

MADRID-ICONA Bird Ringing Scheme

Report for the EURING General Assembly 2011 in Malta

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.

2. Staff

The staff is conformed, at present, by 3 full-time positions: one PhD 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 2011, the OEM has licensed 1, 228 ringers, 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
2006	848
2007	910
2008	939
2009	971
2010	1,071
2011	1,228

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 and the British company Porzana Ltd. manufactured 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 finances part of the Constant Effort Sites programme since 2006. Nowadays, new applications based on ringing data are being implemented by OEM, such as an early warning

system to detect exotic and invasive bird species in Spain or indicators related to bird population trends.

6. Ringings & Recoveries

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

Year	Ringings	Recoveries
2006	373,549	11,424
2007	429,151	43,315
2008	389,483	24,451
2009	421,082	28,481
2010	397,935	30,079
Grand total	7,090,740	313,907

7. Computerising

All data are fully computerised.

8. Publications

An annual report of the activities of the Madrid-ICONA ringing scheme is published yearly.

http://www.marm.es/es/biodiversidad/temas/oficina-de-especies-migratorias/informes_anuales.aspx

9. Address

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