Investigating people’s opinion on NBI: results of pupils’ survey

Didone Frigerio, Kurt Kotrschal

Core Facility KLF, Univ. of Vienna, 4645 Grünau im Almtal, AT
Dept. Behav. Biol., Univ. of Vienna, 1090 Vienna, AT

48 pupils (aged 7 to 10) were surveying people’s opinion and knowledge about NBI by interviewing a total number of 320 persons. The survey was part of a project involving pupils in research and took place in spring 2016 in the Upper Austrian region of the river Alm. The questionnaires had three main fields of investigation.

(1) General knowledge on NBI: almost everybody is aware of the critically endangered condition of this avian species, nevertheless most of the people do not know the differences between adult and young animals.

The NBIs of the KLF spend their winter in the South.

(2) Specific knowledge about the KLF-colony: most of the interviewed people recognize the birds, nevertheless, there is quite some confusion about the migratory behaviour of the colony, which is actually sedentary.

Is research important?

(3) Opinion about scientific research: both young and old people do admit the importance of scientific research.

Conclusions: Engaging in awareness training is fundamental for a research institution and leads to a win-win situation for both, the public and the scientific partners.

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NBIs are critically endangered.

Adult NBIs have feathers on their heads, young NBI do not.

The NBIs of the KLF can be sighted on the meadows of the region.

The KLF’s research is important for the region too.