

Volunteering and environmental awareness, key elements in Fundación Cepsa's celebration of Environment Day

- **Fundación Cepsa maintains its commitment to its wetlands and to biodiversity protection projects in Andalusia and the Canary Islands**
- **Cepsa professionals, thanks to the corporate volunteer program Voluntas, will manufacture nesting boxes in San Roque, clean and characterize waste in the Marismas del Odiel and carry out reforestation maintenance activities to remove invasive species in the Canary Islands**

The commemoration of World Environment Day is celebrated by Cepsa and its Foundation as one of the flagship initiatives in its comprehensive strategy in the field of sustainability. In order to highlight its commitment to the environment and environmental care, Fundación Cepsa stresses the importance of awareness, outreach, energy efficiency, water saving, and the effective reduction of the footprint where Cepsa operates, as well as respect for biodiversity in a sustainable coexistence of industry and the environment.

Thanks to the actions of Fundación Cepsa, natural areas such as Marismas del Odiel and Laguna Primera de Palos (Huelva), the Madre Vieja Environmental Station in San Roque, and Arroyo Negro in La Línea (Cadiz) are protected and enhanced. Wetlands are indispensable ecosystems, as they provide freshwater supply, food, biodiversity enhancement, flood control, groundwater recharge, and climate change mitigation.

On the occasion of this celebration, Fundación Cepsa has planned a series of activities that will take place during the first two weeks of June in Andalusia and the Canary Islands, including the dissemination and knowledge of the aforementioned spaces among citizens, as well as, once again this year, the development of its corporate volunteer program Voluntas. Thus, professionals from the San Roque Energy Park and their families will manufacture and place nesting boxes and shelter boxes at the Madre Vieja Environmental Station, in collaboration with the environmental company Ornitour.

In Palos de la Frontera, personnel from the La Rábida Energy Park will proceed in the coming days to clean and characterize waste and remove exotic flora in the Marismas del Odiel, with the support of the Vida Sostenible and Ecoherencia Foundation, while in the Canary Islands an irrigation and maintenance action will be carried out in the reforested area in the Finca el Rayo in Osorio (Gran Canaria) and garbage collection and removal of invasive plants in the Barranco de la Alegría in Santa Cruz (Tenerife), in collaboration with the Foresta Foundation and the Santa Cruz Sostenible Foundation, respectively.

As for biodiversity protection initiatives, Fundación Cepsa, in collaboration with the Research Foundation of the University of Seville, has finalized a study on the impact of the Asian seaweed *Rugulopteryx Okamurae* in the Bay of Algeciras (Cadiz) whose results are pending publication; the barn owl recovery project in southern Spain in Madrevieja; and *S.O.S. Caretta: Fishermen for Biodiversity* on the coasts of Cadiz and Huelva, together with Asociación Hombre y Territorio (Man and Territory Association), which aims to train and promote the rescue of loggerhead turtles and other endangered species.

Over 3,800 students in Andalusia have participated in environmental awareness actions and workshops. These actions have been held through the educational programs Energy Campus, for high school students, and World Wetlands Day, a program aimed at children in primary school, as well as other actions in collaboration with public entities in the environmental field.

The conservation of the environment and biodiversity is one of the pillars of Fundación Cepsa's actions in the Canary Islands as well. Among the actions carried out, there is the Aula de la Naturaleza del Parque de Las Mesas (Nature Study Center of the Mesas Park), which is being developed in collaboration with the Santa Cruz Sostenible Foundation and contemplates the renovation and use of a building in a state of abandonment located in the northeast area of the Park, in the capital of Tenerife, with the purpose of converting it, in addition, into an environmental interpretation center. Fundación Cepsa has started a collaboration with the Palmetum of Santa Cruz de Tenerife in order to protect and conserve the space and the fauna that inhabit it, as well as to raise public awareness of the importance of sustainability, conservation and respect for nature. The regeneration of one of the inland lakes, currently in disuse, will soon be carried out to encourage the arrival of birds, including the construction of a special area for bird watching. In addition, the Foundation will collaborate with the Santa Cruz de Tenerife City Council in the Ambientate event, focused on environmental education projects for schools in commemoration of Environment Day, which will take place on June 8 in the García Sanabria Park.

All these initiatives demonstrate the Fundación Cepsa's clear commitment to maintaining and increasing biodiversity in the natural areas where it is present, as well as showing its commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In this area, the following stand out: 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities, 12. Responsible Consumption and Production, and 17. Partnerships to Achieve the Goal, without forgetting 7. Affordable and Clean Energy, 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth, and 13. Climate Action.

Fundación Cepsa is a general interest, nonprofit entity whose aim is to carry out initiatives that serve the needs and priorities of the local communities where its founder, Compañía Española de Petróleos S.A. (Cepsa), conducts its activities. The areas of action for Fundación Cepsa are social, environmental, and scientific-educational.

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