

Presumed impact of a construction of Overhead Power Line (OHL) in an environmentally sensitive area in the Lithuanian-Polish borderland, Possible file 2013/5

Dr. Ramūnas Valiokas,
on behalf of NGO Rudamina Community

Strasbourg, December 1, 2015

Mediation

“Mediator...may conduct the mediation in such manner as he considers appropriate, having in mind at all times the circumstances of the case and the wishes of the parties”

- The authorities recognized the danger to at least some of the species.
- Still, continued on providing incorrect information.
- The drawn conclusions and envisaged measures are by fare inadequate with respect to the scale of the damage.
- Formal terms and ground rules were not maintained.

Purpose of mediation?



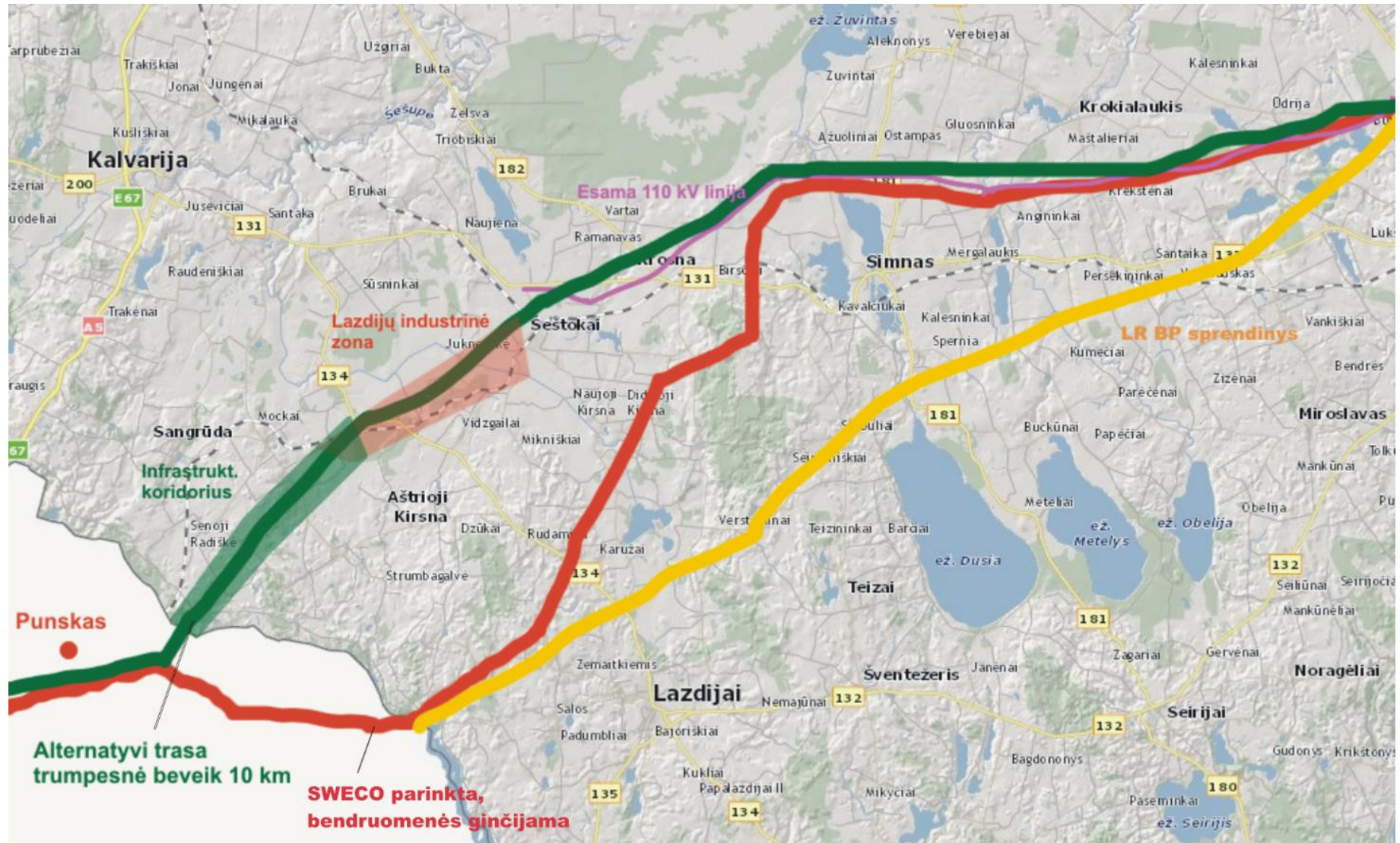
LIETUVOS RESPUBLIKOS UŽSIENIO REIKALŲ MINISTERIJOS
2014 METŲ VEIKLOS ATASKAITA

2015 m. vasario 27 d.
Vilnius

“Within the aim of ensuring funding for the LitPol Link project from the EU funds (under the upcoming CEF call) and also a positive decision by the Nordic Investment Bank, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has solidified the efforts of Lithuanian institutions and companies as well as the support from other countries and proofed that this project complies with the international commitments of Lithuania, i.e. the provisions of Bern Convention.”

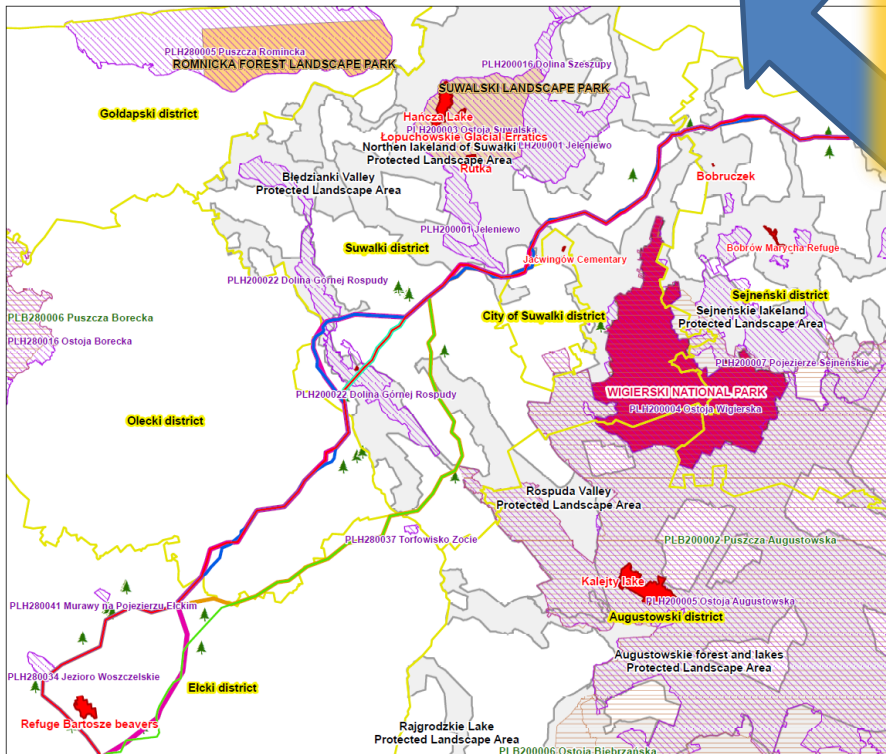
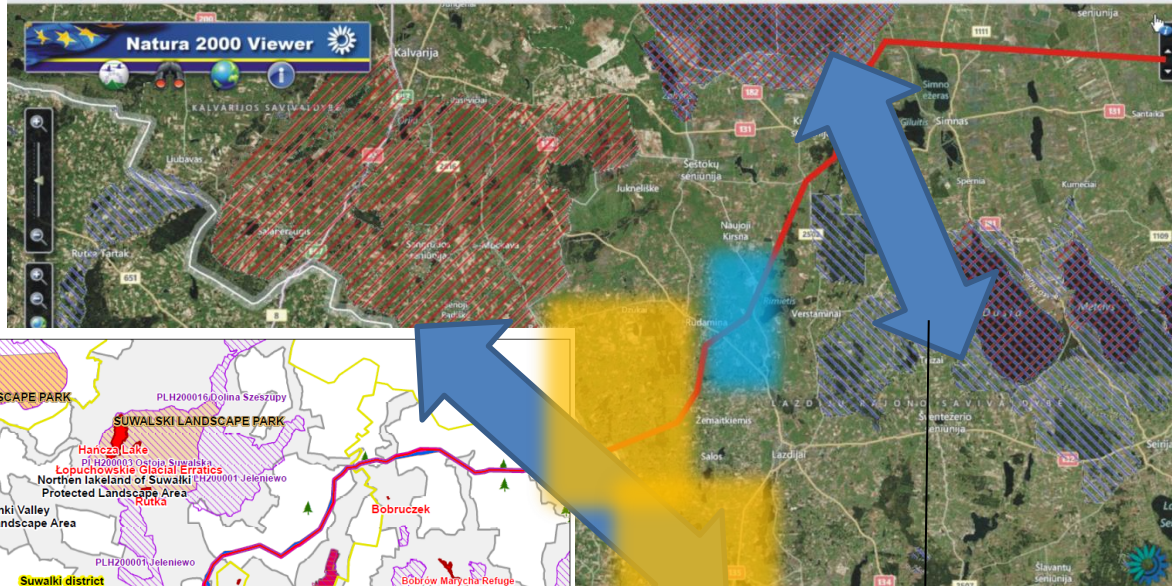
February 27, 2015, Annual Report

Alternative by the public: careful routing and state-of-the-art technology



Intrusion into a unique area

**FIRST
INFRASTR.
OF SUCH A
SCALE**

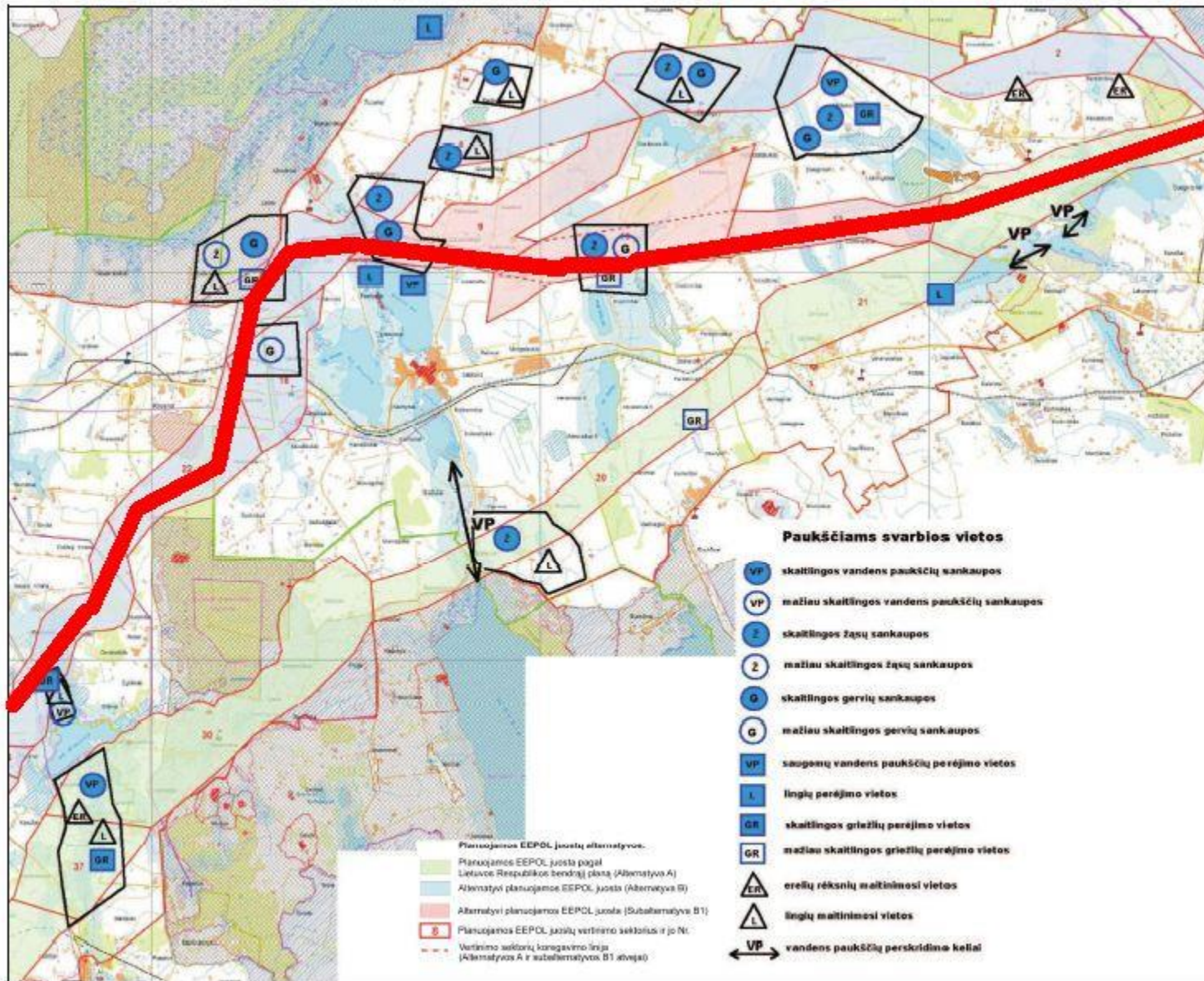


Migration corridors

NO TRANSBOUNDARY EIA.

WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES?

Žuvintas UNESCO bird reserve



Bird accumulations:

- **Grus grus** - up to 2.700
- **Geese** (including *Branta leucopsis*) - up to 12.000
- **Ciconia ciconia**- 90 juveniles each year in the Žuvintas Reserve only

Fig. 2.23. Established habitats of protected bird species and locations of accumulations of migrating birds

Environs of Žuvintas bird reserve

Number of
Bern
Convention
Bird species
exposed to
killing:
at least 25



Lake system for protected swans and waterfowl



- 120 in Dusia Lake
- 80 in Amalvas Lake
- 20 in Žaltytis Lake
- Indications of breeding in Žuvintas Lake

"Environmentally sensitive area"



Analysis of
in the Dove



Report on the Žuvintas agri
Ivo Walsmit (DLG)
Ruta Vaiciunaite (Avalon)
Clunie Keenleyside (Avalon)
Paul Terwan (Avalon)
Mark Redman (Avalon)



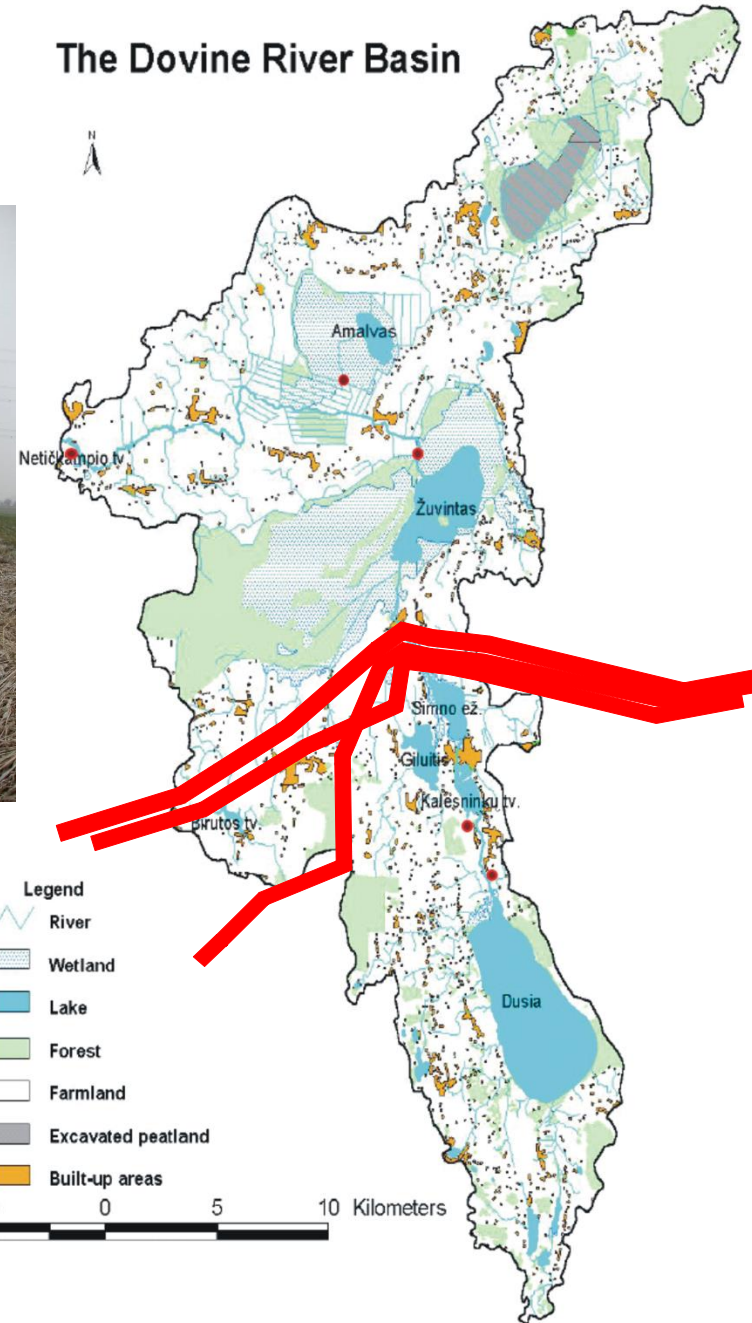
dienst landelijk gebied
voor ontwikkeling en beheer



Alterra-rapport 1370, ISSN 1566-7197



The Dovine River Basin



Forest fragmentation



Habitat code: 9010

Habitat name: Western Taiga

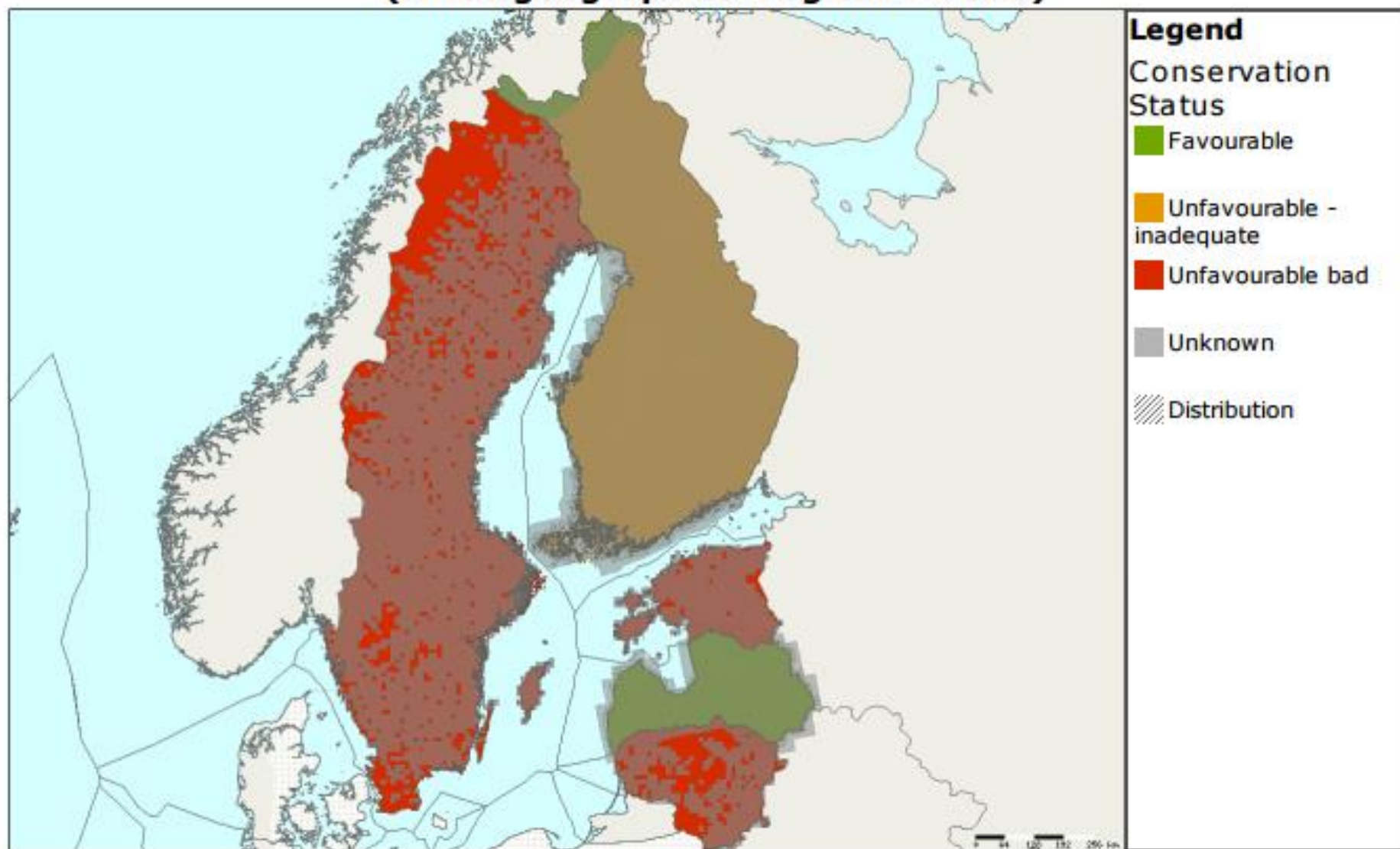


Forest fragmentation

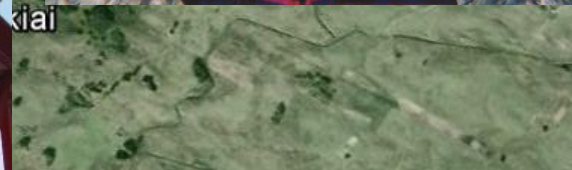
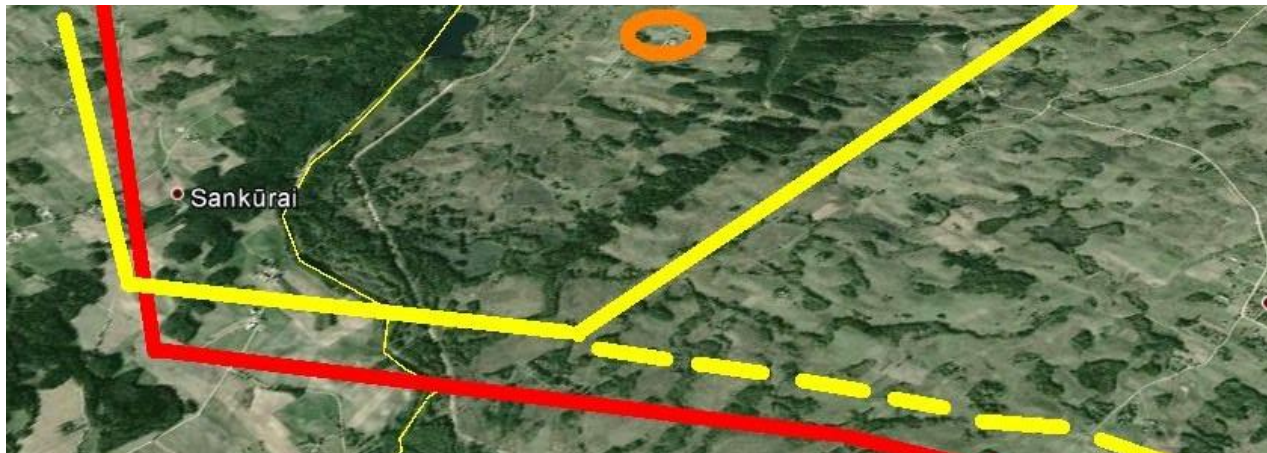
- *makes interior forest species more vulnerable to predators, parasites, competition from edge species, and catastrophic events.*
- *increases the number of common (edge) plants and animals that can encroach into what was the forest interior. This encroachment can have impacts on the number, health, and survival of interior forest species, many of which are rare.*

Environmental Impacts of Transmission Lines, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, Electric 10 (07/13)

Assessments of conservation status as reported by Member states (all biogeographical regions - EU25)



POND TURTLE AND AMPHYBIANS



The main reserves for the European pond turtle in Lithuania



Articles of the Convention

- Art 1; 1,2
- Art 2
- Art 4; 1,2,3,4
- Art 6; a, b, c
- Art 7; 1,2
- Art 10; 1
- Art 11; 1, a and b.

Article 6

Each Contracting Party shall take appropriate and necessary legislative and administrative measures to ensure the special protection of the wild fauna species specified in Appendix II. The following will in particular be prohibited for these species:

- a) all forms of deliberate capture and keeping and **deliberate killing**;
- b) the **deliberate damage to or destruction of breeding or resting sites**;
- c) the **deliberate disturbance** of wild fauna, particularly during the period of breeding, rearing and hibernation, insofar as disturbance would be significant in relation to the objectives of this Convention;

**POLAND AND THE EU HAVE TO BE
INCLUDED IN THE FILE**

Habitats and routes stretching across the border

Article 4.4. *The Contracting Parties undertake to co-ordinate as appropriate their efforts for the protection of the natural habitats referred to in this article when these are situated in frontier areas.*



Migration corridor and Natura 2000

PLH200007





Energy: EU invests €150 million in energy infrastructure

Brussels, 14 July 2015

