



photo by Francesco Lemma, 2016

Wolf howling

NON-INVASIVE WOLF CENSUS TECHNIQUE

Wolf howling is **one of the non-invasive techniques of wolf census** that takes advantage of its natural tendency to howling. It consists of the emission of howls prerecorded thus inducing vocal responses from the wolves, enabling them to determine their presence or absence, to estimate their minimum number and to ascertain response of the pups.

Useful tools

- › **SPEAKER:** with microphone (wireless); rechargeable battery; portable and lightweight; carrying handle and shoulder strap.

Size: 28,4 x 18,1 x 21,8 cm

Power: 40 Watt, HPA40

Keywords

ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

CONSCIOUSNESS

CITIZEN SCIENCE

How it works

The sessions organized for the benefit of inexperienced people have a definite educational purpose, bringing together research, prevention and outreach: **to better know the species for proper coexistence**. As well as the discovery of a natural environment through a unique and evocative experience.

It is important to study the territory and behavior of the herds to avoid disturbing this species and, at the same time, **to collect useful data that can be integrated with ordinary monitoring**.

The best time of year should be judged according to the area: some identify it as summer, when the herd frequents pup weaning areas (rendezvous sites), and some identify it as winter. In general, nighttime hours are the best for receiving response to stimulation.

In order to monitor the activity and thus to prevent it from becoming invasive and causing damage to the herds, it is advisable that the sessions be **pre-authorized, conducted by professionals** entitled to safely accompany (environmental guides; protected area staff), in an **adequate and limited number of people**, carried out at a **defined time of the year** and in **predetermined locations**, evenly distributed over the territory and calendar. **The howling of a single individual is recommended**.

In preparation for the sessions, the Model Forest may provide a **specific training course** issuing a certificate/patent and only those with such a document may organize sessions. Course topics could be: wolf biology, monitoring techniques, and practical lessons in howl recognition and equipment use.

At the end of the course, the attendee will be able to create his or her own training project, which he or she will then propose to his or her own groups in collaboration with the institution that can provide materials and tools.



Learn more about



- › https://www.parcforestecasentinesi.it/sites/default/files/All.A_Disciplinare_wolf_howling.pdf
- › <https://www.responsibletravel.com/holidays/wolf-tracking/travel-guide/where-to-go-on-a-wolf-tracking-holiday>
- › <https://www.mercantour-parcnational.fr/fr/actualites/sensibilisation-autour-du-loup-saint-martin-vesubie>
- › <https://www.lifewolfalps.eu/fr/actions/e/>



- › <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jXe83GoKA0c>
- › <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TadeUOotsU8>
- › <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YXMo5w9aMNs>