

RESIDENT CRANES AND THE FIRST ARRIVALS IN 2020

Some cranes stayed in Spain during the spring and summer because of their age, their physical condition or through getting lost during the migration, something that usually happens to young birds that, through inexperience, lose their flock and stay where they are.

To designate the different provinces and countries we use the following abbreviations:-

Spanish provinces: LU: Lugo, C: Coruña, PO: Pontevedra, AS: Asturias, CT: Cantabria NA: Navarra, LR: La Rioja, G: Gipuzkoa, AR: Araba, BI: Bizkaia; GI: Girona, B: Barcelona, LL: Lleida, T: Tarragona, Z: Zaragoza, HU: Huesca, TE: Teruel, V: Valencia, CS: Castellón, A: Alacant, MU: Murcia; IB: Illes Balears, BU: Burgos, VA: Valladolid; LE: León; ZA: Zamora, SA: Salamanca, AV: Ávila, SO: Soria; SG: Segovia, M: Madrid; CU: Cuenca, AB: Albacete; GU: Guadalajara, TO: Toledo, CR: Ciudad Real; CC: Cáceres, BA: Badajoz, CO: Córdoba, SE: Sevilla, H: Huelva, CA: Cádiz, MA: Málaga, AL: Almería; GR: Granada, J: Jaén,

Countries: Portugal (PT) France (FR) Italy (IT) Germany (GE) Hungary (HU) Israel (IS) Sweden (SE) Poland (PL), Latvia (LT) Letland (LI).

05/15/20: 1 at Pitillas lagoon (NA), still there 30/05, Javi Sola, 13/06 Ibon Recio, Rajen Ayerra, 06/14/20 Iñigo Mazkieran, 16/06 Rajen Ayerra.

05/23/20: 1 at Tornos (TE) Javier Calzón

05/29/20: 1 at Lavajares lagoon (SA) Miguel Martín.

05//30/20: 1 at Higuera de Llerena (BA) Francisco Montañó; 1 second-year immature bird with one foot near Gargáligas reservoir (CC) Martin Kelsey.

06/06/20: 1 at Tornos (TE) Felipe Rosado; also 08/06/20, Ángel Gonzalo; same place 05/07/20, Antonio Torrijo.

06/17/20: 2 at Montmesa (HU) Álvaro Sánchez; 1 with a broken wing at Madrigal de las Alta Torres (SA) in perfect health, David Garcia. This bird could be the same one seen on 15/03 by the same observer.



Image nº 1: Crane with a broken wing at Madrigal de las Altas Torres (SA) David García.



Image nº 2: Solitary crane at Pitillas lagoon (NA). Rajen Ayerra (eBird)



Image nº3: Crane at Tornos (TE) in July. Mari Carmen Tornos

The Estonian crane *Vilja* arrived in its country in June, and after a few days in the area where it was born, it travelled again and returned to Hortobagy, Hungary, which in recent years has become a summering area for second-year Estonian cranes (Ojaste, pers.com). It stayed a few days before returning to Estonia in early July.

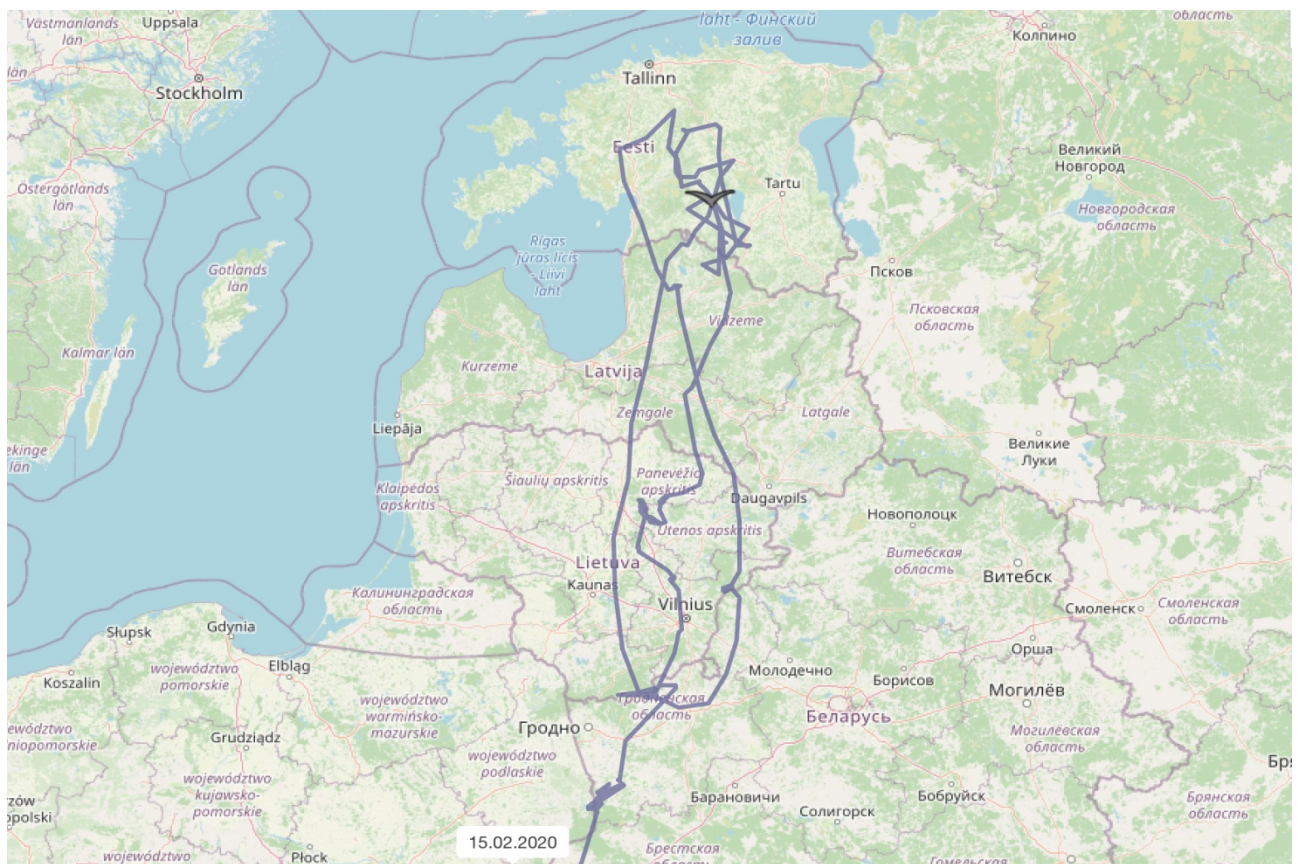


Image n° 4: Movements by *Vilja* between June and July 2020.

07/12/20: 1 at Used reservoir (Z) Alfredo Sánchez, María Berna, Felipe Rosado, Antonio Torrijo.

07/15//20: this crane was still at the same location, Carlos Fabregat, Javier Calzón.

08/03/20: 1 bird at Pitillas lagoon (NA) Joseba Amenabar, still there 11/08/20, Rajén Ayerra.

08/05/20: 1 at Dos Reinos lagoon (NA) Javi Sola

08/10//20: 1 at Sotonera reservoir (HU) Juan C. Albero, where it remained on the 15th and 18th.

08/1620: 2 at Tornos pools (TE) Antonio Torrijo.

08/23/20: 2 at Gallocanta lagoon (Z) Antonio Torrijo, Javier Ruiz, these birds have been in the área all summer.

08/23/20: 5 flying over Moratalla (MU), Jesús Rodríguez, Cristina Sobrado.

08/24/20: **Some 100 cranes arrive at Lac du Der (FR) Coby Me.: At Hornborga Lake (SE) 3,240 cranes are counted. Hornborgasjön Fältstation.**

The first migrant cranes are seen this week, most of them along the Mediterranean corridor

08/25/20: flock heard at night over San Lorenzo de Flúmen (HU) Eduardo Gracia.

08/27/20: flock heard before dawn to the south of Trujillo (CC) Manuel Moro; one of the cranes at Gallocanta (Z/TE) is hunted by a pair of Golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaëtos*) near the lagoon, Antonio Torrijo.

08/28/20: A small flock is heard at Facinas, Tarifa (CA) from the direction of Zahara de los Atunes at 02:30h, Arkadiusz Broniarek.

08/29/20: **3,670 are counted at Hornborga Lake (SE) Hornborgasjön Fältstation.**

08/31/20: 1 at La Loteta reservoir (Z) Javier Train; 8 arrive at Lac du Der (FR) Carlos Sour.



Image nº 5: Crane killed by golden eagles. Photo: Antonio Torrijo.

An immature red-crowned crane (*Grus japonensis*) was found on 25 July at Boada lagoon (P) by Alejandro Sanz, Juan J. González, Alba López and Joselu Álvarez. A few days later, after having moved to La Nava lagoon, it was seen on the 28th by Rafael Hermosilla, and during August by José L. Gabela on the 6th, by Alberto L. M^a Bueno on the 8th, by Fátima Garrido and Toni Pons on the 16th, by Carlos Gutiérrez on the 19th, by Francisco A. Prieto on the 20th, by José A. Román, Fernando Jubete, Luis A. Asuar, Yasmína Annicchiarico, Natalia Franco, Manuel Pozo and others on the 21st and by Carlos Antón on the 23rd.

In all probability, this bird must have escaped from a private collection although it lacked identification rings.



Image nº 6: Red-crowned crane in flight at La Nava lagoon (P). Photo: Joselu Álvarez, Alba López.



Image nº 7: Red-crowned at La Nava lagoon (P).Photo: Charli Antón.

09/01/20: 4,880 are counted at Hornborga Lake (SE) Hornborgarsöns Färltstation.

09/02/20: flock migrating at night over La Pedrera reservoir, Torremendo (A) Pablo Perales

108 at Lac du Der (FR) Aurelien Deschartres.

09/03/20: 7,190 at Hornborga Lake (SE) Hornborgarsöns Färltstation; 6,967 are counted at Usjcie-Warty National Park (PL).

09/04/20: A flock was Heard at 23:30h over Catral (A) and at 01:00h it was heard at La Pedrera reservoir (A) Belén Escudero, Pablo Perales.

4,246 at Rügen (GE) Günter Nowald

09/05/20: A flock was heard at night in the Aspe valley (FR) near the Spanish border at Candanchú Marta Celej.

09/06/20: Between 70 and 80 birds at Guadalentín salt flats, Alhama de Murcia (MU) Nerea Martinez.

09/07/20: 2 groups flying before dawn over Facinas (C) towards Africa, one of them had to have more than 50 birds, Arkadiusz Broniarek.

09/08/20: 5,190 are counted at Hornborga Lake (SE) Hornborgarsöns Färltstation

09/09/20: 9,700 at Hornborga Lake (SE) Hornborgarsöns Färltstation

09/11/20: 25 over Monrepós (HU), José L. Martín.

09/16/20: 20 flying over Vejer de la Frontera (CA) Goyo Naharro.

09/17/20: 13,280 at Hornborga Lake (SE) Lotta Berg; 10,109 at P.N, Warta Mouth (PL) Arkadiusz Broniarek; The Estonian crane *Vilja* begins its migratory journey at 4:33 p.m. and travels 1,370 km to the P.N. Hortobagy (HU) where it arrives at 23:47 h. on 09/18/20 A second crane named *Uko* that was in Valka (LT) leaves at 11:08 a.m. to the center of Belarus where it arrives at 11:47 a.m. (image no. 9) on the 18th .

09/18/20: 1 at Martín Muñoz de las Posadas (SG).

125 at Der lagoon (FR) Antoine Cubaixo.

09/19/20: 2 in flight over Cazalegas (TO) Miguel L. Soto (ARDEIDAS).

09/20/20: 3 over Miajadas (CC). Edu Sosa

203 at Der lake (FR) LPO Champagne-Ardenne. 1 over Organbideska (FR)

09/21/20: 40 over Enciso (LR) Asier Ochoa.

09/22/20: 5 over substation of D. Rodrigo (SE) Antonio Conejo

09/24/20: 10 over Nava de la Asunción (SG) Nelly Maroto. 14.240 in Hornborga Lake.

09/27/20: 3 over Moraleja (CC) Miguel Todón.



Image nº 8: Summering cranes (red) and first migrants (yellow)

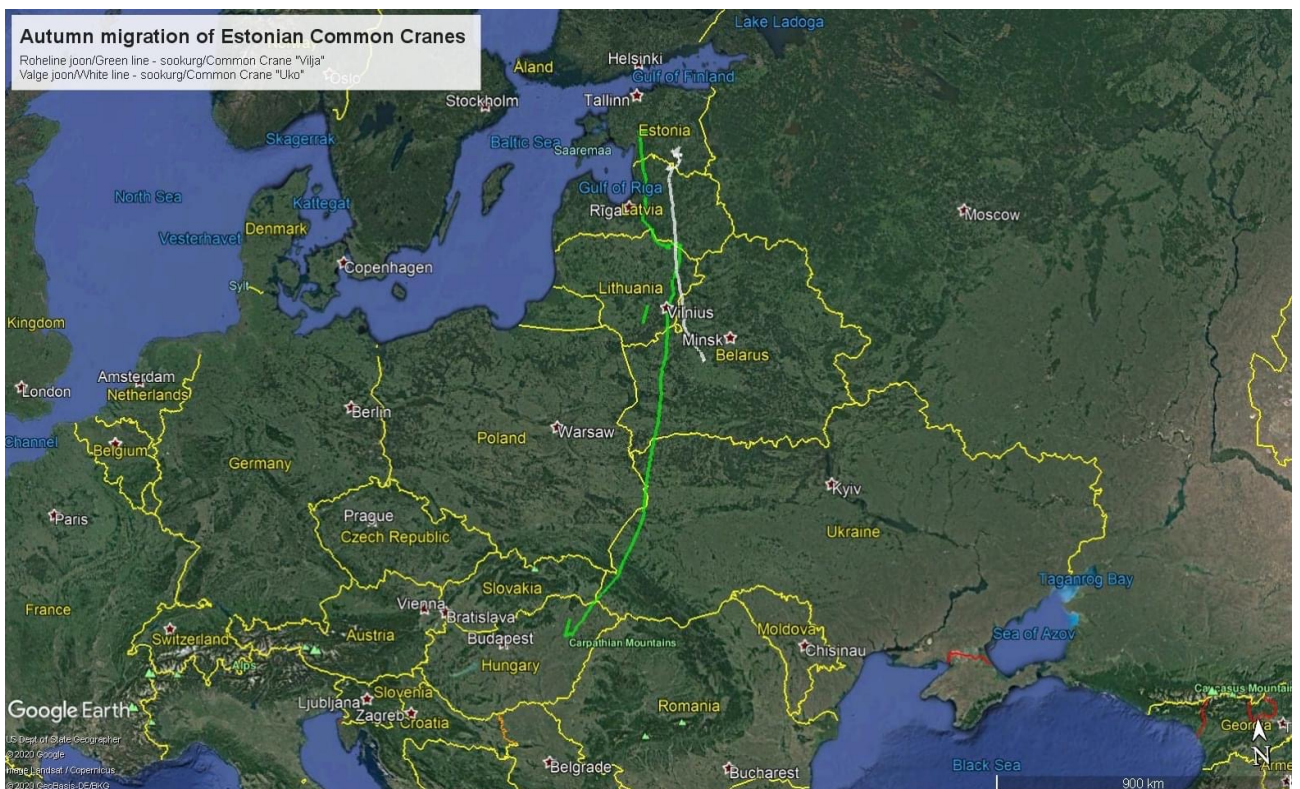


Image nº 9: First migratory movement of Vilja between September 17 and 18. Info: Ivar Ojaste. (In blue the second Uko crane)