



Large Carnivores in Carpathian Mountains

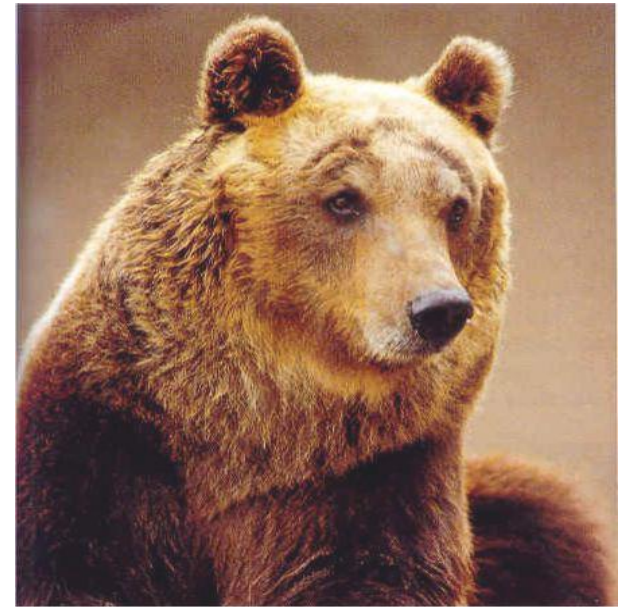
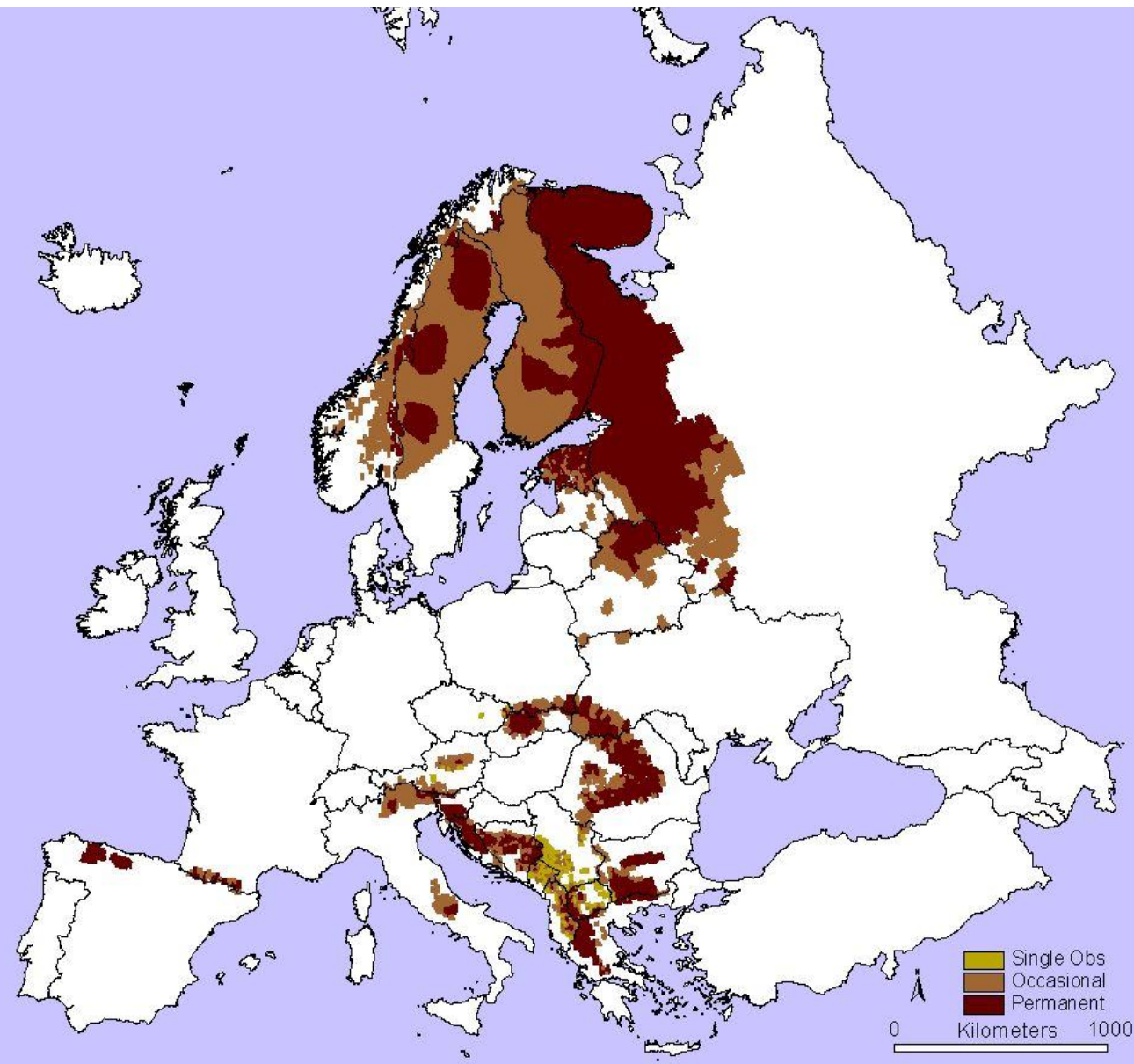
Slovakia, 2-4 July, 2009.

Ovidiu IONESCU





Bear distribution in Europe

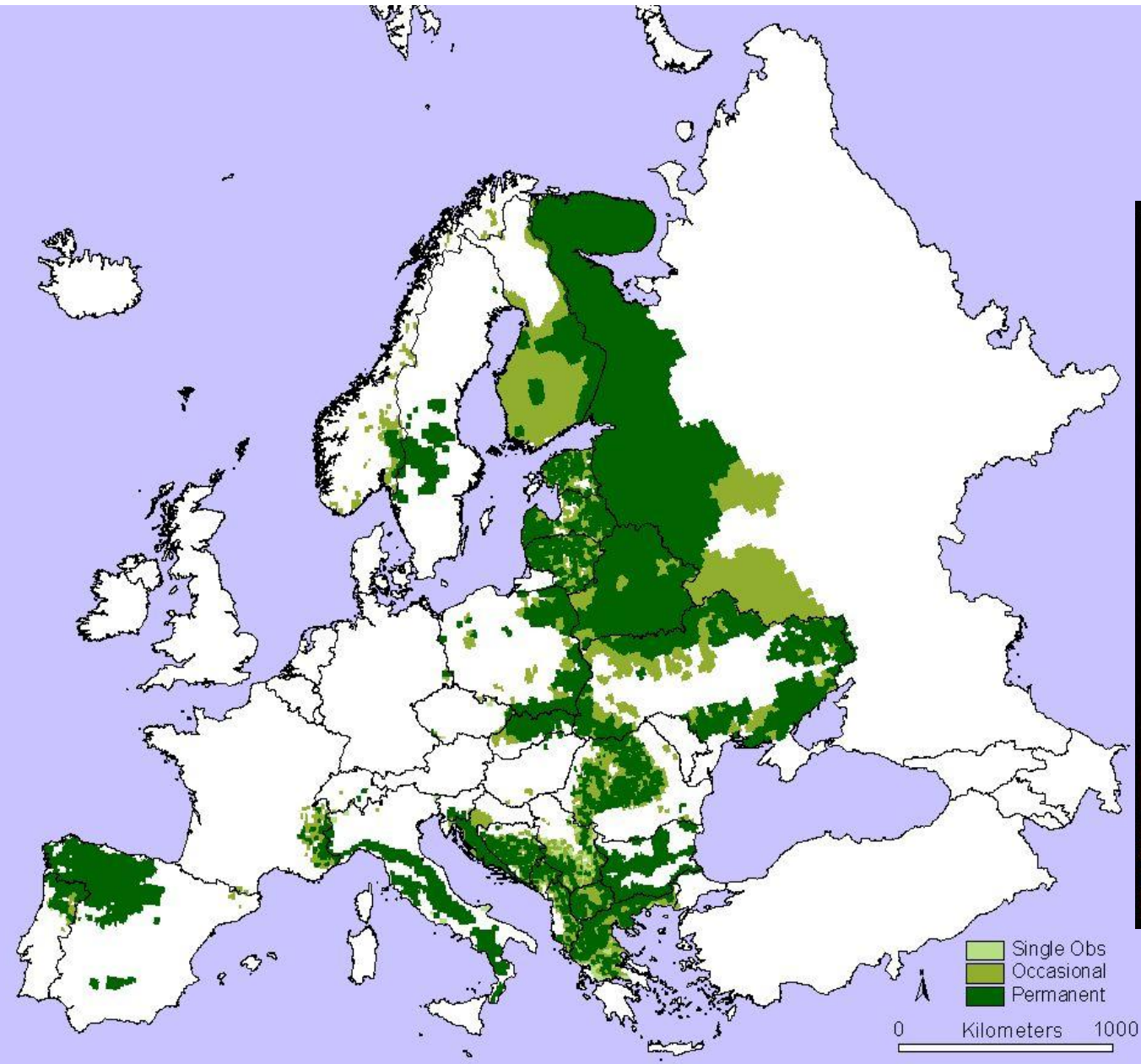


Bears

Country	Population size (official data)		Experts judgments	Trend
Czech R Slovakia	Sporadic occurrence 1.100. – 1.200.		Accurate Overestimated Probably 7-800	Stabile
Poland Ukraine	100 400		Accurate Accurate ?	Stabile Stabile
Hungary Romania	Sporadic occurrence > 6.000.		Accurate Accurate	Stabile



Wolf distribution in Europe

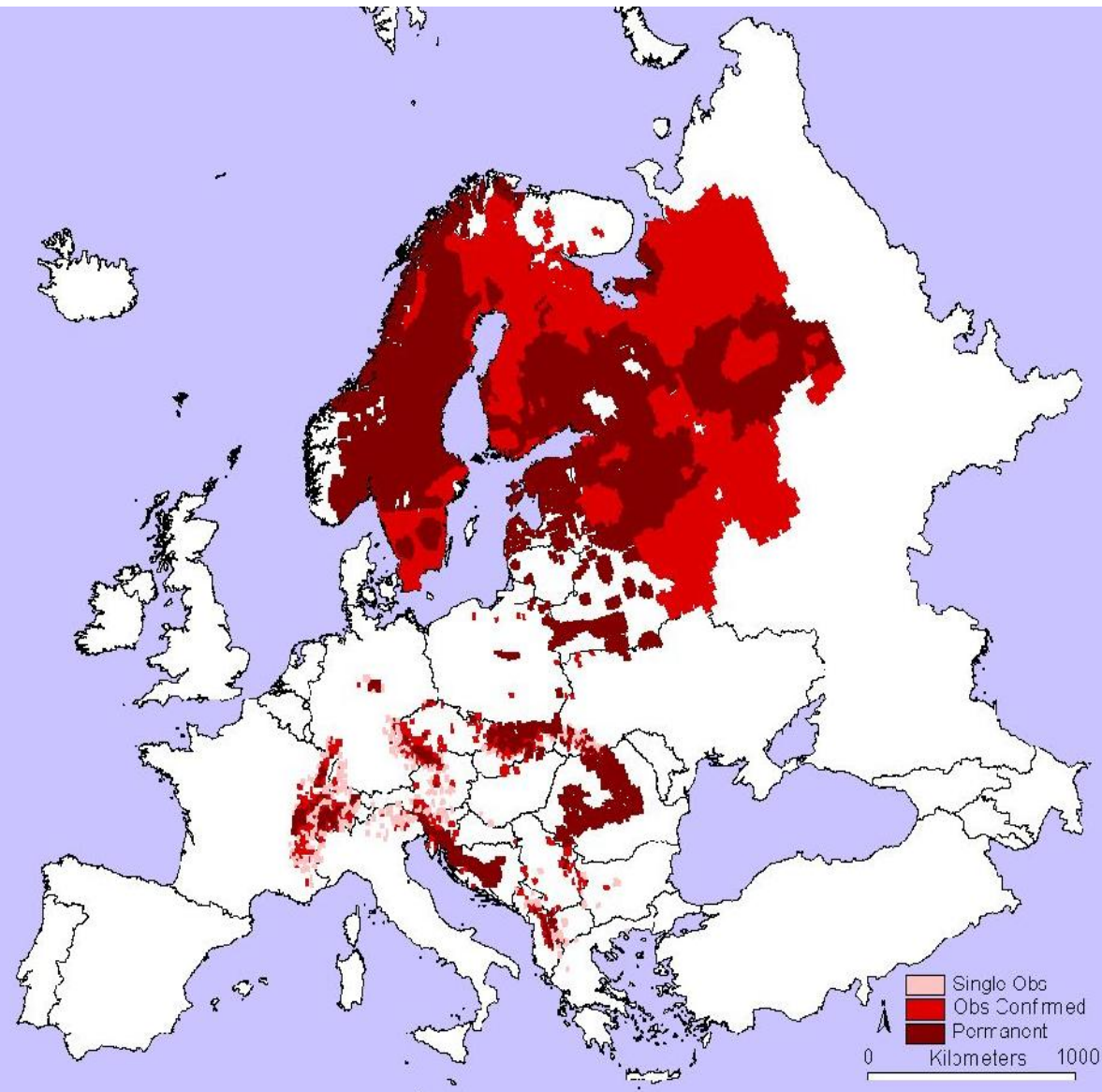


Wolves

Country	Population size (official data)		Experts judgments	Trend
Czech R Slovakia	No data 1.000.		<5 Overestimated Probably 4-500	Stabile
Poland Ukraine	100 350		Accurate Accurate ?	Stabile Stabile
Hungary Romania	No data > 2.500.		<5 Accurate	Increasing



Lynx distribution in Europe



Lynxes

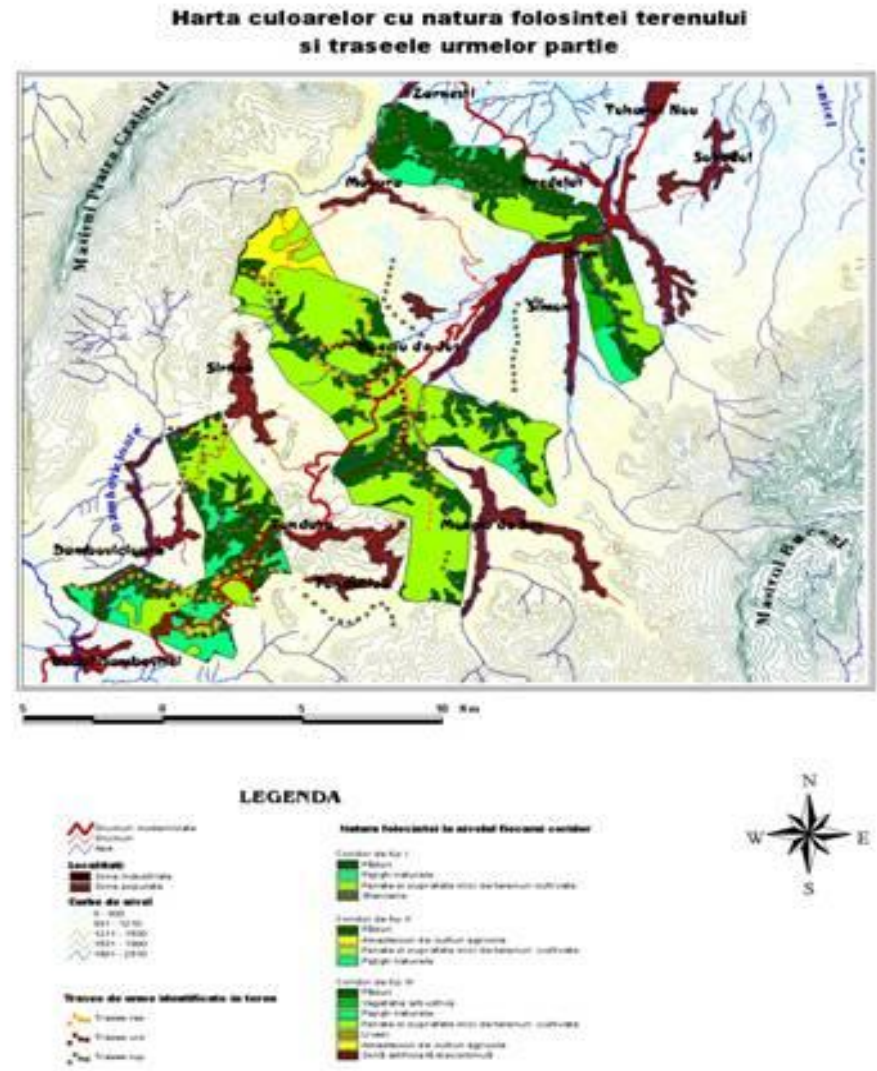
Country	Population size (official data)		Experts judgments	Trend
Czech R Slovakia	No data 800.		10 - 20 Overestimated Probably 400	Stabile Stabile
Poland Ukraine	250 300		Accurate Accurate ?	Stabile Stabile
Hungary Romania	No data > 1.500.		10 - 20 Accurate	Fluctuated Increasing

Large Carnivores in Carpathian Mountains

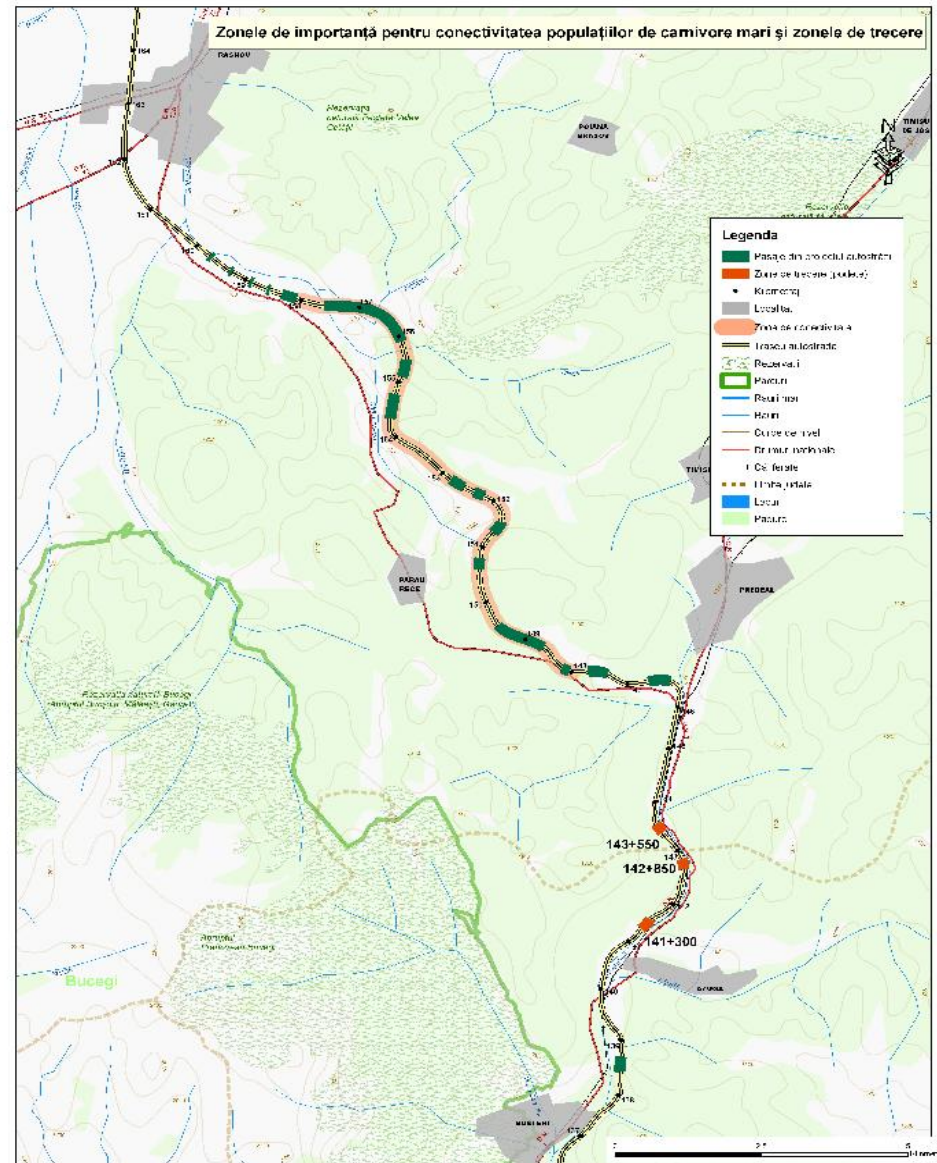
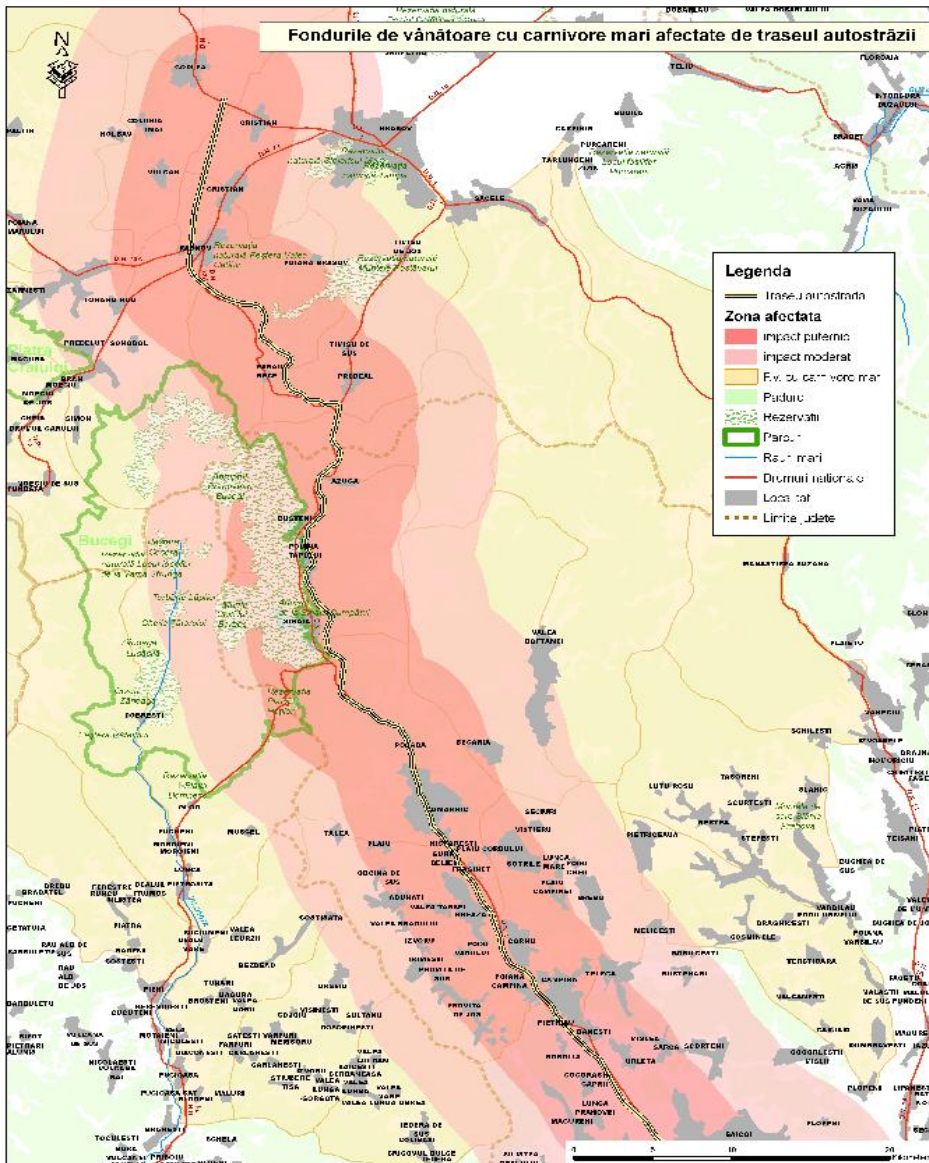
- Pan-Carpathian populations of brown bear, wolf and lynx still exist in considerable numbers. However, there is a great difference in density in the countries.
- Generally, Romania and Slovakia harbour the largest populations,
- Poland and Ukraine have medium sized populations, while the
- Czech Republic and Hungary have the smallest number of individuals.

Hunting lows, poaching and avoidance of the habitat fragmentation

- Important threats for carnivore conservation in some countries are recent changes in hunting systems (too small size of hunting units), unfavorable attitude of hunters and wildlife managers, and low levels of law enforcement.
- All activities with potential negative impact for large carnivores has to be done after a careful analyzes with mitigation measurers if they can't be avoid.



Fragmentation / High way mitigation measures.



Conclusions

- The Carpathian countries share the same populations of large carnivores. For this reason management policy should be coordinated on a regional level and between neighboring countries.
- Proposed changes in national environmental and hunting laws should take into consideration the needs of proper conservation of large carnivores.

Conclusions

- National management plans for carnivores should be developed according to guidelines worked out by the Large Carnivore Initiative for Europe and adopted by the countries, ideally, coordinated with neighboring countries.
- Population dynamics of large carnivores should be monitored.

Conclusions

- There is a need to work out research and apply more accurate methods of estimating carnivore numbers.
- Only accurate research and estimating methods can provide a basis for the reliable management of the species.

Thank you for your attention !

