

## **Master thesis Project: Scent marking in Wolves**

(in cooperation with external partners, starting date flexible)

Scent marking is an important factor in territory marking and olfactory communication in wolves. An important component of scent marking is urination. What scent triggers marking behaviour in wolves and whether such a trigger is species specific is unclear. In this joint project we want to test reaction to scent markings from different species and test what substances induce scent marking in wolves. To do so, we plan experiments in the wild in the Bolesławiec region in western Poland. We present different scents at already known marking spots and record the behaviour of wolves using camera traps. Within this project we have the opportunity for a Master thesis with focus on fieldwork. You will perform the field experiments, which includes planning and preparation, scent placement/renewal and controlling, maintaining and retrieving camera traps as well as sighting camera trap videos and record behaviour.

### **Requirements:**

- Willingness for fieldwork in western Poland for multiple days (essential)
- Own car for fieldwork, expenses will be reimbursed though (essential)
- Experience with camera trapping (advantageous)
- Experience with navigating in remote areas (advantageous)
- Experience with driving in off-road conditions(advantageous)

We offer the possibility to gain experience in field work, including camera trapping and designing experiments in the wild, while being part of a joint project of an international team of researchers.