

Project Update: February 2014

Until mid-July 2013 we continued nest box controlling started in the previous month. This time in the controlled nest boxes we marked European roller chicks with aluminium and also with colour rings, hoping that in this way we would get much more information about their migration strategies.



After the breeding season we started to aggregate the nesting and ringing data. Due to the strange spring weather in 2013 and delayed nesting we couldn't ring every roller chick. However, the data to date encouraged us to continue our conservation and field activities in the future and they are gratifying confirmation how successful our work was.



In 2013 in Serbia it was demonstrated that there were 115 to 120 breeding pairs (!!!) of European roller. The number of ringed and marked adult and juvenile birds was 172. We have some recoveries of earlier ringed birds, accurately 4-5.

During our field activities we checked approximately 800 km long power line pylons section and assessed those which may pose a potential threat to the European rollers.



Up to the end of August 2013, brochures, posters and T-shirts had been produced; later we will use these during our educational lectures, seminars and conservation works.

From mid-September 2013 we started with our planned lectures in settlements concerned by the project, on which many farmers, livestock breeders, hunters and local residents (i.e., each of the target groups) were represented. Up to the end of December 2013, we held lectures in five locations. The feedback was very positive; our group of helpers during the field work has expanded with new, interested young people who want to join in our protection work.



We are hopefully looking forward to the coming years. We believe that our educational work will have very good results among the farmers, stock breeders, the environment-friendly and nature-friendly farming, the moderate application of pesticides, traditional farming methods will become much more widespread and people will pay more attention to the surrounding nature.