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Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) demographic trend and ecology from the data of the Italian raptor centres (C.R.R. Centri di Recupero Rapaci) between 1982–2002

Demographischer Trend und Ökologie bei der Sumpfohreule, Auswertung von Daten der italienischen Greifvogel-Stationen

The importance of the raptor centres (C.R.R) in the study of the Short-eared Owl ecology, they play an important role in the conservation of the species and in its demographic fluctuations and nomadism.

19 Italian raptor centres contacted. They gave the following data about 85 Short-eared Owls treated between 1982 and 2002 (Italian data Record): date, place of provenance, cause and result, diseases.

We selected the data about the Short-eared Owls (59 in number) treated during the post-breeding period, and in winter i. e. from September to February.

In the 21 years' span considered, the number of birds shows no negative trend. The high number of Short-eared Owls found in the post-breeding period correlate with a census of Short-eared Owl breeding territories carried out in Finland between 1986 and 1996

A high percentage of bullet wounds have been found (64.5%); this is unusual for nocturnal raptors, which are not threatened with poaching collisions with vehicles also cover a high percentage (25.8%).

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