NEWSLETTER





Photo: X-ray with gunshot wounds

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SHOT RED KITE WAS RELEASED BACK INTO THE WILD

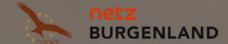


On 6th January, probably a wintering red kite, was found with severe gunshot wounds by agents of the Nature Protection Service of the Portuguese National Republic Guard (SEPNA-GNR) at a hunting ground. The red kite was quickly brought to the CARAS - Centro de Acolhimento e Recuperação de Animais Silvestres (Center for the Reception and Recovery of Wild Animals in Évora).

After the examination at this recovery center, the cause of admission was confirmed through X-rays: gunshot wounds. The X-rays clearly showed the pellets lodged in the red kite's body on the day of admission. Sadly, this cause of admission to wildlife hospitals is quite common in the case of birds of prey.

Luckily the red kite fully recovered and was released on March 11th after nearly two months of rehabilitation. Thanks to the collaboration of AMUS Acción por el Mundo Salvaje the red kite has been equipped with a GPS transmitter, which will allow us a better understanding of their habitat use, the threats they face, and the causes of mortality in case of death.

All this information proves to be a valuable tool to mitigate threats endangering the future of this species and to develop targeted conservation actions that help improve the status of these raptor populations.





First steps have been already taken by our project partner Netz Burgenland GmbH. With the help of the telemetry data of tagged red kites we selected most relevant sections of power lines and now, in cooperation with our project partner, Netz Burgenland GmbH, the preparations for the underground cabling have begun.

This activity is beneficial not only for the red kite but for many other bird species. After the first phase of the preparation, the second phase is already ongoing. Together with employees from PORR AG, new cables are put underground.

In a few weeks, they will continue with the last phase, when the pylons and overhead cables will be removed.

UNDERGROUND CABLING WITHIN THE LIFE **EUROKITE PROJECT**





Photo:

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NETWORKING TO RESCUE THE RED KITE



Our project partner AMUS had recently a visit from Dr. Imad Cherkaoui, Professor at Ibn Tofail University (Kenitra, Morocco), President of the NGO Nature Solutions, and an important conservationist in Morocco.

The purpose of the visit was to firsthand learn about the actions that AMUS is carrying out within the LIFE EUROKITE project, especially those related to the reinforcement of the red kite population in the southwest of the Iberian Peninsula, as well as habitat improvements and threat minimization also linked to this project. The aim is to, as much as possible, try to replicate some of these actions in Morocco, where the red kite population is practically extinct.

In this brief but productive visit, accompanied by a representative from the Directorate General for Sustainability of the Government of Extremadura, an associated beneficiary of the LIFE EUROKITE project, Dr. Cherkaoui was able to visit the acclimatization and release facilities for red kites of the project, the supplementary feeding stations managed by AMUS in the municipalities of Oliva de la Frontera and Valencia del Mombuey, and the facilities of the AMUS Hospital in Villafranca.

Such international collaborations are truly necessary because red kites do not recognize borders, and their conservation should be approached in the same way.

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Partnerships for a bird-friendly energy transition

15 – 17 October 2024 Brussels

















Wingspan is a biennial conference for nature scientists, conservationists. renewables developers and operators, electricity and government and authority representatives to share strategies and solutions for a nature-positive energy transition. Wingspan fosters dialogue and solution-oriented learning by recent scientific showcasing knowledge, state-of-the-art conservation strategies, nature-inclusive technological innovations.

Renewables Grid Initiative, TB Raab, and Elia warmly invite you to Brussels on 15 – 17 October for "Wingspan 2024 - Partnerships for a Bird-friendly energy transition." This event will be the first in a series of biennial conferences for conservationists. scientists. arid operators. renewable government developers, and representatives to share strategies and solutions for a nature-positive energy transition. Topics designed for an international audience will cover recent scientific knowledge, state-of-the-art conservation strategies, and nature-inclusive technological innovations.

WINGSPAN CONFERENCE

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON THE WINGSPAN 2024
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LIFE EUROKITE PROJECT LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048 MARCH & APRIL 2024

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Coordinating beneficiary



The TB Raab GmbH was commissioned to implement the LIFE EUROKITE project after a pan-European public tender.





Project partner (Associated Beneficiary)













Consejería para laTransición Ecológica y Sostenibilidad





















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