

S E M I N Á R

Veľké šelmy, ľudia a korisť: interakcie a riešenie konfliktov

Large Predators, People, and Prey:
Interactions and Conflicts Resolution

Program & Abstrakty
Programme & Abstracts

13. októbra 2015 • Hotel Dixon • Banská Bystrica





SEMINÁR

Veľké šelmy, ľudia a korisť: interakcie a riešenie konfliktov

Large Predators, People, and Prey:
Interactions and Conflicts Resolution

Program & Abstrakty

Programme & Abstracts

13. októbra 2015 • Hotel Dixon • Banská Bystrica

Program / Programme

10:00 – 10:05

Úvodné slovo

SLAVOMÍR FINŇO, Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia

10:05 – 10:45

Veľké šelmy v Škandinávii: stav populácií, konflikty a manažment

BARBARA ZIMMERMANN, Faculty of Applied Ecology and Agricultural Sciences, Hedmark University College, Norway

10:45 – 11:25

Vnímanie zvierat ľuďmi: multimodálna interakčná analýza údajov získaných z rozhovorov

PAUL J. THIBAUT, University of Agder, Norway,

MORTEN TRINNESSEN, University of Stavanger, Department of Health Studies, Norway

11:25 – 12:05

Vlk ako sociálny konflikt: ako sa šelma stala symbolom úpadku vidieka

KETIL SKOGEN, Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Oslo, Norway

12:05 – 12:45

Vnímanie environmentálnej spravodlivosti: konflikt so šelmami v Nórsku

KIM S. JACOBSEN, The Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, University of Oxford, UK

12:45 – 13:45

Obedňajšia prestávka

13:45 – 14:25

Antropogénne vplyvy na potravné zvyky a výber habitatov medveďom hnedým na Poľane

MICHAELA SKUBAN, Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia and Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Department of Biology II, Germany

14:25 – 15:05

**Intenzita a rozsah škôd spôsobovaných medveďom hnedým
(*Ursus arctos* L.) v oblasti Národného parku Malá Fatra**

MICHAL KALAŠ, Štátna Ochrana Prírody SR, Správa Národného Parku Malá Fatra, Varín,
Slovensko

15:05 – 15:45

**Ako sa zopsulo využívanie pastierskych strážnych psov
na Slovenku a v Nórsku**

SLAVOMÍR JANDA, Faculty of Applied Ecology and Agricultural Sciences, Hedmark Univer-
sity College, Norway

15:45 – 16:00

Filmový dokument o práci pastierskych strážnych psov na Slovensku

MIRIAMA MIKUŠOVÁ a ĽUBOŠ FRIČ, Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia

16:00 – 16:15

Prestávka

16:15 – 16:55

**Potravná ekológia Eurázijského rysa a konflikt s poľovníkmi
v západných Karpatoch**

MIROSLAV KUTAL, Friends of the Earth Czech Republic, Olomouc branch and Institute of
Forest Ecology, Mendel University Brno

15:55 – 16:35

Konflikty s vlkom na Slovensku

SLAVOMÍR FINĎO, Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia

16:35 – 17:10

Iberský vlk (*Canis lupus signatus* Cabrera, 1907)

NUNO GUIMARÃES, Department of Biology and Ecology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Matej
Bel University – Banská Bystrica, Slovakia

17:10

Záver

Abstrakty / Abstracts

Large carnivores in Scandinavia: Status, conflicts and management

BARBARA ZIMMERMANN

Faculty of Applied Ecology and Agricultural Sciences, Hedmark University College, Norway

The Scandinavian countries Norway and Sweden share cross-bordering populations of brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), wolf (*Canis lupus*), lynx (*Lynx lynx*) and wolverine (*Gulo gulo*). During the past three to five decades, these four large carnivore species have recovered from a period of heavy persecution that led to regional reduction and extinction. Today, populations are estimated at about 3000 bears, 460 wolves, 1400 lynx, and 1000 wolverines. Due to different population histories and management goals, Norway has a smaller share of these large carnivores (5%, 12%, 25% and 35% of the Scandinavian bear, wolf, lynx and wolverine populations, respectively). Conflicts involve depredation of domestic sheep and semi-domestic reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*), competition with hunters for game, wolf attacks on hunting dogs, and people being afraid of large carnivores. An important difference shaping the level of conflict in the two countries is sheep husbandry: while sheep are fenced all year round in Sweden, they are free-ranging in Norway during summer and easy prey for predators. The Norwegian government pays about 9 million Euros in compensation to farmers each year for sheep lost to predators. While Sweden has a more centralized management restrained by EU laws and policies, carnivore management in Norway is partly decided at a regional level by local politicians and stakeholders. All four species have been subject to legal hunt and depredation-related culling in recent years in both countries. In addition, illegal hunt is an important mortality factor that limits population growth of the four carnivores.

Human Perceptions of Animals: A Multimodal Interaction Analysis of Interview Data

PAUL J. THIBAUT¹ and MORTEN TØNNESSEN²

¹ University of Agder, Norway

² University of Stavanger, Department of Health Studies, Norway

This paper presents fieldwork focused on interviewees' perception of wolves and selected animals the wolf is often perceived as being in conflict with. The data consists of video-recordings and observations of a series of semi-structured interviews conducted in Norway in 2015, specifically at five locations: Kristiansand (pilot study), Moss – Østfold, Rendalen – Hedmark, Kautekeino – Finnmark and Stavanger (control group). Study animals other than wolves include hunting dogs (particularly in Moss), reindeer (particularly in Kautekeino) and sheep (particularly in Rendalen). These animals have been selected for study due to their centrality in regional discourses on wolf management. Using techniques derived from Multimodal Interaction Analysis (MIA), the study analysed participants' accounts of, attitudes to and reactions towards selected display materials. The term 'perception' used in the title of this chapter refers to participants' experience with, ideas about and attitudes towards the study animals, as revealed in the inter-

views. Methodologically, the display materials are thus used in order to elicit responses that provide information about the participants perception of the study animals. The display materials included video clips, audio recordings of animal vocalizations, and images. The semi-structured interviews also included a few standard questions – these are described in the section Interview Design. The techniques of MIA were deployed in order to analyse the full range of interviewees´ meaning-making resources, including vocal utterances, gesture, facial expressions and other relevant body movements. The purpose of the MIA was to identify salient cultural thematic patterns, evaluative stances and feelings experiences by the participants in their encounter with the display materials and their recounts of their experiences of the study animals. Furthermore, a comparative analysis was developed of relevant patterns in the data that showed differences and similarities in the perceptions of the different interest groups. Moreover, a comparative analysis was also undertaken based on the different geographical locations where the data was gathered.

The Wolf as a Social Conflict: How the Predator became an Icon of Rural Demise

KETIL SKOGEN

Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, Oslo

Sociological research in Norwegian wolf areas over the last 15 years has clearly shown that the wolf conflicts are as much – or more – conflicts between people over wolves, as they are conflicts between people and wolves. They are indeed social conflicts.

Conflicts occur in areas with minimal material damage, and people who oppose wolf protection are often angrier with their human adversaries than with the animals. This reaches beyond controversies over management practices: conflicts originate in wider processes of social change perceived as threatening by many people in rural areas. Anti-wolf attitudes predominantly prevail among people who are firmly rooted in traditional land use practices and in a rural working-class culture. These attitudes are not predominantly related to adverse material effects of wolf presence. Rather, wolf protection is perceived as a potent expression of a changing land use regime, seen as threatening rural economic activities and traditional rural lifestyles. The back-curtain is economic decline, leading to depopulation and dismantling of private and public services. Importantly, this occurs in a time when a conservation ethos has achieved a dominant position in the public discourse, and increasingly manifests itself in practical land management: restrictions on land use, new protected areas, and protection of species previously persecuted. Some social groups interpret these changes in the cultural valuation of nature (of which wolf protection is one expression) as driving forces behind the decline in resource industries, and as threats to a traditional rural lifestyle that rests on harvesting resources. Whether this is objectively true is not important: Fighting wolf protection may be seen as defending the rural economy and rural culture against harmful outside forces. For example, a fundamental question is whether Norwegian forests constitute a landscape where humans should continue a sustainable interaction with nature that has been going on for centuries, or whether these forests should become a wilderness again. Landscape interpretations have serious implications for the tolerance of wolves in a particular area – a physical piece of land that may be viewed very differently as landscape. The conflict over wolves is often depicted as an urban-rural conflict. Yet, the controversies also play out within rural communities, reflecting changing demographics and a shifting

economic base. Thus, they are as much about differentiation along axes such as social class and generation, as they are clashes between the urban and the rural. We might say that the wolves were unlucky to become tangled up in conflicts that were there before them. However, it was no accident that the wolves returned when they did. Precisely the change in valuation of nature that troubles many rural residents, paved the way for the return of large predators. Important though they are, technical and economic remedies, along with 'education', only go so far in addressing a conflict that is part and parcel of large-scale social change.

Perceptions of environmental justice: the carnivore conflict in Norway

KIM S. JACOBSEN

The Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, University of Oxford, UK

Human-wildlife conflict is increasingly being recognised as a form of social conflict that in some areas can only be solved through understanding the perceptions and beliefs of the stakeholders involved. In terms of HWC, Norway is an interesting case, as it presents a scenario that combines husbandry practices that are extremely susceptible to predation with rapid recolonisation by large carnivores in a period of societal change in rural areas. As a result, there is a highly polarised and acrimonious debate between the livestock industry and environmental groups concerning the fate of carnivores in Norway.

I investigated the perceptions of justice regarding the carnivore conflict in Norway among indigenous reindeer herders, sheep farmers and environmentalists. Q methodological analysis revealed three distinct viewpoints on carnivores and the Norwegian carnivore policy. These viewpoints constitute two nearly polar opposite factions. In order to find promising areas for policy improvement, areas of consensus between the three viewpoints were identified. There were very few consensus statements, but all three of the main viewpoints agreed that politicians only superficially take their views into account, and that the opposing side in the carnivore debate portray them misleadingly and with some condescension. Furthermore, the use of David Schlosberg's framework of environmental justice identified the importance of recognising perceived differences in identity and community in order to alleviate conflict. This is an aspect of conflict alleviation that has not been widely appreciated by the literature on human-wildlife conflict, and revealed an underlying layer of human-human conflict.

Human impacts on bear feeding habits and habitat selection in the Poľana Mountains, Slovakia

MICHAELA SKUBAN^{1,2}

¹ Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia

² Ludwig Maximilian University Munich, Germany

Due to altered agricultural and hunting policies anthropogenic food is more accessible for bears in Slovakia. Supplementary feeding of ungulates and cereal/maize crops in fields provide attractive food for bears. Although the influence of supplementary feeding on bear behaviour was partially explained, the relevance of fields is insufficiently studied. By analysing 243 scats collected in the Poľana Mountains (Slovakia) during 2006–2010, the seasonal variation of six major food categories in bear diet have been investigated. Estimated dietary energy content (EDEC) for each

food category and its contribution to the total energy budget was calculated. The three prevalent food categories contributed to the assimilated energy throughout the year: wild mammals, hard mast and cultivated plants. Contrary to expectations that cultivated plants add most to energy intake, natural food was the more important. Red deer and wild boar were most significant sources of animal proteins which bears gained either by scavenging or by hunting young and adult individuals. Farmed livestock was not found in the bear diet. Beechnuts and acorns were an important food from autumn to spring. Nevertheless, human provided food resources such as agricultural fields influence life cycles of particular bears. K-select analysis was applied to study habitat selection by Poľana bears in 2012. GPS positions from seven bears were assigned to grain (20 June–31 July) and maize maturity seasons (1 August–20 September). This part of the study revealed that especially maize fields can affect the habitat selection of bears. However, there are no human habituated bear individuals in the Poľana Mountains although population density is advanced. We surmise that the sufficient food base could serve as prevention through offering enough fodder for bears of all sex and age categories.

Intenzita a rozsah škôd spôsobovaných medveďom hnedým (*Ursus arctos* L.) v oblasti Národného parku Malá Fatra.

MICHAL KALAŠ

Štátna ochrana prírody SR, Správa Národného Parku Malá Fatra, Varín, Slovensko

Národný park Malá Fatra s rozlohou 220 km² je areálom trvalého výskytu medveďa hnedého. Jeho populáciu odhadujeme na niekoľko desiatok jedincov. Okolitá krajina má vidiecky charakter s rozptýlenou zástavbou na severe a severovýchode územia, z južnej a západnej strany sú sídla koncentrovanejšie. V predhorí (v ochrannom pásme) pretrvávajú skôr extenzívne poľnohospodárstvo s menšími počtami hospodárskych zvierat, ktoré sa len zriedkavo pasú na lúkach či pasienkoch národného parku. Intenzívne sa tu pestujú poľnohospodárske plodiny s významným podielom kukurice. Ku škodám na poľnohospodárskych plodinách, ovocných drevinách, včelstvách a hospodárskych zvieratách dochádza v rozličnom rozsahu každoročne. Prítomnosť a pretrvávanie škôd je jedným z hlavných argumentov pre povoľovanie lovu medveďa. Z jeho analýzy však nevyplýva pokles škôd, ku ktorému by mal lov primárne prispievať. Vystáva tak otázka, z akých dôvodov škody naďalej pretrvávajú a aké možnosti na ich úspešnú prevenciu existujú. Máme za to, že lov realizovaný za aktuálnych podmienok nie je efektívnym nástrojom. Naopak, existuje rad opatrení, zamedzujúcich takýmto škodám. Ich uplatňovaním možno súčasne regulovať populáciu medveďa hnedého a tak sa dostať k jednej zo zásadných príčin existencie škôd.

Gone to the dogs. Challenges for use of Livestock Protecting Dogs in Slovakia and Norway

SLAVOMÍR JANDA

Faculty of Applied Ecology and Agricultural Sciences, Hedmark University College, Norway

With the rise of environmental movement beginning in 70s in USA and slowly spreading throughout the western world, attitudes to large carnivores began to change. Once allowed, these spe-

cies showed that they could thrive in human dominated landscapes and after many years roam the European countries once again. What is for some a great conservational success becomes a problem for others. The conflict between human and large carnivores is increasing in many countries. Although many human dimension studies are showing that the intense debates and disagreement among interest groups is often based on deeper sociological forces, the most used argument against conservation are livestock losses. One of the goals of bigger EEA project "Promoting biodiversity through improved management of conflict situations between large carnivores and people" is to compare experiences of sheep farming in Slovakia and Norway and transfer of the knowledge between countries to evaluate current situation and find effective tools for mitigation of the conflict. A questionnaire survey was carried out in both countries with representatives of farmers who were known to use LPDs from previous projects. 40 Norwegian farmers were asked to fill an online questionnaire and 19 In-depth, semi-structured interviews were carried out with farmers, shepherds and hunters in Slovakia. Questions were divided into several categories to gain understanding of most important external and internal factors known to play important role in the human carnivore conflict.

Despite different cultural and socio-economical background and different use of LPDs, farmers in both countries perceive the value and importance of their dogs similarly and in general are very satisfied with them. For Slovak part the dogs seems to be most valuable farm animal. As most important obstacles for farming and use of dogs both parts consider the lack of resources – financial in Norway, human in Slovakia, lack of support from government, degradation of cultural landscape and often conflicts with other people – mostly tourists and hunters. Increase of public awareness and information seems to be an important task for both countries along with change in the government policies and legislation. Norwegian farmers struggle with tradition of grazing system not compatible with traditional use of LPDs and major changes in sheep operation management seem to be inevitable in the future to minimize the livestock losses.

Feeding ecology of Eurasian Lynx and a competition with hunters in the West Carpathians

MIROSLAV KUTAL^{1,2}

¹ Friends of the Earth Czech Republic, Olomouc branch

² Institute of Forest Ecology, Mendel University Brno

The Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*) is currently the only regularly occurring large carnivore species at the edge of the West Carpathian Mountains in the Czech-Slovakia borderland. Its population density was estimated by photographic CMR analysis. Feeding ecology was studied by snow-tracking and observing the behaviour from camera traps placed near the kills. Extent of predation and possible conflict with hunters was studied using reverse calculation method from hunting bags.

The main prey of Eurasian lynx in Beskydy consist of roe deer, which was identified in 81% cases (n = 67) of lynx killed animals, red deer was taken much less (16%). Sometimes lynx did parallel kills or more lynx fed at one kill. Roe deer was the most abundant ungulate in the study area but the overall hunting bag was lower in hunting grounds with lynx presence. However analyses showed the roe deer density was explained by average altitude and by localities (mountain range) rather than by lynx predation.

Konflikty s vlkom na Slovensku

SLAVOMÍR FINĎO

Carpathian Wildlife Society, Zvolen, Slovakia

Predácia vlka na domácich a voľne žijúcich párnokopytníkov je najčastejšou príčinou negatívneho vzťahu ľudí voči tejto šelme. Škody na domácich zvieratách majú v poslednom období narastajúci trend, ale táto skutočnosť nemusí mať súvis so zmenami veľkosti vlčej populácie. Na ochranu stád proti útokom vlkov sú k dispozícii viaceré účinné metódy ochrany, ale tieto sa málo a často nesprávnym spôsobom používajú. Z ekonomického hľadiska sú škody na hospodárskych zvieratách malé, ale lokálne môžu byť pre konkrétneho farmára citeľné, najmä vtedy, ak v dôsledku nedostatočnej ochrany stád dôjde k „nadmernému zabíjaniu“. Do úvahy je potrebné brať aj emotívnu stránku chovateľov hospodárskych zvierat, ktorí aj malé straty vnímajú ako ujmu závažného rozsahu. Kompenzačný systém náhrad škôd na domácich zvieratách je pomerne dobre prepracovaný, ale vyžaduje ďalšie zlepšenia. Vplyv vlka na voľne žijúce kopytníky vyvoláva silné emócie. Nedostatok výskumných poznatkov a vedomostí z nášho územia o vzťahu predátora a koristi vedie k nepochopeniu funkcie vlka v ekosystémoch, pričom jeho pozitívne vplyvy sú v úzadí a vyzdvihujú sa straty na raticovej zveri, ktorá je predmetom poľovníckeho hospodárenia. Popiera sa selektivita vlka pri love koristi a zdôrazňujú sa ekonomické dôsledky predácie pre poľovné hospodárenie, či už z hľadiska straty diviny alebo trofejí. Usmrcovanie trofejovej, najmä jelenej zveri, eskaluje konflikt medzi poľovníkmi, vlkom a ľuďmi, ktorí sú viac naklonení jeho ochrane. Do úvahy sa neberie skutočnosť, že vlk sa podieľa na znižovaní počtov raticovej zveri, ktorá v ostatných rokoch dosahuje historicky najvyššiu početnosť a spôsobuje veľké škody v poľnohospodárstve a lesníctve. Je paradoxom, že práve v takejto situácii stále existuje v slovenskej legislatíve možnosť náhrady „škody“ spôsobenej vlkom na voľne žijúcich kopytníkov. Prístup k ochrane a manažmentu vlka bol doteraz nekonceptný a výraznejšie neprispieval k riešeniu konfliktov medzi záujmovými skupinami obyvateľstva.

The Iberian wolf (*Canis lupus signatus* Cabrera, 1907)

NUNO GUIMARÃES

Department of biology and ecology, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Matej Bel University, Banská Bystrica

The Iberian wolf is a subspecies of the grey wolf (*Canis lupus* Linnaeus, 1758) occurring in the Iberian Peninsula, that has been isolated from the remained European wolf populations for some centuries due to the extirpation of this species throughout western Europe. This isolation together with the climate and landscape characteristics of the region made the Iberian wolf to present particular morphological and genetic traits which are distinguishable from all other European wolves. In the Iberian Peninsula currently there are approximately 2300 wolves divided in 3 subpopulations: a wide area comprising northwest of Spain and north of Portugal, a small area located south of Douro River in Portugal, and the Sierra Morena in Spain, where probably is already extinct. The wolf population in Portugal retreated from almost 2/3 of its original range in the last century as a result of habitat fragmentation due to habitat loss, and human-caused mortality due to low acceptance by humans (shepherds, hunters and dwellers). Hunting wolves is banned in Portugal since 1988 but this species is still legally hunted in almost all Spanish territory.

The morphology of the Iberian wolf shows many similarities with the grey wolf. Its size diverges according to the Bergmann's rule but some of their biological and behavioural features remained the same. However, they differ in terms of food requirements: wolf range in Portugal and some areas of Spain is poor on large prey (roe deer and red deer are absent in most regions) and extensive grazing of livestock is common, driving the wolf to predate on livestock and consequently to rise conflicts with humans. In fact, in many Iberian regions domestic animals are a major fraction of wolf diet and wolf suffers a high mortality, mostly illegal, due to human causes. Conservation actions to decrease conflicts between wolves and humans are already being implemented. The recovery of forest cover and wild prey as well as damage compensation schemes and technical support actions (targeted mostly to livestock producers) are the main tools to decrease the economic impact from wolf presence.

Poznámky / Notes

Poznámky / Notes

www.carpathianwildlife.sk

