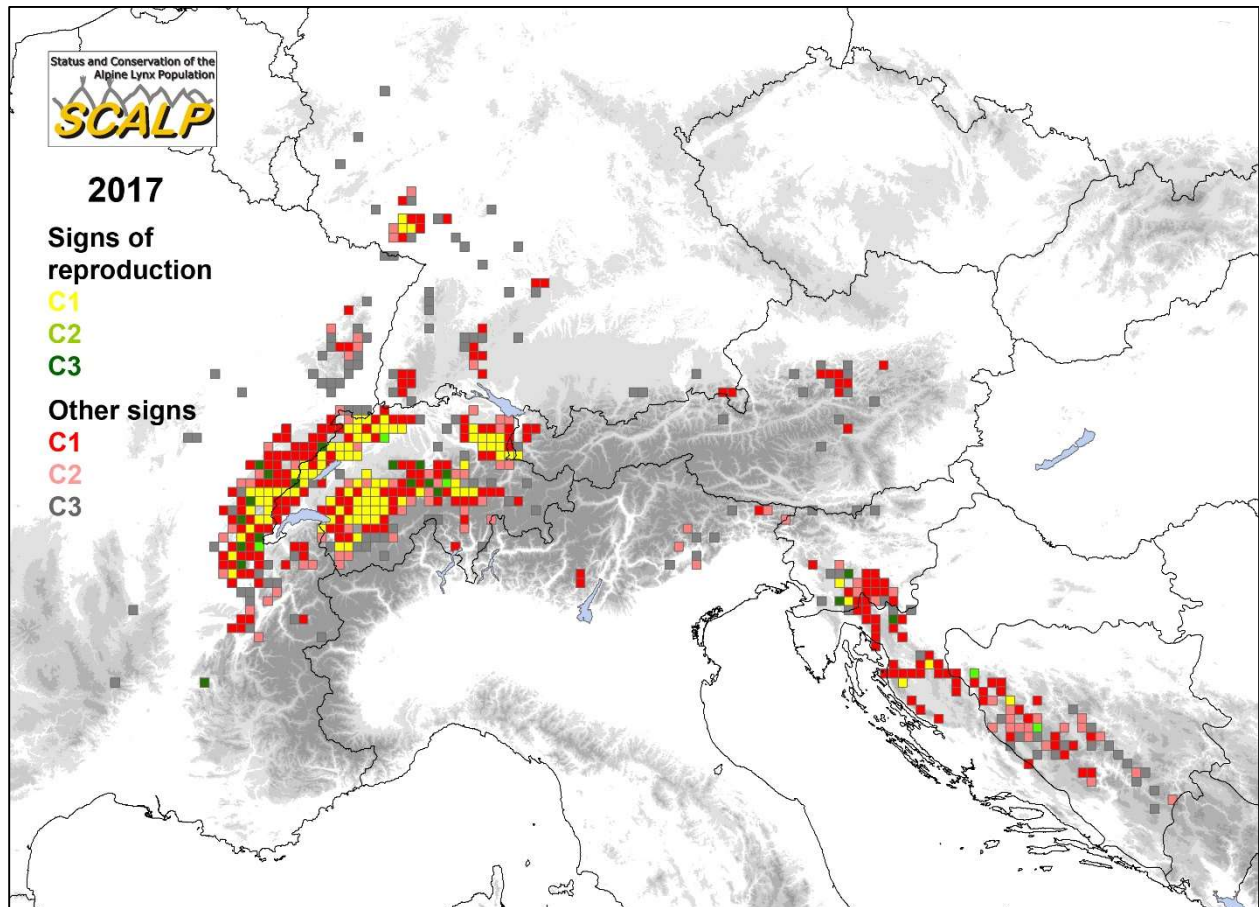


## SCALP Monitoring Report lynx year 2017 (1. May 2017 – 30. April 2018)



**Fig. 1. Observed lynx distribution in the Alps, Dinarics, Upper Rhine metapopulation and adjacent regions in lynx year 2017 based on a 10x10 km grid. A distinction was made between different SCALP categories and whether the observation included a reproductive event or not<sup>1</sup>.**

<sup>1</sup> The collected data are classified in three categories: Category 1 (C1): “Hard facts”, verified and unchallenged observations such as dead lynx, clear photos of lynx and samples confirmed by means of genetic analysis. Category 2 (C2): Observations controlled and confirmed by a specialist such as killed livestock or wild prey, lynx tracks and calls. Category 3 (C3): Unconfirmed but plausible observations of the category 2 (kills, tracks, other field signs too old or badly documented) and all plausible observations such as direct observations and calls which by their nature cannot be verified unless through photo or registration. Evidence of reproduction consist in photos of lynx kittens or young lynx found dead (C1), large and small tracks together (C2) and direct sighting of female with kittens (C3). For more details see Molinari-Jobin et al. (2012). Monitoring in the presence of species misidentification: the case of the Eurasian lynx in the Alps. *Animal Conservation* 15, 266-273. GPS-data of collared lynx are not included in the distribution map.

**Comment:** The project *Status and Conservation of the Alpine Lynx Population (SCALP)* is an ongoing programme aiming to co-ordinate the Eurasian lynx *Lynx lynx* monitoring, conservation and management activities in the Alps. Since 2013 collaborations with lynx experts from neighbouring regions has started. Based on this collaboration (see Annex 1 for partners involved) annual distribution maps are produced to allow a comparison of monitoring data between regions, countries and populations. In the 2017 monitoring report the Alpine, the Dinaric and the Upper Rhine Metapopulation are considered (Fig. 1). C1 data, that mainly consist in camera trap pictures of lynx, make up the bulk of lynx records in all (sub)populations (Tab. 1).

Table 1. Monitoring data collected per (sub)population and category.

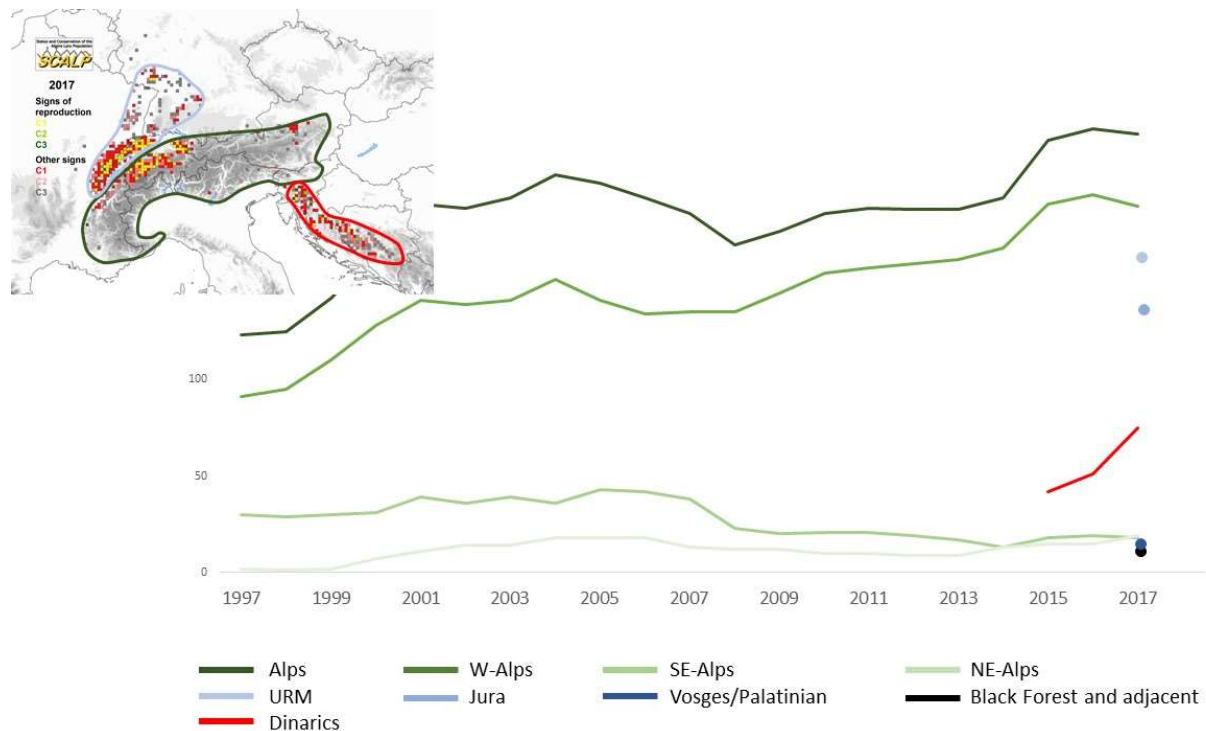
	C1	C2	C3	Total
Alps	1369	464	229	2062
Dinarics	150	47	47	244
Jura	1217	180	111	1508
Vosges/Palatinat Forest	183	25	177	385
Black Forest <sup>1</sup>	90	8	31	129

<sup>1</sup>including the region of the Swabian Alb and adjacent regions

### **Special events:**

- *Alps:* ALUS, the lynx translocated in 2014 to north-eastern Italy has been illegally killed. He was found in Berchtesgadener Land in Germany, ca 140 km from the release site, in September 2017. His first record in the border area between Austria and Germany has been in March 2015 – the last picture of the animal alive stems from May 2017 in Austria.
- *Dinarics:* In July 2017 an orphan lynx was found in Croatia. He was rehabilitated and returned to nature in January 2018. He moved to Slovenia but in April 2018 the lynx disappeared.
- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation:* In May 2017, the first reproduction within the reintroduction program in the Palatinat Forest had been reported. Two male cubs were born. Parents are KAJA and LUCKY, which both were relocated in July 2016 from Slovakia.
- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation:* In June 2017, a collared male lynx CYRIL of the reintroduction program in the Palatinat Forest migrated to the densely populated area around Mannheim in Baden-Württemberg by crossing the Rhine river. Because of unsuitable habitat and a lack of female lynx in this region, he was translocated back to the Palatinat Forest.
- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation:* In January 2018, the male lynx B600 dispersed from the southern Vaud region of the Swiss Jura Mountains to the Upper Danube Valley covering a linear distance of 320 km. This is the longest dispersal distance reported for central Europe and is still among the longest if we compare it with the dispersal distances reported for Scandinavia (Samelius et al. 2011).

- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation*: Four additional lynx were relocated to the Palatinate Forest in lynx year 2017, 3 females and 1 male. Unfortunately one female, LABKA, was killed in February 2018 by a train, and female ALOSA was found severely injured and had to be euthanised in February 2018.



**Fig. 2. Number of occupied 100 km<sup>2</sup> cells in the Alps (green), Dinaric Mountains (red) and the Upper Rhine Metapopulation (URM: blue, 3 years moving window). For the Upper Rhine Metapopulation and adjacent regions only 1 year of data is available.**

To assess the development of the distribution (Fig. 2), a distinction is made between the Alpine (sub)populations as well as the Upper Rhine metapopulation (Jura Mountains, Vosges-Palatinate, Black Forest and adjacent regions). The Alpine population has the largest extent, although split into yet isolated subpopulations. The Jura Mountains have the highest number of cells with reproduction. The strong increase of occupied cells in the Dinaric population is due to the inclusion of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as due to the improvements in monitoring system in Croatia.

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**Austria:** Landesjagdverbände Kärnten, Niederösterreich, Oberösterreich, Salzburg, Steiermark und Vorarlberg, önj - Engleder, NP Kalkalpen - Fuxjäger, Habitat - Wildlife Services – Weingarth, Biogeomaps – Gerngross, NP Gesäuse – Maringer, Schatz – Land Vorarlberg

**Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Faculty of Ecology, Independent University of Banja Luka; Faculty of Sciences, University of Banja Luka; Ecology Research Association (EID), Banja Luka; Hunting Association of Republic of Srpska; Association of the Hunting Organisations of Bosnia and Herzegovina; Hunting Association of Herceg Bosnia, Rufford Foundation Project numbers 23193- 1 and 27173-2.

**Croatia:** Faculty of Veterinary Medicine University of Zagreb, Karlovac University of Applied Sciences, Nature Park Velebit, National Park Paklenica, National park North Velebit, Geonatura, Public Institution for Managing Protected Nature Areas Priroda

**France:** Office Français pour la Biodiversité, Réseau Loup-Lynx

**Germany:** Luchsprojekt Bayern, Bavarian Agency of Environment, Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg, Großkarnivoren-Beauftragte Rheinland-Pfalz, LJV Rheinland-Pfalz, ÖJV Rheinland-Pfalz

**Italy:** Progetto Lince Italia, Centro Conservazione e Gestione Grandi Carnivori - Progetto Lupo Regione Piemonte, Arma dei Carabinieri - CUFAA, Corpo Forestale della Valle d'Aosta, Corpo Forestale dello Stato della provincia del VCO, Ente di gestione delle Aree protette dell'Ossola, Provincia del Verbano Cusio Ossola, Parco Nazionale della Val Grande, Dipartimento di Ecologia - Università della Calabria, Dept. Anim. Prod. Sci. - Università di Udine, Parco Naturale delle Prealpi Carniche, Parco Naturale delle Prealpi Giulie, Parco Naturale Dolomiti d'Ampezzo, Parco Nazionale delle Dolomiti Bellunesi, Parco Nazionale del Gran Paradiso, Provincia Autonoma di Trento, Servizio Foreste e Fauna della Provincia Autonoma di Trento, Provincia di Belluno, Provincia di Savona, Provincia di Torino – Servizio Tutela della Fauna e della Flora, Provincia di Udine, Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia, Provincia Autonoma di Bolzano - Ufficio Caccia e Pesca, Ufficio Parchi Naturali dell'Alto Adige, Università dell'Insubria.

**Liechtenstein:** Amt für Umwelt, Liechtensteiner Jägerschaft, Liechtensteiner Forstverein

**Slovenia:** Slovenian Forest Service, University of Ljubljana (Biotech. Fac., Dep. of Biology and Dep. of forestry and renewable forest resources)

**Switzerland:** KORA, BAFU, kantonale Jagdverwaltungen und Wildhüter, Jäger und Naturfreunde

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