

Thematic meeting: *Bears, Wolves and Lynxes in the Alps and in the Carpathians*

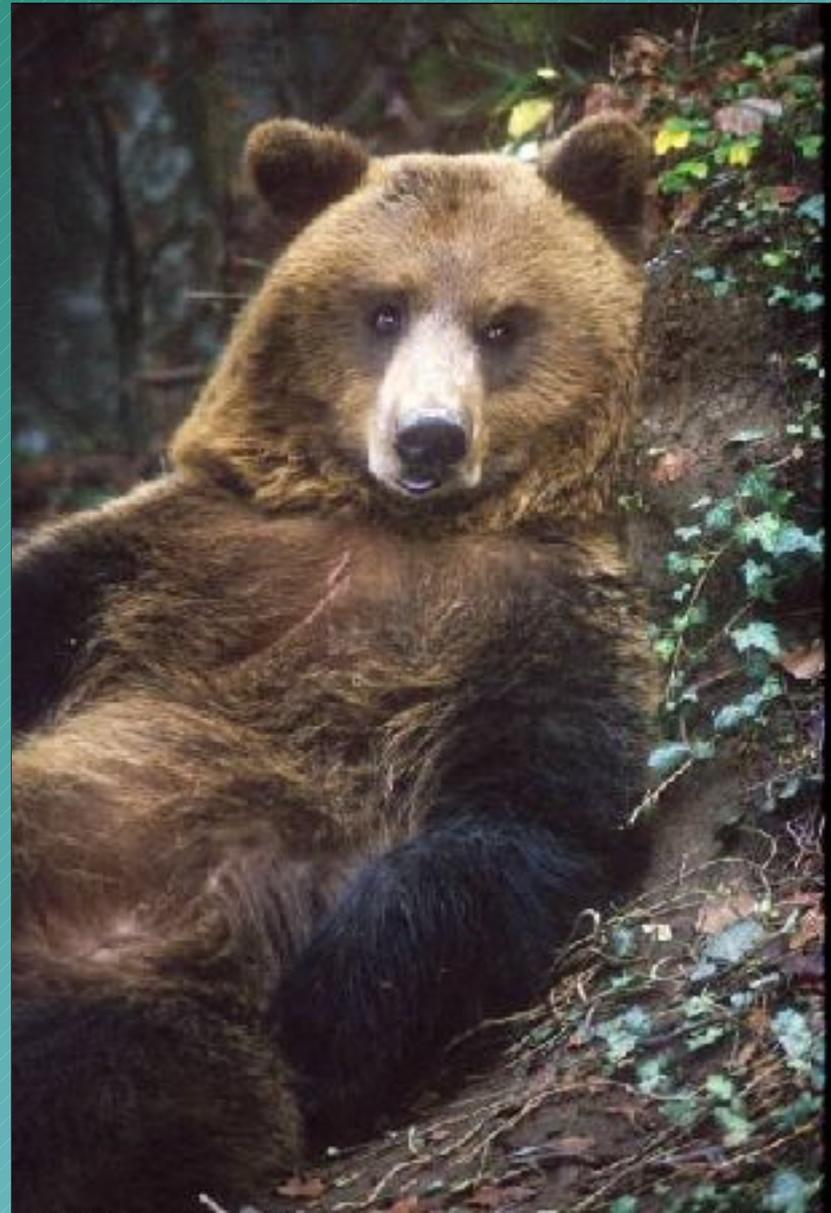
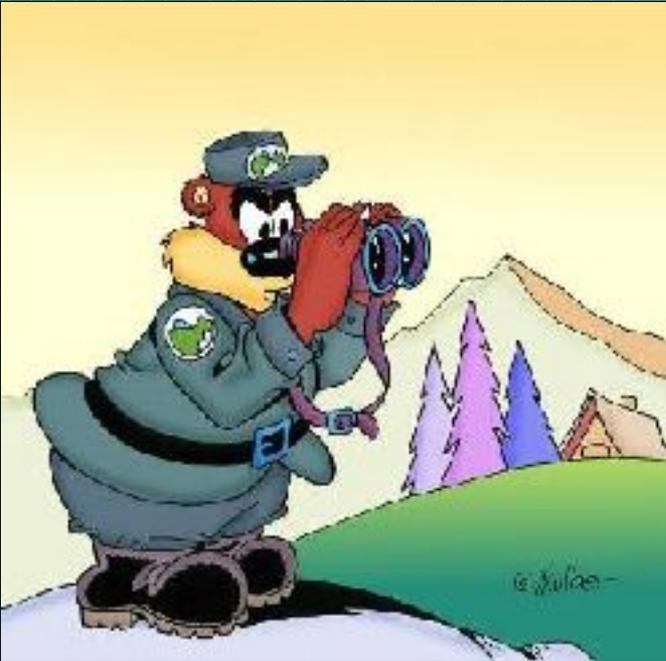


Role and experiences of Adamello Brenta Nature Park rangers in brown bear conservation

Matteo Zeni



Brown bears and Park rangers



NB: Except for the one in this picture, all the bears you are going to see here are wild bears photographed *into the wild* in Trentino. The pictures come from people or photo traps.





1999-2002: release of 10 bears from Slovenia



Parco Naturale
Adamello Brenta
Trentino - Italia

PROGETTO ORSO



Rangers helped to capture and release the bears



Management during Life Ursus Project

- **Monitoring and research:** PNAB (1 coordinator, 3 wildlife technicians, 12 rangers, scholars, degree candidates), PAT rangers, Hunters Association gamekeepers.
- **Management of dangerous situations and damages compensation:** Trento Autonomous Province (PAT) with Adamello Brenta Nature Park (PNAB) collaboration.
- **Communication activities:** PNAB and PAT.



5 Years of Radiotracking

- Translocated bears daily monitored (normally at dawn and dusk; 24 hours/day if bears were near towns);
- turnover with PAT rangers, gamekeepers, degree candidates, scholars;
- "several" hours spent driving!



The "first year after the bear translocation": sometimes a lot of work!

"From the mountains to the lake, Daniza lands to Garda"



Dai monti al lago, Daniza approda sul Garda

L'orsa ha trascorso l'intera giornata di ieri lungo le pendici del Monte Brione

IL PROCEDIMENTO
 L'orsa ha trascorso l'intera giornata di ieri lungo le pendici del Monte Brione. La translocazione è stata completata con successo. L'animale è stato osservato in compagnia di un altro esemplare. La zona è stata monitorata per tutta la giornata.

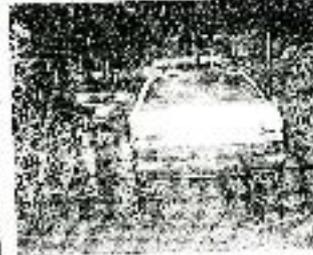


"Daniza, an evening at the restaurant"

Daniza, una serata al ristorante

L'orsa inseguita per tutta la notte è ritornata poi sul Monte Brione

IL CONTINUIAMO
 L'orsa è stata osservata in compagnia di un altro esemplare. La zona è stata monitorata per tutta la giornata. L'animale è stato osservato in compagnia di un altro esemplare. La zona è stata monitorata per tutta la giornata.



Dalla capanna di Monte Brione, quindi la translocazione verso la Fiera S. Tomaso, Koro...

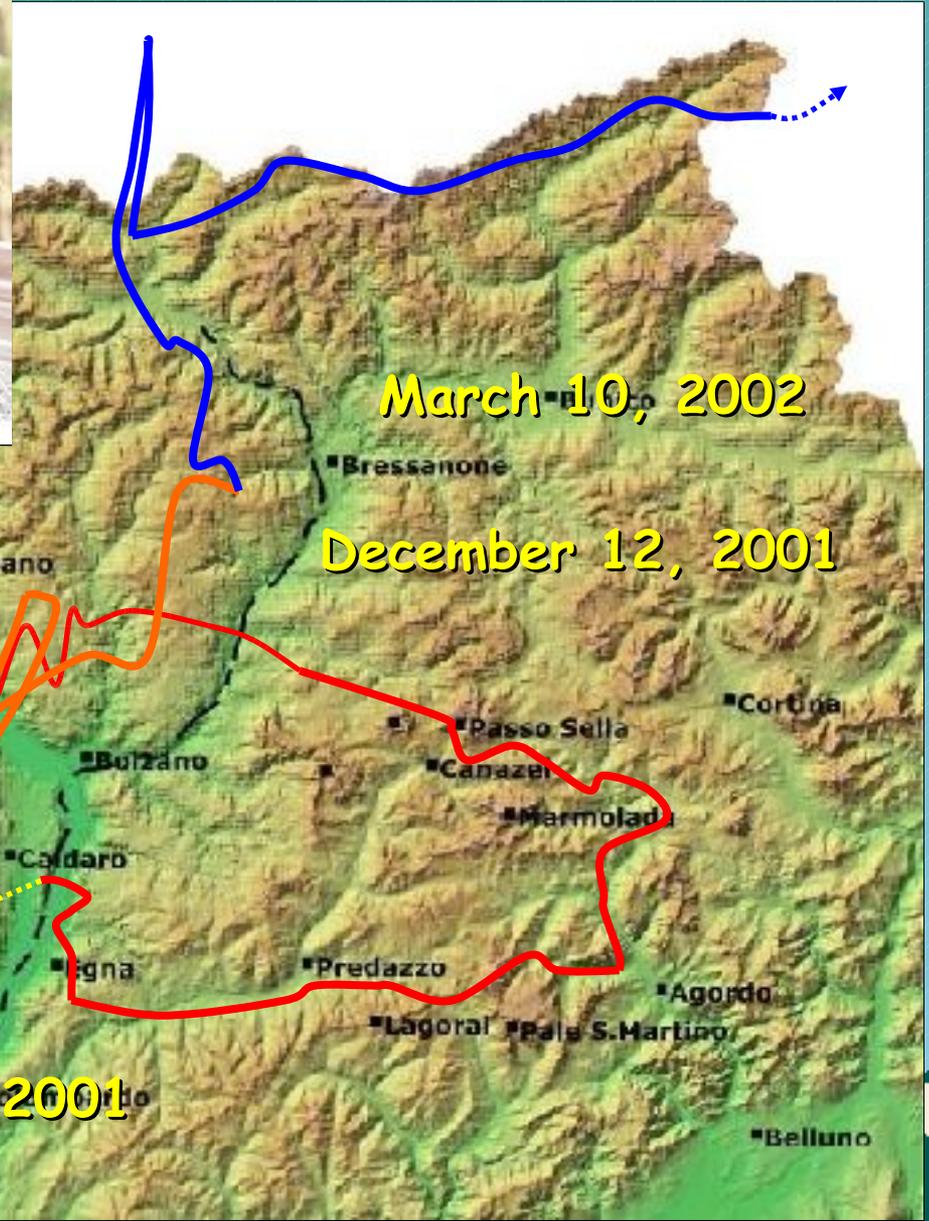


Il bimbo in serie

Un bimbo è stato ritrovato in un luogo isolato. Le autorità stanno indagando sulla sua scomparsa. Il caso è considerato serio e si stanno prendendo tutte le precauzioni del caso.



Following Vida...



March 10, 2002

December 12, 2001

August 30, 2001





Winter 2000/01 - Jon Valley



IRMA



A "problem bear": Jurka



Captured and removed, 2007



An unforgettable encounter!



Late Spring 2001: Daniza appears on the road...

...followed, after a while, by the last native old bear!



"Ordinary" Monitoring, Life Ursus Project



2003: finished



Radiocollared
founder bears



From 2002 until now

many
reproductive
events!



Last results (end of 2008):
24 bears
(11 adults
6 subadults
7 cubs)



After *Life Ursus* Project: current management

- Management of **dangerous situations** and **damages compensation**: PAT with its own staff: PAT rangers, etc.
- Only problem bears are captured and radiocollared. No radiocollars for research purposes.
- **Monitoring** and **communication activities**: cooperation between PAT and PNAB (Brown Bear Research and Conservation Team -GRICO- and Park rangers).
- **Scientific research**: PAT and PNAB. **Specific research projects in PNAB**: GRICO with rangers contribution.



Re-capture experiment



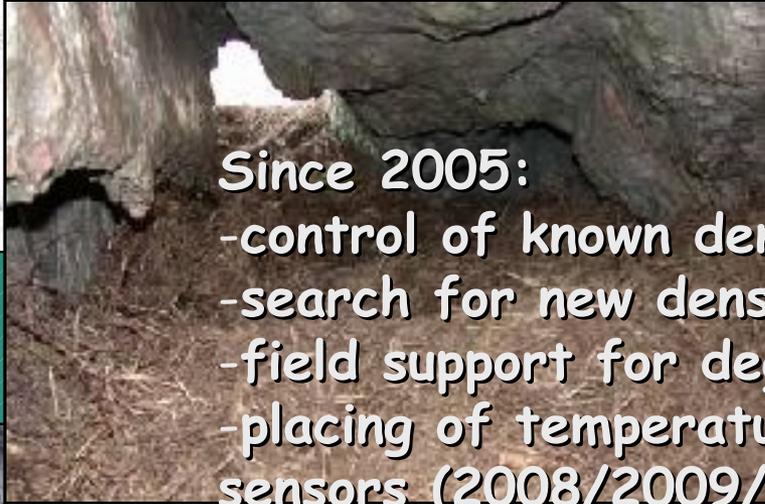
Photo-traps



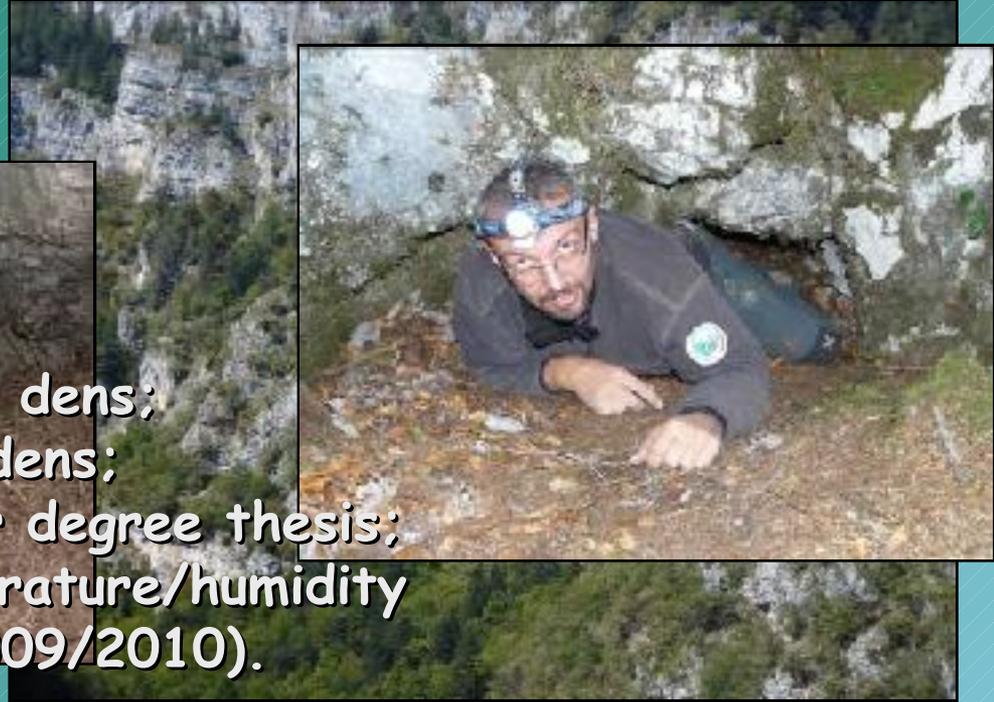
2004/2005



Monitoring of historical and recent dens



- Since 2005:
- control of known dens;
 - search for new dens;
 - field support for degree thesis;
 - placing of temperature/humidity sensors (2008/2009/2010).



63 dens

76 potential dens



"work in progress"...



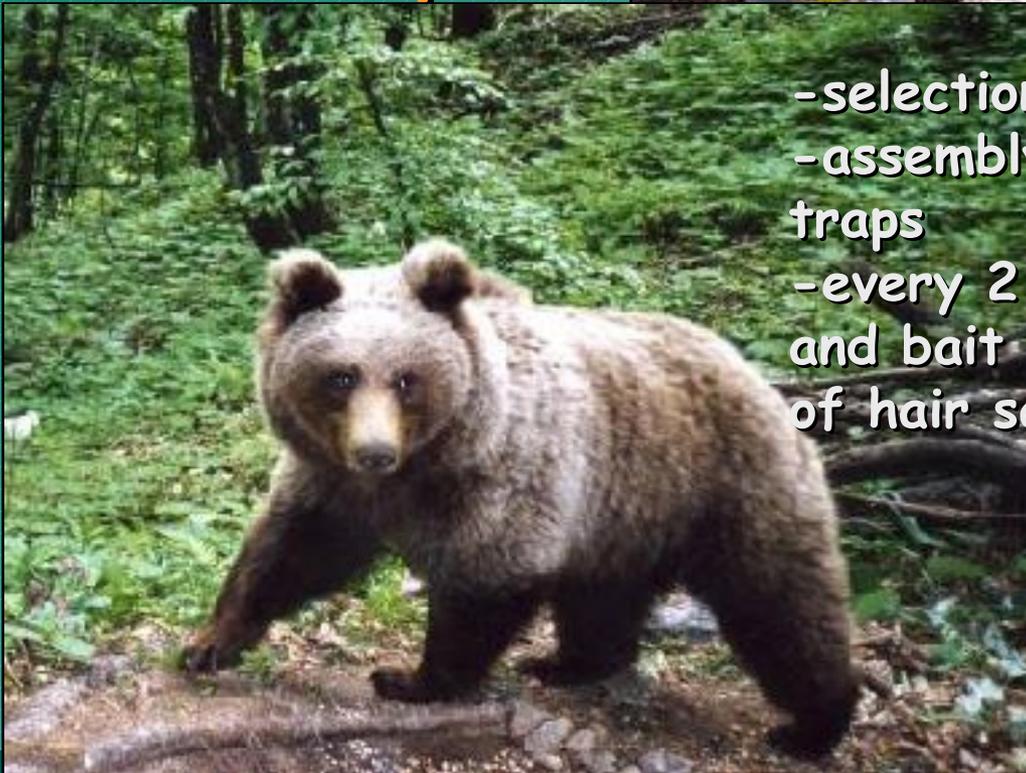
Monitoring and population trend: DNA analysis



PROVINCIA AUTONOMA DI TRENTO



Hair-traps



- selection of trap site
- assembly/disassembly of traps
- every 2 weeks: control and bait refill; collection of hair samples



Research: bear-human encounter survey

- 185 people interviewed
- 355 questionnaires filled

Questionnaire

AVVISTAMENTI DRSO: QUESTIONARIO

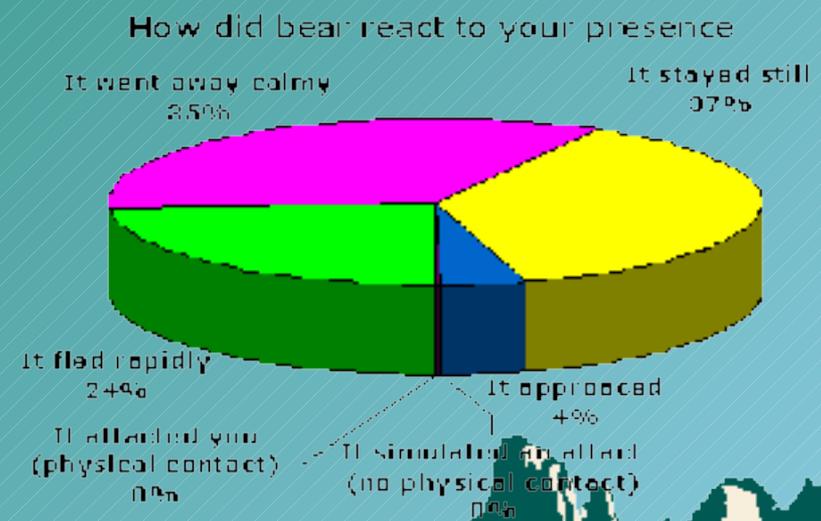
AVVISTAMENTO

Nome: _____ Cognome: _____
 Anno di nascita (se possibile): _____
 Professione: _____
 Indirizzo: _____
 E-mail: _____
 Telefono: _____
 Note: _____

AVVISTAMENTO

Data (Giorno/Mese/Anno): _____	Orario: _____
Località: _____	Condizioni di luce: ☐ sole ☐ ombra ☐ buio
Età di chi ha avvistato (se presente): ☐ adulta ☐ bambino ☐ altro	Posizione osservatore: "dorsale": ☐ sopra ☐ sotto ☐ accanto, radiale ☐ laterale, frontale ☐ altro
Modalità di avvistamento "dorsale": ☐ a vista ☐ udito ☐ voce ☐ altro	

- contribution on questionnaire drafting
- interviews submitted on field and by phone
- data base updating



"work in progress" ...

Collecting signs of presence: transects

2003-2004: 17
transects (total length
145 km) controlled once
a month (rangers and
GRICO's staff)



Finished: no convenience

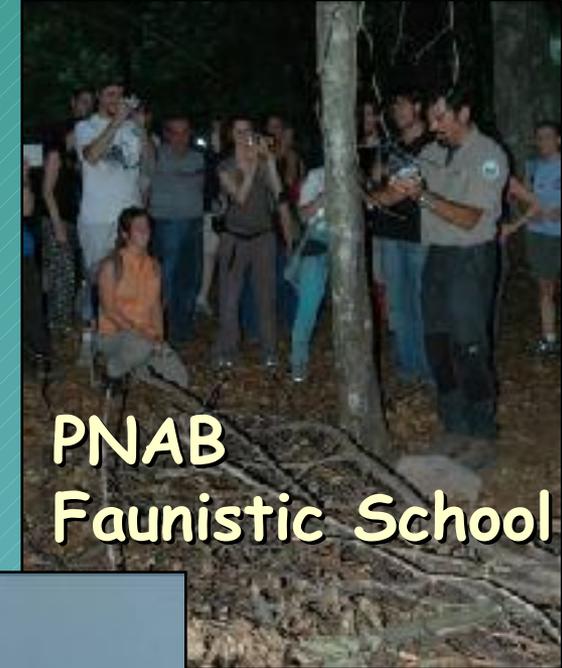
Communication about bears: every day is important!



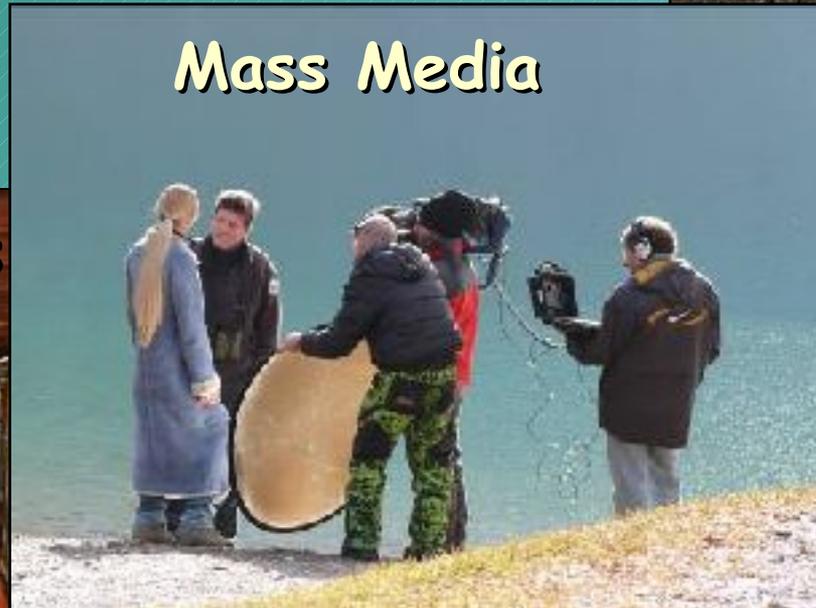
Schools



Stands & Fairs



PNAB
Faunistic School



Mass Media



Information Events



Publications

Field work: searching and collecting signs of presence



Fresh scats



Informations
about encounters



Hair from Rub Trees etc.



Other signs
of presence

ENTHUSIASM & DEDITION, EVERY DAY!

We have a dream...



...dedicated to people that worked and are working with love on the nature conservation, and of course to the *Lord of the Woods*: the Brown Bear.