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**STAKEHOLDER ATTITUDES AND OPINIONS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT OF LARGE MAMMALS IN THE CARPATHIANS**

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The Carpathians are one of the strongholds of the large carnivore and herbivore populations in Europe and form a cross-border bioregion. In the framework of the BioREGIO Carpathians SEE Project we collected Common Integrated Management Measure ideas, that should be implemented by the stakeholder groups and directly contribute to the long-term conservation of brown bear (*Ursus arctos*), grey wolf (*Canis lupus*), Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*), red deer (*Cervus elaphus*), roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*) and chamois (*Rupicapra rupicapra*). Based on the demand-driven concept of conservation we organized four stakeholder meetings in Hungary, Romania, Slovakia and Serbia, with 42, 50, 72 and 54 participants. Representatives of National Parks, universities, forestries, game managers, farmers, water management, nature conservation and tourism experts, as well as researchers, took part on these meetings. The ecological and socio-economic importance/impact, ecological and socio-economic conservation conflicts and threats, data requirement, accessible databases, problem solving system, integration of different interests were discussed. The ecological importance of the large mammals was generally not questioned. According to the stakeholders they increase the biodiversity, maintain the balance of the ecosystem and play an important role in the trophic web. The opinions about the problems of target species are different among the countries. The carnivores cause the most problems in Romania, while the herbivores are considered as problematic species mostly in Hungary. The main conflicts are based on the economic damages in case of both groups. The stakeholders generally agree with that, the accessible databases are quite poor and more realistic population data are needed in the conservation and planning. According to a frequent opinion, the stakeholders are often not involved enough in planning and management.

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