

# Securing the return of the Iberian Imperial Eagle to Portugal



## LIFE Imperial: concrete actions towards the conservation of Iberian Imperial Eagle

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### Decline

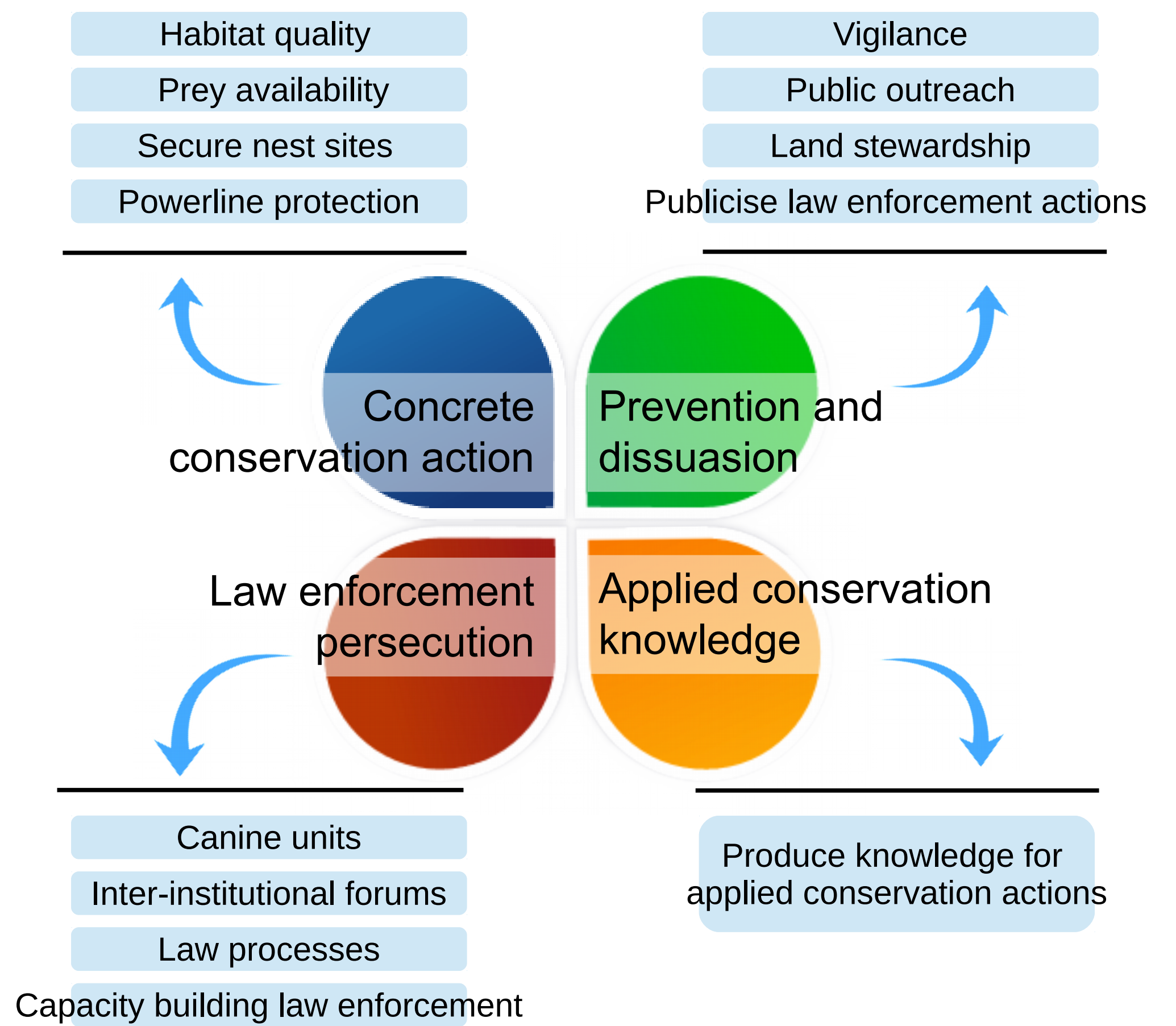
The Iberian-imperial-eagle is the most threaten bird of prey in Europe. In the beginning of the 20th century the species was abundant in most of it distribution range. Present in open plain habitats of the Iberian peninsula.

The decline, during the last century, was constant and associated with factors such as the gradual change of agriculture and cattle raising towards a more intensive land-use or the introduction of pesticides.

By later 70's early 80's the species was extinct as a breeder in Portugal. This is also the period of lower population size in Spain reaching 38 occupied territories in 1971 and 1974 censuses.



### Actions to secure the return



### Recovery

Due to a great conservation effort including conservation projects and action planning at national and European level the situation was reversed and by 2013 the population is now around 400 occupied territories.

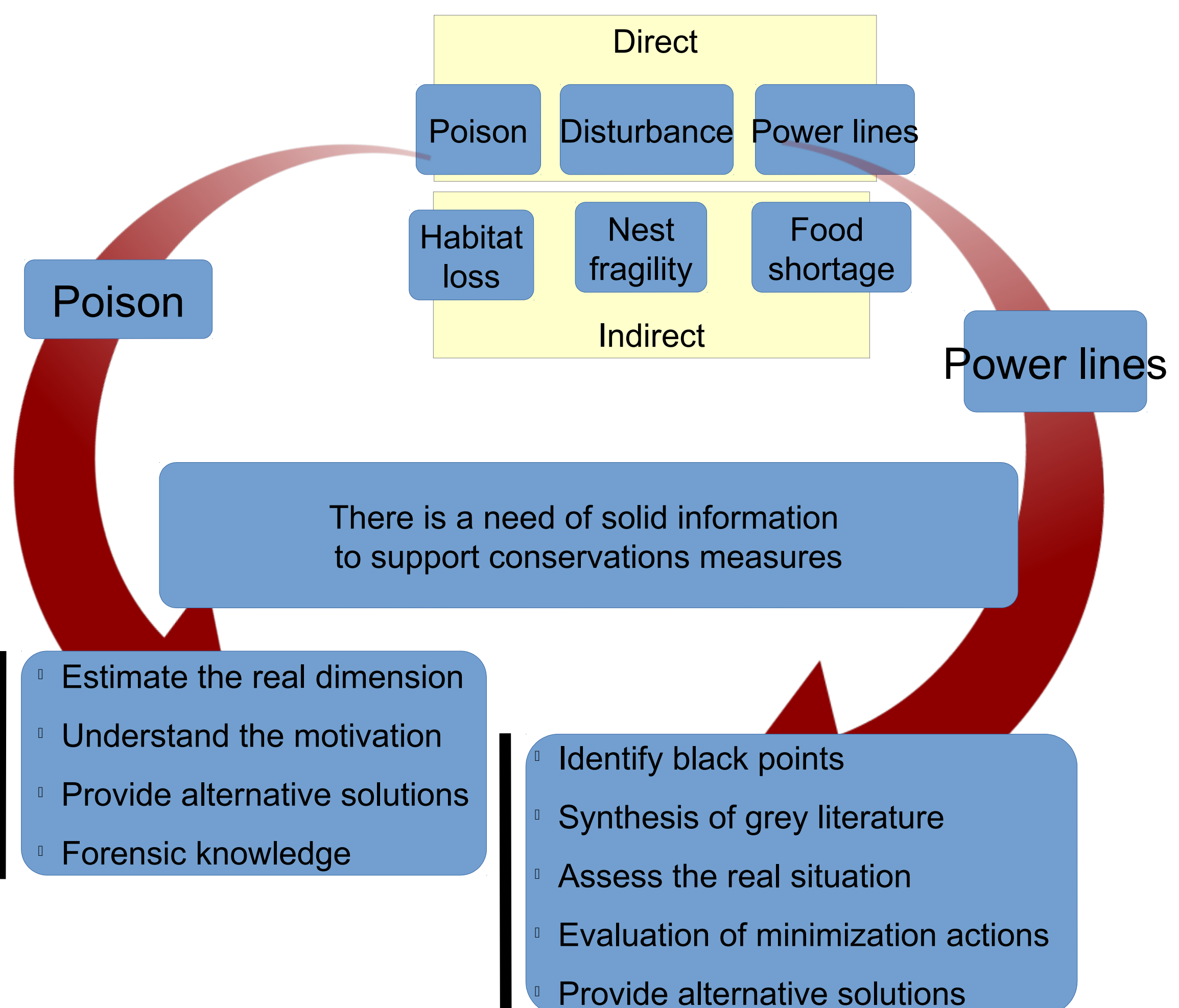
### Return

The first territory was re-colonized in 2003, more than two decades after of the last couple. By 2014 the number reach the 13 occupied territories.

However, to secure this recent, growing and fragile population concrete conservation actions are needed to reduce its major threats.

### Major threats

### Produce knowledge



The success of the measures to secure the return of the Iberian-imperial-eagle depends greatly on combining best available information with strong concrete conservation actions. At the same time increase prevention, dissuasion, education and persecution to reduce threats.

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