



## 12<sup>th</sup> Baltic Theriological Conference

Latvia, Jaundome, March 27–29, 2025

**Organised by:** Latvian State Forest Research Institute “Silava”

**Supported by:** Latvian Academy of Sciences  
Latvian Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences

### March 26, Wednesday

- Arrival from 17:00 and ice-breaking dinner (18:00–20:00)

### March 27, Thursday

08:00 Morning coffee & Registration

09:00 Opening

09:20 Plenary speech: **Marta De Barba, PhD, University of Ljubljana, “A call for sustainability in the use of molecular tools and data for mammal conservation”**

10:20 Coffee break

10:40 **Baltic fauna news**

*Chaired by Egle Tammeleht*

Valdis Pilāts

The cetacean fauna of the Latvian coast including new insights from digitised historical newspapers

Udo Timm,  
presented by Linas  
Balčiauskas

Shifts in Baltic mammal populations

Guna Bagrade

Brown bear in Latvia – how long is the road to favourable conservation status?

11:50 **Mammal ecology**

*Chaired by Gunārs Pētersons*

Jurgis Šuba

Time series of grey wolf *Canis lupus* and Eurasian lynx *Lynx lynx* Latvian sub-populations exhibit consistency with intraspecific contest competition models

Christel Rose Bachmann Bat habitat use in urban environment based on citizen science data

Oliver Kalda Bat migration over the Gulf of Riga

13:00 Lunch break

14:00 **Molecular methodologies**

*Chaired by Maris Hindrikson*

Jaana Kekkonen

Genetic diversity and phylogeography of the endangered Siberian flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*) over its range

Angelika Kiebler

Population genetics of the Siberian flying squirrel in Finland is shaped by glacial retreat and land uplift during the Holocene

Gerrit Wehrenberg

Potential role of genetically informed ex-situ conservation for the Siberian flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*)

Angelika Kiebler,  
presented by Stefan Prost

Gliding towards an uncertain future: opportunities of genomic tools for the conservation of Siberian flying squirrels (*Pteromys volans*)

15:30 Coffee break

15:50 **Molecular methodologies**

*Chaired by Laima Baltrūnaitė*

Romualdas Lapickis

Genetic characteristics of European bison (*Bison bonasus*)

Kirke Raidmets

Identifying wolf-dog hybrids in Estonian wolf population with a SNP panel

Kristiina Amur

Population genetics of the grey wolf (*Canis lupus*) and the influencing factors in Estonia

Agrita Žunna

What can we learn from genetic material obtained from hunted grey wolves in Latvia?

17:30 Workshop – Large Carnivores – Hall 1 *Facilitated by Peep Männil*

18:30 Workshop – Wild boar & ASF – Hall 2 *Facilitated by Edvīns Oļševskis*

19:30 Dinner

## March 28, Friday

08:30 Morning coffee

08:50 Poster session – short presentations

*Chaired by Jurgis Šuba*

09:30 Plenary speech: **Prof. Arie Trouwborst, Tilburg University, "The big picture: ambition in law and policy for mammal conservation and restoration in Europe"**

10:30 **Wildlife caused conflicts**

*Chaired by Jānis Ozoliņš*

Linās Balčiauskas

Did Lithuania experience the anthropause in terms of animal roadkill dynamics?

Maris Hindrikson	Attitudes towards large carnivores in Baltics: switch from post-Soviet rural into modern urban society
Petras Adeikis	Wolf predation on livestock management insights in Lithuania

11:40 Coffee break

12:00 **Wildlife caused conflicts** *Chaired by Linas Balčiauskas*

Mindaugas Bakševičius Feast or famine: navigating herbivore impacts on regeneration in boreal pine forests

Gundega Done Monitoring of deer damage to young pine, spruce and aspen stands, 2018–2023. Data overview

Gundega Done Can the presence and structure of undergrowth affect the risk of deer damage to young pines?

13:10 Poster session

14:00 Lunch break

15:00 **Diseases and parasites in mammals** *Chaired by Guna Bagrade*

Jānis Ozoliņš Wanted dead or alive – wild boar *Sus scrofa* control challenges concerning African swine fever outbreak in Latvia

Algimantas Paulauskas Role of mammals in transmission of vector-borne parasites and pathogens

Marlen Laanep Parasitofauna of the brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) in Estonia and its seasonal dynamics

Giedrius Sidlauskas *Toxoplasma gondii* parasites in the Eurasian beaver (*Castor fiber*) in Lithuania

16:30 Conclusions

16:50 Coffee break

17:10 Workshop – Power plants & bats & large mammals *Facilitated by Gunārs Pētersons & Jānis Ozoliņš*

19:00 Farewell dinner

## March 29, Saturday

- 9:00–15:00 Tour to Razna National Park and Andrupene farmstead / Departure