

MADRID-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme

Report for the EURING General Meeting -Fertóújlak 2007

1. Organisation

The Madrid-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme (Oficina de Especies Migratorias –OEM–) is part of the Spanish Ministry of Environment. The Ringing Scheme is being financed by the Ministry of Environment. Since 1990 it is being managed by SEO/BirdLife, by means of variable length contracts, and actually the contract has been extended until 2008.

2. Staff

The staff is conformed, at present, by 3 full-time positions: 1 Academic (Óscar Frías, co-ordinator), 1 Computer specialist (Ana Isabel Serradilla) and 1 non-Academic (Emilio Escudero). The administrative head at the Ministry of Environment is Dr. Ricardo Gómez-Calmaestra.

3. Ringers

During 2005, the OEM has licensed 781 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 are delegated onto four organisations (SEO/BirdLife, Institut Català d'Ornitologia, Estación Biológica de Doñana, and Grup Balear d'Ornitologia).

4. Rings

Madrid-ICONA 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 *Mekäsnikä* 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
2005	381,364	1,640	5,016,134	59,041

7. Computerising

All recoveries (over 130,000, included ESM, ESE and foreign rings) are fully computerised. During 2005, the computerisation of ringing data has been continued and, currently, more than 1,750,000 data have been recorded.

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