



Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology, Vetmeduni Vienna
Conservation Medicine Unit
Savoyenstrasse 1
A-1160 Vienna

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Scientific coordinator

for FIWI activities in the EU Interreg Central Europe Project

“3Lynx - Population-based (transnational) monitoring, management and stakeholder-involvement for three populations of the Eurasian lynx in Central Europe”

(full time)

Background

Within the framework of the 3Lynx project, which is financed under the EU Interreg Central Europe Programme and led by the Czech Ministry of Environment, the Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology (FIWI) is responsible for leading the implementation of some components of work packages 1, 2, and 4, as well as making contributions to other work packages as needed.

About the project:

The Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*) is a highly endangered species inhabiting Central Europe with small, isolated populations, protected under National Conservation Laws, the EU Habitat Directive and the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (Bern Convention). In Central Europe, habitat fragmentation hindering migration between populations (with negative consequences on their viability) and illegal killing (mainly due to lack of acceptance by key stakeholders) are the main threats to lynx survival. The 3 transnational lynx populations inhabiting the Czech-German-Austrian, Austrian-Slovenian-Italian and Slovenian-Croatian border areas (Bohemian-Bavarian-Austrian, Eastern-Alpine and Dinaric lynx populations, respectively) are in this situation. Although legal and socio-economic situations differ among partner countries, the main challenges for lynx conservation are similar, and managing conflicts between stakeholders is strongly needed to reduce illegal killing. Innovative lynx monitoring approaches must be up-to-date, cover the entire area of lynx distribution, and go beyond the borders of national parks. In addition, to build mutual trust and increase lynx acceptance, participative approaches should be implemented that directly involve key stakeholders, namely hunters and foresters, into lynx monitoring and conservation activities. Finally, transnational conservation strategies based on population-level data analyses must be prepared and acknowledged by multinational policy platforms.

3Lynx will engage in transnational lynx monitoring and conservation activities, involving stakeholders (especially hunters and foresters) into (participative) monitoring as a tool to build mutual trust, increase lynx acceptance and raise awareness about the lynx issue. Based on this, a transnational strategy will be developed that affects 3 lynx populations (Bohemian-Bavarian-Austrian, Alpine and Dinaric).

Job tasks

The scientific coordinator is responsible for taking the lead on the core activities of these work packages, including:

WP1: FIWI will substantially participate in pooling approaches by bringing in not only management and monitoring approaches and status quo for Austria, but also from other networking partners. Here, a close cooperation with the Associated Partner, the Veterinarian Faculty of the University of Zagreb, will provide relevant information about stakeholder management, legal frameworks and participative approaches (e.g. Hunting for Sustainability Initiative) from Croatia. FIWI shall also contribute to pooling scenarios from different countries on the status quo of prosecution of poaching in cooperation with legal enforcement players such as police and customs.

WP2: FIWI will perform relevant monitoring activities, extending beyond the borders of the national park "Kalkalpen" and therefore covering the entire lynx population area.

WP4: FIWI will promote and enable cooperation with other projects, such as Alpionet2030 (EU Alpine Space Programme) as well as the macroregional strategies EUSDR and EUSALP.

In addition, the scientific coordinator will interact with, provide feedback on and inputs to other project work packages as needed and specified in the project application form.

The scientific coordinator reports to the work package leader and Head of the Conservation Medicine Unit.

Necessary Qualifications

- M.Sc. in wildlife ecology/wildlife management
- At least 2 years work experience
- Expertise in wildlife management
- Expertise in population monitoring of large- and medium-sized terrestrial mammals
- Basic familiarity with the legal framework for wildlife management and special conditions for the protection of large predators in the concerned countries would be an asset
- Good interpersonal skills
- Willingness to travel

The remuneration for this post will be in accordance with the candidate's qualification according to established rates of the University of Veterinary Medicine, Vienna.

To apply for this position, please email your Curriculum Vitae (in English or German) and an application letter in English, detailing your relevant experience that would make you a good candidate for this position, to:

Karin Svadlenak-Gomez, MSc
Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology
Email: karin.svadlenak-gomez@vetmeduni.ac.at

Please indicate "Application for research coordinator post 3Lynx" in the subject line of your email.

Application Deadline: **22 November 2017**
Position start date: 1 December 2017