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“PREVENTING RAPTOR ELECTROCUTION: AQUILA a-LIFE (Life 16 NAT/ES/000235)”

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INTRODUCTION

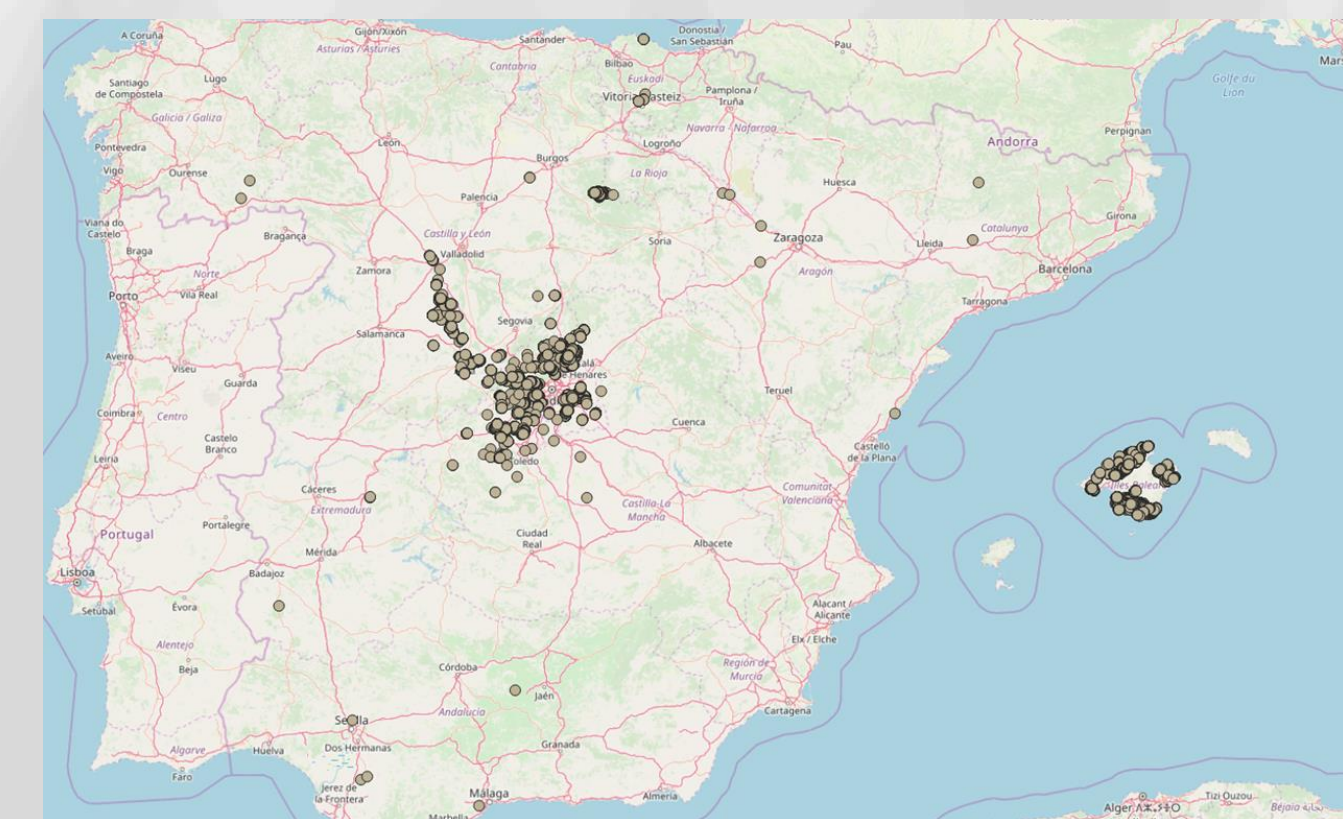
AQUILA a-LIFE wants to increase the presence of Bonelli eagle (*Aquila fasciata*) in the Western Mediterranean and reverse the declining trend of its population. This project could be considered as the second part of LIFE BONELLI because the reintroduction and reinforcement of wildlife projects often requires several stages for development.



The first stage will be to deal with the main threat to the Bonelli eagles, with particular attention to the prevention and reduction of electrocutions. This will be achieved through the joint work of different key sectors, such as electrical companies, local administrations and experts in the subject.

As the Bonelli eagles have similar problems (especially electrocutions) with other raptor species, this project will benefit them as well. Some examples of raptor species that will benefit from this project are: Iberian imperial eagle (*Aquila adalberti*), Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) and Short-toed eagle (*Circus gallicus*).

GREFA's Power line team has developed an application to register information related to dangerous power lines and deaths from electrocution and collisions. This way, the extent of the problem that is threatening our birds will be established. This initiative was developed in 2018 and so far 6,890 pylons have been registered and 628 deaths recorded.



Thanks to the agreements obtained with electrical companies and private owners, they have managed to improve more than 640 dangerous pylons during the first two years of the project. All the information obtained is being used in multiple scientific publications.



Final Conclusion

Thanks to a multiple approach implying all sectors we can minimize the main cause of unnatural mortality of most raptors.

