

# EURING GENERAL MEETING

Anversa, Italy, September 2009.

## National report from Norway

### 1. Organisation

The Norwegian Ringing Scheme is, since 1987, run by Stavanger Museum, Department of Zoology. Ringers are licensed by the Directorate for Nature Management, based on recommendations from the Ringing Scheme entered into a ringers database.

### 2. Annual fee

We have no annual fees.

### 3. Staff

We have one academic (Alf Tore Mjøs) working approximately 80% and one non-academic (Morten Stokke) working full-time. In addition, Vidar Bakken has worked part-time for almost 10 years now, analyzing data for the The Norwegian Bird Ringing Atlas and developing the software RingAccess. His work is financed by the Directorate for Nature Management.

### 4. Ringers

Approximately 530 ringers are organized in appr. 30 ornithological stations and ringing groups. Most of our ringers are amateurs. All our ringers have to pass a basic ringing course.

### 5. Ringing activity

236.000 birds were ringed in 2007, and more than 15700 controls and recoveries were entered into the database. The corresponding figures from 2008 were 250.000 and 16.000. Several new colour ringing projects have started, run by the seabird monitoring programme SEAPOP. Existing colour ringing projects on gulls have expanded. Colour ringing of Barnacle Geese and Pink-footed Geese at Svalbard continued by a Dutch research group, while large colour ringing projects on Greylag Geese and Cormorant also had a considerable activity.

### 6. Rings

Rings are produced by I.Ö. Mekaniska in Sweden. We now have 26 different types of rings, and one more ordered but still not produced. Special triangular rings for divers and auks have been added during the last couple of years, as well as rings custom made for Tengmalm's and Pygmy owls.

### 7. Ringing data

During 2006-2009, Vidar Bakken has developed a new software called "RingAccess". It is now mandatory for ringers to computerize their data themselves, and supply these as datafiles ready for import. All the ringing with Stavanger rings of the sizes 1-7 (the larger sizes) have been computerised. The ringing of the old scheme NOU have also been computerised, and so have most NOO-rings and also all NOA-rings of the sizes 1-7. All the Norwegian recoveries have been computerised. Almost all our recoveries have now been transferred to the EURING

data base. We have also computerised all foreign ringed birds found in Norway - as far as we know!

Our main focus now is to include also data from large colour ringing projects in our database. Quite a few projects, sometimes run by foreign scientists, have reported ringing data but not resightings to the ringing scheme. Our aim is to include all resightings from these projects. A webpage for reporting resightings of colour ringed birds was set up in 2008 (<http://www.ringmerking.no/cr/default.asp>), the database of this website "speaks" with RingAccess creating files ready for import.

#### 8. CES

CES Norway was established in 2008. 4 sites took part in 2008, increasing to 6 in 2009. Our aim is to have at least 20 sites, but limited staff at the Ringing Scheme has made it difficult to run this project with as much backup as one should in the initial phase of such a project. Limited knowledge of data sampling methods has proved to be a challenge at some sites, courses in data sampling methods will probably be necessary to get this project running in a satisfying way.

#### 9. Atlas-project

Finished. Volume 1 in 2003 and volume 2 in 2006.

#### 10. Economy

Apart from NOK. 320.000 from the Directorate for Nature Management, of which most is used on rings, the Norwegian Ringing Scheme is financed by Stavanger Museum.

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