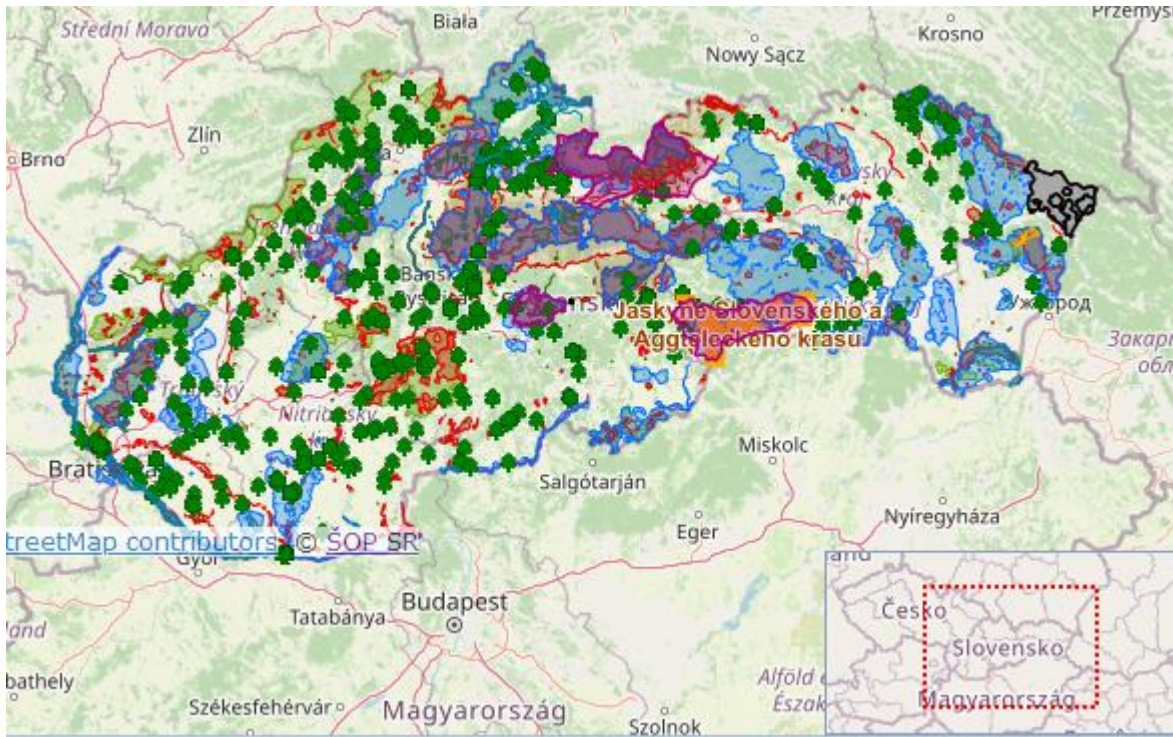


System and tools for protected areas management in Slovakia

Peter Puchala, Martina Lukáčňová, Ján Kadlečík
State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic

Protected areas in Slovakia



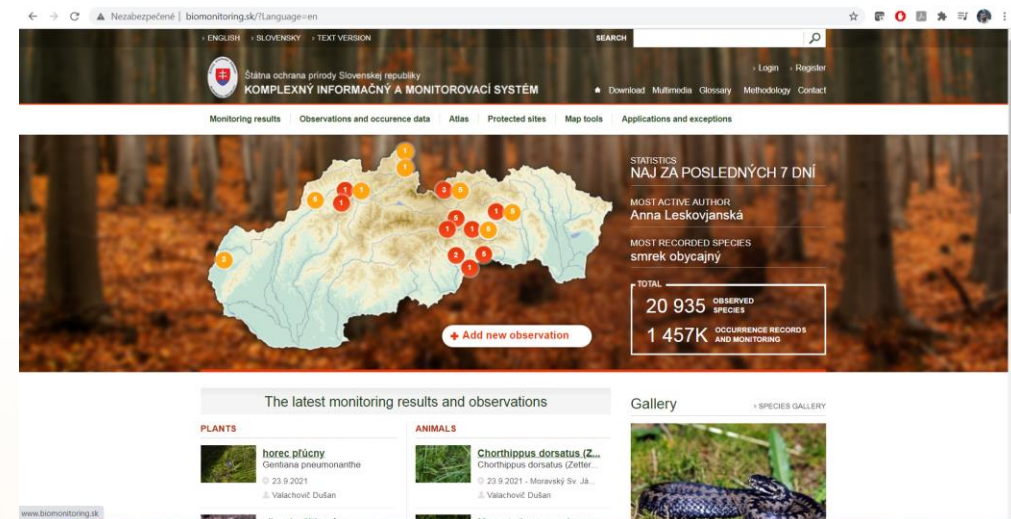
- Act 543/2002 on nature and landscape protection
- 5 levels of nature protection
- 9 National Parks (3rd level of protection)
- 14 Protected Landscape Areas / 12 in the Carpathian region (2nd level)
- 1089 Protected Landscape Elements, Protected Sites, Nature Reserves, NNRs, Nature Monuments, NNMs (2nd-5th level)
- 4 Private Protected Areas
- 10 Municipal PAs

Supporting tools for PAs management

- Order of the Ministry of Environment of the SR No. 170/2021 by which the Act No. 543/2002 on nature and landscape protection is executed
- Territorial System of Ecological Stability
- National Strategy for Biodiversity Protection and Action Plan
- Greener Slovakia – Strategy of Environmental Policy of the Slovak Republic until 2030 (2019)
- Updated Programme of Wetlands Management in Slovakia to 2024 and Action Plan for Wetlands 2019-2021 (2019)
- Prioritised Action Framework (PAF) for Natura 2000 in the Slovak Republic pursuant to Article 8 of Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (the Habitats Directive) for the *Multiannual Financial Framework* period 2021 – 2027 (2021)
- Catalogue of Ecosystem Services in Slovakia (2019), National Ecosystem Services Assessment in Slovakia (2020)
- Methodologies and guidelines, etc.

Monitoring of habitats and species

- Ongoing projects for monitoring habitats and species
- Permanent monitoring sites, monitoring system
- Online database with public access (KIMS – Complex Information Monitoring System)
- www.biomonitoring.sk

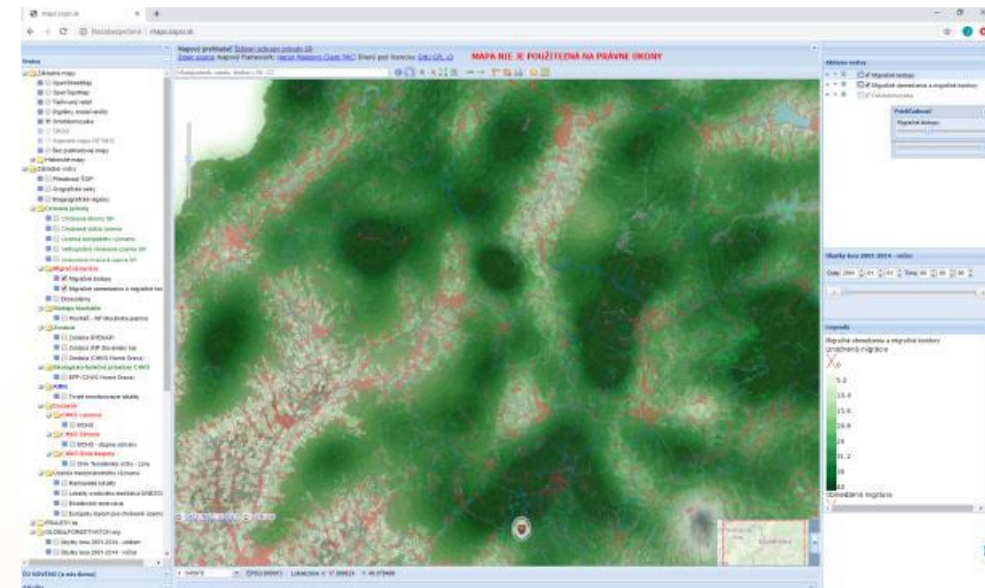
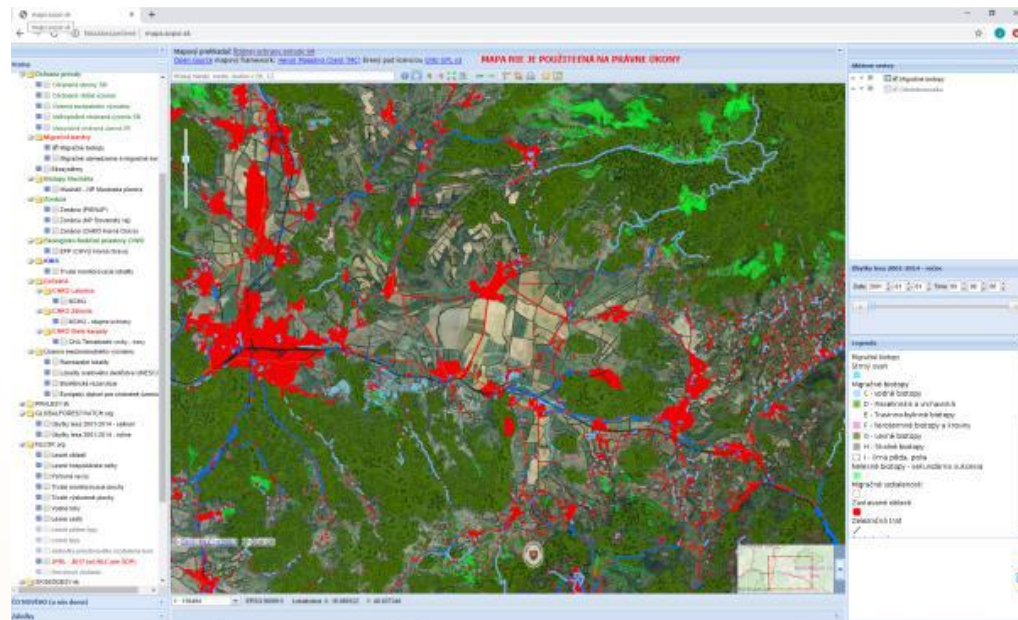


Protected Areas – Cornerstones of Ecological Connectivity in the Carpathians and Beyond

International Conference, Visegrád, Hungary, 28-30 September 2021 - Project co-funded by European Union Funds (ERDF, IPA)

Migration corridors identification

- Online map viewer with data on migration habitats, corridors and barriers
- <http://maps.sopsr.sk/>



Best practice examples



- Nature Reserve Primeval forests of Slovakia (76 sites; 6462.42 ha)
- Based on inventory of remnants of old-growth forests in Slovakia (OZ Prales)
- In cooperation with WWF Slovakia
- EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 – key commitments – *Strictly protect at least a third of the EU’s protected areas, including all remaining EU primary and old-growth forests*

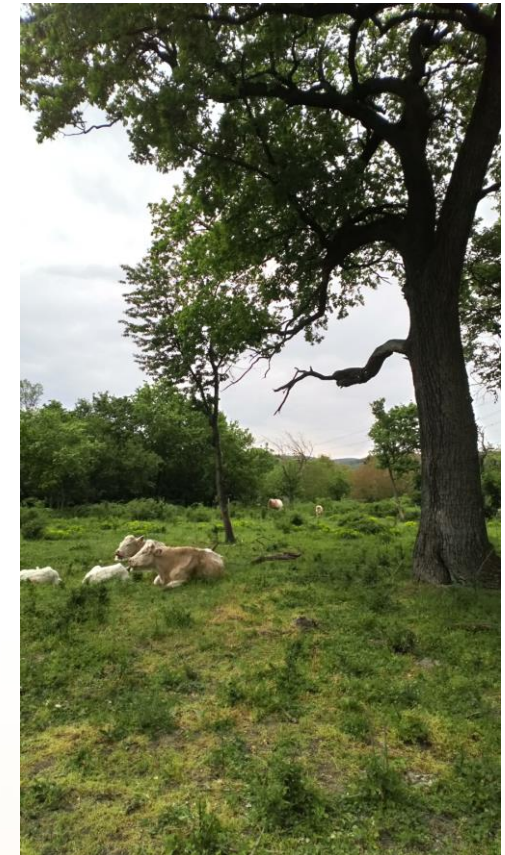
Management of protected areas

- Implementation of management plans and actions
- Project activities (LIFE, structural funds, INTERREG...)
- Restoration of habitats (hay meadows, dry grasslands, wetlands, old river arms and oxbows)
- Renewal of extensive pastures
- Actions for improving habitats, nesting possibilities, foraging habitats of species (birds of prey, European souslik)
- Partnership and cooperation



Management practices

- Restoration of dry grassland habitats, sand steppes, etc.
- Extensive grazing, wood-pasture restoration



Wetland management

- Restoration of hydrological system in wetlands
- Improving of water retention
- Restoration of old river arms and oxbows



Wildlife management

- Intervention team for brown bear
- Monitoring of large carnivores



Networking of PAs and caves managers

- Regular meetings (SNC SR as a common platform)
- Exchange of knowledge
- Expert groups (botanists, zoologists, foresters, anorganic nature, water specialists, landscape management, env. education, large carnivores, capercaillie...)
- Protected Areas of Slovakia (Chránené územia Slovenska - online methodical and information magazine, newsletter, web site)
- Cooperation in field works, monitoring (large carnivores census, water birds)
- Cooperation agreements with administrations of neighbour PAs (in HU, PL, UA) and the Czech Nature Conservation Agency, joint projects
- Transboundary Biosphere Reserves, Ramsar Sites, WH Caves of the Slovak and Aggtelek Karst, transnational World Heritage property (Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe)
- Other networks and initiatives (MaB, DANUBEPARKS, Trilateral Ramsar Platform, Carpathian Wetland Initiative, European Green Belt Initiative)
- International organizations membership (EUROPARC Federation, IUCN, International Rangers Federation, IENE, ISCA, UIS, FSE)

Thank you for listening

