

Migration corridors for large mammals in the Czech Republic and their linkages to neighbouring states

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Key words: migration corridors, large mammals, migration, international connection

Landscape fragmentation and habitat alteration due to growing anthropogenic impacts and especially by the transportation infrastructure and settlements is a serious problem at present time. One of the most affected vertebrate species are large mammals, because of their large territory area requirements and inclination to undertake long distance migration. As a target species that have been taken into account within the project are the European Lynx (*Lynx lynx*), the Brown Bear (*Ursus arctos*), the Grey Wolf (*Canis lupus*), the Eurasian Elk (*Alces alces*) and the Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*). Migration corridors on the Czech territory have been identified on the basis of current and historical occurrence and migration data of focal species. The axes of migration corridors have been preferably delineated in concordance with known habitat preferences for forests and other wooded areas. In addition, critical places with barrier effect along each corridor were described. Main purpose of this project is to ensure migration permeability for large mammals with crucial respect for proper cross-border continuation of migration possibilities to neighbouring states.