# **OBJECTIVES**

Co-financed by the European Union within the LIFE+ 2007-2013 "Nature and biodiversity" program, the project has the objective to implement coordinated actions for the longterm conservation and management of the Alps wolf population. LIFE WOLFALPS intervenes in seven key areas, identified as particularly relevant for the species' presence and/or for the importance in its spreading throughout the Alpine ecosystem.

One of the LIFE WOLFALPS objectives is to identify strategies that are functional for the wolf and traditional economic activities to coexist, facilitating the reduction of possible conflicts, both in territories where the wolf is already present and in areas where there is an ongoing process of natural recolonisation.

This project will be implemented thanks to the combined work of ten Italian and two Slovenian partners and many supporting bodies: together they all form an International working group, essential for a coordinated management of the wolf population over the whole Alps. Among the project activities, besides monitoring, there are measures to prevent wolf attacks on domestic animals, to tackle poaching and strategies for wolf-dog cross**breeding** control, necessary to maintain the genetic identity in Alpine wolves. Other fundamental measures concern communication, necessary to spread correct information about the species, dispel myths and legends and reduce diffidence towards the wolf, in order to guarantee the conservation of this animal which is so important for the Alps.

### To learn more

## Web site:

www.lifewolfalps.eu

#### About wolves:

www.centrograndicarnivori.it www.ibriwolf.it www.volkovi.si

### Contacts:

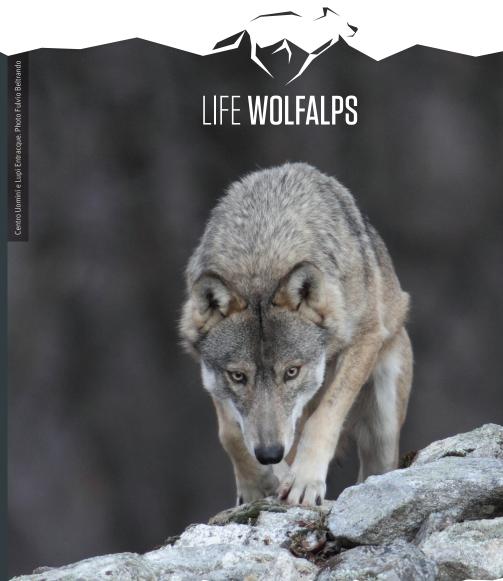
info@lifewolfalps.eu

#### Subscribe to the newsletter:

www.lifewolfalps.eu/newsletter/

### Report a sighting:

on the website: www.lifewolfalps.eu/segnala-un-avvistamento to the Corpo Forestale dello Stato (Italian State Forestry Corp): 1515



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A European project for the conservation and management of wolves in the Alps



## The project summary

## Title

### **WOLVES IN THE ALPS:**

IMPLEMENTATION OF COORDINATED WOLF CONSERVATION ACTIONS IN CORE AREAS AND BEYOND

## **ACRONYM**

LIFE WOLFALPS

## TIME FRAME

Started: 01/09/2013 Ends: 31/05/2018

### **BUDGET**

Total project budget: 6.100.454 € EU financial contribution requested: 4.174.309 €

## The LIFE WOLFALPS partnership

Parco Naturale Alpi Marittime (lead partner)
Corpo Forestale dello Stato
Ente di Gestione del Parco Naturale del Marguareis
Ente di Gestione Aree Protette Alpi Cozie
Ente di Gestione Aree Protette dell'Ossola
Ente Parco Nazionale Val Grande
Consorzio Parco Nazionale dello Stelvio
Regione Lombardia
Regione del Veneto
MUSE – Museo delle Scienze di Trento
Triglavski Narodni Park

University of Ljubljana

## The wolf's return to the Alps: how, when and why?

The wolf packs which have been living in the Alps for almost twenty years, were formed by the descendants of wolves which survived some factors, such as rural depopulation, extinction in a limited area of the Southern and Central Apennines. From the 1970s when the wolf became a protected species - the Northern Apennine area began to be slowly re-colonised, then, from the 1990s, it was the turn of the South-West Alps. Today, wolves from the Western Alps are returning to the Central and Eastern areas of the Alps, where recently individuals from the Dinaric population from Slovenia also reappeared because of natural dispersal. Wolves - unlike other species that risk or that were locally extinct, like bearded but have returned to the Alps on their own.

Therefore, this reappearance is a result of a natural recolonisation, facilitated by with a consequent increase in woodland - which constitute the wolf's habitat - and available prey (wild ungulates such as boar, roe deer, deer...), the species legal protection and awareness campaigns. The wolf's return represents an added value which enriches and completes the Alpine ecosystem, but after decades of absence we have to learn to cohabitate.

The LIFE WOLFALPS project aims at a shared strategy for long-term conservation for this species in the Alps, founded on a solid disappearing completely, such as bears, ibex, scientific basis, constructive communication and on the collaboration of all the vultures - were not deliberately reintroduced, stakeholders directly involved by the wolf's



