Jaunākie dati par brūno lāču skaitu, izplatību un sugas aizsardzības jautājumiem Eiropas mērogā. Zinātniskais viedoklis par aizsargājamo sugu statusa pazemināšanu

Jānis Ozoliņš
un LVMI "Silava" pētījuma "Lāču monitorings 2023.-2025.gadā" grupa

Pētījuma atbalstītājs – Dabas aizsardzības pārvalde (Nr. 7.7/417/2023)
https://www.silava.lv/petnieciba/aktivie-petijumi/lacu-monitorings-2023-2025

Seminārs MS Teams platformā, 19. februāris 2026.gads

Ieskats ārpus ziņojuma par monitoringa rezultātiem Latvijā

- Kāpēc lāči atgriežas ātrāk nekā esam tam gatavi?
- Juridiskais un bioloģiskais sugas aizsardzības stāvoklis
- Ieskats ar lāčiem saistītos konfliktos citās valstīs

https://www.globalbearconservation.org/About/about_page/36

Mission
Leadership
Species Expert Teams
Disciplinary Expert Teams
Membership
Who We Are / What We Do
History
Partners
Philosophy

We are committed to the conservation of bears, but we view that mission in the context of all the world's biodiversity. We will work with any organization or individual sharing our vision of conserving nature that is in some way linked to bears and science-based.

We aim to provide accurate and reliable information about bears, the habitats they use, threats to their existence, and their future outlook. Our goal is not to provide either a dire or rosy picture, but simply the best information, based both on data and expert opinion.

While we strive to rely on the "best available science", we are fully aware that in many cases, scientific data are insufficient to reach meaningful conclusions. Indeed, data-driven population estimates and assessments of population trend do not exist in most bear range countries. So we must also rely on the opinions of the best experts we can find, acknowledging that everyone's opinion is not without some bias. We seek to critically examine all information we receive.

Where data are weak, we often err on the side of caution by assuming a higher conservation risk — but we aim not to exaggerate risks simply to draw more attention. If a species is improving (in all or parts of its range), we will strive to understand why, and use this knowledge to create positive change in other situations. We highlight both shortfalls and advances, seeking knowledge that promotes better understanding and informed conservation action, always with a watchful eye on the credibility of the information that we provide.

Brown Bear

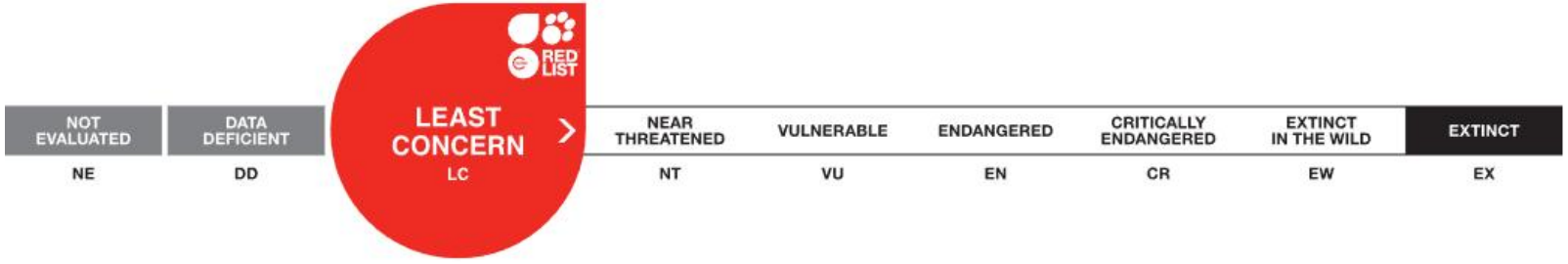
Ursus arctos

ABSTRACT

Brown Bear *Ursus arctos* has most recently been assessed for *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* in 2016. *Ursus arctos* is listed as Least Concern.

THE RED LIST ASSESSMENT

▸ McLellan, B.N., Proctor, M.F., Huber, D. & Michel, S. 2017. *Ursus arctos* (amended version of 2017 assessment). *The IUC...*



https://www.lcie.org/About-LCIE

Register Login Search...

Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe
IUCN/SSC SPECIALIST GROUP

Home Publications About LCIE Large carnivores Blog News Links

About LCIE

About LCIE

Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe

LCIE consists of a group of experts who give their time freely to help conserve large carnivores in Europe.

The members bring experience from the fields of ecological and social science research, wildlife management, hands-on conservation, and from international conservation organisations.

The members do not formally represent their institutions when working for the LCIE, thereby ensuring their independence. Where possible we have tried to maintain a wide geographic spread in our group's composition.

IUCN SSC LCIE sanāksme 12.11.2025. Grieķija, Saloniki

Jautājums par to, vai diskusijas atvēršana par medībām/skaita ierobežošanu leģitimē un veicina šādas prakses īstenošanu un vai tā ir problēma? Uzdots jautājums – kāpēc tik daudzi cilvēki baidās no aizsardzības līmeņa pazemināšanas?
Kad lēmums par aizsardzības pazemināšanu ir pieņemts, vairs nav vajadzības pēc pamatojuma mērķim nogalināt – tikai labvēlīgā aizsardzības stāvokļa prasība, kā arī konkrēts aizliegums noteiktām metodēm. Vai mums nevajadzētu koncentrēties uz to, kā uzraudzīt, lai nodrošinātu, ka labvēlīgais aizsardzības stāvoklis netiek apdraudēts, nevis ķerties pie tehniskām detaļām par medībām. Diskusija par to, kāpēc vajadzētu medīt. Vai mums nevajadzētu censties nodrošināt, ka tiek atklāti nepatiesi pamatojumi – piemēram, pamatojums par to, vai nomedīšana samazina zaudējumus mājlopu audzētājiem. Vai mums nevajadzētu censties, lai pamatojums būtu skaidrāks? Vispirms jautājums – kāpēc, tad - kā. Visbeidzot - kāds ir efekts.

Kaczensky, P., Ranc, N., Hatlauf, J., Payne, J.C. et al. 2024. Large carnivore distribution maps and population updates 2017 – 2022/23. Report to the European Comission under contract N° 09.0201/2023/907799/SER/ENV.D.3 “Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores”, “B.4 Update of the distribution maps”. IUCN/SSC Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) and Istituto di Ecologia Applicata (IEA).

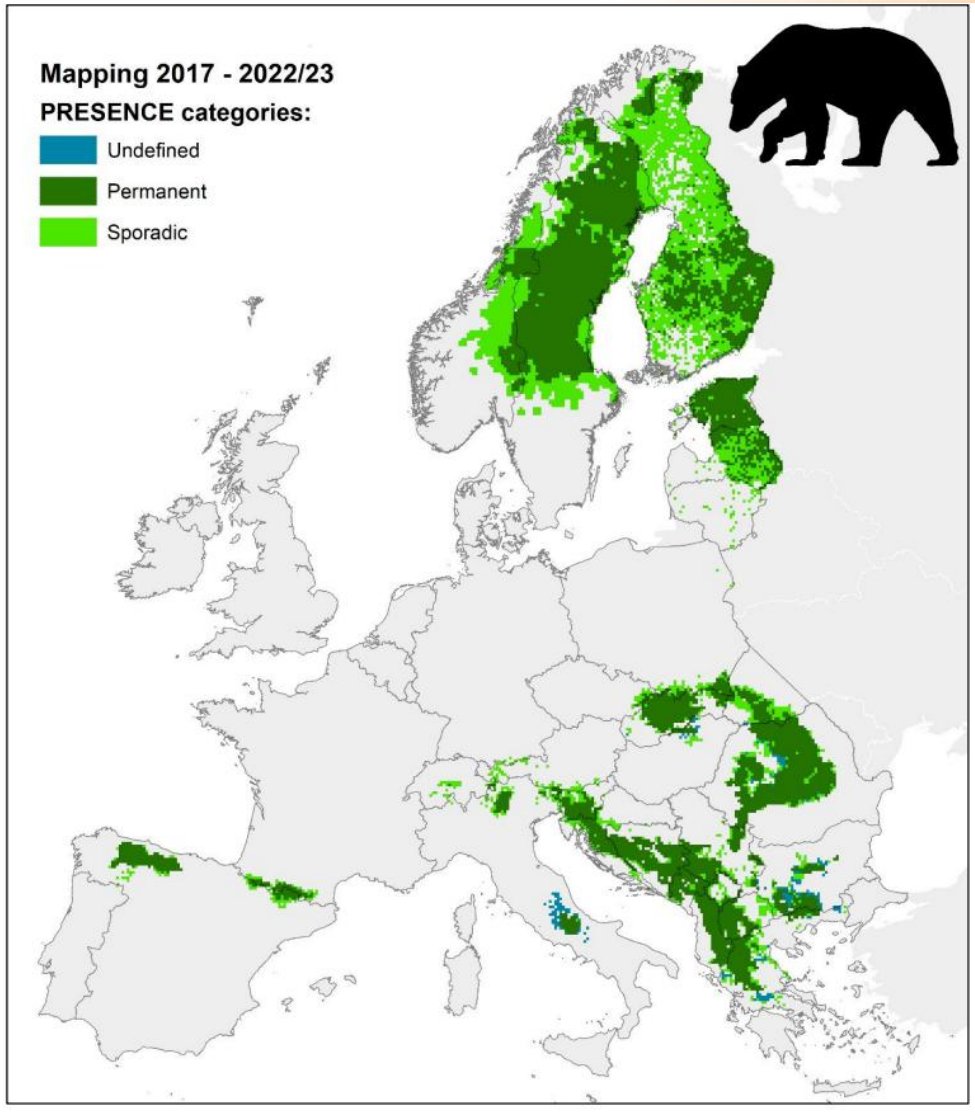


Fig. 4: Brown bear distribution in Europe for the period 2017-2022/23.

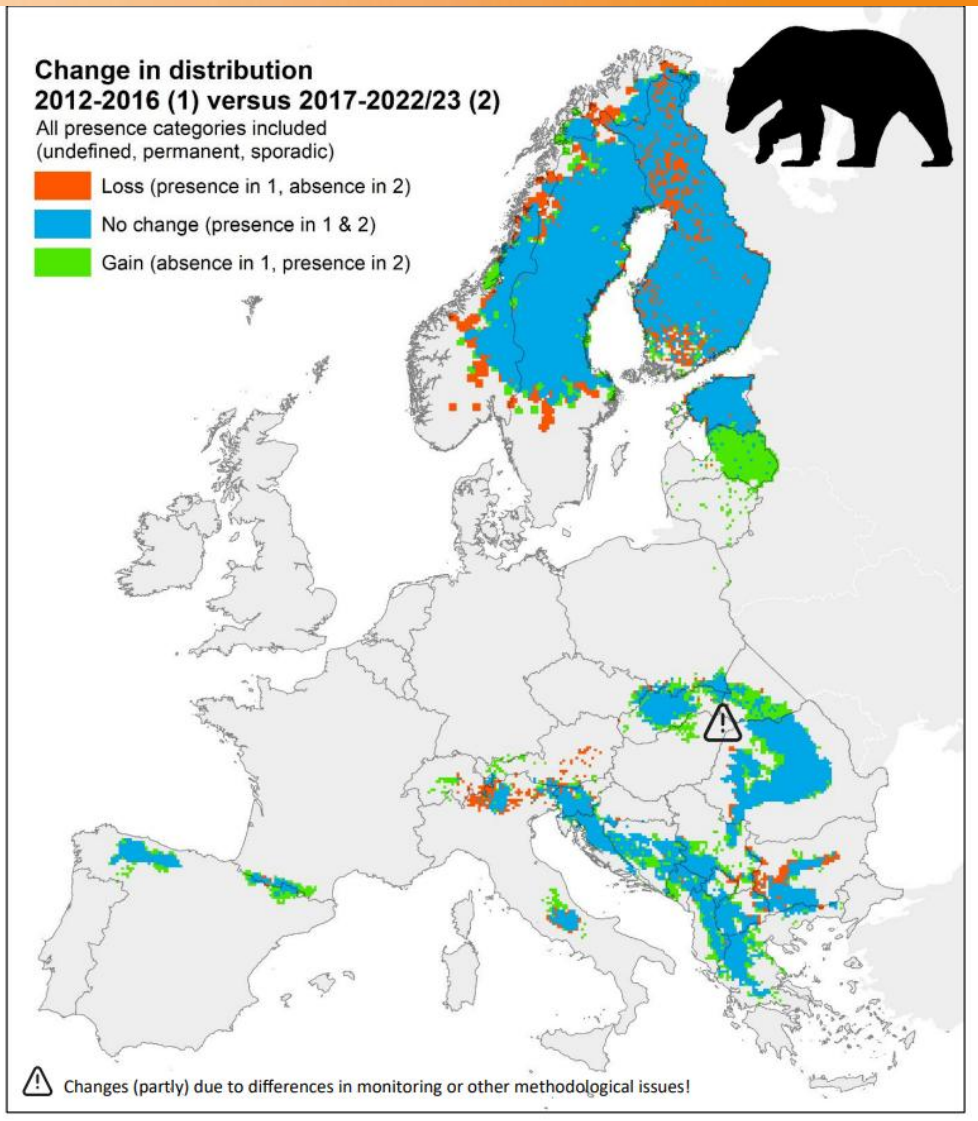


Fig. 6: Changes in brown bear distribution 2012-2016 versus 2017-2022/23.

Kaczensky, P., Ranc, N., Hatlauf, J., Payne, J.C. et al. 2024. Large carnivore distribution maps and population updates 2017 – 2022/23. Report to the European Comission under contract N° 09.0201/2023/907799/SER/ENV.D.3 “Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores”, “B.4 Update of the distribution maps”. IUCN/SSC Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) and Istituto di Ecologia Applicata (IEA).

Main methods to estimate brown bear populations in Europe

Table 16: Main monitoring methods for bears in Europe. *Min = minimum number, Repro = reproduction, CMR = capture-mark-recapture, Pres = presence, YoY = Young of the Year, Obs = observation; (Scats Repro and Howling surveys not relevant for bears)*

Country/Region	Camera traps			Snow tracking				Non-invasive genetics		Scats	Howling surveys		YoY obs	Hunter data		Expert estimate	Other
	Min	Repro	CMR	Min	Repro	Natal dens	Track index	Min	CMR	Repro	Repro	Pres		Obs index	Harvest data		
	Brown bear																
Albania		25-50%						10-25%		10-25%							>75%
Austria								>75%									
Bosnia & Herzegovina	50-75%	10-25%						10-25%							25-50%	<10%	
Bulgaria															0	0	25-75%
Croatia	10-25%	10-25%	<10%	<10%	<10%		<10%	>75%	>75%				50-75%	50-75%	>75%	25-50%	
Czech Republic	>75%	>75%		10-25%			50-75%	<10%									
Estonia		>75%											>75%				
Finland	<10%	10-25%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%				>75%	<10%	25-50%		
France								>75%	>75%								
Germany	>75%							>75%									
Greece	>75%	50-75%						>75%	25-50%				25-50%				
Hungary	25-50%	<10%	<10%	10-25%	<10%	<10%	<10%	10-25%	<10%				<10%	<10%		50-75%	10-25%
Italy - Alps								>75%	>75%								
Italy - Apennine								10-25%									
Kosovo*	no population estimates available																
Latvia	>75%	>75%						>75%					>75%				>75%
Lithuania																	
Montenegro																	
North Macedonia								10-25%								50-75%	
Norway								>75%	>75%								
Poland									>75%								
Romania				>75%				<10%					10-25%				
Serbia	50-75%	<10%						<10%					<10%				<10%
Slovakia	>75%	>75%	<10%	>75%	>75%	<10%	<10%	>75%	>75%	<10%			>75%	<10%	<10%	<10%	
Slovenia	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%	<10%		>75%	<10%			<10%	<10%	>75%	<10%	
Spain									>75%				10-25%				
Sweden								>75%	>75%					>75%	>75%		
Switzerland	10-25%			10-25%				10-25%								10-25%	
Ukraine - Carpathians	Population estimates are currently based on counts from protected areas, hunting grounds, and forest units, which are not corrected for double counts.																

Kaczensky, P., Ranc, N., Hatlauf, J., Payne, J.C. et al. 2024. Large carnivore distribution maps and population updates 2017 – 2022/23. Report to the European Comission under contract N° 09.0201/2023/907799/SER/ENV.D.3 “Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores”, “B.4 Update of the distribution maps”. IUCN/SSC Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) and Istituto di Ecologia Applicata (IEA).

Table 2: Mapping details for brown bear in Europe.

Country / Region	FINAL_time	Spatial scale	% Known range monitored		Large carnivore	Definition of gridcells based on	Scale of data quality information	Presence categorisation based on	Method change	Range trend estimate since 2012-2016	
			Active	Passiv	signs used					Trend	Assessment
Brown bear											
Albania	2017 – 2022/23	Only reference areas	15	20	C1 & C2	Buffered confirmed presence signs & modelling overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Austria	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	0	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence only	No	Fluctuating	Real
Bosnia & Herzegovina	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	60	30	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real & method change
Bulgaria	2017 – 2022/23	Only reference areas	45 - 60	25-30	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	Yes	Fluctuating	Real & method change
Croatia	2019 – 2023	Entire known range	100	100	C1* & C2	Hunting grounds with confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Country level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Czech Republic	2017 – 2023	Entire known range	80	20	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Fluctuating	Real
Estonia	2018 – 2022/23	Entire known range	100	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	No obvious change	Real
Finland	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	100	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Reproduction only	Yes	Increasing	Real
France	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	90	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Germany	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	0	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence only	No	No obvious change	Real
Greece	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	70-80	20-30	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Hungary	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	50	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Italy - Alps	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	90	90	C1* & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Italy - Peninsula	2017 – 2022/23	Entire known range	60	90	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	Yes	Increasing	Real & method change
Kosovo*	2016 - 2023/24	No information			C1 & C2-C3	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Data quality	Unknown		
Latvia	2017 – 2023	Entire known range	10	100	C1 & C2	Buffered confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence and/or reproduction	No	Increasing	Real
Lithuania	2018 – 2023	Entire known range	0	100	C1 & C2	Confirmed presence signs overlaid with the 10 x 10 grid	Cell level	Re-occurring presence	Yes	Increasing	Real

Kaczensky, P., Ranc, N., Hatlauf, J., Payne, J.C. et al. 2024. Large carnivore distribution maps and population updates 2017 – 2022/23. Report to the European Comission under contract N° 09.0201/2023/907799/SER/ENV.D.3 “Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores”, “B.4 Update of the distribution maps”. IUCN/SSC Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) and Istituto di Ecologia Applicata (IEA).

Table 18: Population estimates for the brown bear in Europe by country and population. Note: Country level population estimates may include double counting of transboundary individuals. Where population level estimates were available these were used for the sum here and in Table 17. For references see Appendix 6.

Bear population	Year(s)	Estimate (indiv.)	Uncertainty	Details	% of range monitored	Trend	Trend quality	Reference
Alpine		**100**						
Austria	2023	4	transboundary	min. average/year	100	No obvious trend	Real	https://baer-wolf-luchs.at/verbreitungskarten/baer-verbreitung
Germany	2022/23		sporadic (1)	minimum	NA	NA	NA	https://www.lfu.bayern.de/natur/wildtiermanagement_grosse_beutegreifer/baer/monitoring/index.htm
Italy	2023	98	95% CI 86-120	>1 year, DNA profile	100	Increasing	Real	https://grandicarnivori.provincia.tn.it/Large-Carnivores-Report
Switzerland	2017-2023		sporadic (0-2)	minimum	NA	NA	NA	https://www.kora.ch/de/arten/baer/verbreitung
Baltic		**1,090**						
Estonia	2023	960	minimum	females & coys x 10	100	Increasing	Real	https://keskkonnaportaal.ee/sites/default/files/2023-08/SEIREARUANNE_2023-fin.pdf
Latvia	2023	130	expert opinion	minimum	100	Increasing	Real	*In prep.*
Lithuania	2023		sporadic	no estimate	NA	NA	NA	No publications
Poland	2023		sporadic	minimum (0-1)	NA	NA	NA	Diserens et al. 2020
Cantabrian[1]		**324**						
Portugal	2023		sporadic (1)		NA	NA	NA	Media report
Spain - Cantabria East	2017	49	95% CI: 33.8-67.6	genetic CMR	100	Increasing	Real	López-Bao et al. 2020
Spain - Cantabria West	2019	275	95% CI: 222.5-338.3	genetic CMR	100	Increasing	Real	López-Bao et al. 2021
Carpathian		**9,000**						
Czech Republic	2023	2	sporadic (1-3)	minimum	95	NA	NA	No publication for 2023
Hungary	2023	12	10-15	expert opinion	70	Increasing	Real	No publication for 2023
Poland -Tatra	2017	55	95% CI: 45-79	first genetic CMR	100	Unknown	no previous baseline	Konopiński et al. 2018
Poland - Podkarpackie	2014-2015	72	95% CI: 45.2–115.5	first genetic CMR	100	Unknown	no previous baseline	Berezowska-Cnota et al. 2023
Romania	2018	6,825	6,450-7,200[2]	range	70	No obvious trend	Real	Romania's Habitats Directive Report Art. 17, 2019; National Action Plan, 2018
Serbia	2023	12	10-14	expert estimate	60	Increasing	Real	No publications
Slovakia	2023	2,000	1,900-2,100[3]	extrapolated	100	Increasing	Real	Rigg, R. unpubl. data 2024
Ukraine - Carpathian	2019	???	Uncorrected counts: 375	Population estimates are currently based on counts from protected areas, hunting grounds, and forest units, which are not corrected for double counts.				Cherepanyn et al. 2023
Central Apennine		**50**						
Italy	2014	50	range: 45-69	genetic CMR	22	No obvious change	Unknown	Ciucci et al. 2015
Dinaric-Pindos		**4,112**						
Albania	2021	200	range: 190-210		50	No obvious change	Real	Skrbinsek et al. 2022
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2017-2023	950	SD: 900-1,000		75	Increasing	Real	Zubić et al. 2023
Croatia	2018[4]	937	95%CI: 846-1072	genetic CMR incl. coys	100	No obvious change	Real	Huber et al. 2019, Skrbinšek et al. 2017
Greece	2017; 2021; 2022; 2023[5]	600	range: 550-650	genetics	90	Increasing	Real	Pylidis et al. 2021, Tsalazidou-Founta et al. 2022
Kosovo*	No population estimate available							
Montenegro	No population estimate available							
North Macedonia	2020	325	range: 300-350	Relative Abundance Index	60	Increasing	Unknown[6]	Gonev 2022 unpubl. MES Report
Serbia	2023	110	range: 100-120	expert estimate	75	Increasing	Real	No publications
Slovenia	2024	990	range: 810-1,000	genetic & mortality	99	Increasing	Real	Jerina 2024, Jerina & Ordiz 2021
East Balkan		**459**						
Bulgaria	2021	353	unknown, minimum	official data	48	Decreasing	Unknown	Serbezov & Spassov 2023, Ministry of Environment and Waters. 2023
Greece	2020; 2021; 2022	100	range	genetics	85	Increasing	Real	Pylidis et al. 2021, Tsalazidou-Founta et al. 2022
Serbia	2023	6	4-8	expert estimate	50	Increasing	Real	No publications
Karelian		**2,175**						
Finland	2023	2,175	2,100–2,250	females & coys x 10	100	Fluctating	Real	Heikkinen et al. 2023
Pyrenean		**86**						
France, Spain & Andorra	2023	86	95% CI: 82-92	genetic & PCRD	100	Increasing		Vanpé et al. 2022, Sentilles et al. 2023
Scandinavian		**3,002**						
Norway[7]	2023	178	identified	genetic	100	Increasing	Real	Brøseth et al. 2024
Sweden	2022	2,824	2,587-3,080 (post-harvest)	genetic	100	Fluctating	Real	Åsbrink et al. 2023
Total		**20,398**						

*Table 17: Population trend of brown bears in Europe since the last update in 2016. **Unknown** = it is not known what number or % of animals are counted in more than one country, **Excluded** = coordinated monitoring excluded double counting.*

Population	Countries	Estimate 2012-2016	Estimate 2017-2023	Trans-boundary double counts*	Trend	Comment
Alpine	Italy, Switzerland, Austria, Slovenia	49-69	100	Few	↑	
Baltic	Estonia, Latvia	700	1,090	Excluded for females with coys*	↑	
Cantabrian	Spain	321-335	324	No border	↑	Change in methods since 2016. The reported estimate is from 2020. The population is clearly increasing and as of 2023, may be around 400 bears.
Carpathian	Romania, Poland, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine, Hungary, Czech Republic	7,630	9,000	Considerable in some cases**	↑	Population estimates partly contested, some expert estimates, no robust data from UKR
Central Apennine	Italy	45-69	50	No border	→	**No update since 2014!**
Dinaric-Pindos	Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Albania, Serbia, Kosovo*, Greece	3,950	4,112	Excluded only for SVN / HRV; there are also some regional	→	Data partly older, includes expert opinion for RS

Eiropas Padome 1979. gada 16. septembrī pieņēma **Bernes konvenciju** par Eiropas dzīvās dabas un dabisko dzīvotņu aizsardzību. Latvija ir BK dalībvalsts kopš 1997. gada. Konvenciju parakstījušas visas kartē redzamās valstis.

Ģeogrāfiskais reģions, kurā spēkā Bernes konvencijā noteiktās prasības savvaļas sugu un dabisko dzīvotņu aizsardzībai (no https://www.coe.int/en/web/bern-convention). BK 2. pants nosaka: "Dalībvalstis uzņemsies vajadzīgos pasākumus savvaļas floras un faunas populāciju uzturēšanai tādā līmenī vai piemēros tās līmenim, kurš atbilst ekoloģiskajām, zinātniskajām un kultūras prasībām, tai pašā laikā ņemot vērā ekonomiskās un rekreācijas prasības un vietējā mērogā apdraudētu pasugu, varietāšu un formu vajadzības''.

PADOMES DIREKTĪVA 92/43/EEK
(1992. gada 21. maijs)
par dabisko dzīvotņu, savvaļas faunas un floras aizsardzību

Sugu aizsardzība

12. pants

1. Dalībvalstis veic nepieciešamos pasākumus, lai IV pielikuma a) daļā uzskaitītajām dzīvnieku sugām to dabiskās izplatības areālā izveidotu stingras aizsardzības sistēmu, aizliedzot:

a) minēto sugu īpatņu visu veidu apzinātu gūstīšanu vai nonāvēšanu savvaļā;

b) minēto sugu īpatņu apzinātu traucēšanu, jo īpaši to vairošanās, mazuļu attīstības, ziemas guļas un migrāciju laikā;

c) apzinātu postīšanu vai olu vākšanu savvaļā;

d) vairošanās vai atpūtas vietu noplicināšanu vai iznīcināšanu.

II PIELIKUMS

KOPIENĀ NOZĪMĪGAS DZĪVNIEKU UN AUGU SUGAS, KURU AIZSARDZĪBAI JĀNOSAKA ĪPAŠI AIZSARGĀJAMAS DABAS TERITORIJAS

Interpretācija

a) II pielikums turpina I pielikumu attiecībā uz saskaņota īpaši aizsargājamu dabas teritoriju tīkla izveidi;

b) šajā pielikumā uzskaitītās sugas norādītas:

— pēc sugas vai pasugas nosaukuma vai

— pēc sugu kopuma, kas pieder pie augstāka taksona vai pie norādītas attiecīgā taksona daļas.

Saīsinājums "*spp.*" pēc dzimtas vai ģints nosaukuma apzīmē visas attiecīgajai dzimtai vai ģintij piederīgās sugas.

c) *simboli*

Zvaigznīte (*) pirms attiecīgās sugas nosaukuma norāda, ka tā ir prioritāra suga.

Vairums šajā pielikumā uzskaitīto sugu iekļautas arī IV pielikumā.

Ja sugas iekļautas šajā pielikumā, bet nav minētas ne IV pielikumā, ne V pielikumā, tad aiz sugas nosaukuma pievienots simbols (o); ja šajā pielikumā iekļauta suga minēta arī V pielikumā, bet nav minēta IV pielikumā, aiz sugas nosaukuma pievienots simbols (V).

IV PIELIKUMS

KOPIENĀ NOZĪMĪGAS DZĪVNIEKU UN AUGU SUGAS, KAM VAJADZĪGA STINGRA AIZSARDZĪBA

16. pants

1. Ja nav apmierinošas alternatīvas un ja netiek kaitēts attiecīgo sugu populāciju saglabāšanai labvēlīgā aizsardzības statusā to dabiskās izplatības areālā, dalībvalstis drīkst atkāpties no 12., 13., 14. panta un 15. panta a) un b) punkta noteikumiem, lai:

a) aizsargātu savvaļas faunu un floru un saglabātu dabiskās dzīvotnes;

b) novērstu nopietnu kaitējumu, jo īpaši labībai, mājlopiem, mežiem, zivsaimniecībai un ūdeņiem un citiem īpašuma veidiem;

c) rūpētos par veselības aizsardzību un sabiedrības drošību vai obligāti ievērotu citas sevišķi svarīgas sabiedrības intereses, tostarp sociāla vai ekonomiska rakstura intereses un videi primāri svarīgas labvēlīgas pārveides;

d) izpētes un izglītības nolūkā atjaunotu minēto sugu populācijas un reintroducētu minētās sugas, un veiktu šī mērķa sasniegšanai vajadzīgās vairošanas darbības, tostarp augu mākslīgo pavairošanu;

e) stingri noteiktos apstākļos pēc izvēles principa un ierobežotā apmērā atļaut IV pielikumā uzskaitīto sugu atsevišķu īpatņu ieguvi vai turēšanu ierobežotā skaitā, ko nosaka kompetentās valsts iestādes.

Juridiskā atbildība par Sugu un biotopu direktīvas pārkāpumiem

Table 1. Accumulated CJEU case law on large carnivores (based on searches of https://curia.europa.eu/).

Date	Case Number	Location	Species	Topic
Pending	C-27/24	Italy	Bear	Request for preliminary ruling on questions related to derogation from strict protection
AG opinion available, judgement pending	C-629/23	Estonia	Wolf / Bear /Lynx	Request for preliminary ruling on questions related to favourable conservation status and scale of assessment
2024	C-436/22	Spain	Wolf	Request for preliminary ruling on questions related to monitoring, derogation and assessment
2024	C-601/22	Austria	Wolf	Preliminary ruling on questions associated with derogations from strict protection for wolves
2020	C-88/19	Romania	Wolf	Preliminary ruling on questions associated with derogations from strict protection for wolves
2019	C-674/17	Finland (Tapiola case)	Wolf	Preliminary ruling on questions associated with derogations from strict protection for wolves
2011	C-240/09	Slovakia	Bear	Preliminary ruling concerning the rights of environmental NGOs (under the Aarhus convention) to be involved in derogation decisions
2011	C-404/09	Spain	Bear	Ruling on questions related to degradation of a Natura 2000 site designated for bears
2007	C-342/05	Finland	Wolf	Ruling on questions associated with derogations from strict protection for wolves

Adaptīva populācijas apsaimniekošana kā alternatīva

Conservation Letters
A journal of the Society for Conservation Biology
Open Access

LETTER OPEN ACCESS

The Effect of Federal Delisting on US Wolf Population Dynamics

Juan P. Ramírez-Loza[1] | José V. López-Bao[2] | Yaffa Epstein[3,4,5] | Guillaume Chapron[1]

[1]Department of Ecology, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Riddarhyttan, Sweden | [2]Biodiversity Research Institute (Spanish National Research Council—Oviedo University—Principality of Asturias), Oviedo University, Mieres, Spain | [3]Department of Law, Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden | [4]Pro Futura Scientia Fellow, Swedish Collegium for Advanced Study, Uppsala, Sweden | [5]Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences 2025–2026 Fellow, Stanford University, Stanford, California, USA

Correspondence: Juan P. Ramírez-Loza (juan.pablo.ramirez.loza@slu.se)

Received: 2 July 2025 | **Revised:** 29 December 2025 | **Accepted:** 23 January 2026

Keywords: Bayesian population models | *Canis lupus* | Endangered Species Act | law | wolf

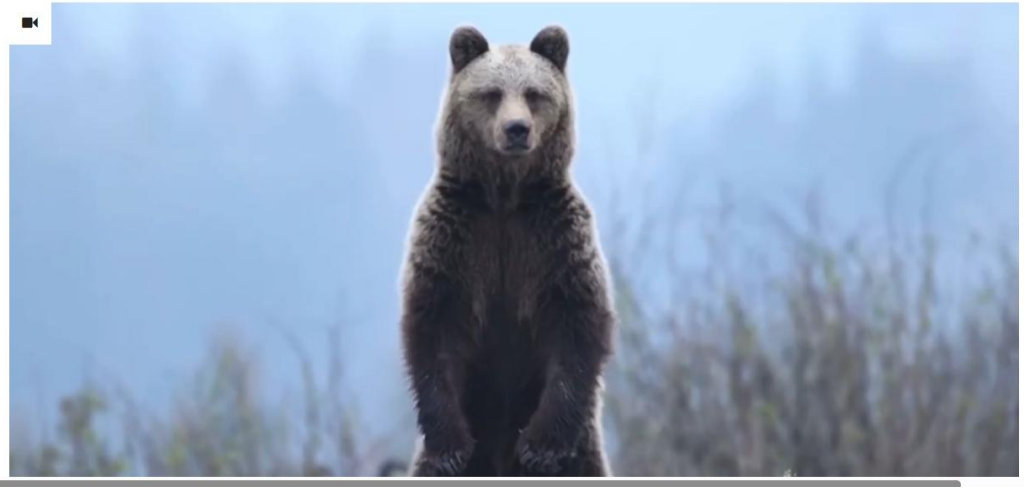
ABSTRACT

Species protection laws, like the US Endangered Species Act (ESA), are key tools for reversing biodiversity loss. One important question concerns whether legal protection can be phased out once a species is considered recovered and how this affects population dynamics. We used Bayesian hierarchical models and time series of annual population size estimates for gray wolves (*Canis lupus*) across eight US states to assess how annual population growth rates were affected by the proportion of each year that each wolf population was not listed under the ESA. We found that between 1979 and 2022, delisting had an overall negative effect on the growth rate of wolf populations. This effect remained after accounting for potential confounders like density dependence. The resulting growth rates after 1 year unlisted varied between the different states' populations and included short-term declines as well as population stabilization and continued growth at slower rates over longer terms.

Lāču uzbrukumi ar traģiskām sekām

Veronika Magurová editorial/ZR editorial/DOD 16.2.2026 • Crimea

First bear attack in 2026: Man ended up in hospital, the bear was killed, Kuffa said



LIPTOV / A site near a mining site in Liptov near Ružomberok has become the scene of a human-bear encounter. The man, who was controlling the mining with his son, suffered injuries and ended up in hospital. The female bear that attacked was shot in self-defense, Filip Kuffa informed on the social network of the Ministry of the Environment of the Slovak Republic.

Mining control turned into a fight for life

The unfortunate incident occurred on Sunday during a logging inspection in a wooded area. A 57-year-old man and his son were walking through the area together with a hunting dog of the West Siberian Laika breed. According to her son's testimony, they were suddenly attacked by a female bear from a rocky slope.

As Kuffa described, the man began to defend himself and fired several times at the bear. Nevertheless, the beast knocked him to the ground and they began to roll down the slope. The son ran to help his father, while his father lay under an enraged bear that was biting him. The son fired at her several times at point-blank range, trying not to hit his father. After the interventions, the bear remained motionless.

Bombieri, G., Naves, J., Penteriani, V., Selva, N., Fernández-Gil, A., López-Bao, J. V., Ambarli, H. et al. (2019) Brown bear attacks on humans: a worldwide perspective. Scientific Reports, 9, 1–10.

Eiropā no 2000.-2015.gadam reģistrēts 291 lāča uzbrukums cilvēkam, ievainojot vai nogalinot cilvēku (vidēji 58 uzbrukumi gadā).

Human–Wildlife Interactions 17(1):3–20, Spring 2023 • digitalcommons.usu.edu/hwi

Human fatalities resulting from wild pig attacks worldwide: 2000–2019

JOHN J. MAYER, Savannah River National Laboratory, Savannah River Site, Aiken, SC 29808, USA
john.mayer@srnl.doe.gov
JAMES E. GARABEDIAN, USDA, Forest Service, Southern Research Station, P.O. Box 700 New Ellenton, SC 29809, USA
JOHN C. KILGO, USDA, Forest Service, Southern Research Station, P.O. Box 700, New Ellenton SC 29809, USA

Abstract: Although reported to be rare, human fatalities resulting from wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) attacks do occur. Toward a better understanding of patterns in fatal wild pig attacks, we synthesized worldwide reports of wild pig attacks on humans between 2000 and 2019. We documented 163 separate reports of fatal wild pig attacks that resulted in 172 human deaths. On average, 8.6 human deaths occurred annually due to wild pig attacks during those 2 decades. The majority of fatal attacks resulted in a single human death; however, there were 6 cases in which an individual fatal attack resulted in 2–4 human deaths. These fatal wild pig attacks occurred in 29 countries, mostly within the wild pig's native global range. Fatal attacks primarily occurred under non-hunting circumstances and involved seemingly unprovoked wild pigs. Under hunting circumstances, fatal attacks primarily involved provoked or wounded wild pigs. Fatal attacks typically involved a solitary wild pig, with 12% involving multiple pigs. Solitary pigs involved in fatal attacks were typically large boars that in most attacks exhibited defensive behaviors, although we discovered 7 attacks during which the pig's behaviors appeared to be predatory. Three fatal attacks were initially investigated as homicides. Overall, victims of fatal wild pig attacks were between 3 and 85 years old and were traveling on foot when the attack occurred. The majority of victims of fatal attacks were adult (20–59 years old), male, traveling on foot, and working in isolation. Among all fatal attacks, 50% identified the cause of death, which included exsanguination/hemorrhagic shock, severe injury, heart attack, craniocerebral injury, severe injury/disembowelment/intestinal prolapse, and toxemia/septicemia. Fatal wild pig attacks occurred primarily in rural areas, with fatal attacks 390% more likely to occur in rural areas with large populations and at least 45% forested and agricultural cover. The greater the rural human population size within a country is, the greater the number of fatal wild pig attacks.

Key words: attack, Eurasian wild boar, feral hog, human fatality, *Sus scrofa,* wild pig

Table 2. Comparison of mean annual number of human fatalities from attacks by wild pigs (*Sus scrofa*), sharks (Chondrichthyes), gray wolves (*Canis lupus*), brown bears (*Ursus arctos*), black bears (*U. americanus*), and tigers (*Panthera tigris*) across regional to worldwide extents for time periods ranging between 2000 and 2019.

Attacking species	Area included	Time period	Annual mean of fatal attacks	Source
Wild pig	Worldwide (29 nations)	2000–2019	8.6	This study
Shark[a]	Worldwide	2000–2019	5.4[b]	International Shark Attack File (2021)
Gray wolf	Northern Hemisphere	2002–2020	1.4[b]	Linnell et al. (2021)
Brown bear	Northern Hemisphere	2000–2015	6.3[b]	Bombieri et al. (2019)
Black bear	Canada and United States	2000–2009	1.9[b]	Herrero et al. (2011)
Tiger	20 Indian States	2015–2018	34.3[b]	Government of India (2019)

[a] Including multiple species
[b] Calculated from source document

Paldies par uzmanību!