



## Bucardos y osos fósiles del Pirineo: recuperación de restos paleontológicos, catalogación y datación de los yacimientos del Pleistoceno-Holoceno de las cavidades el Pirineo oscense [

2015

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Análítica

During the development of the research project "Recovery of paleontological, remains, cataloging and dating of the Pleistocene-Holocene deposits of Huesca Pyrenees caves" various cavities of Huesca Pyrenees have been prospected in search of new paleontological sites. Eight cavities located in the Sierra de Secús, Barranco Jardín, Los Lecherines, Sierra de Tendeñera and Serrato Gallisué were found or confirmed as new paleontological sites. We have also continued the excavation of sites previously worked such as Brecha del Rincón cave and Osos de Lecherines cave. By studying the faunal remains recovered from these deposits we confirmed the presence of numerous remains of *Capra pyrenaica pyrenaica* (Pyrenean wild goat locally named bucardo), *Ursus arctos* (brown bear) and *Ursus deningeri*. In the Bucardos Cave two nearly complete bucardo skeletons *Capra pyrenaica pyrenaica* have been recovered. These remains gave a radiocarbon age of 5500-3500 years before present, respectively. These skeletons are the most complete remains of this mountain goat subspecies in the global record. In the same cavity, fossil remains from two much older (isotopic period MIS3) bucardo specimens gave a radiocarbon age of 50 000 - 40 000 years BP. This dating indicates that the presence of bucardos in the Huesca Pyrenees is older than previously stated by several authors. Besides, the record of ursids from the Pyrenees has been remarkably broadened by the recovery of *Ursus deningeri* fossil remains (Middle Pleistocene) from the recently discovered Brecha del Rincón cave, and *Ursus arctos* fossil remains from several cavities. In addition, traces of the ursids occupation were observed, such as hibernation beds in the Osos de Lecherines cave and scratches in Forato de la Sierra cave

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