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Concrete actions for maintaining wolves wild in anthropogenic landscapes of Europe - LIFE WILD WOLF & Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores – EU grant (ENV/2023/OP/0019)

10-11 June 2025, Group of Experts on the Large Carnivores, Strasbourg



LIFE21 WILD WOLF

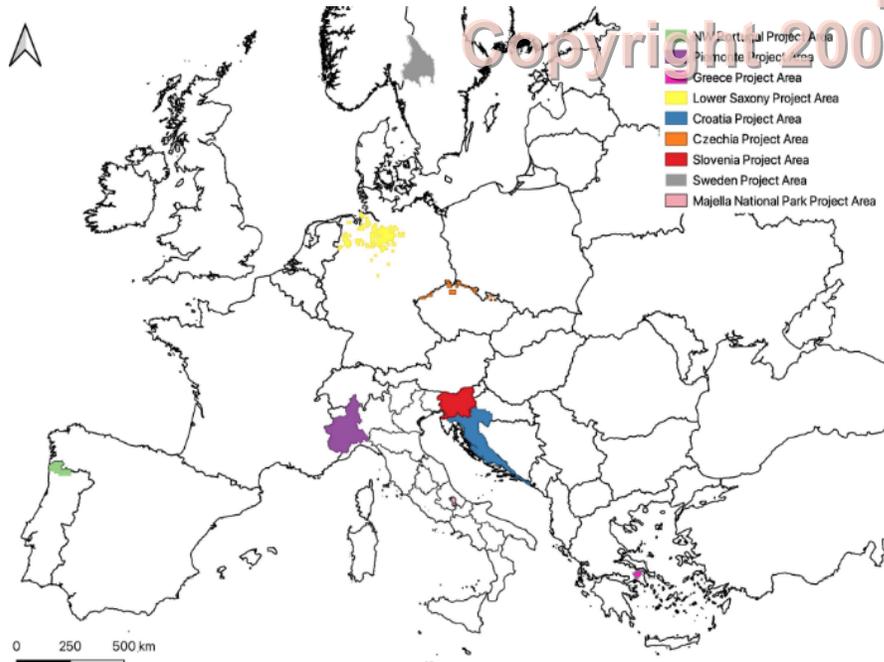
- 1/2023. – 8/2027.
- 8 EU countries: HR, DE, EL, IT, PT, CZ, SI, SE

Support for Coexistence with Large Carnivores

- 2/2024 – 8/2027
- national, local, regionalne/transnational platforms /stakeholders engagement) - FR, SE, RO, HR, PT, CZ, GR, DiBaPi



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Confident wolf – hybridization?

Genetic sampling

- 8 workshops in 2023
- 400 participants (hunters, protected area staff)
- almost 4000 DNA kits distributed

monitoring@hls.com.hr

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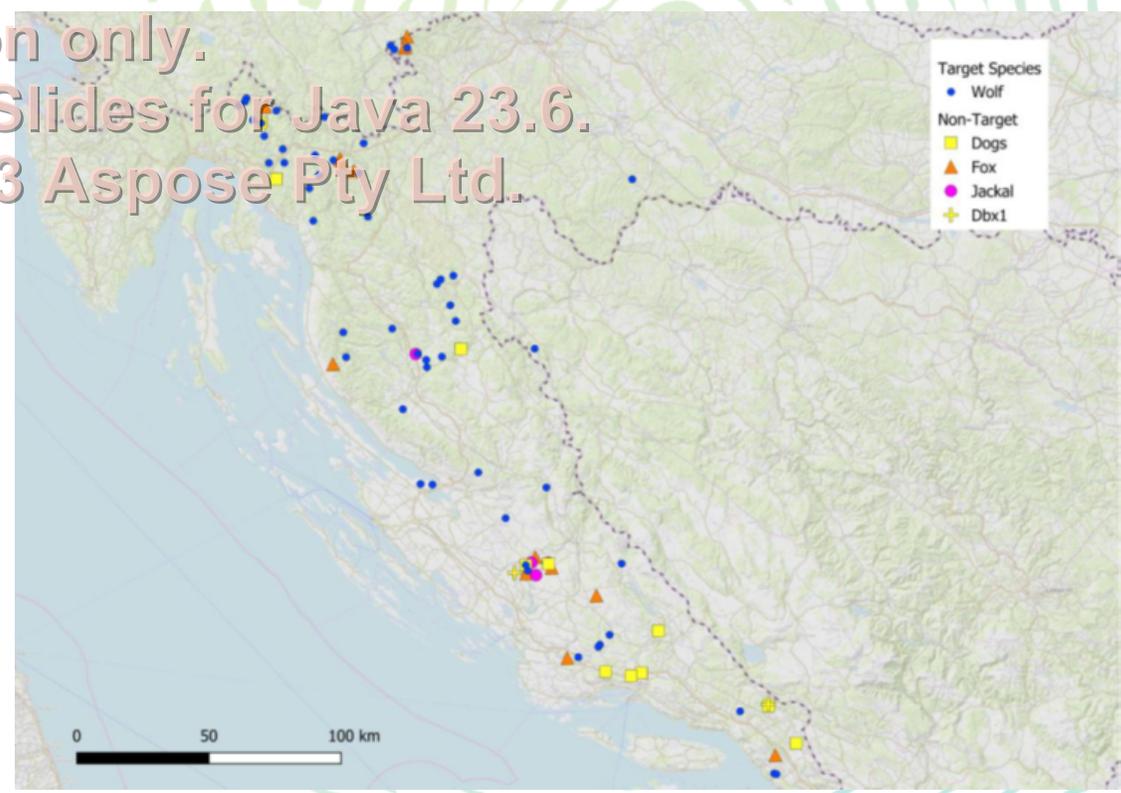
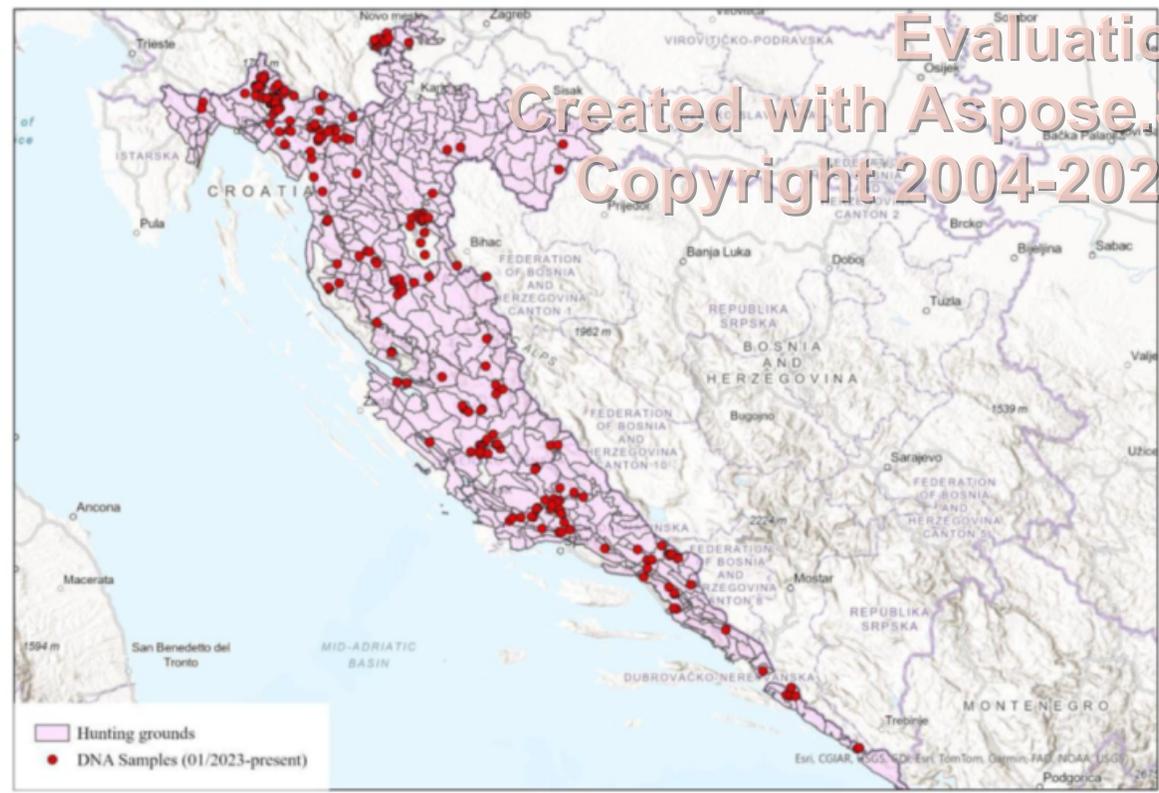




Confident wolf – hybridization?

Genetic sampling – result:

- Only 282 samples, Oct 2023 - May 2024
- Not found: first generation crossbreeds, and backcross of first generation crossbreeds with wolves



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Protective dog vests study

- > 120 hunting dog owners, > 300 hunting dogs (in 2 groups).
- A pre-use & after-use survey in YR1: most hunters would recommend the protective dog vest; some proposed modifications of dog vests
- Innovation and updated version of dog vests expected in 2025/2026, 2026/2027
- Need to improve damage reports by Damage inspectors and inputs to the official damage database (Min. of env.)
- Recommendation /guidelines on how to protect hunting dogs from wolf attacks





Protective dog vests study

Wolf attack:

- 6 dogs with a vest - slight injury.
- 2 dogs without vest - killed

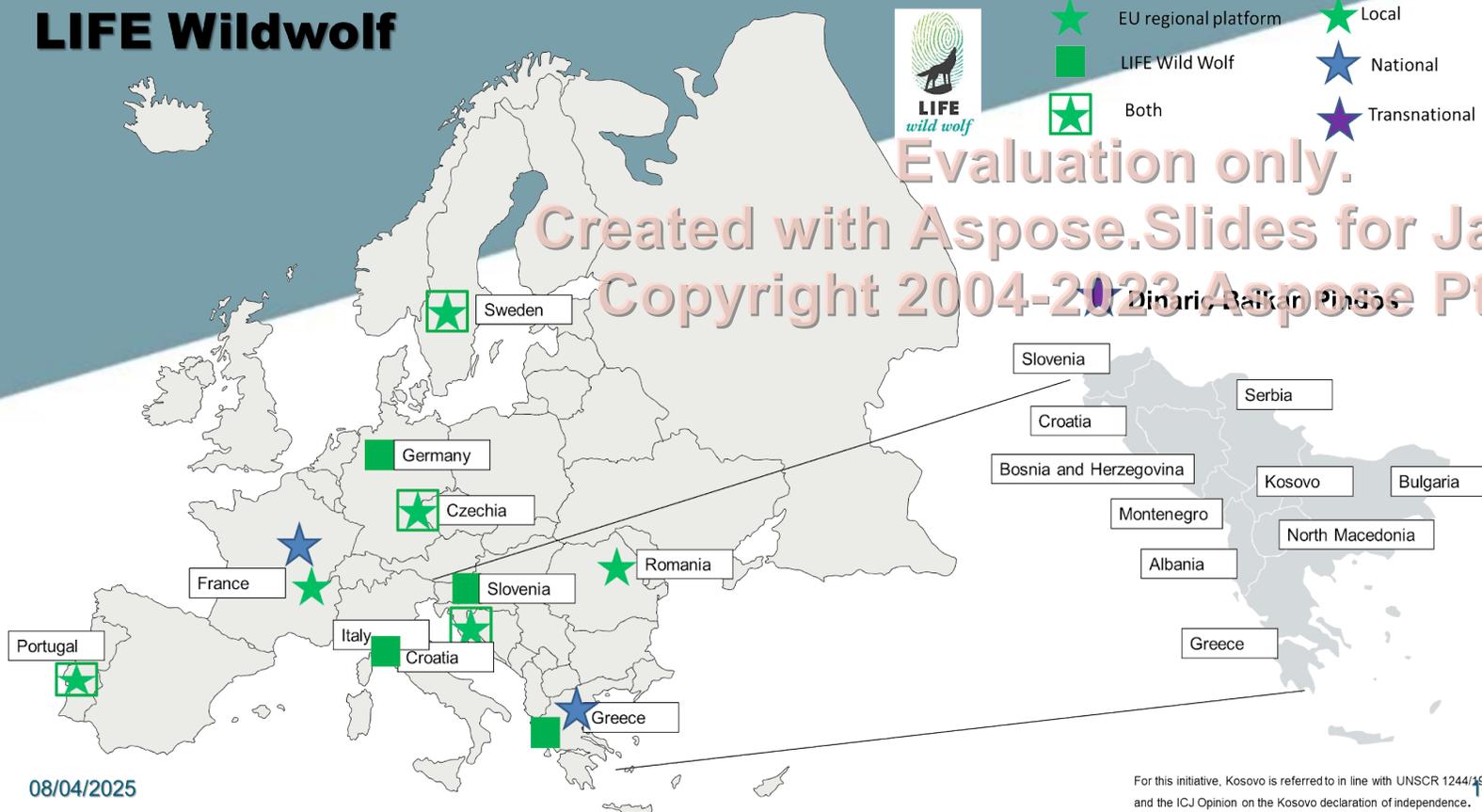
Wild boar attack

- 15 dogs with vests - slight injuries
- 4 dogs without a vest - serious injuries requiring veterinary attention.



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Platforms launched 2024 between EU and LIFE Wildwolf



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Life Wild Wolf project and the EU platform on coexistence between people and large carnivores:

- Support for local stakeholder platform in Dalmatia, Croatia
- Share information, co-produce solutions, rebuild trust among local and national stakeholders

08/04/2025

For this initiative, Kosovo is referred to in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

Dalmatian stakeholders' platform

Benefits of a platform establishment

- improvement of relationship between institutions and local communities
- involvement of stakeholders
- connection and confidence
- faster and effective communication
- gathering and sharing of the relevant and correct info
- respecting the different opinions, needs and altitudes



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Dalmatian stakeholders' platform

Challenges of platform establishment

- weak connection and cooperation
- lack of capacity
- reluctance to understand stakeholder needs
- lack of information, misinformation, and limit of dispersion
- how to find a compromise with opposing opinions
- how to identify of real problems and solutions



Discussing conflicts:

- Livestock and beehive depredation
- Hunting and livestock guarding dog depredation (LIFE Wild Wolf and EU Regional Platform in Croatia)
- Land user conflicts (hunters, farmers, protected areas, foresters)

Joint solutions - action plans implemented by/with stakeholders:

- farmers, livestock owners
- hunters



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