

Threats

Nowadays the major threats to brown bear's populations are poaching and road traffic deaths. For example in 2012 eight cases of poaching took place in *Malá Fatra* and *Velká Fatra* mountain ranges which exceeded the legally allowed hunting quota (Kalaš, 2013). Between 1997 and 2012 as many as 26 road and rail accidents with bears happened in the area of the *Malá Fatra* National Park. 27 bears were injured. In said years road accidents constituted 28% of bear mortality (Kalaš, 2012). Cases of bears poached and killed on roads have been registered also in the Beskids Mountains. Brown bear's life may also be threatened by intensive forest management which reduces food diversity and availability. What is also dangerous for the species is municipal waste, generally accessible and harmful, for it brings about the problem of 'habituated' bears (Rigg & Baleková, 2003).