

Summary of media impact for Chernobyl mammal research

The paper “Long term census data reveal abundant wildlife populations at Chernobyl” ([Current Biology 2015; 25, R1-R3](#)) on mammal populations in the Belarus sector of the Exclusion Zone received media attention worldwide. The study, coordinated by Portsmouth University as part of the TREE project, reached a global audience well in excess of 100 million. The research story was the top trending science story on Facebook and was covered by hundreds of online news sites worldwide. Media coverage included Reuters, BBC, Sky News, CNN, ABC, New Scientist, U.S. National Public Radio, all UK national newspapers and national newspapers around the world including Washington Post, El Pais, Le Figaro, New Zealand Herald, The Japan Times, China Daily, The Times of India. The story received an “Altmetric” score in the top 0.01% of all scientific articles for media and online coverage.

Examples of media reports include:

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/nature-thrives-in-chernobyl-scene-of-the-worlds-most-devastating-nuclear-accident-712884.html>

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2015/10/06/in-the-erie-emptiness-of-chernobyls-abandoned-towns-wildlife-is-flourishing/>

<http://edition.cnn.com/videos/world/2015/10/07/chernobyl-wildlife-growth-james-smith-intv.cnn>