



Steering Committee Meeting – IBM – 20 April 2021 remote 09:00 – 11:00 - Minutes

Present

Théo Mazet (ASTERS)
Enrico Bassi (Stelvio NP)
Bruno Veillet (LPO)
Toni Wegscheider (LBV)
David Schuhwerk (LBV)
Kristina Bauch (Hohe Tauern NP)
Daniel Hegglin (SPB)
Hennig Werth (ZNAIp)
José Tavarez (VCF)
Silvia Alberti (Alpi Cozie)
Fabiano Sartirana (Alpi Marittime)
Enrique Lopez Avila (Junta de Andalusia)
Chistian Couloumy (Envergues Alpines)
Franziska Lörcher (VCF, IBM)
Mirco Lauper (IBM)

Absent

Cathy Ribot (Envergues Alpines)
Ramona Viterbi (Gran Paradiso NP)
Ruben Moreno-Opo Díaz-Meco (Maestrazgo)
Anthony Andarelli (Corsica)
Jean-François Seguin (Corsica)
Jerome Cavailhes (Vanoise NP)
Julien Traversier (Vatours en Baronnies)
Marie Canut (Mercantour NP)
Benoit Betton (Vercors)

- General short information:
 - New contact person Nationalpark Hohe Tauern: Kristina Bauch
 - New contact person Mercantour Nationalpark: Marie Canut
 - Annual Bearded Vulture meeting:
 - depending on the Covid-Situation
 - Place: Die (close to Vercors in France), 26.-28. November 2021
 - Gypconnect-Seminar Start 24.-28. November 2021



- IBM SC: 29. November 2021
- Update current breeding and release season
 - Wild population
 - reproduction ongoing in the Alps in 52 territories (5.4.2021) – see monthly update
 - Corsica
 - clutch in Bonifatu but breeding failure, in the Popolasco territory a hatch is expected soon
 - Planned releases
 - First 3 birds to be released 24. April in Grands Causses
 - Latest hatch expected for 10 May, if the chick will hatch, release early August.
 - Breeding results not ideal, but very few birds will remain for the captive breeding this year. This will have to be compensated next year with more birds to be integrated into the EEP- The current distribution allows for the following releases (provisional):
 - at least 4 Grands Causse
 - 3 Maestrazgo
 - 2 Vercors
 - 2 Corsica
 - 2 Bavaria
 - 2 Switzerland
 - At least 7 Andalusia
- Lead in Italy (input Enrico Bassi)
 - Decision to ban lead ammunition in Sondrio Province (ITA) is in discussion
 - Stelvio NP is working hard on this since long, but should not oppose too much for this petition → do not link Enrico's name with this petition
 - Sondrio = strategic area
 - many scientific studies on saturnism in this area (sensitised area)
 - high hunter density
 - success of lead ban increases changes to enlarge the law for rest of Lombardia
 - VCF agreed to support this action
 - no competition with project LIFEAlpsLeadFree
 - LPO, Alpi Cozie already agreed for support
 - support from IBM and IBM parnters
 - E-Mail with more information from **ENRICO** will be sent around
 - national and international support could make the change
 - Each IBM partner needs to give the agreement that the IBM logo will be included in the campaign. Only if all IBM partners agree, the IBM logo will be used.



- Each IBM partner can additionally support the campaign
- Feedback from all IBM partners by Friday 23. April 2021 if they agree that the IBM network and logo will be used to promote the campaign.
- The campaign will be on change.org to collect signatures starting early May

- Information from the database
 - Importance of dynamic data
 - to enter all observations from your regular nest visits
 - 1) general information (date, observer etc)
 - 2) behaviour of territorial birds
 - 3) nest used for breeding in the respective breeding season
 - use dynamic data for alle observations of territorial birds (instead of entries in the observation table). In exceptional cases (for documentation of individual plumage, observations far outside the territory, ...), “normal” observations can be used.
 - The aim is to keep the number of these observations from known breeding territories during breeding season the exception and to focus on important events. In addition, sensitive nest locations are better protected because no coordinates have to be entered for dynamic data and are assigned the coordinates of the nest/territory.
 - Use of potential territories and how and when to use them
 - for pairs where breeding is unlikely (e.g. one adult only, no nest known, birds too young, etc)
 - refers to each breeding season
 - as soon as there is breeding (clutch), it’s not a potential breeding unit any more → should be unchecked then
 - Please use this from the breeding season 2020/2021 onwards and check your current entries. All previous breeding events will be treated as regular breeding units / territories.
 - Areas where places / villages are not up to date and new information should be added to the database
 - only few partners face problem with missing locations
 - report any problems you face with missing communities
 - places list will be updated in future

- Research update
 - Flight height and collision risk with wind energy infrastructure – manuscript in prep by Sergio Vignali for Switzerland
 - risk maps available for Switzerland only due to restriction in habitat data outside Switzerland
 - Habitat suitability based on nest sites from GypConnect team
 - nest site availability → IBM data request to be checked by Franziska



- Andalusia will be contacted for data sharing
- Turnover in pairs where chicks are marked compared with non-intervention territories (lead by Asters)
 - investigate influence of marking in nest
 - IBM-partners agreed to share their data
 - Nest sites, identification parents and genetics to be shared with Asters (Mirco and Franziska to do)
- Detection capacity of Bearded Vultures to avoid obstacles, notably power and ski lift lines, during flight by analysing GPS data (input Asters)
 - Search for suitable person for data-evaluation ongoing
 - Data request will follow, so far no opposition
- New Interreg Project Allgäu / Tirol with LBV as lead partner and Naturpärke Tirol as partner
 - Increase monitoring in both regions
 - Increase work with public with contact to observers and hunters
- Monitoring of pairs – how to continue
 - Future of pair monitoring with the increased number of pairs? Effort increases with new pairs and funding decreases.
 - minimal standard so far: visits to verify egg lay, hatch, fledge and for collection of genetic material
 - This already reduced monitoring of each territory should continue until population is self-sustainable on all levels and areas (demographic and genetically)
 - How to sustain the intensive monitoring?
 - Volunteers → valuable support, especially in remote areas
 - local referents (decided by individual IBM-partners)
 - New IBM partners → inform the IBM-coordination about new potential partners to cover current gaps
 - “Name Sponsorships” for wild-hatched birds to fund monitoring (sponsor gets an excursion, background story from birds etc., depending on your decision)
 - IBM agrees to continue with minimal standard monitoring
 - Potential territories map (including GPS and observation data will be update twice a year)
 - only accessible with IBM-login, will not be distributed by IBM and should also be kept confidential by partners and e.g. screenshots of certain areas can be shared with local volunteers (for the IBM partners to decide)



- Costs GPS tags for wild-hatched birds
 - Reduced funding for most partners and therefore it is important to have support as in the last year from the VCF.
 - funds for few tags for 2021/2022 from MAVA
 - Clear information at least 1 year prior to the tagging how many tags available from the VCF
 - E.g. the VCF included tags in the LIFE AlpsLeadFree and therefore if this is successful, 5 tags per year (2022-2026) available
 - VCF will soon inform about nr of tags funded for 2022
 - Every small amount helps, also for half a GPS tag or data transfer costs etc.
 - tagging (nest climbing) and national permits have to be organised and costs assumed by local partner)
 - GPS-tag, VHF, harness and WildlifeMonitor fee organised and paid by VCF

- Ornitho update:
 - France: Contact via ornitho.ch (Hans Schmid) to ornitho.fr
 - Contract with Austrian ornitho finalised
 - data exchange should be feasible in 2021
 - Germany already informally agreed, contact to be established by Franziska
 - No news from Italy, Franziska to talk to Roberto Lardelly again
 - Technical connection ornitho and IBM foreseen for at least Austria and Germany in 2021

- Varia
 - Conventions and invoices for 2021 will be shared with all partners soon
 - Please do not forget to add additional funds for the IBM in your projects, we are underfinanced for 2021 and expect a deficit with no additional funding!
 - Lead analysis for carcasses (golden eagle, griffon, Bearded Vulture and Cinereous Vultures) can be performed on the cost of the Stelvio NP until Sep/Okt 2021. Contact Enrico.
 - Mortalities: 2 dead Bearded Vultures found in Engadin (CHE) in same avalanche (not joint accident) adult and immature (unringed), genetic and necropsy analysis ongoing.
 - Next Meeting in September 2021 before the IOD.