

Objectives

Action

Results

To improve knowledge on the factors affecting habitat recovery in Alto Campoo

Technical studies to improve knowledge on the Alto Campoo environment

- Development of the following documents:
- "Hydrological Study of surface runoff for the LIFE+Econnect project" by AC Projects
 - "Soil erosion modelling studies in the Alto Campoo cirque and recommendations for the monitoring and evaluation of the LIFE+Econnect project" by IH Cantabria.
 - Habitat and soil mapping in the Alto Campoo ski resort, by Ecoestudios.

To strengthen the grey partridge population at the eastern end of its Cantabrian range

Opening of clearings in favourable areas for the species, through selective clearing in scrubland areas to encourage the development of a heath-pasture mosaic

Opening of clearings in the scrubland, in favourable areas for the species, with a total surface area of 41,100 m²

A significant increase in the breeding population which rose from 1.14 pairs/100 ha in spring 2014 to 3.17 pairs/100 ha in spring 2017 in the two SPAs within the project

Marking of fences that are dangerous for the species, to prevent collision-related deaths of individuals

Marking of 1,500 m of fence along the watershed between the Hijar and Nansa valleys

Planting of shrubs that are beneficial for the species

Planting of 4,399 holly trees and 2,187 shrubs of the genera *Genista sp.* and *Erica sp.* in the ski resort area

To ensure a quality habitat for the hen harrier

Opening of clearings in favourable areas for the species, through selective clearing in scrubland areas to encourage the development of a heath-pasture mosaic

Shrubland clearings totalling 41,100 m² have been created in favourable areas for the species

There has been an increase in the number of breeding pairs in the two SPAs in the project. One pair in 2014 in contrast to three in 2017.

Marking of fences that are dangerous for the species, to prevent collision-related deaths of individuals

Marking of 1,500 m of fence along the watershed between the Hijar and Nansa valleys

To improve the quality of natural habitats in the Alto Campoo zone

Creation of a Plant Production Unit where plants can be grown from seed and specimens collected in the scope of work, for later use in the restoration

Collection of autochthonous seed

Production of 1,870 turf sods

Nursery production of 7,850 specimens of trees and shrubs of various species

Implementation of measures to curb erosive processes and regenerate soil

Installation of 120 m of biorolls

Installation of 2 retaining walls comprising living frames

Installation of 500 m² of organic blankets

Installation of 1,000 m² of geogrids

Organic mulch laid over 48,403 m² of degraded land

Restoration of heathland and grassland by hydroseeding in altered areas

10,000 m² of land sown annually.

Laying of 1,870 turf sods

Placement of 1,500 m of electric fences in restoration and eroded areas

Peat bog protection against livestock trampling through dissuasive fences

Protection of 6 peat bog areas, with a total protected surface area of 6,375 m²

Tree planting

Planting of 6,227 individuals of the following species: birch (3%), holly (58%), yew (0.50%), broom (12%), wild rose (1.5%), willow (25%)

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To encourage the involvement of the economic sectors that carry out their activity in Alto Campoo in the conservation of natural habitats and wildlife

Design of habitat management tools that make the conservation of biodiversity compatible with the maintenance of economic activities

Development of a Management Plan Favouring Biodiversity in the Alto Campoo Mountain and Ski Resort, and its approval by CANTUR

A two-day seminar and a technical seminar on the ecological restoration of mountain areas and the management of Natura 2000 ski resorts, with 76 and 22 participants respectively.

Development of a Concerted Grazing Management Plan and its integration into pasture regulation through approval in a full council meeting in Hermandad de Campoo de Suso

Publication and distribution of 1,000 copies of a leaflet on Livestock and Biodiversity Conservation in High Mountain Habitats

To promote Alto Campoo as a nature tourism destination and publicise the action taken by the LIFE+Econnect project

Improved public use planning in Alto Campoo

Marking of four thematic, self-guided routes in the Alto Campoo area

Development of an environmental education and training programme for the local population

Publication and distribution of 7,000 copies of a field guide containing information on the routes and the LIFE+Econnect project

42 guided routes taken with 350 participants

9 project information days held in Campoo county, in which 228 people participated

Design, publication and distribution of 2,000 copies of an informative illustrated poster on the Alto Campoo habitats

Three 7-day volunteering periods in which 44 volunteers participated

Regular distribution of a newsletter on the development of the project

Creation of the website www.lifeconnect.org, with a total of 5,728 users and more than 17,000 page views between 2014 and 2017

Creation of Facebook and Twitter profiles, with 364 and 152 followers, respectively

158 posts have been made on Facebook, with a total reach of 54,223 views

Periodic publication of news related to the project in the media, including RTVE and broadcast at a national level



Common rock thrush (*Monticola saxatilis*) / Photo: Manuel Estébanez