

## MADRID-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme

### Report for the EURING General Assembly 2009 in Anversa degli Abruzzi (Italy)

#### 1. Organisation

The Madrid-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme (ESI) is part of the Spanish Ministry of Environment (Oficina de Especies Migratorias – OEM). The Ringing Scheme is being financed by the Ministry of Environment. Since 1990 it is being managed by SEO/BirdLife (Spanish partner of BirdLife International), by means of variable length contracts, and actually the contract has been extended until June 2011.

#### 2. Staff

The staff is conformed, at present, by 3 full-time positions: one academic as a Coordinator, one computer specialist as a Database administrator and one non-Academic as an Assistant. The administrative head at the Ministry of Environment is Dr. Ricardo Gómez-Calmaestra.

#### 3. Ringers

During 2009, the OEM has licensed 971 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 scientific organisations (SEO/BirdLife, Institut Català d'Ornitologia, Estación Biológica de Doñana, and Grup Balear d'Ornitologia). The number of ringers has increased in the last years.

Year	Number of ringers
2004	794
2005	781
2006	848
2007	910
2008	939
2009	971

#### 4. Rings

Madrid-ICONA rings are supplied free of cost to licensed ringers. Currently, there are 27 different ring types (size and material), though 8 of them (old and of low quality) are essentially used for rehabilitated birds. The Swedish company Mekaniskä and the British company Porzana Ltd. manufacture 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 by those organisations. The Ministry of Environment is funding part of the Constant Effort Sites programme since 2006.

## 6. Ringings & Recoveries

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

<b>Year</b>	<b>Ringings</b>	<b>Recoveries</b>
2004	394,982	3,689
2005	381,364	1,640
2006	373,549	11,424
2007	429,151	43,315
2008	389,483	24,451
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>6,218,710</b>	<b>138,229</b>

## 7. Computerising

All recoveries are fully computerised: more than over 138,000 data, included ESI, ESM, ESE and foreign rings. During lasts years the computerisation of ringing data has been continued and now more than 3,307,000 data have been recorded. Between 2009 and 2010 the remaining ringing data on paper are being computerised (over 3,000,000 data). Since 2006 only computerised ringing data are accepted.

## 8. Publications

An annual report of the activities of the Madrid-ICONA ringing scheme is published yearly, and delivered among the ringers.

## 9. Address

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