

IUCN SSC Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe Specialist Group

2020 Report



Luigi Boitani

Chair

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Location/Affiliation

University of Rome Sapienza, Roma, Italy

Number of members

56

Social networks

Website: www.lcie.org



Mission statement

Maintain and restore, in coexistence with people, viable populations of large carnivores as an integral part of ecosystems and landscapes across Europe.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

The Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe (LCIE) report on the status of large carnivores in Europe is largely regarded as the most reliable information source on the status of these species. Our previous report was a highly cited paper published in *Science* (Chapron, G., et al. (2014). 'Recovery of large carnivores in Europe's modern human-dominated landscapes'. *Science* 346:1517–1519. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1257553>) and we intend to do similar scientific publications in 2019. Our report is also instrumental to inform the policy of the European Commission and several European countries on managing large carnivores and their conflicts with human activities. The LCIE regularly supports the European Commission's work on large carnivores through scientific and technical advice. LCIE, through the Institute of Applied Ecology in Rome, has just been awarded (December 2017) a contract to develop four regional and national platforms of stakeholders on large carnivore management.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium

Assess

Research activities: (1) complete update of the status of large carnivores in Europe (numbers and distribution); (2) produce a technical document on defining and managing bold wolves; (3) produce a technical document on the impact of artificial feeding of carnivores and their prey; (4) produce a technical document of recommendations on how to survey and monitor carnivore populations; (5) produce a technical document on the legal and technical opportunities to establish management zones for large carnivores in Europe.

Network

Membership: focus on recruiting more young members to the LCIE Specialist Group.

Activities and results 2020

Network

Membership

i. New members have been identified and will be formally invited to join the Specialist Group during 2021.

Summary of activities 2020

Species Conservation Cycle ratio: 1/5

Network 1 |



Large carnivores, such as brown bears and wolves, are increasing in number and distribution areas across most of Europe. Their return to ranges where they were eradicated centuries or decades ago poses difficult challenges toward coexistence.