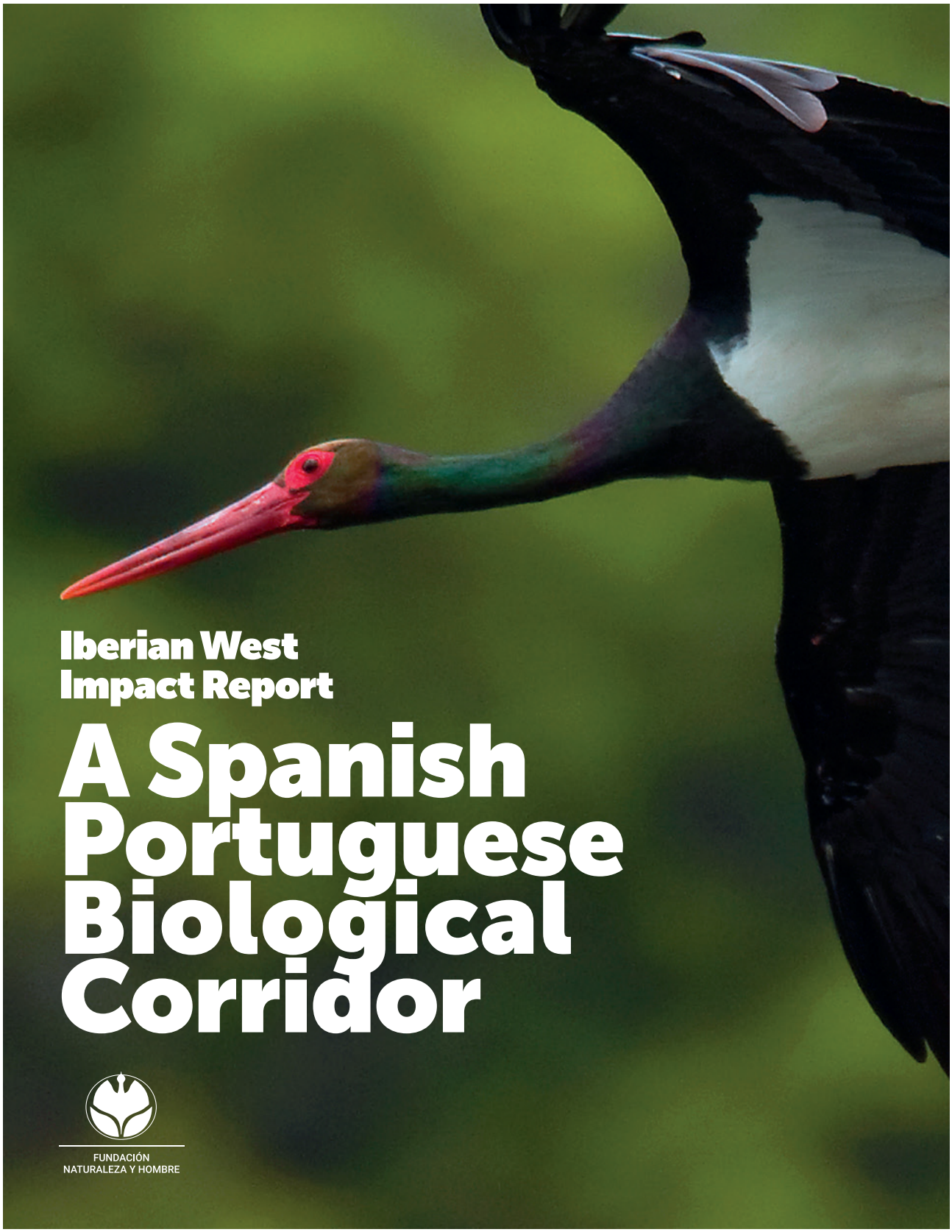


Iberian West Impact Report

A Spanish Portuguese Biological Corridor

FUNDACIÓN
NATURALEZA Y HOMBRE

Deer and roe deer have returned to the dehesa thanks to our reintroduction work.

Kike Para

Iberian West

In the Iberian West, between Spain and Portugal, we find extensive woodlands formed by large oak, cork oak and cork oak trees in territories in symbiosis with human activity. It is a cross-border natural area between Spain and Portugal, comprising the Spanish provinces of Salamanca, Zamora and Cáceres and covering some 2.5 million hectares. It is a large ecosystem made up of mountain ranges, river canyons, cereal steppes, rivers and vast expanses of meadows and Mediterranean scrubland.

The dehesa is a man-made landscape and a unique ecosystem in the world, which arose from the defence - in Latin defesa - of the territories against the passage of transhumant livestock. Originally, the dense Mediterranean scrubland was gradually cleared and left with more scattered trees, giving way to what we now call the dehesa.

Humans created this ecosystem through the sustainable use of natural resources. They transformed the territory so that livestock could graze, to sow cereal crops and to exploit the different resources offered by the trees, such as cork from the cork oaks and firewood from the holm oaks and common oaks. The seeds of these oak trees (holm oaks, common oaks and cork oaks), the acorns, are also used to feed the prized breeds of Iberian pigs raised in these areas.

But these **large, ancestral trees** not only share space and provide food for humans and their animals, they also provide **shelter and food for a great diversity of species that are unique in the world.** For instance, black vultures - a species protected throughout Europe - make their nests in these large, strong canopies. These giant scavengers, known as the 'cleaners of the mountain', feed on dead animals, preventing the transmission of diseases.

In spring and summer, the dehesa hosts one of the most beautiful and elusive birds in the western Iberian Peninsula, the elegant black stork, another protected species. Unlike its more common relative, the white stork, the black stork chooses remote places - far from humans, in rocky outcrops or large trees - to make its nests. Eagle owls, golden eagles and the rare imperial eagle can also be seen flying over these fields in search of food.

On the front: The elusive black stork nests in large trees or rocks in the dehesas and sierras of Western Iberia.

The dehesa is an endangered ecosystem, and with it, many of its species are also at risk of disappearing. Problems such as the abandonment of the countryside or the drying out of trees threaten their survival.

The Noah's arcade of the Mediterranean fauna

Staffan Widstrand

The dehesa shelters and maintains a large number of species that are also threatened.

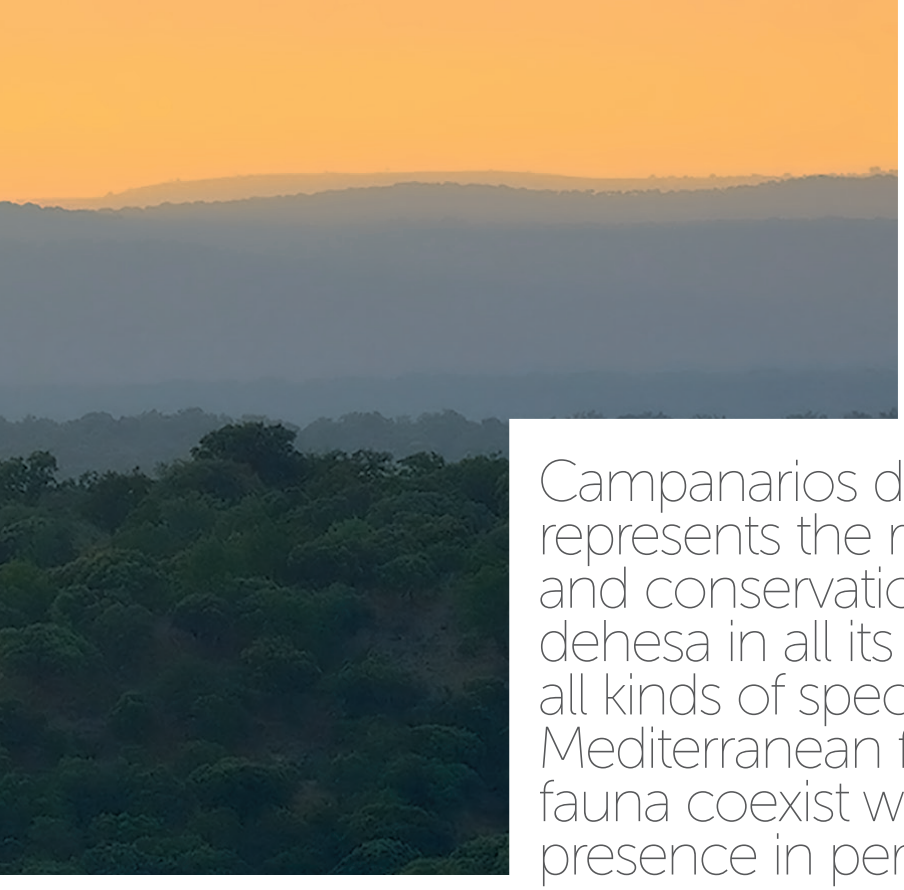
It is a *hotspot* for Mediterranean biodiversity.

On the other hand, intensive livestock farming leads to the overexploitation of resources offered by this ecosystem. When there are more animals than the space can cope with, soil loss and erosion reduce biological diversity and in turn favour the development of diseases and tree decay processes. The lack of tree regeneration, the ageing of the stands and their weakening due to disease is another of the major problems facing the dehesa, which is aggravated by the climate emergency, which has already led to an increase in aridity, with more extreme droughts and late frosts.

The Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre is developing a conservation programme for the whole of Iberian West through the creation of different biological reserves and signing land stewardship agreements.

Perhaps the most emblematic area is the Campanarios de Azaba Biological Reserve, in the Azaba valley (Salamanca), with part of its surface area in the neighbouring country, Portugal. It covers **an area of more than 600 hectares acquired by the foundation:** a wildlife sanctuary. Here, from an overexploited environment, in a decade we managed to revive natural life in all its splendour: the European pond turtles have grown from 100 to 200 specimens, the ponds and lagoons now have transparent waters and are home to more than 25 species of dragonflies and odonates, as well as a rich community of amphibians.

Forest flora, pastures and lagoons have increased; soils are no longer ploughed, and reptiles and beetles are now abundant and can fulfil their invaluable function of enriching the soils.
Deer have also returned to this area thanks to the reintroduction work we carried out. The Retuertas wild horse - native to Doñana - now has a second nucleus here in terms of breed, with more than thirty registered spec-



Campanarios de Azaba represents the recovery and conservation of the dehesa in all its splendour: all kinds of species of Mediterranean flora and fauna coexist with the human presence in perfect balance.

imens that coexist with another fifty specimens of the Sayaguesa cow. Both are in danger of extinction.

This is real **Noah's Ark for the Iberian Mediterranean fauna,** with ponds where European tortoises can reproduce easily, with no predators around them. These ponds are fenced off to prevent access by livestock, which have watering troughs and other ponds specifically placed for them. The black stork also feeds on amphibians and fish in these ponds. Nests have been placed in the treetops so that the black storks and black vultures can breed in the necessary tranquillity: in addition to the destruction of their habitats, another problem for these species is the disturbance caused by humans during the breeding season.

Middens have also been created where carrion-eating species such as the black vulture, Egyptian vulture and red kite can find food with no difficulty.

The Campanarios de Azaba reserve represents the recovery and conservation of the Iberian dehesa in all its splendour, where all kinds of species of Mediterranean flora and fauna - many in serious danger - coexist with human presence and activity in perfect balance. Rabbits are one of the key species in the Western Iberian Peninsula, as they are food for many of the species in these territories. At FNYH, we carry out numerous actions to ensure that populations of wild rabbits are maintained through periodic reintroductions. Thanks to these actions, **owls, eagles and other raptors are now seen more often in these areas** and we manage to maintain a complete ecosystem, inhabited by all the species of herbivores of the dehesa and the Mediterranean Mountains. Since the beginning of our activities, we at the Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre have always taken into account one of the groups of animals that are essential for the development of any ecosystem: insects. This effort was rewarded with the creation of **the first Entomological Reserve in Spain.** Through this space, conservation programmes are carried out for different groups of insects (such as dragonflies), as well as scientific studies. environmental education, and dissemination work. Another of the milestones of this reserve has been the discovery of a new species of insect: the *Eumerusa zabense* pollinator.

The 'Club for the Conservation of the Iberian West' created by FNYH has concluded land stewardship agreements with private land owners, totalling more than 13,000 ha. in which we adopt specific measures aimed at conserving biodiversity, improving the habitat and incorporating some of the actions already developed and tested in the Campanarios de Azaba reserve.

We have managed to recover a dehesa in its original state to achieve a perfect balance between nature and man, the name that defines our purpose. •

The SDGs in our conservation projects

Direct relationship of our activity with the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for all the areas of work contained in this report of 25 years of activity.

6. Clean water and sanitation

6.b Support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management.

6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimising the release of chemicals and hazardous materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater, and significantly increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

6.6 By 2020, protect and restore water-related ecosystems, including forests, mountains, wetlands, rivers, aquifers and lakes.

11. Sustainable cities and communities

11.4 Strengthen efforts to protect and safeguard the world's cultural and natural heritage.

12. Responsible production and consumption

12.b Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products.

12.2 By the year 2030, achieve sustainable management and efficient use of natural resources.

12.8 By 2030, ensure that people everywhere have the information and knowledge relevant to sustainable development and lifestyles in harmony with nature.

13. Climate action

13.1 Strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards and natural disasters in all countries.

13.2 Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.

13.3 Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

15. Vida en ecosistemas terrestres

15.1 By 2020, ensure the conservation, restoration and sustainable use of terrestrial and inland freshwater ecosystems and their services, in particular forests, wetlands, mountains and drylands, in line with the obligations under international agreements.

15.2 By 2020, promote the implementation of sustainable management of all types of forests, halt deforestation, restore degraded forests and
substantially increase afforestation and reforestation globally.

15.3 By 2030, combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world.

15.4 By 2030, ensure the conservation of mountain ecosystems, including their biodiversity, in order to enhance their capacity to provide benefits that are essential for sustainable development.

15.5 Take urgent and significant action to reduce the degradation of natural habitats, halt the loss of biodiversity and, by 2020, protect and prevent the extinction of threatened species.

15.7 Take urgent action to end poaching and trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna and address both demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.

15.9 By 2020, introduce measures to prevent the introduction of invasive alien species, and significantly reduce their impact on land and water ecosystems and control or eradicate the priority species.

17. Partnerships for the goals

17.17 Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships.

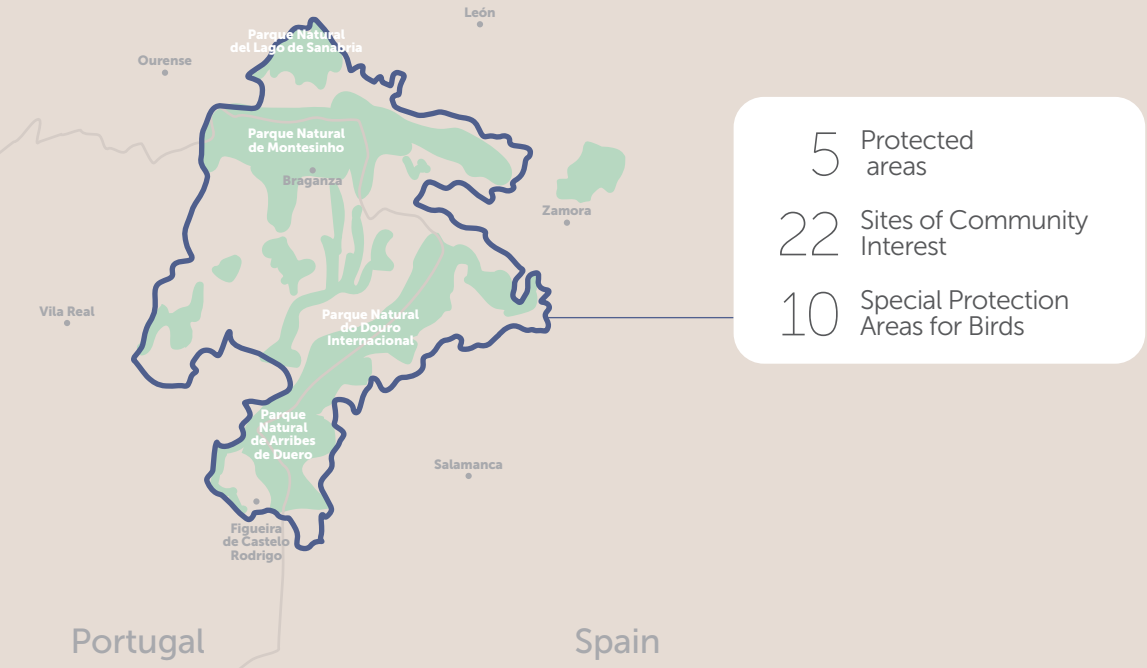
The great ecosystem of the Iberian West

The transboundary Iberian plateau: biosphere reserve

The so-called Iberian West **is an extensive territory of more than two million hectares, bordering Portugal,** which is particularly valuable in environmental terms, and is one of the areas with the greatest biodiversity in the whole of the Mediterranean area. It has an immense wealth of plants, insects and vertebrates, of which there are more than 300 species; a mosaic of landscapes characterized by mountain ranges and deep valleys carved out by the main waterways in the area: the Douro and Tagus rivers and their respective tributaries.

Softening this rugged terrain, we find an enormous area of several hundred thousand hectares occupied by the dehesa, an exclusive ecosystem that is an example of sustainable development worldwide.

With these natural characteristics, the Iberian West is part of a privileged and reduced number of sites in the world that serve as a refuge for some very remarkable species, and that hosts rather representative populations on an international level, as it is the case of the black stork (*Ciconia nigra*), the imperial eagle (*Aquila adalberti)*, the black vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), the Egyptian vulture (*Neophron percnopterus*), the two kite species (Red and Black), or mammals such as the mountain goat (*Capra pyrenaica*), the Iberian wolf (*Canis lupus signatus*), and even the Iberian lynx (*Linx pardinus*).



5 Protected areas

22 Sites of Community Interest

10 Special Protection Areas for Birds

Biosphere Reserves are large areas that have been chosen because they contain natural values of maximum interest, and also because they bring together an important socio-cultural background, and on which mechanisms can be applied to encourage sustainability and quality of life for the population, which is closely related to the promotion and protection of the environment.

The Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre together with other entities promoted, and managed to obtain the declaration by Unesco of a vast cross-border territory as a Biosphere Reserve, which extends through the provinces of Salamanca and Zamora in Spain, and the regions of Tierra Caliente and Tierra Fría in Portugal. This is called the **Iberian Cross-Border Plateau**, the largest in Europe.

In this vast territory, with 1,132,606 ha, (11,326 km^2), four Natural Parks and several Nature 2000 sites are included. There are 87 municipalities that participate in initiatives to promote the region's values, sustainable development projects, actions to adapt to and fight against climate change, and biodiversity conservation. Thanks to all this, this territory of high environmental value is becoming better known, it is being managed and conserved.

Protecting a unique ecosystem

The creation of a private biological reserve

6 11 15

Sea of holm oaks in the Iberian West

Between January 2009 and September 2012, the Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre developed a project of a transnational nature (Spain and Portugal), aimed at improving the general state of biodiversity of an area of more than 132,000 ha, in Campo de Azaba, Campo de Argañán and Malcata. An integrated territorial area in the west of the Iberian Peninsula, a space of enormous value, which is among the most biodiverse natural areas in Western Europe, with the predominance of the dehesa as the main ecosystem, and the different biotopes and habitats intimately associated with it.

This general improvement in the state of biodiversity has been achieved as a result of the intensive implementation of conservation actions on the farm acquired by the Foundation in 2010: Campanarios de Azaba, with an area of around 600 ha. The farm, which has been declared as Biological Reserve, has become a natural reservoir for the reception and protection of species such as birds and insects, and a source of biodiversity for the surrounding areas due to the actions carried out on the soil, vegetation, and especially with the de-intensification of the farm.

Campanarios de Azaba. Private biological reserve.

The first entomological reserve in Spain

Some of the species we protect

Red-waved maidenhair
Euphydryas aurinia

European pond terrapin
Emys orbicularis

Carnivorous Aquatic Plant
Utricularia australis

Black Vulture
Aegypius monachus

Retuertas Horse, garrano

Sayaguesa Cow

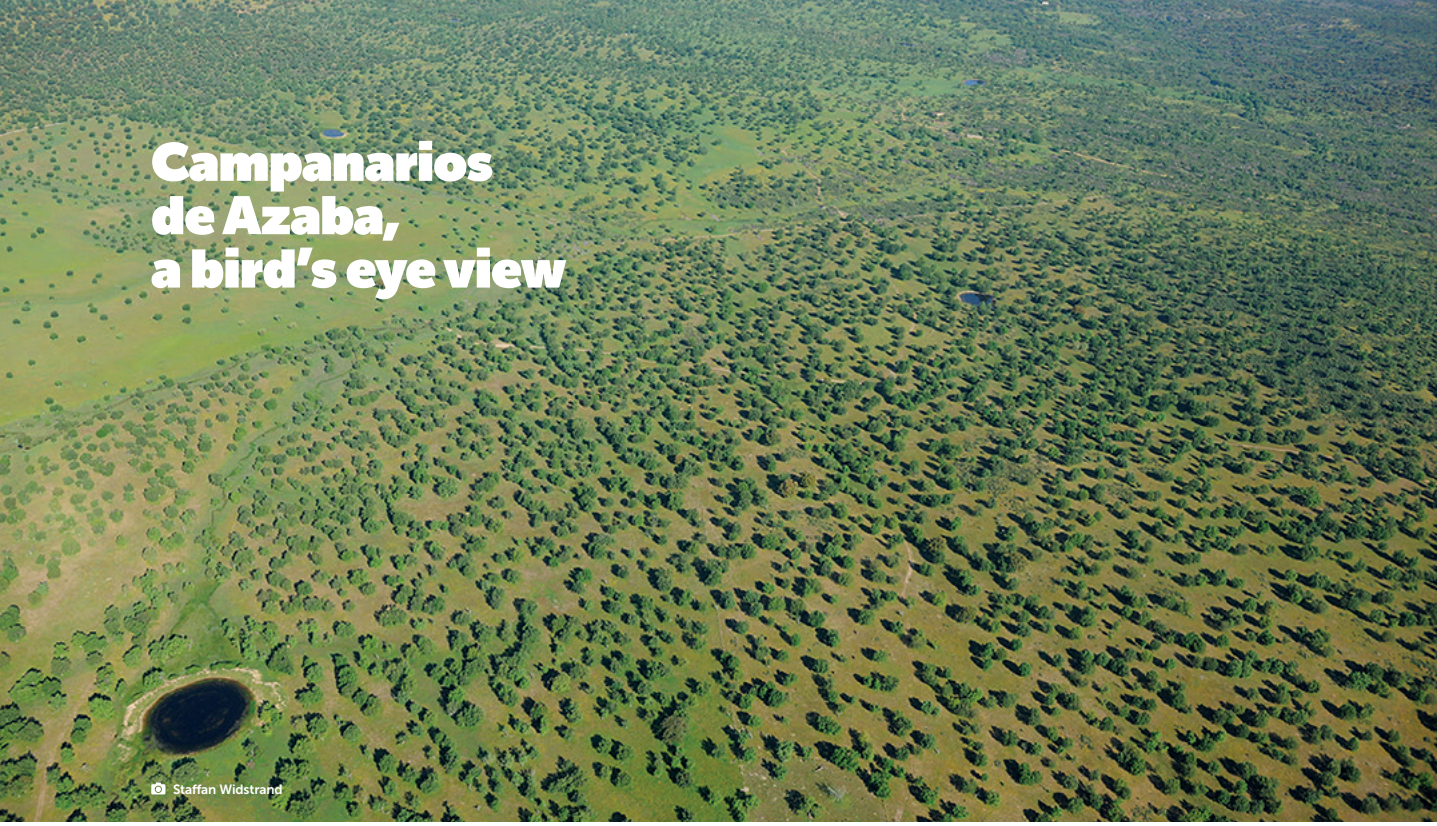
Although the insects are the most overlooked species in conservation programmes, they are essential to the ecological processes of habitats.

The fertility of plants depends to a large extent on the action of insects, and their contribution to the process of pollination of plants intended for agricultural production for human consumption is of great importance.

In Spain, there are 45,000 species of insects, an even greater number than the vertebrates known in the world. **A large number of well-known insect species are classified as threatened.**The best way to protect them is by favouring their terrestrial and freshwater habitats, which is what the Foundation does in the Campanarios Reserve: desintensitisation of agricultural use, forestry management, and promotion of the aquatic environment.

In 2013, the specialists of the Spanish Association of Entomology declared the estate the first Entomological Reserve in Spain.

The figure of Entomological Reserve is not recognised by any legal provision but, thanks to the declaration of Campanarios, the Autonomous Community of Castile and León has managed to include it in its regulatory provisions for natural environment protection programmes.



Campanarios de Azaba, a bird's eye view

Staffan Widstrand

This biodiversity hotspot is an area with a large number of species unique to the area and a habitat in the process of destruction.

Conserving it is key to avoiding irretrievable damage to biodiversity.

Use of clean energy in the reserve

12 13

It is the Foundation's policy **to promote the protection and sustainable use of natural resources, and the preservation of biodiversity** in the management of its projects.

In the global project of the creation of a private biological reserve in the Campanarios de Azaba farm, an estimated calculation of the CO_2 emissions derived from the use of the motor vehicles needed for development of the project's actions was made. To reduce this impact, travel was minimized both in terms of number and distances.

Another measure, in terms of **offsetting emissions,** is the calculation of the carbon capture that the very environment in which the project operates achieves through different types of trees, soils, wetlands and certain management practices. In fact, in this project, the number of restored hectares of forest was determined by this aspiration to compensate for CO_2 emissions.

Finally, in the provision of new infrastructures that allow the development of eco-tourism, the criteria of minimizing emissions through the provision of photovoltaic and thermal energy equipment is followed, not only in the accommodations, but in all the operating units of the Reserve. Thanks to this, the objective of zero emissions has been met.

Nesting plataforms for the black vulture

15

The Black Vulture is the largest bird of prey in Europe, with its almost three meters of wingspan, and one of the most voluminous birds in the world. It is an exclusively forest bird, sitting its large nests in big trees of the Mediterranean forest and pine forests.

Spain has the second largest population of this species worldwide. Despite the fact that the Black Vulture population has increased considerably in recent years, the threats that decimated the population in previous decades have not disappeared: Poison, intensification of farming, lack of food in the area due to the health prerogatives dictated by mad cow disease, inadequate forestry practices, and the increasingly evident competition that Black Vultures are suffering from their relative the Griffon Vulture.

In view of the aforementioned, the Foundation is implementing an **action to improve the species' habitat through the protection and reinforcement of reproductive clusters.** In this sense, the construction of platforms in the vicinity of the colonies or pre-existing nests has given positive results, and is allowing the consolidation and even expansion of the species.

Biodiversity hot spot reserve

6 14 15 17

The high number of species that can only find their suitable habitat here, and the threats to the territory as a whole, mean that it is **included as a biodiversity hotspot in the Mediterranean basin.** The high biodiversity and heritage wealth it holds requires constant attention for its protection, since the future of the existing species depends on it.

For more than twenty years, the Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre has not only been implementing direct conservation measures and managing particular areas, but also working in collaboration with the people and entities of the territory to, through the dissemination of the natural values present, be able to introduce measures for the conservation of its biodiversity as a basic motor for economic development.

The guardian of the ponds

Juan Carlos Muñoz

Conservation plan for the European pond turtle

15

The European Pond turtle (*Emys orbicularis*) is a reptile associated with aquatic habitats with abundant vegetation, where it seeks protection. Due to the evident pollution, overexploitation or even disappearance of the wetlands, this turtle has suffered a sharp decline in their populations, so it is classified as vulnerable. Within the plan to promote biodiversity, the Foundation established in 2011 **a study plan for the conservation and promotion of this turtle.** The monitoring of the species has been providing not only updated information on its situation, but, as this turtle is a magnificent bio-indicator, it has clearly demonstrated the success of the restoration work carried out in the ponds, as well as the de-intensification of livestock use, mainly in Campanarios.

Creation and restoration of temporary ponds

6 14 15

The temporary pools are a priority habitat represented in the Mediterranean ecosystems of the Iberian West by **lagoons and interior wetlands** of the farms, whether artificial or natural. **They are generally small and very unstable.**

However, the biodiversity of both fauna and flora associated with them is very high, as is their biological rarity.

Given the importance of this habitat for species associated with this environment, be it birds (black stork, ducks, sandpipers, plovers, etc.), amphibians (newts, frogs, etc.), or reptiles (turtles), the **Foundation is implementing a plan to build new wetlands or restore existing ones,** not only in the Campanarios de Azaba Reserve but also on the farms where the Foundation has been involved in subsequent conservation projects.

The Plan for the promotion of this habitat is succeeding in making the temporary pools attractive and of maximum use by the species mentioned, which use them as feeding, breeding and resting points during migration.

As a result of this plan, **the water retention capacity of the farms has been significantly increased,** not only in the use of the habitat by the wild fauna but also in the use of this much needed resource by the cattle on the farms, in the best conditions of water health.

Discovery of a new species

6 11 15

Within the global study of the insects in the reserve, there have been surprising results in terms of the species captured and classified, both in number and diversity, some of them catalogued as "threatened" and therefore included in the group of species whose conservation is a priority at a European level.

In addition, the studies resulted in 2011 in **the discovery and description of a new species hitherto unknown to science:** *Eumerus azabense.*

The study of the biology and ecology of the diverse species of insects associated with forest habitat has allowed the elaboration of plans that contemplate the implementation of habitat management measures that contribute to the conservation and improvement of the populations of these insects, which in turn enriches the biological diversity of the habitats.

Eumerus azabense


Juan Santayana

The conservation of the *Marsh fritillary*

15

The Marsh fritillary (*Euphydrya saurinia*) is one more element of the existing biodiversity in the reserve, and the object of the Foundation's global conservation plan for the Iberian West.

This species **is catalogued as protected.** It feeds mainly on honeysuckle, which was scarce in the area at the beginning of the project due to previous intensive agricultural use or inadequate forestry work. The change in the management strategy of the farm after its acquisition by the Foundation, with measures to promote and conserve the habitats for this species, has resulted in a rather significant advance in the population of this butterfly, both within the reserve and in areas adjacent to Campanarios.

Location of *Utricularia autralis*

6 11 15

In the Campanarios reserve, the temporary Mediterranean lagoons are represented by a significant number of these wetlands, distributed over the entire surface of the estate. They are considered priority habitats, but are very fragile due to the excessive pressure they are subjected to from various sources, including environmental deterioration caused by the high livestock density. This is not the case of the Campanario Reserve where, in order to alleviate or eliminate this phenomenon, actions have been carried out for years to protect and promote this habitat.

With these actions, the improvement of biodiversity and water quality is evident. The studies carried out show a sanitary and environmental improvement of the habitat. **A species of carnivorous aquatic plant not previously described has been discovered as a rarity in the province of Salamanca:** *Utricularia australis*, a species ranked at the most worrying stages on the list of threatened species. The presence of this aquatic plant in ponds in the reserve is another indicator of the good health of the waters, and the success of successive conservation projects.

A place to call home

José Gordillo

Strategic spot for migratory birds

6 11 15

Migration, or movements of different species between territories, whether more or less distant, consists of regular seasonal movements made not only by birds, but also by mammals, and even insects. The success of the migration depends on the food resources available at the intermediate stopping spots on their migratory journey. These points are of vital importance for refuelling in order to complete the routes.

The migration period for species is interrupted by different elements, although **the most negative factor is the alteration or destruction of specific habitats,** such as wetlands and forests. Even more so if they are located at intermediate stopping sites along the migration routes.

The activities carried out in the **Campanarios de Azaba** reserve through the different conservation projects have turned the farm **into a calm and safe reference spot for migratory species such as the black stork, the black vulture, the Egyptian vulture, the short-toed eagle, the booted eagle and other birds.**

The Iberian imperial eagle (endemic to the Peninsula) is one of the most emblematic and endangered birds of our fauna.

Guaranteeing stable food supply for key species in the natural balance

Egyptian Vultures used to be a common sight in many areas of Spain: the loss of food sources and poisoning have been some of the causes of their drastic reduction.

Feeding key spot for necrophagous

15

Necrophagous or scavenging birds are part of the Iberian natural heritage. **Spain has the largest populations of carrion-eating birds of prey in Europe.** They are key elements in the food chain as they satisfy their nutritional requirements by consuming animal carcasses. However, following the appearance of mad cow disease (1996-2000), the obligation to remove animal carcasses that may contain hazardous material from farms led to a drastic reduction in the availability of food for these birds.

As a mitigating measure for this situation, the Foundation built a SFP (Supplementary Feeding Point) or dunghill in the Campanario Reserve, an installation that continues to be managed with contributions from the livestock farms in the area. This means that FNYH has a direct relationship with the farmers and ranchers of the region, who request the service for the collection of dead animals from their farms.

As a result of this action, the dunghill has become a reference not only for the sectors involved, but also for the administration, as it is the only facility in operation of these characteristics in this important area for the permanence and expansion of the species.

As a main goal, the problem of food shortage for the Black Vulture colony in Sierra de Gata, which is very significant for the species in Spain, has been mitigated. There are **more than two hundred birds feeding in the dunghill,** and not only carrion eaters: black vulture, griffon vulture, Egyptian vulture, black kite, red kite and golden eagle. This gives an idea of the importance of this facility for the conservation of birds of prey given the sharp decline of basic species in their food chain such as rabbits and partridges.

Iberian West Conservation Farm Club

6 11 15

The conservationist model of Land Custody proposes a co-participated management between the ownership of the different properties and the custody entity, where the planning and management decisions are guided by an agreement signed between the parties, developing a fluid relationship for the monitoring and updating, if necessary, of what was initially agreed, and the verification of the execution and monitoring of the agreed actions.

Through the deployment of this **model of shared and concerted management of the different habitats** in the Campanarios Biological Reserve, the transformation of conventional farming methods and practices on the different properties under conservation, to others that are much more respectful of the natural resources, compatible with the continuity of the agricultural exploitation of the properties, has been achieved. The impact of this project has led to **the creation of a Club of owners who are committed to conservation, with properties that exceed 10,000 hectares**. It has been possible to improve the state of conservation of the habitats of this vast territory, and to enhance the value of its natural resources.


Staffan Widstrand

Native livestock

6 11 15

Inside the biological reserve of Campanarios de Azaba there is a great diversity of habitats, all of which are characteristic of the Mediterranean forest, forming a landscape that brings together all the communities and formations typical of this ecosystem.

The origin and evolution of this landscape is the result of both natural phenomena and, essentially, human intervention. As a result of what has been this intervention on the original Mediterranean forest, we have the dehesa or pastureland. Over-exploitation of this resource has put the survival and diversity of this great ecosystem at risk.

In order to reverse this process of degradation in which Campanarios de Azaba found itself, and to recover the natural ecological niche of the Mediterranean forest, with its natural biodiversity, the Fundación Naturaleza y Hombre manages the environment by means of **a rational livestock** use that allows the natural recovery of the forest and its protection against undesirable events such as fire or erosion.

The project is developed through **the introduction of different breeds of horses and cows** chosen according to a common factor: the age of their genes and their hardiness. Horse species such as the retuerta, garrano, or the sayaguesa cow have been chosen for their ability to adapt to the environment and live in the wild. They have also allowed the foundation to be take part in conservation programs, being breeds listed as in danger of extinction.

Study of entomological fauna in Campanarios de Azaba

15

This study was carried out by the Foundation based on the work area of the Campanarios de Azaba reserve, using as indicators two functional groups of insects characteristic of the dehesa habitat: on the one hand, species linked to dead or decomposing wood, and, on the other hand, insect species involved in the elimination of organic waste and its incorporation into the soil as nutrients. These two selected insect communities are excellent indicators of the conservation status of the habitats.

The results obtained, from a biodiversity point of view, are very significant and have **provided valuable information on the importance of traditional forestry practices for the habitat of these species,** as well as the negative impact caused by unsustainable livestock management in the years prior to the creation of the biological reserve.

These data have provided the scientific basis for the development and implementation of a management plan for the biological reserve of Campanarios de Azaba as a model for the management of other areas of dehesa ecosystems. The results obtained from the study of these bioindicators of the quality of the habitat, constitute a useful tool to identify the level of protection that certain habitats should have.

Environmental education and training programme for the local population.

6 11 15

Environmental education plays a fundamental role in the management of the territory. Work aimed at different groups in society to awaken the population and get them involved in conservation and its objectives is considered to be of particular importance.

FNYH develops **environmental education and dissemination programs aimed at the local population in the rural areas where it operates.** In Campanarios de Azaba, the dissemination programs are the channel for getting across to the inhabitants of Western Iberia the need to develop initiatives for the knowledge and appreciation of the high natural values of the area in which they live, while at the same time opening up new opportunities in the socio-economic field, which contributes to the fixation of the local population.

In the dehesas of southern Spain it is easy to see hoopoes displaying their characteristic plume of feathers and to hear their peculiar trill.

Joao Cosme

Our impact on figures

Iberian West

11326 km²
The cross-border Iberian plateau

Biosphere Reserve

4
Natural Parks

+

87
Municipalities

2009
132 ha
Campo de Azaba, Campo de Argañán, Malcata

2012
600 ha
Campanarios de Azaba

2013
600 ha
1st Entomological Reserve in Spain

13.000 ha
Private farms

Practising habitat conservation with the help of FNYH

Future challenges

1.000.000
Trees planted

Growth

Extend the extension and connect the private reserves of the Club de Fincas.

Conservation

Black Vulture · Lynx
Black Stork
European Turtle Wigeon

Creation of more entomological reserves

Recovery

Of more wetlands, a unique ecosystem that is key to biodiversity

Do you want to know more?
Would you like to support our actions?
Contact us

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