

Summary:

Period	Duration	Dates	Seats	Work	Accommodation	Price
February & March	2-8 weeks	30.01.2010 27.03.2010	3-5	Wolf tracking	Local house	25€/day
April	1-4 weeks	03.04.2010 01.05.2010	3-5	Poster design	Local house	35€/day
May	4 weeks	01.05.2010 29.05.2010	16 (min. 4)	Awareness campaign	Tents	25€/day
June & July	2-8 weeks	05.06.2010 31.07.2010	8 (min. 4)	Rebuilding	Tents	15€/day
August & September	2-8 weeks	31.07.2010 25.09.2010	8 (min. 4)	Howling survey	Tents	25€/day
October & November	2-8 weeks	02.10.2010 27.11.2010	3-5	Research assistant	Local house	25€/day

General:

General profile: Man/woman, 16-66 years old, (The upper age limit is flexible if you feel you are fit enough for manual work and lots of walking on rough ground) English speaking, good physical condition, motivated, hard-working, self-sufficient, able to live in group (tolerance to others, ability to communicate, good mood). If mentioned, children of 6-16 years old are accepted, with adult.

General remarks: The bio-station is situated in the middle of Russian countryside, 50km from the closest town. There is no supermarket right on the corner! Living conditions are minimum, and the comfort is basic. The water comes from natural unpolluted springs (well, stream, river, Lake) and is often drunk boiled as tea. Considering these conditions, sensitive persons, allergic (to dog/cat) or with too specific diet are not advised to come.

Wolves: Be aware that our wolves are wild and should stay wild for rehabilitation. There will be NO close contact with wolves. The visit of an enclosure is only made with authorization of Vladimir Bologov or Laetitia Becker and in their company. The volunteers

will stay far from the fence and observe the wolves at distance. These rules are for your security and for the comfort of wolves!

Other:

-To have an idea on the climate, look at the website **HYPERLINK** "<http://www.svali.ru/climat/100000/26477/index.htm#t>" <http://www.svali.ru/climat/100000/26477/index.htm#t> (weather for Velikie Luki, close town).

-Summer (June to August) is the high period for mosquitoes. There are billions of them! We advise you to take cream for protection and treatment with you. We also advise you to wear long-sleeved shirts and pants. Special hat with mosquito net included is a good investment too!

-No obligatory vaccination is needed.

-Free time may be long; don't forget books, card games, music driver...

Accommodation:

Local house: You will live at Vladimir Bologov's house. The rooms are for 1 or 2 persons. Toilet and bathroom are common. You will take part in the domestic daily tasks (cooking, washing-up, cleaning...).

Tent: Individual tent and air mat are provided. You will cook yourself, at fireplace. Toilets are outside. You will have wash in river/lake.

Dates:

Registration is made from Saturday to Saturday. Depending on the program, you can come for 1 to 8 weeks, at defined periods (see summary table).

If you come by train (see trip), you will be expected to stay from Sunday morning to Saturday evening. If you come by car (see trip), you will be expected to stay from Saturday evening to Saturday morning.

Please respect these rules for better management of the volunteers program.

Works:

Wolf tracking:

Aim: Volunteers will walk on a daily ring (about 10-15km) and register tracks (wolf, lynx, fox, moose, wild boar, marten, hare, and squirrel) with GPS navigator. When wolf tracks are found, volunteers will follow them with GPS navigator and compass, and collect information (excrements and prey remains).

Skill: Be resistant to cold, feel comfortable alone in the forest.

Equipment:

-snowshoes

-warm and waterproof boots and clothes

-15cm ruler

-notebook and pencil

Poster design:

Aim: Volunteers will think and help in the making-of posters for the Wolf House

(education and information centre). You will have access to books, video and photographs about wolves. Considering what you want to know better and what you think important about wolves, you will draw up drafts of future posters. You will be overseen by Vladimir Bologov and Laetitia Becker.

Skill: Be creative, be fluent in foreign language.

Children accepted (price: 20€/day).

Awareness campaign:

Aim: Volunteers will follow a hunter in his annual search of wolf dens. But instead of taking away the wolf pups, the team will take scientific data of each pup before putting it back in the den. The work involves lot of walking, “reading” the forest and searching for den. When found, volunteers will check the litter and monitor it over a month.

Skill: Priority is given to veterinaries (or students in veterinary medicine) who are able to check the health of wolf pups, and to Russian speaking volunteers, who are able to make the communication easier with the hunter.

Equipment:

- sleeping bag
- rubber boots
- waterproof coat and trousers
- hat or cap
- thermos or bottle
- cooking set
- torchlight
- lighter

Rebuilding:

Aim: Volunteers will help rebuild and finish the Wolf House. Last summer the work of 20 volunteers transformed the old destroyed school in an almost-ready-wolf-centre. Some work remains, especially the outside of the building. It consists mainly of painter and carpenter’s works.

Skill: Building or hand-making skills are welcome but not obligatory.

Equipment:

- sleeping bag
- waterproof coat and trousers
- hat or cap
- thermos or bottle
- cooking set
- torchlight
- lighter
- lotion against mosquitoes
- mosquito-net-hat
- overalls

Howling survey:

Aim: Volunteers will camp on the territory of a wolf pack. Night is devoted to listening and localizing wolves' howling. During the day, work consists in pointing out wolf tracks with GPS recorders. A ranger will guide you in the forest and teach you how to "read" it. The data collected allow us to draw a map of wild wolf populations in the district (den location, pack number, reproductive rate, movements, proximity to villages, potential attacks on livestock,). Skill: Be resourceful in camping situation. This is a good field practice for students.

Equipment:

- sleeping bag
- rubber boots
- waterproof coat and trousers
- hat or cap
- thermos or bottle
- cooking set
- torchlight
- lighter
- lotion against mosquitoes
- mosquito-net-hat

Research assistant:

Aim: Volunteers will help the team in its research work. Depending on the theme of work at that time, it may be wolf excrement analysis, GPS wolf tracking, video behaviour analysis... The volunteers will follow the team; their work will be overseen by Vladimir Bologov or Laetitia Becker.

Skill: No expected skills. This is ideal for students in biology, ecology, wildlife management.

Children accepted (price: 15€/day).

Equipment:

- rubber boots
- waterproof coat

Inscription:

Inscription is possible up to 2 weeks before the start.

You may pay:

-by cheque to Lupus Laetus, and sent to Association Lupus Laetus – 6 rue de Sully – 67000 Strasbourg – France

-by bank transfer to the account: Lupus Laetus
IBAN: FR76 1027 8010 0300 0203 5250 175
BIC: CMCIFR2A

-by cash directly at the Biostation.

Visa :

You need a visa to come to Russia. Up to 1 month, you can ask for a tourist visa. From 1 to 3 months, you have to ask for a business visa. You can start the procedure 45 days before departure. Pay attention to the dates: all the documents should have the same dates of entry and departure from Russia. If you plan to stay longer than the volunteer program in Russia, make sure that you wrote the right dates (entry/departure). You may ask any agency specialized in visa or do it yourself (cheaper). Here are the steps to follow.

Gather the following documents:

-passport, available 6 months after the end of the stay

-questionnaire for visa application

Print and fill the questionnaire ([visa_application.pdf](#)). You will find here a filled version ([filled_application.jpg](#)), for example.

-photo

-Proof of medical coverage

You need the original paper proving that you are covered for your trip to Russia. You maybe already covered by your credit card. We advice you to go to the website www.europ-cartes.com and follow the instructions. If you are not covered by Europ Assitance, contact your bank or find out what your insurance is.

-invitation letter

You need a letter from a company that “invites” you in Russia. We advice you to deal with our partner, Liga consultant. Send them by e-mail ([HYPERLINK "mailto:liga@vniikomg.ru" liga@vniikomg.ru](mailto:liga@vniikomg.ru)) the copy of your passport and the application form for tourist ([AppFormsTourism.doc](#)) or business ([AppFormsBusiness.doc](#)) invitation letter. Liga consultant will let you know when the letter is ready (2-3 days for tourist, 2-3 weeks for business) and the price. You may pay by credit card ([CreditCardAF_NEW.doc](#)).

Once you have all the documents ready, you can go to the Russian consulate in your country. You will find the address on the website www.russianembassy.net. Consulates are usually opened every morning except Wednesday and weekends. Leave your application, pay for the fees and your visa will be ready the following week (you may ask for express visa, paying for urgent fees).

Trip:

You must arrive in Moscow on Saturday. Then, you may reach the Biological Station:

-by car transfer. We send a driver to pick you up at the airport and bring you directly to the Biostation (about 7h drive). One way costs about 200€ (one car can take 4-6 persons). You may book the car transfer with your inscription.

-by night train. Count minimum 2 hours to reach Рижская (Rizhskaya) train station from the airport.

- Coming from Внуково (Vnukovo) airport, take the aeroexpress till the metro station Киевская (Kievskaya). Take the metro till Проспект Мира (Prospekt Mira).

- Coming from Домодедово (Domodedovo) airport, take the aeroexpress till the metro station Павелецкая (Paveletskaya). Take the metro till Проспект Мира (Prospekt

Mira).

- Coming from Шереметево (Sheremetyevo) airport, take the aeroexpress till the metro station Савеловская (Savelovskaya). Take the metro till Менделеевская (Mendeleyevskaya). In the middle of the platform, you will find stairs for connection. You follow the corridors and arrive on the platform of a new line. On the boards, look for Проспект Мира (Prospekt Mira) to know if you go to the right or the left of the platform. Take this metro, get out at Проспект Мира.

At Проспект Мира, in the middle of the platform, you will find stairs for connection. You follow the corridors and arrive on the platform of a new line. On the boards, look for Рижская (Rizhskaya) to know if you go to the right or the left of the platform. You take this metro till Рижская.

More information and plans on [HYPERLINK "http://www.aeroexpress.ru/en/"](http://www.aeroexpress.ru/en/) www.aeroexpress.ru/en/ and Moscow metro map ([metro.gif](#)).

At Рижская, go out at the end of the platform (exit=выход). The train station is the greenish building across the street. You must cross the street using the underground passage. In the hall of the train station, go to the left to the Касса (ticket office). All information on how to order a ticket (class, price, time, station) is available here ([train.doc](#)). A taxi driver will pick you up at the train station and drive you to the Biostation (1h30 drive).

You may inform us of your choice (car or train) to come, so that we can order car/taxi.

Contact:

For inscription, please contact Laetitia Becker at [HYPERLINK "mailto:lupuslaetus@free.fr" lupuslaetus@free.fr](#). All necessary information is on this page. Except for inscription, no answer will be given to e-mails.

Special case for students:

Students in Master (4/5th year) in biology/ecology (or equivalent) may apply for long-term practice (minimum 2 months) from April 2010 to May 2011. The work consists in following and collecting data about 7 wolves released in April 2010 and equipped with GPS collars. For this, send CV and motivation letter to lupuslaetus@free.fr.