



Wolf Enclosure

Good practice exampleCzech Republic

Matouš Radimec

RERA a.s. • project manager radimec@rera.cz



Introduction

Wolf enclosure in Srní

Location

Municipality of Srní

Region

Southwest Bohemia

Country

Czech Republic

Type

Natural heritage





Location

Srní

Population **224 inhabitants**

Distance to the regional centre **96 km**

Specificity

Remote area

National Park Šumava

Wolf reintroduction





Description

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

- Original status: none
- Change driver: presentation of a wolf pack habits in close-to-natural environment and other wildlife in the National Park Šumava
- Long-time effort to re-introduce wolves (Canis lupus) into the national park
- Selection of a mode of presentation, zoo-style display refused right away
- Securing the safety of visitors
- Capacity for large amounts of people
- Including more attractivities of the national park. Avoidance of the "come, take picture and go next place" tourism mode of action
- Attractivity for all target groups
- Wellbeing of the predators



Results

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

- Visitor centre seated in an almost passive wooden building
- Multimedia presentation of the National Park Šumava wildlife (lynx, grouse...)
- Public facilities, café, shop, car park
- Wolf enclosure set up in a prime forest in the area of 3 ha
- 300 metre-long elevated wooden walkway, enabling observation of the wolves without disturbing their almost natural habitat
- Walkway includes observation decks with additional information on wolves, pack dynamics and hierarchy, food habits, communication, mating...
- Support of "slow tourism", visitors have to locate the wolves first, they might be scattered all around the enclosure



Results

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

- Educational trail to the enclosure itself presentation of prime forest mechanisms and natural processes
- Enables more precise studies on wolves regarding their daily chores, diet, communication...
- Kept wolves are not wildlife catches but wolves raised in captivity, saved from road accidents etc.

MOMAr Interreg Europe

Parameters

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

Accessiblity

The enclosure walkway and the visitor centre is fully barrier-free. The enclosure can be reached via service track. The educational path is not barrier-free since it leads through wild forest

Ownership



Management body of National Park Šumava

Timeframe

The whole area was set up and created in 2015



Performance

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

Visitor rate

The visitor rate was ever increasing until Spring 2019 when the pandemics broke out. The area welcomed 300 000 visitors a year. However, being outdoor venue, it was open even in times of moderate restrictions.

Visitor composition

- Hikers
- Nature lovers
- Scientists, experts (biology, zoology, ecology...)
- Schools and other educational institutions



Budget

Wolf enclosure / Visitor centre Srní

Sources

- 85% of ERDF funds via Regional Operational Programme Environment
- 15% own co-financing

Overall budget: 2,8 mil. €





















Thank you!

Matouš Radimec RERA a.s. | radimec@rera.cz





