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CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE
AND NATURAL HABITATS

Standing Committee

32nd meeting
Strasbourg, 27-30 November 2012

**DRAFT RECOMMENDATION
ON THE MANAGEMENT OF EXPANDING POPULATIONS OF
LARGE CARNIVORES IN EUROPE**

*Document
prepared by
The Directorate of Democratic Governance, Culture and Diversity*

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Convention on the Conservation
of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats

Standing Committee

Draft Recommendation No. ... (2012) of the Standing Committee, adopted on ..., on the management of expanding populations of large carnivores in Europe

The Standing Committee of the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats, acting under the terms of Article 14 of the Convention;

Having regard to the aims of the Convention to conserve wild flora and fauna and its natural habitats;

Welcoming the natural expansion of population of large carnivores in Europe, as these species play a key ecological role in natural and semi-natural habitats;

Wishing to promote co-existence of viable populations of large carnivores with sustained development of rural areas in appropriate regions;

Noting that expanding populations of large carnivores may cause problems with livestock rising, particularly in area where their colonization is recent;

Recalling its Recommendations No. 115 (2005) on the conservation and management of transboundary populations of large carnivores, and No. 137 (2008) on population level management of large carnivores population;

Recommends that Contracting Parties to the Convention:

1. Address the issue of expanding large carnivores populations, inter alia by :
 - Improving social acceptance of large carnivores;
 - Addressing conservation of large carnivores in an a temporal and geographical scale;
 - Establishing the necessary partnerships with different interest groups;
 - Promoting appropriate predation – avoiding methods and practices.

In that context, welcome the natural expansion of large carnivores' populations, especially where this may help a population to reach a favorable conservation status and/or improve its genetic variability;

2. Cooperate as appropriate in the above with other states sharing the same population, thus implementing the population level management approach endorsed in its Recommendation 115 (2005);
3. Where large carnivores are hunted, carry out sound monitoring of those species and fix hunting quotas taking into account their conservation status, the sustainability of present population and their natural expansion.