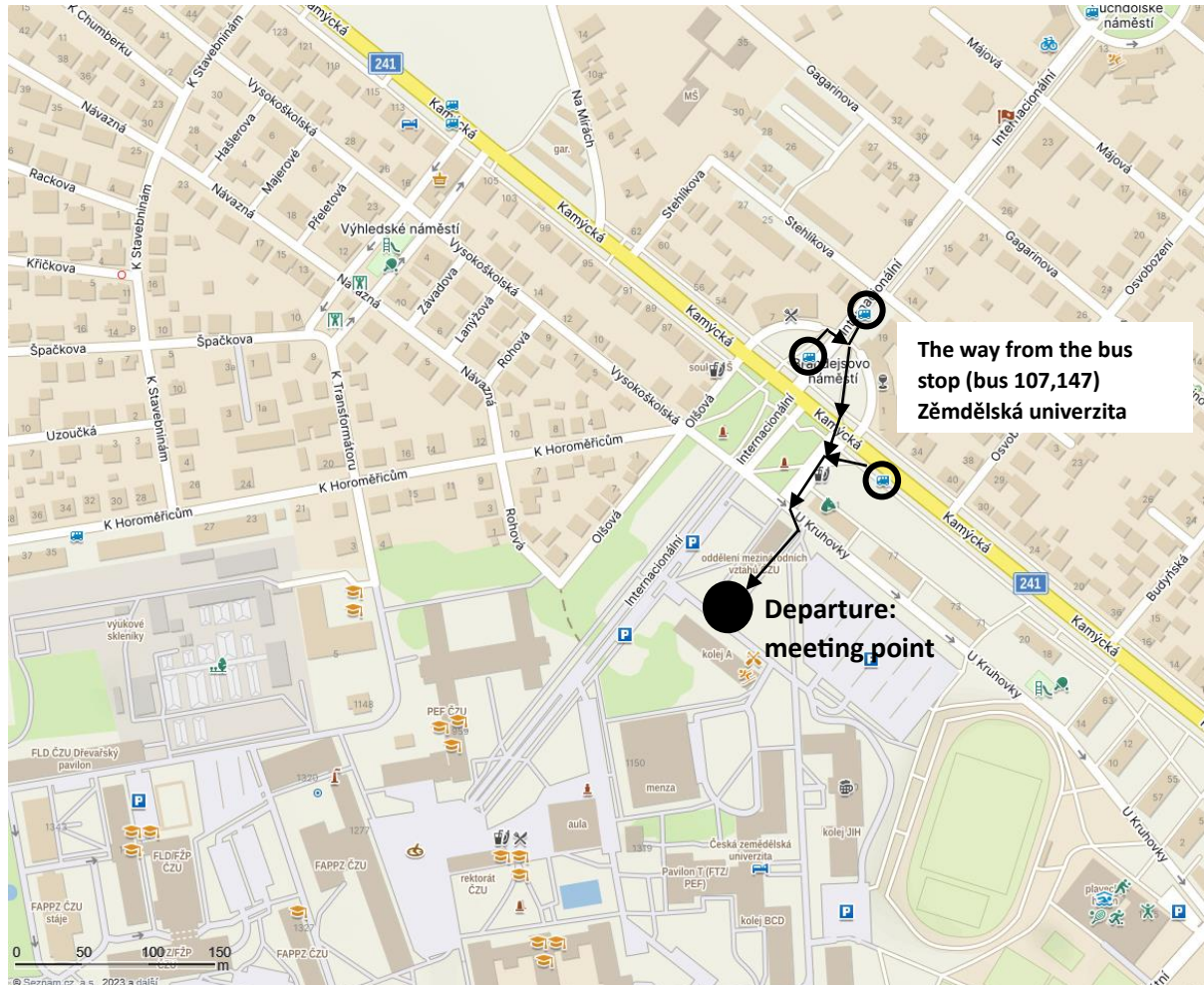


Rewilding for biodiversity: Large ungulates in abandoned military areas

Date: Tuesday 11th July 2023

Departure: 8 AM (8:00) from the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague,

GPS: 50.1316775N, 14.3759622E (black point on the map)



Arrival: about 4:00 p.m. to the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague

What you will get: packed lunch (sandwiches, sweet snack, fruit), basic water

What you will need: off-road shoes, additional beverages (especially if the summer temperatures will be forecasted), sunscreen/raincoat depending on the forecast.

The length of the walking route is from >5 km per pasture (low/medium difficulty).

Excursion guide: Dr. Miloslav Jirků, Česká Krajina NGO, & Biology Centre of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Cell phone: (+420)739014817)

Main excursion organiser: Tomáš Jor, Faculty of Science, Charles University (Cell phone: (+420)731897275)

Main conference organisers: Dr. Robert Tropek, Faculty of Science, Charles University (Cell phone (+420)777755785); Dr. Tomáš Kadlec, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences (Cell phone: (+420)739312295)

Plan:

8:00 a.m. – Departure from the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague

~9:00 a.m. – Arrival to Milovice and meeting with the excursion guide

Places to visit:

1. Start (bus)
2. Exmoor pony and Tauros cattle grazeland
3. Bunker, remnants of military activity
4. Offroad and heavy machinery (tanks, trucks...) training circuit
5. Puddles with European tadpole shrimps (*Triops cancriformis*)
6. Motocross

Midday: Transfer to the Travný area

7. Start at pasture two
8. Pasture with Aurochs and European bison

~2:45 p.m. (14:45) Departure to Prague and return to the venue at ~4 p.m. (16:00)





Butterfly species possible to meet during the excursion:

Most of the visited areas are strictly protected and collecting of insect specimen is prohibited there, please respect it. Additionally, the protected species (§) are not allowed to be sampled without a specific permit. During the excursion, please do not collect the red-list species (CR, EN, VU, NT) even if met outside the protected areas.

Species	Family	Conservation status (§ or Red list)
<i>Erynnis tages</i>	Hesperiidae	
<i>Carcharodus alceae</i>	Hesperiidae	
<i>Hesperia comma</i>	Hesperiidae	VU
<i>Pyrgus malvae</i>	Hesperiidae	
<i>Spialia sertorius</i>	Hesperiidae	VU
<i>Thymelicus acteon</i>	Hesperiidae	EN
<i>Thymelicus lineola</i>	Hesperiidae	
<i>Thymelicus sylvestris</i>	Hesperiidae	
<i>Aricia agestis</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Cupido minimus</i>	Lycaenidae	VU
<i>Cyaniris semiargus</i>	Lycaenidae	VU
<i>Lycaena alciphron</i>	Lycaenidae	VU
<i>Lycaena dispar</i>	Lycaenidae	§
<i>Lycaena tityrus</i>	Lycaenidae	

<i>Lycaena phlaes</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Plebejus argus</i>	Lycaenidae	NT
<i>Plebejus argyrognomon</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Polyommatus amandus</i>	Lycaenidae	NT
<i>Polyommatus belargus</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Polyommatus coridon</i>	Lycaenidae	VU
<i>Polyommatus daphnis</i>	Lycaenidae	VU
<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Satyrrium acaciae</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Satyrrium pruni</i>	Lycaenidae	NT
<i>Satyrrium w-album</i>	Lycaenidae	NT
<i>Thecla betulae</i>	Lycaenidae	
<i>Aglais urticae</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Aphantopus hyperanthus</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Argynnis adippe</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Argynnis paphia</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Boloria dia</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Coenonympha arcania</i>	Nymphalidae	NT
<i>Coenonympha glycerion</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Hipparchia semele</i>	Nymphalidae	CR
<i>Chazara briseis</i>	Nymphalidae	§, CR
<i>Inachis io</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Issoria lathonia</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Lasiommata megera</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Maniola jurtina</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Melanargia galathea</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Pararge aegeria</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Nymphalidae	
<i>Iphiclides podalirius</i>	Papilionidae	§
<i>Papilio machaon</i>	Papilionidae	§
<i>Colias alfacariensis/hyale</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Leptidea juvernica/sinapis</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Pieris brassicae</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Pieris napi</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Pieris rapae</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Pontia edusa</i>	Pieridae	
<i>Adscita statice</i>	Zygaenidae	
<i>Zygaena carniolica</i>	Zygaenidae	NT
<i>Zygaena ephialtes</i>	Zygaenidae	NT
<i>Zygaena filipendulae</i>	Zygaenidae	
<i>Zygaena loti</i>	Zygaenidae	
<i>Zygaena viciae</i>	Zygaenidae	
...and more...		

Description:

European landscapes used to be inhabited by numerous large mammals which has created habitats for many other species, including butterflies and other insects. Rewilding is the modern trend of large ungulates returning into the landscape to restore natural disturbances and related habitats, including their threatened biodiversity. In the large abandoned military training area near Milovice, Central Bohemia, herds of European Bisons, Exmore Ponies, and Tauros cattle contribute to large-scale restoration of natural shrubby grasslands. To support early-successional habitats and species, the grazing is locally supported by offroading, fire, and other management. As a result, the area hosts rich communities of butterflies (including critically endangered *Phengaris alcon* f. *rebeli*, and endangered *Spialia sertorius* and *Iphiclides podalirius*), with numerous species of endangered dung beetles, bees, grasshoppers and other insects, birds, and plants.

We will visit two separate reserves grazed by the three species of ungulates, each representing different habitats, and we will also see the abandoned non-grazed parts of the area to see the effects of rewilding. Additionally, we will visit also an offroad training area with European tadpole shrimps (*Triops cancriformis*). There will be no difficult terrain (except some slippery parts during rainy weather), although the whole day hiking can be physically demanding, and hiking near to the large ungulates can be disturbing for someone. Most of the visited areas are under strict protection with no possibility to collect biological samples.

More info: <https://www.ceska-krajina.cz/>

