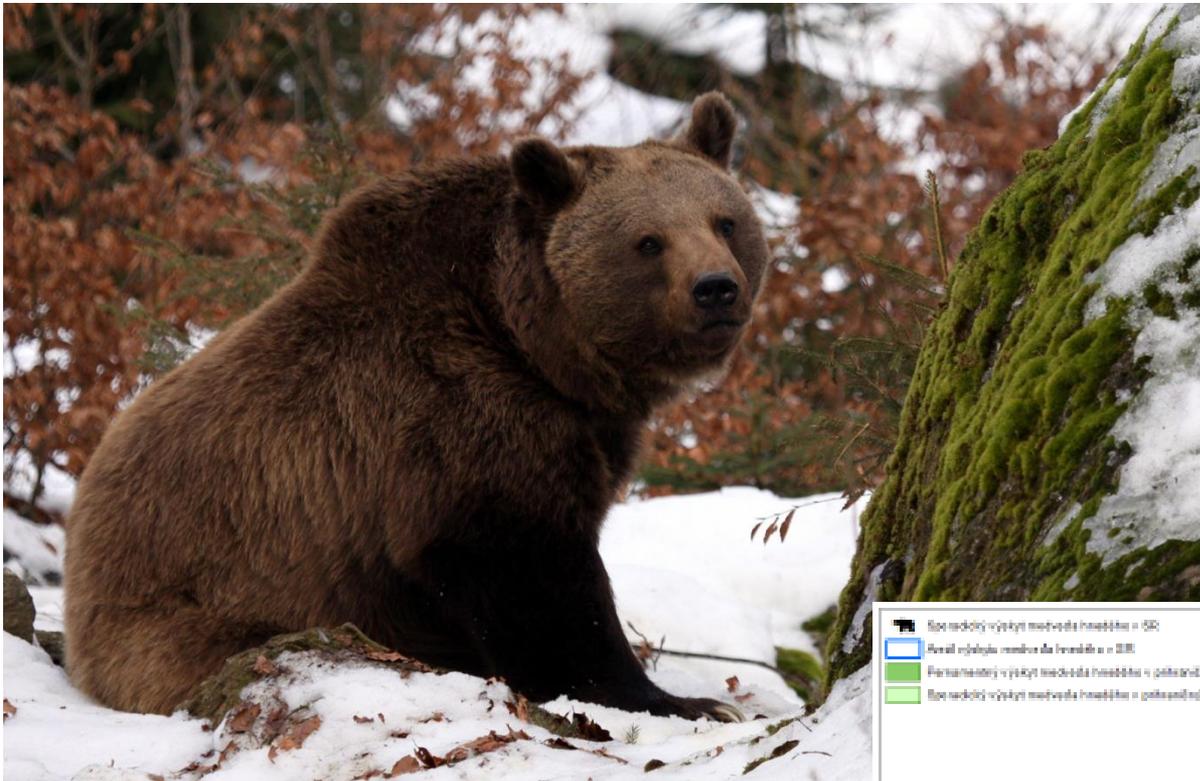


# Illegal killing prevention in Slovakia



**Ján Kadlečík, Slavomír Findo, Marián Hletko, Michal Kalaš – SNC SR**  
CC WG on Biodiversity, Coltesti, RO, 26.11.2019

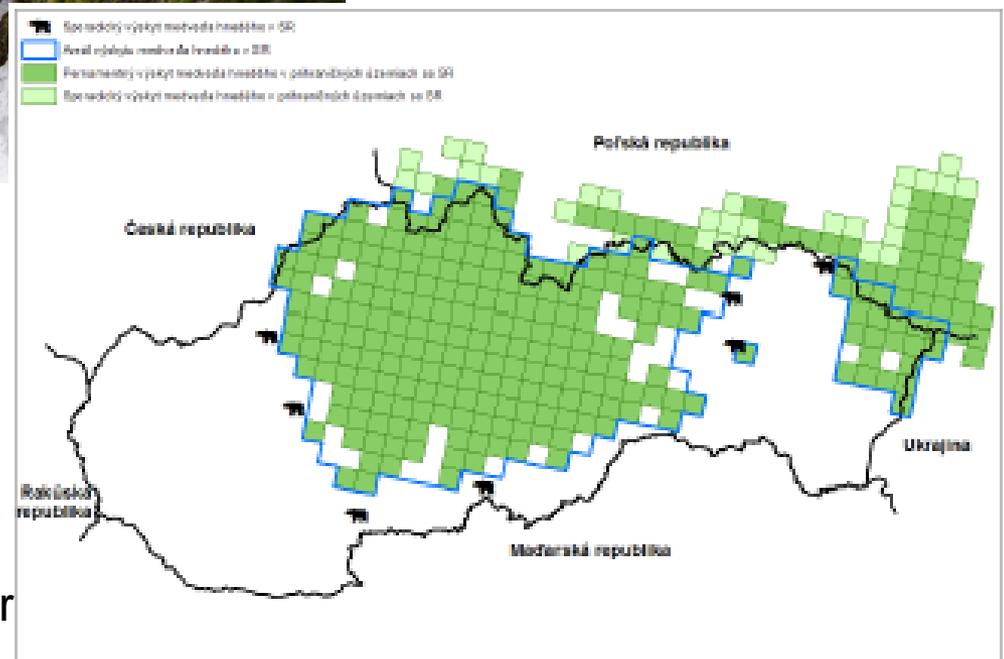
# Distribution and abundance of bear in Slovakia



Population  
abundance:  
(DNA analysis)  
1256 (1023-1489)  
EC reported  
(2013-2018)  
900-1300

Population trend in  
Slovakia:  
increasing

Transborder population of brown bear

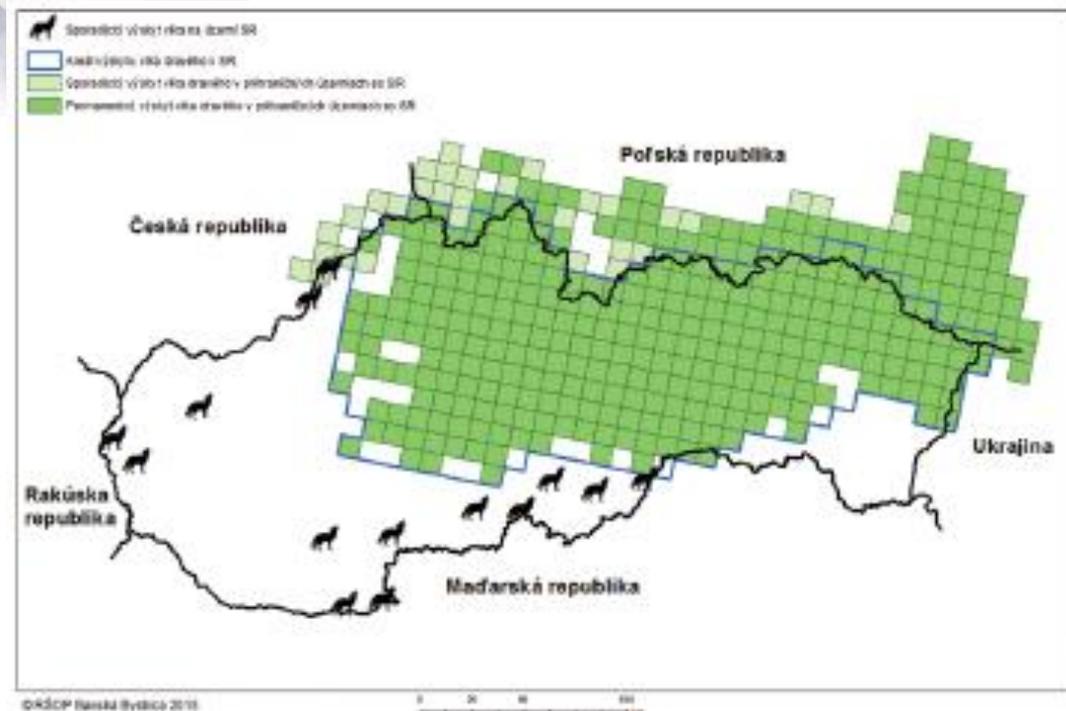


# Distribution and abundance of wolf in Slovakia



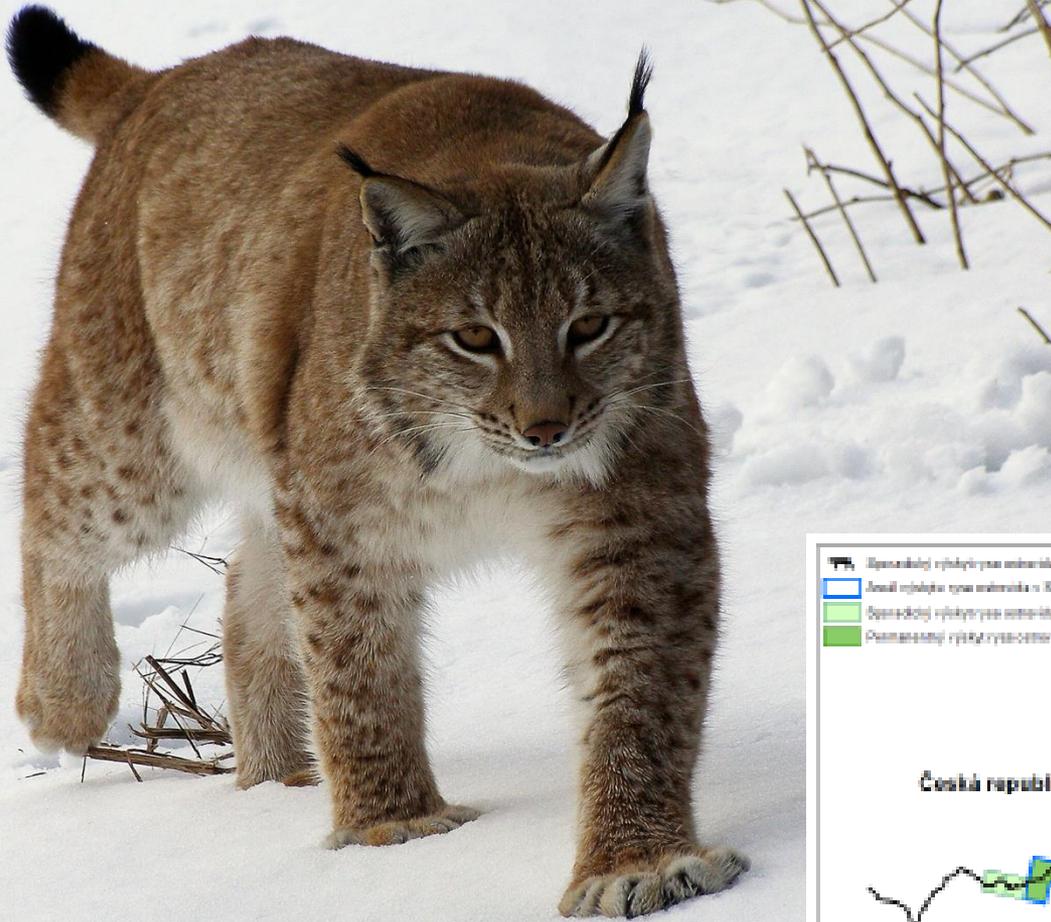
Population abundance (EC reported): 300 - 600

Population trend in Slovakia: stable



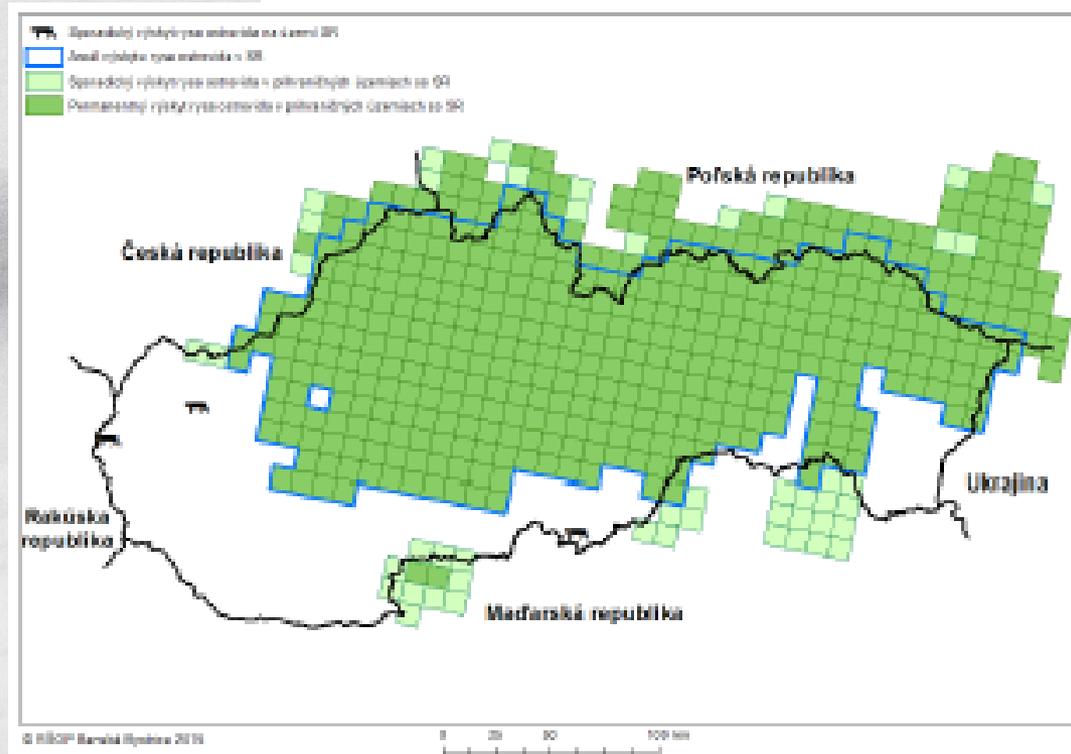
Transborder population of wolf

# Distribution and abundance of lynx in Slovakia



Population abundance  
(EC reported 2013-2018):  
300 – 400

Population trend in Slovakia:  
stable / decreasing



# Management of bear in Slovakia



Projekt „Výskum a monitoring populácií veľkých šeliem a mačky divjej na Slovensku“



Derogation - Habitats

Directive and the  
Bern Convention

- population control,  
emergency shooting,  
translocation

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

Hunting Act 274/2009 –  
protected all year round

Brown Bear Management Plan  
(2016)

## PROGRAM STAROSTLIVOSTI O MEDVEĎA HNEDĚHO (*Ursus arctos*) NA SLOVENSKU



Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky  
za účasti spoluautorov (v abecednom poradí):

Ing. Vladimír Antal, Ing. Milan Borot, Ing. Mgr. Marianna Čertíková, Prof. Ing. Juraj Ciberej, CSc.,  
Ing. Jozef Dóczy, PhD., Ing. Slavomír Fínd'o, CSc., Ing. Peter Kattler, PhD., Prof. Ing. Rudolf Kropil,  
CSc., Ing. Juraj Lukáč, MVDr. Ladislav Molnár, PhD., Prof. Ing. Ladislav Paule, PhD., MSc. Robin  
Rigg, Mgr. Rastislav Rybanič, RNDr. Štefan Šramka

November 2016



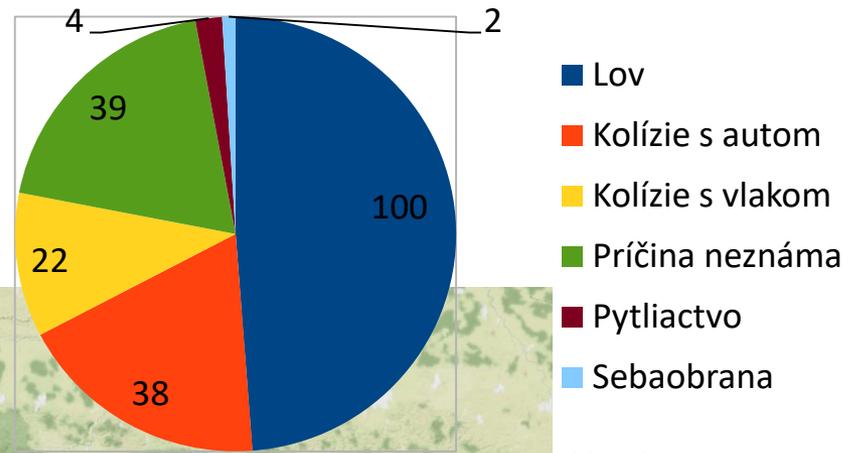
# Management of bear in Slovakia

Reasons  
for exemptions from  
protection

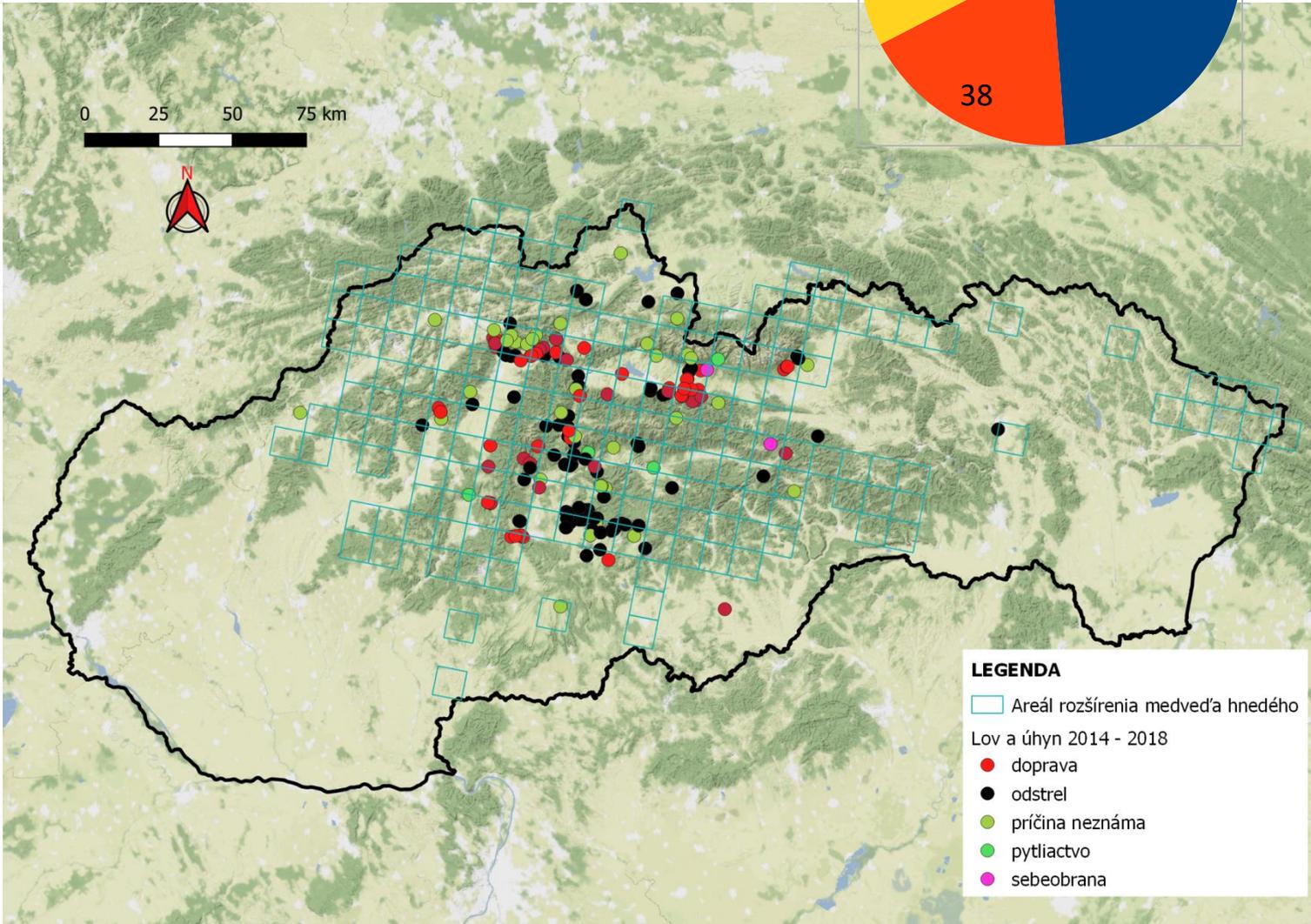
- To prevent serious damages to crops and domestic animals, or other type of property
- In the interest of safeguarding public health and safety
- Yearly shooting quota

Year	Legal control	Poaching	Hunters self-defence	Traffic (car/train)	Unknown / other
2011	27		3	10	2
2012	48	1		15	2
2013	20		2	7	1
2014	20	1		9	7
2015	26	2	2	7	7
2016	17		1	11	2
2017	22	1	1	16	11
2018	17	2		11	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>35</b>

# Brown bear mortality 2014-2018



- Lov
- Kolízie s autom
- Kolízie s vlakom
- Príčina neznáma
- Pytliactvo
- Sebaobrana
  
- Hunting
- Road kills
- Collisions w. trains
- Unknown
- Poaching
- Self-defence



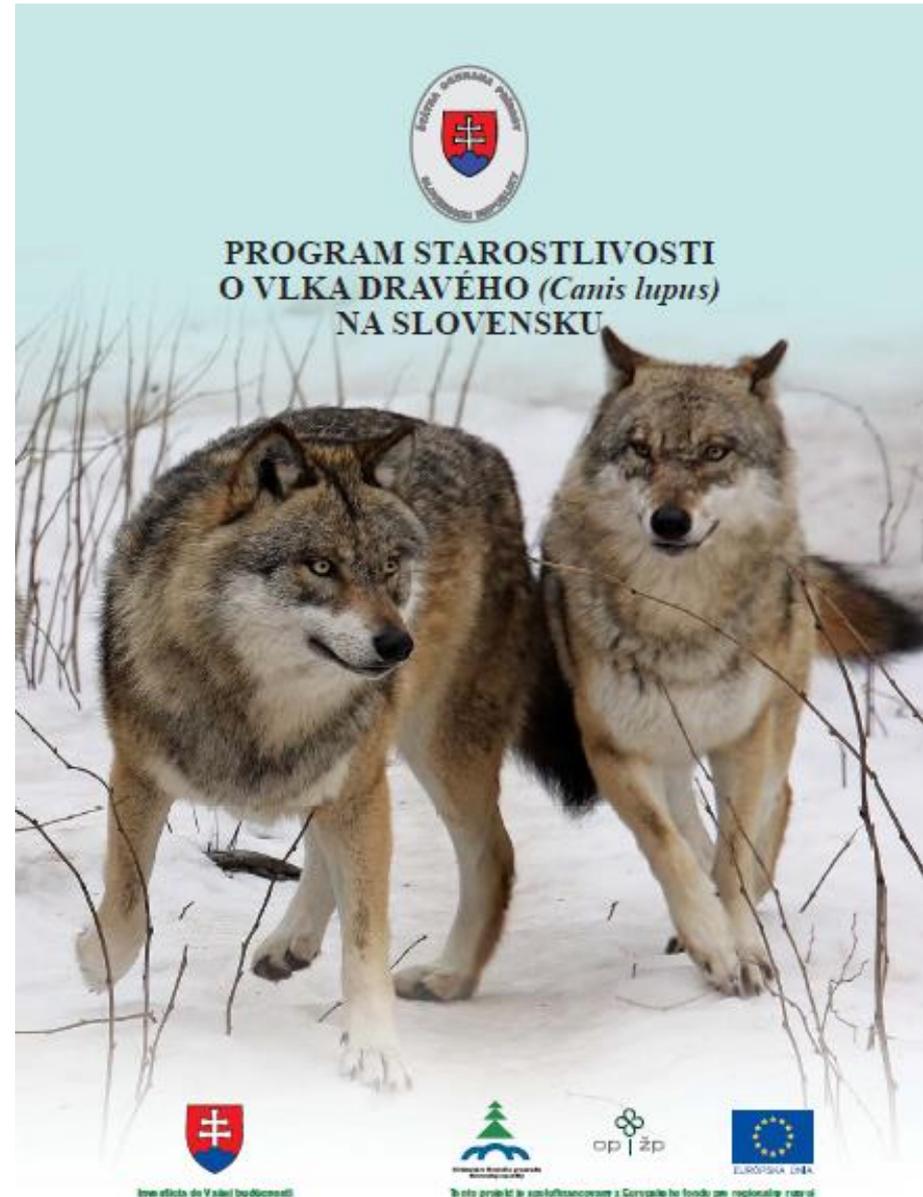
# Management of wolf in Slovakia

Derogation - Habitats Directive (geographic exemption applies) and the 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,  
0 quota advocated by SNC



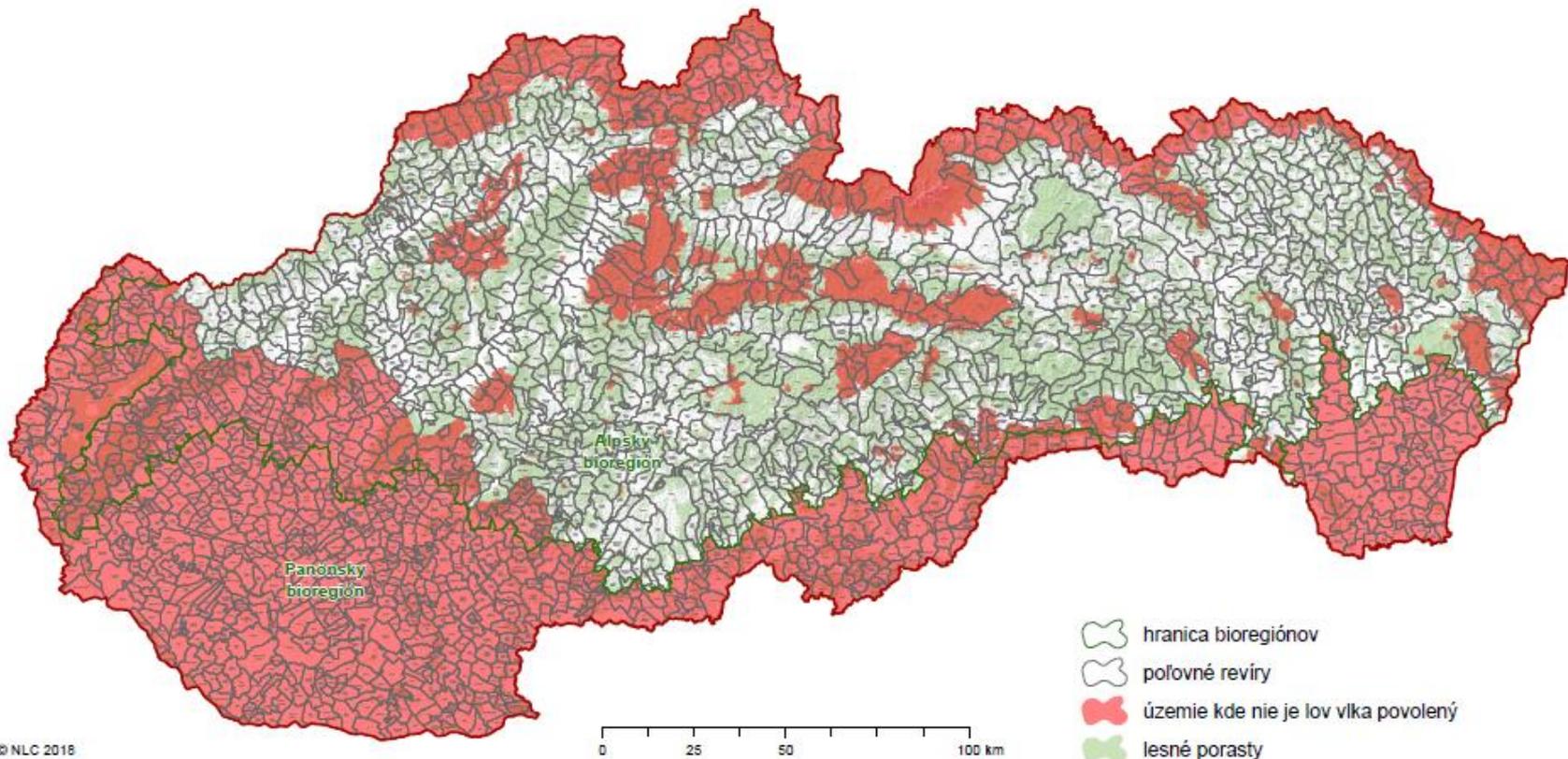
# Management of wolf in Slovakia

Quota - Ministry of Agriculture and RD

Season 2018/2019 – approved 70, shot 31

Season 2019/2020 – approved 35 ind.

Area with prohibited wolf hunting



# Management of lynx in Slovakia



Projekt „Výskum a monitoring populácií veľkých šeliem a mačky divjej na Slovensku“



PROGRAM STAROSTLIVOSTI O RYSA OSTROVIDA (*Lynx lynx*)  
NA SLOVENSKU



Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky  
za účasti spoluautorov (v abecednom poradí):

Ing. Vladimír Antal, Ing. Milan Boroš, Ing. Mgr. Marianna Čerňáková, prof. Ing. Juraj Ciberej, CSc., Ing. Jozef Dóczy, PhD., Ing. Slavomír Fíňo, CSc., Ing. Peter Kaštier, PhD., prof. Ing. Rudolf Kropil, CSc., Mgr. Jakub Kubala, PhD., Ing. Juraj Lukáč, MVDr. Ladislav Molnár, PhD., prof. Ing. Ladislav Paule, PhD., MSc. Robin Rigg, Mgr. Rastislav Rybanič, Ing. Peter Smolko, PhD., RNDr. Štefan Šramka

Január 2017

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

Hunting Act 274/2009  
- protected all year round

Lynx Management Plan  
(2017)



Ministerstvo životného prostredia, vody a lesníctva

Štátna ochrana prírody Slovenskej republiky

# Threats

Illegal killing

Local excessive  
hunting (overhunting)

Isolation of populations  
(area / habitat  
fragmentation)

Traffic collisions

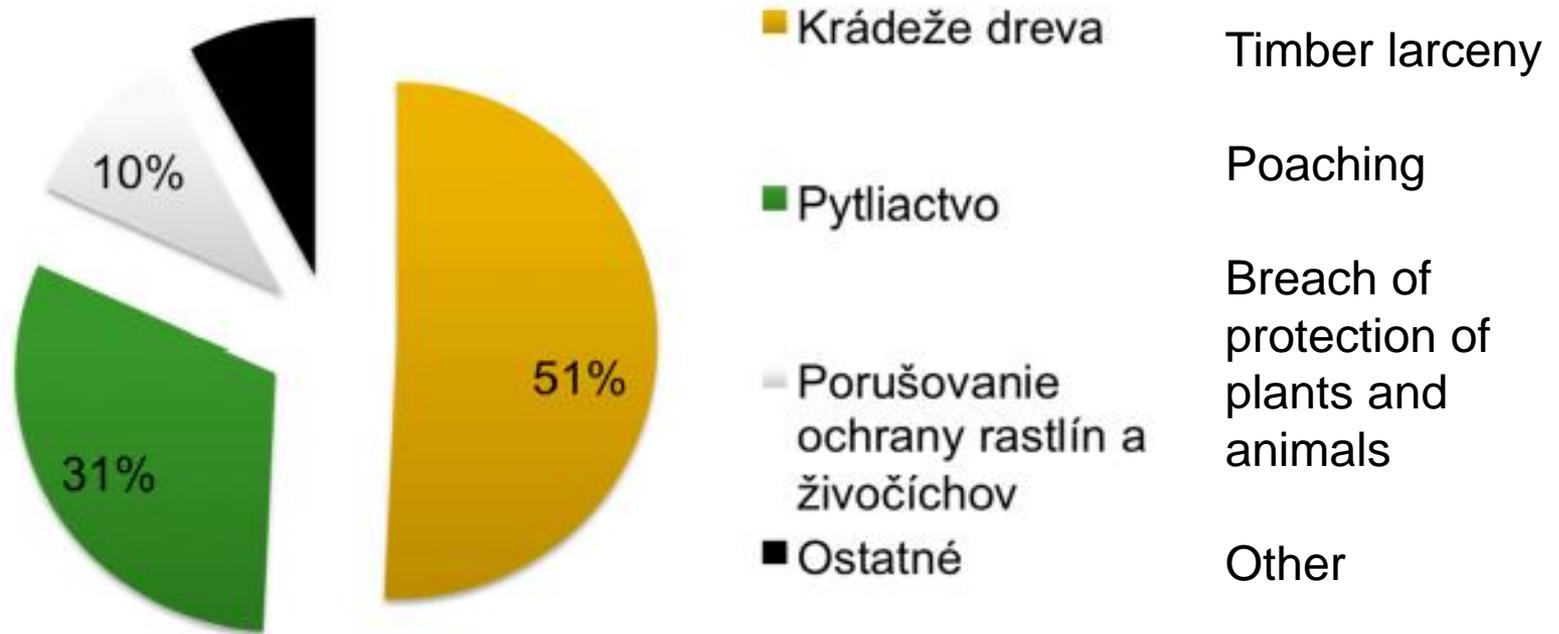
Negative attitude of  
the public



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

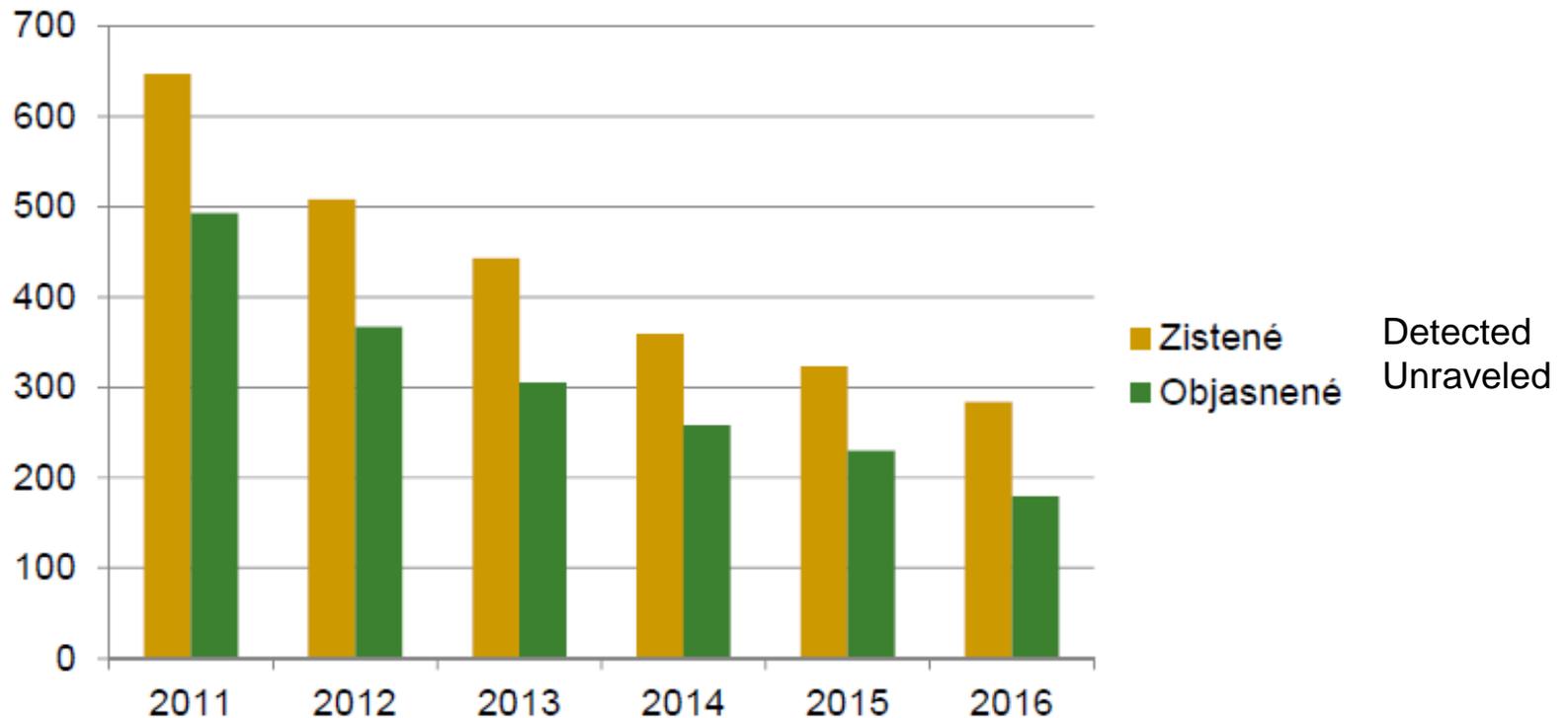


# Environmental crime



Source: Department for detection of hazardous substances and environmental crime of the Criminal Police Bureau of the Presidium of Police Force

# Poaching (generally)



Source: Department for detection of hazardous substances and environmental crime of the Criminal Police Bureau of the Presidium of Police Force

# Illegal hunting

- among the most serious threats to LC populations in Slovakia
- most probably the main reason for not achieving the favourable conservation status of the lynx
- numbers of illegally killed LCs unknown



# Legislative sanctions

- Act No. 543/2002 on nature and landscape protection
- Act No. 300/2005 Criminal code
- Act No. 15/2005 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein (CITES)

# Measures to prevent illegal hunting

## (LCs management plans)

- Education and information activities towards hunters in cooperation with the Slovak Hunters Chamber to raise awareness on LCs ecology, their importance and predation on ungulates
- Involvement of all stakeholders (including hunters and foresters) in monitoring implementation and increasing of knowledge on LCs ecology and their influence on ungulates populations at the national level and in reference areas
- Cooperation of the MoE, Ministry of Agriculture, State Nature Conservancy, Slovak Hunters Chamber and Police Corps in investigation and consistent unravel the cases of illegal killing, systematic control of official/registered and unregistered taxidermists
- Establishment and administration of the national database of registered dead, orphaned and handicapped animals
- Implement in practice the system of determination of cause of death, injury and lose of parents

# Other measures

- Strategy for prevention of crime and other criminal social conduct 2016-2020; National Action Plan to combat environmental crime
- Department for detection of hazardous substances and environmental crime of the Criminal Police Bureau of the Presidium of Police Force
- Departments for environmental crime at regional, district and local levels of the Police Force (100 specialized policemen)
- Specialized experts at the Attorney General's office and regional Prosecutor's offices
- Slovak Environmental Inspection
- Rangers in protected areas, nature guards, hunting patrol, forestry patrol
- Study programme Forensic and criminal environmental studies at Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Studies, University of Technology in Zvolen

# Measures to adjust attitudes of society

- Elimination of damages - application of preventive measures
- Livestock protection (electric fences, shepherd dog breeds, types of folds, detection and sewing facilities, lights, personnel quality...); Fruit trees; Beehives
- Change of crop composition and agricultural practices
- Management of ungulates, elimination of baiting
- Securing of waste disposal in certain areas
- Scaring off, immobilisation or killing of problematic individuals
- Damage compensations (after an investigation) – procedures and system established; Proposals for further improvement of recoding of damages, compensation mechanisms for injured, not found animals, system of investigation, etc.
- Financial support for prevention measures
- Bear Emergency Team
- Brown Bear/Wolf Conservation and Management Committee



**Thank you for your attention**