

Project Update: March 2011

The first field season has produced excellent results. Regarding the bioacoustic survey of meadowlark songs, the voices of some 100 males were recorded during the breeding season. Additionally, 14 fledglings were colour-banded. One of the most exciting findings was the relocation of three birds banded in 2008; these individuals established breeding territories for the first time in 2010! Banding efforts are providing great insight into several key aspects of meadowlark biology. Participation in a government-supported programme (PPR Project) has resulted in grassland management at several cattle ranches within the study area with benefits to grassland birds as well as other animals. Several education/awareness-raising activities were also conducted: talks at four rural schools; technical presentations at an international meeting and as part of a biodiversity course for teachers. The preparation of a new logo for the project is well advanced and the project's website will be launched soon.

