

A photograph of a Balkan lynx, a small spotted feline, standing on a mossy rock in a snowy, rocky streambed. The lynx is looking to the left. The scene is illuminated by a spotlight, creating a dramatic effect against the dark, shadowed background. The ground is covered in snow and ice, with moss growing on the rocks.

The elusive and mysterious

Balkan lynx

Andrej Gonev





Kingdom:

Animalia

Phylum:

Chordata

Class:

Mammalia

Order:

Carnivora

Family:

Felidae

Genus:

Lynx





Genus *Lynx* Kerr, 1792

Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*)
Least Concern

Photo: G. Merrill, Colorado
Division of Wildlife

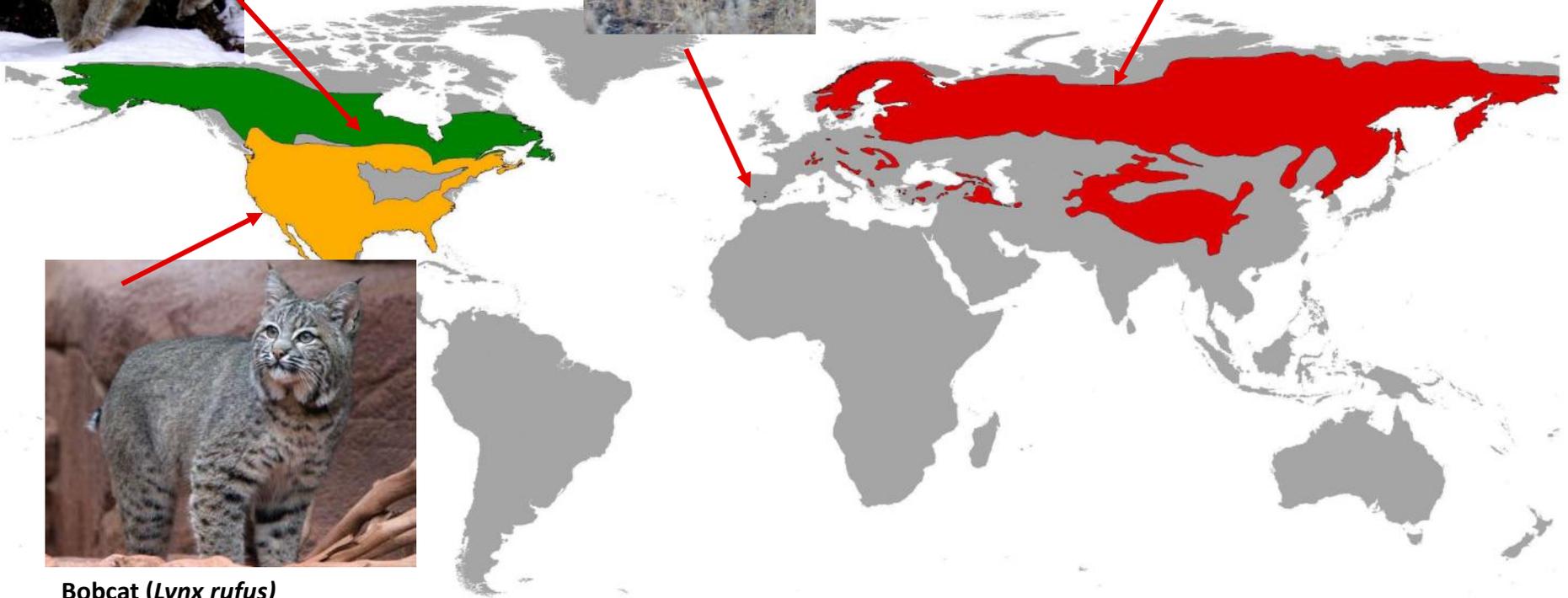


Iberian lynx (*Lynx pardinus*)
Critically Endangered

Photo: Alex Sliwa



Eurasian lynx (*Lynx lynx*)
Least Concern
Photo: KORA



Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*)

Least Concern

Photo: Alex Sliwa

About the lynx...



- Solitary animal
- Carnivore
- Highly territorial

Diet

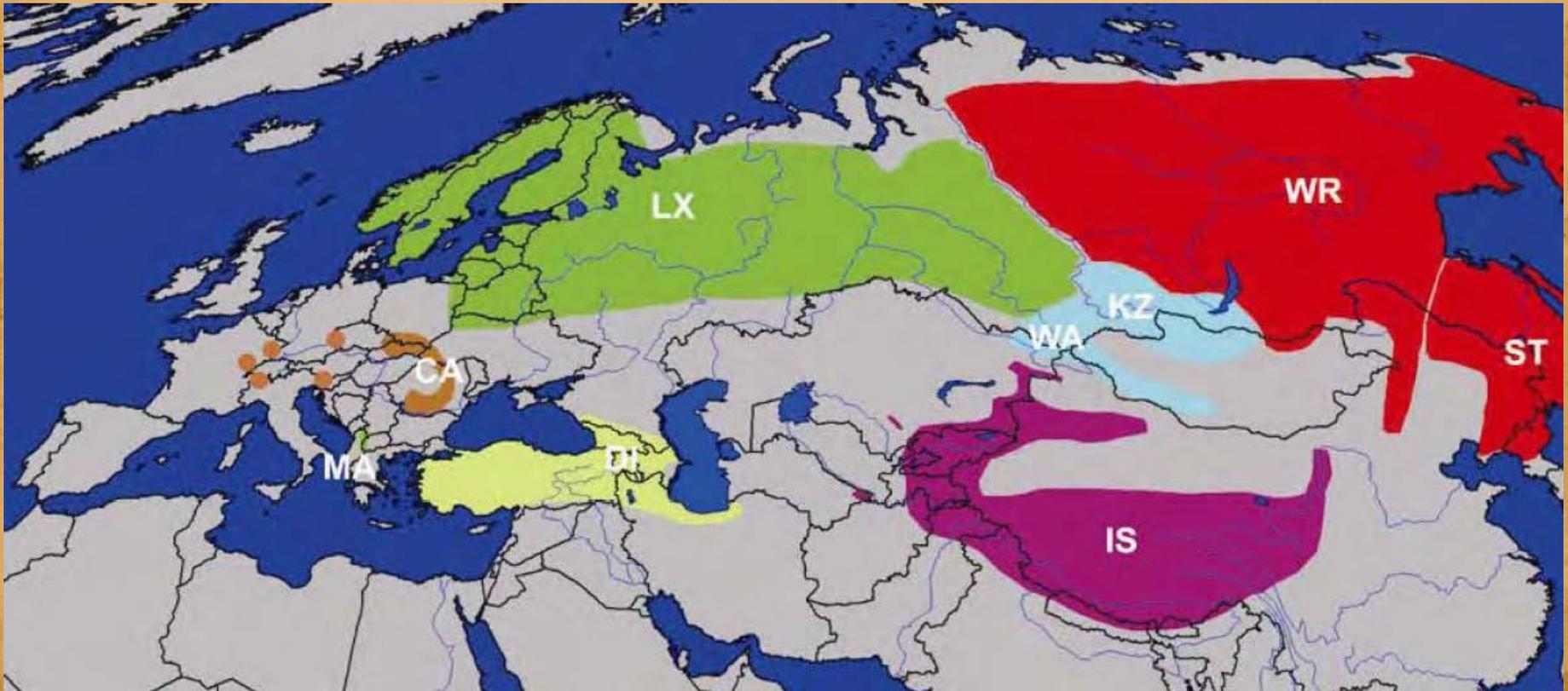


- Apex Predator
- Specialized for hunting deer and chamois
- Hares, martens, birds, foxes...
- No natural enemies



Lynx lynx (Linnaeus, 1758)

- KORA (2004): 9 subspecies



Подвидот *Lynx lynx balcanicus* Bureš, 1941



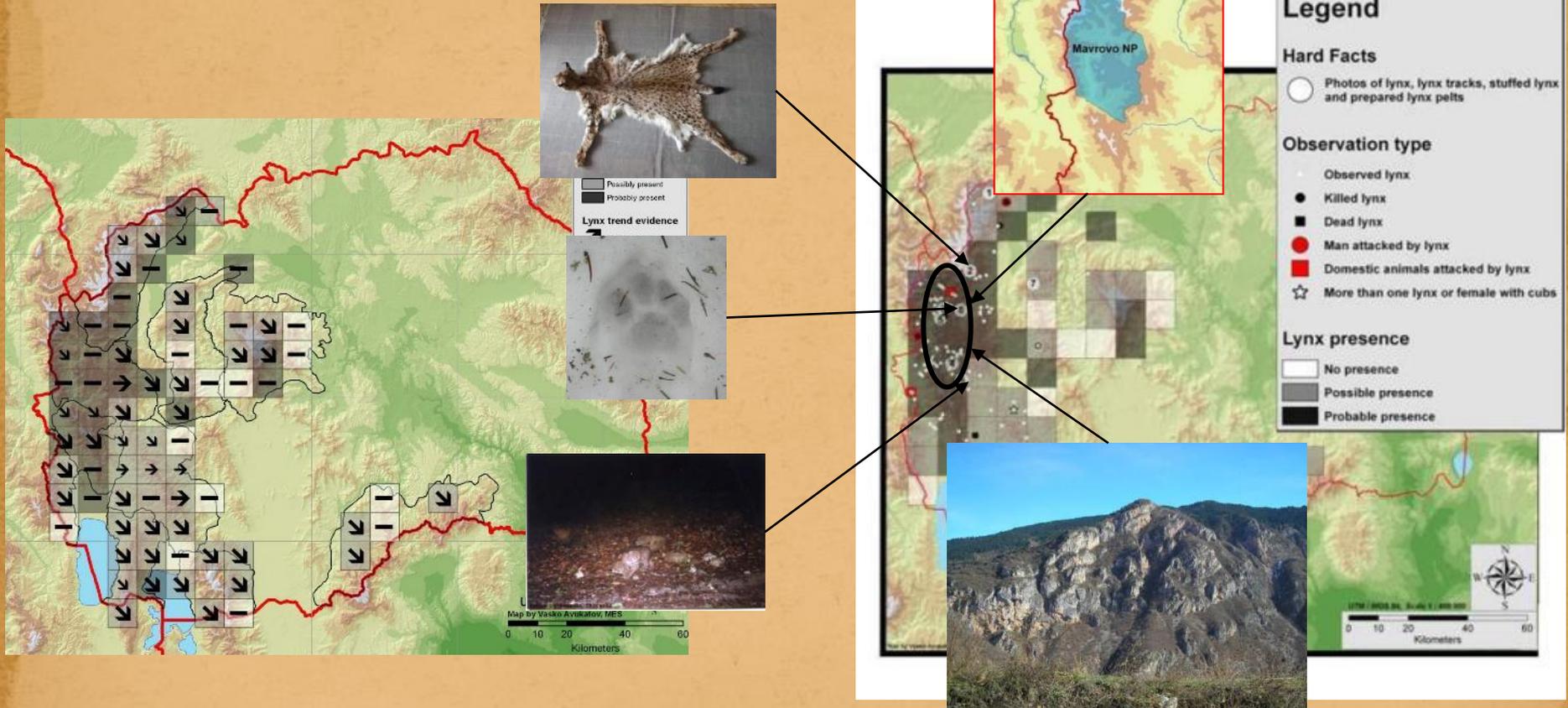
Most
threatened
population





Balkan lynx recovery programme (2006 -)



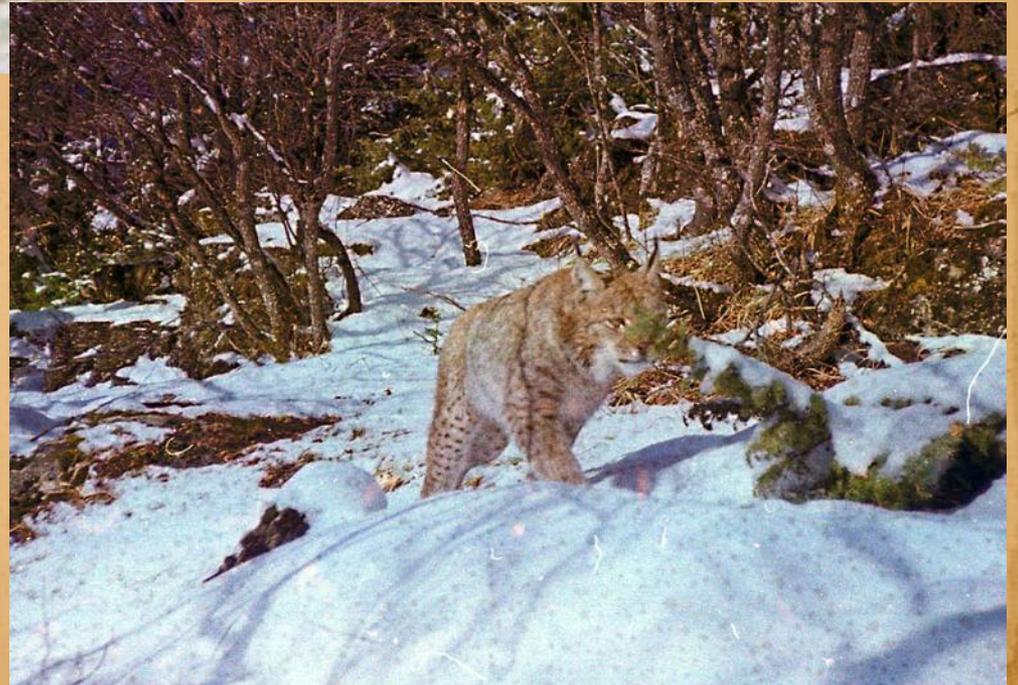


Camera traps





First photos of the Balkan
lynx in Decembar 2007 – NP
Mavrovo





Ambush

3/19/2013 7:21 AM





11/20/2010 1:07 AM



11/27/2010 7:15 AM



11/24/2010 11:03 PM



11/29/2010 2:53 AM



11/27/2010 11:39 PM



3/17/2010 8:33 PM



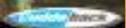
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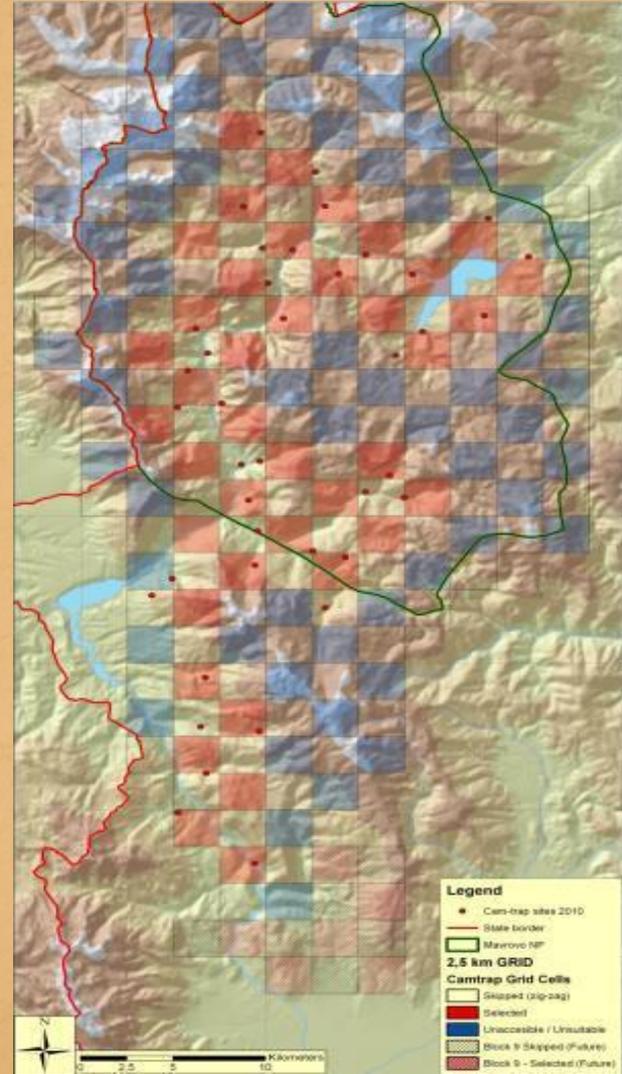
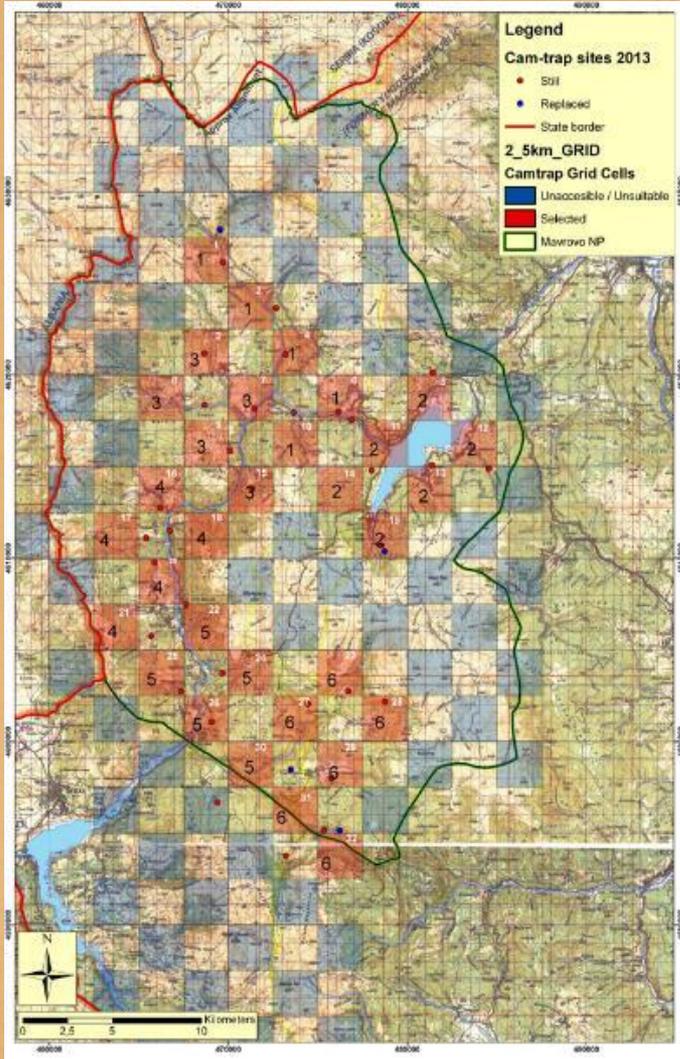


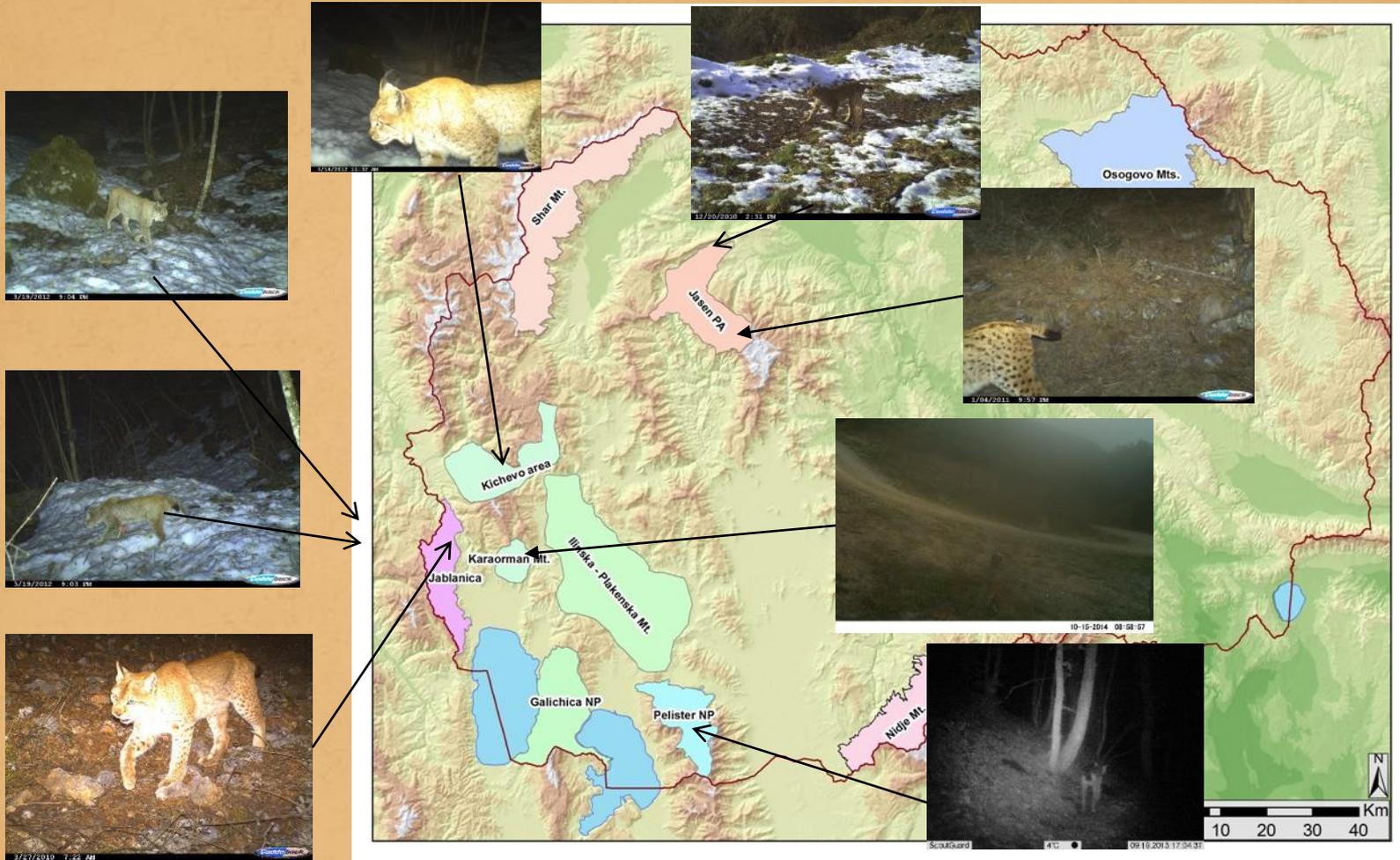
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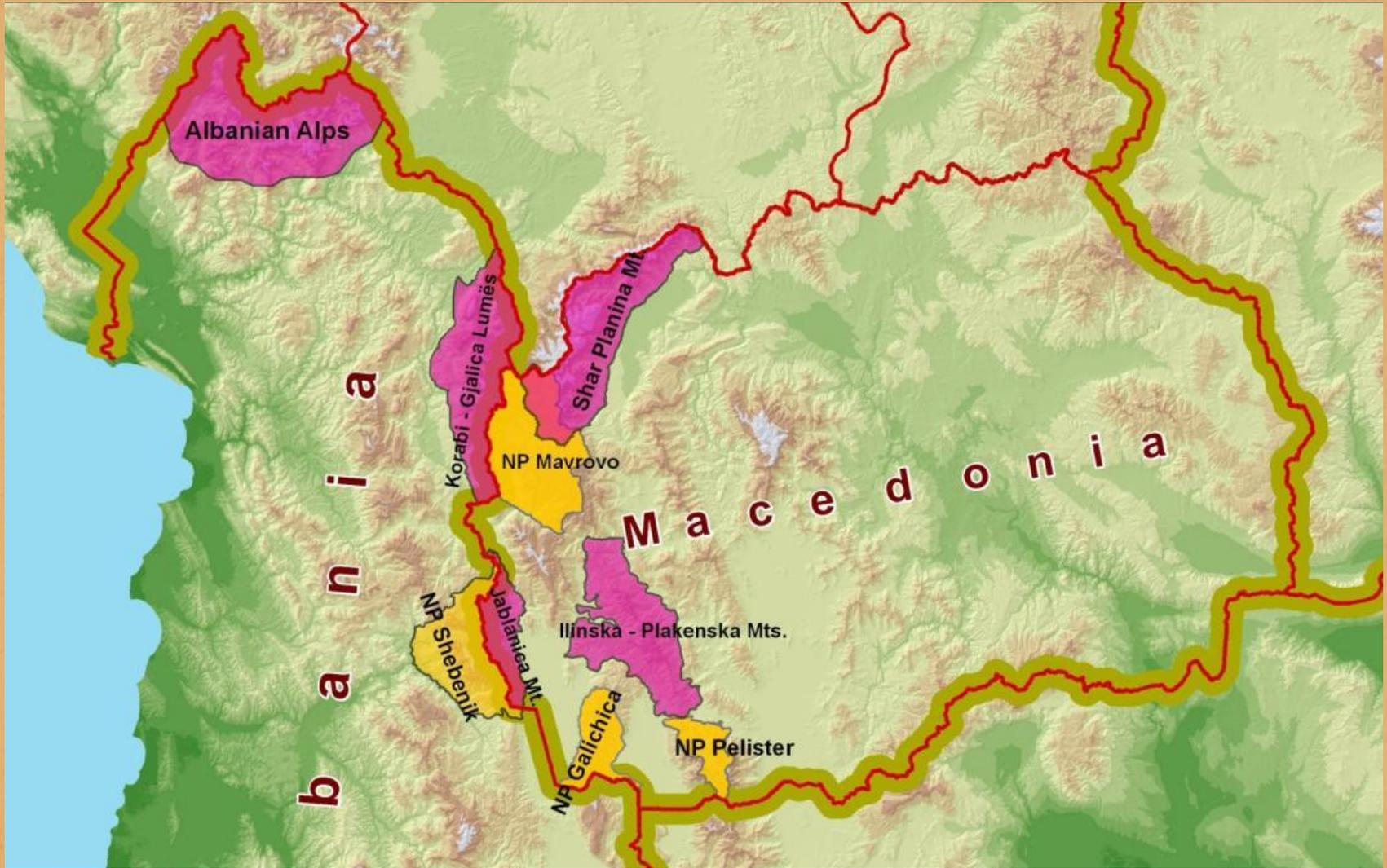


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Box traps

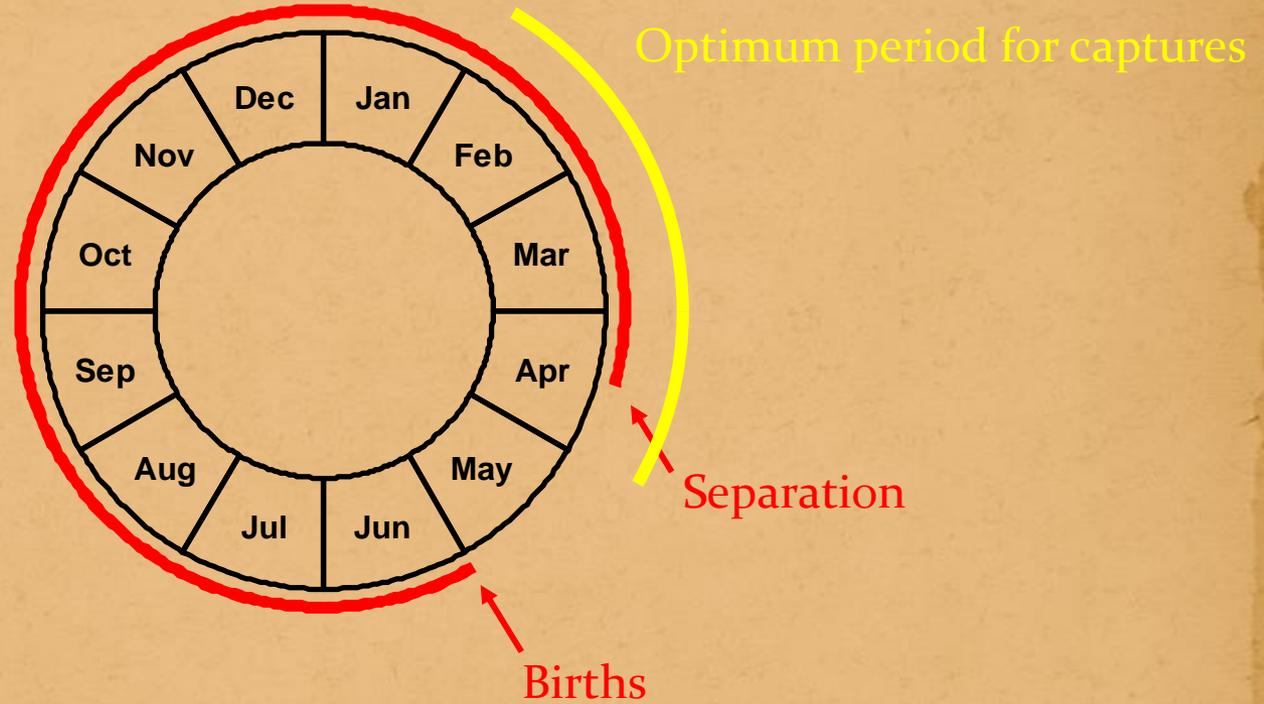




Box-trapping

Capture period

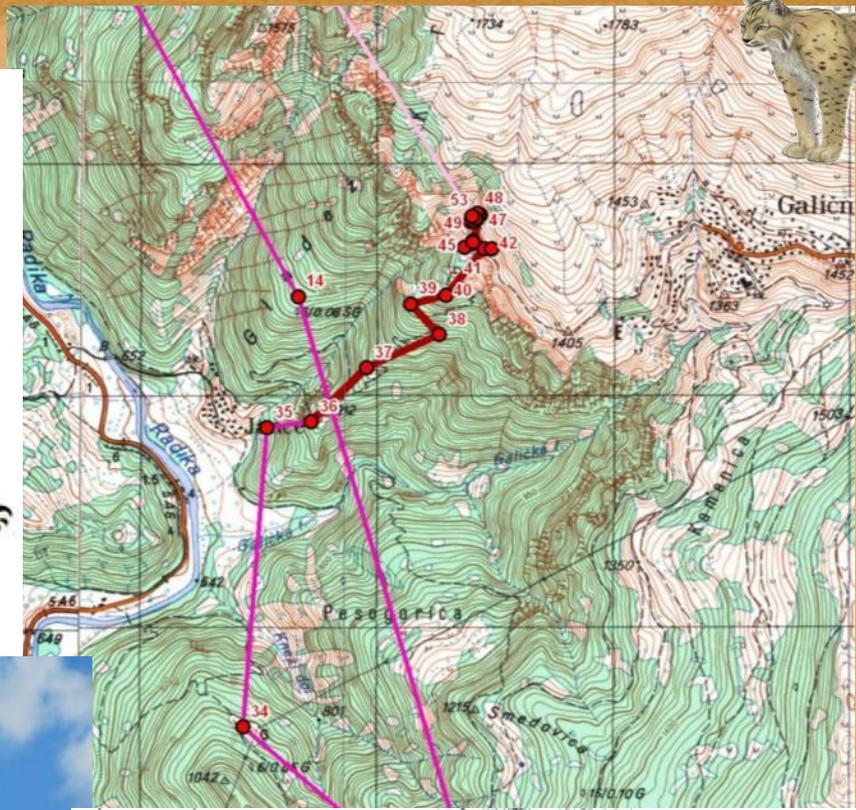
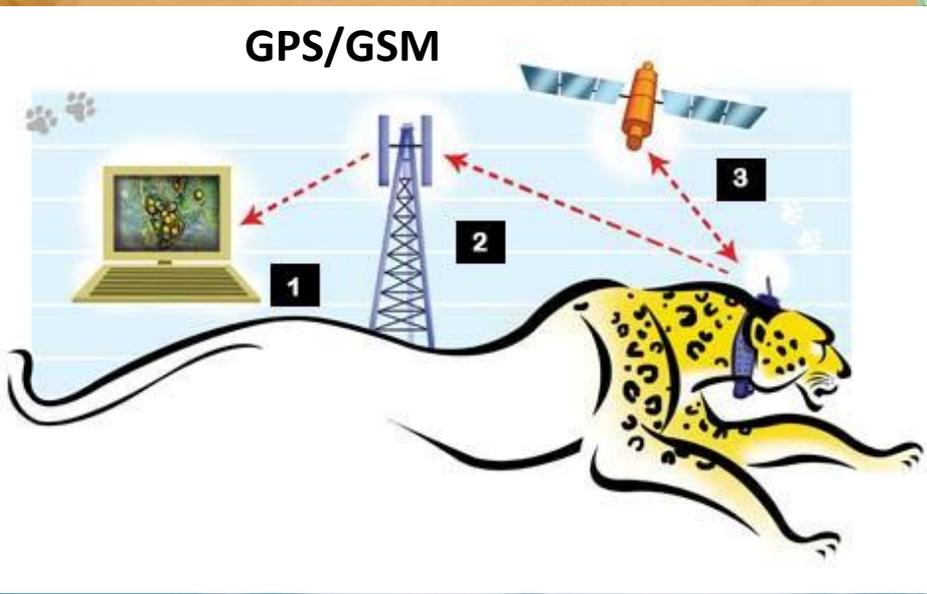
Lynx' life cycle:



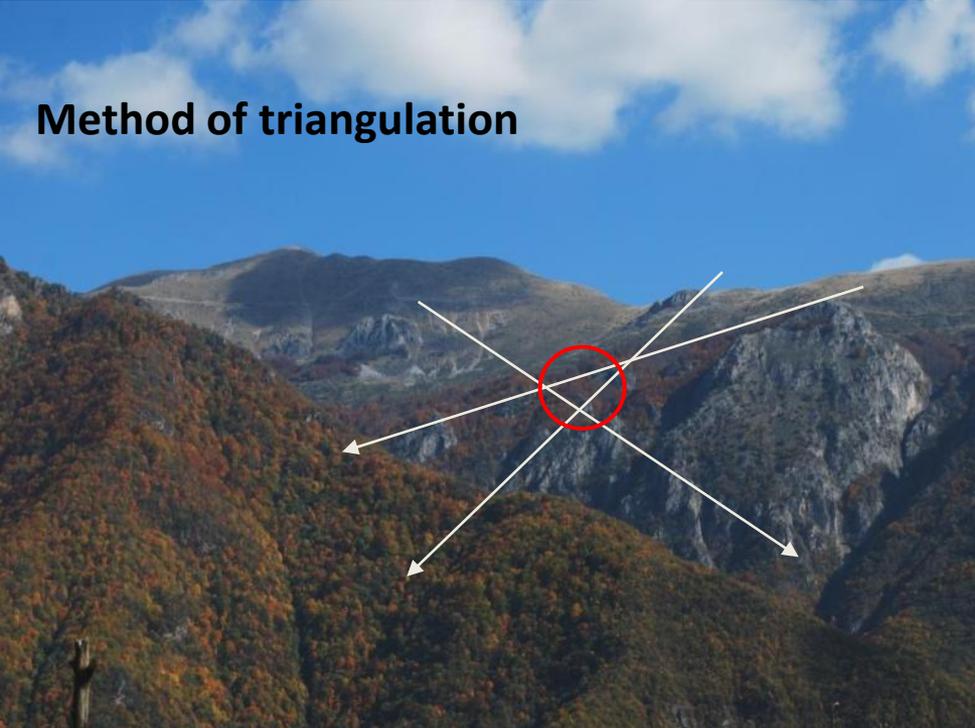




GPS/GSM



Method of triangulation



Foot-snares:





Captured lynx



Marko



Riste



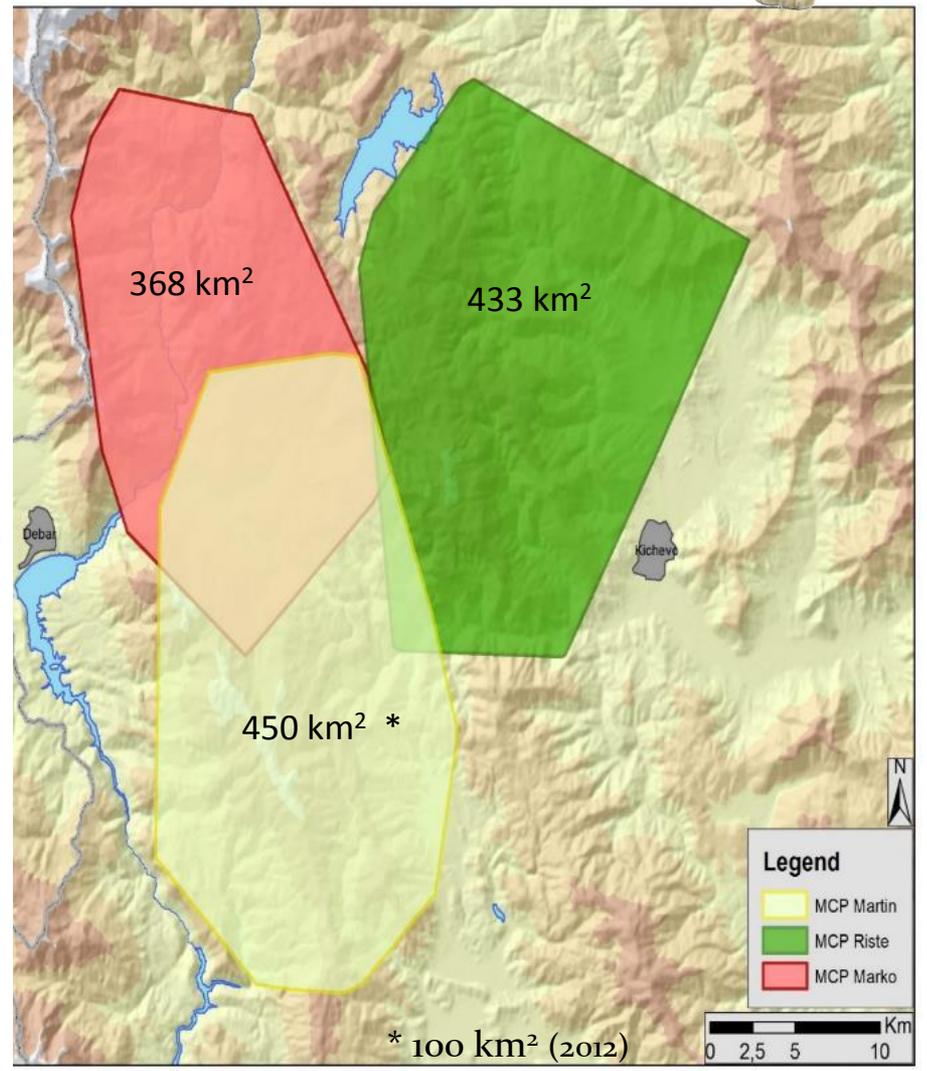
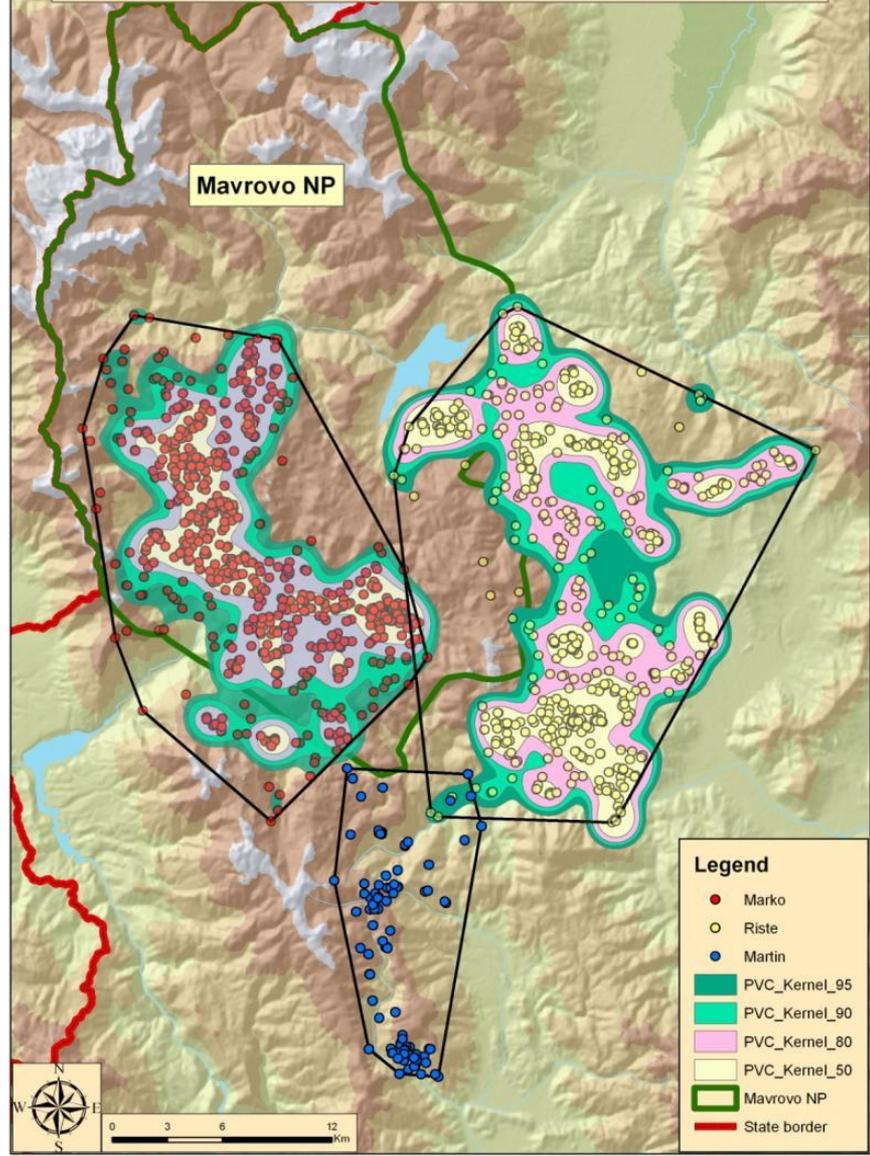
Martin



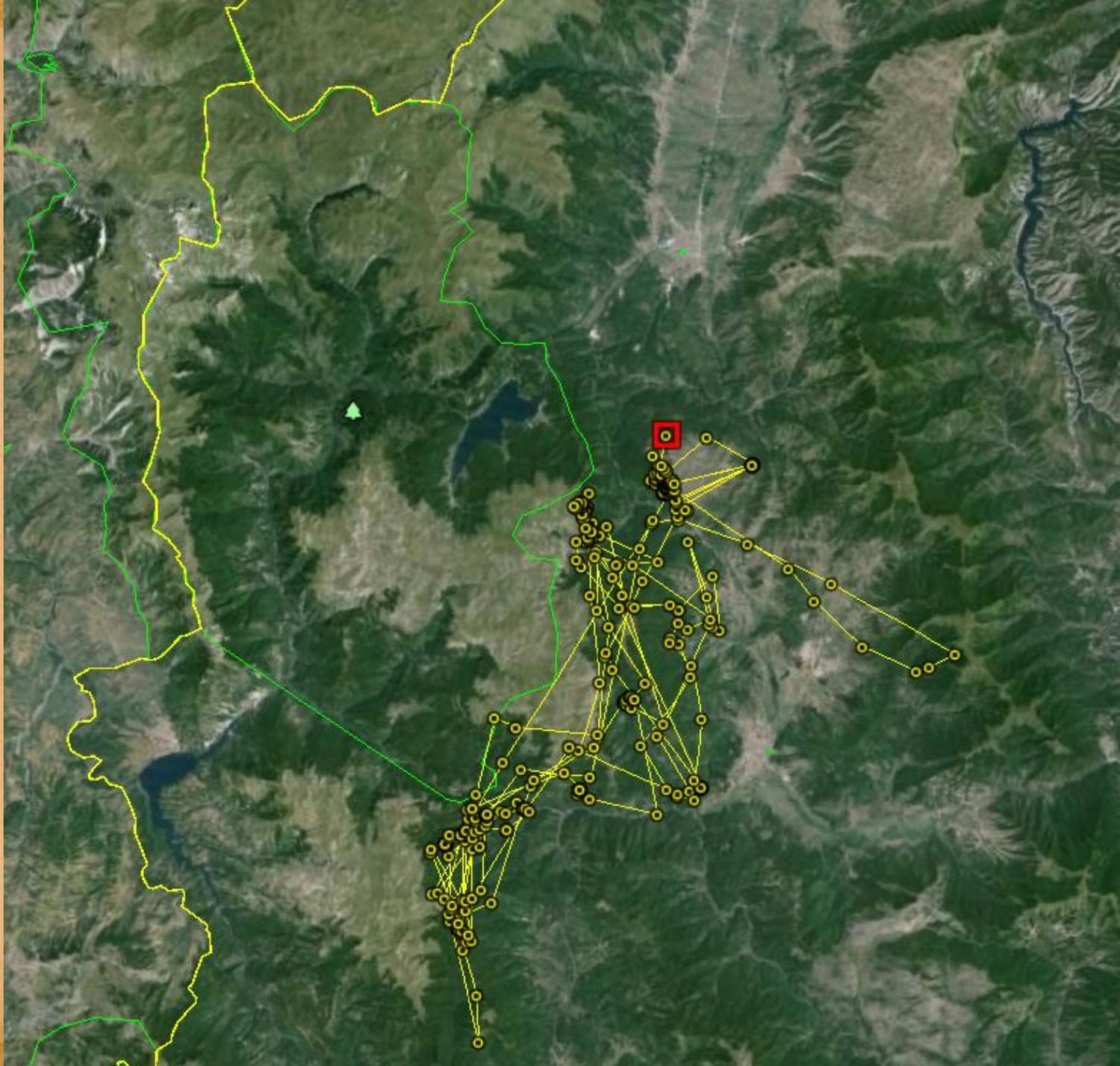
Deki



Radio-telemetry studies in Macedonia

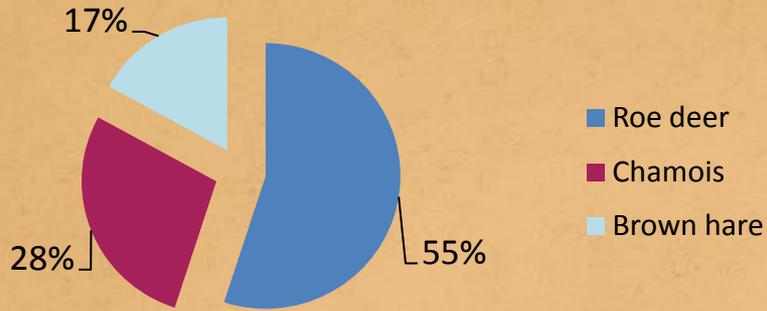


- Deki
 - 04.02.2016



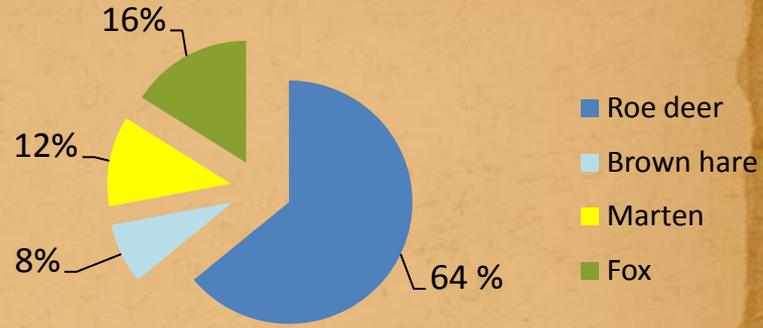


Marko



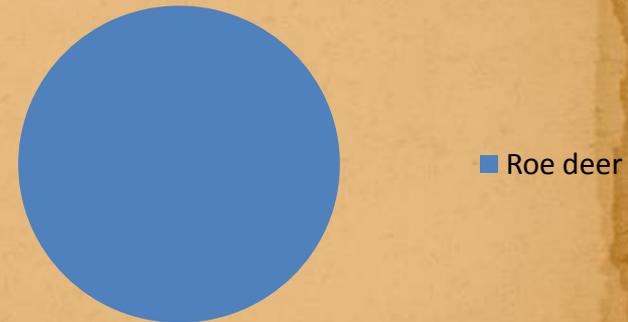
(N=25)

Riste

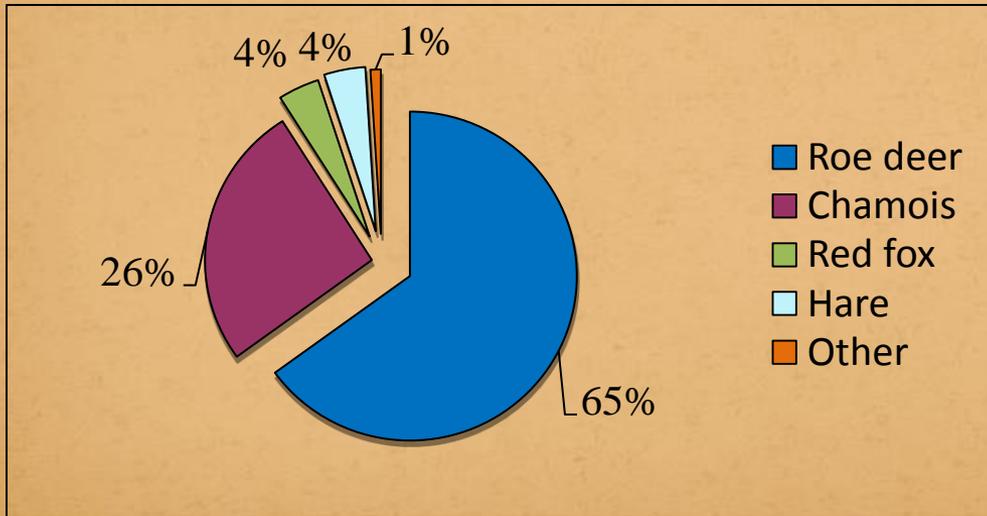


(N=25)

Deki



(N=4)



Switzerland (N=946)



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Lynx lynx ssp. balcanicus

Scope: *Global*



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Taxonomy [\[top\]](#)

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Felidae

Scientific Name:	<i>Lynx lynx ssp. balcanicus</i>
Species Authority:	Buresh, 1941
Parent Species:	See Lynx lynx
Common Name(s):	English – Balkan Lynx
Taxonomic Source(s):	Gugolz, D., Bernasconi, M.V., Breitenmoser-Wursten, C. and Wandeler, P. 2008. Historical DNA reveals the phylogenetic position of the extinct Alpine lynx. <i>Journal of Zoology</i> 275(2): 201-208.
Taxonomic Notes:	The Balkan Lynx was first described as a separate subspecies in 1941 by the Bulgarian zoologist Ivan Buresh (Buresh 1941). The name that Buresh gave to the Balkan Lynx was <i>Lynx lynx balcanicus</i> . Later on, the Serbian mammologist Đorđe Mirić conducted more thorough research, mainly focusing on morphometric skull measurements. He sampled 29 lynx specimens from the Balkans and noted differences in the size of the specimens compared to the neighbouring Carpathian population, as well as compared to specimens from Scandinavia and the Caucasus (Mirić 1978). Mirić changed the subspecies name of the Balkan Lynx to <i>Lynx lynx martinoi</i> with no further references to Buresh (1941). New results from genetic research have confirmed that the Balkan Lynx is indeed different from the Carpathian Lynx and should be considered a distinct subspecies (Gugolz <i>et al.</i> 2008, Breitenmoser <i>et al.</i> 2008). According to the International Code for Zoological Nomenclature, the first given name of the taxon is valid for scientific use.

Major threats





Future plans

- Monitoring network
- Education
- Raising awareness
- Involving volunteers
- Research
- Increase the population and remove its status as Critically endangered species