

Refuerzo poblacional y recuperación de poblaciones extintas de alondra ricotí

LIFE Connect Ricotí Final Congress | 2nd July 2026

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First translocation program in a continental lark species

EN PELIGRO

EN

Alaudidae: Chersophilus duponti

Pilot study

- Small and more isolated populations face a higher risk of extinction
- Natural movements known to be low

García-Antón & Traba
2021



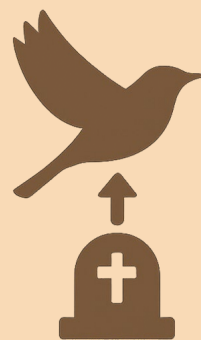
Conservation translocations

Translocations types



Release individuals to
an existing small
population to improve
connectivity

Reinforcement

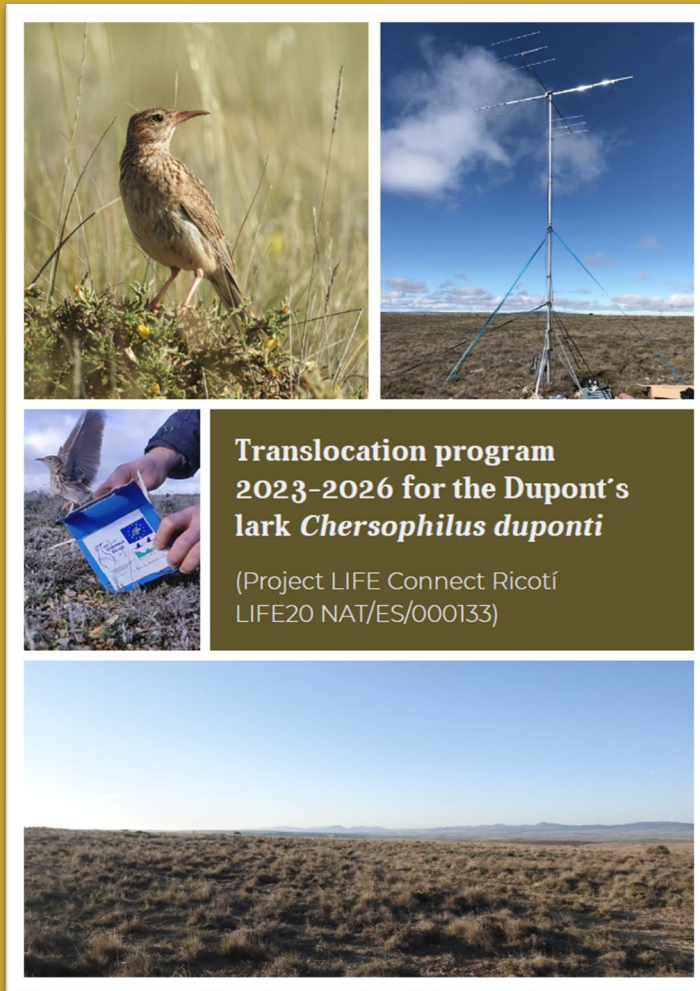
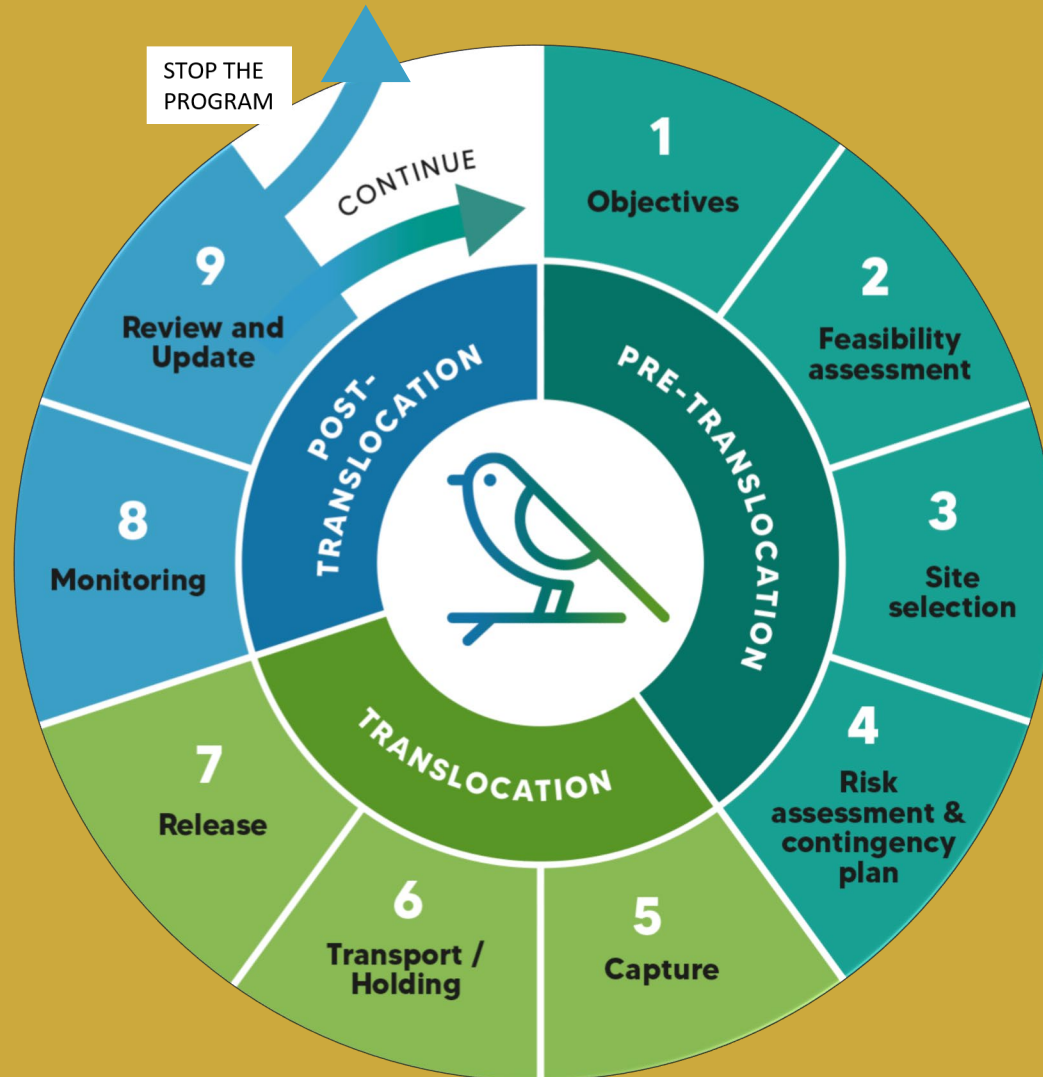


Release individuals to
an extinct (or almost
extinct) population

Re-establishing



Translocation program



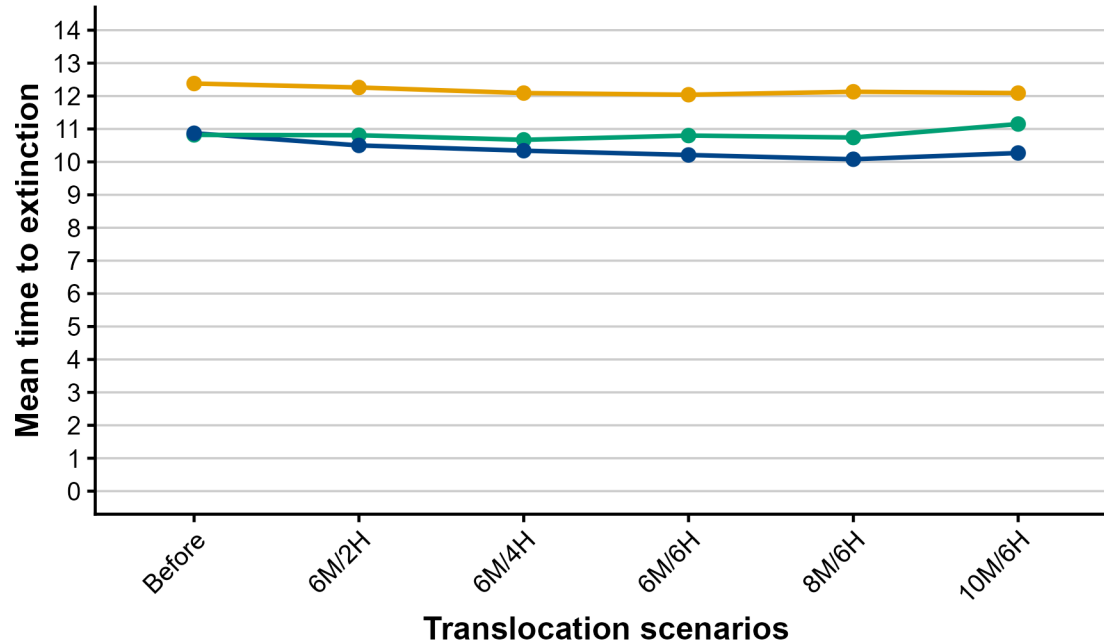
Translocation program



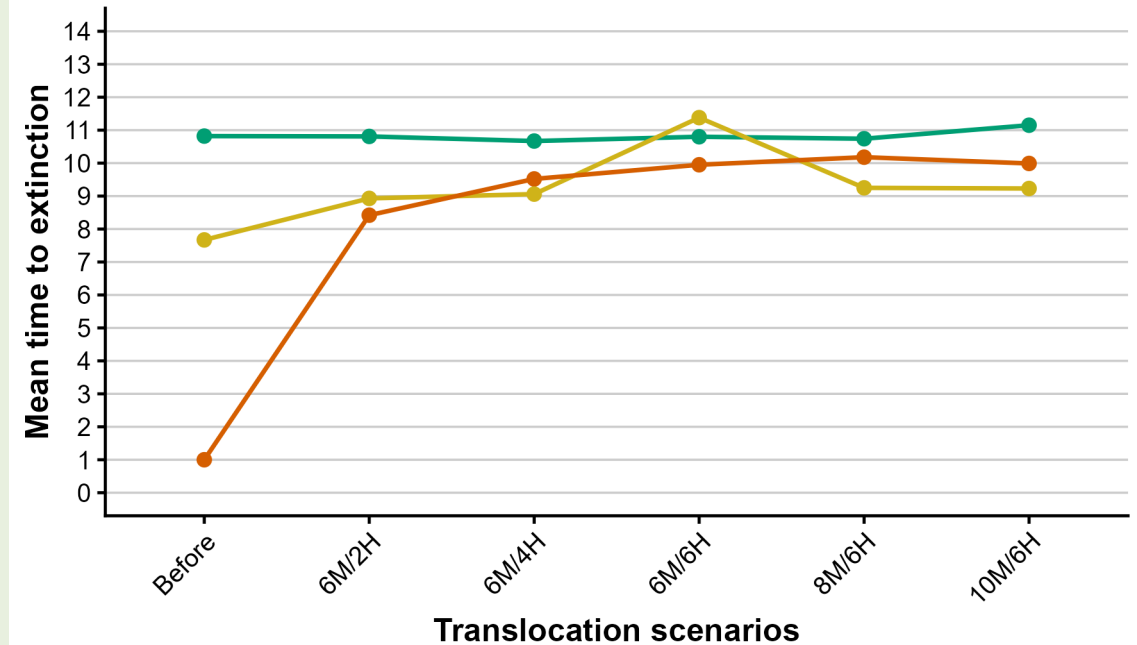
Population viability analysis

Population ● MolinaAragon ● Moya ● Valeria
● AltosBaraona ● Layna

Donor populations

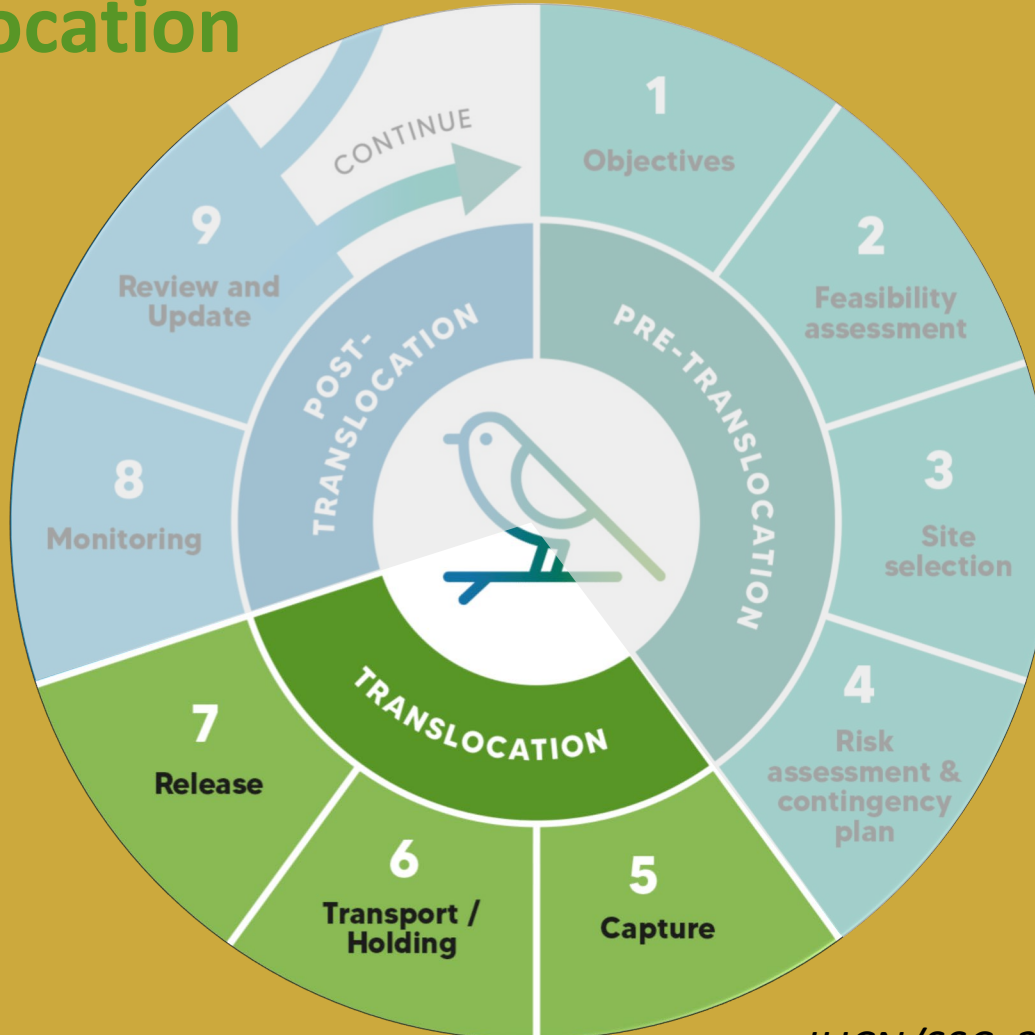


Host populations



Translocation program

Translocation



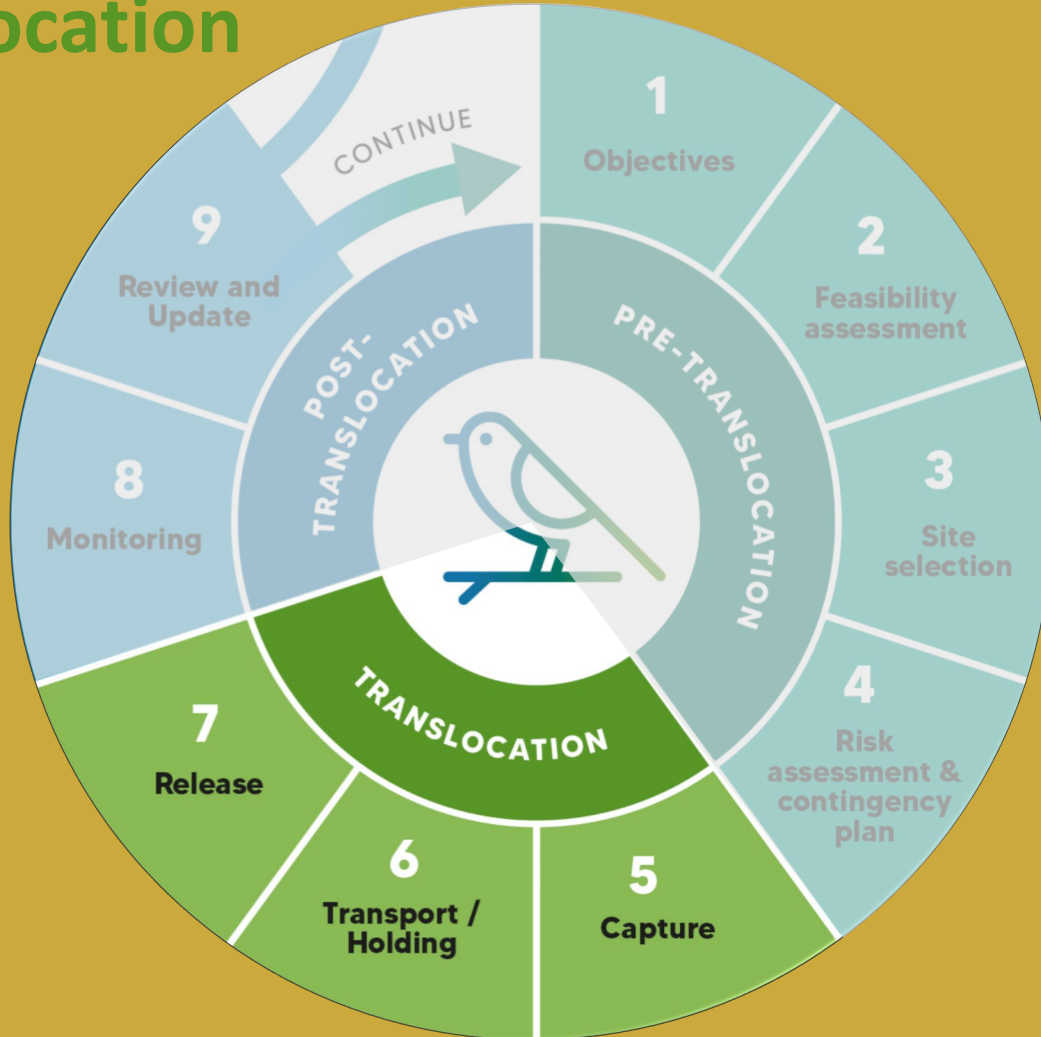
IUCN/SSC, 2013

Capture



Translocation program

Translocation

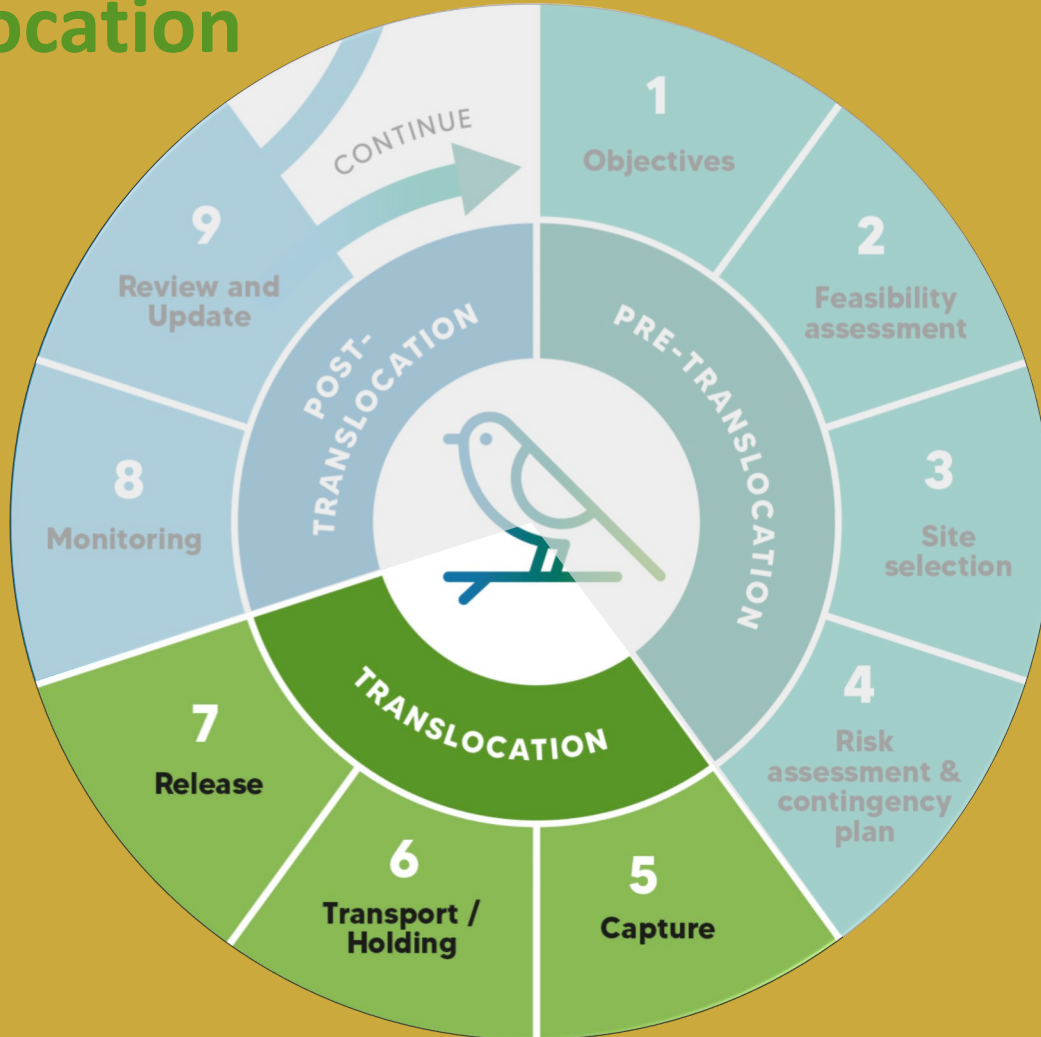


Transport / Hold



Translocation program

Translocation



Hard- release



Translocation program



Release - Monitoring



Nanotag 1 gram



Coded VHF



Automatic radio-receiver



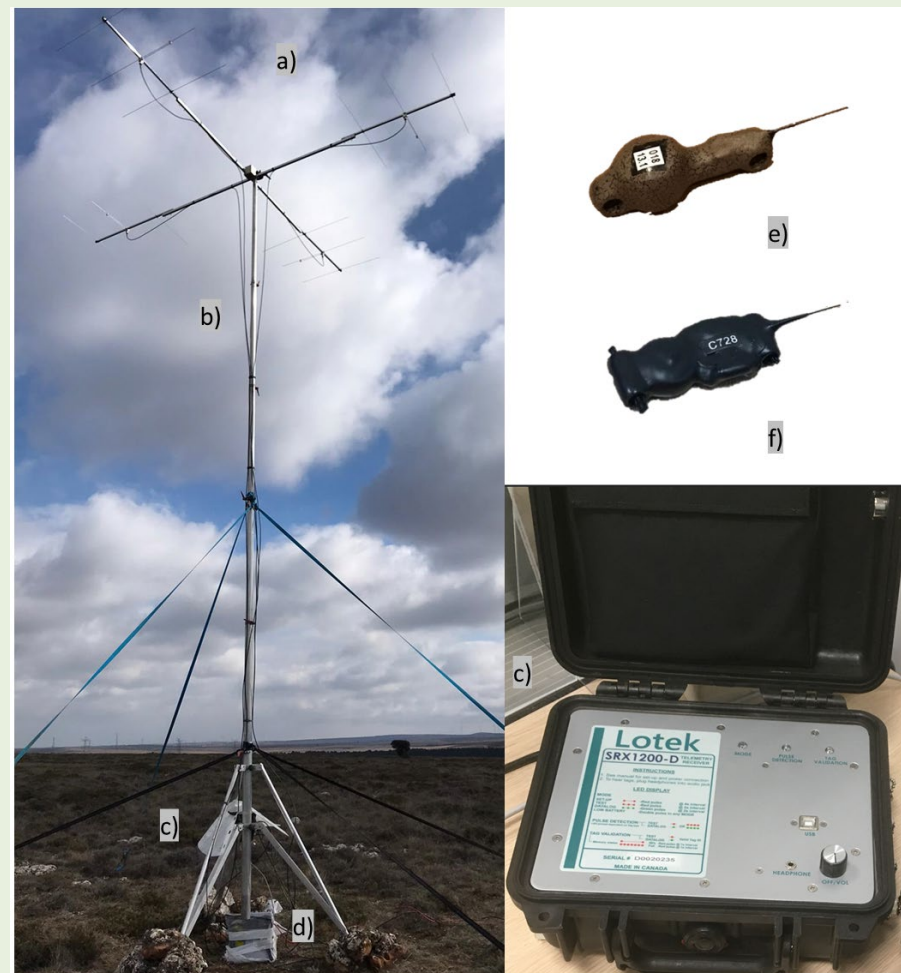
~ 1 (2) years



35- 45 grams

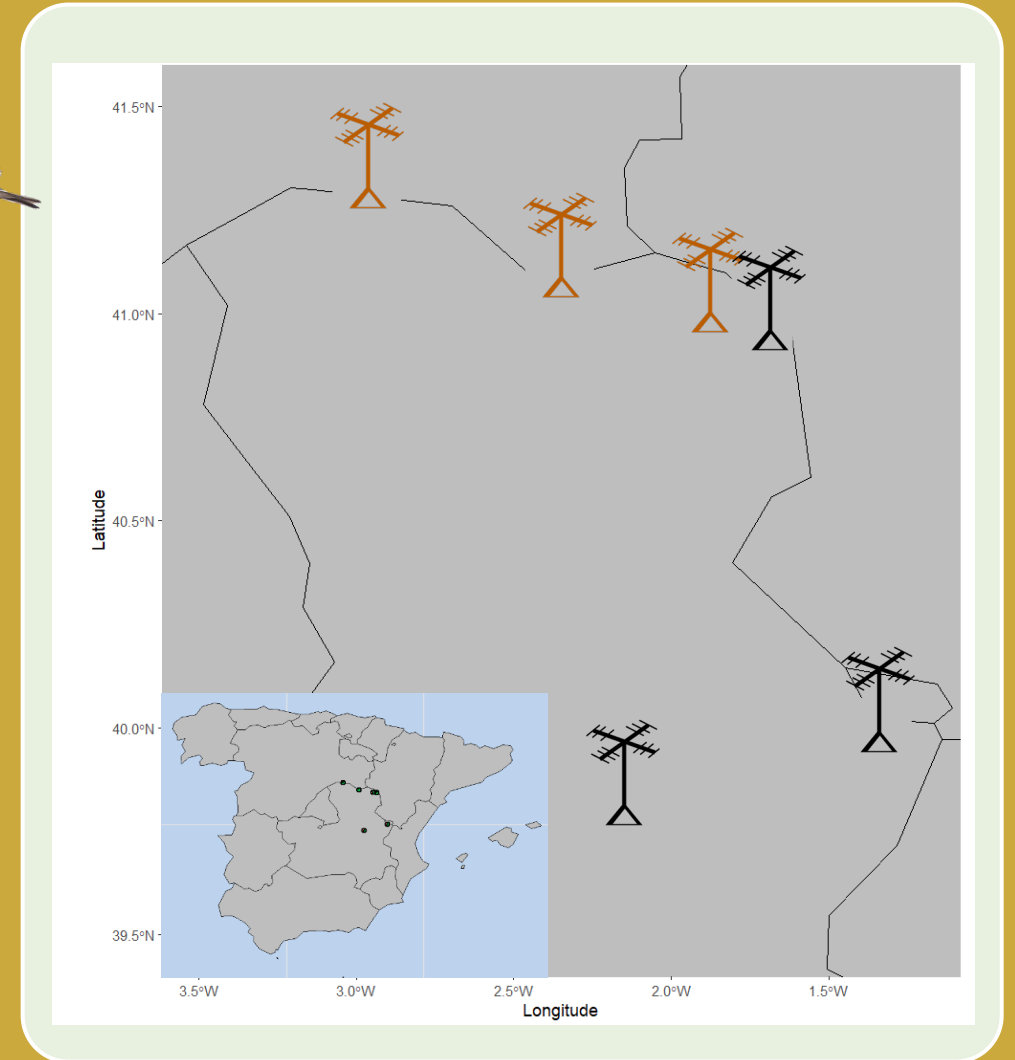
Translocation program

Monitoring



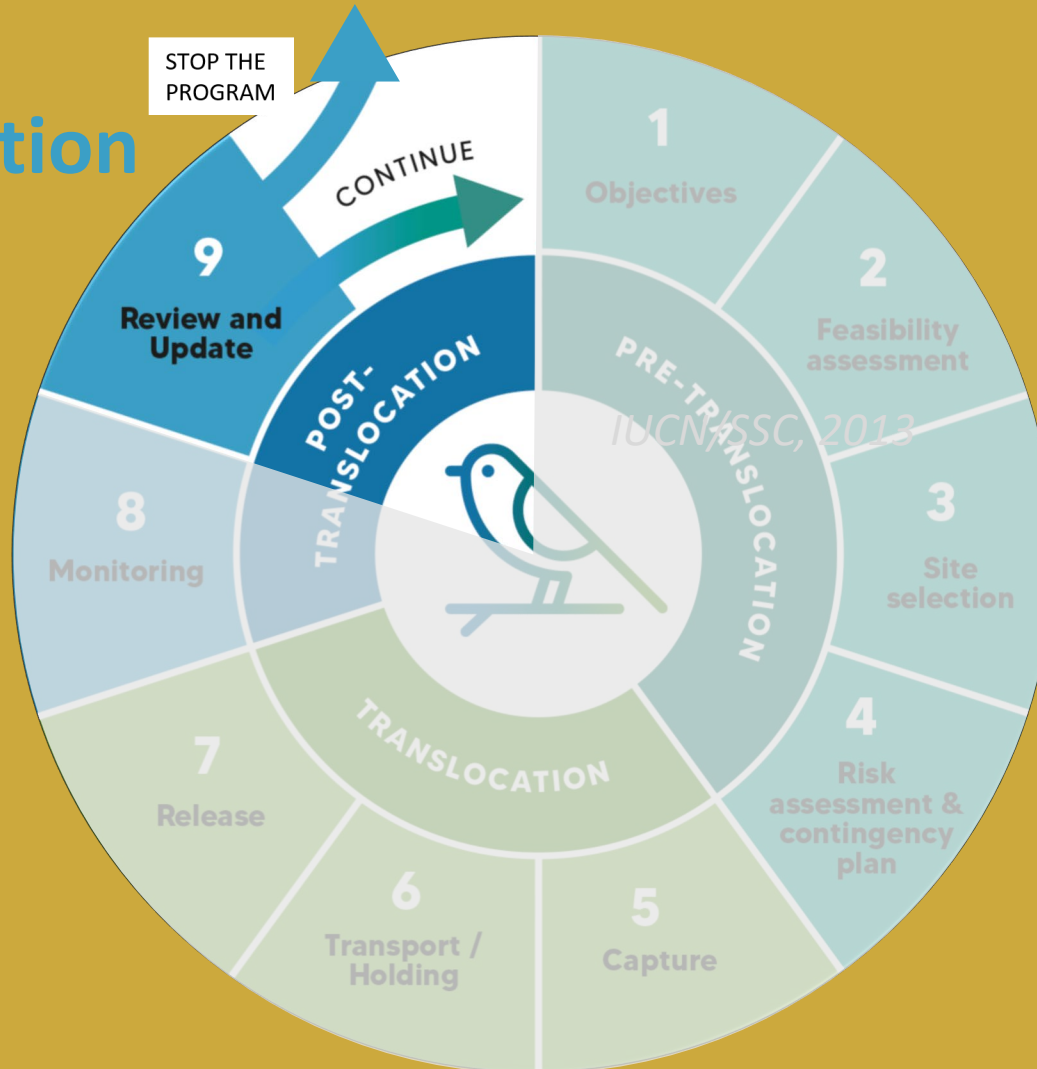
Translocation program

Monitoring



Translocation program

Evaluation



How to measure translocation success?



- Establishment of individuals in the new area (breeding period)



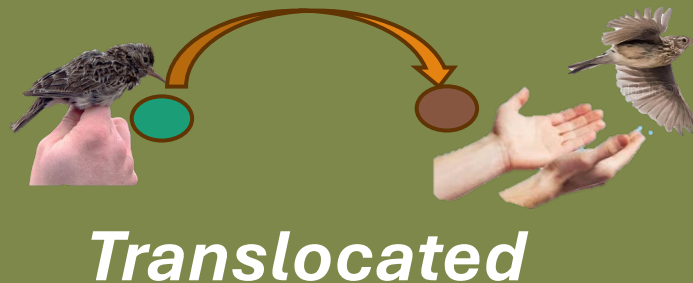
- Surviving individuals



- Reproduction events observed



- Population growth



Dupont's lark translocation

Number of Birds captured

- 4 years
- 3 translocation locations
- 6 translocations

Embid (3-4 ind)

Valeria (0-1 ind)

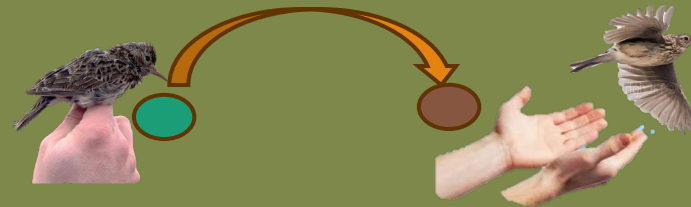
Pedro Izquierdo (0 ind)

31 males 8 females

38 males 14 females



Control



Translocated



Dupont's lark translocation RESULTS

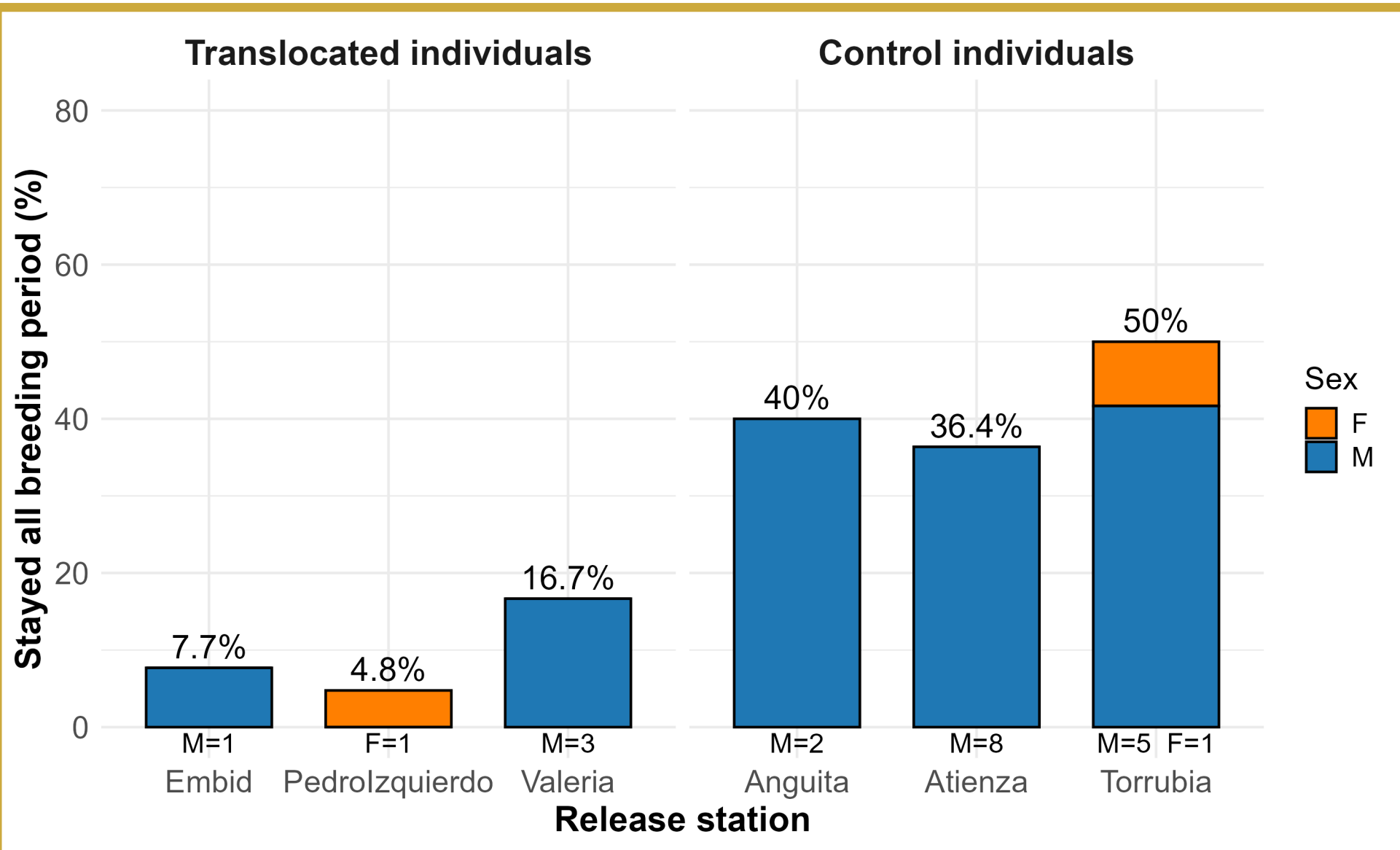




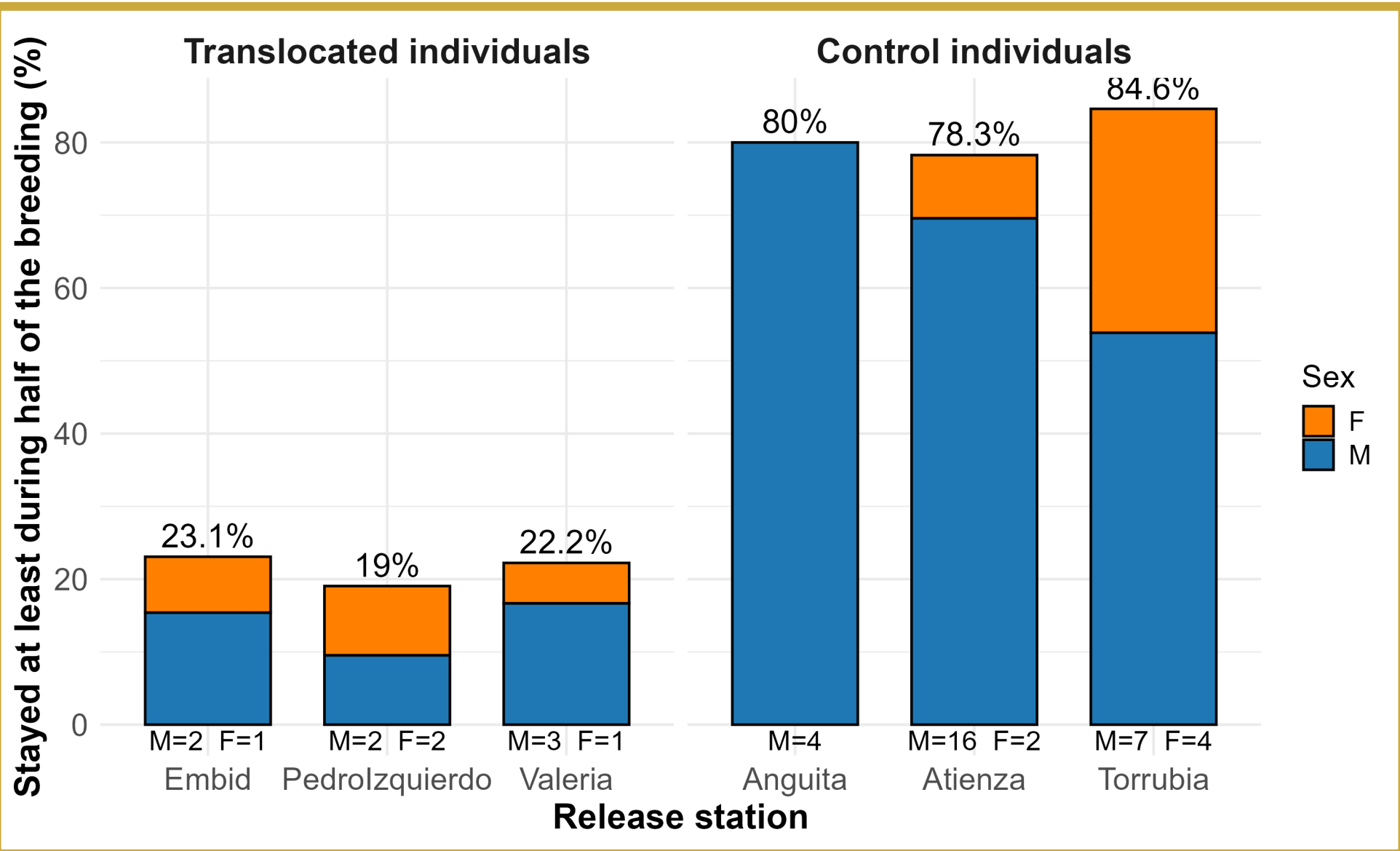
Establishment in the translocation area



Stayed the entire breeding season



Stayed half of breeding season



Causes of undetected individuals



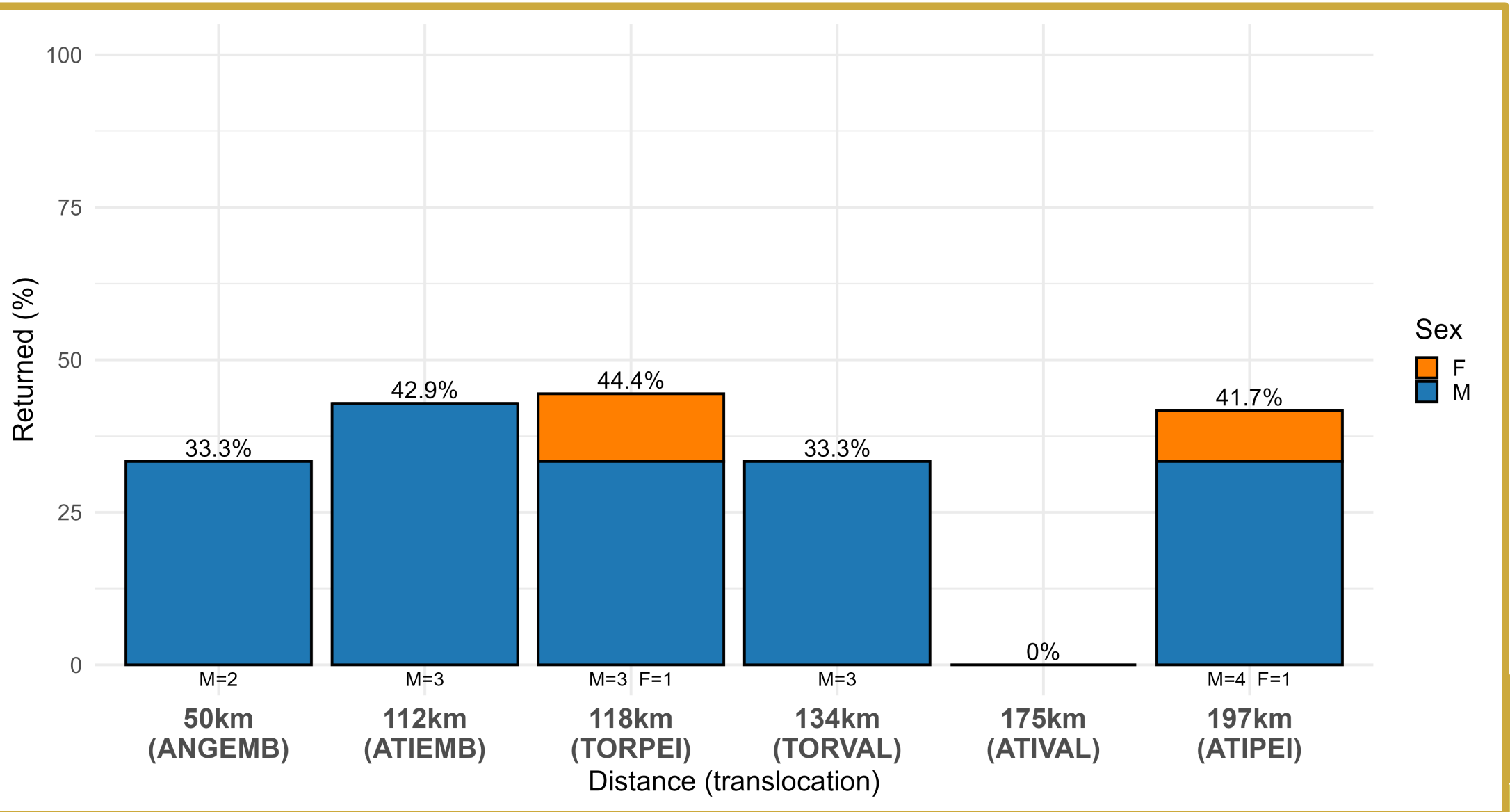
Established outside detection range (or dead)



Tag without antenna or tag failure



Returned individuals

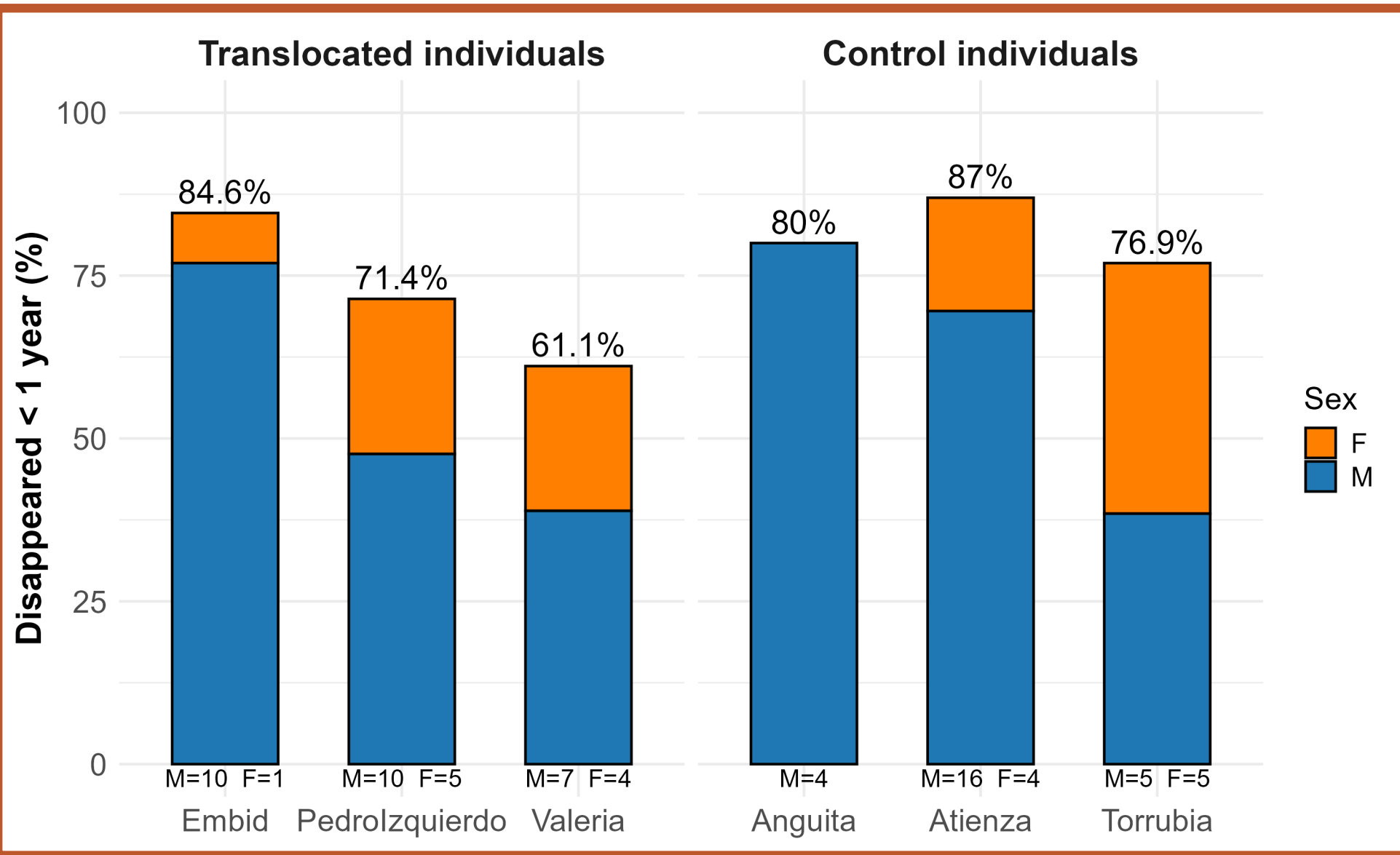




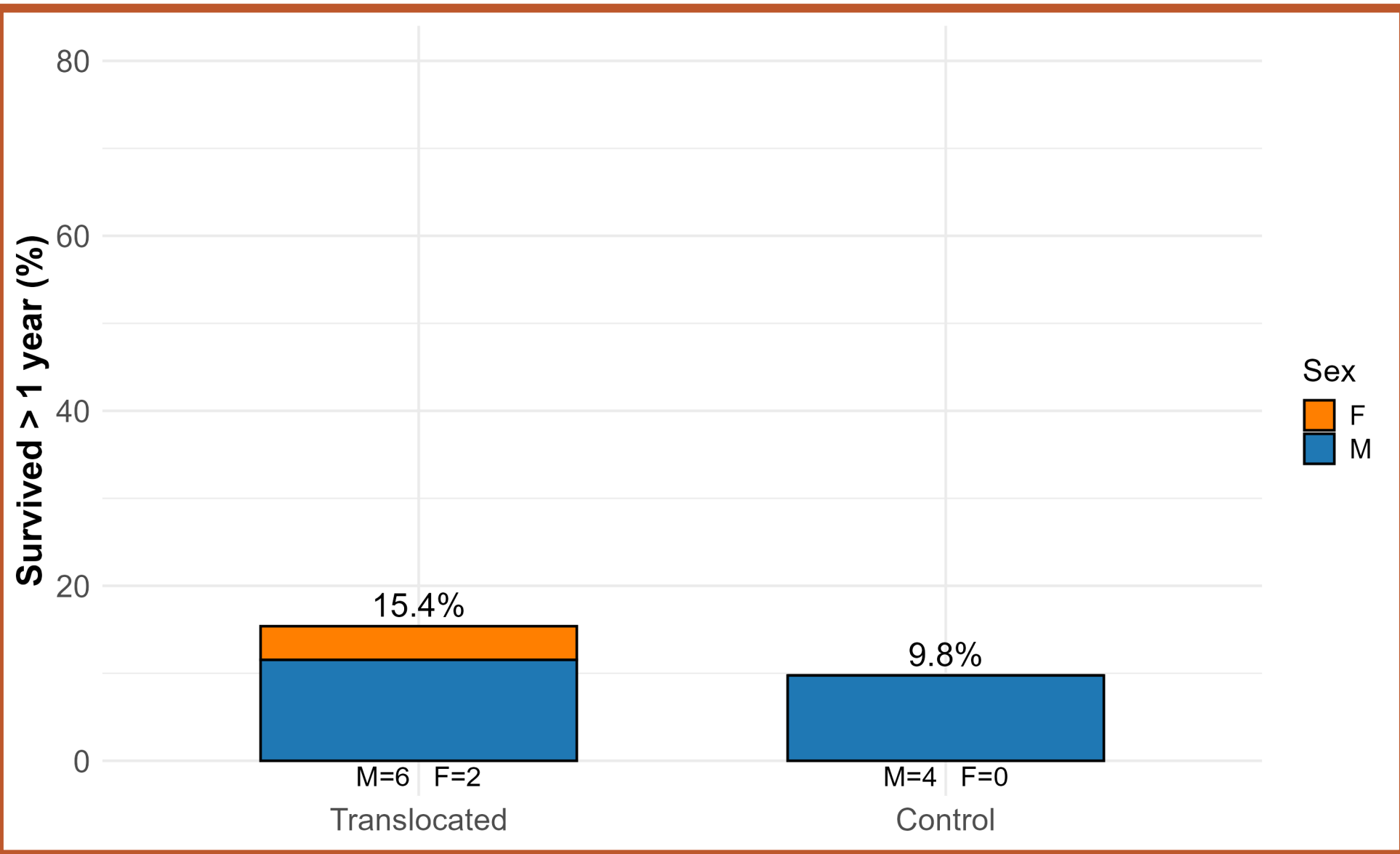
Survived individuals



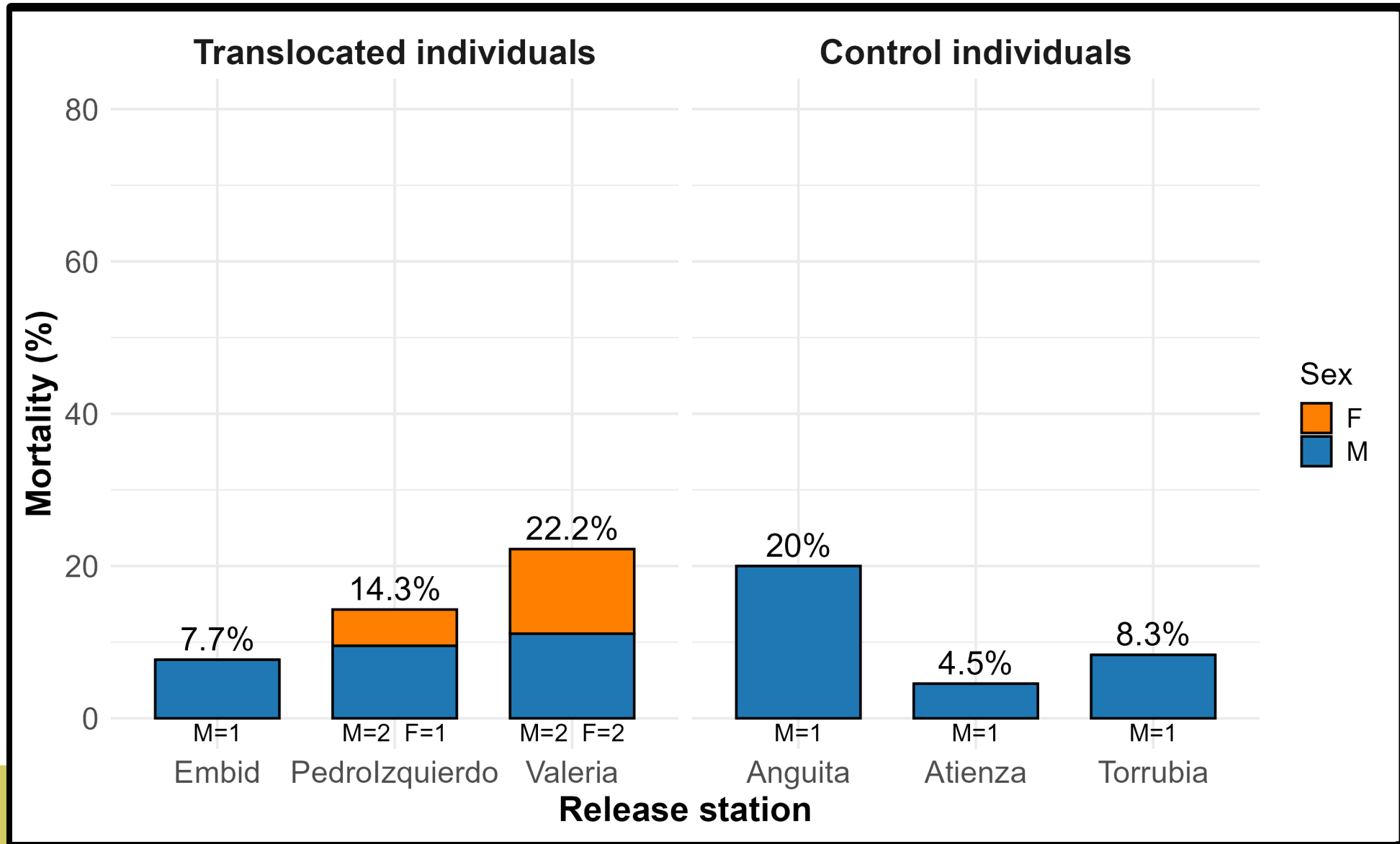
Disappeared before 1 year



Confirmed survived

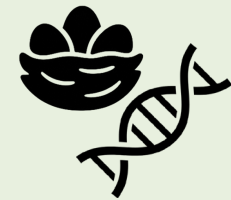


Confirmed mortality





Reproduction events and genetic analysis



Reproduction events



Evidence of breeding success in the translocation area

- At least 5 nests found in Embid and 1 in Valeria
- Additional breeding female detected near the translocation area



Reproduction events



Evidence of breeding success in the translocation area

- At least 5 nests found in Embid and 1 in Valeria
- Additional breeding female detected near the translocation area
- Genetic analyses confirmed a juvenile offspring from a translocated female



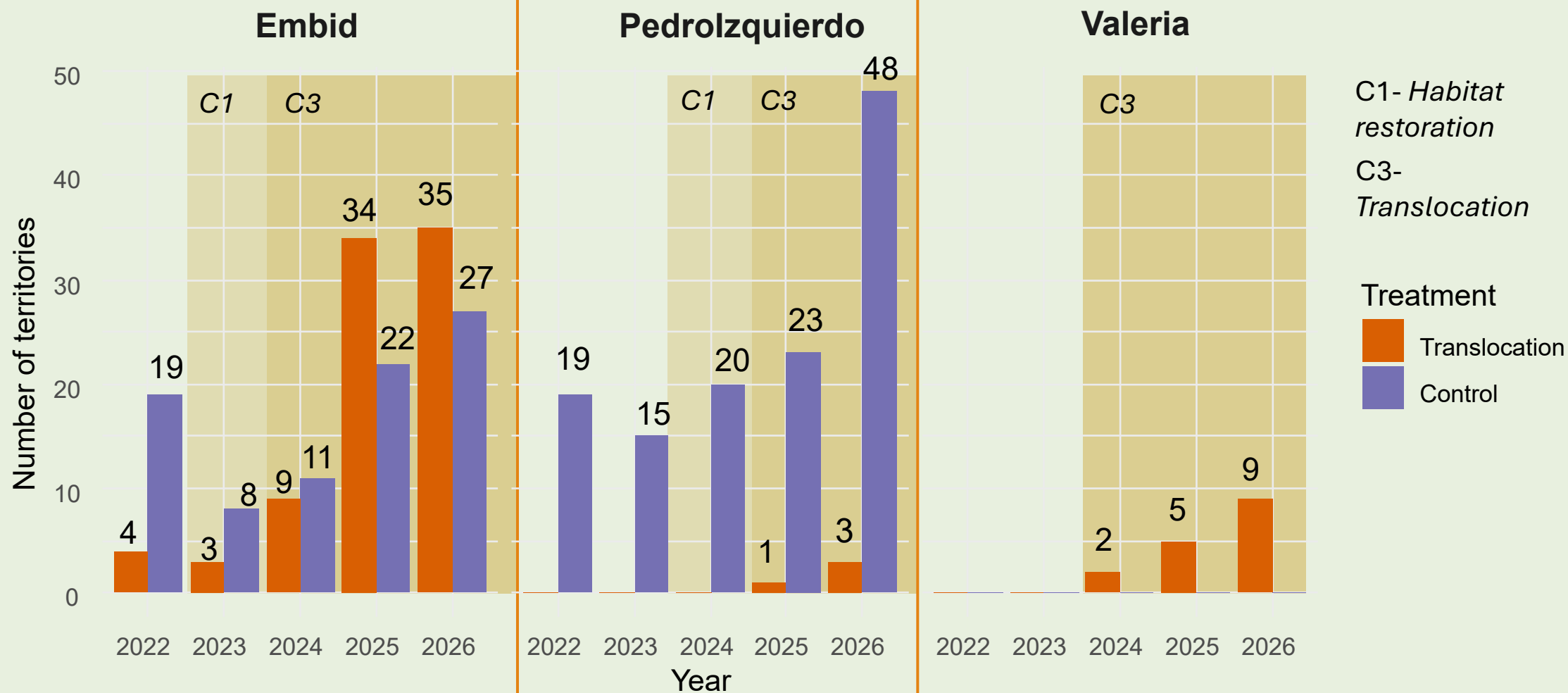


Population growth

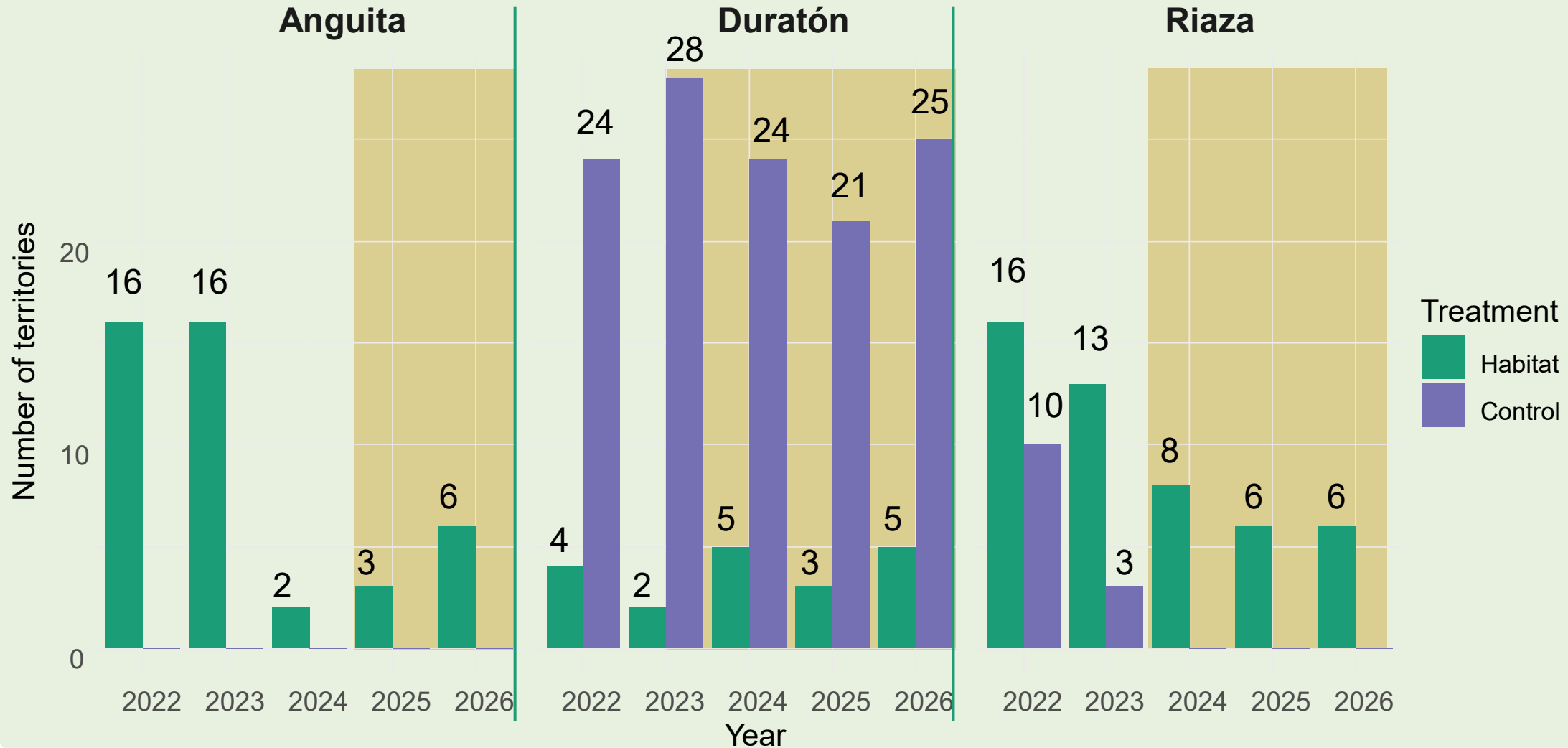




Population increase in the translocation area

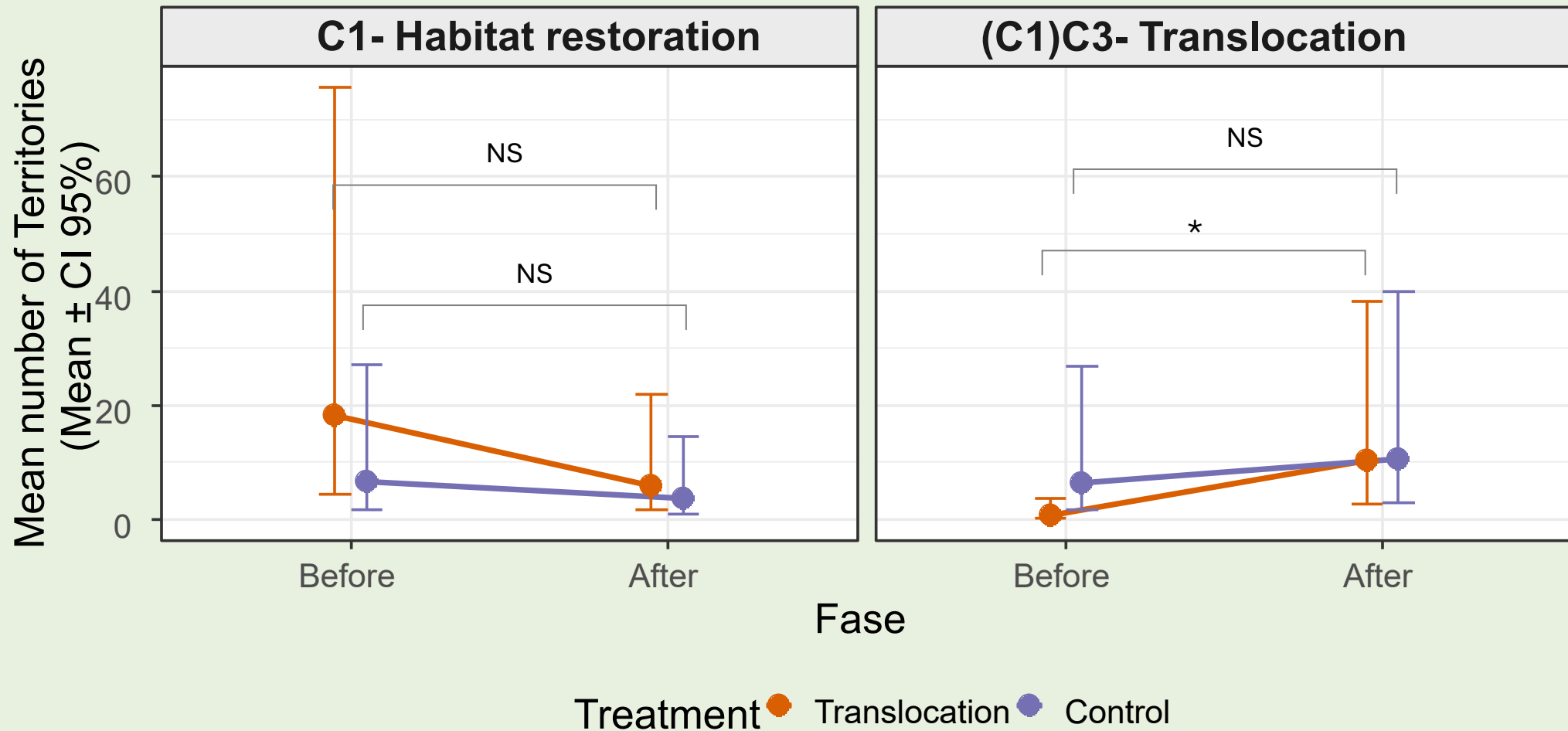


C1 – Habitat restoration areas



Translocation effect

BACI on Dupont's lark territories



TAKE HOME MESSAGES

- ➔ Dupont's Lark can be translocated safely
 - *Survival of translocated birds was similar to that of control individuals, with no evidence of substantial translocation-related mortality.*
- ➔ Translocations promote establishment. Although not all individuals remained at the release site, reproduction was confirmed
 - *Some birds settled successfully and reproduce, while others returned to their origin or established in nearby areas.*
- ➔ Population increases cannot be explained solely by translocated individuals
 - *The species moves more than previously assumed, and translocations may trigger conspecific attraction and natural colonization processes.*
- ➔ A combination of monitoring methods provides the most reliable assessment of success
 - *Radiotracking, field observations and genetic analyses offered complementary information on survival, settlement and reproduction.*



Gràcies!

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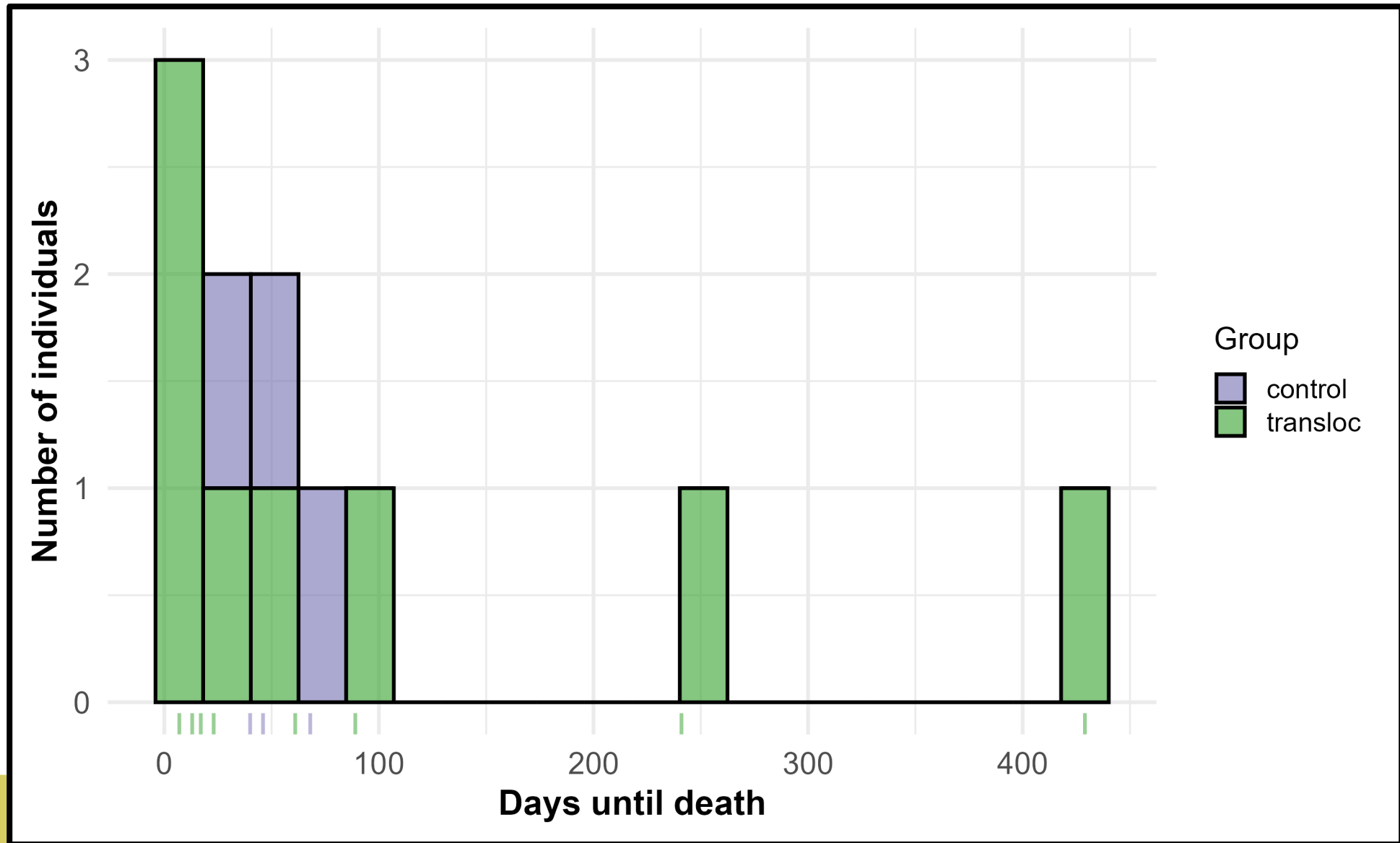


2nd July 2026



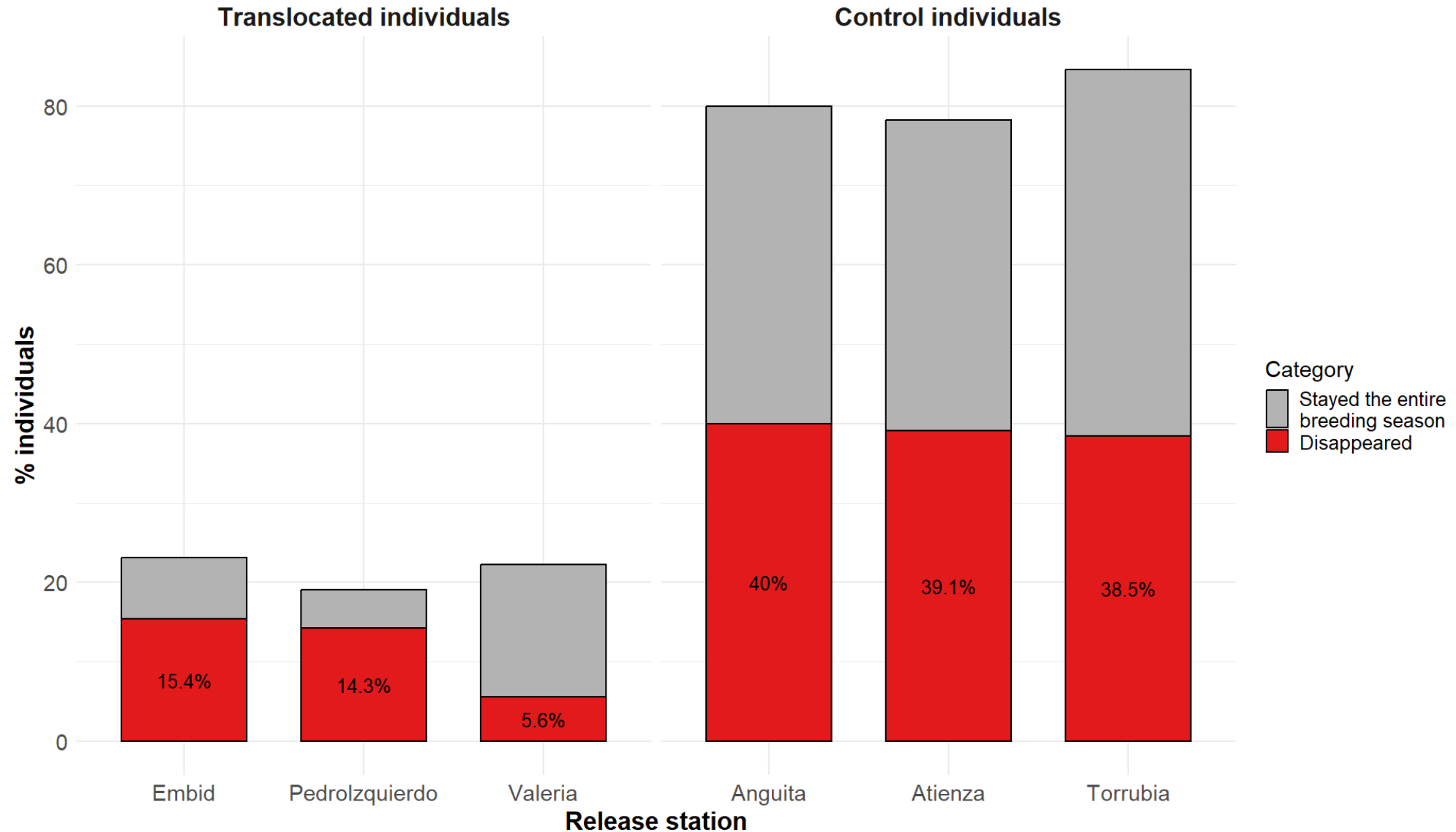
< 20 days

Results: Found dead





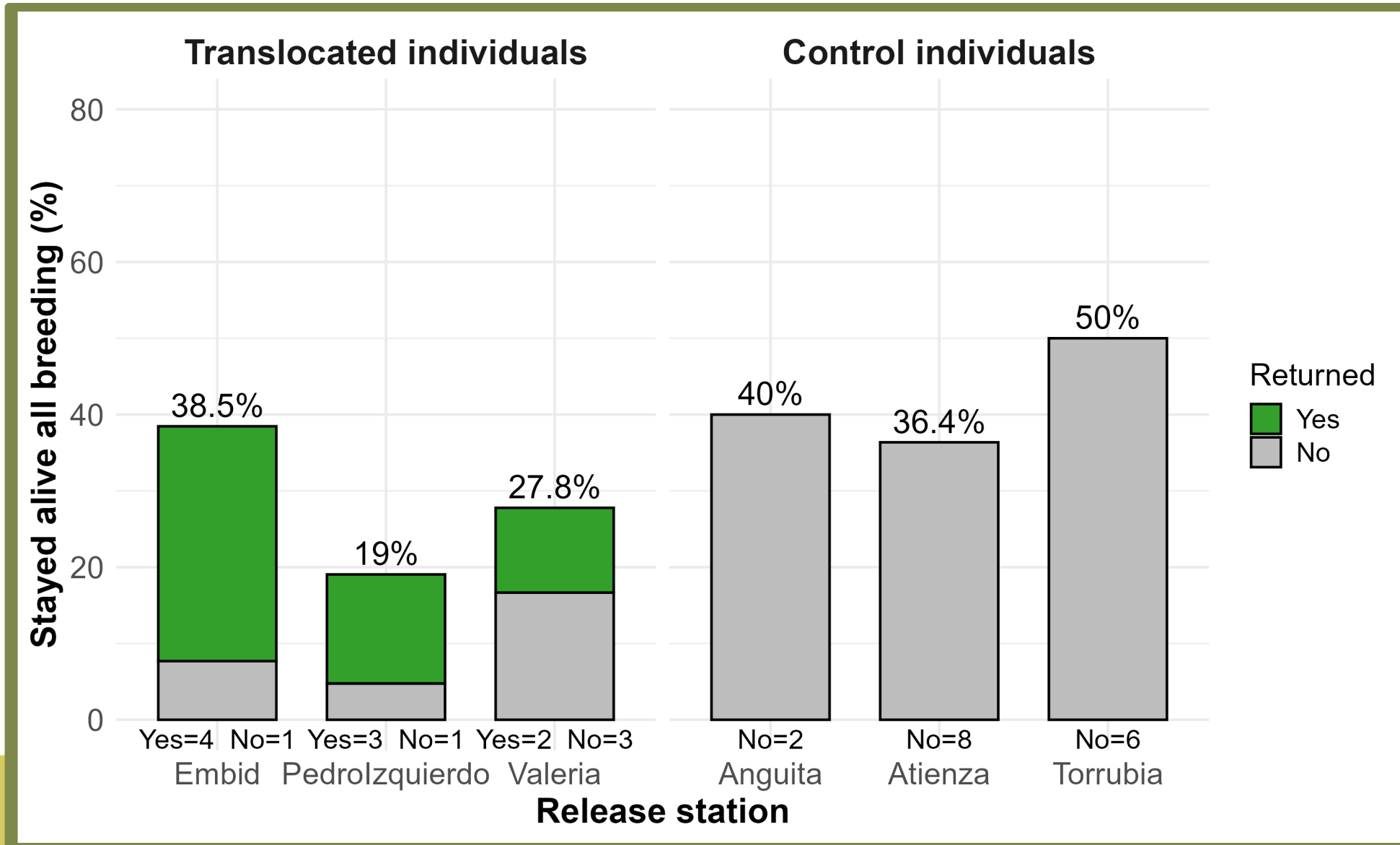
Individuals $> \frac{1}{2}$ but $< \text{all}$ breeding



Detected the entire breeding season



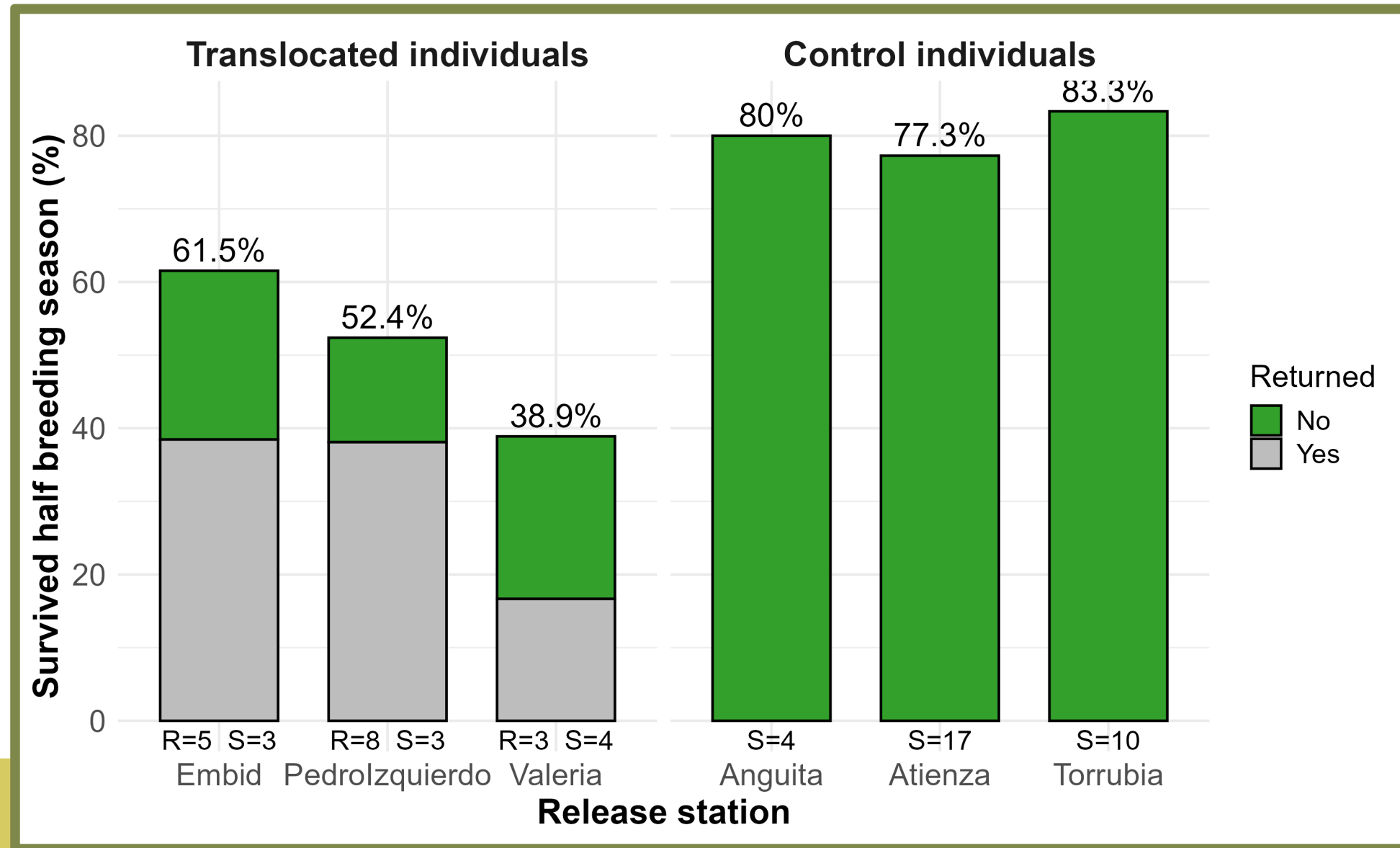
~ 90 days



Detected half of breeding season



~ 45 days





Example of a translocation

Alaudidae: *Alauda razae*



LESSONS AND SURPRISES FROM AN INTER-ISLAND RE-INTRODUCTION OF THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED RASO LARK *ALAUDA RAZAE* OF CAPE VERDE

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