

Protection of Large Carnivores in Poland

Conservation of large carnivores in a transboundary approach
6-7 November 2012, Warsaw



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Legal Aspects

- International
 - Habitat Directive
 - Bern Convention
 - Carpatian Convention
 - CITES Convention
 - Biodiversity Convention
- National
 - The Nature Conservation Act of 16 April 2004 (Journal of Laws Legal aspects of 2009 no. 151 item 1220, as amended)
 - 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) – appendix 1 - strictly protected species and appendix 5 as wild species for which protected areas (500 meters around breeding places) are established.



Prohibitions

- Deliberate capture or killing
- Deliberate disturbance
- Deterioration or destruction of breeding sites or resting places
- Transport

Derogations:

- When there is no alternative and the derogation is not detrimental to the maintenance of the populations of the species
- In the interest of protecting wild fauna and flora and conserving natural habitats
- To prevent serious damage, in particular to crops, livestock, forests
- In the interests of public health and public safety,
- For the purpose of research and education, of repopulating and re-introducing these species and for the breedings operations necessary for these purposes, including the artificial propagation of plants

Derogations

2009-2012	Damages	Research	Safety	Other
Wolf	2 (3)	3	1	1
Lynx		5		
Bear		1		1

Legal Aspects - Wolf

- Strict protection since 1998 (throughout the country)

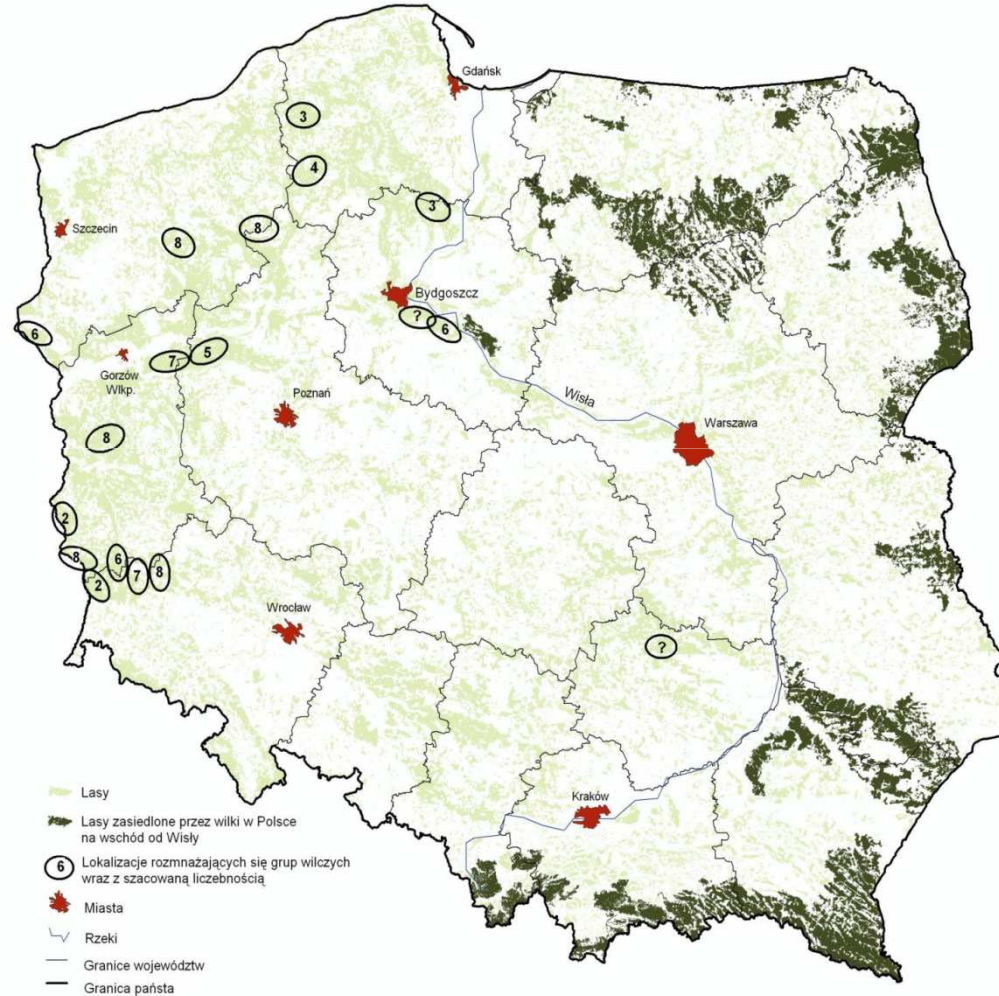
Legal acts:

- International
 - Habitat Directive – annex II and V
 - Bern Convention – annex II
 - CITES Convention
 - Biodiversity Convention

„Polish Red Data Book of Animals” - NT (near threatened)



Status of Wolves from the West of the Vistula River - Autumn 2010



17 pacs~ 90 wolves

Critically endangered (CE) in the [Guidelines for Population Management Plans for Large Carnivores](#),

Legal Aspects - Brown Bear

- Strict protection since 1952

Legal acts:

- International
 - Habitat Directive – annex II and IV
 - Bern Convention – annex II
 - Carpatian Convention
 - CITES Convention
 - Biodiversity Convention



„Polish Red Data Book of Animals” - NT (near threatened)

Legal Aspects - Lynx

- Strict protection since 1995

Legal acts:

- International
 - Habitat Directive – annex II and IV
 - Bern Convention – annex III
 - Carpatian Convention
 - CITES Convention
 - Biodiversity Convention

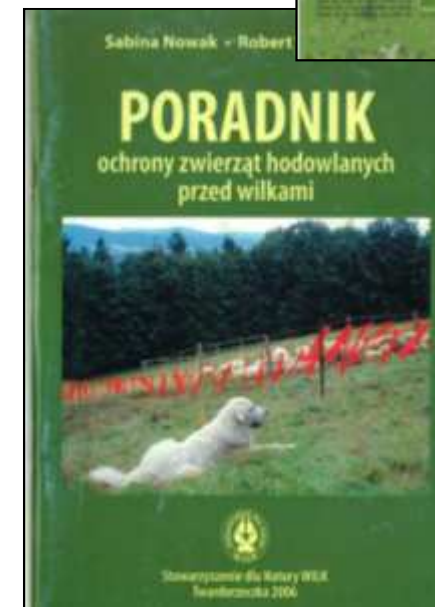


„Polish Red Book of Animals” - NT (near threatened)

Damages 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



Compensation Payment

	2008/ EUR	2009/EUR	2010/EUR	2011/EUR
Wolf	131 234	93 150	91 700	123 280
Lynx	699	348	215	412
Bear	20 332	32 504	66 552	35 547

Compensation Payment - Beavers (*Castor fiber*)

	2008/EUR	2009/EUR	2010/EUR	2011/EUR
Beaver	1 110 997	1 491 805	1 702 375	2 625 540



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- Management Plans - in progress
- International cooperation
 - Polish-German working group on wolves
 - Cooperation with Slovakia
 - Cooperation with Ukraine
 - International conference in Poland (November 2012)



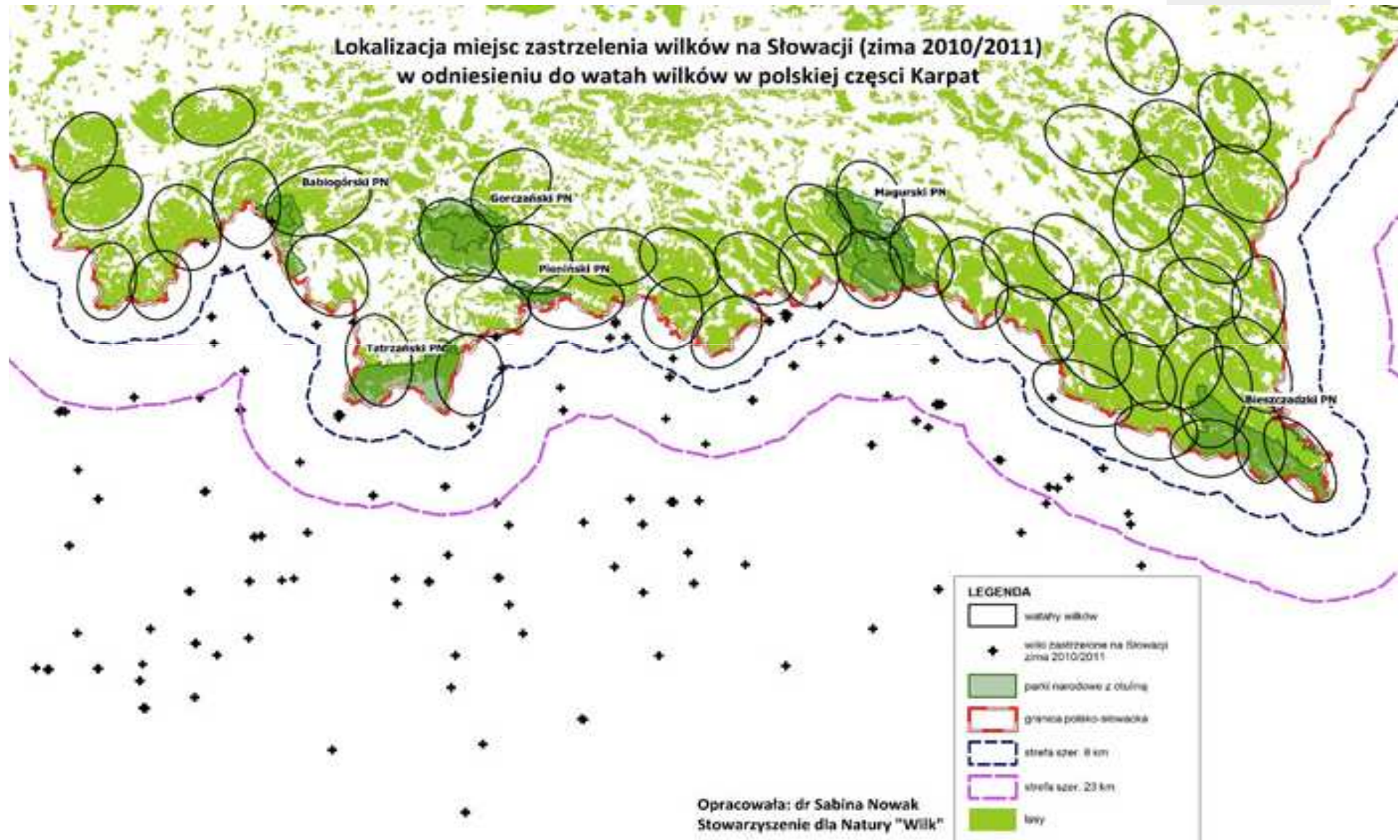
Cooperation with Slovakia

- 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



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Zones Without Hunting



Cooperation with Slovakia and Ukraine

Within the framework of International Biosphere Reserve “Eastern Carpathians”

International conference “Conservation of Natural Resources of International Biosphere Reserve – Eastern Carpathians” - organized in Scientific-educational Centre of Bieszczady National Park in Ustrzyki Dolne.

- Last conference - 23-25 September 2010
- “Influence of current management methods on preserving natural resources in Carpathians”



Polish-German Working Group on Wolves

- 13 July 2009, Dresden - bilateral meeting
- 19 January 2010, Berlin - first meeting of the working group
- 11 October 2010, Szczecin, 25 March 2011 in Berlin
- 10 July 2012 in Szczecin – last 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 of the wolf population management methods in Poland and Germany and evaluation of 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).
 - Project was performed by “Biuro Lopus” from Germany and the subcontractor - Association for Nature „Wolf”.

Reintroduction of Lynx

- Reintroduction of Lynx in Piska and Augustowska Forests
- „Born to be free” – 12 specimens have been released into nature since 1998
- Wild Animals Park in Kadzidłowo, WWF Poland



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- **Publications**

- Natura 2000 in spatial planning.
- Animals and roads.
- Damage preventing.



Thank you for your attention.



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