



## INTERNATIONAL BEARDED VULTURE MONITORING

8.07.2010

**Dear mr. Max Muster!**

Dear friends of the bearded vulture!  
spring has passed and the chicks have grown speedily both in captivity and in the wild. This year a number of new breeding couples could be identified in the Alps: 1 in Austria, 2 in Italy and 1 in France. This is the best sign of a steadily growing Alpine population. This newsletter shall provide some of the latest news exchanged within the vulture community of Europe. Have fun reading.

Sincere regards  
**Richard Zink**

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## Release 2010

### **Spain "Andalusia" 22.5. & 30.6.2010**

The first release in Andalusia took place in Centenares on 22nd of May. A male (**Tranco**) coming from breeding stations in Vallcalent and a female (**Quiteria**) coming from Haringsee (RFZ) could be set free. The second release took place in Castril on 30th of June. Three individuals (sex: 2,1), coming from the Guadalentín breeding centre were presented in the village and released at a new release site. In that site it is possible to monitor the chicks (**Hortelano, Huéscar & Blimunda**) with a video camera. Some nice videoclips have already been recorded and will be very useful e.g. to better understand the behavior during the hacking back period.

Find out where the Spanish birds are: [gypaetos.org](http://gypaetos.org)  
Read more about the [release in Spain](#) (Spanish).

Meanwhile the two chicks released in May have fledged and become more and more self sufficient these days. (Info by José Eugenio Gutiérrez Ureña)

### **Italy "Alpi Marittime" 23.5.2010**

For the southern Alps bird number 36 & 37 have been released on Sunday 23rd of May. Thanks to the weather more than 300 visitors came to participate.

The two birds were called **Spelugue** (BG615, from RFZ), a name of a famous avenue of the Monaco's Principate (support of Prince Albert Fondation), and **Elena** (BG613 from Liberec), to remember the special collaboration between a unique person and the park.

Until now the birds are doing fine, Elena seems more active and curious and explored all the nest immediately.

**Paolo Peila**, the adult bird settled in Gesso valley, came to "welcome" the two chicks. Soon it came closer and started to "adopt" Elena. Finally the resident adult started to feed the released chick - a behavior never observed before in the history of BV-reintroduction. Meanwhile both birds have fledged and are doing well.

**Special thanks to the Zoo of Liberec for their great help to bring the birds!**

### **France "Vercors" 6.6.2010**



For the first time 3 bearded vultures have been released in the **Parc naturel régional du Vercors** in France this year.

The release took place on 6th of June. The two females **Cordouane** (Zoo Ostrava) and **Lousa** (breeding centre Haute-Savoie) took their first flight on 2nd of July. **Stephan**, a male coming from the RFZ in Haringsee followed on 3rd of July. So the sky above the beautiful mountains of Vercors has been enriched by another vulture species.

During the release time the three birds could be observed in their release cave via [Web Cam](#) (see picture).

### **Austria "Hohe Tauern" 12.6.2010**





On 12th of June about 700 people celebrated this years release in the Eagle Lounge at about 2.500m. Afterwards the two chicks were brought to the new release cavity in the Dorfer valley (see picture) followed by about 140 people. Unfortunately the good weather changed and it started to rain heavily in the afternoon.

On 8th of July **Tschadin** (BV 629) has fledged. The second bird **Figol** (BV 628) is still in the release cave.

### Switzerland "Calfeisen"

[German news and pictures of the release](#)

3 new birds released in Switzerland:

**Ingenius**

**Sardona**

**Kira**

Please be aware that the marking pattern of Sardona have changed. They will be corrected in the IBM data base soon.

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### Marking Pattern 2010

Please download the latest version of the [marking pattern 2010 for the Alps](#) including the names of the birds released.

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### Alpine Monitoring

#### The Story of Maseta continues...

In the last IBM news Maseta travel over the Adriatic Sea and down to Tuscany (I) where the bird stood for about half a year.

**The question was would Maseta return again to the Alps in spring time?**

Yes she did! The Austrian monitoring team was surprised when it received satellite data giving exactly the position of where Maseta used to stay before she went to the south months before. According to the satellite telemetry Maseta stood in Tuscany at least until 4th of April 2010. However, on 11th of April the bird was back in the Hohe Tauern National Park and stood there ever since (last position 4.7.2010).



picture taken on 30th of April 2010

#### Preliminary results of the Reproduction 2009/2010 in the Alps incubating couples:

2 Austria  
8 France  
5 Italy  
3-4 Switzerland

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18-19 total

#### hatched chicks:

1 Austria  
6 France  
2 Italy (data missing)  
3 Switzerland

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**12 total**

Unfortunately there have been some losses during rearing phase which is why less than 10 chicks will fledge finally.

#### Mercantour

F.Breton  
16.06.2010  
The area of **Oronaye** has been frequented by **Vaulabelle** and **Condamine** lately. Condamine was seen together with an ~5-6year subadult (see picture).



21-26.5.2010

The breeding failure of the second(?) couple in Mercantour has been verified. The couple is still present and sleeps together in the closed surrounding of the nest. The reason for the failure remains unknown.



### Hohe Tauern



#### First breeding success in Austria!

In the long history of Austrian releases the year 2010 will be something special. This year a chick has been raised for the first time.

A second couple started to breed but failed after incubation period. The remains found in the nest indicate that the egg was infertile.

Read more about the monitoring in Austria (in German) in the 29th [Bartgeier News](#).

picture J.Laber

### News from Ecrins

Read more about the vultures in the Ecrins National Parc and visit the site of the parc [here](#).

### Stelvio National Park

In total 3 couples and a trio present. At least 2 couples and the trio started to breed. However, incubation failed in the trio maybe due to long intervals of uncovered eggs between change over of birds at the nest.

An adult, wild born bird has been found dead in spring 2010. Its origin shall be explained after the genetic analyses carried out the Dr. Hefti in Switzerland.

### Stelvio II: re-identification of CIC (born 1993!)





© D.Jenny

RETIA 31.7.2009

In February a picture of an adult was taken close to Livigno (I). Local specialists such as Enrico Bassi and David Jenny-Mettler compared the picture with previous images of adults in the same region. The bird turned out to be **CIC**, a male that is a resident breeder in Stelvio NP since an whole decade.

#### **Aosta**

In the **Aosta region** this year two(!) couples have started with incubation. While one pair stopped the breeding during incubation period, in the other pair a chick hatched. Unfortunately the chick died and in the end of April the nest was abandoned.

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## Mischellaneous

### **Griffon Vulture conflict in France**

[French News](#)

### **More Poision and other news from Africa**

[VULPRO RLWC News](#)

### **Black Vulture Project in the Pyrenees**

Boumort National Reserve has been the incomparable setting of the birth of the first black vultures chicken Pyrenees. Only some year after the first reintroduction in Catalonia the project is heading for a fruitful future.

Read more at the Spanish reintroduction and about the sad loss of black vulture **Inici** on 2nd of June [here](#) of the Spanish project.

### **Postdoctoral Research Position**

A 2-year postdoctoral research position has been created with funding from the US Department of Energy to collect and model high-resolution spatial data of threatened avian species such as the golden eagle in regions of high potential wind development. Find more information about the job [here](#).

### **News 55 of the network "Casseur d**

Please find a presentation of the new Interreg program between Spain, France and Andorra and the first results of the monitoring in 2010 [here](#). (Info Martine Razin)

### **Polygamie in Egyptian Vultures - some notes...**

- 1) "Note sur un cas de polyandrie chez le Vautour percnoptère" Alauda 55 (1) 1987 de Perennou, Filly et Cantournet
- 2) Tella J.L 1993; Polyandrous trios in a population of Egyptian Vultures (Neophron percnopterus) Journal of Raptor Research 27 119-120.
- 3) Pers.Comm. M. Razin: The Egyptian vulture can nest in trios. We have followed a trio in the Basque country for more than 10 year. Two years ago one member vanished and a couple remained.

### **European Action Plan for the Egyptian Vulture**



[Download here!](#)

### **Bearded vulture in Germany**

On the 28th of May an immature BV was seen close to Hausen im Tal in Baden-Württemberg. In the same area another bird had been seen in a previous year.

### **Bearded vultures in the Facebook**

If you want to be in touch with the monitoring team following the couple of Peisey Nancroix in the Vanoise National Park (F) you may join their site on facebook at: "[Les gypaètes barbus de Peisey-Nancroix](#)". A [video](#) of this years chick ""PRIMEVERT"" on 25th of June 2010 can be viewed.

### **Change of territory name in French Alps**

The name of the territory **Haute-Ubaye** has been changed into **Source de l'Ubaye** in the IBM data base. This is because new territorial birds have established near by.

### **Vulture Report of Verdon (F)**

Please find the latest report on vulture conservation for the area of Verdon [here](#).

### **Stop illigal use of poison!**

EAZA approved the VCF project "Stop Poison - measures for the conservation of Black vulture and Imperial eagle in Europe" in the framework of the huge [Carnivore Campaign](#). Please sign the petition against the use of poison and select the point **Poison** and **Signature Action** on that web site.

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## Outlook

### Alpine Observation Days



Last year the Alpine observation days ([Report 2009](#)) took place between 10th and 18th of October with the main focus during the weekend of 17/18.10.2009.

This year the Alpine observation days have been planned for the period between 9th and 17th of October 2010.

To specify the focal observation period (only one day!) according to your availability you are invited to tell us the **your favourite day**.

Let's cross fingers for convenient weather conditions in October!

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If you want to cancel this newsletter, please click [here](#).

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