

Progress on the fight against IKB, a national perspective from Italy

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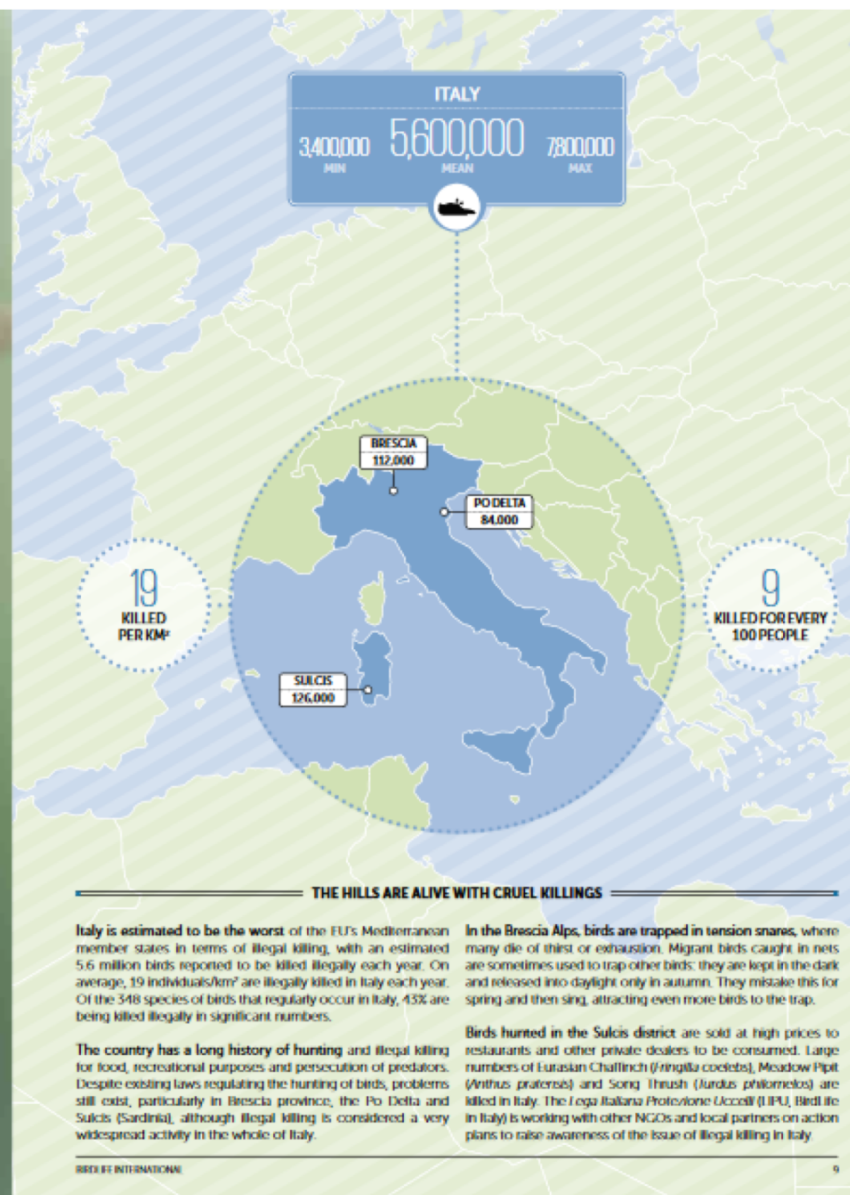
Fernando Spina

ISPRA, Bird Migration Research Area



EURASIAN CHAFFINCH (*Fringilla coelebs*) © KERSHAW/WIKIMEDIA

Brochet et al. 2016. Bird Conservation International





MINISTERO DELL'AMBIENTE E DELLA TUTELA DEL TERRITORIO E DEL MARE

In **2014** the Italian Ministry of the Environment, Land and Sea decided to

- **Join the international initiatives on IKB** to contrast IKB in the Mediterranean
- **Promote a National Action Plan**
 - drafted in **2015** through ISPRA (Bird Migration Research Area)
 - discussed during **2016**
 - approved March **2017**

Technical workshop held on IKB (first ever)

**Uccisione, cattura e commercio
illegale di uccelli:
Prospettive per lo sviluppo
di un Piano d'Azione Nazionale**

**Veneto Po Delta
Regional Park**

**Rosolina a Mare (Rovigo)
9-10 June 2016**





Governo italiano
Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri
Conferenze Stato Regioni ed
Unificate



*Presidenza
del Consiglio dei Ministri*
CONFERENZA PERMANENTE PER I RAPPORTI
TRA LO STATO, LE REGIONI E LE PROVINCE AUTONOME
DI TRENTO E BOLZANO

Accordo sul Piano d'azione nazionale per il contrasto degli illeciti contro gli
selvatici, su proposta del Ministero dell'ambiente e della tutela del
territorio e del mare, in attuazione della Strategia nazionale per la biodiversità.

Repertorio n. 37/CSR del 30 marzo 2017

**LA CONFERENZA PERMANENTE PER I RAPPORTI TRA LO STATO, LE REGIONI E
LE PROVINCE AUTONOME DI TRENTO E BOLZANO**

nell'odierna seduta del 30 marzo 2017



Photo: <https://www.andradelab.it>

**FINAL APPROVAL
30 MARCH 2017**

The drafting and structure of the NAP to tackle IKB in Italy was presented in the previous meetings held in Albania in 2016 and in Malta in 2017

Therefore we now briefly recall only some key aspects of the plan to allow a better understanding of the framework in which actions have been developed and are being carried out

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN



Steering Committee

INSTITUTIONAL BOARD

LEAD: Ministry of Environment

Members: Ministries of Agriculture, Human Health, Justice, Interior, Education, University and Research, Regional Administrations, Independent Provinces

TECHNICAL PANEL

LEAD: Carabinieri Forestali

Members: ISPRA, Regional Forestry Corps, Regional Administrations, Independent Provinces, CITES National Committee, IZSLT, EUROPOL, INTERPOL, High School of Judiciary, Environmental and Hunting NGOs

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

July 21, 2017 - 1st joint meeting Institutional Board and Technical Panel

October 5, 2017 - 1st meeting of the Technical Panel

November 17, 2017 - 1st meeting of the Institutional Board

April 19, 2018 - 2nd meeting of the Technical Panel

April, 20, 2018 - 2nd meeting of the Institutional Board

September 19, 2018 - 2nd joint meeting Institutional Board and Technical Panel

February 26, 2019 - 3rd joint meeting Institutional Board and Technical Panel

STRENGTHENING OF POLICE FORCES INVOLVED IN TACKLING IKB

- increased number of Carabinieri Forestali (CUFA) police officers
- increased number of regional police corps



IMPROVEMENT OF COORDINATION AMONG POLICE CORPS



*Comando Unità Forestali, Ambientali e
Agroalimentari (CUFA)*

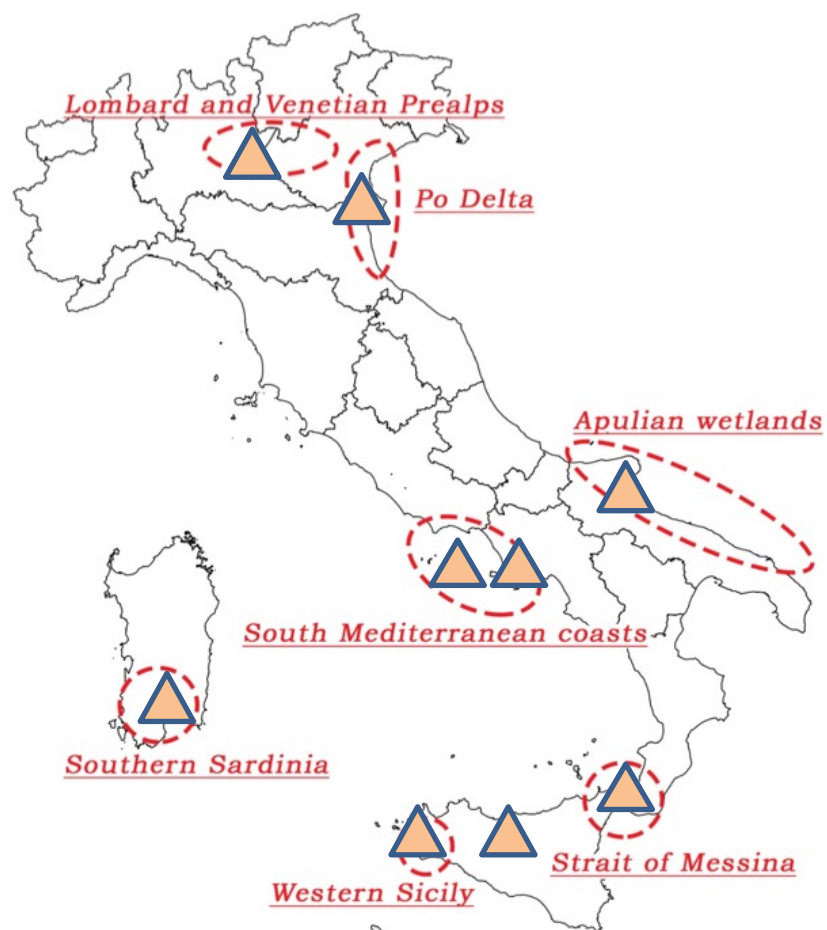
- National coordination set up (CONPA)
- Local coordination set up at each black-spot (COLPA)



ANTI-POACHING LONG-TERM CAMPAIGNS

Carabinieri Forestali are carrying out anti-poaching campaigns in cooperation with regional Forestry Corps and/or local police forces

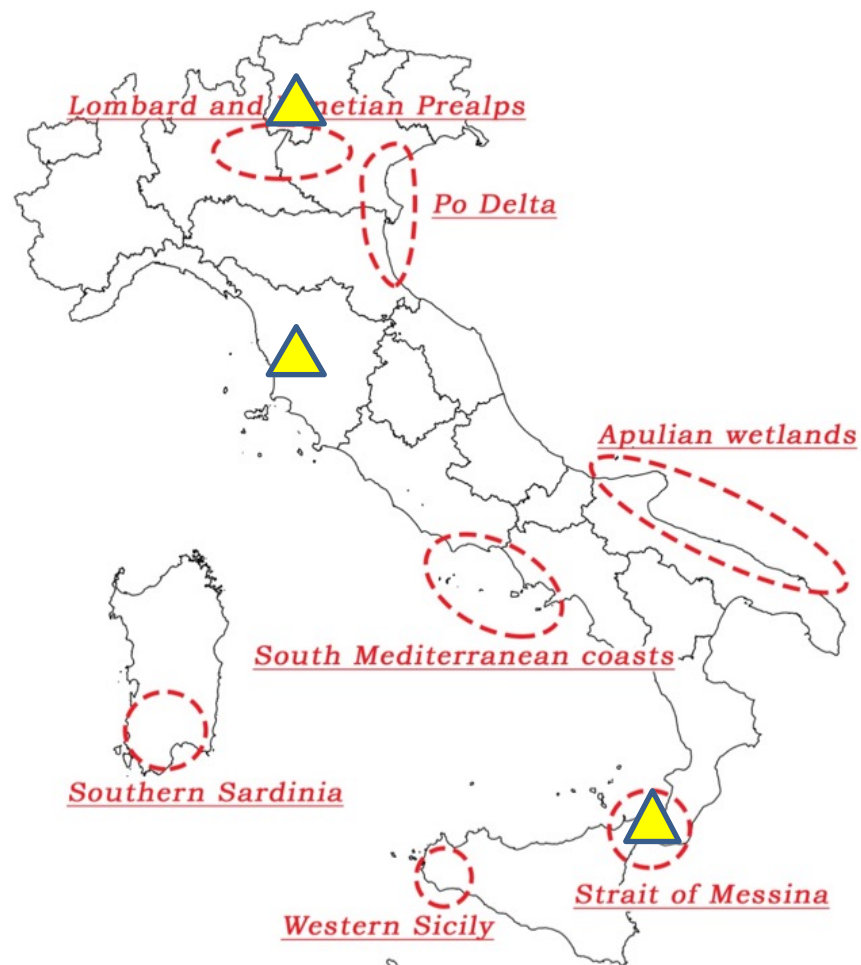
All but one are in the 7 black-spots described in the NAP



ONE-OFF ANTI-POACHING CAMPAIGNS

In 2018, three important campaigns to tackle:

- catching and trade of thrushes and finches in northern Italy (estimated 10,000 birds/year)
- shooting of Bald Ibises in Tuscany Region
- catching and trade of birds in Calabria Region



RESULTS OF ANTI-POACHING ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT BY CARABINIERI FORESTALI IN 2018



Type of illegal activity	Prosecuted persons	Seizures	Serches	N of crimes
Hunting crimes	836	912	221	1072
Cruelty to animals	184	116	29	348
Furto venatorio	33	31	17	33
Total	1053	1059	267	1453



Photo: Carabinieri Forestali

Brescia Province

(Rome, Italy 8 – 10 May 2019)

Apulia Region



Photo: Carabinieri Forestali

Apulia Region





Photo: Carabinieri Forestali

Sardinia



(Rome, Italy 8 – 10 May 2019)



Photo: LIFE ConRaSi

Sicily



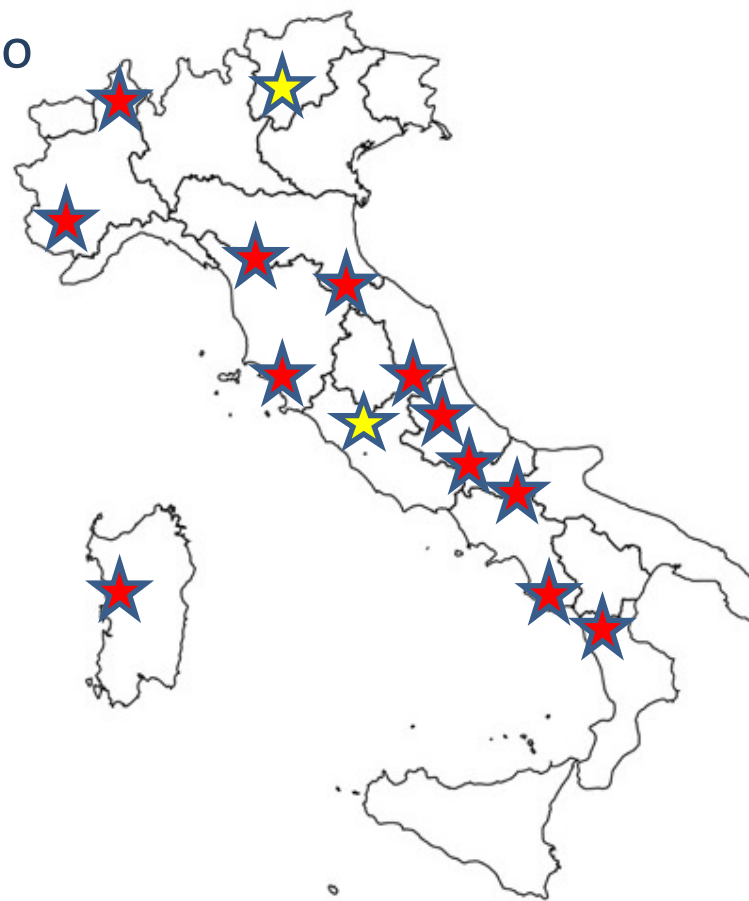
ANTI-POISONING ACTIVITY

Several units of trained dogs are currently working on the mainland and in Sardinia to tackle the use of poison bites



Photo: LIFE Pluto

New ones are planned in Trento Province and in Latium Region



ANTI-POISONING ACTIVITY

A centralized database will allow gathering all cases of suspected or/and confirmed poisoning

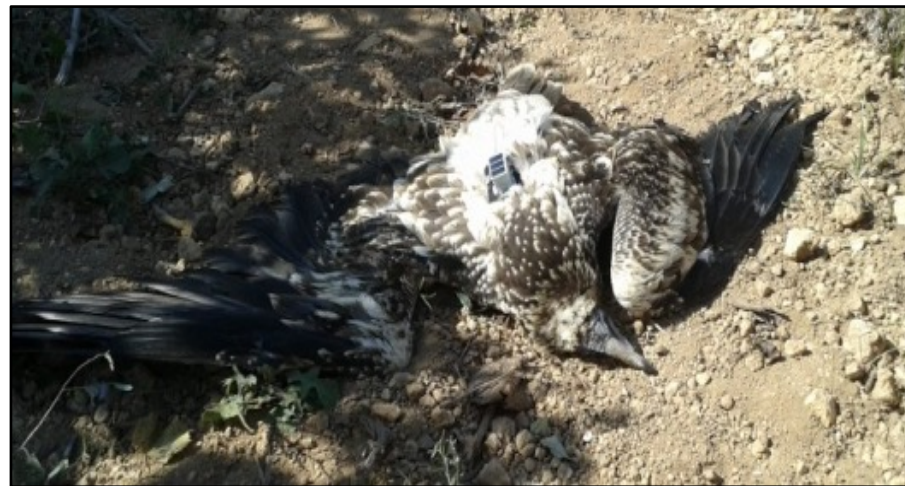
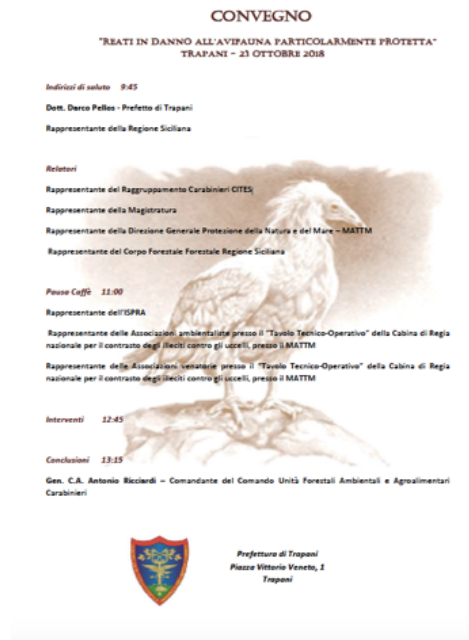


Photo: LIFE Egyptian vulture

Action carried out by the Ministry of Health and Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Lazio e della Toscana

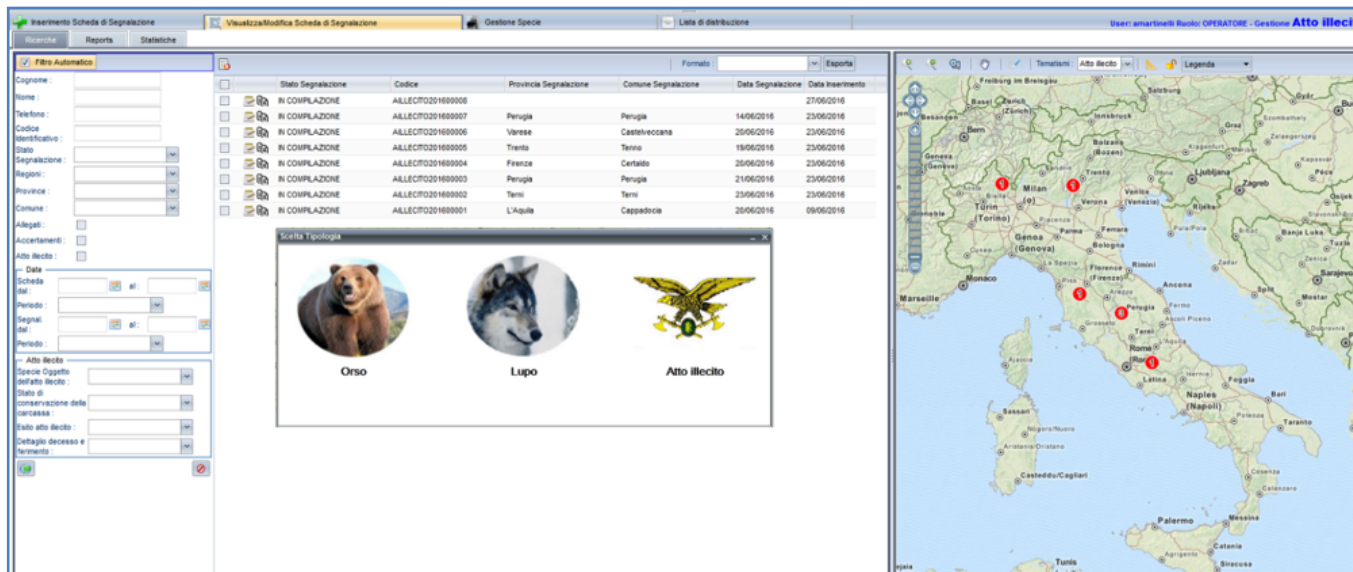
AWARENESS RAISING

The most relevant initiative was carried out in October 2018, in response to the killing in Sicily of a juvenile Egyptian Vulture born in captivity and released into the wild in the framework of the LIFE Egyptian Vulture



ACQUISITION OF DATA ON THE EXTENT OF IKB

A new specialized IKB database is being created by Carabinieri Forestali. This database originates from a previous web application used to store data on illegal acts against wolves and bears. This new tool will allow to obtain more detailed information on each recorded offence (species involved, type of offence, location, number of persons involved, etc.)



The screenshot displays the 'Atto illecito' management interface. On the left, a 'Filtro Automatico' sidebar contains input fields for 'Cognome', 'Nome', 'Telefono', 'Codice', 'Indirizzo', 'Regione', 'Provincia', 'Comune', 'Allegati', 'Accertamenti', 'Atto illecito', 'Data', 'Periodo', 'Segnali', 'Periodo', 'Atto illecito', 'Specie Oggetto', 'Stato di conservazione della popolazione', 'Stato atto illecito', and 'Conteggio decessi e ferimenti'. The main area features a table with columns: 'Stato Segnalazione', 'Codice', 'Provincia Segnalazione', 'Comune Segnalazione', 'Data Segnalazione', and 'Data Inserimento'. Below the table is a 'Scelta Tipologia' window showing three options: 'Orso' (bear), 'Lupo' (wolf), and 'Atto illecito' (illegal act). On the right, a map of Italy shows the geographical distribution of recorded incidents, with red markers indicating specific locations.

Stato Segnalazione	Codice	Provincia Segnalazione	Comune Segnalazione	Data Segnalazione	Data Inserimento
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600008	Perugia	Perugia	14/06/2016	27/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600007	Perugia	Castelvecchio	20/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600006	Varese	Castelvecchio	20/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600005	Trento	Tenna	19/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600004	Firenze	Certaldo	20/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600003	Perugia	Perugia	21/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600002	Trento	Tenna	23/06/2016	23/06/2016
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN COPIAZIONE	ALLECTO201600001	L'Aquila	Capodocia	20/06/2016	09/06/2016

ACQUISITION OF DATA ON THE EXTENT OF IKB



A national database is being finalized by Carabinieri Forestali to collect data on shot, trapped or poisoned birds from wildlife rescue centres, through a web interface which will allow rehab centres personnel to enter the data

MAIN RESULTS TO DATE

- Setting up of a national coordination (Steering Committee) involving all Institutions and stakeholders playing a role in combating IKB
- Strong commitment by CUFA in activities aiming at contrasting the different categories of IKB (killing, trapping and trade)
- Setting up of national and local (black-spot) coordination bodies allowing to optimise resources to contrast IKB

ACTIONS TO BE FURTHER DEVELOPED

- Increase efforts by police forces in some Regions
- Improve existing legislation on IKB in terms of sanctions
- Improve awareness and technical skills of prosecutors and judges



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

Photo: Alessandro Andreotti