

abundant. Macro-benthic species were absent from the profundal zone of the Lake, which showed all the important characteristics of a polluted water-body.

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Starving Greylag Geese Saved in Spain

Quick action by the Spanish Government and the World Wildlife Fund early this year probably saved many thousands of migrating Greylag Geese (*Anser anser*) from starvation. An emergency feeding programme provided 100 metric tons of grain to feed up to 50,000 Greylag Geese which annually winter at the Doñana National Park in Spain before flying north to breed in northern Europe. The birds that winter in Doñana represent a major part of the Scandinavian breeding population of the species.

The Coto Doñana National Park was suffering from one of the worst droughts in years, and many animals were undergoing great difficulties in finding food and water for survival in January and early February, according to Catalina Brennan, Secretary-General of WWF Spain. The Spanish Minister of Agriculture, Jaime Lamo de Espinosa, took immediate action to a 4 February

petition from WWF Spain, and instructed that 100 tons of grain be sent to the Park that very day.

In a prior action, Dr Jose Antonio Valverde, honorary director of the Doñana Biological Station, obtained 6 tons of rice to avoid catastrophe. After an exchange of telexes, the 4 national organizations in Scandinavia (Denmark, Norway, Finland, and Sweden) immediately agreed to pay for the emergency rice. A decade ago WWF Norway and WWF Sweden contributed more than US \$100,000 each to purchase land for the Doñana Biological Station.

Paul S. Wachtel, *Public Affairs Coordinator*
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Save Our Biosphere

For the celebration of World Environment Day 1981, the Indian Society of Naturalists (INSONA) has brought out stickers entitled *SAVE BIOSPHERE* (Fig. 1). This is with a view to lending support to, and promoting in every possible way, *The World Decade of The Biosphere, 1982–92* (starting ten years after 'Stockholm'), as proposed originally by Drs John R. Vallentyne, of the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, Ontario, Canada, J. R. Strickler, of the Australian Institute of Marine Science, Queensland, Australia, and Nicholas Polunin, of *Environmental Conservation*, Geneva, Switzerland.

The members of INSONA wish to identify themselves and their organization with the World Decade of the Biosphere, and hereby announce that they intend, through their programmes in the coming years, to promote and foster it in every possible way—with the objective of making everyone aware of The Biosphere, what it is, and how utterly we and all mankind depend upon it.

The facts and leadership statements on the subject which have appeared in recent issues of *Environmental Conservation*—the scientific journal devoted to global