

THIRD ANNUAL CONFERENCE
of the Eagle Conservation Alliance (ECA)



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Aínsa, Aragón, Spain. October 7-10 2009

GENERAL PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



Tuesday 6 October

Arrival to Ainsa

- Registration desk opened all through the day at the Conference Hotel to receive and provide material to participants.
- **From 8:00 p.m.** Optional ice-breaking dinner.



Wednesday October 7

Day 1

• **9:00-9:20** Welcome and introduction (by the local organizing Institutions: FCQ – Aragón Government and the ECA President). 20 min.

• **9:20-12:50** **SESSION #1**

EAGLES AT RISK: STATUS AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.

Chairs: Mike MacGrady and Jemima Parry Jones.

Introductory lecture:

• **9:20-9:50** "An overview of the conservation status of eagles of the world." Lloyd Kiff, Peregrine Fund, US.

Communications:

• **9:50-10:05** "Eagle Conservation and Research by The Peregrine Fund: Madagascar Serpent Eagle, Madagascar Fish Eagle, African Fish Eagle, Harpy Eagle, and others", Richard Watson, Peregrine Fund. Boise, USA.

• **10:05-10:20** "Steller's sea eagles (*Haliaeetus pelagicus*) in Magadan District, Russia over the past 18 years" Mike McGrady, Natural research Ltd, UK, Irina Utekhina, Magadan State Nature Reserve, Russia; Eugene Potapov, Bryn Athyn College, U.S; Dave Rimlinger, San Diego Zoo, US.

• **10:20-10:35** "Status and conservation of the Great Phillipine eagle". Dennis Salvador, Phillipine Eagle Foundation, Mindanao, The Phillipines.

• **10:35-10:50** "Eagles at risk in Brazil: status and conservation initiatives", Eduardo Carvalho and Carlos Carvalho, SOS Falconiformes, Brazil.

Tea Break, (ad lib, tea will be available from 10:50-11:30)

• **11:30-11:55** "Status and conservation of eagles in Nepal" Anand Chaudhary, Bird Conservation Nepal, Nepal .

• **11:55-12:10** "Vulnerable eagle species and conservation actions in Venezuela", Pilar Alexander Blanco, Ministerio del Ambiente, Venezuela.

• **12:10-12:25** "A brief review of threatened eagle species in Japan with special reference to Golden eagle conservation". Toshiki Ozawa, Society for Research of Golden eagles, Japan .

• **12:50** **INTRODUCTORY BLESSING** (by Representatives of Ancestral Eagle and Condor Cultures).

• **13:00-14:00** **OFFICIAL INAUGURATION**

WELCOME, Excelentísimo D. Alfredo Boné, Minister of Environment of Aragón.

- D. José Miguel Cheliz, Ainsa Major, Ainsa, Aragón, Spain.
- D. Óscar Díez, President Fundación para la Conservación del Quebrantahuesos (FCQ).
- D. Manuel Alcántara, Head Wildlife Service (DGA)
- D. Alejandro Sánchez, Director SEO-Birdlife Spain.
- D. Juan Carlos del Olmo, WWF Spain.
- D. Frank Carlos Camacho, President Eagle Conservation Alliance (ECA).

• **14:00-15:30** . Lunch.

Wednesday October 7

Day 1

• 15:30-17:00 SESSION #1

EAGLES AT RISK: STATUS AND CONSERVATION PROGRAMS. (Continuation)

Chairs: Mike McGrady and Ruth Tingay.

- 15:30-15:45 "The Spanish Imperial eagle: An update of the status and results from conservation actions", Javier Oria, National Species Coordinator, Spain.
- 15:45-16:00 "Conservation status of the Legge´s Hawk eagle (*Nisaetus kelaarti*)", Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Norway.
- 16:00-16:15 "Bonelli´s eagle conservation program in Aragón", Manuel Alcántara, DGA, Aragón, Spain.
- 16:15-16:30 "Current status of forest eagles in northern Argentina: nobody cares about them?" Miguel Saggese, Western University of Health Sciences, CA, US.
- 16:30-17:00 Break to chat and share.

• 17:00-18:00 SESSION #2

JOINING FORCES AROUND EAGLE CONSERVATION

Chairs: David Wildt and Dave Rimlinger.

Introductory lecture

- 17:00-17:20 The Eagle Conservation Alliance (ECA): origin, mission, priority goals, achievements and conservation actions. Juan M. Blanco, Aquila foundation and CERI, Spain.

Communications:

- 17:20-17:35 "Adding resources to conservation tasks through successful Administration-Foundation partnerships" Gerardo Baguena, Fundación para la conservación del Quebrantahuesos, FCQ, Spain.
- 17:35-17:55 "The actual and potential role of NGOs in avian conservation". Alejandro Sánchez, SEO-BirdlifeSpain.

- 18:00-19:00 ROUND TABLE I: Identifying species and conservation priorities, together with most efficient problem solving strategies. How can ECA help?

Participants: Bernd Meyburg, Miguel Ferrer, David Wildt, Frank Camacho, Alejandro Sánchez, Juan Carlos del Olmo, Rick Watson, Lloyd Kiff, Dave Rimlinger, Jenima Parry-Jones, Ruth Tingay,
Moderator: Mike McGrady

- 19:30-20:30 Dinner.

- 20:30-21:30 GUEST LECTURE: "Living and understanding Sea eagles" Herr Claus Fenzloff, Germany.

Thursday October 8

Day 2

•9:00-14:30 SESSION #3

EAGLE POPULATION MONITORING AND FIELD RESEARCH.

Chairs: Todd Kadner and Miguel Ferrer.

Introductory lecture

•9:00-9:35 "An update of the potential of satellite telemetry applied to eagle conservation" Bernd Meyburg, WWGBP, Germany.

Communications.

•9:35-9:50 "High frequency GSM telemetry for tracking eagles." Todd Katzner, National Aviary, US .

•9:50-10:05 "Nest cameras as a tool for habitat and population management of the Bonelli´s eagle", Cristina Sellarés, Naturalistes en acció, Spain.

•10:05-10:20 "Recovery program and preliminary results of satellite tracking of Spanish imperial eagles in Castilla-La Mancha", Antonio Aranda Moreno, JCCM, Spain.

•10:20-10:35 "Nest site and tree characteristics of a small population of Bonelli´s eagle in Anhra Pradesh, India" Pranay Rao Juvvadi, Raptor Conservation Foundation, India.

•10:35-10:50 "Satellite tracking of adult Eastern imperial eagles wintering in Arabia" Bernd Meyburg, WWGBP, Germany.

Tea Break, (ad lib, tea will be available from 10:50-11:30 a.m.)

•11:30-11:45 "Ecology and conservation of the Grey-headed Fish eagle in Cambodia", Ruth Tingay, Natural Research Ltd, UK.

•11:45-12:00 "Nestling management and satellite tracking of juvenile Lesser spotted eagles" Bernd Meyburg, WWGBP, Germany.

•12:00-12:15 "Flight behavior of migrating golden eagles in the eastern USA: insights from high-frequency telemetry." Todd Katzner, National Aviary, US .

•12:15-12:30 "Golden eagles in Germany-Research, protection and education in the Natura 2000 area, Allgäuer Hochalpen", Henning Werth, Landesbund für Vogelschutz in Bayern e.V.

•12:30-12:45 "Crowned eagle: Reproductive biology, diet, behavior and nesting habitat in Argentina", S. A. Alvarado, R. Pereyra-Lobos, E. Martíúnez, E. Santander, L. Muñoz, P. Ramírez, S. Mayorga, D. Fernández, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile, Chile.

•12:45-13:00 "Preliminary results of the study of interactions between larger eagles in Castilla-La Mancha", Juan Pablo Castaño, Castilla-La Mancha University, Spain.

Thursday October 8

Day 2

• 13:00-14:10 SESSION #4

EAGLE GENETICS

Chair: Ursula Höfle

- 13:00-13:15 "Eagle and vulture phylogenetics: a review" Michael Wink, University of Heidelberg, Germany.
- 13:15-13:30 "Aguila Mora (*Geranetus melanoleucos*) Buteo or eagle?". Sergio A. Alvarado, R.A. Moreno, R.A. Figueroa, P. Valladares, Faculty of Medicine, Chile University, Chile.
- 13:30-14:00 Discussion of a proposal to hold a Workshop on Golden eagle Conservation (1:30-2:00) Markus Jais, Germany

• 14:00-15:30 Lunch

• 15:30-16:45 SESSION #5

REINTRODUCTION PROGRAMS.

Chairs: Mike MacGrady and Miguel Ferrer.

Introductory lecture

- 15:30-16:05 "Criteria and crucial aspects for successful eagle reintroduction programs" Miguel Ferrer, Fundación Migres, Spain.

Communications.

- 16:05-16:25 "Reintroduction of sea eagles in Scotland: an update". Claire Smith, UK.
- 16:25-16:45 "Challenges for releasing Phillipine eagles in Mindanao" Dennis Salvador, Phillipine Eagle Foundation, The Phillipines.

• 16:45-18:35 SESSION #6

REHABILITATION, MEDICINE AND TOXICOLOGY

Chairs: Ursula Höfle and Miguel Saggese.

Introductory lecture

- 16:45-17:15 "Lead poisoning affecting White-tailed Sea Eagles in Germany: update and conservation challenge", Oliver Krone, Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Berlin, Germany.

Communications.

- 17:15-17:30 "Recent advances in the biomedical knowledge of endangered argentine Crowned Eagle" Miguel Saggese, Western University of Health Sciences, CA, US.
- 17:30-17:45 "Beak and talon growing rate in selected Mediterranean eagle species: results from a year round study", Juan M Blanco, Lauren McGough, Julia Rodriguez-Ramos and Pilar Cervera CERI-JCCM, Aquila Foundation, Spain.
- 17:45-18:05 "Assessment of potential physiological consequences of lead poisoning by MRI and Pathology: Can these inform population level impacts?" Olga Nicolás and Patrick Redig, The Raptor Center, USA.
- 18:05-18:20 "A 12 years retrospective study of electrocution in larger Mediterranean eagles in Castilla-La Mancha", Julia Rodriguez-Ramos, Ursula Höfle and Juan M Blanco, CERI-JCCM, Spain.
- 18:20-18:35 "Results from rescue and rehabilitation of neotropical eagles in Venezuela" Pilar Alexander Blanco, Ministerio del Ambiente, Venezuela.

Thursday October 8

Day 2

• **18:35-19:30** ROUND TABLE II: Can we tend better bridges between research, technology and eagle conservation?: how ECA could help?
Participants: Miguel Ferrer, Michael Wink, Sergio Alvarado, Miguel Saggese, Bernd Meyburg, Michael Wink, Ruth Tingay, Oliver Krone, Ruth Muñiz, Ursula Höfle, Luis Jacome, Jemima Parry-Jones, , Todd Kaztner, Rick Watson, David Rimlinger.
Moderator: Todd Kaztner

• **20:00-21:00** Dinner:

Presentation of the Book: "On the trail of the Bearded Vulture" FCQ.



Friday October 9

Day 3

• **9:00-10:50** SESSION #7
BROTHERING WINGS: LEARNING FROM VULTURE
CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.
Chair: Jemima Parry-Jones and Mike Wallace.

• **9:00-9:05** Brief Introduction: Luis Jacome, Gerardo Báguena and Juan M Blanco.

Introductory lecture

• **9:05-9:35** "An update of the California Condor Reintroduction Program: lessons to share". Mike Wallace, California Condor Recovery Program, San Diego Zoo.

Communications:

• **9:35-9:50** "The role of community managed vulture restaurants in the conservation of critically endangered vultures in South Asia", Anand Chaudhary, Bird Conservation Nepal.

• **9:50-10:05** "In situ and ex situ conservation of the Andean Condor: working methodology" Vanesa Astore and Luis Jacome, Buenos Aires Zoo and Bioandina Foundation, Argentina.

• **10:05-10:20** "25 years of study and conservation of the Bearded vulture in the Central Pyrenees, Aragón", Gerardo Baguena, Fundación para la Conservación del Quebrantahuesos FCQ, Spain.

• **10:20-10:35** "Update and challenges of vulture conservation in India", Chris Bowden, ICBP and Vibhu Prakash, Bombay Natural History Society, India.

• **10:35-10:50** "Keys for successful captive propagation of the California Condor" Michael Mace, Zoological Society of San Diego, US.

• **10:50-11:05** "Observations of parental care in two pairs of Andean Condor in Central Chile". Víctor Escobar and Sergio Alvarado, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile, Chile.

Friday October 9

Day 3

Tea Break, (ad lib, tea will be available from 11:05-11:30 p.m.)

• **11:30-13:30** SESSION #8
TOWARDS AN INTEGRATIVE HOLISTIC WAY OF
UNDERSTANDING AND MAKING SUSTAINABLE RAPTOR
CONSERVATION.

Chairs: William Voelker and Juan M Blanco.

Introducing lecture.

• **11:30-12:00** "Results of the Andean Condor Conservation Program: Integrating community, tradition, science, technology and Spirit." Luis Jacome, Buenos Aires Zoo and Fundación Bioandina.

Communications.

• **12:00-12:15** "Indigenous community vision of the Harpy eagle conservation program in the Ali territory". Anibal Criollo, Cofán community, Ecuador.

• **12:15-12:30** "Strategies to approach society to emblematic species: the Andean condor and the Harpy eagle", Irina Muñoz, SIMBIOE, Ecuador.

• **12:30-12:45** "Traditional shepherd Community based program for the reintroduction of the Bearded vulture in Picos de Europa" Gerardo Baguena, Fundación para la Conservación del Quebrantahuesos FCQ, Spain.

• **12:45-13:00** "Implementing Community based feather banks: feathers can help!". William Voelker, SIA, Comanche Nation.

• **13:00-13:15** "The Harpy eagle as a participated tool to improve management and conservation of biodiversity", Ruth Muñiz, SIMBIOE, Ecuador.

• **13:30-14:00** Break to chat and share + video.

• **14:00-15:30** Lunch.

• **15:30-19:00** SESSION #9
ADVANCES IN MANAGEMENT OF EX SITU POPULATIONS AND
REPRODUCTIVE TECHNOLOGIES

Chairs: Andrew Knowless-Brown and Jemima Parry-Jones.

Introductory lecture.

• **15:30-16:05** "What makes an eagle to breed" Claus Fentzloff, Burg Guttenheim, Germany.

Communications.

• **16:05-16:20** "Responsibility of public facilities to partake of sustainable use of raptors" Jemima Parry-Jones, International Centre for Birds of Prey, UK.

• **16:20-16:35** "Preliminary data on the use of telemetry eggs to improve eagle artificial incubation protocols", Andrew Knowless-Brown, Juan M Blanco, Gerardo Baguena and William Voelker.

• **16:35-16:50** "Avian sperm cryopreservation: shifting the paradigm from empirical approaches to physiological solutions", July Long, Animal Biosciences and Biotechnology Laboratory, Animal and Natural Resources Institute, BARC, USDA, US.

• **16:50-17:05** "Investigating changes of the saprophytic flora in the saliva of female eagles immediately after hatching" Juan M Blanco, Andrew Knowless-Brown, William Voelker, Vanesa Arias and Annie Donoghue.

• **17:05-17:20** "Some results of ex-situ and in-situ projects on conservation of the Steller's Sea Eagle". Vladimir Masterov, Steller's Sea eagle Working Group, Russia.

• **17:20-17:35** "Investigating embryonic mortality of infectious and persistent contaminants ethiology" Juan M Blanco, CERI-Aquila Foundation, Spain.

• **17:35-17:50** "An update of the Captive breeding of Golden eagles in Mexico: goals and perspectives". Frank C Camacho, Africam Safari, Mexico.

Friday October 9

Day 3

• **18:05-19:00** ROUND TABLE III: Implementing actions to improve the sustainable use of ex situ raptor populations and a better link between in situ and ex situ conservation initiatives: the potential role of ECA.

Participants: Claus Fenzlof, Andrew Knowless-Brown, July Long, Frank Camacho, Annie Donoghue, Susie Kasielke, Luis Jacome, Vanesa Astore, Miguel Saggese, Pilar Alexander Blanco, William Voelker, Michael Mace, Jenima-Parry Jones and David Rimlinger. Moderator: Ursula Höfle and Juan M Blanco.

• **19:00-19:10** Closing remarks: David Wildt

• **19:10-19:30** CLOSING CEREMONY

• **21:00-23:00** EVENING DEPARTURE BANQUET AND AUCTION



Saturday October 10

Day 4

Post workshop optional

TOUR TO WATCH BEARDED VULTURES AND OTHER RAPTORS WHILE VISITING THE AMAZING ORDESA NATIONAL PARK.

