

Conclusions

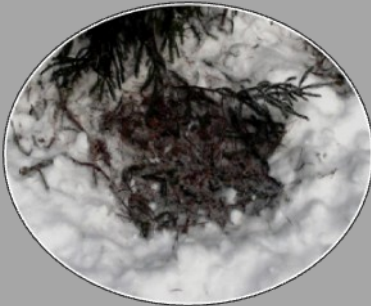
- ✓ Released wolves succeeded in foraging and killing prey.



Steffi hunting rodents

- ✓ They acquire the repertoire behaviour of their species.

Wolf bed made of branches on the snow



- ✓ Individual wolves movement patterns might depend on the ecological conditions for finding food
- ✓ Individual wolves behaviour may be due to their genetic inclination and their past ecological influences.

✓ Our findings may:

- Allow controlled release in isolated populations (genetic influx).
- Help endangered canids.

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Can reintroduced hand-raised wolves survive?

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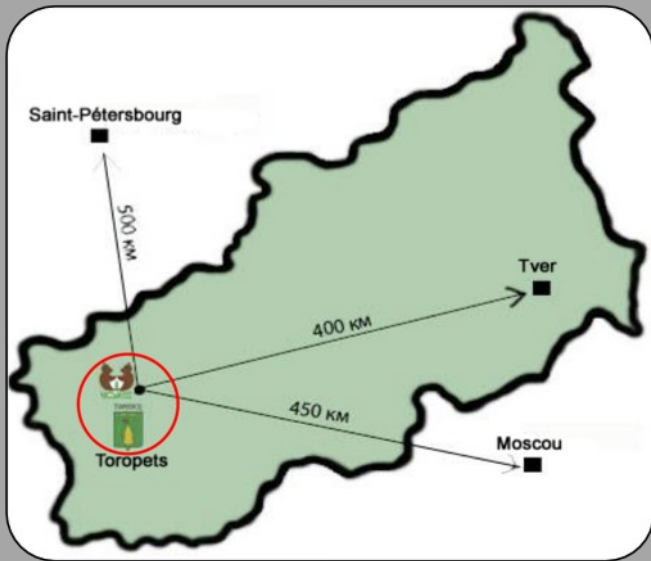


Background

Studies on hand-raised wild animals, showing successful reintroduction (e.g. brown bears), suggested that **young released wolves** might be able to survive into the wild without previous fastidious training.

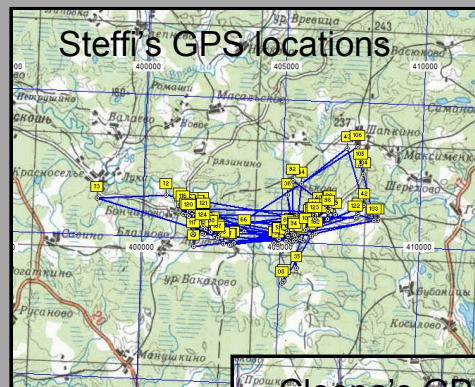
Objectives

- 9 young wolves were reintroduced in Tver region (Russia)
- Aim: **Assess their survival chances.**
- Focus on: their **fear of humans, movement patterns** and **food habits**



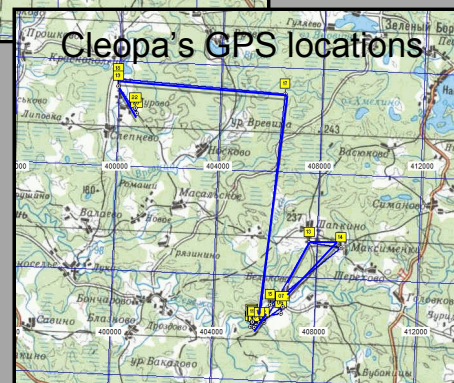
Results

- ✓ Released wolves consumed:
 - **Ungulates** (moose) and **other wild mammals** (hares & beavers)
 - Domestic animals sporadically
 - Vegetal matter regularly
 - Small animals occasionally



- 124 GPS loc in 89 days, 1.94 loc/day
- 163.7 km, 1.8 km/day
- Area covered ~ 14.7 km²

- 21 GPS loc in 18 days, 1.75 loc/day
- 30.9 km, 1.8 km/day
- Area covered ~ 40.1 km²



Methods

- 3 wolves were equipped with **GPS-Argos collars** and **snow tracking** was conducted to find presence clues (faeces, prints, urination marks).



- The **food habits** were assessed thanks to different methods of **faeces analysis**:
 - ✓ Frequency of Occurrence of Items per faeces & per items
 - ✓ Relative Estimated Bulk
 - ✓ Biomass consumed

