

RANGER PORTRAIT

Borja Díaz

Ranger of Biscay (Basque province), Spain



Main duties:

- environmental education
- management of protected areas
- law enforcement
- environmental emergencies

Why is your work important to you?

At least in my mind, I work 24 hours a day as a ranger. The other day, for example, we couldn't rescue a seagull. The first thing I did next day was call my colleagues to see if they made it. This is no ordinary job. This is a passion that you get paid for.

What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?

I'm trying to make a difference. For example, when I create a pond and hear all the frogs croaking the next time I pass by. Seeing that I've created a habitat not only for them, but for other species as well – that's something that makes me feel gorgeous.

Your biggest moment of luck during work?

Every time we release injured birds that we took to a hospital. Once I released an owl in the dark. It flew away, perched on a tree and kept looking at me.

I had the rewarding feeling that there was a special connection.



editorial work for this
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