



Sciez, March 13<sup>th</sup> 2023

## First birth in 2023 at the White-tailed Eagle Reintroduction Centre

Les Aigles du Léman park has good news to share, as the first small white-tailed eagle was born there at around 1 pm on March 11<sup>th</sup> 2023. The proud parents of this year's first eaglet are two 14 and 16-year old eagles named Kaaba and Roy. Others should follow soon, as eight couples have laid eggs this year!

The reintroduction program that began last year with the return of four young birds to the wild is distinguished by its strategy of releasing eaglets from the reproduction of couples settled in the Aigles du Léman park, making it essential that the reproduction itself works well. "While we are aware that this fluctuates from year to year, we have many couples with eggs in 2023 and are thus very hopeful and although not all of them will hatch, this first baby is a very positive sign", said Jacques-Olivier Travers, director of the park and head of the reintroduction program.

It is worth pointing out that one of the reasons this programme is working so well lies in the involvement of many French parks – such as Puy du Fou, Zoo Amnéville, Volerie des Aigles, Terre de Nataé, Zoo du Pal – that have donated birds or even couples.

The public can see the youngsters grow up and then follow their movements thanks to geolocator beacons by subscribing to the tracking platform on the internet (50€ annually) and thus ensure the funding of the programme while marvelling at the sight of these wonderfully attentive parents.

The youngsters will be reintroduced at the beginning of September 2023 and will bear the names of the partners financing their geolocator beacon, which for this year include: Thonon les bains, Gilles Mouthon SAS, Châtel, Morzine, Messery, Allinges, volerie du Forez, Le pal...

This reintroduction programme was jointly created by the Alpine Eagle Foundation and the Aigles du Léman park. The foundation is currently the programme's major source of funding.

### News of the first four reintroduced

**Crédit Agricole** has settled in the Fanel reserve in Neuchâtel, Switzerland, where it delights naturalist photographers.

**Haute-Savoie** stayed at the Domaine de Rovorée until the beginning of March before leaving for a long trip along the Danube to the Czech border.

**Sciez** went to the Dranse reserve and the Domaine du Guidou until March and then left for the Morvan mountain region.

**Eaux de Thonon** settled in the mountains above Lake Geneva between Leysin and Gstaad.

The four birds are totally independent and will hopefully continue their lives on their own for about three years before hopefully returning to the area to find a partner and settle permanently.

The reintroduction programme is due to run until 2030 and there are plans to release about 85 young birds. The vast majority will go to Switzerland and France, but two to three pairs are expected to be released in the Lake Geneva area.



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