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Marí-Mena, N., Naveira, H., Lopez-Vaamonde, C. and Vila, M. (2019), Census and contemporary effective population size of two populations of the protected Spanish Moon Moth (*Graellsia isabellae*). Insect Conserv Divers, 12: 147-160

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1	Census and contemporary effective population size of two populations
2	of the protected Spanish Moon Moth (Graellsia isabellae)
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4	
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21	

22 Abstract

23 1. Graellsia isabellae is a protected lepidopteran both in France and Spain. However,

24 there has been considerable debate over its conservation status. Recent literature

25 emphasised the need of monitoring population size in the different mountain ranges

26 where this iconic species occurs.

27 2. We used mark-capture-recapture and genotypes of nine molecular microsatellite

28 markers to estimate the census (N) and contemporary effective population size (N_e) of

29 two Spanish populations extending over similar size areas (10-15 km²): Puebla (Eastern

30 Spain) and Ordesa (Western Pyrenees). Only adult males were captured and analysed,

31 as sampling was based on the use of the synthesized female sex pheromone.

32 3. Estimates of *N* were rather different in the two populations: 3,398 males in Puebla

33 (95% CI = 2,875–4,145) and 1,500 in Ordesa (95% CI = 1,229–1,932), although the
34 area occupied by the populations was larger and more densely forested in Ordesa than
35 in Puebla.

36 4. Several lines of evidence pointed to a moderate-large contemporary N_e at Puebla

37 (173-178 individuals) and a one-order of magnitude lower Ne at Ordesa (27-49). Thus,

 N_{e}/N ratios were very low (0.026 and 0.01, respectively).

5. We recommend *G. isabellae* to be classified as of Least Concern under the IUCN
criteria. However, the high temporal fragmentation index and the very low values of the *Ne/N* ratios obtained for this species, as compared with those recorded for most others,
are usually taken as indicators of actual threat for their conservation. As a cautionary
measure, managers should aim at maintaining gene flow by ensuring connectivity of *Pinus sylvestris* in these areas.

45

- 46 Keywords: capture-mark-recapture, CMR, conservation, microsatellites, inbreeding Ne,
- 47 variance *N*_e, insect, phased emergence.

49 Introduction

50 The Spanish Moon Moth, Graellsia isabellae (Graells, 1849) (Lepidoptera, 51 Saturniidae), is a protected species by the Bern Convention (Appendix III; Council of 52 Europe, 1979) and the Habitats Directive of the European Union (Annexes II and V; 53 Council Directive, 1992). This univoltine moth flies at dusk from mid March to early 54 July in mountains of the eastern half of Spain, Pyrenees, and the Western Alps. Its 55 larvae exclusively feed on *Pinus sylvestris* in the Central Iberian System, Pyrenees, and 56 Alps. However, this spectacular insect inhabits forests of *P. nigra* in the southern Betic 57 Mountains and uses both P. sylvestris and P. nigra in the Eastern Iberian System, where 58 it also displays the highest genetic diversity (Marí-Mena et al., 2016). 59 In the last decades, there has been considerable debate over the conservation 60 status of G. isabellae. Some authors warned against the scarce numbers of the Alpine 61 population (Auger-Rozenberg et al., 1998), the decline of the populations of Central 62 Spain caused by the use of pesticides against Lymmantria monacha in the 1950s, and 63 the more recent threat posed by the use of difluorobenzon against Thaumetopoea 64 pityocampa, namely in the Western Pyrenees (Soria et al., 1986). Other authors 65 suggested that the populations of G. isabellae from the Eastern Iberian System are 66 abundant and actually expanding (de Arce Crespo et al., 2010 and references therein). 67 This seeming contradiction likely caused not only the change from Vulnerable to Data 68 Deficient at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List 69 (World Conservation Monitoring Centre, 1996), but also the removal of G. isabellae 70 from the Spanish Catalogue of Endangered Species (Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, 71 2000). 72 At present, the Spanish Moon Moth is protected both in France (Arrêté

73 interministériel, 2007) and Spain (Ministerio de Medio Ambiente, 2011). Romo et al.

(2012) warned about the lack of any knowledge of the size of populations of this
protected lepidopteran and emphasised the need of monitoring the census size of at least
one population per mountain range.

77 Population size constitutes the most fundamental data to be obtained when 78 evaluating conservation priorities for a species (IUCN, 2012a). However, conservation 79 biology is not only concerned by census size, usually defined as the number of 80 mature/adult individuals (N), but also by the effective population size. In classical 81 population genetics, the effective population size (N_e) is the size of an idealised 82 population that would be expected to display the rate of inbreeding or the rate of change 83 in variance of gene frequencies found in the study population. Factors such as 84 fluctuations in population size, variance in family size, stage of life cycle surveyed, 85 taxonomic group, and unequal sex ratio can cause N_e to differ from N (Frankham, 86 1995). Both parameters are strongly correlated with population viability, as census size 87 is the outcome of demographic processes which strongly affect its survival probability 88 when subject to hard selection challenges, whereas effective population size reflects 89 standing genetic variation, and thus the capacity to respond to soft selection forces and 90 so adapt to environmental changes (reviewed by Waples (2013). Effective population 91 size can be estimated at different time (long-term vs. contemporary) and spatial 92 (isolated populations vs. gene flow scenarios) scales, under various inheritance modes 93 (e.g. sex-linked genes, haplo-diploid species), and demography (e.g. polygyny, 94 overlapping generations). Congruently, a number of different approaches have been 95 developed to estimate effective size from multilocus genotypes, such as heterozygosity 96 excess, linkage disequilibrium (LD), temporal changes in allele frequency, and 97 relatedness (reviewed by Wang et al. (2016)).

98

In this study, we estimated census size and effective size of two Spanish

99 populations of G. isabellae. The first study area is an isolated and panmictic population 100 in the Eastern Iberian System. The second one is a set of Western Pyrenean localities 101 presumably interconnected by gene flow. We used traditional mark-release-recapture 102 (MRR) to calculate two estimators of the census size: the super-population and seasonal 103 adult sizes. Super-population size refers to the total number of individuals ever present 104 in the experiment, whereas seasonal adult size is the total number of individuals 105 occurring in one generation. We focused on the contemporary effective population size 106 (the one of the sampled generation or just a few generations in the past) because it is the 107 most relevant for conservation genetics. Multilocus genotypes of 195 individuals 108 sampled in 2008-2010 were used to calculate inbreeding and variance Ne using single-109 sample and temporal methods, respectively.

111 Materials and methods

112	G. isabellae is a univoltine macro-moth that flies from dusk to midnight, for
113	approximately two months each year (end of April-early June) in the eastern Pyrenees
114	(Ylla i Ullastre & Sarto i Monteys, 1993). The sedentary and non-gregarious caterpillar
115	develops in five instars, and dwells from June to August in pine forests before pupating.
116	Larvae are narrowly oligophagous, foraging on Pinus sylvestris and P. nigra. Adults do
117	not feed. Females reared in captivity (average lifespan = 8.4 days) barely move from the
118	pine branches where they emerge, so males (average lifespan in captivity = 5.87 days)
119	are expected to be the dispersing sex (Ylla i Ullastre, 1997; Collectif OPIE, 1998).
120	Indeed, adult males are able to fly up to 2 km per night (Data S2).
121	
122	Study areas
123	We estimated adult census and contemporary effective population sizes of G .
124	isabellae in two protected forests of Pinus sylvestris: "Puebla" stands for Natural Park
125	of Puebla de San Miguel (Mediterranean region), whereas "Ordesa" refers to one
126	locality within the National Park of Ordesa y Monte Perdido (Eurosiberian region) (Fig.
127	1). Puebla belongs to the so-called "EI" (Eastern Iberian) genetic cluster of G. isabellae,
128	whereas Ordesa is part of the "WP" (Western Pyrenees) one. The populations forming
129	the EI cluster show the highest levels of mitochondrial and nuclear diversity of the
130	whole distribution area. In addition, the EI cluster is the most likely origin of the
131	Pyrenean and Alpine populations (Marí-Mena et al., 2016).

132

133 FIGURE 1

135	Puebla represents an isolated unstructured population (predominantly panmictic
136	with no apparent geographic substructuring) of G. isabellae feeding on P. sylvestris.
137	Indeed, no G. isabellae was collected by light trapping in the surrounding forests of P.
138	nigra and Juniperus thurifera (Baixeras, J. & Marí-Mena, N., personal observation). By
139	contrast, Ordesa is surrounded by pine woodland where G. isabellae occurs. We
140	obtained genetic data from G. isabellae sampled in four of these interconnected forest
141	patches: one within the National Park (Cotatuero), and three others within the National
142	Park buffer zone (Línea, Bujaruelo, and Diazas) (Fig. 2). Significant population
143	differentiation has been reported between Ordesa and the easternmost part of the
144	National Park (La Sarra site, ca. 23 km apart, pairwise $F_{ST} = 0.087$, Marí-Mena <i>et al.</i> ,
145	2016). However, at present it is unknown whether Ordesa and these four surrounding
146	localities are part of a same panmictic population or gene flow is restricted to a certain
147	level. The 107 individuals sampled in 2010 in these five Pyrenean localities were
148	pooled together for some analyses, where they are referred as "National Park".
149	
150	FIGURE 2
151	

152 Mark-release-recapture

Mark-release-recapture (MRR) (a.k.a. capture-mark-recapture, CMR) was
performed in a single adult generation for each population (3/6/2009-14/6/2009 at
Puebla, 29/05/2010-23/6/2010 at Ordesa). Given the pine patch-structure found in
Ordesa, we performed the MRR experiment where we observed it was the centre of the

157 distribution of the moth taking into account the continuity of the habitat (Fig. 2). We 158 used the synthesized female sex pheromone of G. isabellae (Millar et al., 2010) to 159 sample individuals, and thus only adult males were included in this study. The sampling 160 design was adapted not only to the life cycle of G. isabellae, but also to the forest 161 structure of each study location and the human resources available (slight variations in 162 the sampling design used at Puebla and Ordesa are detailed in Data S1). The pheromone 163 dose needed to attract males from approximately 500 m was previously calculated using 164 individuals reared in captivity (Data S2). On this basis, on each sampling occasion a 165 new rubber septum (Sigma-Aldrich Co.) impregnated with 100 µg of sex pheromone 166 was used as a lure.

We are confident that all of the males flying during the experiment were
effectively exposed to being sampled sooner or later. This conclusion is based on the
dispersal capacity of adult males as well as the localisation of the sampling sites within
the relatively small areas occupied by both populations (approximately 10 km² for
Puebla and 15 km² for Ordesa, Fig. 2).

172

173 Estimation of population parameters from MRR data

Full capture and recapture data were entered into a matrix (Table S1) for analysis with program MARK 2.1 (White & Burnham, 1999). Capture-recapture data were analysed according to the Jolly-Seber (JS) model (Schwarz, 2001), with the goal of estimating parameters related to abundance, daily survival and capture probability of adult males. In the JS model, the proportion of marks in a sample must be an unbiased estimate of the proportion of marks in the population. Average lifespan was derived from daily survival estimates as in Nowicki *et al.* (2005).

181	Prior to MRR analyses, data were explored to detect heterogeneity in capture
182	results by means of a goodness-of-fit test (GOF), revealed as mandatory by previous
183	MRR analyses with Lepidoptera (Marschalek & Klein Sr, 2010). U-CARE 2.2.2
184	(Choquet et al., 2005) includes a specific test for transience (Test 3.SR), which assesses
185	whether survival soon after marking is different from survival thereafter, as well as for
186	trap-dependence (Test 2.CT), which tests whether recapture probability at time i
187	depends on the past capture history. We performed the GOF tests assuming full time
188	variation for all parameters (the Cormark-Jolly-Seber (CJS) model) to detect
189	heterogeneity of capture.
190	In order to estimate population size, we applied an open-population Jolly-Seber
191	model to the mark-recapture data using the POPAN option implemented in MARK.
192	This "open" option refers to the possibility of newly emerged adults to be incorporated
193	to the super-population, not to entry by migration from neighbouring areas. For t
194	capture occasions the model provides <i>t</i> -1 estimates of θ (apparent survival), <i>t</i> estimates
195	of p (capture probability given the animal is alive and available for capture), $t-1$
196	estimates of β (probability of entry into the population per occasion), and N (super-
197	population size, i.e. every individual that was exposed to sampling during the course of
198	the experiment). Models were fitted using the <i>logit</i> link function for θ and \hat{p} , the
199	identity link function for \hat{N} , and the multinomial <i>logit</i> link function to constrain the set
200	of $\hat{\beta}$ parameters to ≤ 1 .
201	
201	The selection of the most appropriate model for each dataset was based on
202	Akaike's Information Criterion corrected for small samples size (AICc; Burnham &
203	Anderson, 1998), together with likelihood ratio tests (LRT) based on the chi-square
204	approximation. Models were scored according to the differences in AICc values

(Δ AICc) and relative support of each model (AICc weight). Models with the

significantly lowest AICc value were retained as the best compromise between a highproportion of deviance explained and a low number of parameters in the model.

208 We estimated the seasonal population size of males, i.e. the number of 209 individuals occurring in one generation (Nowicki et al. 2005), as (flight period * super-210 population size) / MRR experiment duration. This formula assumes that all of the males 211 flying during the experiment in the study areas were effectively exposed to being 212 sampled. We used a flight period of 60 days. We could not strictly use the approach 213 described by Nowicki et al. (2005), who developed a simplified method based on 214 checking the presence of flying adults at the beginning and end of the flight period, as we were not sure whether the peak population size (\mathbf{x}) was included in our data. 215

216

217 *Genetic diversity and population structure*

218 Estimates of $N_{\rm e}$ were based on the multilocus genotypes of the following 219 samples. Two temporally separated samples of individuals were taken in both areas: 220 Puebla (2008, n = 29 males; 2009, n = 32 males) and Ordesa (2009, n = 27 males; 2010, 221 n = 31 males). By doing so, we were able to apply single-sample and temporal methods 222 to estimate $N_{\rm e}$. In addition, in 2010 we also obtained tissue from 76 males collected in 223 four other patches of the National Park and its buffer zone (Fig. 2). The 107 Pyrenean 224 males collected in 2010 are referred as "National Park". All individuals were marked in 225 their wings as previously described and non-lethally sampled by clipping a fragment of 226 the right hind-wing tail (Vila et al., 2009). Tissue sampling was performed in between 227 MRR working days. This procedure revealed the exchange of some migrants among the 228 five sites: one individual from Ordesa moved to Bujaruelo, one individual from 229 Bujaruelo and another one from Ordesa were collected at Cotatuero, and three

230 individuals from Ordesa were found at Diazas. Each wing piece was dry-stored in an 231 individual envelope and frozen at -20°C upon arrival to the lab. Genomic DNA was 232 extracted using a commercial kit (High Pure PCR Template Preparation Kit, Roche) 233 following the manufacturer's instructions. We screened the 195 sampled males with a 234 set of nine polymorphic microsatellite loci and the protocol described by Vila *et al.* 235 (2010). Ten percent of the samples of the project were randomly re-genotyped. PCR 236 products (1.2 µL) were mixed with 16 µL formamide containing GENESCAN-500 237 (ROX) Size Standard (Applied Biosystems, ABI) and the allele size of PCR products 238 was determined on a 96-capillary 3730xl DNA Analyzer (ABI). Two researchers 239 independently scored allele peaks. Both of them used GENEMAPPER 4.0 (ABI). 240 We ran STRUCTURE 2.3.4 (Pritchard et al., 2000) to assess any clustering 241 pattern of the 107 Pyrenean individuals collected in 2010 ("National Park"). 242 Simulations were run assuming the admixture ancestry model, correlated allele 243 frequencies, and the LOCPRIOR option. We set up a burn-in of 100,000 iterations 244 followed by 500,000 iterations for parameter estimation. Each simulation was run 10 245 times, exploring values for K ranging from one to six. We inspected the values of L(K)246 and determined the biologically meaningful partitions of the data using STRUCTURE 247 HARVESTER (Earl & vonHoldt, 2012).

Number of segregating alleles, observed and expected heterozygosities, F_{1S} analogue, and tests for departures of Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium and gametic disequilibrium were calculated with FSTAT 2.9.3.2 (Goudet, 1995). Allelic richness averaged over loci was obtained using rarefaction (averaging across subsamples of five diploid individuals) as implemented in HP-RARE (Kalinowski, 2005). For the five Pyrenean sites sampled in 2010 ("National Park", n = 107), we also used FSTAT to obtain the unbiased estimators of pairwise $F_{ST}(\theta)$ and their significance after 10,000

255 permutations. The frequency of null alleles was estimated using the EM algorithm as 256 implemented in FREENA (Chapuis & Estoup, 2007). We applied the F_{ST} outlier 257 method (*fdist*) to test the neutrality of the alleles at the nine loci, as implemented in 258 LOSITAN (Antao *et al.*, 2008). A total of 95,000 simulations were computed under the 259 Stepwise Mutation Model (SMM) with the options 'neutral mean F_{ST} ' and 'force mean 260 F_{ST} '.

261

262 *Effective population size*

263 Single sample estimators. Contemporary Ne was calculated using a bias-corrected

version of the linkage-disequilibrium (LD) moment method by Waples & Do (2008) as

265 implemented in NeESTIMATOR v2.01 (Do et al., 2014). Parametric confidence

266 intervals were calculated. The minimum frequency of observed alleles was set at 0.05.

267 We also used the approximate Bayesian computation implemented in ONeSAMP 1.1

268 (Tallmon et al., 2008) to estimate Ne by comparing eight summary statistics (including

269 LD). ONeSAMP has been recommended for moderate-large populations (Saarinen et

al., 2010), although it may overestimate small Ne (Gilbert & Whitlock, 2015). We

established upper and lower bounds on the N_e prior considering the results of N in the

272 MRR study.

273 Temporal methods. We used the program MLNe (Wang & Whitlock, 2003) to calculate

a maximum likelihood (Wang, 2001) and a moment estimate of *N*_e over time for the

following data: Puebla: 2008-2009, Ordesa: 2009-2010, and Ordesa 2009-National Park

276 2010). For the three cases, we assumed an isolated population that is not at mutation-

drift equilibrium and a maximum Ne value allowed of 1500, as from our MRR study. In

the absence of migration, the moment estimator implemented in MLNe is equivalent to

the one developed by Nei & Tajima (1981) (Wang & Whitlock, 2003). In addition, we

used NeESTIMATOR v2.01 for computing moment estimates of *N*_e (Waples, 1989)

with two options for computing the standardised variance in allele frequency: F_{e} (Nei &

Tajima, 1981) and F_s (Jorde & Ryman, 2007). We selected Plan I (Waples, 2005), so an estimate of 1500 as census size was provided. Again, the lowest allele frequency used

was 0.05 and parametric confidence intervals were calculated.

285 We followed Waples & Do (2010) in order to combine the different estimates of 286 effective size obtained for Puebla and Ordesa. We firstly used the single-sample 287 estimates obtained from the LD and ONeSAMP methods and calculated the harmonic 288 mean single-sample estimate, weighted by sample size and number of allelic 289 comparisons. Second, we applied "strategy 2" in order combine the temporal estimates: 290 the two-moment estimators were combined before including the ML estimate in the 291 calculations, i.e. the harmonic mean of the two moment-based estimates is then used 292 with the ML estimate to calculate an unweighted harmonic mean. Thirdly, we combined 293 temporal and single-sample estimates. The rationale for this calculation is that we were 294 mostly interested in an overall estimate of N_e that is expected to fluctuate moderately 295 around a mean value. The combined value is 1/[(weight of the single-sample 296 method/combined estimate for single-sample method)+(weight of the temporal 297 method/combined estimate for temporal method)]. We considered five values of the true 298 unknown Ne (25, 50, 100, 500 and 1000) and included the maximum likelihood 299 estimates. For further details and the calculation procedure, the reader is referred to 300 Waples & Do (2010) and Data S3, respectively.

301 In an organism with discrete generations and that is non-lethally sampled, single
302 sample (inbreeding-based) N_e estimates will apply to the previous generation, whereas

303	temporal (variance N_e) estimators will apply to the period from sampling point 0 to
304	sampling point t-1 generations (Waples, 2005). This means that there is a mismatch
305	between the temporal frame of our estimates of N (e.g., 2009 in Puebla) and the
306	different estimates of Ne (e.g., temporal estimators obtained from Puebla will apply to
307	2008, but single-sample estimators using data from Puebla/2008 will apply to 2007). In
308	addition, the multiple-source method implemented in ONeSAMP generated $N_{\rm e}$
309	estimates with finite 95% CIs. These estimates do not have an explicit temporal
310	reference point (Wang, 2016). Therefore, our combined estimate aims at an overall
311	estimate of N_e that is expected to fluctuate only moderately around a mean value in the
312	near past (Waples & Do, 2010).

314 Results

315 MRR and N

As many as 303 adult males of *G. isabellae* were caught and marked during the nine sampling occasions in Puebla. We recaptured 23.4% of the marked individuals. In Ordesa, 322 adult males were marked and 24.2% were recaptured along the twelve sampling occasions.

The general model fits the data well in both sampling locations and we did not find any significant transient effect (Puebla: $\chi^2 = 12.008$, P = 0.10031; Ordesa: $\chi^2 =$ 6.0534; P = 0.735), or trap-dependence (Puebla: $\chi^2 = 6.5999$, P = 0.35944; Ordesa: χ^2 = 2.4877; P = 0.93).

324 Using the POPAN open-population Jolly-Seber model structure, we obtained a model with time-dependent probability of entry into the population $\theta(.) p(.) b(t) N$ in 325 the case of Puebla, and a top-ranked fully time-dependent model $\theta(t) p(t) b(t) N$ for 326 327 Ordesa (Table S2). Under the POPAN approximation, the estimated super-population 328 size is interpreted as the total number of individuals ever present in the experiment and 329 does not represent the number present at any particular point in time. From these models, the super-population estimates were 623 males (95% CI = 527 to 760) in 330 331 Puebla; and 625 males (95% CI = 512 to 805) in Ordesa. The sex-ratio at imago 332 emergence is 1:1 (Ylla i Ullastre, 1997; Goussard, F. & Lopez-Vaamonde, C., personal 333 observation). Should that unbiased ratio be maintained during the whole adult lifespan, 334 the average adult super-population sizes of Puebla and Ordesa would be very similar, 335 1246 (1054–1520) and 1250 (1024–1610), respectively.

336	The daily male survival estimates produced by POPAN were higher for Ordesa,
337	0.700 (0.6543–0.7419), than for Puebla, 0.603 (0.5436–0.6601). Correspondingly, the
338	average lifespan of males was nearly 50% longer at Ordesa (2.83, 2.39–3.37) than at
339	Puebla (2.02, 1.69–2.44), and substantially lower than the scores reported for males of
340	this species in captivity (see Material and Methods). Assuming a flight period of two
341	months for both populations, the temporal fragmentation index (flight period / lifespan)
342	reached values of 21.2 in Ordesa and 29.7 in Puebla. This result indicates a very strong
343	temporal structuring of the seasonal population. In agreement with this prediction,
344	several peaks were observed in the adult capture curves (Fig. 3).
345	
346	FIGURE 3
347	
348	Our super-population estimates correspond to different proportions of the flight
349	period in the two populations. The MRR experiment took place during 11 days in
350	Puebla, but during 25 in Ordesa (Table S1). Taking this difference into account, and
351	assuming that the population dynamics were similar for the whole flight period, the
352	seasonal population sizes would be 3,000 (2,458-3,864) individuals for Ordesa, and
353	6,796 (5,749–8,291) for Puebla.
354	
355	Genetic variability and population structure

Overall, the number of alleles per locus ranged between one (locus *GI23*,

357 Pyrenean localities) and 21 (GI11, both generations sampled at Puebla). Locus GI23

358 was removed from all the analyses concerning the Pyrenean sites because of its

359	monomorphism (allele 163). According to F_{IS} values, two out of 18 combinations of
360	locus x population showed a significant homozygote excess at the 5% level (after
361	Bonferroni correction) in both generations of Puebla for locus GI18. This result was
362	mostly likely due to the high proportion of segregating null alleles in Puebla (Table S3).
363	Therefore, locus GI18 was excluded from further analyses concerning Puebla. No
364	significant genetic linkage disequilibrium was observed for any pair of loci per site after
365	Bonferroni correction ($P > 0.0009$ for Puebla; $P > 0.0003$ for the Pyrenean sites).
366	Selective neutrality for all microsatellite markers was confirmed by LOSITAN in both
367	sampling sites (Fig. S1).
368	Both generations sampled in Puebla showed higher genetic diversity than those
369	from National Park (Table 1). There was no significant differentiation among the five
370	Pyrenean sites (National Park) based on pairwise F_{ST} distances (range = 0-0.032, all $P \ge$
371	0.005, adjusted nominal level (5%) for multiple comparisons). Accordingly, $K = 1$ was
372	the partition of the data with the highest $L(K)$ value as revealed by the Bayesian
373	clustering algorithm implemented in STRUCTURE.
374	
375	TABLE 1
376	
377	Effective population size
378	Point estimates of N_e obtained with single-sample methods ranged from 6.31
379	(Cotatuero, ONESAMP, Fig. 4) to infinite (most localities analysed with the LD and He

380 excess methods). Actually, these two methods produced infinite upper bounds for all

but one (Diazas) of the 95% confidence intervals (CI). By contrast, most of the 95% CI

estimated by the temporal methods and all those calculated by ONESAMP were finite(Tables 2 and 3).

- 384 FIGURE 4
- 385 TABLE 2
- 386 TABLE 3

387 Focusing on samples with more than 25 individuals, the only significant 388 difference in Ne (i.e. non overlapping 95% CI) was the larger Ne at Puebla than at 389 Ordesa detected by Jorde & Ryman's temporal method (Table 3). With regard to 390 temporal methods, it should be highlighted that the moment-based estimates of $N_{\rm e}$ for 391 Ordesa produced very similar results regardless of using Ordesa/2010 or 392 NationalPark/2010 as the second generation. Estimates produced by the maximum 393 likelihood method were slightly, but not significantly, higher when using 394 NationalPark/2010 as the second generation. Combined estimates from the single-395 sample $(N_{e(SS)})$, temporal $(N_{e(T)})$ and across methods $(N_{e(SS+T)})$ resulted in a one-order of 396 magnitude larger contemporary Ne at Puebla than at Ordesa (Table 4; average across-397 methods is 176 for Puebla and 29 for Ordesa).

398

399 TABLE 4

401 **Discussion**

402 Estimation of population size in moths by means of MRR dates back to the very 403 beginning of population genetics, when an English population of Callimorpha dominula 404 surveyed between 1941 and 1946 was estimated to harbour from 1000 adults (1943) to 405 6000-8000 (1946) (Fisher & Ford, 1947). Since then, MRR has been mostly used in 406 moths to estimate mobility and dispersal, particularly of pest species (e.g. 407 Margaritopoulus et al., 2012). MRR based estimates of adult population size are 408 scarcer, likely due to constraints posed by the life history of many moths, i.e. only 409 males being conspicuous, rapid individual turnover, phased emergence, and nocturnal 410 activity (Gibson & New, 2007; Nowicki et al., 2008). However, estimates of population 411 size are particularly timely in the light of the decrease in the abundance and distribution 412 of macro-moths reported from several European countries (reviewed by Fox (2013)). In 413 light of this, our results will be useful to assess the conservation status of the protected 414 Spanish Moon Moth. The two different populations showed different seasonal adult 415 sizes, but in the opposite direction to predictions based on the area they occupy and the 416 density of pines. The genetic results also indicated a larger Ne at Puebla (Mediterranean 417 region) than at Ordesa (Eurosiberian).

418

419 Adult population size

According to the adult population sizes estimated for both Puebla and Ordesa, *G. isabellae* should be currently classified as Least Concern under the IUCN criteria
(IUCN, 2012b). Just these two populations of Puebla and Ordesa most likely sum more
than 10,000 adults, which is the minimum required for a species to be classified as
Vulnerable. Therefore, it is reasonable to think that the whole distribution area hosts far

425 more than this number. Indeed, a population of the Yellow-banded Skipper *Pyrgus*

426 sidae, a VU D2 (Very restricted distribution and plausibility and immediacy of thread)

427 butterfly in Spain, was notably smaller (569 \pm 83 adults; Hernández-Roldán *et al.*,

428 2009). With regard to moths, each of our estimates was roughly double that obtained for

429 one population of the Australian Golden Sun Moth Synemon plana (Richter et al.,

430 2013), whose conservation status is also under debate (New, 2014). Lastly, our

431 estimates are also more than double the estimates obtained for each of the three German

432 populations of the Burnet Zygaena carniolica, a calcareous-grassland specialist,

433 surveyed by Nowicki *et al.* (2005).

434 We estimated a very similar number of adult males in both super-populations of 435 G. isabellae (623, 625), which include every individual that was exposed to sampling 436 during the course of the experiments. We are confident that this result is not an artefact 437 caused by sampling design or effort. Firstly, every night we captured as many males as 438 possible within their active flight period. Secondly, the number of sampling occasions 439 and stations was not exactly the same in Puebla and Ordesa. As a matter of fact, the 440 different sampling design applied in the two forests was precisely oriented to 441 counterbalance the obvious differences between them in the density and distribution of 442 pines. In that respect, our approach seems to have been extremely successful. Since the 443 lifespan of adult males is much shorter than the length of the flight period, once the 444 distinct duration of the MRR experiments in each locality is taken into account the 445 estimates of the seasonal population size happens to be twice higher at Puebla (6796) 446 than at Ordesa (3000).

Many forest lepidopterans are known to experience periodic fluctuations of
population size (Klemola *et al.*, 2006). For instance, four species of moths whose larvae
fed on needles of *Pinus sylvestris* strikingly coincided in their cyclical density

450 fluctuations in the same German area over 60 years (Varley, 1949). From the spatial 451 perspective, the fluctuating behaviour of disjunct populations can be asynchronous, 452 synchronous or with a temporal lag in spatial synchrony (reviewed by Tenow et al. 453 (2007) and Haynes et al. (2013)). Thus, the adult seasonal population sizes reported for 454 Puebla and Ordesa should be taken with caution, as a one-year MRR survey is merely a 455 snapshot of population dynamic cycles. On the other hand, adult population size may 456 not be as relevant for the ecology of G. isabealle as population density (e.g. Reilly & 457 Hajek, 2008; Nowicki et al., 2009; Tamburini et al., 2013). Considering all of the 458 suitable areas for Graellsia around Puebla and Ordesa and the average lifespan 459 estimated for adult males in each case, the density would be 11.7 males/night/km² 460 (9.92-14.30) and 3.34 males/night/km² (2.73-4.3), respectively. Since the density of P. 461 sylvestris was evidently much lower at Puebla than at Ordesa (Figs. 1e and 1f), the 462 difference between these two sites would be even more pronounced if the density was 463 expressed in terms of individuals per host tree. However, confirmation of a larger 464 density of G. isabellae in Puebla than in Ordesa will require knowledge about the fine-465 scale species' distribution in time and space, movement patterns before and after 466 encountering the pheromone lure, as well as the average probability of capture for all 467 individuals in a trapping area of known size (reviewed by Adams et al. (2017)).

468

469 *Phased emergence*

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first report of phased (a.k.a. polymodal) emergence in *G. isabellae*. In fact, the Spanish Moon Moth may be classified as a type A polymodal species, i.e. diapause does not extend over more than one winter and exhibit a bi/trimodal emergence curve, as some other Saturniidae moths (Waldbauer,

474 1978). We cannot rule out a more rapid pace of emergence in Ordesa. Indeed, phased 475 emergence has shown interpopulation variability in other Lepidoptera (Waldbauer & 476 Sternburg, 1985; Goulson, 1993 and references therein), as expected from a 477 phenomenon in which genetic and environmental factors interplay (reviewed by Tuskes 478 et al. (1996)). Phased emergence has been interpreted as an adaptive strategy to increase 479 reproductive success by escaping detrimental and unpredictable environmental factors. 480 This argument is supported by the latitudinal changes in modality of emergence of 481 several insects: unimodal in higher and more stable latitudes, whilst polymodal in lower 482 and warmer latitudes (reviewed by Goulson (1993)).

483 Phased emergence together with short adult lifespans produce a temporal 484 fragmentation of butterfly populations, whose impact on their risk of extinction can be 485 even higher than the effects of spatial subdivision (Bubová et al., 2016). Our estimates 486 of the index of temporal fragmentation for G. isabellae are extremely high, due to both 487 its quite short adult life expectancy and quite long flight period. Regarding this last 488 variable, it should be noted that we have no direct records from neither of the sites 489 studied in this work. We are assuming for these localities the same length of the flight 490 period (two months) observed in a study carried out by others in a large area of P. 491 sylvestris located in the Eastern Pyrenees, under similar conditions of temperature and 492 relative humidity to those recorded during our experiments (Ylla i Ullaster & Sarto i 493 Monteys, 1993). In this respect, we are likely to be overestimating the real value of the 494 fragmentation index. But even if the true length of the flight period in our localities is 495 50% shorter, the values of the temporal fragmentation index would be in the range 10-496 15, clearly within the category of "conservation concern" established by Bubová et al. 497 (2016) for other European butterflies.

498

Effective Population Size

500	Our results show that Puebla is not a small population, as its combined N_e is
501	larger than 100. The combined N_e of undifferentiated Pyrenean localities we named
502	"National Park" points to a small population ($N_e < 100$). We obtained different
503	estimates of contemporary N_e for each locality, as expected after using several
504	estimators with different assumptions (e.g. Pérez-Figueroa et al., 2016; Martínez et al.,
505	2018). Nevertheless, several lines of evidence pointed to a larger N_e at Puebla than at
506	the Pyrenean site of Ordesa. On the one hand, both the single-sample (inbreeding N_e)
507	and the temporal (variance N_e) algorithms indicated a larger N_e at Puebla than at Ordesa,
508	although only Jorde & Nyman's moment estimator provided a significant difference. On
509	the other hand, when the Pyrenean individuals sampled in 2010 were pooled (i.e.
510	"National Park"), the point estimate resulting from the LD method was almost twice the
511	one obtained for Puebla/2008, although such a difference was not significant and
512	ONeSAMP did not reveal such a pattern. A putative low N_e at the Pyrenean sites is also
513	compromised by the finding of infinite estimates: five out of nine of the point estimates
514	of inbreeding N_e from a single source were infinite and all but one of the 95% CI
515	(Diazas, LD method) had infinite as upper bond. This result obtained from a typical
516	dataset (n \ge 25 per site, 9 loci) points to moderate or large population size (Ne > 500), as
517	the precision of genetic methods for estimating contemporary N_e is expected to be poor
518	unless vast amounts of data are gathered. Even when such datasets are available,
519	obtaining a finite upper bound for the 95% CI may not be possible for large populations.
520	Actually, the finite lower bound can provide useful information about plausible limits of
521	Ne (Waples & Do, 2010). According to such finite lower bounds (149.2, 109.8; Table
522	2), the Pyrenean sites might also be a moderate-size population.
523	We are aware that different sources of noise may affect estimates of N_e in

524 moderate-large populations: data errors, slight departures from random sampling, and violations of underlying model assumptions (Waples & Do, 2010). Firstly, we expect 525 526 data errors to be negligible, as two researchers independently performed the allele 527 calling and 10% of the samples of the project were randomly re-genotyped. Secondly, 528 our studied localities did not show any substantial deviation from random mating, but 529 for Puebla/2008 and Bujaruelo/2010. Despite having excluded locus GI18 from 530 analyses involving Puebla, we cannot rule out a slight effect of null alleles, a well-531 known phenomenon in Lepidoptera (e.g. Song et al., 2017) in our results (see GI6 at 532 Puebla/2008 and G117 at Bujaruelo/2010, Table S3). Nevertheless, our conclusion of 533 moderate-large Ne for Puebla is not jeopardised by this possibility, as null alleles bias 534 toward low Ne when estimated with the LD method (Sved et al., 2013). Thirdly, most 535 single-sample approaches to estimate contemporary $N_{\rm e}$ assume a closed population 536 (reviewed by Wang (2016)), which is definitely not the case of the Pyrenean sites 537 surveyed in the present study. Still, the LD method is fairly robust to migration, as long 538 as equilibrium migration rate is below 10% and population size is \leq 500 (Waples & 539 England, 2011; Gilbert & Whitlock, 2015). Thus, the only local precise estimate 540 obtained by the LD method, Diazas/2010, may be the result of lower migration rate 541 and/or lower Ne than the other surveyed Pyrenean sites: a lower Ne probably meant that 542 we sampled at least 10% of its $N_{\rm e}$, as suggested by Palstra & Ruzzante (2008). Lastly, 543 the temporal methods provided more precise estimates than the single-sample 544 estimators of inbreeding $N_{\rm e}$, as well as a more marked difference between the 545 contemporary Ne of Puebla and the Pyrenean sites. An even better performance would 546 probably be obtained by using a wider sampling interval (Wang et al., 2016), which was 547 not possible due to logistical reasons. Anyhow, the better precision of the temporal-548 based estimates we obtained seems a logic consequence of the fewer assumptions of

549 these kinds of methods and their higher robustness in real scenarios (Wang et al., 2016). 550 To the best of our knowledge, only Franklin et al. (2014) estimated 551 contemporary $N_{\rm e}$ of local populations of a moth. They applied the same three temporal 552 methods that we used to estimate the variance Ne in five Canadian locations of the 553 Western Tent Caterpillar (Malacosoma californicum pluviale). Their results showed 554 little population structure and a slightly higher genetic diversity than ours (but for 555 Galiano/2011 and Puebla/2008 with same $H_{\rm E}$). Their study sites were sampled during 556 high-density peaks, although they showed $N_e < 200$. Multiple paternity (i.e. increased 557 variance in male reproductive success) was advocated to account for the low Ne 558 obtained. Males of G. isabellae can also mate with several females (Ylla i Ullastre, 559 1997; Vila et al., 2009), so any putative downward bias of our estimates because of 560 multiple paternity would additionally support a moderate-large $N_{\rm e}$ of Puebla. On the 561 other hand, the temporal fragmentation of G. isabellae seasonal populations, higher at 562 Puebla than at Ordesa, should be expected to impact more on our estimates of $N_{\rm e}$ in 563 Puebla, and therefore cannot account for the lower Ne obtained for Ordesa. Franklin et 564 al. (2014) also found that maximum likelihood estimates assuming no migration were 565 notoriously higher than the moment estimates. Interestingly, their maximum likelihood 566 estimates dramatically decreased when assuming migration. This result raises concerns 567 about how much migration may be biasing the maximum likelihood estimates we 568 obtained at the Pyrenean sites, which were also higher than the moment-based ones. 569 Because of migration, the Pyrenean Ne may be underestimated when inferred from the 570 moment-based methods (Tajima & Nei, Jorde & Ryman), but overestimated if 571 calculated with the maximum likelihood method (Gilbert & Whitlock 2015). It is 572 tempting to postulate that the true $N_{\rm e}$ of the Pyrenean samples lies between the putative overestimation and underestimation of the likelihood and moment-based estimates, 573

574 respectively. However, a more refined knowledge of the genetic structure of G.

575 *isabellae* in the National Park of Ordesa y Monteperdido and its surrounding area is

576 needed before drawing further conclusions.

577

578 Implications for conservation

579 Frankham et al. (2014) recently argued that retention of long-term evolutionary 580 potential requires Ne over 1000 and avoiding of a high increase in inbreeding rate 581 requires N_e over 100. According to this, the moderate-large estimated N_e suggests a positive prospect of G. isabellae in Puebla. With regard to Ordesa/National Park, even 582 583 if the low combined estimate of contemporary $N_{\rm e}$ is proved true by future studies that 584 more accurately consider the role of migration in the estimation, this Pyrenean 585 population is not necessarily at risk of losing genetic diversity as long as it is connected 586 to other populations by gene flow (Waples, 2010). Managers should, therefore, aim to 587 maintain the connection of patches of P. sylvestris in that Pyrenean area. This is because 588 the actual risk of genetic erosion will most likely arise from fragmentation and isolation 589 of a population that historically was connected by migration (Waples, 2010).

590 *N*_e is generally much lower than *N* in natural populations, namely because of 591 unequal sex ratio, high variance in reproductive success, and fluctuations in census size 592 (Frankham, 1995). The N_e/N ratio has been the subject of a great bulk of research 593 aiming at disentangling the relative risks that demographic, environmental, and genetic 594 factors might pose for population persistence (reviewed by Palstra & Fraser (2012)). 595 These authors suggested the incorporation of uncertainty into N_e/N estimates. To do so, 596 one has to assume both $N_{\rm e}$ and N to be constant in the recent past, as we did for the 597 combined estimates of $N_{e.}$ Using $N_{e(SS)}$ and $N_{e(T)}$ (Table 4) and following Belmar-Lucero 598 et al. (2012) we obtain that the N_e/N ratio is 1.1 to 5.4 times higher in Puebla (0.025,

599 0.033) than in the National Park (0.024, 0.006). This finding warns against the 600 extrapolation of N_e/N ratios, as different populations of the same species are likely to 601 experience differences in the aforementioned factors. Ours are likely the first N_e/N 602 values reported in any moth and are quite similar to the ones published for wild 603 populations of endangered butterflies by Saarinen *et al.* (2010) and Turlure *et al.* 604 (2014).

605 Lastly, we are aware that our results should be taken with caution. To be 606 validated, future studies will have to investigate whether populations of G. isabellae 607 experience fluctuations of population size and, if so, if oscillations are (i) cyclic, (ii) 608 synchronous among different populations, and (ii) density-dependent. Also, the role of 609 migration in the estimates of contemporary Ne of the Pyrenean sites deserves further 610 investigation. In the present study, lack of fine-scale knowledge of G. isabeallae in that 611 area prevented us from evaluating whether breeding and sampling windows 612 mismatched, one of the possible reasons for the overwhelming amount of studies 613 reporting a ratio between effective and census population size (N_e/N) below 1 (Neel et 614 al., 2013). Lastly, future research will likely provide better ways to combine results 615 from different estimators and to compute confidence intervals for a combined estimate 616 of contemporary $N_{\rm e}$ (Waples, 2016).

617 Acknowledgements

618 We thank N Remón for lab assistance. JC Bartolucci, O Decker, G Fernández, C

- 619 Hemeret, P Lincango, S Uceira, and, especially, F Goussard and J Sevilla contributed to
- 620 fieldwork. We appreciate the suggestions by J Baixeras, A Cordero-Rivera, D Gutiérrez,
- 621 M García-París, DC Lees, P Nowicki, A Pérez-Figueroa, G Tavecchia, J Wang, and R
- 622 Waples. We are indebt to the two anonymous reviewers whose comments and
- 623 corrections helped improve and clarify this manuscript. All samples were collected with
- 624 appropriate licenses. We acknowledge the support provided by the National Park of
- 625 Ordesa y Monte Perdido, especially by E Villagrasa and F Carmena. This work was
- 626 supported by grants from the Spanish Ministries of Education and Science (CGL2007-
- 627 63549/BOS, BES-2008-002571, HF2007-0055).

629 Supporting Information

630	Additional Supporting Information may be found in the online version of this article
631	under the DOI reference: XXXXXXX.
632	Data S1. Details on the MRR procedures performed in 2009 (Puebla) and 2010
633	(Ordesa).
634	Data S2. Details on the attraction range assessment of the sexual pheronome of G .
635	isabellae.
636	Data S3. Details on the calculation of combined estimates of N_e across single
637	sample (SS) and temporal (T) methods following Waples & Do (2010).
638	Figure S1 . Results from the LOSITAN F_{ST} outlier analysis.
639	Table S1 . MRR: Dates, conditions, and capture matrix for each sampling location
640	Table S2 . MRR: top-ranked models from the capture matrix.
641	Table S3. Summary statistics for each microsatellite locus and sampled site of
642	Graellsia isabellae. NA: number of segregating alleles; null: percentage of null alleles;
643	HE: unbiased expected heterozygosity; FIS: inbreeding coefficient. Significant
644	deviations from Hardy-Weinberg expectations are shown in bold (global test based on
645	360 (Puebla) and 960 (all Pyrenean samples) randomisations, adjusted nominal level
646	(5%) = 0.00278 for Puebla and 0.00104 for the Pyrenean localities).

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904 Tables

905 Table 1. Genetic variation in each sample of G. isabellae. Calculations based on eight 906 microsatellite loci: all but GI18 (strongly affected by null alleles) for Puebla and all but 907 GI23 (monomorphic) for the Pyrenean sites. Missing data are displayed as number of 908 individuals failing at a given locus (in parentheses). AR = allelic richness was calculated 909 using a sample of five diploid individuals and averaged over loci. H_0 = observed 910 heterozygosity. H_E = unbiased expected heterozygosity. Significant deviations from 911 Hardy-Weinberg expectations are shown in bold (test based on 320 (Puebla) and 960 912 (all Pyrenean samples) randomisations, adjusted nominal level (5%) = 0.00313 for 913 Puebla and 0.00104 for the Pyrenean localities).

Site/year	n	Missing data	AR	Ho	$H_{\rm E}$	$F_{\rm IS}$
Puebla/2008	29	1(Gl6), 1(Gl11, Gl25)	4.94	0.657	0.756	0.131
Puebla/2009	32	0	4.76	0.699	0.735	0.049
Ordesa/2009	27	0	3.15	0.537	0.61	0.119
Ordesa/2010	31	1(<i>Gl18</i>)	3.21	0.619	0.606	-0.021
Línea/2010	11	0	3.11	0.614	0.636	0.036
Bujaruelo/2010	27	1(<i>Gl17</i>)	3.16	0.519	0.602	0.137
Cotatuero/2010	6	1(<i>Gl15, Gl25</i>)	3.36	0.579	0.643	0.099
Diazas/2010	32	1(GI6, GI17, GI21, GI26)	3.14	0.557	0.595	0.064

- **Table 2.** Estimates of inbreeding effective population size obtained using the LD
- 917 method implemented in NeESTIMATOR.

Locality/year	n	Ne	95% CI
Puebla/2008	29	233.5	49.7-∞
Puebla/2009	32	∞	95.1-∞
Ordesa/2009	27	67.3	19.7-∞
Ordesa/2010	31	00	149.2-∞
Línea/2010	11	∞	8.7-∞
Bujaruelo/2010	27	00	78.0-∞
Diazas/2010	32	32.0	13 9-173 2
National Park/2010	107	451.1	109.8-∞

- **Table 3.** Estimates of variance effective populations size obtained using the maximum likelihood and moment methods implemented in MLNe as
- 921 well as two moment-based methods (Tajima & Nei, Jorde & Ryman) implemented in NeESTIMATOR.

		Maximum		Moment-	Moment-based (Waples)			
		Likelihood		based				
		(Wang)		(Wang)				
		Isolated		Isolated	F _e (Nei & Tajima)		$F_{\rm s}$ (Jorde	
		population		population			&	
							Ryman)	
	n	$N_{ m e}$	95%		Ne	95%	Ne	95%
Site/years			CI			CI		CI
Puebla/2008-2009	61	173.85	50.54-	193.31		20.8-	915.2	554.4-
			>1500		275.3	∞		1363.4
Ordesa/2009-2010	58	29.82	15.77-	11.45		5.2-	11.4	
			111.67		14.7	64.3		6-18.5
Ordesa/2009-NationalPark/2010	134	48.94	32.36-	14.15		5.3-	11.0	5.8-
			92.16		12.9	32.9		17.8

Table 4. Combining estimates of effective population size within (single-sample or temporal) and across methods following Waples & Do924(2010). Single-sample calculations used the results obtained with ONeSAMP for the 6-1500 prior. $N_{e(SS+T)}$ shows the results obtained for five925possible values of the true (unknown) N_{e} , from 25 to 1000. $N_{e(SS+T)}$ moved closer to the temporal estimate for larger population size, as previously926found by Waples & Do (2010). Readers are referred to Data S3 for further details on all these calculations.

	Single-sampled Temporal Across-methods: <i>N</i> _{e(SS+T)} with ML						
Site/years	Ne(SS)	Ne(T)	<i>N</i> e = 25	<i>N</i> _e = 50	<i>N</i> e = 100	<i>N</i> _e = 500	<i>N</i> _e = 1000
Puebla/2008-2009	168.8	220.96	173.25	174.79	176.21	178.02	178.31
Ordesa/2009-10	53.01	17.46	33.48	30.69	28.81	26.97	26.72
Ordesa/2009-NationalPark/2010	92.32	19.97	48.69	42.77	38.50	34.22	33.62

931 Figure legends

- 932 **Figure 1.** Geographic location of the two studied populations of *Graellsia isabellae*:
- 933 Puebla (left) and Ordesa (right); a), b): *P. sylvestris* forest patches in the region as from
- 934 GIS-FOREST (https://sites.google.com/site/sigtreeforestspeciesenglis/home/mapas-de-
- 935 <u>especies</u>). Red arrow: sampling site, green area: autochthonous woodland, blue area:
- reforested); c) and d): sampling design corresponding to each locality (pheromone
- 937 trapping locations are represented by dark circles); e), f): aerial images of sampling
- 938 areas produced by SIGPAC 3.3 (<u>http://sigpac.mapa.es/fega/visor/</u>).





- 941 Figure 2. Geographic locations of the study sites at the Natural Park of *Puebla de San*
- 942 *Miguel* (a) and at the National Park of *Ordesa y Monteperdido* (b). Maps were produced
- 943 by the Geo Portal of the Spanish *Ministerio de Agricultura y Pesca, Alimentación y*
- 944 *Medio Ambiente* (<u>http://sig.mapama.es/geoportal/</u>), using the BDN database (*Banco*
- 945 *de Datos de la Naturaleza*), last updated for the studied regions in 2006. According to
- 946 Geo Portal "Pinus spp." stands for a mixture of autochthonous pines. Letters identify
- trapping locations (C, central sampling location; N, E, S, and W, cardinally oriented
- sampling locations; see further details in Data S1). The dashed line separates the study
- 949 population from other populations of *G. isabellae* according to genetic clustering





954 Figure 3. Emergence pattern of male *G. isabellae* in Puebla and Ordesa as from capture





- 957 Figure 4. Mean effective population size and 95% confidence intervals obtained with
- 958 the approximate Bayesian computation method implemented in ONeSAMP.

