


Białowieża National Park

Białowieża Forest is one of the last and largest remaining parts of the immense primeval forest that once stretched across the European Plain. Białowieża Forest is located in Podlasie region. It's one of wildest and most mystical regions of Poland.

The idea of creating
a national park locally is
about 200 years old.

However, the genuine
protection efforts which are
being continued today are
centuries older. For over
800 years nature has not
been touched by a human
in here. Trees found in the
forest prove that.



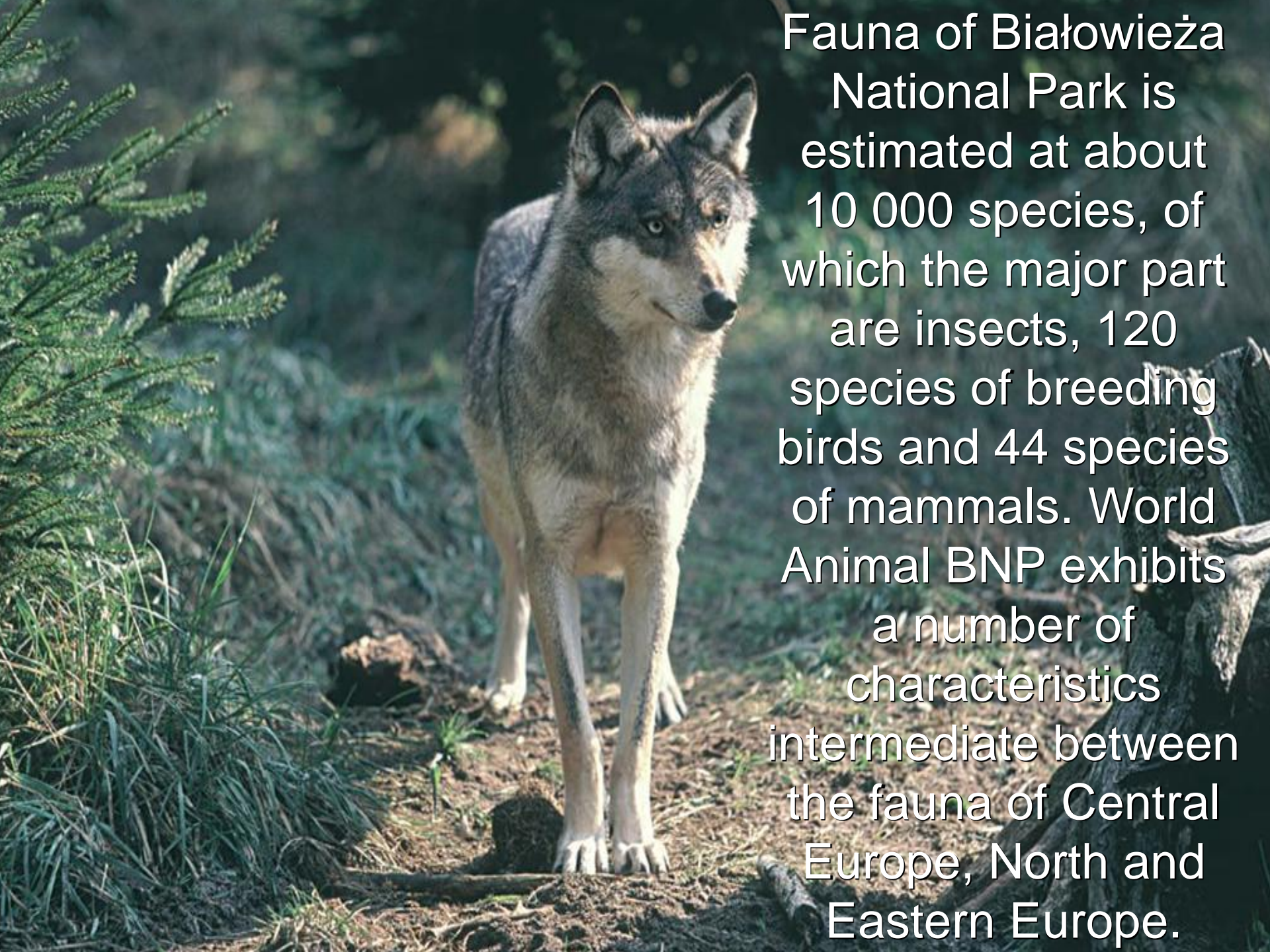
A lush green forest scene. In the foreground, a large, moss-covered log lies horizontally. The background is filled with dense green foliage, including ferns and tall trees, creating a vibrant and natural setting.

The general area of the park is 152,2 square kilometers. It has been a UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1979.

Not only numerous awards, but yearly 100.000 visitors prove the importance of Białowieża Forest and its special position in Europe.

A photograph of a dense forest. In the foreground, a large, moss-covered log lies horizontally across the frame. The log is covered in thick green moss and is surrounded by various green plants and ferns. The background is filled with tall trees and a dense canopy of green leaves, creating a lush and vibrant scene. The lighting is soft, suggesting a shaded forest environment.

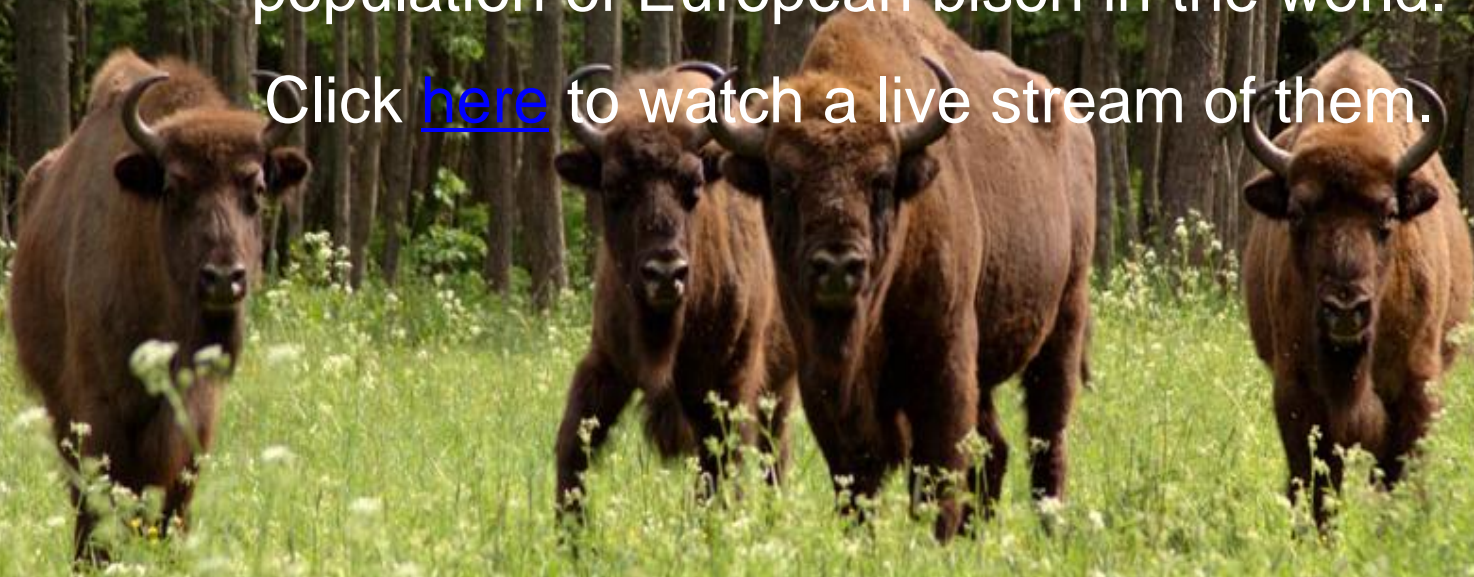
The dominant forest type is the forest hornbeam occupying 47% of the forest area. Coniferous forests occupy 37%, wet deciduous and mixed forests 14.5% of the forest. Stands consists mainly of Norway spruce - 26%, Scots pine - 24%, black alder - 17%, oak - 12% and birch: verrucose and downy - 11%.



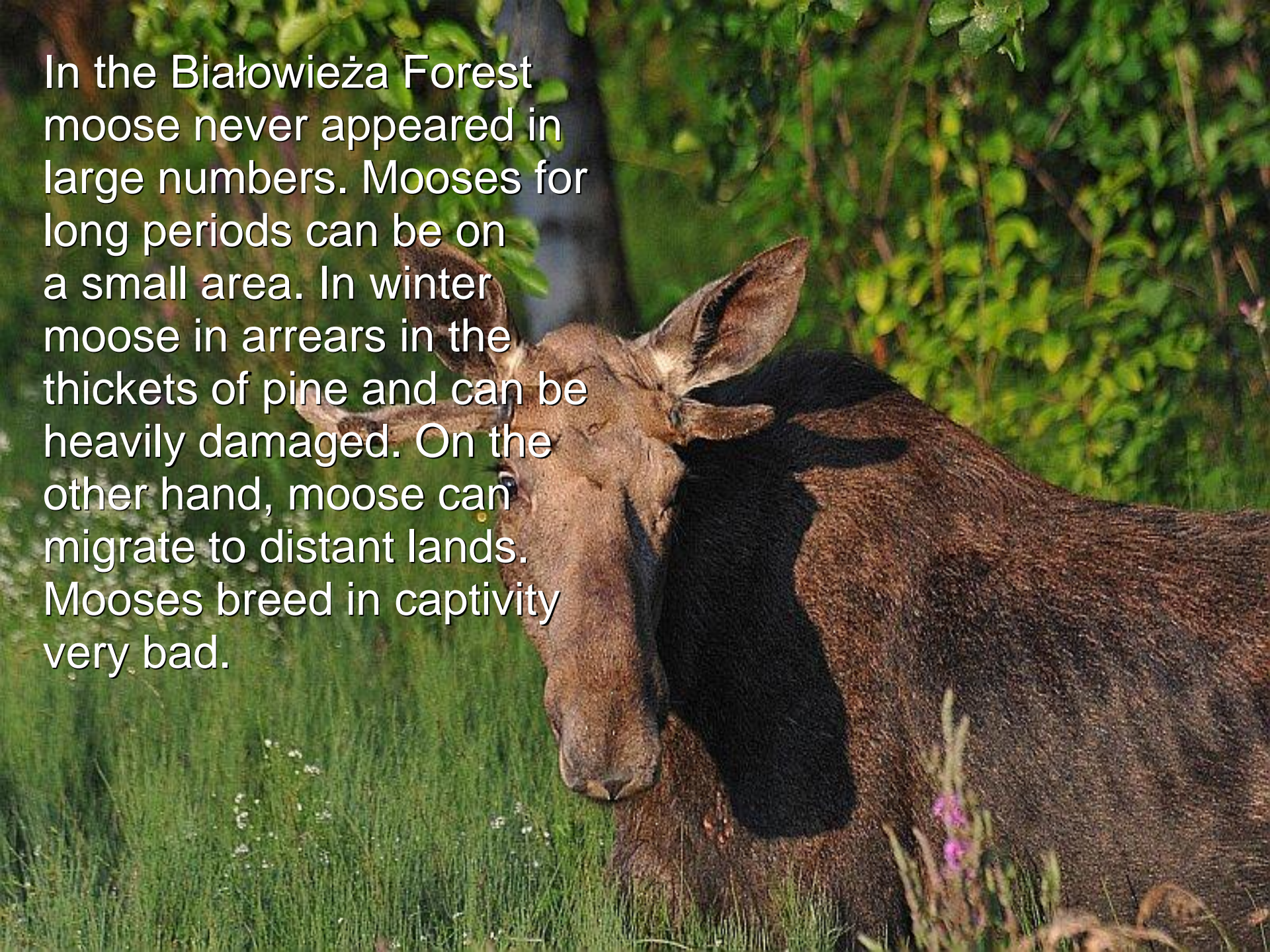
Fauna of Białowieża National Park is estimated at about 10 000 species, of which the major part are insects, 120 species of breeding birds and 44 species of mammals. World Animal BNP exhibits a number of characteristics intermediate between the fauna of Central Europe, North and Eastern Europe.

European bison – the biggest European land mammal – is the symbol of the Park. Białowieża Forest became last mainstay for the lowland European bison. The process of its reinstatement, bringing it back to nature started right there. At present, Białowieża Forest comprises the largest free-living population of European bison in the world.

Click [here](#) to watch a live stream of them.

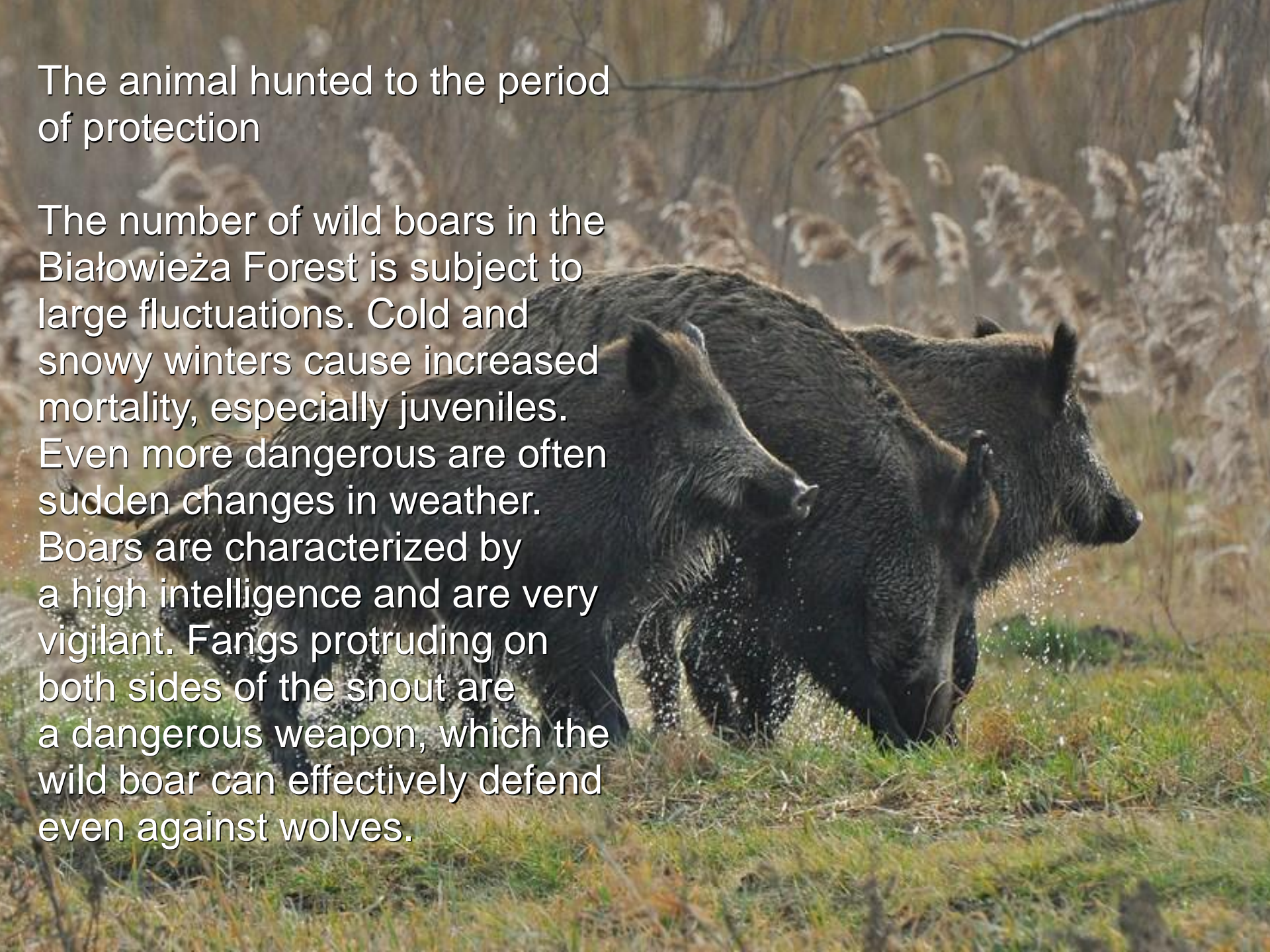


In the Białowieża Forest moose never appeared in large numbers. Mooses for long periods can be on a small area. In winter moose in arrears in the thickets of pine and can be heavily damaged. On the other hand, moose can migrate to distant lands. Mooses breed in captivity very bad.



The animal hunted to the period of protection

The number of wild boars in the Białowieża Forest is subject to large fluctuations. Cold and snowy winters cause increased mortality, especially juveniles. Even more dangerous are often sudden changes in weather. Boars are characterized by a high intelligence and are very vigilant. Fangs protruding on both sides of the snout are a dangerous weapon, which the wild boar can effectively defend even against wolves.

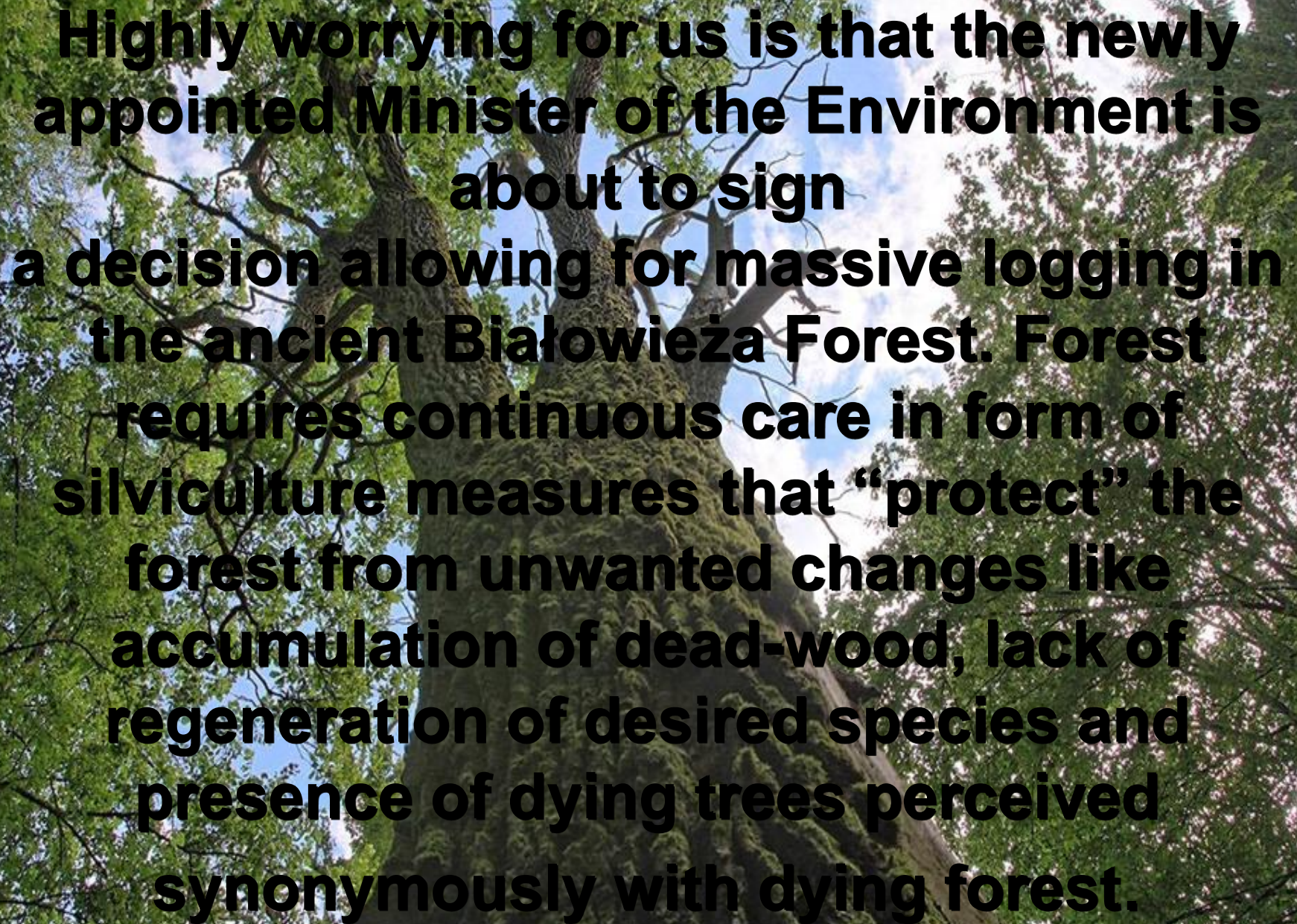


Deer - feeds on plants.
Most of these animals
can be seen on the
rutting.

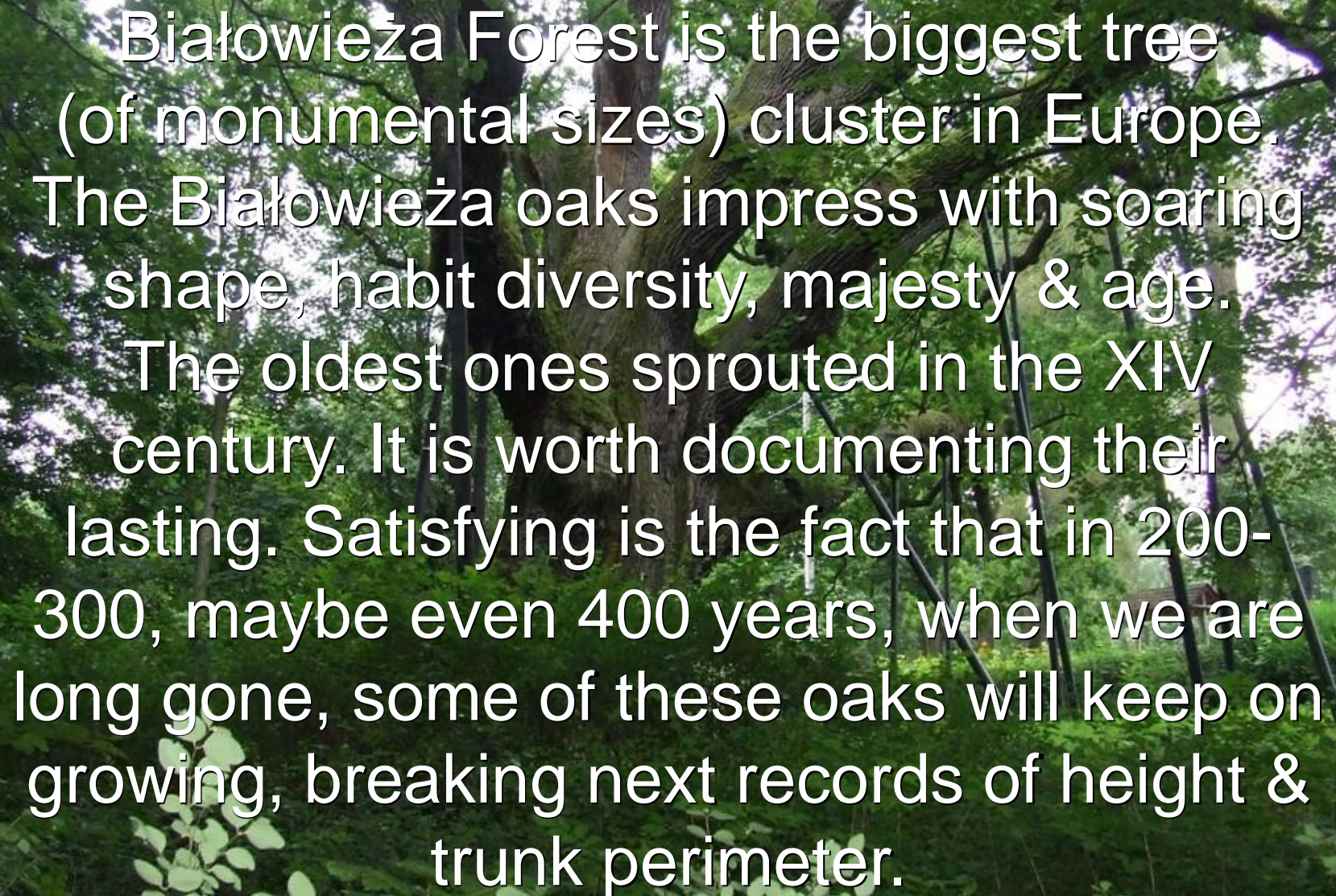




An old Hunter's Manor built in 1845 in Białowieża.
Now it's some sort of educational house.

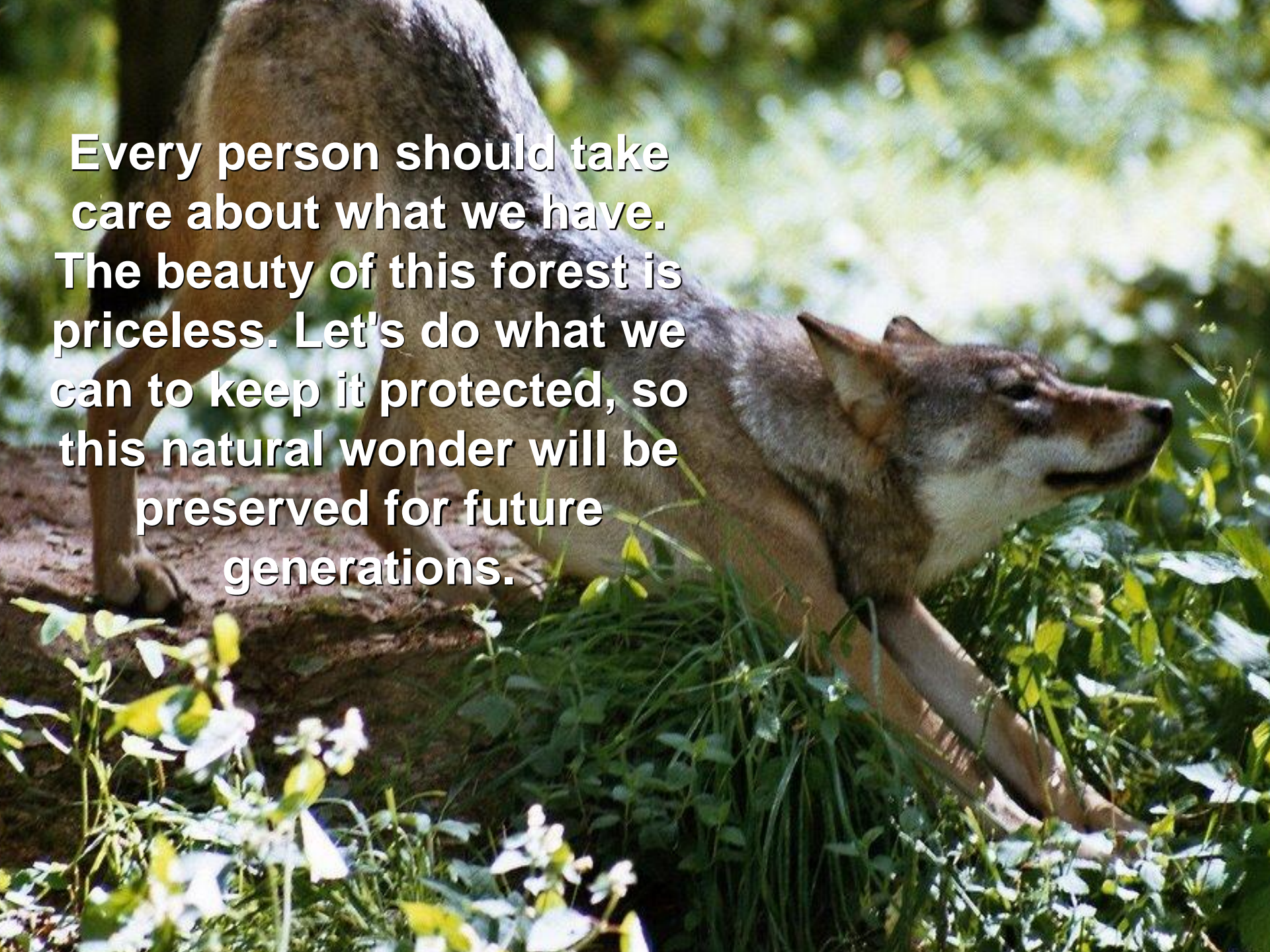


Highly worrying for us is that the newly appointed Minister of the Environment is about to sign a decision allowing for massive logging in the ancient Białowieża Forest. Forest requires continuous care in form of silviculture measures that “protect” the forest from unwanted changes like accumulation of dead-wood, lack of regeneration of desired species and presence of dying trees perceived synonymously with dying forest.



Białowieża Forest is the biggest tree (of monumental sizes) cluster in Europe. The Białowieża oaks impress with soaring shape, habit diversity, majesty & age. The oldest ones sprouted in the XIV century. It is worth documenting their lasting. Satisfying is the fact that in 200-300, maybe even 400 years, when we are long gone, some of these oaks will keep on growing, breaking next records of height & trunk perimeter.

Every person should take
care about what we have.
The beauty of this forest is
priceless. Let's do what we
can to keep it protected, so
this natural wonder will be
preserved for future
generations.



A photograph of a forest path. The path is a narrow, dirt trail that leads into the distance, flanked by tall, slender trees. Sunlight filters through the dense canopy of green and yellowing leaves, creating a dappled light effect on the path and the forest floor. The overall atmosphere is serene and natural.

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