

Conservation of Large Carnivores in Poland – population status, management, international cooperation.



Prepared by: Lidia Sternik

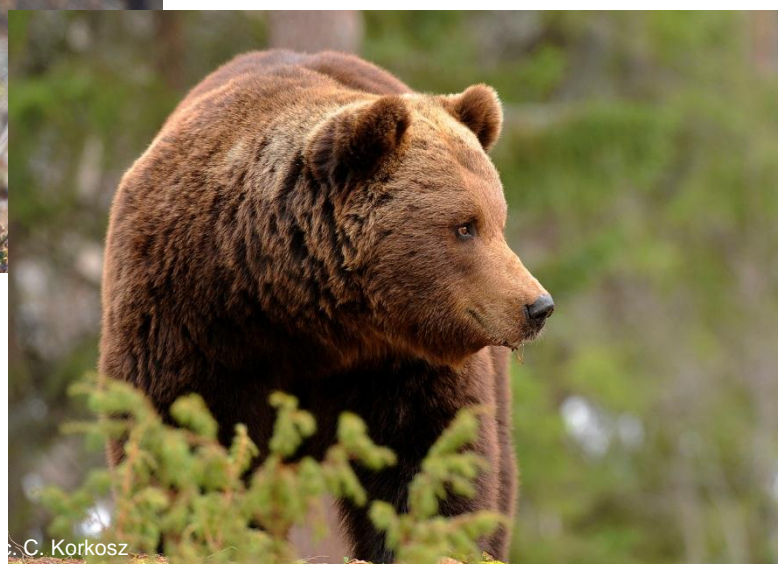
General Directorate
for Environmental Protection
Poland



GENERALNA
DYREKCJA
OCHRONY
ŚRODOWISKA

Large Carnivores in Poland

Pic. A. Krzywiński



C. Korkosz

Pic. C. Korkosz



Legal Aspects



- Legal acts:
- International
 - Habitat Directive
 - Bern Convention
 - Carpatian Convention
 - CITES Convention
 - Biodiversity Convention
- National:
 - The Nature Conservation Act of 16 April 2004 (Journal of Laws of 2009 no. 151 item 1220, as amended) - compensation paymants
 - Regulation of the Minister of the Environment of 12 October 2011 on wildlife animal species under protection (Journal of Laws of 2011 no. 237 item 1419)

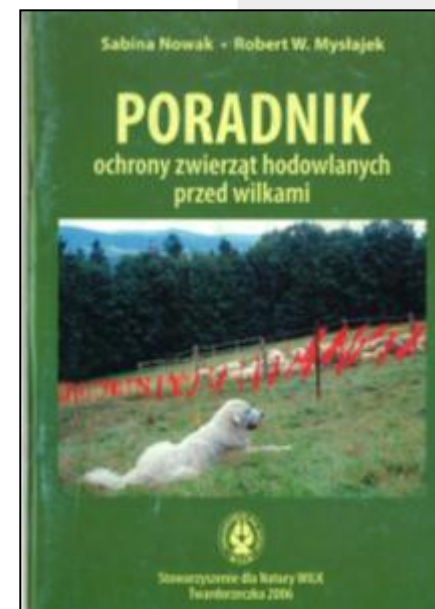
Damaged Caused by Large Carnivores

- Compensation payment

The Nature Conservation Act of 16 April 2004
(Journal of Laws **Legal aspects** of 2009
no. 151 item 1220, as amended) – art.126



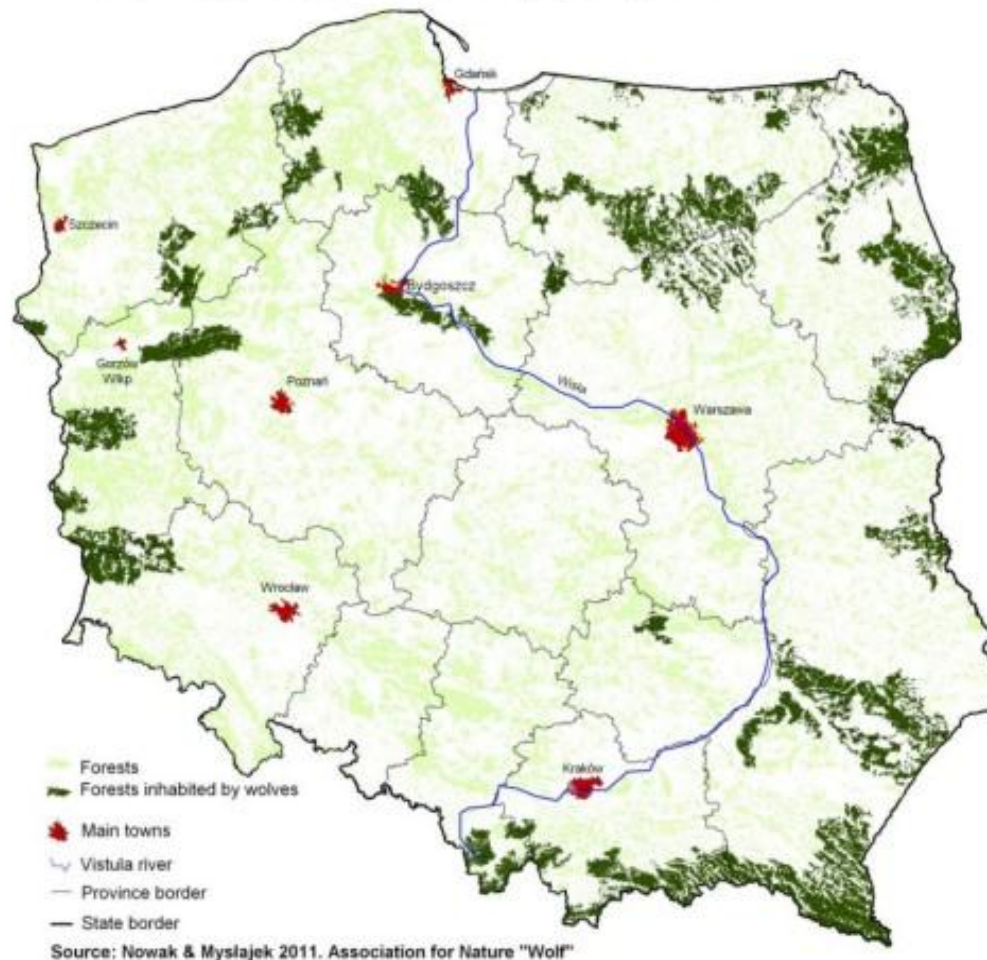
Year	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Wolf	131 234	93 150	91 700	123 280	152 381	125 498
Lynx	699	348	215	412	3 167	437
Bear	20 332	32 504	66 552	35 547	22 537	12 303



Wolf Distribution in Poland

≈ 950 wolves in Poland

Wolf distribution in Poland, spring 2011



17 packs ~ 90 wolves

Critically endangered (CE)
by the Guidelines
For Population Management
Plans for Large Carnivores

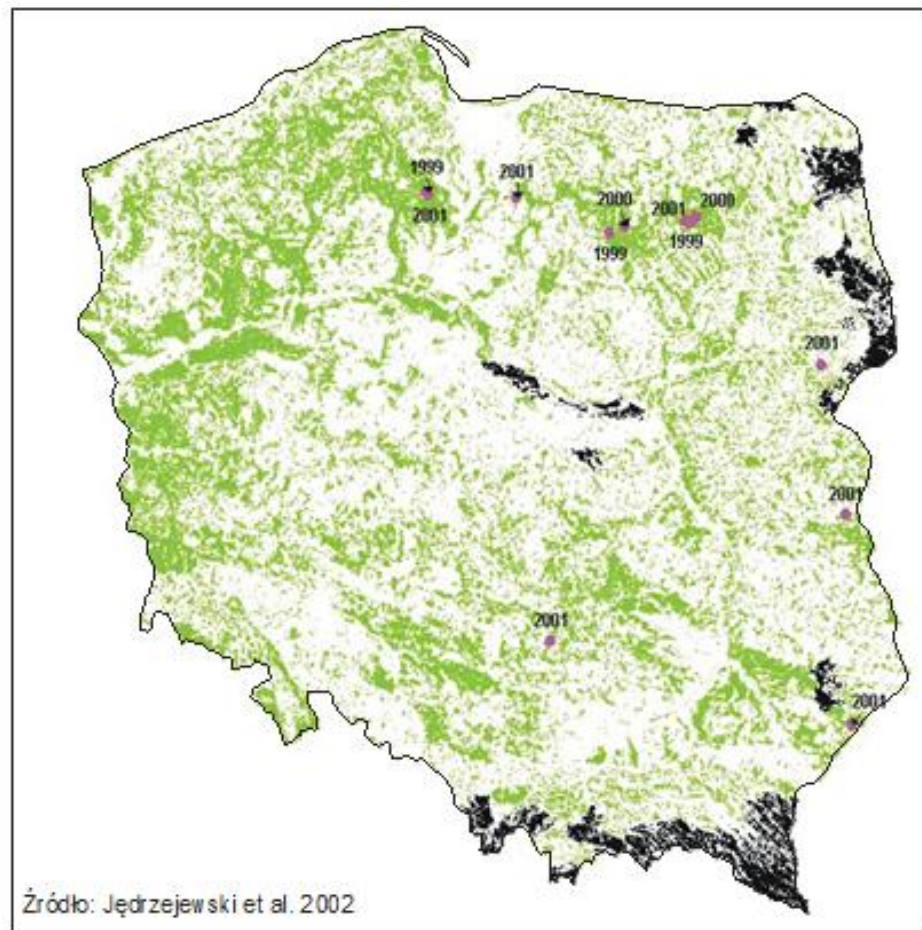
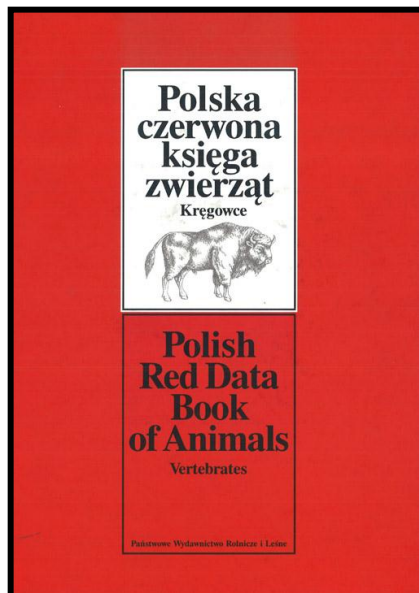


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Source: <http://www.polskiwilk.org.pl/rozmieszczenie-wilka>

Lynx Distribution

≈ 200 lynx



Źródło: Jędrzejewski et al. 2002

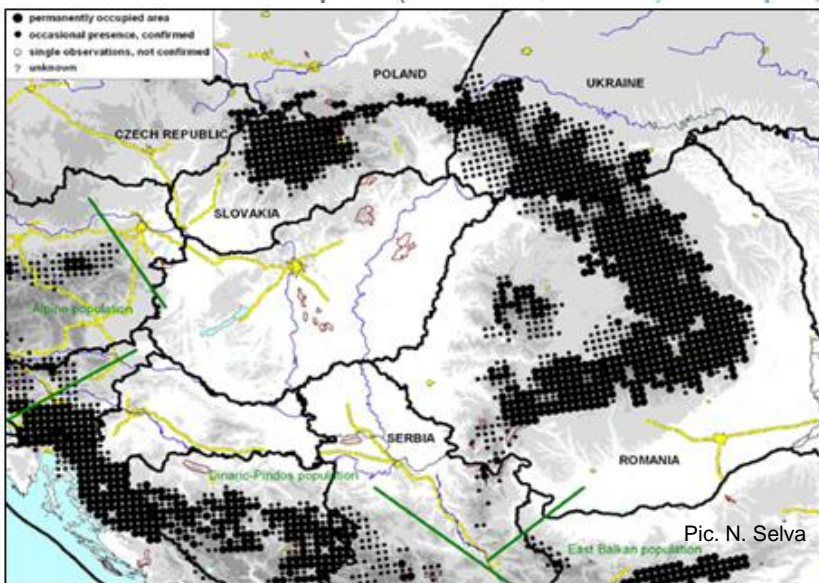
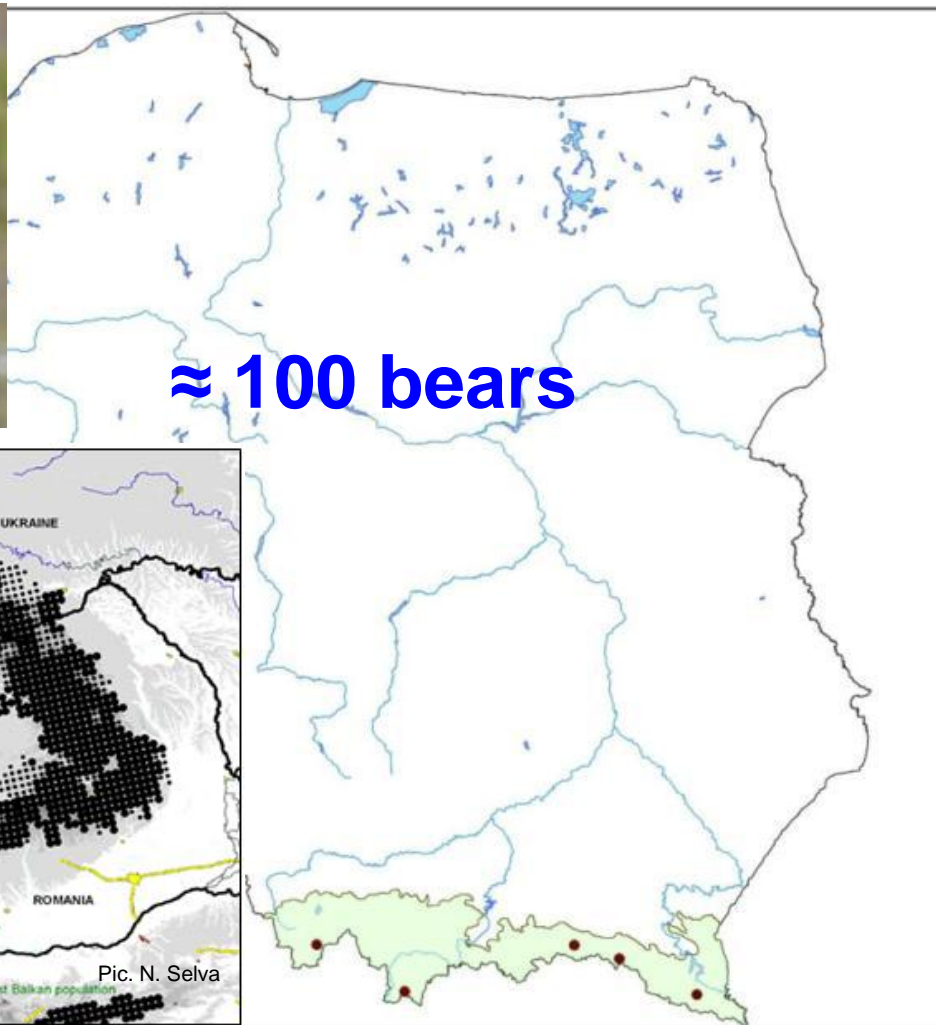


Pic. T.Schmidt

Brown Bear Distribution in Poland



Pic. C. Korkosz



Pic. N. Selva



Main Threats

- Habitat fragmentation
- Low habitat quality
- Low accessibility of prey
- Illegal killing



Pic. D. Łukasik



Pic. C. Korkosz



Pic. C. Korkosz



Ecological Corridors



Collisions with vehicles



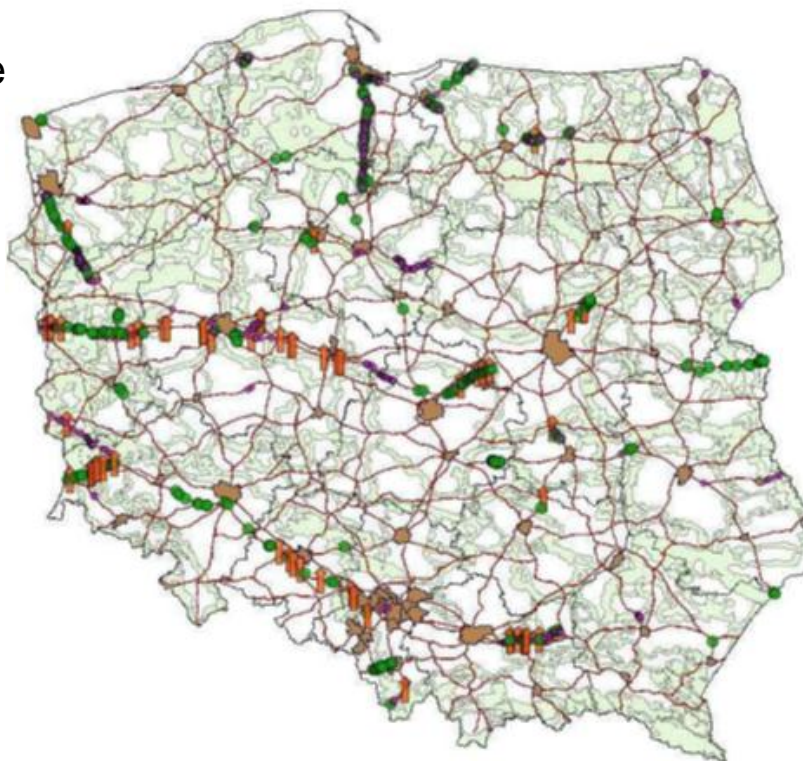
Localization of Animal Passes

According to the General Directorate for National Roads and Motorways there are:

- 55 overpasses
- 299 underpasses
- 698 culverts

Planned crossings:

- 60 overpasses
- 150 underpasses
- 550 culverts



Pic. S. Nowak



Source:GDDKiA



Protection of biodiversity by implementation ecological corridors network in Poland

- Timeframe: 2014 - 2016
- Review of existing corridors - national and international
- identification of problematic areas, spatial planning documents
- aktualization of maps
- Designation of afforestation areas
- Designation of alternative variant of corridors
- Elimination of barriers in continuity of corridors
- Professional database - types and localization of animal passes, public access
- Guidelines- designating local and national corridors





International Cooperation

- Polish-German Working Group on Wolves
- Cooperation with Slovakia
- Cooperation with Belarus
- Bern Convention - LCIE
- International conference in Poland (November 2012)



Pic. C. Korkosz



Polish-German Working Group on Wolves

- 13 July 2009, Dresden - bilateral meeting
- 19 January 2010, Berlin – first meeting of the working group
- 25 February 2014, Berlin– fifth meeting
 - Discussion about the study “Review of wolf population management methods in Poland and Germany and recommendations for future transboundary co-operation in this field”
 - Review the wolf population management methods in Poland and Germany and evaluate the possibility of shared management of the transboundary population of the species.
 - Funds from Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).
 - „Standards for the monitoring of the Central European wolf population in Germany and Poland.”



Cooperation with Slovakia

- 14-15 March 2011, Cracow - Polish-Slovakian conference
- 7-8 April 2011, Warsaw - The conclusions of the conference were presented on XVII meeting of Polish-Slovakian Intergovernmental Commission for Cross-Border Cooperation
- Experts Team for protection of large carnivores
 - zone without hunting
 - common management policy
 - common monitoring methods
- 11 June 2012 Zakopane – first meeting of Experts Team
- 29th and 30th April 2013 Zakopane - last meeting of Experts Team



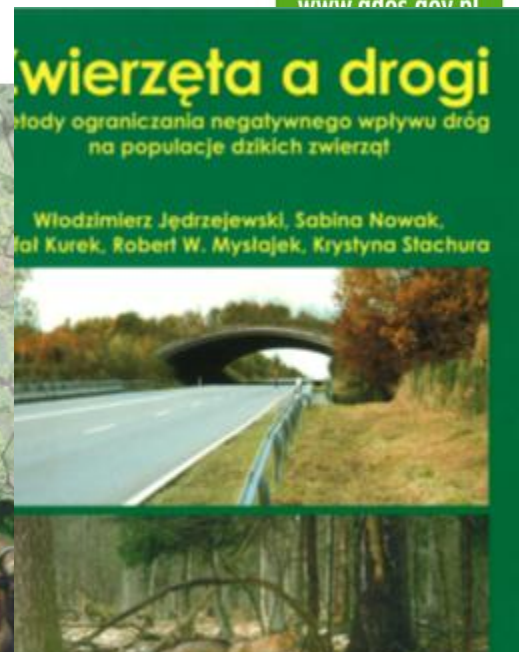
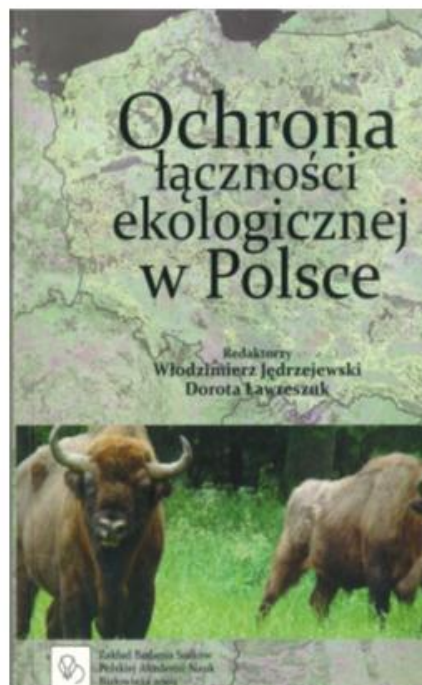
Reintroduction of Lynx

- Reintroduction of lynx in Piska and Augustowska Forests (WWF Poland)
- „Born to be free” – 12 specimens were released into nature since 1998 (Wild Animals Park in Kadzidłowo)



• Publications

- Natura 2000 in spacial planinig
- Animals and roads
- Damage preventing





Thank you.

**Any questions?
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