılıdır ve arada bir tepe olduğundan Uyuz Gölü, Çöl Gölü'nü görememektedir. Ayrıca Çöl Gölü'nün batısında bir başka sulak alan olan Yağlıören Bataklığı bulunmaktadır. Yerel halkın bir kısmı bu sulak alana "Yağlıören" demektedir.

### 2. Bölgenin Genel Tanımı

Yerel halk tarafından Altınçanak veya Kuruçöl olarak da isimlendirilen Çöl Gölü, 600 ha. büyüklüğünde ve 1050 m. yüksekliğinde sığ bir tuz gölüdür. Çöl Gölü'nü, güneyindeki ve doğusundaki pınarlar ile Karaca Dağ'dan gelen dereler beslemektedir. Gölün genişlemesi sonbahar ve kış yağışlarıyla sağlanmakta, yazın ise gölün bir kısmı kurumaktadır. Gölün derinliği 1 m.'yi geçmemektedir (bak TÇSV 1989). Çöl Gölü'nün çevresinde tuz düzlükleri bulunmaktadır. Bundan dolayı göl çevresinde bitki çeşitliliği azdır. Bölgede çoklukla tuzluluğa dayanıklı *Salicornia prostrata* türü bitki bulunmaktadır. Göl çevresinde yaygın olarak tarla sincabı, *Spermophilus xanthopyrmus*, gözlenmektedir.

1000 m. uzunluğunda ve 100-150 m. genişliğinde olan Uyuz Gölü'nün yüksekliği 1185 m.'dir. Gölde saz (*Phragmites*) ve seyrek olarak da *Schoenoplectus* türü bitki topluluğu bulunmaktadır. Bu bitki topluluklarının yüksekliği 1-4 m. arasında değişmektedir. Gölün dibi sert ve derinliği 1.6 m. yi geçmemektedir. Ayrıca göl 1974-76 yıllarında tamamen kurumuştur. Göl güneyindeki küçük bir pınarla beslenmektedir. Göl su seviyesi, sonbahar ve kış yağışlarıyla yükselmektedir ve çayırılık olan çok az bir kısmı dışında, tamamen tarım alanlarıyla çevrilidir. Gölde kurbağa türleri olarak, *Bufo viridis* ve *Rana ridibunda* kaydedilmiştir. Uzunluğu 700 m. genişliği 300 m. ve yüksekliği 1070 m. olan Yağlıören Bataklığı, çok küçük ve sığ bir tatlı su gölüdür. Gölde görülen saz topluluklarının bir kısmı da *Typha* cinsi sazlardan oluşmaktadır. Çeltik ve Gölbeğ Köylerinin batısında yer almaktadır.

### 3. Bölgenin Ornitolojik Önemi

Bölge, ilkbahar ve erken yaz dönemi boyunca üreyen ve konaklayan kuş türleri açısından büyük öneme sahiptir. Çalışma, iki ana ve bir yardımcı alana ayrılarak, toplam 19 kuş gözlem faaliyeti yapılarak gerçekleştirilmiştir. Çöl ve Uyuz Gölleri düzenli olarak çalışılmış, Yağlıören Bataklığı'na ise sadece bir kaç kez gidilmiştir. Bölge, Nisan'91 - Mayıs'92 tarihleri arasında düzenli olarak çalışılmış, ancak Haziran-Temmuz'93 dönemlerinde ise bölgeye bir kaç kez gidilmiştir. Bölgede toplam tür sayısı 133 olarak tespit edilmiştir.

1991-1992 Kış Dönemi boyunca, bölgedeki bütün göller donduğundan beklenen kış sayımı sonucu gerçekleşmemiştir. Ekim'91 de yapılan kış sayımlarında sadece bir kaç yağmuncun türü tespit edilmiştir. Daha sonra yağmuncunlar, göllerin tamamen donması ile Aralık'91 de bölgeyi terketmişlerdir. Bunun sonucunda çalışma, Mart'92 ye kadar yapılamamıştır.

Bölge ilkbahar ve sonbahar göçlerinde yağmuncunlar ve su kuşları için önemli konaklama alanıdır. Kışın; 14000 Sakarca Kazı *Anser albifrons*, Suna *Tadorna tadorna*, Angit *Tadorna ferruginea*, Çamuncun *Anas crecca*, Kil Kuyruk *Anas acuta*, Yeşilbaş *Anas platyrhynchos*, Kız Kuşu *Vanellus vanellus*, düdükçünler ve yağmuncunlar kaydedilmiştir. İlkbaharda ise; Kılıçgaga *Recurvirostra avocetta*, Uzun Bacak *Himantopus himantopus*, Bağırılak *Pterocles orientalis* bölgede kuluçkaya yatmaktadır (TÇSV 1989). Uyuz Gölü ve Yağlıören Bataklığı ile ilgili yayınlanmış her hangi bir yayına rastlanmamıştır.

Uyuz ve Çöl Gölleri, belirli su kuşları tarafından ilkbahar ve yaz göçleri boyunca beslenme ve üreme alanı olarak kullanılmaktadır. Bölgede üreyen önemli türler şunlardır; *Tachybaptus ruficollis* (10 çift), *Podiceps nigricollis* (en az 12 çift), *Anas platyrhynchos* (2 çift), *Aythya ferrina* (2 çift), *Aythya nyroca* (3 çift), *Falco naumanni* (11 çift), *Fulica atra* (en az 10 çift), *Himantopus himantopus* (en az 2 çift), *Charadrius alexandrinus* (en az 1 çift), *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* ve *Motacilla flava feldegg*. Ayrıca Uyuz Gölü'nde *Oxyura leucocephala* (5-10 çift) da üreme davranışı gözlenerek büyük olasılıkla üredikleri düşünülmektedir.

Sulak alanların küçük olması ve yazın bir kısmının kuruması, belirli ve az sayıda su kuşunun bölgeyi seçmesine neden olmaktadır. 91' Yaz ortalarında Çöl Gölü'nün büyük bir kısmının kurumasıyla bölgede bulunan çoğu su kuşunun alanı terkettiği gözlenmiştir. Sadece *Himantopus himantopus* ve *Charadrius alexandrinus* 1991 yaz döneminde bölgede kalmıştır. *H. himantopus*, *Tringa totanus*, ve *V. vanellus* gibi bazı su kuşlarının bölgeye yakınlığından dolayı Uyuz ve Yağlıören Göllerini kullandığı gözlemlerle ortaya çıkmıştır. *Phoenicopterus ruber* ve *Recurvirostra avocetta* ise yazın bölgeyi terketmektedir.

Çöl ve Uyuz Gölleri, ilkbahar göçü ve yaz döneminde bazı su kuşları tarafından beslenme, üreme ve konaklama alanı olarak kullanılmaktadır. Bu çalışmada bölgede gözlenen göçmen türler ise şunlardır; *Ciconia ciconia* (maksimum 471),

*Phoenicopterus ruber* (maksimum 5500), *Recurvirostra avocetta* (maksimum 131), *Philomachus pugnax* (maksimum 203), *Anthus cervinus* (maksimum > 100).

Dünyada nesli tehlike altında olan (IWRB 1990) ve bölgede muhtemelen üreyen Dikkuyruk, *Oxyura leucocephala* ve koloni halinde üreyen Küçük Kerkenez, *Falco naumanni* ile Avrupa'da sayılan çok azalmış Leylek, *Ciconia ciconia* ve Angıtın, *Tadorna ferruginea* bölgedeki varlığı bu bölgenin önemini vurgulamaktadır. Ayrıca dikkuyruğun 91'İlkbahar/yaz, 92'İlkbahar ve 93'Yaz döneminde Uyuz Gölü'nde gözlenmesi, bu türün ilkbahar ve yaz döneminde bölgeyi tercih ettiğini göstermektedir.

### 4. İnsan Etkinlikleri ve Bölgenin Koruma Statüsü

Tanım alanları ile çevrili olan bölgede, yöre insanı geçimini kuru tarımla sağlamaktadır. Ağırlıklı olarak bölgede buğday, arpa, nohut ve mercimek ve ayrıca az da olsa ayçiçeği, mısır ve kimyon ziraatleri yapılmaktadır. Diğer bir geçim kaynağı da hayvancılıktır.

Tüm bu sulak alanların ornitolojik açıdan en önemli sorunu kanunsuz avcılıktır. Yöre halkının belirttiği üzere, yöre halkı ve çevre illerden gelen avcılar bölgede yoğun ve usulsüz olarak avlanmaktadır. Çalışma boyunca bölgede av sezonu dışında avlanma gözlenmiştir. Bu durum, bölgede üreyen bazı su kuşlarının üreme başarısını azaltıcı bir rol oynamaktadır. Özellikle Uyuz Gölü'nde, Türkiye'de ve dünyada koruma altına alınmış Dikkuyruğun öldürülmesi üzücü ve düşündürücüdür.

Uyuz Gölü'nde avcılıktan başka, buradaki üreyen ve barınan kuş türlerini olumsuz yönde etkileyen bir olayda saz kesimidir. Başta Dikkuyruk olmak üzere bazı su kuşlarının üreme ve barınma başarısı tamamen bu sazlıklara bağlıdır. Zaten çok küçük bir sulak alan olan Uyuz Gölü'nde aynı oranda çok az sazlık alan bulunmaktadır. Köylüler sazları sadece evlerinin çatılarını örtmek amacıyla kesmektedir. Son yıllarda kiremit çatı kullanılmasına ve bundan dolayı saz kesiminin azalmasına rağmen bu durum bölgede bulunan kuşlar için olumsuz bir etkidir. Ayrıca yerde yuva yapan bazı kuş türlerinin yuvası yörede bulunan evcil hayvanlar tarafından bozulmaktadır.

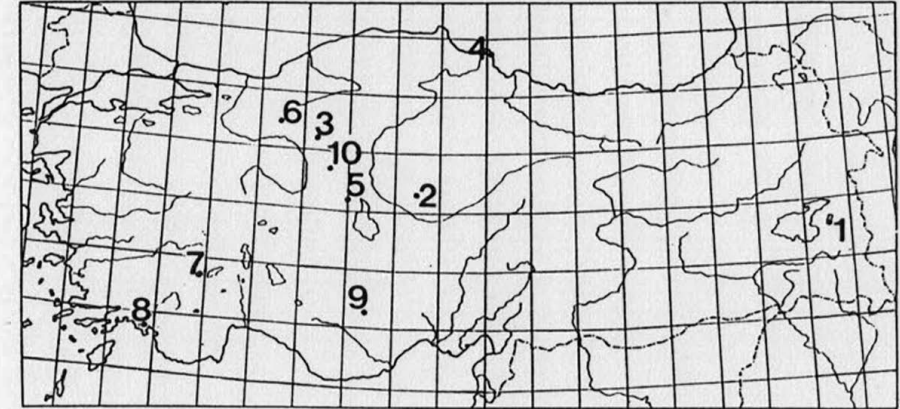
Çöl Gölü ve Yağlıören Bataklığı hiç bir koruma statüsü bulunmamaktadır. Uyuz Gölü ise; 1 Temmuz'92 tarihinde, Kültür Bakanlığı Konya Kültürel ve Doğal Varlıklar Koruma Kurulu tarafından, I.Derecede Doğal SİT Alanı olarak ilan edilmiştir.

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- 2 - Seyfe Gölü (published in January 1984)
- 3 - Kızılcahamam (published in June 1984)
- 4 - Kızılırmak Deltası (published in January 1985)
- 5 - Kulu Gölü (published in July 1987)
- 6 - Yeniçağa Gölü (published in November 1987)
- 7 - Acıgöl (published in May 1988)
- 8 - Köyceğiz - Dalyan (published in June 1989)
- 9 - Hotamış Sazlığı (published in March 1993)
- 10 - Çöl Gölü (published in December 1993)
- 11 - Uludağ (in preparation)