Abstract: Appropriate veterinary measures are required to quantify and minimise the veterinary risks attending the translocations of lynx as other animals, and to ensure health of released stock throughout the programme. Veterinary considerations should be performed both at the individual level (to ensure the survival of each single individual to be translocated) and at the ecosystem level (to prevent the movement of pathogens through the movement of animals). Health risk assessment consists of evaluating whether or not important health related risks are associated with the translocation of lynx. Independently of this risk, emphasis should be put on extensive sampling and information collection. However, while setting protocols, it is essential to differentiate between the analysis that are needed to decide whether an animal can be translocated or not, and the investigations that are pure scientific documentation. Furthermore, protocols should be regularly re-evaluated during the project implementation, in order to improve them if appropriate. For a complete, long-term evaluation of the health situation in particular, and of the success of the translocation project in general, a post-release veterinary monitoring is also necessary. Furthermore, it is essential to analyze and publish available data in order to be able to learn from and to share experiences that could be valuable for other projects.
Veterinary aspects in lynx translocation and reintroduction

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Health risk assessment consists of evaluating whether or not important health-related risks are associated with the translocation of lynx. Independently of this risk, emphasis should be put on extensive sampling and information collection. However, while setting protocols, it is essential to differentiate between the analysis that are needed to decide whether an animal can be translocated or not, and the investigations that are pure scientific documentation. Furthermore, protocols should be regularly re-evaluated during the project implementation, in order to improve them if appropriate.

For a complete, long-term evaluation of the health situation in particular, and of the success of the translocation project in general, a post-release veterinary monitoring is also necessary. Furthermore, it is essential to analyze and publish available data in order to be able to learn from and to share experiences that could be valuable for other projects.