

Website www.cr-reading.nl is maintained by Henk van Huffelen (born 1955). Cr spotting is 1 of my big hobbies since 1981. You can see my observation list at the site(button "About").

The website

- Was build after frustrations about a not-answering-Bewick Swan-projectleader .
- I took 2 years preparation/education to decide that I could do it. (I do not like public disasters as a bad behaving website)
- Is not commercial. The year fee is far not enough to see it as a payment for the work done. So to say is the website also a hobby of me. (I like to give service in a professional way)
- Is functioning since Feb 4th 2007.
- Is used by Wim Tijssen (Redshank and Bewick Swan)
Derick Hiemstra (Common Tern and Arctic Tern)
- Can be extended with as much projects as will come.
- By using a database you will get very consistent data. (For instance: the name of an observer will be written in only one way). So much better than Excel.
- Is multilingual. This can be very important when your birds go to an complete other region. The implemented languages are: Dutch, English, French, German and Spanish.
- The website is prepared to introduce more languages.
- When a bird is reringed the new rings are linked to the former rings by a birdId.

The specifics per user group of the site are:

Ringers

- Can decide to participate.
- Pay a little amount per year.
- Can leave after every year.
- Have 24/7 access to all their own projects (They can download always the whole project database of their own data)
- Can follow their birds on ID basis. This is of particular interest when you replace rings with new codes.
- Check every entry and mark them "OK". This way you prevent idiots to place observations, or freaks filling in whole series and stealing all your data this way.

Users

- Can enter their project observations. (So no administration for the ringer). Leaflet and Open Street Map helps to get the good coordinates.
- Can download the life histories of only the birds they saw.

What to do as ringer when starting: (more specifics are sent when really starting)

1 Make an ID file in Excel of existing birds

2 Make a file with all your historical data Observations and ring records in 1 file. Ring recs marked as "Ringing Date"

3 Do a great part of the formatting work (not needed in a new project)

4 Give the final OK for the data being what is wanted. (Checks the download if everything is OK)

5 Is responsible for making a download every now and than as backup.

What does the webmaster do:

- 1 Open the project and make it ready for data entry. (Can be done in 1 day)
- 2 Entering the ID file in the database
- 3 Finishes the coding of the historical data file
- 4 Entering the data file
- 5 Stays alert for complaints and malfunctioning

Maintenance:

Ringer:

- checks if there are new records, set them to OK. From that moment on the observer can see the life history
- If new rings are applied: enters Bird-ID's and enters the ring records. From that moment on the ringer can see if there are new observations for this bird.

Webmaster:

- Acts as helpdesk
- Mails are normally answered on the same day
- Some 80% can be solved on the same day.
- Informs ringer when problems are bigger
- Is always a communicator
- Solves every other problems

Recent development in 2013: module with what you can direct link your project data to Euring (only functional to Vogeltrekstation Holland). The idea is "Press the button" and you have sent all your year data to Euring/national scheme. Module is ready and functioning. Developed in 2014: remodelling the birId module, so that it becomes really simple for ringers to generate ALL the needed birId records related to 1 catch action.

2017: personalisation options added.

2018: transition from Google Maps to Open Street Map and Leaflet.

2019: checks and balances for the webmaster in function

Future action: make connection to other countryschemes. This has to be programmed and coordinated to the national scheme involved.

Please make contact with the webmaster hjvanhuffelenADDgmail.com. I can make you a quick testaccount.

Happy to meet you!!