

Conclusions

Conclusions: perspective from the administrations (MAGRAMA, Juntas)

- Paralell requests from different projects, they want to help all but are left in a difficult position
- Need a coordinated and planned request for reintroduction projects
- Open to collaborate, happy to help
- Spain can provide on average 30 birds per year?

Conclusions: Needs from France

- Finish current projects is the absolute priority
- 24 birds to Verdon, 10 to Baronnies
- Ideally within 3 years = 10/12 birds per year for 3 years.
- Verdon – maybe continue with the releases after the three years, until they reach 5-6 pairs = a few more birds beyond the 3 years.
- No solid plans for other French projects at the moment

Conclusions: Needs from Bomort-Alynia

- Future needs: 10-15 birds year for the next 3 years for the ensemble of the two release sites
- This means 30-45 birds for the next three years

Conclusions: Future projects

- Bulgaria – reintroduction - 6 birds per site per year x 2 sites x 5 years, using the French methodology = 12 birds per year
- Bulgaria – dependent on funding, plans to apply this year, introductions can happen only from 2016 onwards
- Spain – Iberian system – last breeding 50s, good habitat, institutional support. 6-10 vultures released from 2015 or 2016?
- Spain : Possibility of using nest extraction method on large colonies with seemingly density-dependent low productivity? Objective: 10 chicks maximum in large colonies (+50 pairs. Trial 2014 - 2 or 3 chicks?)

Overall

- 20-30 birds year for the two ongoing projects for the next 3 years (2014-2015-2016)
- This matches the suggested availability!
- So simple: all birds available 2014-2016 will go to these two projects, half/half
- How to decide and coordinate? Coordination committee will oversee and facilitate the process.
- After 2016... New projects: two main priorities: 1) start the restoring of the balkan population – Bulgaria 1st priority (capacity, research, knowledge, etc); Croatia second priority?; 2) enhance western europe connectivity, Iberian system project
- IUCN reintroduction criteria – projects should be evaluated by committee
- NO PAYMENT for birds, rich organisations will not have an advantage!
- If at all possible, avoid nest extractive methodology, as it seems that there are more than available birds from rehabilitation centers. It is much cheaper, and simpler! No PR potential problems.

Coordination committee

- Includes all organisations with DIRECT reintroduction projects
- But should be lead by neutral, preferably international organisation – links with international species action plans, european overview
- Led by VCF, with GREFA, LPO, Vautours en Baronnie (2014-2016), others if projects officially start. Information flow within the committee regarding availability of birds,
- Coordinates with MAGRAMA and Juntas, discusses requests, agrees common position. Shares information on available birds + Writes and communicates to Juntas and MAGRAMA not individually but as common platform
- 2014-2015: objective is to secure 30 birds year from Spain to two ongoing reintroduction projects (Catalunya & France), with a 50-50 split

Conclusions: EEP

- Two females in Bulgaria, need a male
- 4 pairs in GREFA
- 1 pair + 1 female in AMUS
- AMUS coordinates black vulture rehabilitation in Extremadura
- FWFF – have aviaries. Want 5-9 pairs until 2017 (under current LIFE). Please revise!!!
- If partners help in getting unreleaseable males to EEP, maybe Zoos can provide 1-2 young per year (specially females)
- Do we really need captive breeding centers, given that 30 birds are available per year? NO...

Black vulture: Other issues

- Poisoning in France may increase due to wolf conflicts – something to watch...
- Enhance links between LPO and Andalucia in poisoning issues
- Light feeding stations very interesting solution
- Feasibility study for black vulture reintroduction for Kresna already prepared – should be circulated
- International species action plan - outdated
- Black vulture conference
- Feeding station in front of black vulture cage to avoid competition with griffons
- Wing tags vs leg rings... For the vulture conference
- National species action plan for Bulgaria
- Feasibility plan for black vultures reintroduction in Bulgaria-
- Extracting young from nests in colonies with density-dependent low productivity for hacking? Scientific opinion: no impact. But possible PR problems.