

20 years of Bearded Vulture in Italy after the extinction

Action plan to reduce poisoning and intoxication risks for large raptors, the bearded vulture in particular

Update from lead free ammunition tests

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_Life GypHelp

























European project LIFE GypHelp (2014-2018)



French action plan to protect the Bearded Vulture (PNA) 2010 – 2019

Life GypHelp: conservation of the population of the French Alps by the implementation of PNA actions 2014 - 2018



- securing the increase of the population of Bearded Vultures in the project area
- reducing the anthropogenic mortality risks in the project area



1 principal axis: reduce of poisoning and intoxication risks



Action C5: Elaboration of an action plan to reduce poisoning and intoxication risks for large raptors

Elaboration of an action plan to reduce poisoning and intoxication risks for large raptors, *the bearded vulture in particular*



taking into account the results and recommendations from the following actions

- > Evaluation report on the illegal use of poison in nature and anti-poison activities within the project area (action A4)
- > International saturnism symposium in Annecy 2015 (action A5)
- Saturnism study (action A6) « Identification of lead sources in the study area and evaluation of lead poisoning risks for large raptors, bearded vultures in particular, in the LIFE GypHelp project study area »
- > Poisoning case analysis data collected throughout the project (action D3)
- These measures will be readopted and integrated then into the bearded vulture national action plan after 2019.



Action C5: Elaboration of an action plan to reduce poisoning and intoxication risks for large raptors

One action already in progress



Test of lead free ammunition piloted by the hunting federation of Haute-Savoie in shooting range and under field conditions



Objectives: Evaluation of the efficiency of alternative ammunition types and the possibility for hunters to converse to those within the LIFE GypHelp project area, notably in Haute-Savoie

- ➤ Shooting range: 2017/2018 in progress
 - → collaboration with the national association of big game hunters (ANCGG) and their departmental branch (ASDCGG)
- > Under field conditions: 2 hunting seasons 2017/2018 et 2018/2019 in progress
 - → evaluation of satisfaction following a scientifically validated method (Gremse 2015)
 - → accompanied by a German ballistic expert (elaboration of test protocol, fire protocol and analyses to evaluate satisfaction)



Lead free ammunition test in **shooting range of Arcebuse de Douvaine** (74)

- > Objective: proposition of well adapted alternative ammunition types for big game hunting in mountain ranges!
 - ✓ Verification of the efficiency of lead-free ammunition for the hunt of big game in mountain ranges
 - ✓ Verification of the absence of mechanic and ballistic disorders of lead-free ammunition with arms used at present for the hunt of big game in mountain ranges



- ➤ Collaboration between hunting federation 74 and the departmental branch of the national association of big game hunters
- > Test of several lead free ammunition brands (GMX & Remington Copper Solid) and 5 different calibers: 270 W, 7x64, 7 RM, 30.06, 300 WM



- ➤ A fire protocol was designed for the shooting range in order to allow a most objective evaluation under shooting range conditions
- Communication of results before summer 2018



Sensibilisation campaign for hunters in mountain areas where the bearded vulture is present for the test and use of lead-free ammunition!!!





Instinct vene Fédération de de Ho	INC INCIENTE	gypaète barbu Life GypHelp		and the state of t	
Fiche régla	ge (balles	sans plomb)	- Stand	d de tir	
Informations balistiques: Calibre: Type de balle: Poids: Marque:			Munitions rechargées : • ○ Oui ○ Non		
<u>Type d'arme :</u>			Par vous-même		
Semi-automatique A verrou • Par un autre					
Marque :	Long. C	Canon : mm			
Distances (de tir		Nombre de balles utilisées pour Stand de parvenir au réglage optimum		
< 50 m	013	< 5	075		
51 – 100 m	014	5 - 10	076	T	
101 – 150 m	015	11 - 20	077		
151 – 200 m	016	21-30	078	1	
201 – 250 m	017	>30	079	7	
>250 m : <u>m</u>	018			1	
Problèmes rencontrés :		•			
Commenter and de la be					
Comportement de la ba ○ Très bon ○ Bon		sant	is (Très mauvais	
Entretien de l'arme en t) Non		
Coût supplémentaire pa	ar rapport à une n	nunition traditionnelle	: () Oui () Non	
Estimation de la différe	nce :	€			
Appréciation générale :					
Rapport qualité/prix de	es balles :	C	○ Satisfaisant ○ Non satisfaisant		
Nom:		Téléphone :			
Société de chasse :			Date du tir :		

Etude de l'effet létal des balles sans plomb – période 2016 à 2018 – Action CS Life13 Nat/FR /000093 Gyp/Help Fédération Départementale des Chasseurs de Haute Savoie – Association Nationale des Chasseurs de Grand Gibier – Association Sportive Départementale des Chasseurs de Grand Gibier de Haute Savoie – Gremse Wildlife Studies & Management (De)

20 years of Bearded Vulture in Italy 18th march 2018



First results:

- ➤ Good efficiency when used with magnum calibers (powerful calibers)
- ➤ **Poor efficiency** with a particular caliber (7x64)
- Potential security risk for hunters, dogs or game in driven hunting due to rebound effects





Example RWS Hit:

- Lead free bullet
- Mass constant
- Non fragmenting



Lead free ammunition test under field conditions in mountain ranges of Haute-Savoie

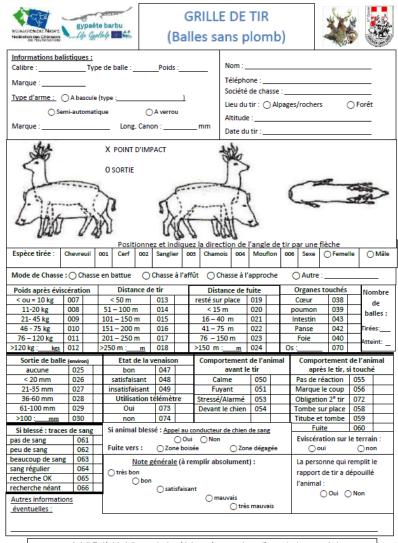
- ✓ Hunting area: mountain range of Haute-Savoie (above 1500m altitude)
- ✓ Number of participants: 14
 difficulty → still trying to increase the number to allow a highest possible number of fire protocols
- ✓ 5 calibers tested: 270 W, 270 WSM, 7x64, 7 RM et 300 WM (most frequently used following the results of local investigation 2016)
- ✓ Brand of tested lead-free ammunition: RWS special price negotiation
- ✓ Price: 28% less than ordinary lead ammunition = same price premium ammunition



One fire protocol per bullet

Analyses allow

Evaluation of hunters satisfaction of a hunting event with a lead free ammunition type in the most objective way



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The action plan

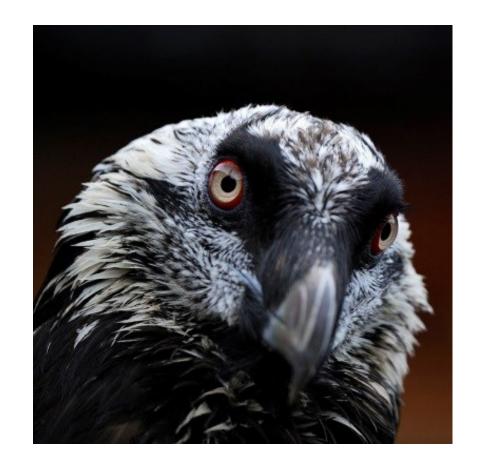
Nov 2017: first workshop with stakeholders closely related to the intoxication and poisoning issues in large raptors



Next steps:

- → **Meeting of an expert group** in spring 2018 to identify the actions to elaborate *in coherence with operating disease surveillance networks, the vigilance poison plan and other species action plans*
- → Elaboration of actions in coherence with all important interlocutors
- → Steering committee of strategic partners and stakeholders for

validation of the action plan in autumn 2018





Thank you for attention

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