

National strategies for protected animal species

Summary

In the paper, the current situation concerning implementation of conservation plans for certain animal species has been discussed. According to Polish legislation, the management plan for all species which are rare or endangered, should be developed on the national scale. Actually, the only one such program for European bison (*Bison bonasus*) has been approved and implemented. In the paper, the process of developing the conservation plans within the frames of the Project financed from the means of Operational Program Infrastructure and Environment has been discussed. The Project concerned six animal species: wolf, brown bear, lynx, otter, cormorant and crane. It should be mentioned that the program was developed by the group of experts and discussed and consulted in detail during the open workshops. The publication presents, in particular, two national programs for the European bison (*Bison bonasus*) and for wolf (*Canis lupus*). The mentioned species have been chosen as an example, with the aim to show the problems and methods for adaptive management and solutions for Poland.

KEY WORDS: protected species, management plan, conservation program