

Varkasaig July and August 2023. Audiomoth recordings

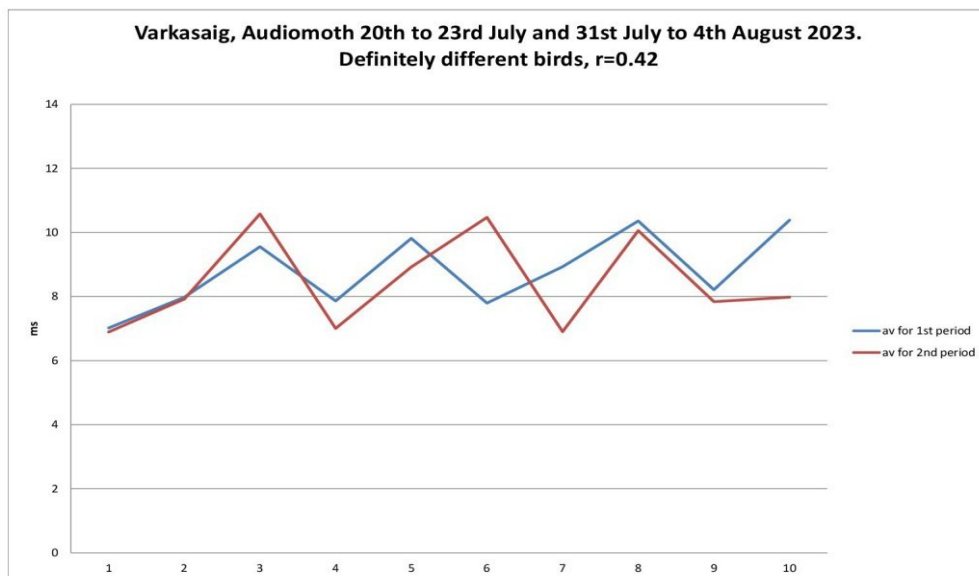
9/11/2023

The Audiomoth was put out at Varkasaig and recorded a calling Crex between 20th and 23rd July. Its memory was emptied and batteries replaced. It was put out again and recorded calling from 31st July to 4th August.

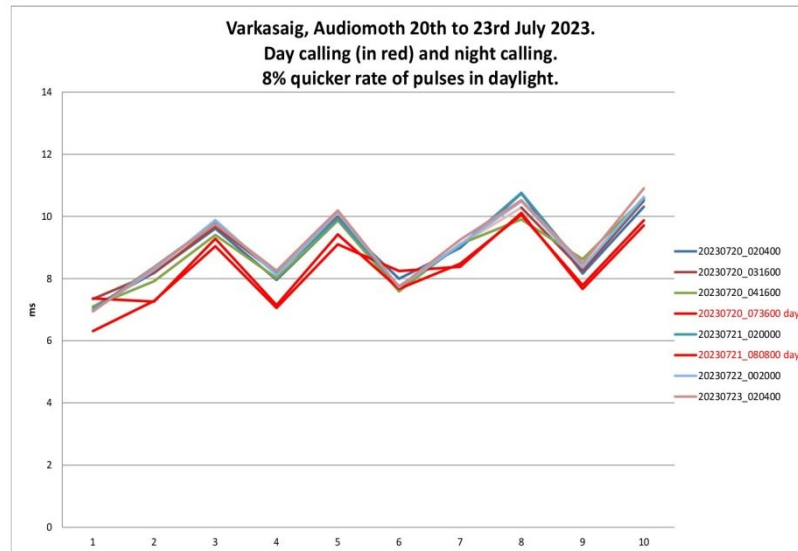
I was able to use Arbimon to detect the times the bird was calling and then analyse the PPDs using Raven Lite and Excel.

Initially I assumed it was all going to have been one bird and so I took a look at the files to see if the PPD pattern remained the same for all the time it was there. I was remembering the Ardmore bird with two call patterns from a previous year. The two patterns roughly coincided with day or night calling.

Initial analysis showed that there were actually two PPD patterns and therefore two birds corresponding to the two separate periods of recording.

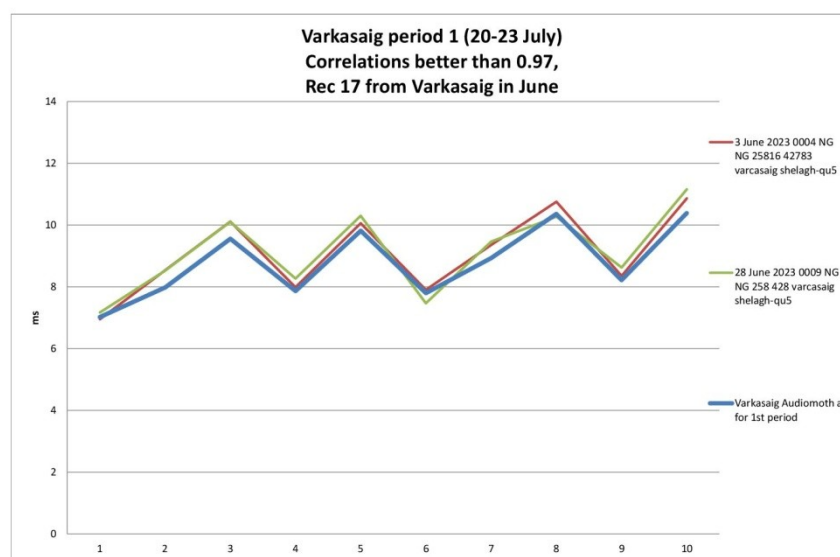


The first period had some day and night recordings.

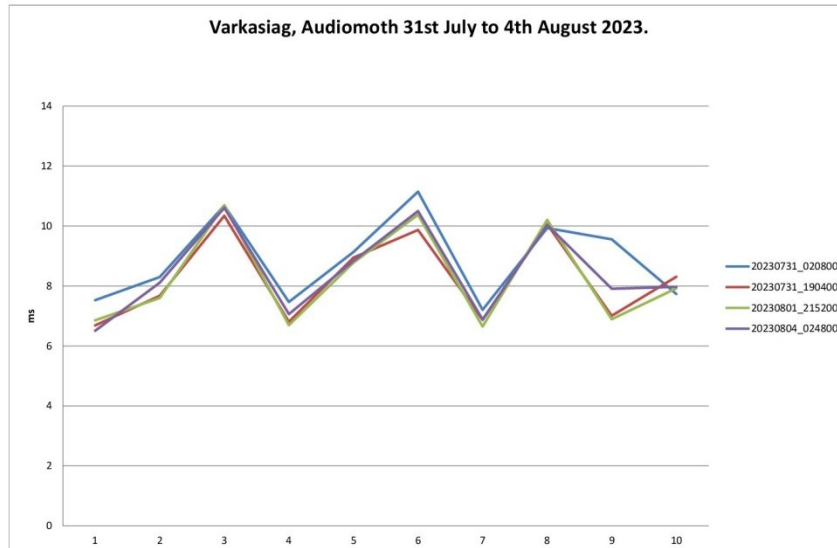


These were very similar but the day ones were shorter intervals, so the PPD line is lower on the chart. This means a faster pulse rate (and possibly a faster call) by about 8%.

There was no apparent variation in the pattern and they matched the bird calling in June that was recorded by phone, Rec 17, as I had initially suspected for both periods.



The second period 31st July to 4th August is definitely a different bird. Perhaps it was not in the same place as the first one, I don't have locations for the two periods other than near Keith's shed.



It matches well with Glen Conon (12th July) Rec 22, which we lost track of earlier, or two possible birds from Canna on 25th May, or Waternish, Pairc mhor (17th-19th May) Rec 10, which was also lost.

If it is not one these birds it is bird 19 for 2023 with the 19th different PPD pattern. I don't think there is a way to confirm this, but it is a definite location of a different bird to the one first detected at Varkasaig.

