



INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION FOR
BEAR RESEARCH &
MANAGEMENT

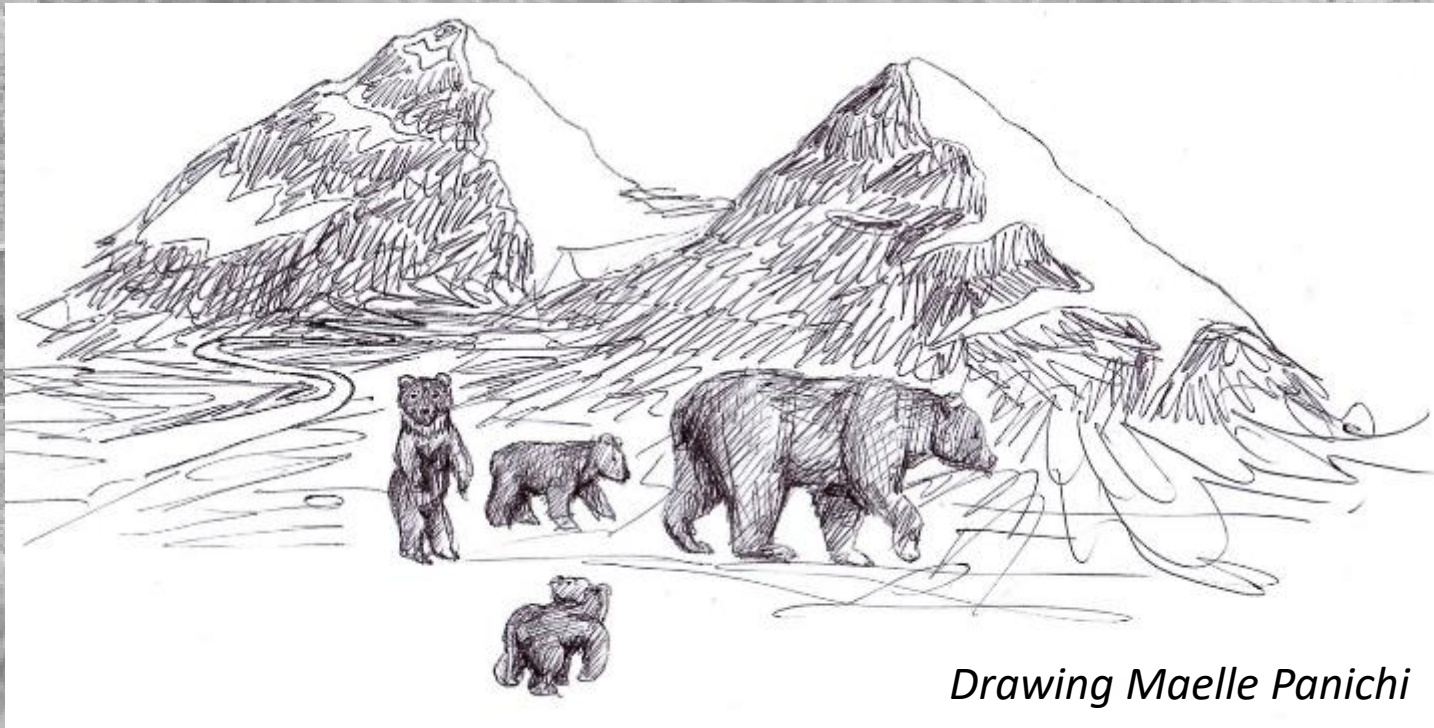


Oso	Urs
Bär	Ours
Björn	Медведь
Orso	Вся
Björn	Медвед
Saimhe	Beer
熊	Shash
Bhalou	Béguang
Арктос	Karhu
	Beer

Bear Smart Community Genzana

Ph. Giancarlo Mancori

What is the Bear Smart Community?



It promotes actions to prevent man-bear conflicts

- Removing food sources for the bear in urban areas.
- Disseminating simple but effective measures to **prevent damage from and to the bear.**

Prevention of man-bear conflicts is fundamental to save the Marsican brown bear from extinction!

THE PROJECT

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Bhalou	Běuang
Ἀρκτος	Karhu
	Bear

Written by Piero Visconti and Mario Cipollone from Salviamo l'Orso, it was granted in 2015-2017 from the **IBA** – *International Association for Bear Research and Management* – with a total amount of 15,000 \$.

Salviamo l'Orso, the Monte Genzana Alto Gizio Regional Nature Reserve, the municipalities of Pettorano sul Gizio and Rocca Pia, the associations **Dalla Parte dell'Orso** and **Rewilding Apennines** and the **local communities** are partners in the implementation of the project actions.

WHERE?



**Pettorano sul Gizio, Monte Genzana
Alto Gizio Nature Reserve**



Rocca Pia

This territory is a crucial wildlife connection area between the Abruzzo, Lazio and Molise National Park and the Majella National Park.

WHY?



- On the 12th September 2014, a young male bear was shot dead near Pettorano sul Gizio.
- Damage to bee hives, chicken coops and gardens caused by 4 different bears in the weeks before.
- Presence of the bears perceived as a direct threat to the man → killing of the young male.



- Only few food-conditioned bears cause man-bear conflicts.
- They are usually young individuals or females with cubs avoiding large territorial males.

It is extremely important to prevent any damage and inform the people in the best way on the right behaviour in case of direct encounter.

SHARED GOALS

KNOWLEDGE

HUMBLENESS

CORRECT INFORMATION



IGNORANCE

ARROGANCE

FAKE NEWS



**Bears, wolves, boars:
nightmare Abruzzo**



WHEN?



Immediately, because there is no time to waste!

- Bear damage usually occurs between August and October,
- But we all must act all year round and on a regular basis to prevent conflicts.

How?

Bear Smart Community



Comune di Pettorano sul Gizio



Bear-smart farms and apiaries



2015 – 2017: In three years, the Monte Genzana Alto Gizio Nature Reserve and the associations Rewilding Apennines, Salviamo l'Orso and Dalla parte dell'Orso have secured more than **80 properties** in the territory of Pettorano sul Gizio and Rocca Pia. Salviamo l'Orso built **21 electric fences**. The association has also sponsored the construction and set up of **3 bear-proof metal doors**. The effectiveness of all these prevention measures has led to a reduction of the bear damage of **76% in 2015**, of **97% in 2016** and of **99,8% in 2017** in comparison with 2014.

The electric fences were given free loan, and built for free by the Reserve staff, their recipients and the associations' volunteers.





A brown bear is climbing a tree trunk, viewed from behind. The bear's fur is dark brown and shaggy. It is using its claws to grip the bark. The background is a blurred natural setting with green leaves and a body of water.

In order not to attract the bear and other wildlife species, we recommend to **pick up ripe fruit on a daily basis** before it falls on the ground, and also the fruit already fallen.

Bear-smart orchards and gardens

BEAR-SMART ORGANIC WASTE BINS



Drawing M. Panichi



Bear-smart waste management

A correct management of organic waste is required to prevent bear finding «easy food» in the waste bins:

- **September 2015: the organic waste bins** in the municipality of **Rocca Pia** were equipped with a **special bear-proof lock**. The cost of 5 bins was **1,500 €**
- Where door-to-door separate collection is performed, **it is necessary that the citizens keep their organic trash indoors until the collection day.**
- **Do not add any meat waste to the compost.** Please, stir the compost on a regular basis and **keep it covered** not to attract wildlife by its smell.
- **Please, keep your pet food locked indoors, out of the bear's reach.**

ROAD ECOLOGY MEASURES

The experts of the Monte Genzana Alto Gizio Nature Reserve and the associations' volunteers have planned **road ecology measures** along State Road 17 to **mitigate the risk of collisions with wildlife**, in particular the bear.

The Monte Genzana Reserve staff and the associations' volunteers are taking care of the recovery and cleaning from human waste and obstructive material of **four underpasses** to **enhance bio-permeability** of the SS 17.





Bear-smart sanitary management of pets



- **Distemper, Parvovirus, Leptospirosis, canine hepatitis may pass from dogs to wolves and bears.**
- **We can prevent infections by regular vaccinations and a correct dog management.**
- **In Pettorano sul Gizio and Rocca Pia, Salviamo l'Orso has offered free vaccination and registration into the canine registry of the sheepdogs and stray dogs in delicate areas for the presence of the bear. The vets have treated about twenty dogs so far.**

Managing your dog correctly means...

- **Microchip your dog.** The microchip is mandatory by law, and is inserted permanently under the skin. It ensures that the dog is identifiable at the regional canine registry and that it is possible to track its ownership in the case of the dog going missing.
- **In case of change of ownership, loss or death of the dog, or when the owner changes address or telephone number, it is mandatory to inform the local office of the regional veterinary service.**
- **Have the dog wear an identification tag on its collar or bib.** This tag should report all information required to reach its owner (e.g. a telephone number).
- **Have the dog vaccinated and regularly checked by a veterinary.**
- **Never let the dogs roam free. Always have them under close control.**

Best Practices manuals



Salviamo l'Orso printed **1,000 Best Practices manuals**, and distributed them for free to the citizens of Pettorano sul Gizio and Rocca Pia to inform them about simple rules to follow and prevent:

- Man-bear conflicts.
- Stress or danger for the bear or for who encounters it.

Meetings with local communities



The Reserve and the associations Salviamo l'Orso and Dalla parte dell'Orso organize public meetings to involve the local communities in the implementation of the Bear Smart Community actions.

Bear-Smart Community information questionnaire

- A sample of 88 people interviewed.
- The results of 2015 were compared with those of 2017. The opinions are generally pro-bear.
- Under a communication perspective, **there is still much to be done** so that the people feel themselves as a part of a Bear Smart Community!



QUESTIONARIO "COMUNITÀ A MISURA D'ORSO"

L'Associazione Salviamo L'Orso ha preparato il seguente questionario per capire quanto conosci l'Orso bruno marsicano e cosa sei disposto a fare, singolarmente o insieme agli altri, per facilitare la coesistenza tra orso e attività umane.

Ti chiediamo, dunque, di dedicare solo cinque minuti del tuo tempo, assegnando ad ogni domanda una sola risposta. Il questionario è totalmente anonimo. Una volta completato, per favore lascialo fuori casa in un luogo visibile e al riparo dalle intemperie. Passeremo a riprenderlo il 3 novembre e, per ringraziarti della tua disponibilità, ti regaleremo un adesivo della Comunità a misura d'orso del Genzana.

La tua partecipazione è importante!

1. **Genere:** Maschile Femminile
2. **Età:** ≤ 18; 19 – 30; 31 – 51; 52 – 65; ≥ 66
3. **Dove vivi?** Pettorano sul Gizio Rocca Pia Altro: _____
4. **Conosci il progetto "Comunità a misura d'orso" (o "Bear Smart Community")?** Sì No
5. **Se sì, come?** Passaparola Internet Eventi pubblici Stampa
6. **Hai letto il Manualetto delle Migliori Pratiche della Comunità a Misura d'Orso del Genzana?**
 Sì No
7. **Se sì, ti sembra efficace nei contenuti?** Sì Abbastanza No Non so
8. **Hai mai avvistato l'Orso bruno marsicano nei territori di Pettorano o Rocca Pia?** Sì No
9. **Se sì, che sensazione hai provato?** Paura Stupore Contentezza
10. **Cos'hai visto esattamente?** Orso nella mia proprietà Segni di presenza nella mia proprietà
 Orso o segni di presenza nel territorio della Riserva Danni subiti nella proprietà di un vicino
11. **Sai da cosa è costituito oltre il 90% della dieta dell'orso?**
 Frutti Animali selvatici e domestici Scarti di cibo dell'uomo Non so
12. **Perché a volte l'orso visita i centri abitati?**
 L'orso non trova abbastanza cibo in natura
 Essendo un animale intelligente, va a nutrirsi dove trova cibo facilmente (come orti e piccoli allevamenti)
 L'orso ha imparato che l'uomo gli permette di mangiare vicino le case
13. **Ad oggi, quanti casi di aggressione a persone sono stati registrati a carico dell'Orso bruno marsicano?**
 Nessuno Uno Cinque Non so
14. **Ritieni che oggi sia importante proteggere l'Orso bruno marsicano?** Sì No
15. **Se sì, classifica da 1 (più importante) a 4 (meno importante) le seguenti risposte. La salvaguardia dell'orso è utile per:**
___ Mantenere gli equilibri ecologici degli spazi naturali dove vive
___ Non perdere il simbolo vivente di un territorio bello e selvaggio

VOLUNTEER PROGRAMMES



The Monte Genzana Alto Gizio Nature Reserve and Salviamo l'Orso welcome **students and volunteers from all over the world** to take action in this project *Bear Smart Community*. The volunteers are the best «Marsican bear ambassadors» in their own country and in ours.

BUT THE BEAR SMART COMMUNITY IS ALSO...



Ph. Marco Bonapace

RESEARCH



EDUCATION



SUPPORT THE BEAR SMART COMMUNITY GENZANA



<http://www.salviamolorso.it/en/projects/make-a-donation/>