

# Management of Large Carnivores in Slovakia



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Photo by Mr. Siklienka

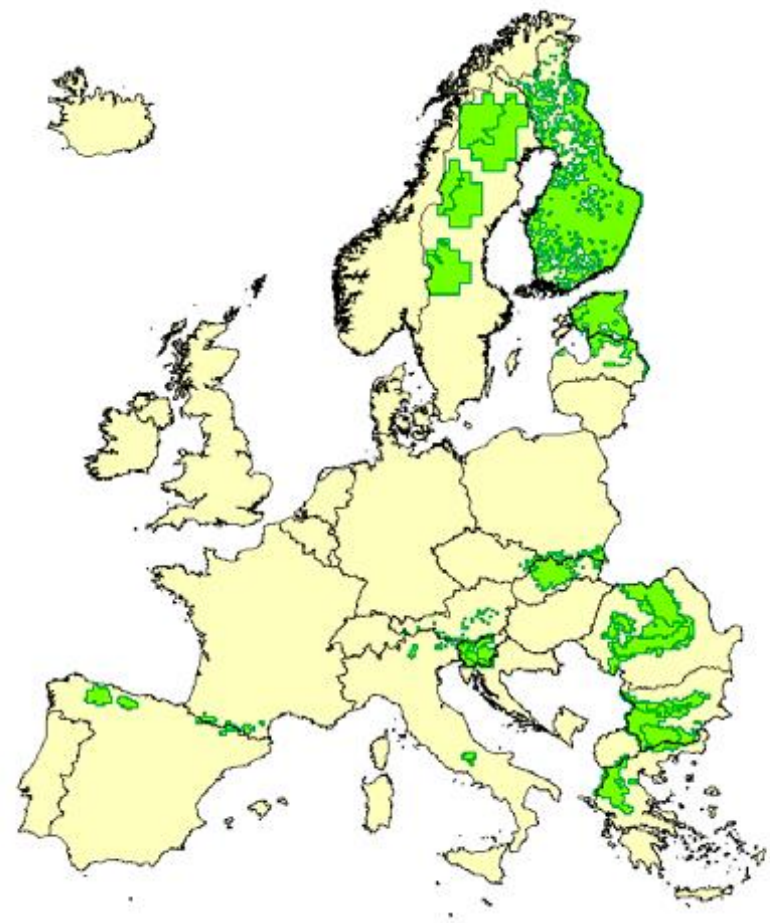
EU Nature and Biodiversity Directors  
Slovakia 2016

# Distribution and abundance of bear in the Carpathians



Population abundance in the Carpathians:

7 200 (Chapron *et al.* 2014)

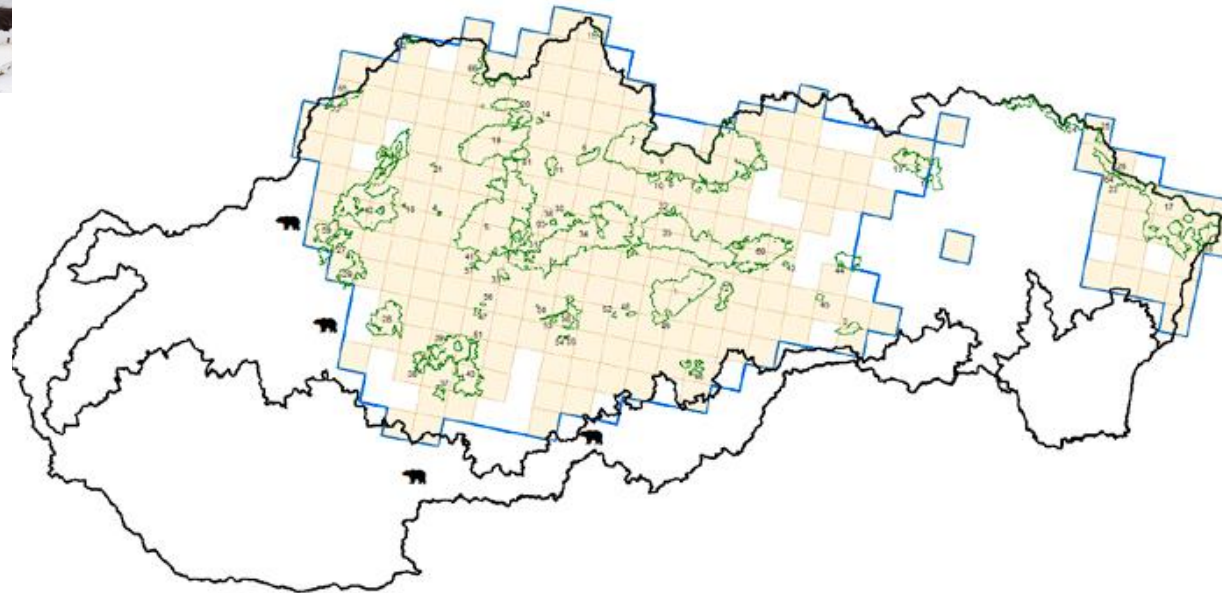


# Distribution and abundance of bear in Slovakia



Population  
abundance in  
Slovakia:  
estimated  
abundance  
(DNA analysis)  
1256 (1023-1489)

Population  
trend in  
Slovakia:  
increasing

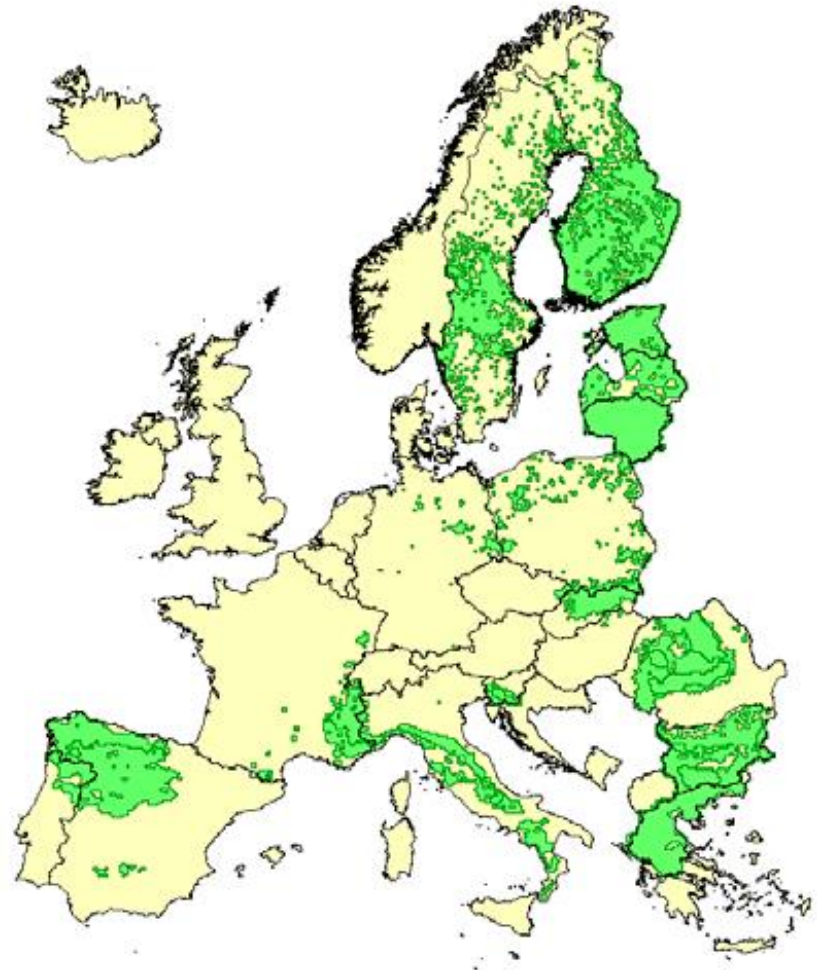


# Distribution and abundance of wolf in the Carpathians



Population abundance  
in the Carpathians:

3 000 (Chapron *et al.* 2014)

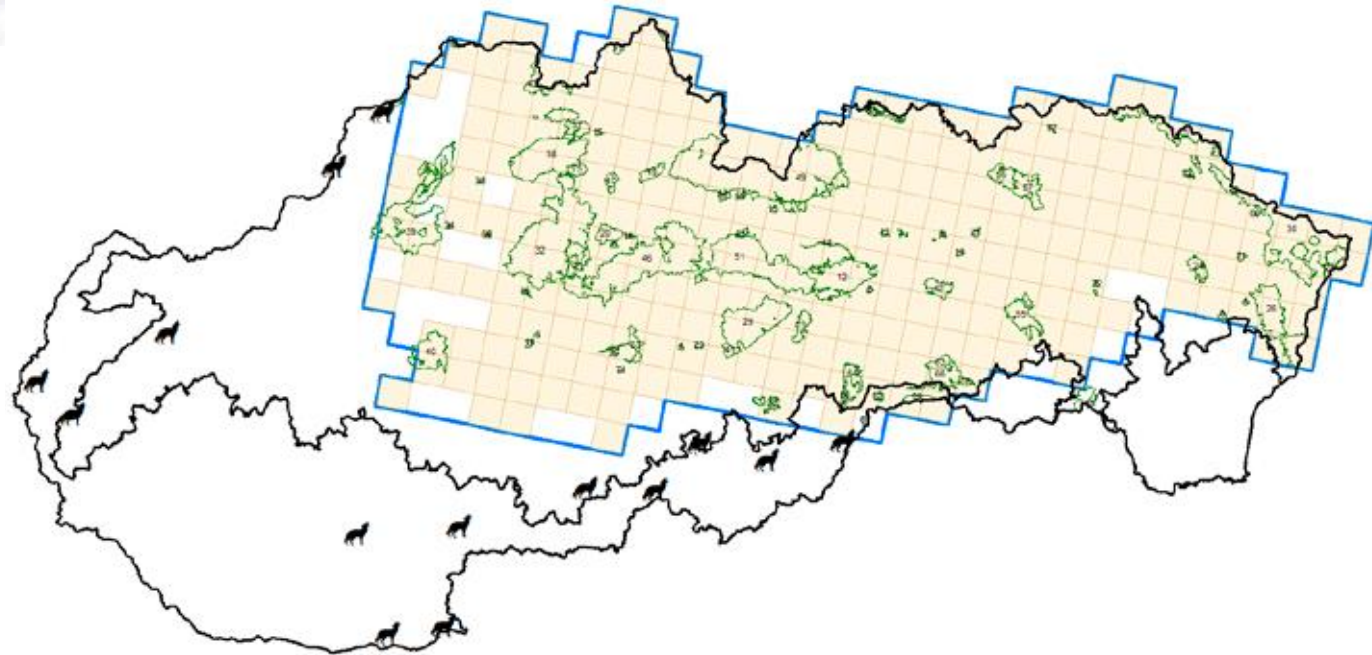


# Distribution and abundance of wolf in Slovakia



**Population  
abundance in  
Slovakia:  
300 - 450**

**Population trend in  
Slovakia: stable  
and slightly increasing**

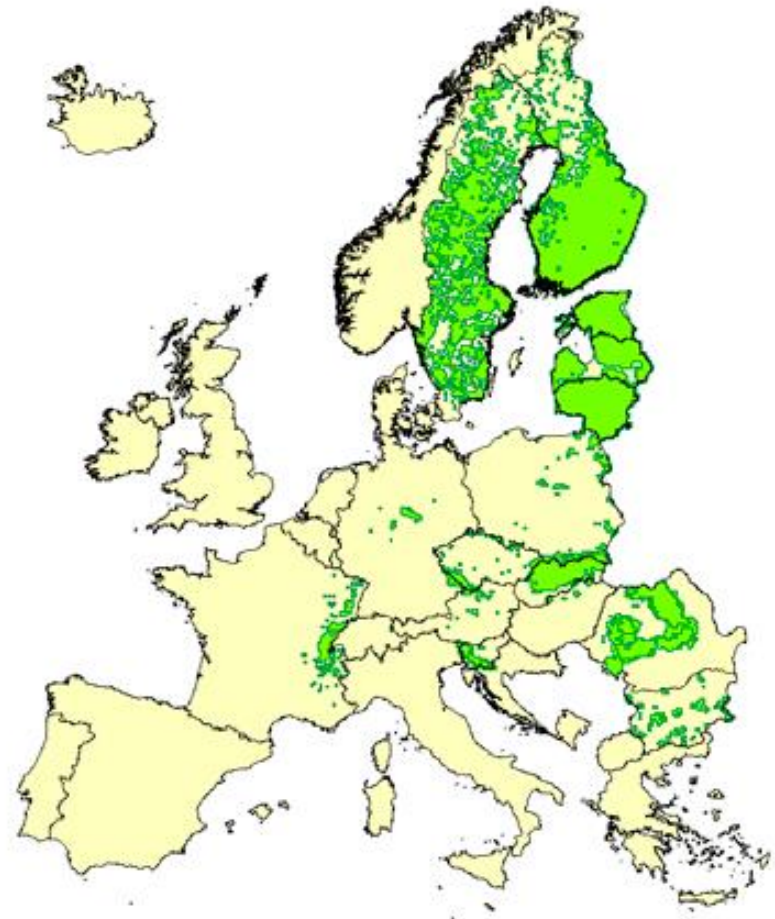


# Distribution and abundance of lynx in the Carpathians

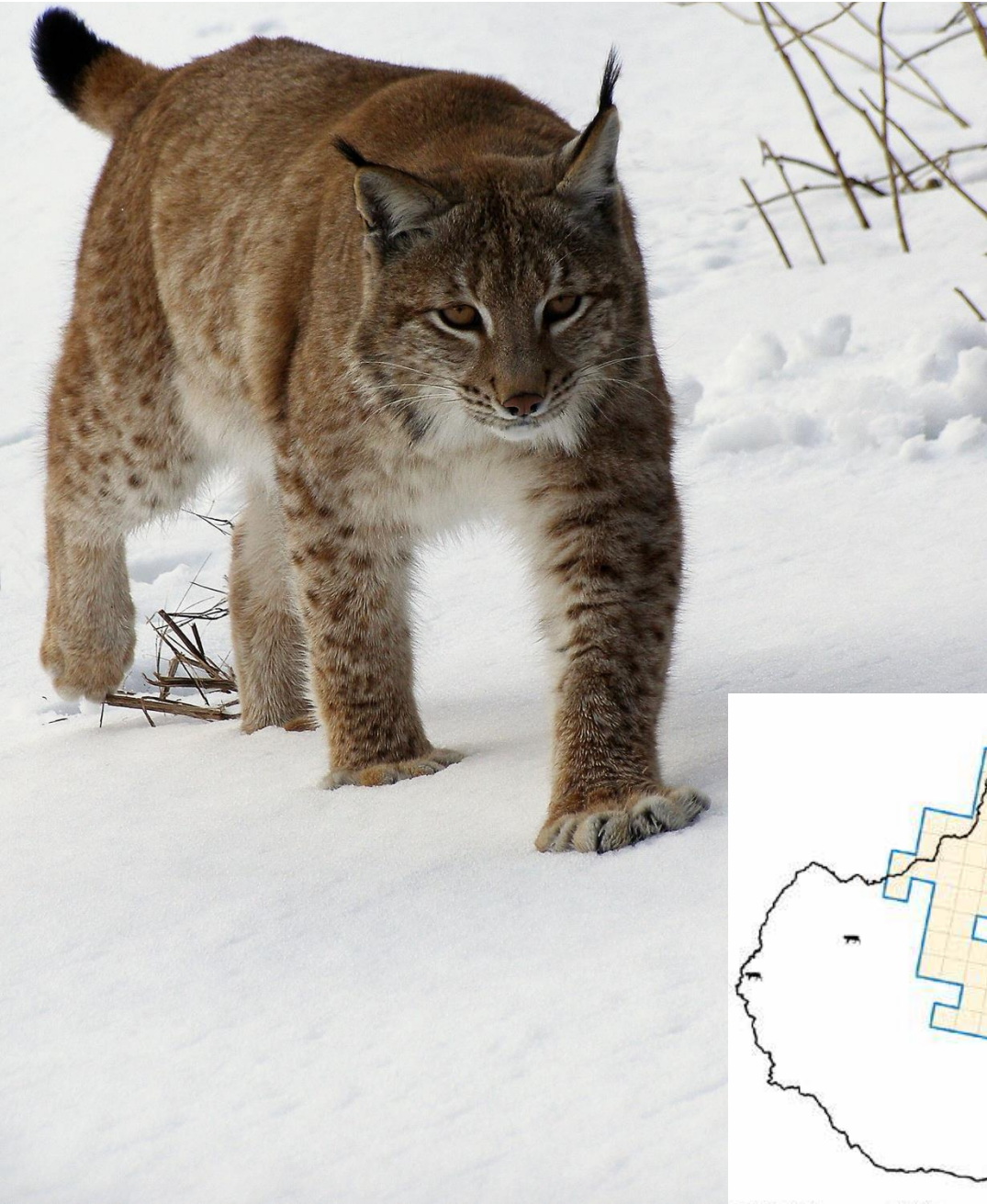


Population abundance in the Carpathians:

2300-2400 (Chapron *et al.* 2014)

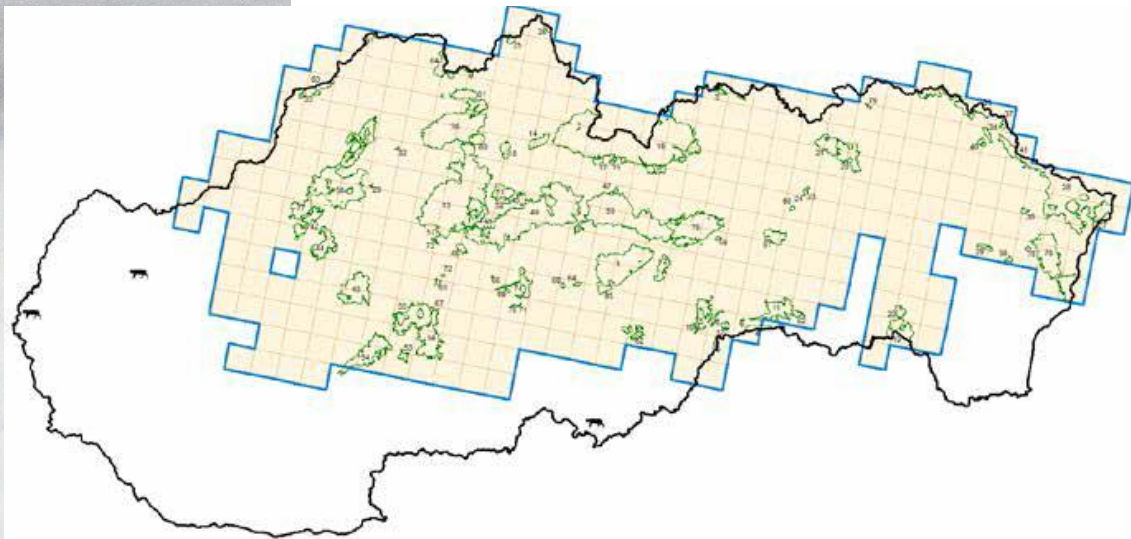


# Distribution and abundance of lynx in Slovakia



**Population  
abundance in  
Slovakia:  
300 – 400**

**Population trend in  
Slovakia: stable**



# Management of bear in Slovakia

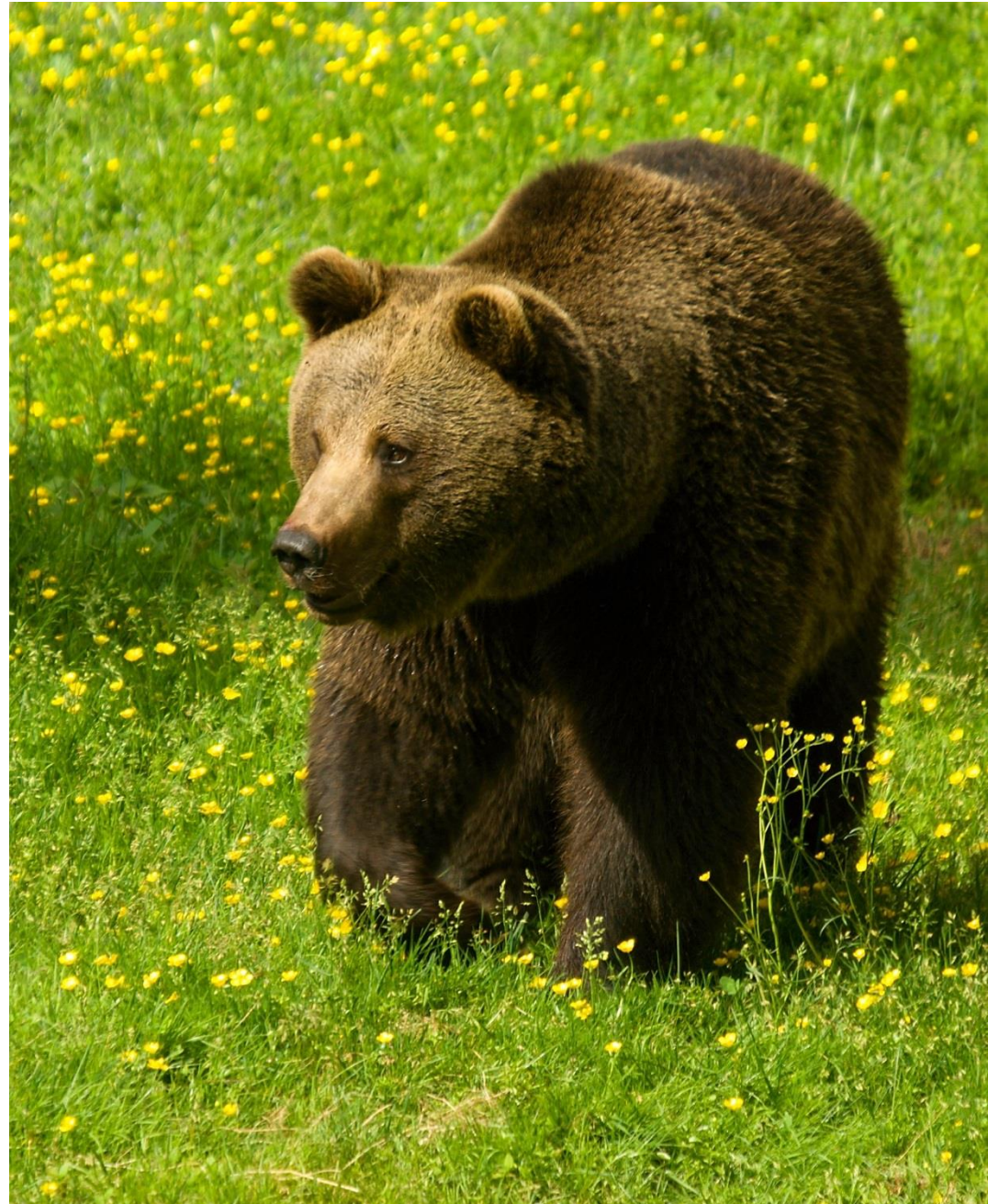
**European Legislation: Habitats Directive 92/43/EHS, Annex II (66 SCIs, 421 598 ha), Annex IV**

**Bern Convention**

**National Legislation: Nature and Landscape Protection Act 543/2002 Coll. – protected all year round**

**National Legislation: Hunting Act 274/2009 – protected all year round**

**Brown Bear Management Plan**

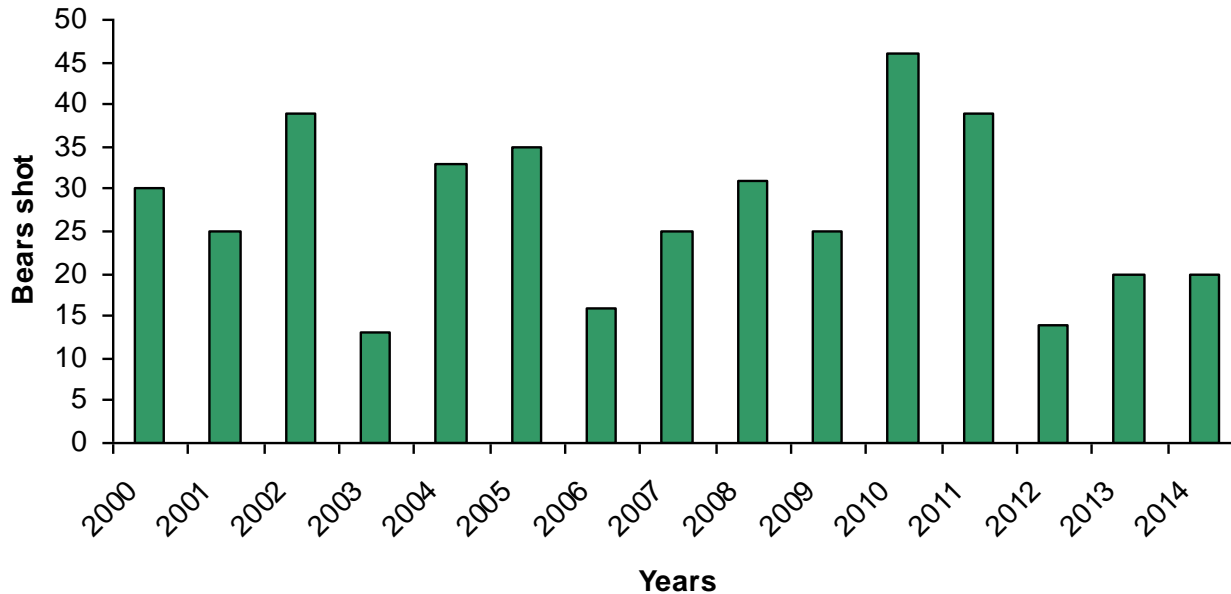




# Management of bear in Slovakia

- To prevent serious damages to crops and domestic animals, or other type of property
- In the interest of safeguarding public health and safety

## Reasons for exemptions from protection



# Management of wolf in Slovakia

**European Legislation: Habitats Directive 92/43/EHS, Annex II (79 SCIs, 435 383 ha), Annex V (geographic exemption applies)**

**Bern Convention**

**Nature and Landscape Protection Act 543/2002 Coll.**  
**- protected during a period of time**

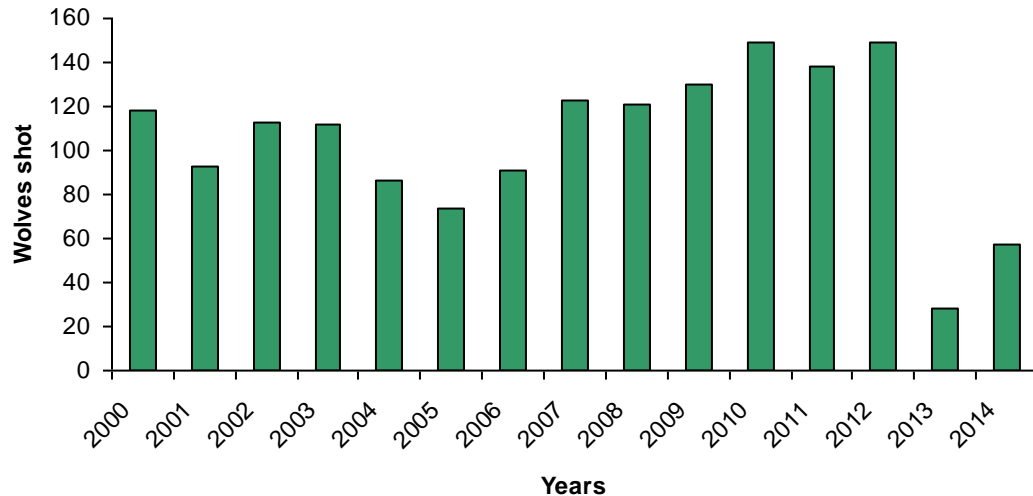
**Hunting Act 274/2009**  
**- hunting season specified**  
**1 Nov – 15 Jan**

**Grey Wolf Management Plan**



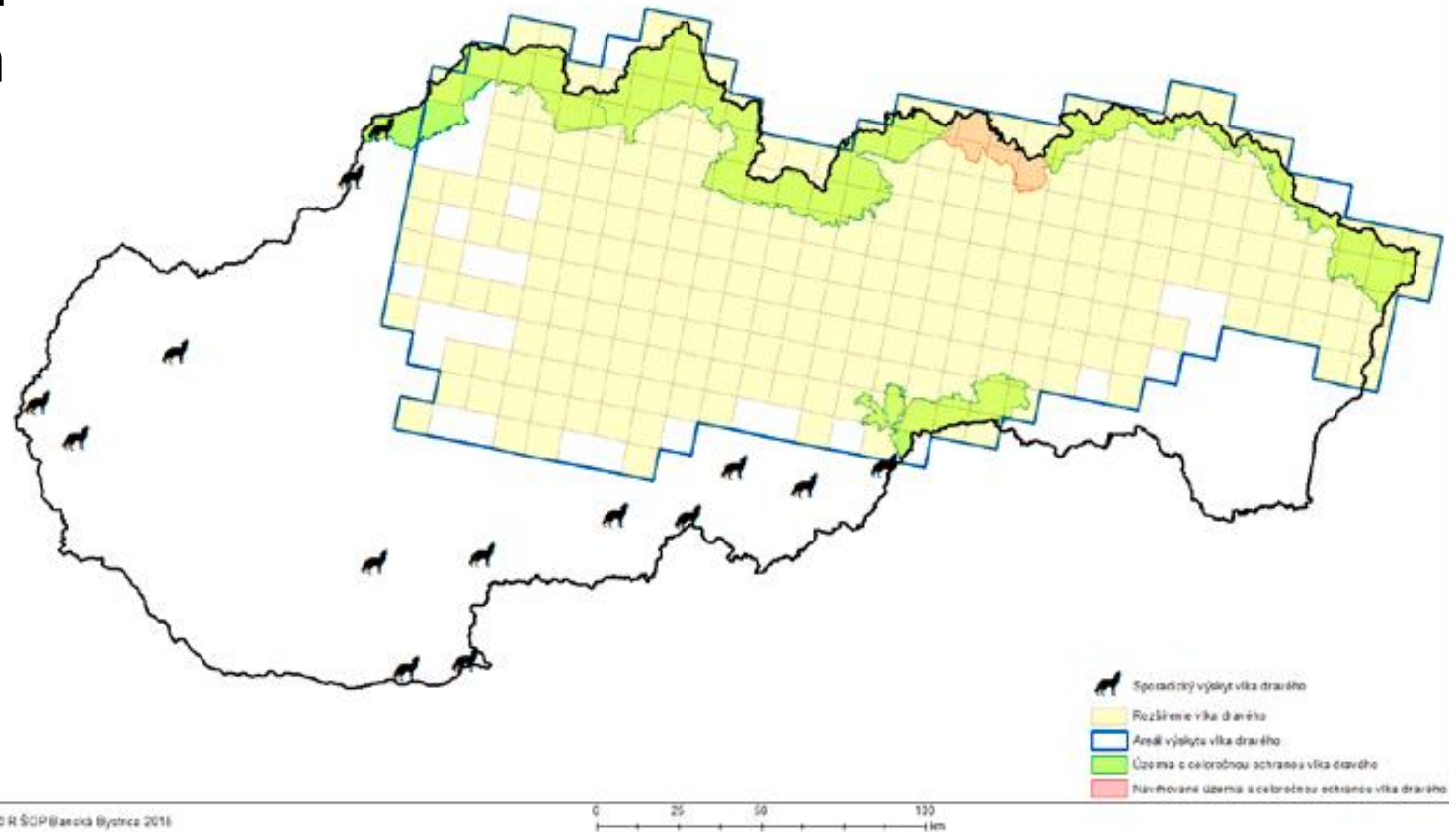
# Management of wolf in Slovakia

## Current status of yearly shooting



# Management of wolf – crossborder cooperation

Protected  
all year  
round in  
the border  
areas with  
Poland  
and  
Hungary



# Management of lynx in Slovakia

## European Legislation:

**Habitats Directive 92/43/EHS,  
Annex II (85 SCIs, 469 397ha)  
Annex IV**

## Bern Convention

**Nature and Landscape  
Protection Act 543/2002 Coll.  
- protected all year round**

**Hunting Act 274/2009  
- protected all year round**

## Lynx Management Plan





# **Research in Slovakia**

**Genetic research of  
brown bear population  
- monitoring and  
abundance data based  
on DNA analysis**

**Research of brown bear  
spatial activity, home  
ranges based on  
telemetry monitoring**

**Phototrap monitoring**



## **Research in Slovakia future plans**

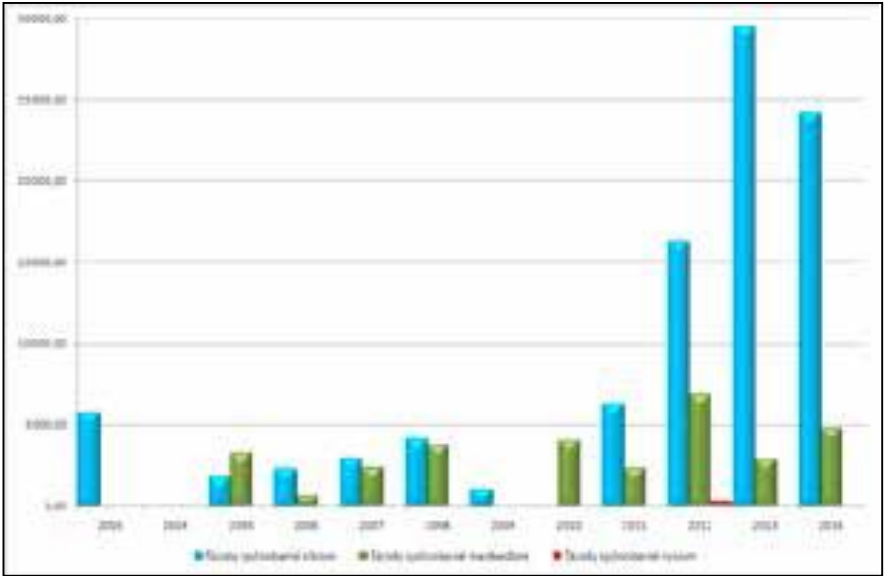
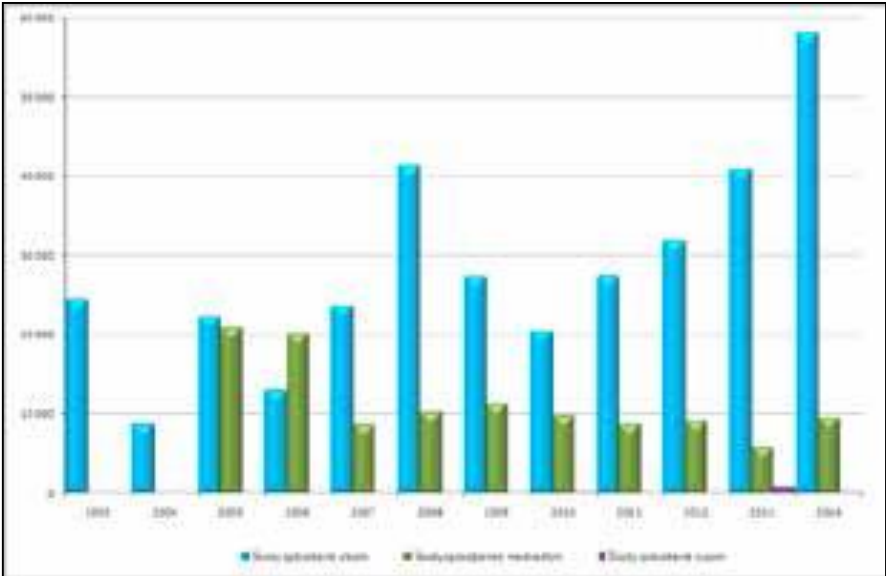
**Large scale  
monitoring of brown  
bear on stationary**

**Telemetric  
surveillance of grey  
wolf population,  
recordings of  
reproductive pairs or  
new born cubs**

# Conflicts - Predation of farm animals



## Damages caused by bear, wolf and lynx to sheep and goats to cattle





**Conflicts (bear) -  
damages to crops,  
fruit trees, beehives  
and properties and  
dangerous encounters  
with humans**



# Measures

- **Application of preventive measures** (electric fences, shepherd dog breeds...)
- **Change of crop composition**
- **Management of ungulates**
- **Securing of waste disposal in certain areas**
- **Scaring off, immobilisation or killing of problematic individuals**
- **Damage compensations (after an investigation)**
- **Bear management team**
- **Brown Bear Conservation and Management Committee**

# Threats

**Illegal killing**

**Local excessive  
hunting  
(overhunting)**

**Isolation  
(area / habitat  
fragmentation)**

**Traffic collisions**

**Negative attitude of  
the public**





**Thank you for your attention**