

## Submitted Abstract

ID IMC22-FSAbstr- 481

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<b>Country</b>	Switzerland
<b>Region</b>	Western Europe
<b>Title</b>	Wildlife Value Orientations And Mountain Hunters: The Ambiguous Place Of Large Predators.
<b>Keywords</b>	Hunting Practice, Wildlife Value Orientation, Large Predators
<b>Type</b>	List Of Focus Session
<b>Focus Session ID</b>	84

## Abstract

The diversification of recreational practices in the mountains, coupled with socio-economic and cultural transformations, have changed the relationship with hunting in Western societies. Today, this activity represents a very specific recreational practice with regard to wildlife, insofar as it is both a tool for managing wildlife populations and a form of nature experience that allows people to get to know and get closer to animals (Stepanoff, 2021). This communication presents the results of a questionnaire survey conducted among more than 2300 mountain hunters in the French Alps, coupled with about 30 semi-directive interviews. Using the Wildlife Value Orientation scale (Fulton et al., 2008), which allows us to capture different positions ranging from animal dominance relationships to mutualistic values, we question the values expressed by hunters towards animals. Contrary to other surveys conducted internationally on this type of public (Gamborg et Sondergaard Jensen, 2016), the respondents seem to be close to mutualist values in their relationship with wildlife. However, this position can be called into question when the widely decried issue of the presence of large predators is included. We will deepen the analysis on the discourse on these animals to have a better understanding of this ambiguity.