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# Ecological connectivity and spatial planning in the Carpathians

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The Carpathians are still an area of extreme natural beauty and unique richness of biodiversity.....





**Carpathians - still low-fragmented area - the last true wilderness in Central Europe with thriving populations of large carnivores and many other species**





..living with nature....





....transport without negative impacts...





**However, building of new transport infrastructure, growing intensity of traffic and spreading of new development go very fast also in Carpathians**





**Rapid development causes that most of animal migration routes are irreversibly broken, the landscape becomes fragmented and original ecological connectivity is destroyed.**





...the crucial problem is the development in mountain valleys

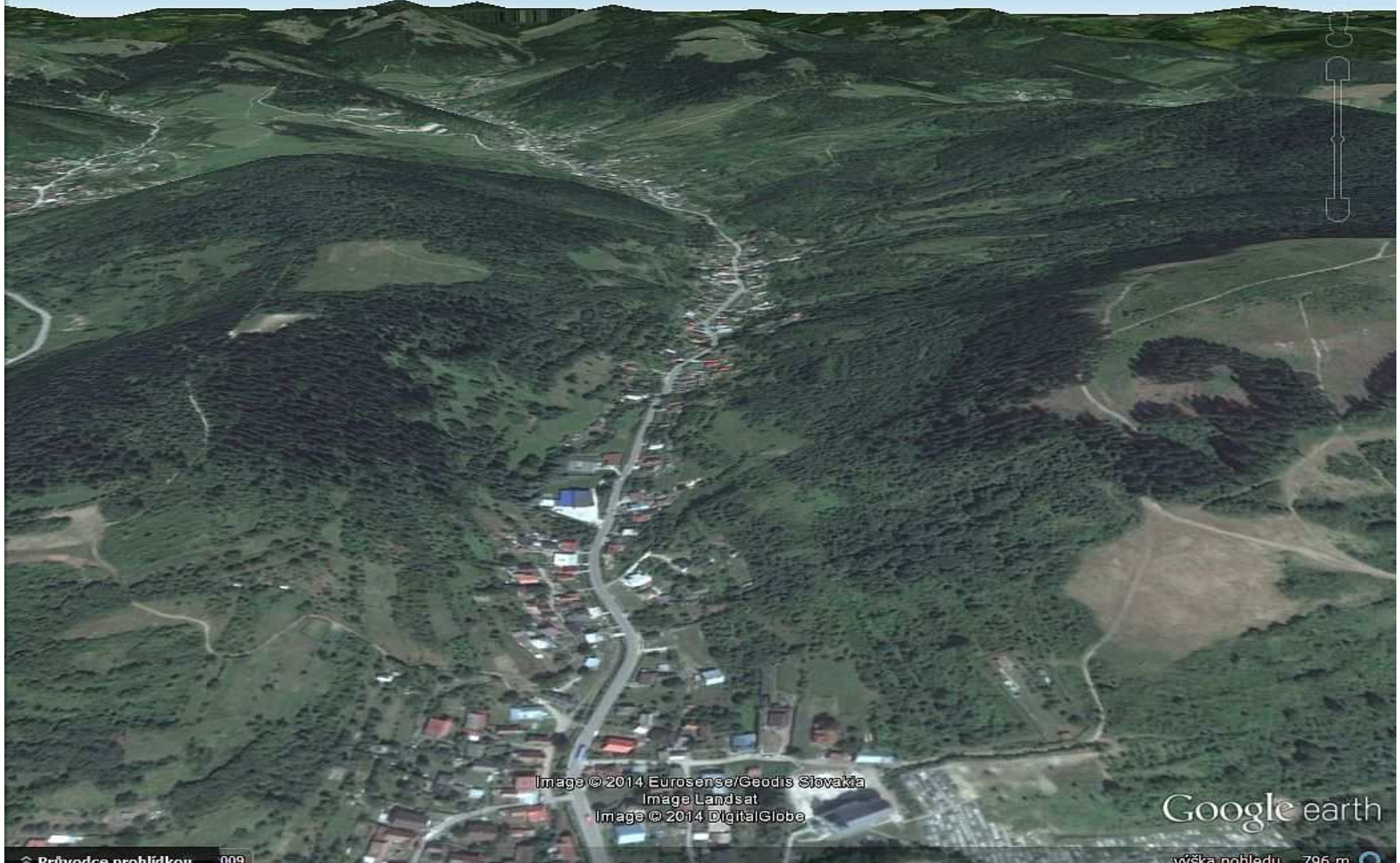


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Continuously built-up areas create a migration barrier for animals, often tens of kilometers long

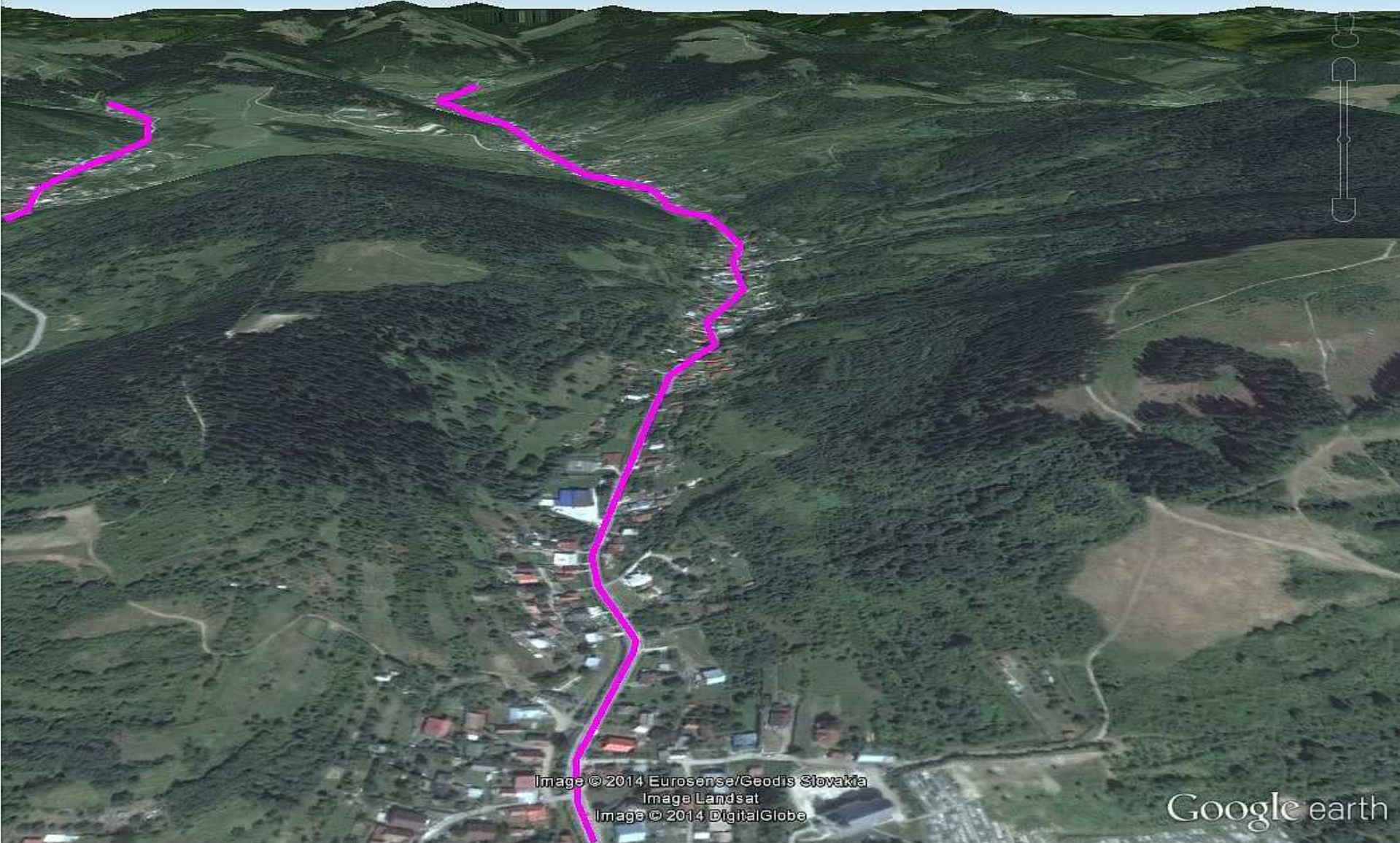


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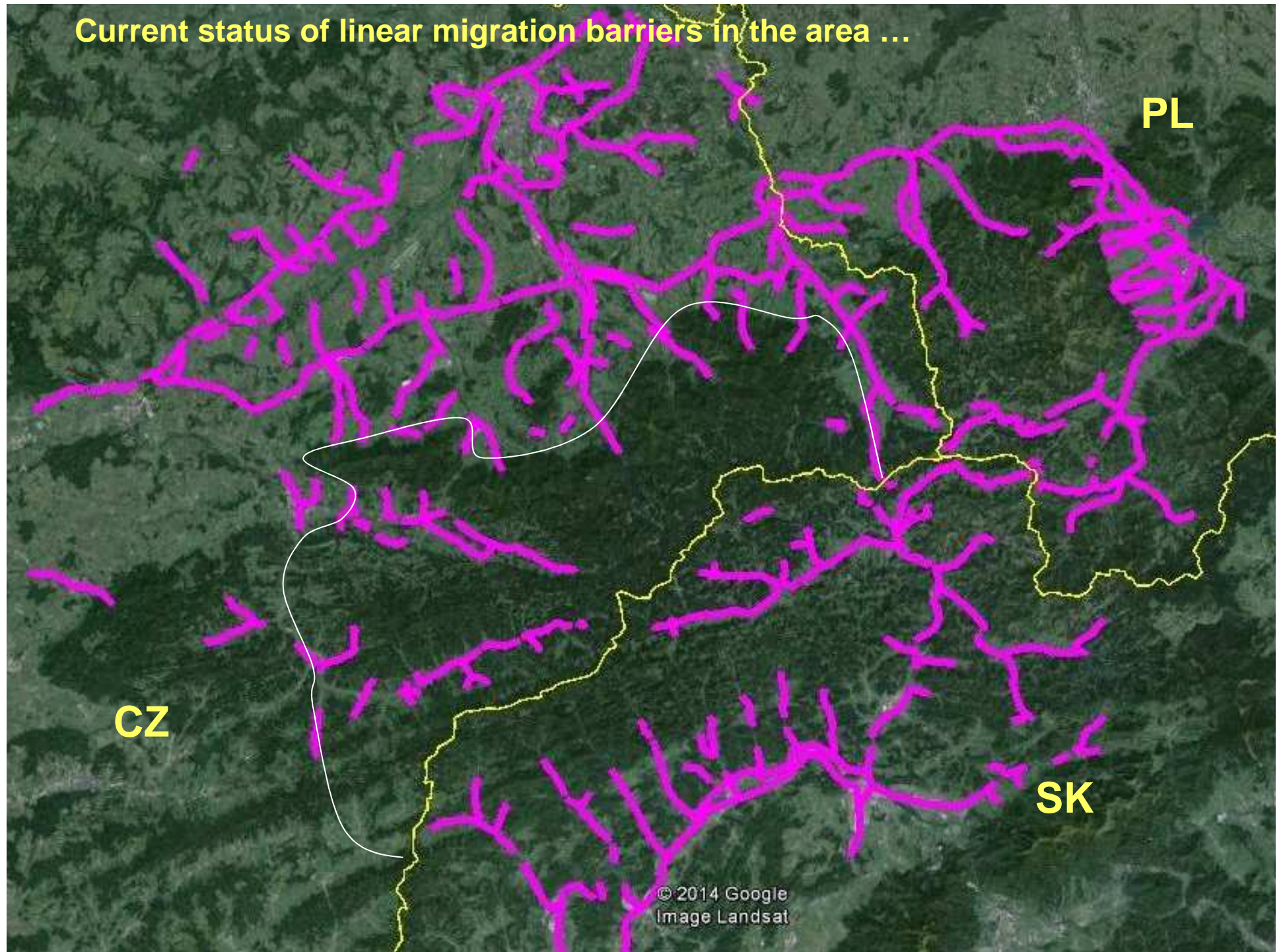
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Current status of linear migration barriers in the area ...



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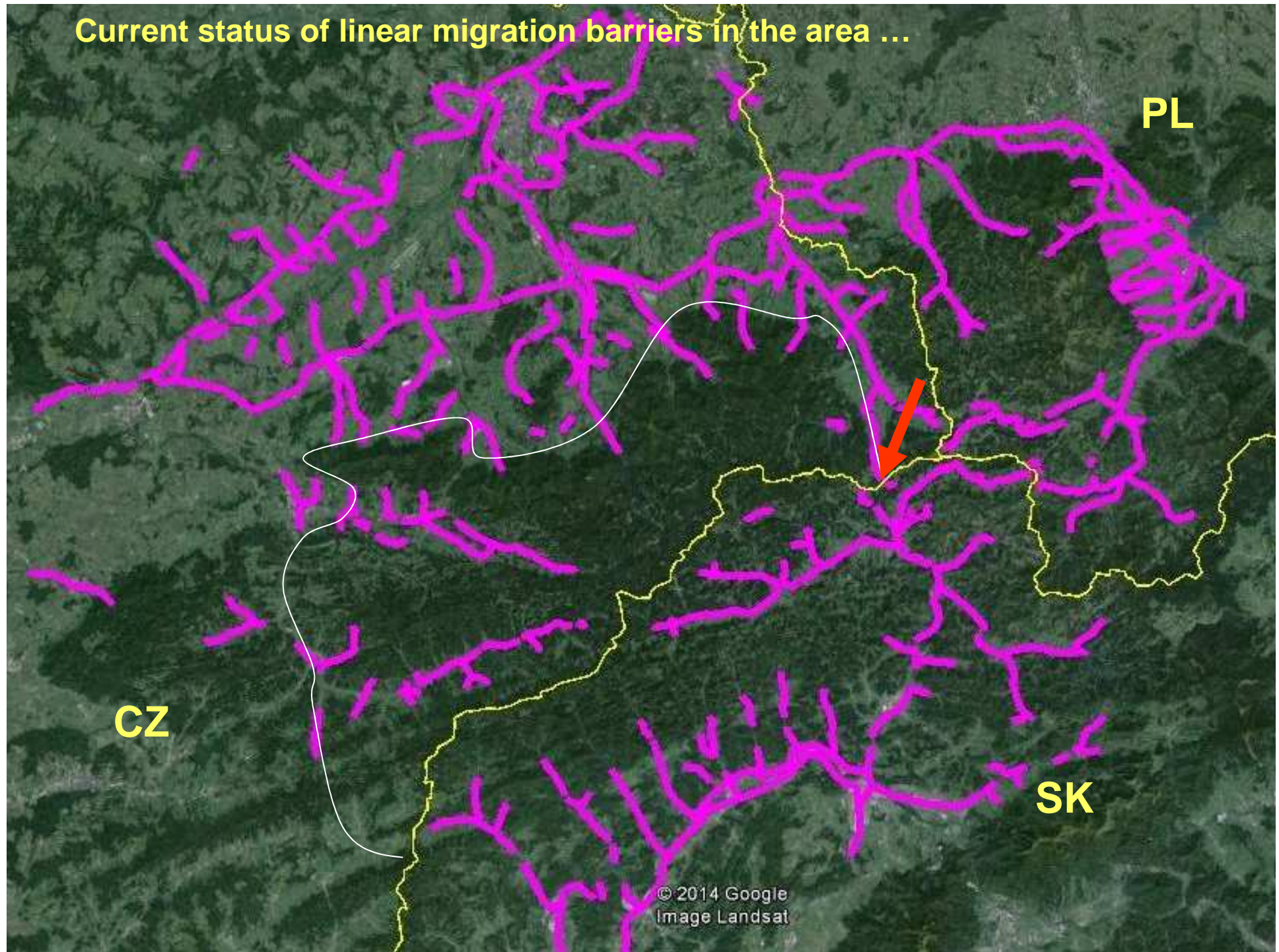
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Current status of linear migration barriers in the area ...



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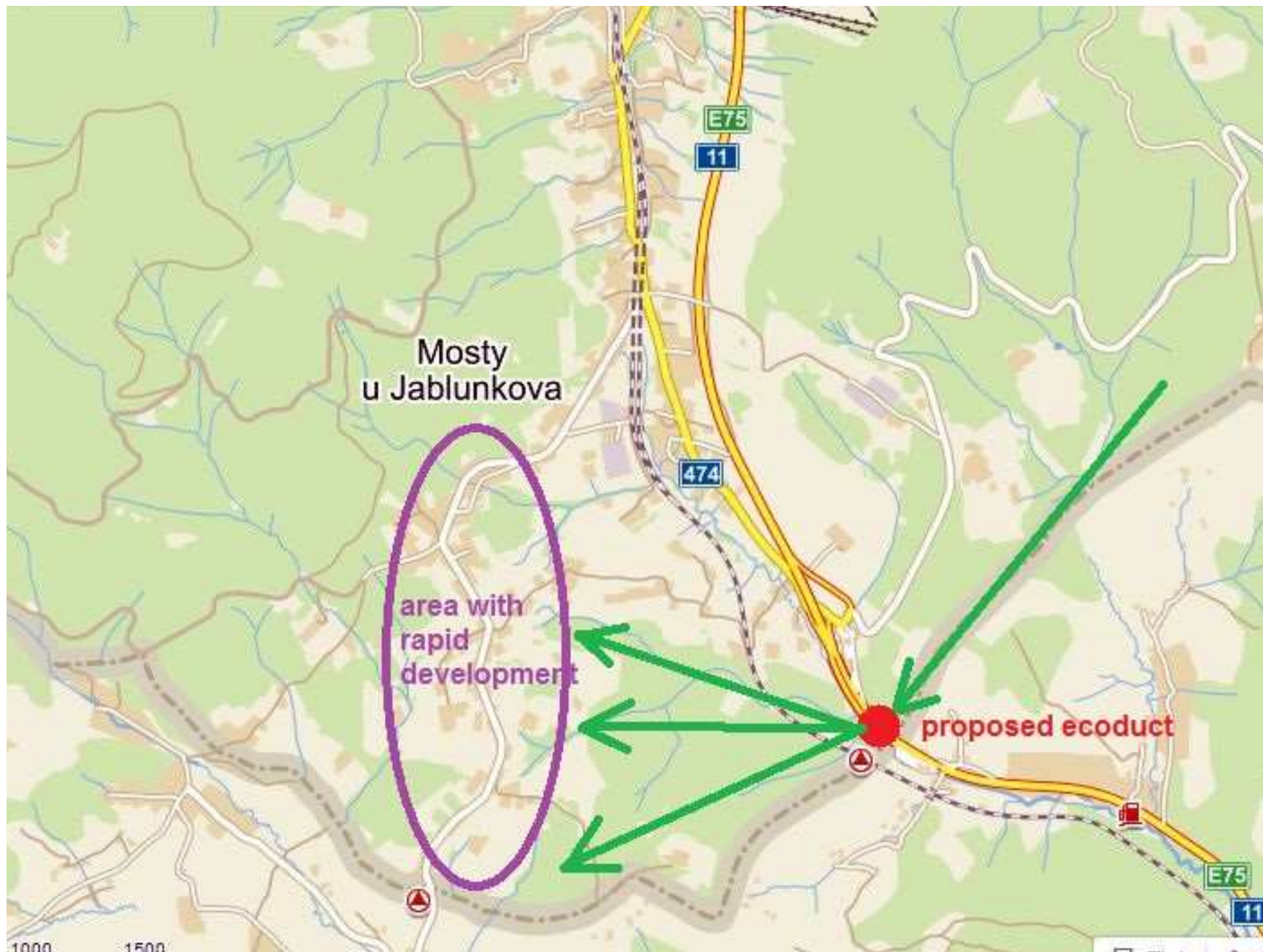






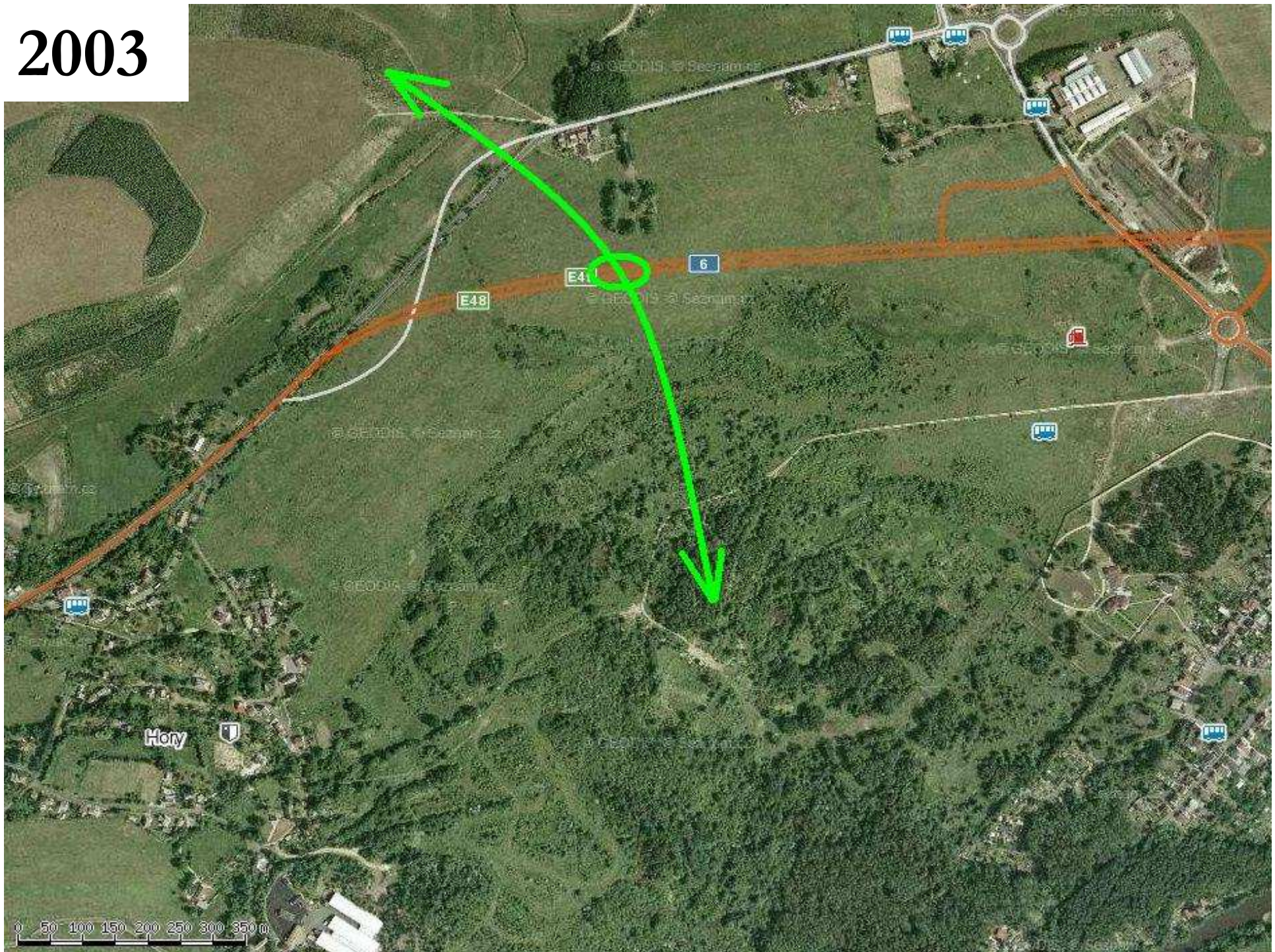








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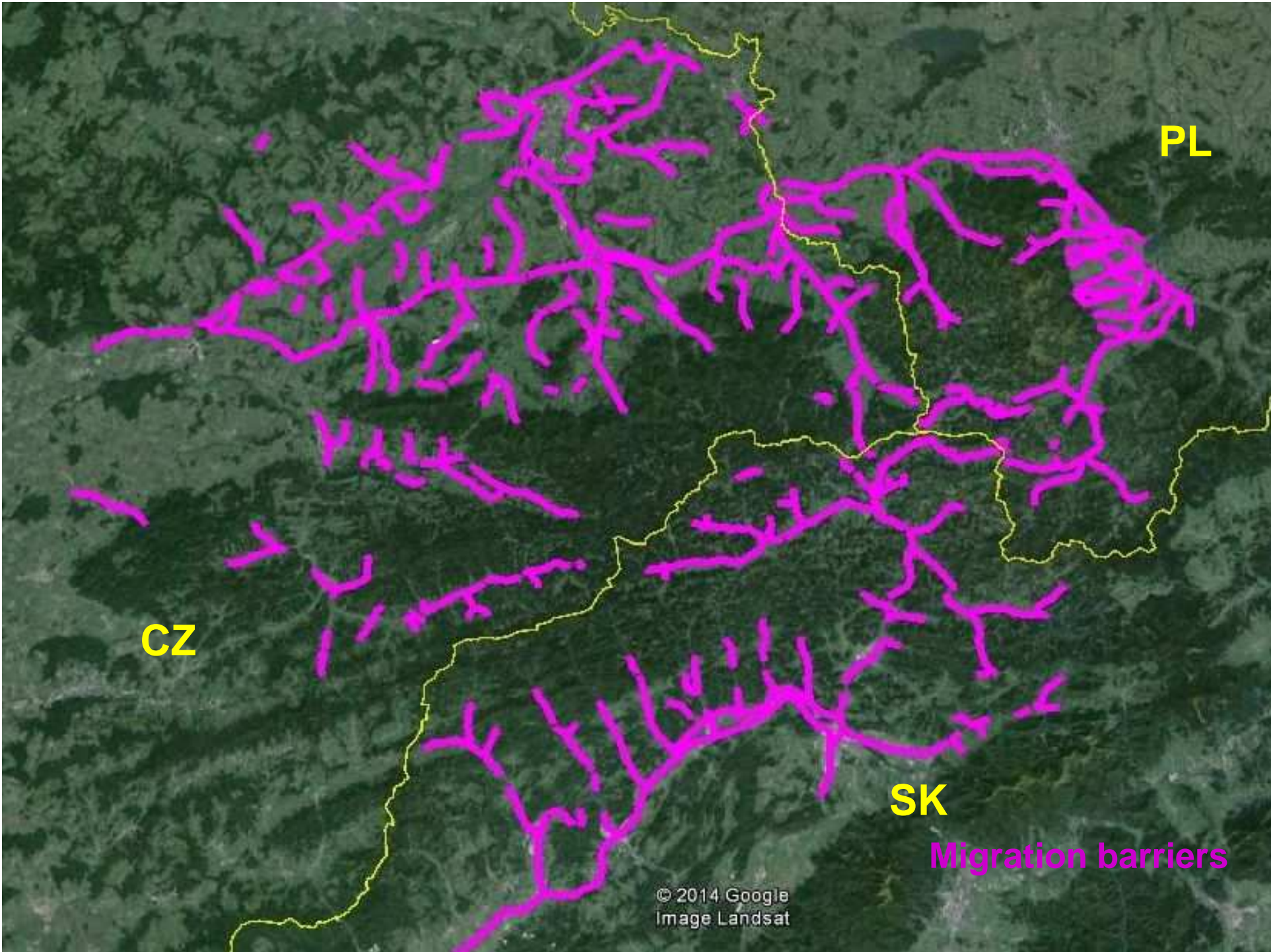
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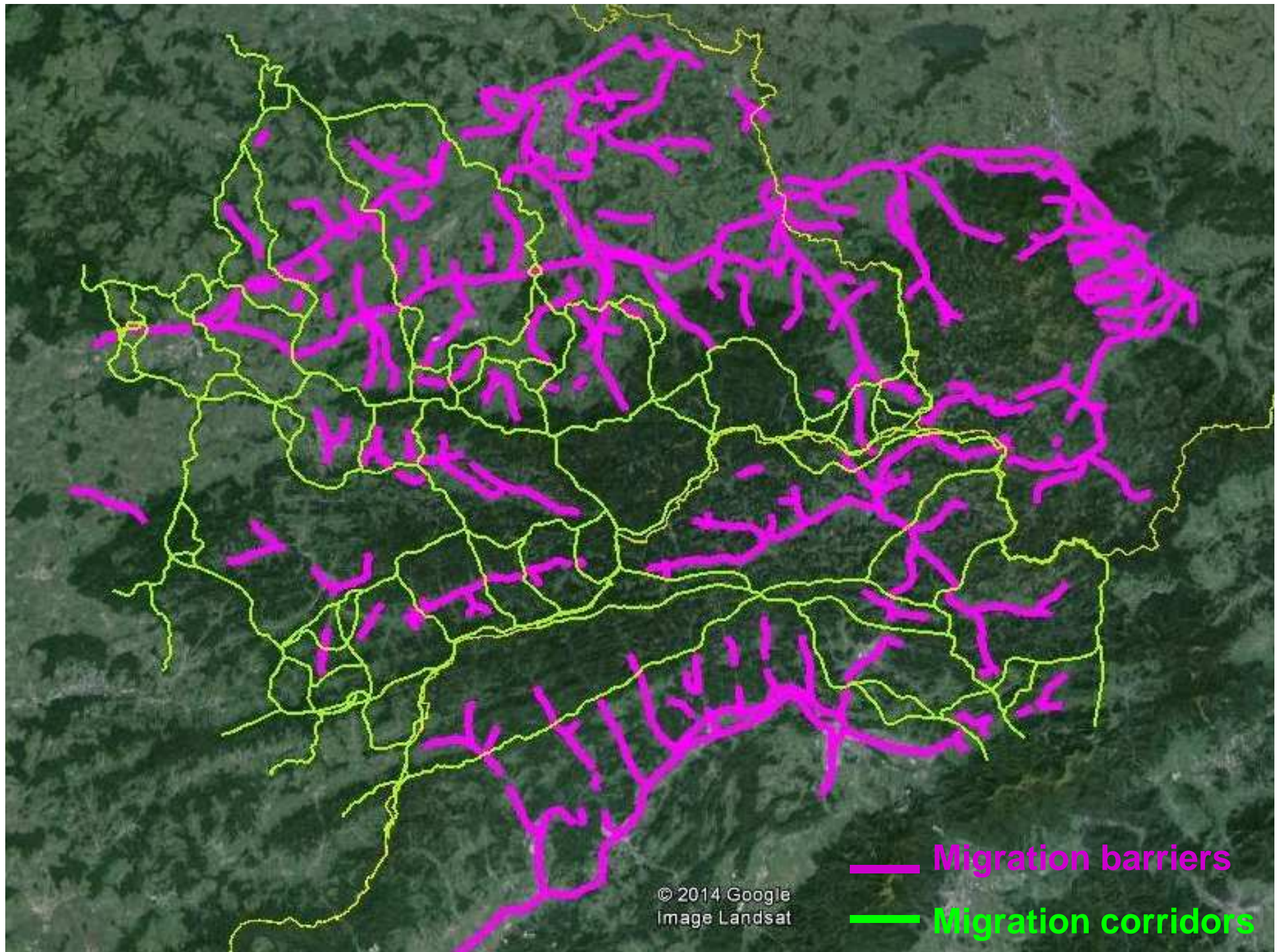
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Migration barriers

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## The change in nature conservation priorities :

protection of individuals → protection of habitat → protection of connectivity

### Current challenges for nature conservation in Carpathians:

1. identification of migration corridors for large carnivores (as umbrella species for other species of forest ecosystems) across the Carpathians (....partly done)
2. protection of migration corridors in spatial planning !!!!!!!!!!!!!





**Thank you for your  
attention**

