



MADRID-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme

Report for the EURING General Assembly 2013 in Helsinki (Finland)

1. Organisation

The Ringing Scheme was financed by the Ministry of Environment in the period 1983-2011, and it has been managed by SEO/BirdLife (Spanish partner of BirdLife International), by means of variable length contracts. In 2011 the contract finished and SEO/BirdLife sustained the Office opened during 6 months, without any economical support.

The Office was closed during 2012 and early 2013. In April 2013 the Spanish Ministry of Environment transferred the coordination of the Scheme to SEO/BirdLife (which was the first manager of the Scheme in Spain from 1950 to 1983). Finally, in May 2013 the Office resumed its activity without any economical support.

The Office has updated the ringing and recovery data from January of 2012. Information from 2012 is being updated and it is expect to complete it at the end of 2013.

2. Staff

The staff is actually composed by 2 full-time assistants plus the head of the Office: Juan Carlos del Moral.

3. Ringers

During 2013, the Ringing Office has licensed 612 ringers, most of them included in ringing groups. Training (by means of courses and field experience), evaluation (by means of theoretical and practical exams) and subsequent control of ringers are delegated onto four scientific organisations (SEO/BirdLife -612 ringers-, Institut Català d'Ornitologia* -170 ringers-, Estación Biológica de Doñana* -90 ringers-, and Grup Balear d'Ornitologia* -44 ringers-, *2011 data). During this year ringers belonging to SEO/BirdLife or to the Wildlife rehabilitation Centres are the only ones who renewed their ringing licenses that allow ring with Madrid-ICONA rings.

Year	Number of ringers
2008	939
2009	971
2010	1071
2011	1228
2012	624*
2013	612*

*SEO/BirdLife ringers

4. Rings

Madrid-ICONA rings are supplied free of cost to licensed ringers. Currently, there are 17 different ring types (size and material). The Swedish company Mekaniskä manufacture the rings. Rings supported by the Ministry of Environment.

5. Ringing projects

No ringing projects are being co-ordinated by the Spanish Ringing Office, since this task falls on the four organisations mentioned above. Constant Effort Sites programmes and other migration and species specific projects are currently being developed by those organisations.

6. Ringings & Recoveries

The number of ringings is over 400,000 per year in the last years.

Year	Ringings	Recoveries
2008	389.483	24.451
2009	421.082	28.481
2010	397.935	30.079
2011	361.732	31.182
2012*	141.034	8.214
Grand total		

* The 2012 ringing data are currently being uploaded.

7. Computerising

The 2012 and 2013 recoveries are being computerised: included ESI, ESM, ESE and foreign rings. Since 2006 only computerised ringing data are accepted.

8. New ringing application

There is a new ringing software www.anillamientoseo.org, which allows consulting the ICONA-Ministerio de Medio Ambiente (ESI) Data Base on line. Currently there are around 8 million ringing data and 350.000 recoveries. At this time the website is in Spanish, but there will be an English version soon. It allows consulting different tables, graphs and maps; and the search of the information can be made for specific species, ringed or recovered birds, age, sex, regions, etc. Maybe it is the first *online* application of these characteristics in Europe.

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