



Newsletter, Summer 2026 / Issue 2 after rebranding

Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme

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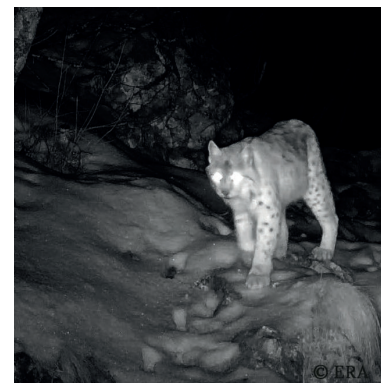
The Balkan Lynx Recovery Programme (BLRP), launched in 2006, is a long-term cross-border initiative in North Macedonia, Albania and Kosovo, supported by partners from Switzerland and Germany. Its goal is to restore a viable Balkan lynx population through research, legal protection, habitat conservation, cooperation with local communities and awareness-raising.

This year, BLRP celebrates its 20th anniversary under the theme “Steps Forward – Miles to Go”. Keep an eye on our activities and campaign throughout the year and join us in celebrating under **#20YearsBLRP**.

Field Update

Field work remains at the heart of the BLRP, supporting long-term monitoring efforts and improving knowledge about the ecology, distribution and conservation needs of the critically endangered Balkan lynx.

In **Kosovo**, the field team implemented monitoring activities in the National Park «Accursed Mountains», where they successfully identified a previously unknown lynx individual (picture on the right). Despite challenges such as camera theft and difficult terrain, monitoring efforts continue to improve understanding of key habitats and wildlife corridors across the region.



In **Albania**, a nationwide camera trap monitoring network is currently being established as part of the country's first national monitoring programme for the Balkan lynx. Despite challenging weather and terrain conditions, dozens of cameras have already been deployed, providing valuable information on lynx presence and prey species across key habitats.



In **North Macedonia**, a new female lynx named Blagica was successfully fitted with a GPS collar in April 2026 (picture on the left). Her movements are already providing new insights into previously unstudied areas and contribute important information on habitat use and population recovery.



New Regional Strategy Strengthens Balkan Lynx Conservation

In March 2026, a new regional strategy for the conservation of the Balkan lynx was officially endorsed at the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS COP15) in Brazil. The strategy aims to strengthen transboundary cooperation, improve habitat connectivity and genetic diversity, and support conservation measures for the critically endangered subspecies.

Covering the period 2026–2035, the strategy provides a coordinated framework for future conservation action across the Balkan lynx range.



International Lynx Day

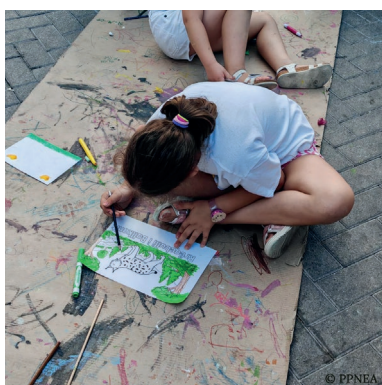


Every year on June 11, International Lynx Day is celebrated worldwide. On this occasion, organisations, partners and local communities carry out various activities to raise awareness for lynx conservation and emphasise the importance of protecting species such as the Balkan lynx. Across the Balkan lynx range, partners in Albania, North Macedonia and Kosovo marked the occasion with local activities and awareness-raising initiatives.

In **Albania**, educational activities introduced children and young people to the Balkan lynx and biodiversity conservation, while awareness-raising materials were distributed during a citizens' protest for the protection of the Vjosa–Narta Protected Landscape in Tirana.

In **North Macedonia**, the public was engaged through a social media quiz about the Balkan lynx, with participants receiving educational and promotional materials about the species.

In **Kosovo**, the interactive children's book «Guardian of Nature» was launched to raise awareness about lynx conservation and biodiversity, and copies were donated to local schools.



Second Balkan Lynx Mural Unveiled in Albania

A new mural in Pukë has become Albania's second public artwork dedicated to the critically endangered Balkan lynx, raising awareness about the importance of its conservation.



To The Website
www.balkanylynx.com



To The New Balkan Lynx Brochure:
www.balkanlynx.com/en/documentation

