

MADRID-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme

Report for the EURING General Meeting - Chemnitz 2003

1. Situation

The Ringing Office (Oficina de Especies Migratorias –OEM–) is part of the Ministry of Environment. Since 1990 it is being managed by SEO/BirdLife, by means of variable length contracts (one to four years) with the Ministry. Next March expires the current contract.

2. Staff

No permanent positions. Sad loss of Dr. Fran Hernández and the move of Ángel Gómez-Manzanaque to a permanent position in the Ministry have brought about recent changes in the staff. It is conformed, at present, by Jesús Pinilla (co-ordinator), Óscar Frías (officer) and Rubén Moreno-Opo (assistant). The administrative head is Dr. Cosme Morillo.

3. Ringers

During 2003, the OEM has licensed 762 ringers, most of which are members of ringing groups. Training (by means of courses and field experience), evaluation (by means of exams) and subsequent control of ringers is delegated onto four organisations (SEO/BirdLife, Institut Català d'Ornitologia, Estación Biológica de Doñana and Grup Balear d'Ornitologia).

4. Rings

Rings are supplied free of cost to licensed ringers. Currently, there are 23 different ring types (size and material), though 6 of them (old and of low quality) are essentially used for rehabilitated birds. The Swedish company Mekasnika manufactures the rings.

5. Ringing projects

No ringing projects are being co-ordinated by the OEM, since this task is also delegated to the four organisations mentioned. Constant Effort Sites programmes and other migration and species specific projects are currently being developed.

6. Ringings & Recoveries

Year	Ringed	Found	Grand Totals	
			Ringed	Found
2001	306,849	3,237	3,501,816	29,918
2002	351,410	4,208	3,853,226	34,126

7. Computerising

All recoveries (over 100,000, so far) are fully computerised. During 2002, the computerisation of ringing data has been started by six out-workers and, currently, more than 350,000 data have been recorded.

Address:
Oficina de Especies Migratorias
Dirección General de Conservación de la Naturaleza
Ministerio de Medio Ambiente
Gran Vía de San Francisco, 4
E-28005 Madrid

Telf: 91 596 49 84
Fax. 91 596 48 09
oem@mma.es