

Avian Remains from Early Chalcolithic Settlement in Burgas (SE Bulgaria)

Zlatozar Boev

National Museum of Natural History, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, 1, Tsar Osvoboditel Blvd., 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria;
E-mail: boev@nmnh.bas.bg, boevzlatozar@yahoo.com

Abstract: Seven bird bone findings (MNI=5) of 3 orders, 3 families and 3 species at least have been described: *Anser erythropus*, *Anser* sp. /cf. *A. anser*, *Ciconia ciconia*, cf. *Ciconia* sp., and *Fulica atra*. The site is the 2nd locality of extinct subspecies *Fulica atra pontica*. It provides the first confirmation of former existence of that subspecies in the large Burgas gluf in the Chalcolithic. It is suggested that game-fowling, mainly of water birds, played an important role in the life of inhabitants of the settlement. Complete review of Bulgarian fossil/subfossil record of all established species is represented.

Key words: Early Neolithic birds, Holocene avian remains, Bulgaria, Archaeozoology, *Fulica atra pontica*