

# Threats

## Disturbances

Recreation



Ski resorts on Mavrovo, Pelister, Galichica, Kajmakchalan (Greek side) and Kozhuf (planned)

Mountaineering, alpinism, fishing, motor races etc.

Forestry activities



Noise, forest roads – easy access

# Threats

## Competition

### Wolf competition



**Direct** – rare duels between lynx and wolf (Miric 1977)

**Indirect** – lynx and wolf prey on similar animals. The wolf is more successful (Miric 1977)

### Carpathian lynx invasion ?

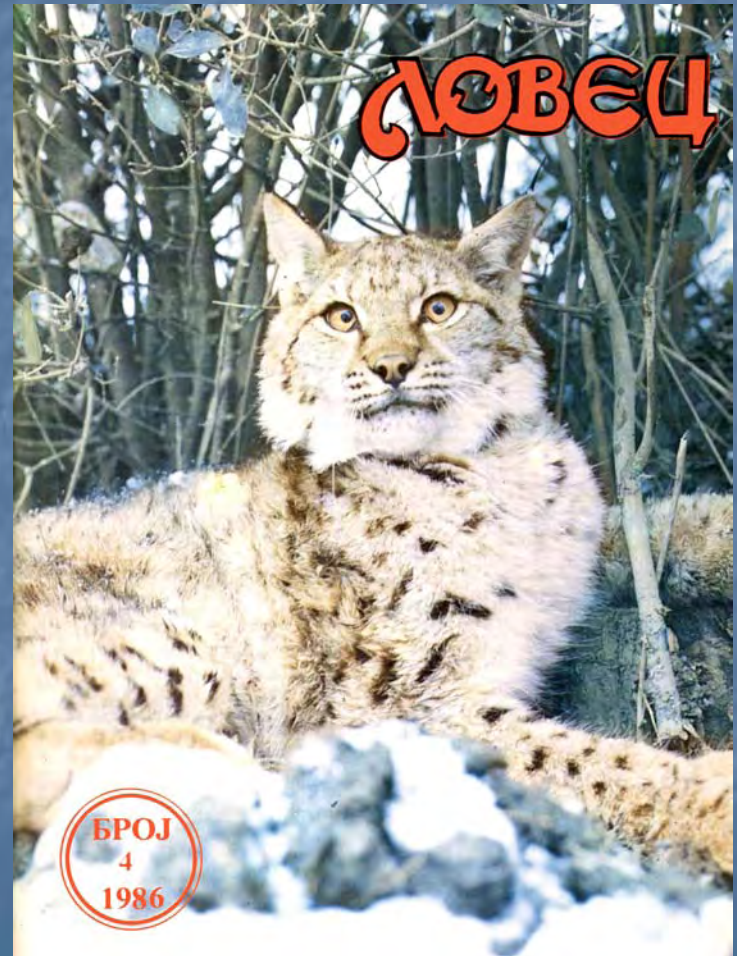


Specimens of Carpathian lynx were recorded in the vicinity of Vlasina (Grubac 2000)

Carpathian lynx is larger than Balkan lynx (ssp. martinoi)

# Hunters' magazine in Macedonia – "LOVEC"

- Data for the distribution and protection of lynx can be found in "LOVEC" magazine, which is published by Hunters association of Macedonia. This magazine was first published in 1948 and the last edition was in 2001.
- Although there are few data concerning lynx, it is important for awareness raising among hunters.



# Public opinion

- Generally, people in the lynx regions have positive opinion about lynx. This animal is not considered as a pest.

However, some of the interviewed hunters would still kill a lynx.

(Based on questionnaires conducted in the filed surveys of MES for the purposes of brown bear project)

- Lynx is popular animal in Macedonia. The presented pictures are a 5 denars coin as well as a stamp from Macedonian post



# International convention for protection

- Bern Convention, Annex II & Annex IV, convention on the conservation of european wildlife and natural habitats
- EU Habitats & Species Directive, Appendix III – Protected fauna species
- CITES, Appendix II, Annex A

# Legal basis

- Law on Hunting (Official Gazette of RM 20/96)

Defines Lynx as game animal and categorizes it as protected game (Article 12) and hunting is permanently prohibited (Article 15).

Article 12 and 15 are no longer valid, after the enforcement of Law on Nature protection.

Article 69: Game manager in the hunting ground is responsible for the damages caused by protected game.

The damage caused by the game under permanent or temporary closed season is subsidized by the state budget.

Note: this provision was never implemented, since the damage made by game animals can't be recognized.

# Legal basis

- Law on Nature Protection (Official Gazette of RM 67/04)
  - The Law on Nature Protection (recently adopted, its implementation started in July 2005) regulates the nature protection, in that scope conservation of species.
  - There are provisions in that law for denoting a status of "strictly protected species" and "protected species" with appropriate management regime.
  - However, due to the lack of Red List and Red Data Book, the protection of species (large carnivores as well) can not be safeguarded/implemented in the next three years minimum.

# Future activities

- Estimation of exact area of distribution in Macedonia;
- Estimation of population number and population trend;
  - First step: National Parks
  - Second step: pilot areas in cooperation with local hunters' associations
- Start monitoring activities;
- To start/continue cooperation with experts from Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro and Greece in order to enforce the transborder cooperation;



# Future activities

- Biocorridors;
- Development of lynx action plan;
- Public awareness campaign;
  - Organize meetings in order to introduce the programs and activities for lynx conservation to the people living in that area;
  - Produce information materials for the lynx biology and its role in the natural ecosystems;
  - Continue publishing of hunters magazine "Lovec".