

22 January 2023

## **OPERATION HARE CAPTURE IN THE ORIO AL SERIO AIRPORT AREA**

In the early hours of the morning on Sunday 22 January 2023, in the grassy area surrounding Orio al Serio airport, a hunt for hares took place with the support of staff from the Local Hunting Organisation of the Bergamo Plains, based in Caravaggio and presided over by Mario Fogazzola, and the Voluntary Hunting Guards from the Province of Bergamo.

The operation, which was programmed three years on from the last, was organised by and saw the participation of SACBO, with the group managed by the operational director Alberto Cominassi and the safety manager Marco Tagliabue, in compliance with European EASA regulations regarding prevention of possible impact through the distancing of wild animals from areas where aircraft manoeuvre.

As in previous similar operations aimed at the progressive containment of hares on airport grounds, all precautions have been taken to protect and safeguard the captured specimens. They have been tagged by a veterinary surgeon to be subsequently released in repopulation areas throughout the Bergamo plain.

At 7:30 on Sunday morning, 52 operators went into action and proceeded to install special nets in strategic areas. They created artificial sounds and disturbances, with the aim of moving the hares in a specific direction in order to then gather them with due care and attention.

The operation, which ended at 11.00 a.m., allowed for the capture of 23 hares, a result which contributes to the achieving of progressive containment of the hare population in the airport area.

During the hare-capturing operations, aircraft activity continued as normal, without any interruptions or limitations to air traffic.