

JACKALS IN EUROPE

Embraced enrichment of biodiversity or unwanted alien species?

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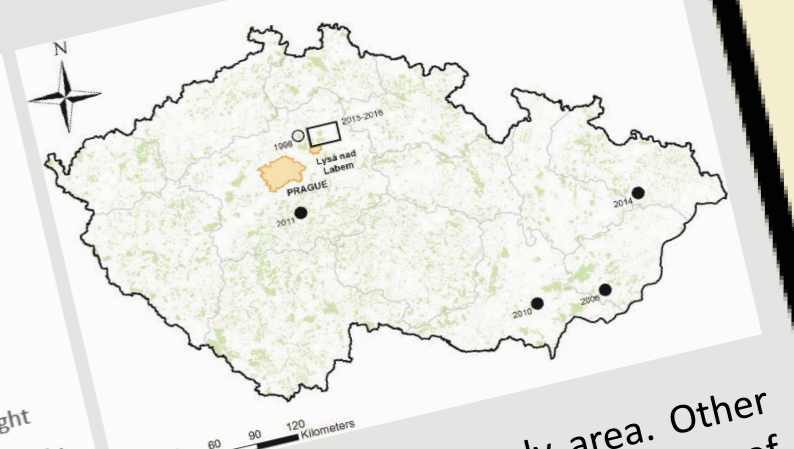
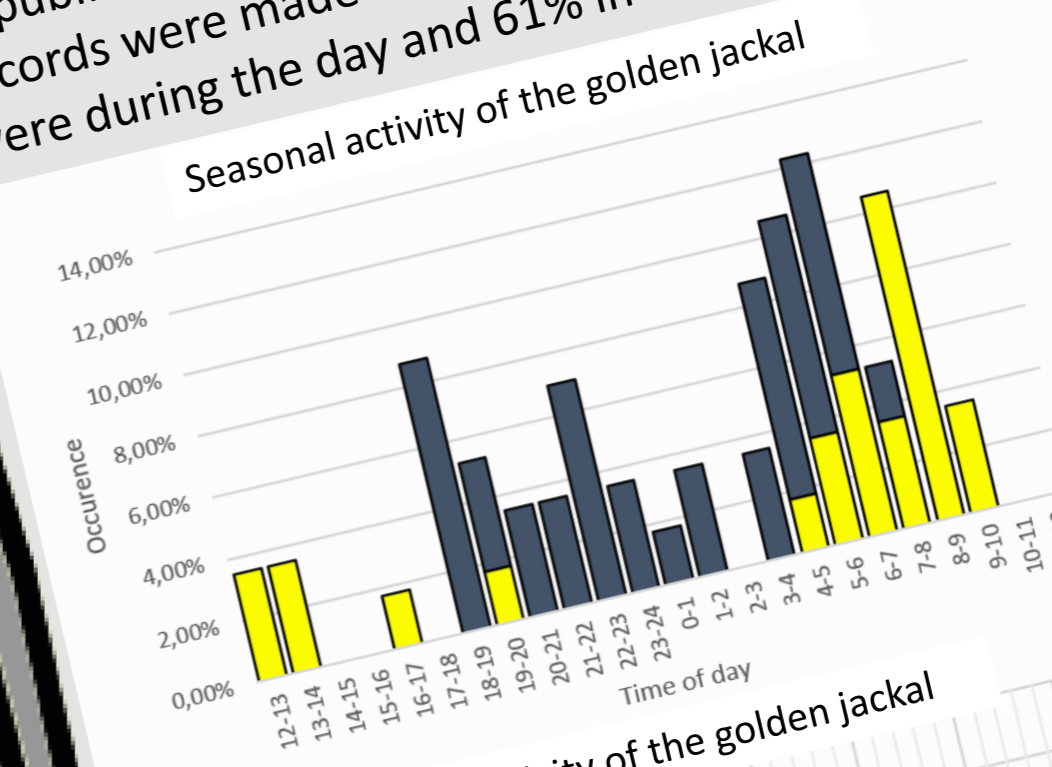
WELCOME! I AM THE GOLDEN JACKAL (*CANIS AUREUS*), A CANID NATIVE TO SOUTHEASTERN PART OF THIS MAGNIFICENT CONTINENT. JOIN ME ON MY JOURNEY THROUGH EUROPE...



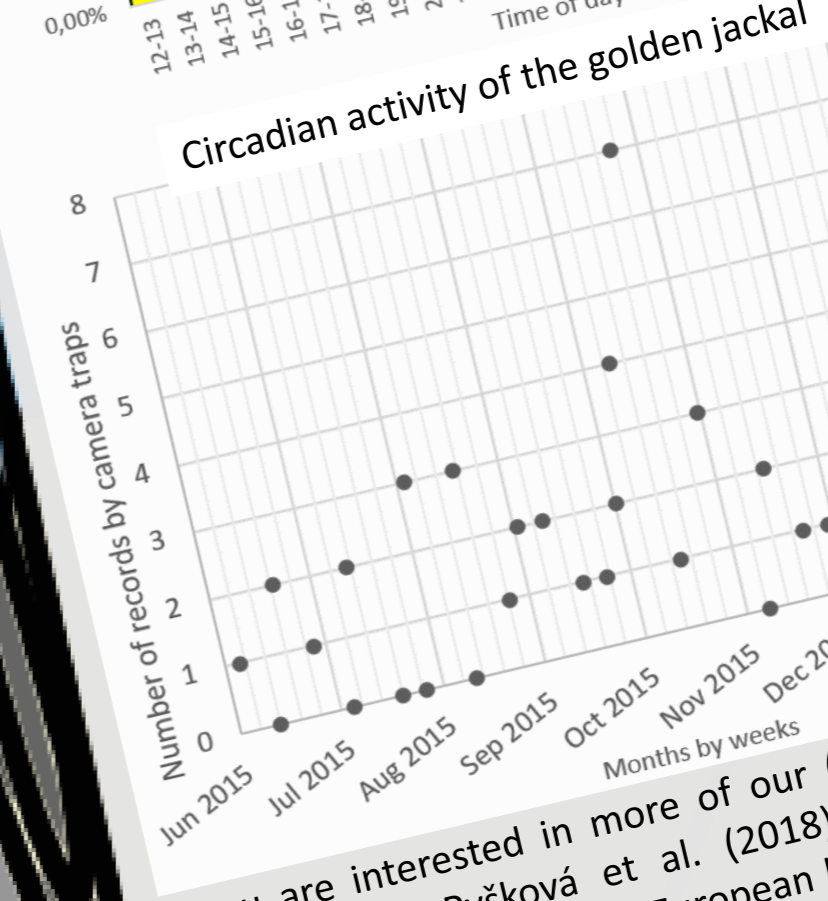
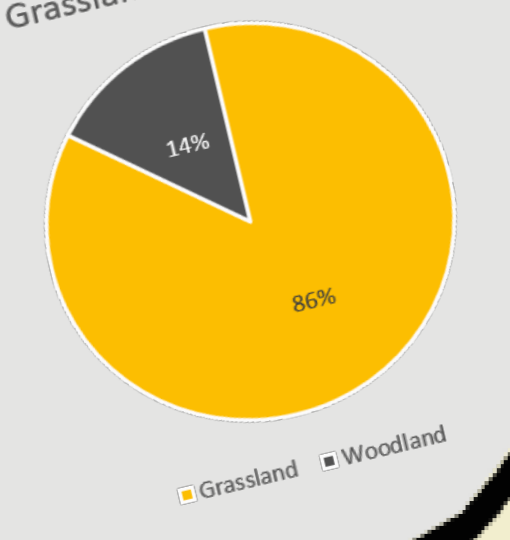
THE ACTUAL RESEARCH

GOLDEN NEWS

MONITORING OF GOLDEN JACKALS
 We conducted a camera trap carnivore research in Polabí, ~40 km east of Prague, Czech Republic. Results from June 2015 – June 2016 are presented. During our study we found the golden jackal, an animal previously unknown to this area, and monitored the first live and established individual of this species in the Czech Republic. In total there were 57 records made by 12 traps. Forty-nine of the 57 records were made in a shrubby grassland over an area of ~100 ha, 39% of sightings were during the day and 61% in the night.



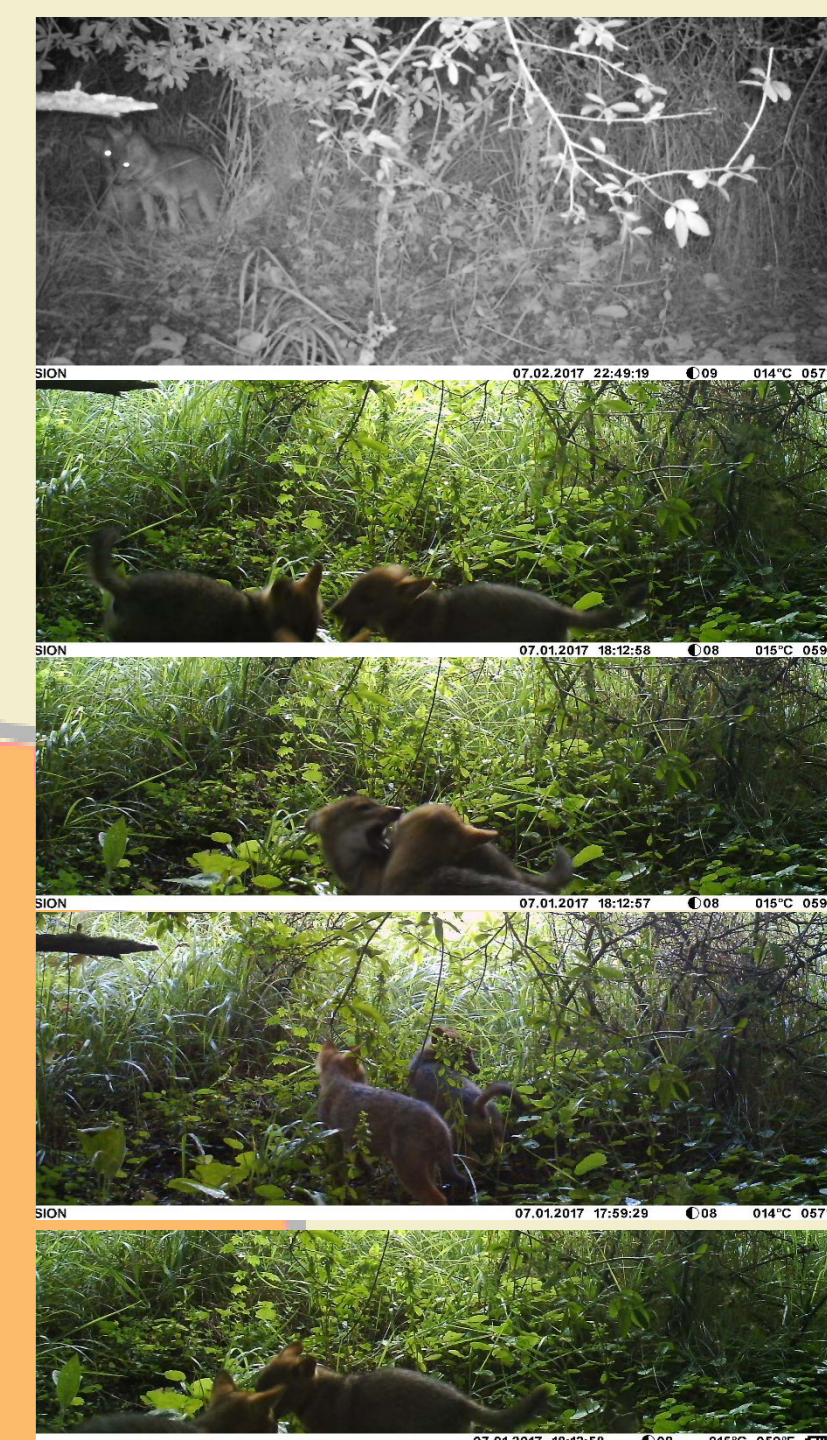
Top: map of the study area. Other dots represent previous records of dead individuals.
 Bottom: habitat preferences of the jackal.



If you are interested in more of our (although non-invasive) research, see: Pyšková et al. (2018) Carnivore distribution across habitats in a central-European landscape: a camera trap study. ZooKeys 770: 227–246.

! FAMILY ALBUM !

In June 2017, reproduction of the golden jackal in our study area was reported (Jirků et al. 2018). We recorded at least four pups on our camera traps.



Affidavit
 I, the golden jackal, hereby declare that I am not an alien invasive species, neither am I completely native. Leaving my southeastern homeland I spread through the lands of Europe, with humans allowing me to do so indirectly. As a decent wild canid I would never hop into a vehicle with humans, for I only conquer by paw. Call me expansive, not invasive, for the threats I pose are not severe.

WOW... THEY PUT CAMERAS IN MY HOME AND WATCHED ME... FOR SCIENCE?! EVER HEARD OF GDPR?!

YOU BETTER NOT COME ANY CLOSER...

WHILE IT IS GETTING QUITE HOT IN EUROPE, I MIGHT WAIT TO MAKE PLANS TO TRAVEL FURTHER NORTH...

ARE YOU GOING TO EAT US?
 YES.

SEE YOU!!!

WOOOOW, I'M FAMOUS!

- FIRST CONFIRMED SIGHTING
- CONFIRMED BREEDING POPULATIONS
- FULLY PROTECTED = may only be killed or captured in exceptional cases
- UNPROTECTED = killing jackals is not forbidden nor otherwise regulated
- HUNTED = may be killed in accordance with hunting legislation
- VARIABLE = status varies from one part of the country to the next (Trouwborst et al 2015)

ZooKeys 641: 151–163 (2016)
 doi: 10.3897/zookeys.641.10946
<http://zookeys.pensoft.net>

Golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) in the Czech Republic: the first record of a live animal and its long-term persistence in the colonized habitat

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