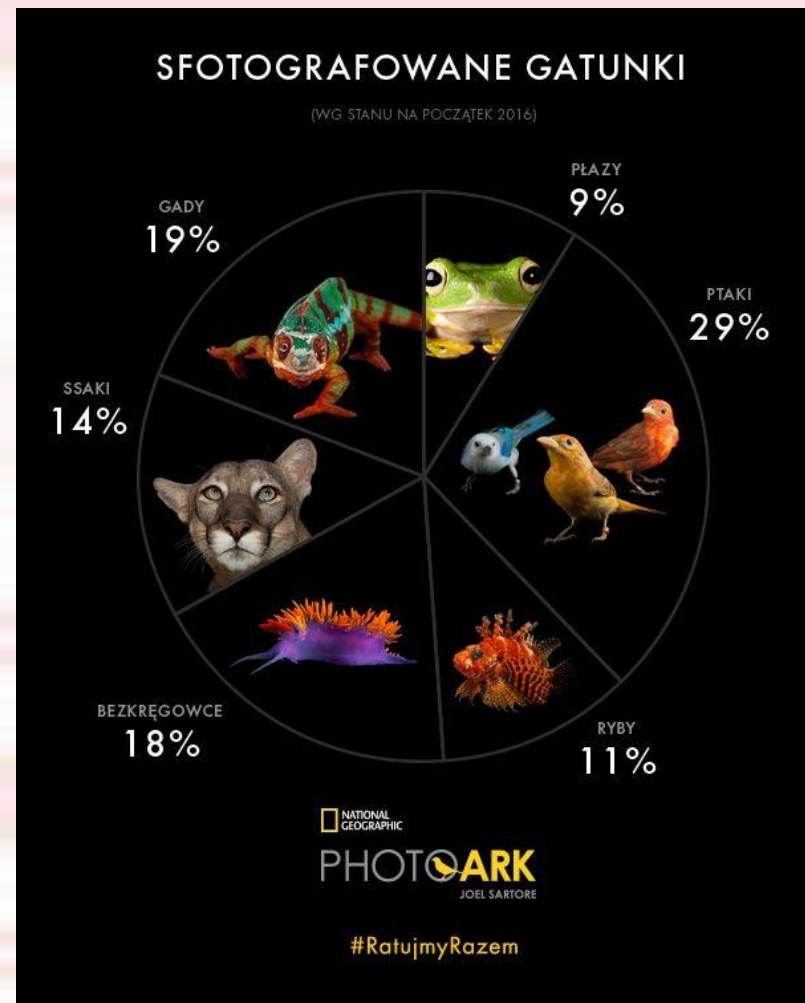


ANIMALS ANIMALIUM

- ◆ In Poland are living many endangered or rare species of animals. We can meet them in the woods, mountains, lake or the sea.



SWAMP TURTLE *TURTUR STAGNUM*

- ◆ The colour of the western swamp turtle varies dependent on age and the environment where it is found. Typical coloration for hatchlings is grey above with bright cream and black below. The colour of adults varies with differing swamp conditions, and varies from medium yellow-brown in clay swamps to almost black with a maroon tinge in the black coffee-coloured water of sandy swamps. Plastron colour is variable, from yellow to brown or occasionally black; often there are black spots on a yellow background with black edges to the scutes. The legs are short and covered in scale-like scutes and the feet have well-developed claws. The short neck is covered with horny tubercles and on the top of the head is a large single scute.
- ◆ Threatening factors to population and habitat were assessed as making this species vulnerable to extinction, and described as Critically Endangered on the 1996 IUCN Red List. The 2007 Red List notes this as outdated, and the conservation status requires reassessment.



WEASEL ICTIS

- ◆ Weasels vary in length from 173 to 217 mm (6.8 to 8.5 in), females being smaller than the males, and usually have red or brown upper coats and white bellies; some populations of some species moult to a wholly white coat in winter. They have long, slender bodies, which enable them to follow their prey into burrows. Their tails may be from 34 to 52 mm (1.3 to 2.0 in) long. Weasels feed on small mammals and have from time to time been considered vermin because some species took poultry from farms or rabbits from commercial warrens. They do, on the other hand, eat large numbers of rodents.



STORK

CICONIA

- ◆ Storks are large, long-legged, long-necked wading birds with long, stout bills. Most storks eat frogs, fish, insects, earthworms, small birds and small mammals. Their nests are often very large and may be used for many years. Some nests have been known to grow to over two metres in diameter and about three metres in depth. Though some storks are highly threatened, no species or subspecies are known to have gone extinct in historic times.



EUROPEAN BISON

EUROPA UNIVERSALIS BISONTE EXCELLENTE

- ◆ The bison's head is relatively large and has a convex forehead, small eyes, short horns directed upwards and bent inward. The bison's neck is thick, short with a distinct dewlap. The front of the torso looks very powerful due to the strongly developed withers and the chestnut-brown coat growing on it, which in the winter is darker. In the case of the part, the front and the neck is long, the mane of the bristling body appeared on the head, neck and teeth. In the first half of the 1970s, there were about 800 bison in the Bieszczady. This huge herd was then significantly depleted by the epidemic of tuberculosis, which survived about 50 individuals. In 2008 in Pszczyna a demonstration European bison farm was established, in which on almost 10 hectares are present outside the bison: mouflons, deer, fallow deer and roe deers. On 17 May 2012, the European Bison Farm was opened in Bieszczady in the village of Muczne in the Lutowska commune. There are 18 bison on 9 hectares (3 from Switzerland, 7 from Germany, 3 from Belgium, 3 from Sweden and 2 imported from France)



SQUIRREL

INAMABILIS SCIURUS

- ◆ The torso together with the head of the common squirrel achieve a total length of 20-24 cm, tail 17-20 cm, with a body weight of 200-300 grams. The animal is characterized by variable coloration. There are two varieties: one with the dorsal part stained with red, gray sides and a white abdominal part, the other with a black-brown back and a white abdominal part, and the shaded sides. The food of squirrels are seeds (including cones, bugs, acorns and nuts) and tree buds, mushrooms and fruits. In autumn, he collects food supplies.
- ◆ The squirrel inhabits hollows, which is limping with lichens and mosses, or bird nests, adding a roof or building branches from branches. These nests build in the crowns of trees,
- ◆ usually in the fork of the branches. In Poland, since 2011, it has been subject to strict protection, and since 2014 it has been subject to partial protection. In the British Isles and in northern Italy, the common squirrel is in danger due to the expansion of a gray squirrel, an invasive species imported from North America. It displaces the native taxa by competing for environmental resources and because of the lethal squirrel poxvirus squirrel-lethal distribution.





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