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ROOM PREPARATION “FLYING OVER SIBILLINI” DEDICATED TO THE BIODIVERSITY OF MONTI SIBILLINI

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Abstract. Il seguente lavoro è una relazione descrittiva che illustra i contenuti relativi al mio dottorato di ricerca in “Environmental science and public health” appartenente al XXVIII ciclo presso l’Università di Camerino. Franco ha partecipato al dottorato come advisor d’ateneo assieme a Franco Perco che è stato coadvisor per l’azienda che ha ospitato la ricerca, Azienda Faunistico Venatoria Valle di Fiordimonte. Il progetto di ricerca riguardava la greeneconomy in aree marginali dei monti sibillini come soggetto tre animali molto importanti: lupo, cervo e cinghiale. Tra gli obbiettivi del progetto era presente anche il riallestimento museale di una stanza del Museo di Scienze di Camerino. All’interno di questa stanza sono stati riportati alcuni reperti provenienti direttamente dall’area di studio, come ad esempio il lupo in Fig. 4 ucciso dal traffico veicolare e recuperato dall’autore per l’imbalsamazione e l’esposizione al pubblico. Desidero dedicare a Franco questo contributo perché coinvolge un aspetto della biodiversità e della conservazione molto vicino a lui e ai suoi insegnamenti, grazie “Pedro”.

Key words. museology, wildlife conservations, biodiversity of Sibillini, Wolf, Deer, large mammals

Among the different organizations participating in this study there is the Museum of Science of Camerino. One of the aims of the research there is the participation in the renewal of the hall dedicated to the biodiversity of the Sibillini area.

In this room were made the following settings: set wall dedicated to the “Big Five”, deer skull with the stage, the tracking station with interactive projector and equipment dedicated to the wolf with embalming of a specimen.

The installation was designed for groups of different age and levels of preparation. Visitors can explore the individual themes by a computer. The texts and captions were performed in Italian and English. In the poster there are the large mammals present in our mountains: chamois, bear, roe deer, deer and wild boar. For each species a natural sample was matched so that visitors can touch and appreciate the peculiar features (Fig. 1).



Fig. 1 The poster dedicated to the Big-five, the Big Five mammals Apennines

The Big Five: the Marche Apennines five large mammals:

Boar:

The boar that inhabits our region is the result of reintroductions carried out with subjects from Eastern Europe for hunting purposes, namely for hunting, some decades ago. These new subjects were much larger and prolific of the original Italian wild boars. For this reason, the boar now has a growing population, which causes serious problems to crops and in some cases prevents normal forest regeneration. This new boar mixed with the Italian one is difficult to control even for wolves that prey only young subjects.

Roe deer:

Shy, fast and delicate, the roe deer is a presence very common now, from lowland areas to mountain ones: it is not rare to observe them grazing early in the morning or at dusk. Often it is called bambi but it has nothing to do with the star of the Walt Disney film because that was a fawn, or a small deer.

Deer:

The noblest among the ungulates, with its impressive stage, it stably inhabits the Sibillini now. Reintroduced a few years ago, today it fills with its roars the mountain valleys during the mating season, also giving the opportunity for researchers to a census based on the number of their calls.

Chamois:

The chamois was totally disappeared from Marche mountains: some subject from Abruzzo was reintroduced to allow some populations growth. Today it is possible to see them climbing the steep rock walls with their hooves that adapt to any type of surface.

Bear:

It is hard to believe, but the bear is also present sporadically in the Sibillini Mountains, always young males from the Abruzzo National Park in search of new territories to live in and moving along the Apennine forests.

It never attacks the human being, but makes damage to hives looking for honey, or prey on domestic livestock, only in the period before the hibernation when it needs to accumulate fat to survive the Winter.

The man has in common with the bear the footprints left on the ground, because both are plantigrades, leaning the whole foot while walking.

Wolf, the largest carnivore.

During the study contacts with the Ente Parco dei Monti Sibillini became strict, thanks to them, to the Province of Macerata and the dr. F. Morandi it was possible to have a wolf skin. The subject was killed by a car the 28th October 2012 in Visso. The skin was treated privately by a tassidermic, Panfili Stefano from Gubbio. The subject was embalmed in the attitude of howling.

In 30th March 2015 another wolf was invested on S.P. 209, near Pievetorina. Also this subject has been included in the museum exhibition. In the wolf's stomach there bony elements and wild boar hairs. From the subject were taken: all full skin, the skull and the stomach contents (Fig. 2).

The skin was prepared for embalming and kept in the Museums. The skull was bleached and exposed to be compared with another skull belonging to a domestic dog. During the necropsy stomach content was extracted and were found bone fragments of the front right limb of a young boar class 1. The bones were reassembled according to the anatomic pathway of a complete limb and displayed alongside the hair of the same boar (Fig. 3).



Fig. 2 Skinning operations on the wolf invested in Pieve Torina



Fig. 3 The relics of the last wolf's meal: hair and limbo of a young boar



Fig. 4 The display case with the wolf exemplary embalmed

WOLF	SAME SPECIES	DOG
HOW TO MAKE THE IDENTIFICATION		
<p>It is usually a gregarious species who lives in "family groups"</p> <p>Connected by strong parental and power elite ties</p> <p>There are also lone subjects who wander looking for a partner with which to start a new group.</p>	HOW THEY LIVE	<p>Since it has been domesticated by the mankind, the dog identifies his master as the "superalfa", to which faithfully</p>
<p>Once a year the "alfa" male, mates with the "alfa" female.</p> <p>Females chose a nest were to give birth and leave there the cubs while looking for food.</p>	HOW THEY REPRODUCE	<p>Twice a year without any rule on the choice of the partner,</p>
<p>Ungulates such as wild boar are the main food, choosing younger subjects, old or ill.</p> <p>I prey also on domestic livestock, mainly if unattended.</p>	WHAT THEY EAT	<p>Eats what its owner offers.</p>
<p>It always escapes the mankind.</p> <p>No attacks to mankind have been reported</p>	RELATION WITH THE MANKIND	<p>It is fully subject to the mankind. In some cases it can grow wild and survive in autonomy</p> <p>hybridizing dangerously with wolves</p>

Fig 5 The contents with the difference between wolf and dog

The display case of the wolf has a separate lighting because the room is darker to improve the video quality. The case is spherical with one flat wall. The structure is quite sealed to prevent the entry of air. The sample inside is protected from the sun's rays and the entry of Carpet Beetles. However, to avoid the risk of infestation of small invertebrates para-tablets have been applied. In the case of the wolf we can find plenty of information and the main differences between wolf and dog (Fig 5). Each topic is supported by images of wolves in social behaviours.

Remote sensing station

The monitoring station is an educational game that, thanks to an interactive projector allows to understand how the radio-tracking detection works. The game is composed of two elements: the detection station and an interactive projector that casts two images on different planes. The visitor turns a small antenna connected to an ammeter in front of an image of a mountain environment projected on the wall. When the ammeter moves the visitor has no choice but to approach the wall to find out where the marked subject hides. The projector works with two images, the portrays of the marked animals and a picture of the Monti Sibillini in the front (Fig. 6).

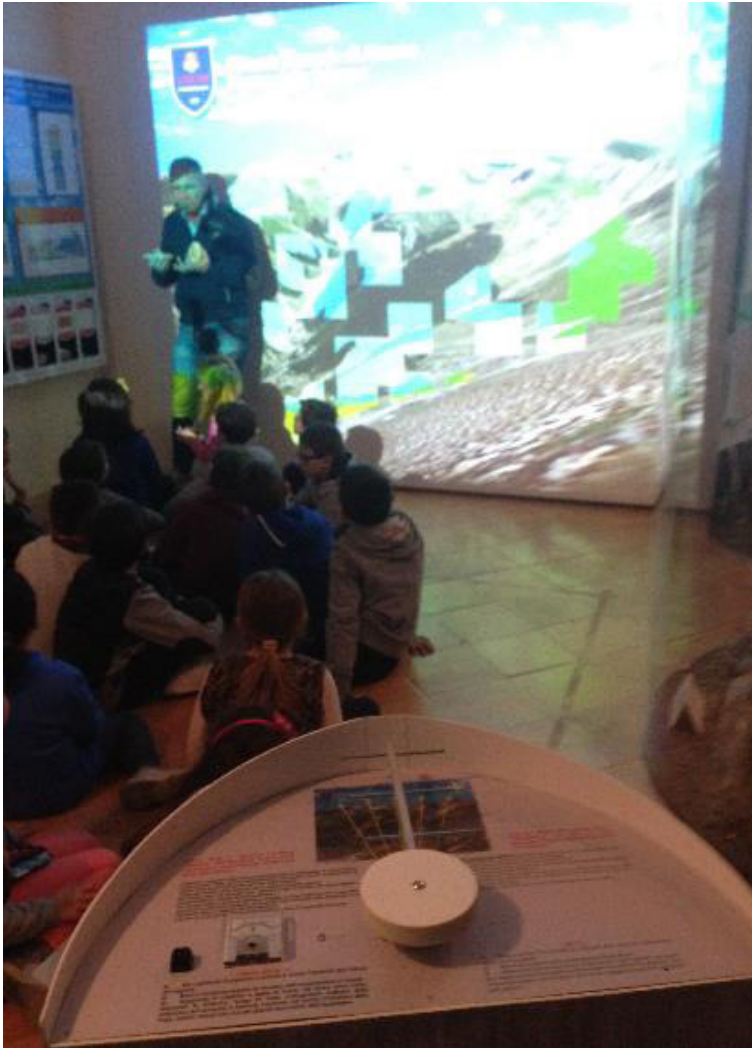


Fig. 6 The detection station with young visitors

Deer antlers.

The deer trophy consists of the cranium of a specimen found dead in the Sibillini National Park. The subject is an adult male with an irregular trophy. The importance of this finding is related to its recent reintroduction. Herbivores of the Marche are almost totally alien to the population. It is hard to find people who know the difference among a deer, fallow deer or a roe deer. Exposing the antlers of the biggest wild Italian ungulates certainly a valid way to present and distinguish these animals (Fig. 7).



Fig. 7 Deer skull given by the National Park of Monti Sibillini