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BEAR**

Population level management and  
conservation of brown bears in northern  
Dinaric Mountains and the Alps



LIFE13 NAT/SI/000550

# THE EFFECT OF IMPROPER RUBBISH BINS ON HIGHWAYS TO THE ATTRACTION OF BEARS ON HIGHWAYS

*Action A.4: Impact of bear-vehicle collisions  
on brown bear population, determination of  
black spots and preparation of action plan of  
mitigation measures*

Prepared by

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DRUŠTVO ZA GRAĐENJE I GOSPODARENJE AUTOCESTOM

The overall goal of this action is to reduce occurrence of conflicts arising from bear approaching the highways (Croatia) in search for anthropogenic food. This will be achieved through implementation of bear-proof garbage bins and accompanying meetings and educational activities targeting local inhabitants.

We performed preliminary screening of the data related to bear-car accidents and location and quality of garbage bins along motorway.

There was not find any direct connection between location of bear-car accidents and location and of garbage bins along motorway. But it is obvious that the garbage bins used along Rijeka – Zagreb motorway are not adequate because they can easily be opened and its content reached by bears.

Therefore, on highway lay-bys there will be used bear “resistant” garage bins to avoid bear attraction on the highway fenced area. Garbage bins consists of steel container with cover and side doors and with plastic bin inside that hold plastic bag which will be replaced regularly. Containers are made from steel sheet 1,5 mm thick, dimensions: 900x 900x1100mm, and plastic bins inside are of 70L volume.

In the inception phase of the project we have already purchased six automatic camera traps with supporting equipment, which will be later used to monitor the effectiveness of implemented measures.



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Foto 1 – improper rubbish bin



Foto 2 – lay-by along motorway Rijeka – Zagreb where garbage bins will be placed



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Foto 3 – design of “bear proof” garbage bin



Foto 3 – design of “bear proof” garbage bin