



COUNCIL OF EUROPE

SECRETARIAT GENERAL

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS



Radolfzell, October 17th, 2005

CONVOCATION

BERN CONVENTION – SEMINAR ON LARGE CARNIVORES IN THE BALKANS

Subject: **The Conservation of the Balkan Lynx**
(Mavrovo, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", November 15th, 2005)

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

In the framework of the 2005 programme of activities of the Bern Convention, we would like to inform you that Euronatur, IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group and KORA are organizing the meeting of **The Conservation of the Balkan Lynx**.

The meeting will be held in Mavrovo, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", on November 15th, 2005 (see programme enclosed).

We should therefore be most grateful if you could attend the meeting in order to present the nature conservation systems and the forest and wildlife management practices of your country in regard to the conservation of the critically endangered Balkan lynx.

Participants:

The following Contracting Parties to the Convention are entitled to appoint experts:

Albania and "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia".

Experts' qualifications

Contracting Parties and observers are invited to appoint experts especially qualified in the subjects to be considered. The meeting being mainly of a scientific and technical character in order to develop a conservation strategy, it is requested that experts appointed be specialists in the fields of the conservation of large carnivores, their prey species and habitats, protected area management, and wildlife management and research.

The results of the meeting will be presented to the Standing Committee of the Bern Convention.

Euronatur, with the support of the Frankfurt Zoological Society (ZGF) will cover the expenses for board and lodging for the participants from Albania and "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia".

Appointment of experts

- a.* Contracting Parties and observers are invited to appoint their experts bearing in mind Recommendation No. R (81) 6 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the participation of women and men in an equitable proportion in committees and other bodies set up in the Council of Europe.
- b.* Kindly communicate the names of people attending to:

European Nature Heritage Fund – Euronatur

Annette Spangenberg

Konstanzer Str. 22

D-78315 Radolfzell

Tel: +49-7732-92 72 11

Fax: +49-7732-92 72 22

annette.spangenberg@euronatur.org

Yours sincerely,



Urs Breitenmoser
Co-chair, IUCN Cat Specialist Group
KORA

On behalf of the Secretary General



Elda Moreno
Head of the Natural Heritage Division



Gabriel Schwaderer
Executive Director, Euronatur



Programme
“Workshop on the Conservation of the Balkan Lynx”
under the auspices of the Bern Convention and the European
Council
November 15th, 2005
Hotel Mavrovo
FYR of Macedonia

Goal: To build a bilateral coalition for the conservation of the Balkan lynx, allowing the autochthonous population to persist and to recover into a viable population stretching over the suitable habitats in the south-western Balkans.

Objectives: (1) to inform about the situation of the lynx, (2) to demonstrate the commitment of the countries involved for a conservation programme and (3) to sign a Memorandum of Understanding between all parties involved towards a comprehensive conservation programme.

Process: (> Details see below):

- Introduction to the workshop
- Presentations introducing to the subject
- Presentations on the effort of Albania and Macedonia towards the conservation of the Balkan Lynx
- Discussion and signing of the Memorandum of Understanding

The workshops starts at 10:00, breaks as indicated below.

Output:

- Report: Summaries of the presentations (also to be presented at the meeting of the Bern Convention at the end of November)
- Memorandum of Understanding on the Conservation of the Balkan Lynx
- Executive summary to be published in Cat News

Programme
“Workshop on the Conservation of the Balkan Lynx”
under the auspice of the Bern Convention and the European
Council
November 15th, 2005
Hotel Mavrovo
FYR of Macedonia

Programme Details:

- 10:00 Official Welcome
- 10:30 Basic Presentation about Balkan Lynx
Urs Breitenmooser, Chair IUCN Cat Specialist Group
- 11:00 Basic Presentation about Green Belt
Gabriel Schwaderer, Executive Director Euronatur
- 11:30 National Report Albania about Balkan Lynx
Ferdinand Bego, Museum of Nat. Science, Spase Shumka, PPNEA
- 12:00 National Report Macedonia about Balkan Lynx
Dime Melovski, Giorgi Ivanov; MES
- COFFEE BREAK** 30'
- 13:00 Commitment of Albania regarding Balkan Lynx and Green Belt
Zamir Dedej, Director of Nature Protection, Ministry of Environment, Albania
- 13:30 Commitment of Macedonia regarding Balkan Lynx and Green Belt
Gordana Kozuharova, Head of European Integration Department, Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Macedonia
- 14:00 Discussion and joint signature of Memorandum of Understanding
- 14:30 **LUNCH**