



Conservation projects in East Poland aiming to enhance meadow waders productivity and future perspectives



**Combined Meeting of the Breeding Range States under the AEWA Eurasian Curlew and Black-tailed Godwit International Working Groups
Papenberg 17 –19 August 2022**

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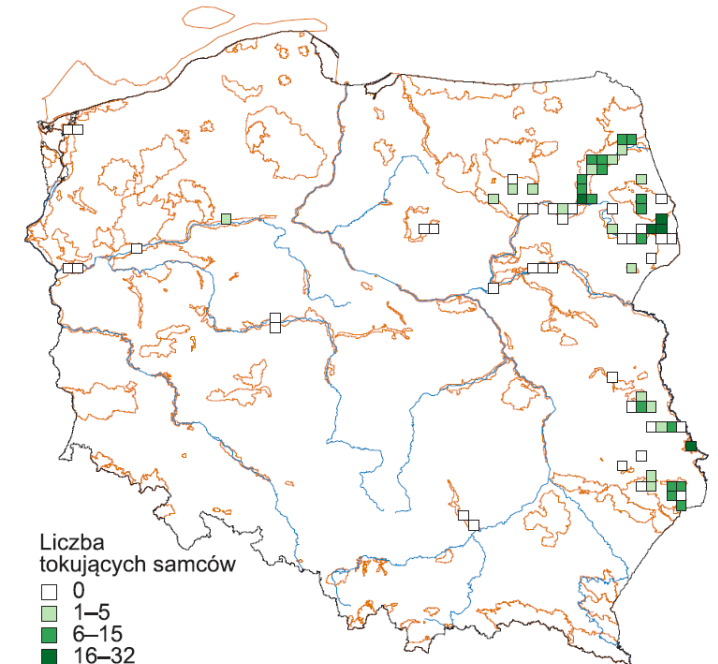
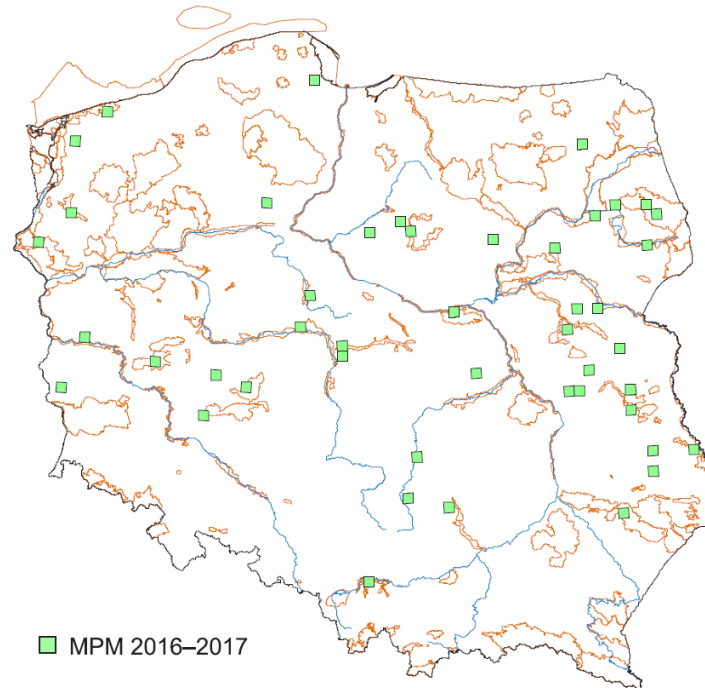
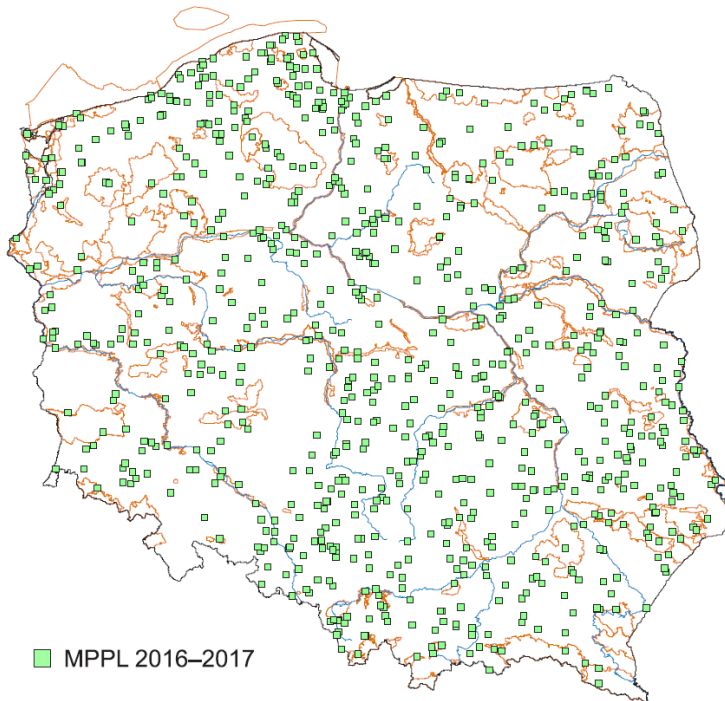
Research and Regional Conservation Coordinator in LIFE17 NAT/PL/000015

Natura International Polska

Fot. Wojciech Gotkiewicz

Bird Monitoring in Poland

- **CBS** – Common Bird Survey (1x1 km, 720 plots)
- **WBS** - Wetland Bird Survey (10x10 km, 45 plots)
- **GSM** – Great Snipe Monitoring (75 leks)



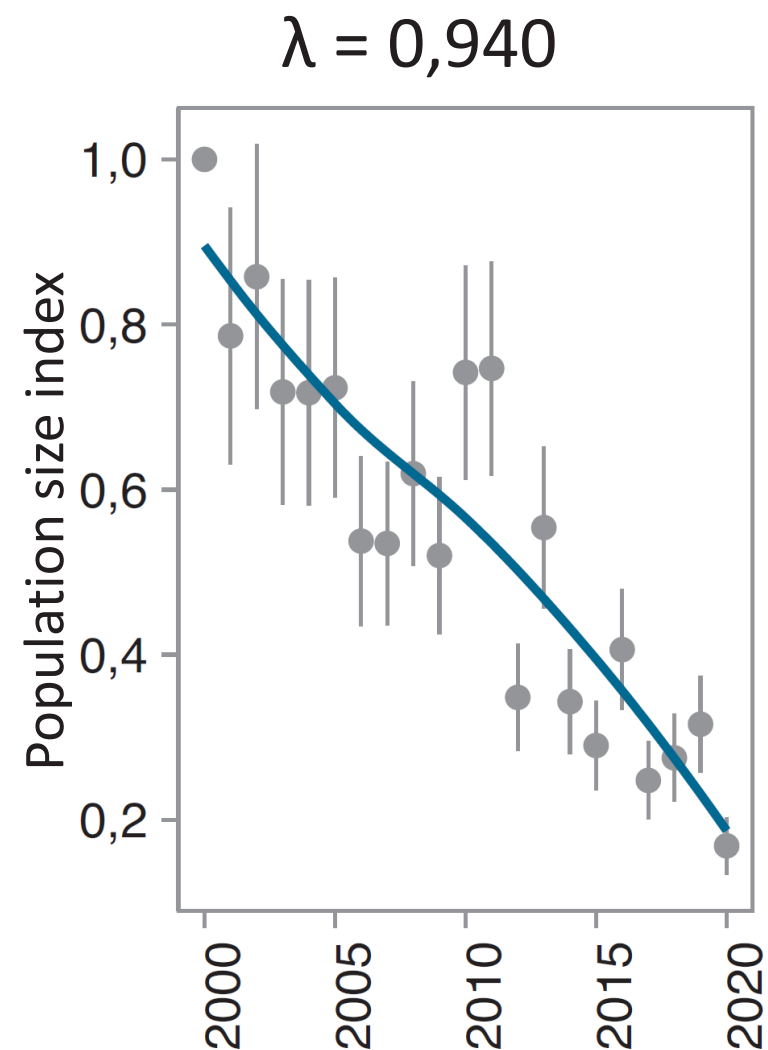
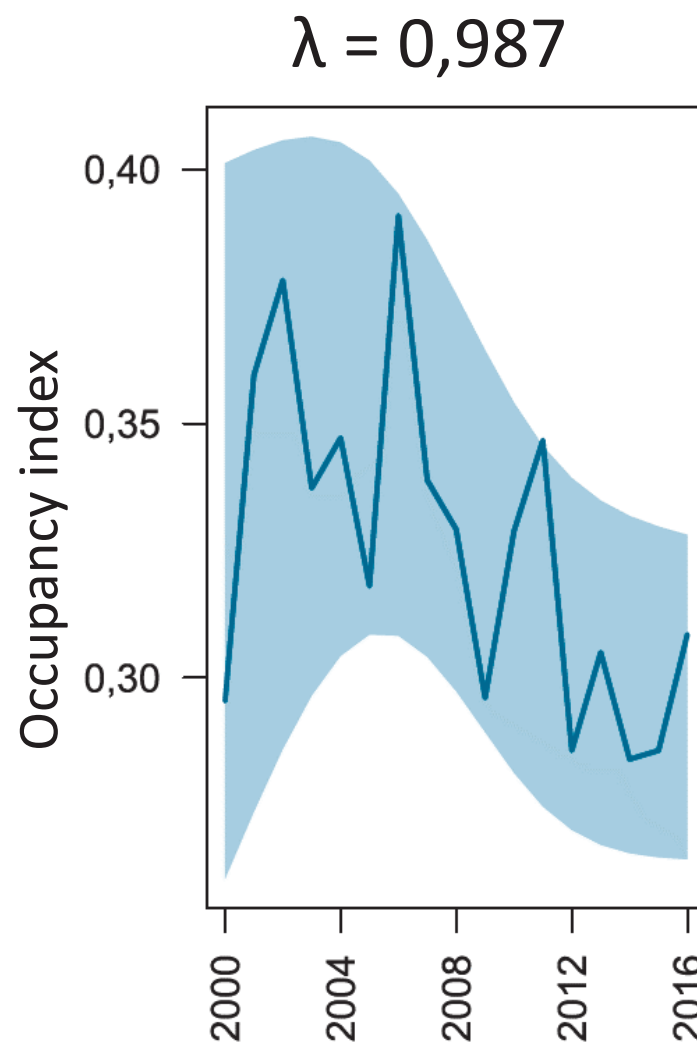
Lapwing



73,000–105,000 p.

CBS VU ↓↓ 6%/year

Chodkiewicz et al. 2015



Chylarecki et al. 2018, 2021

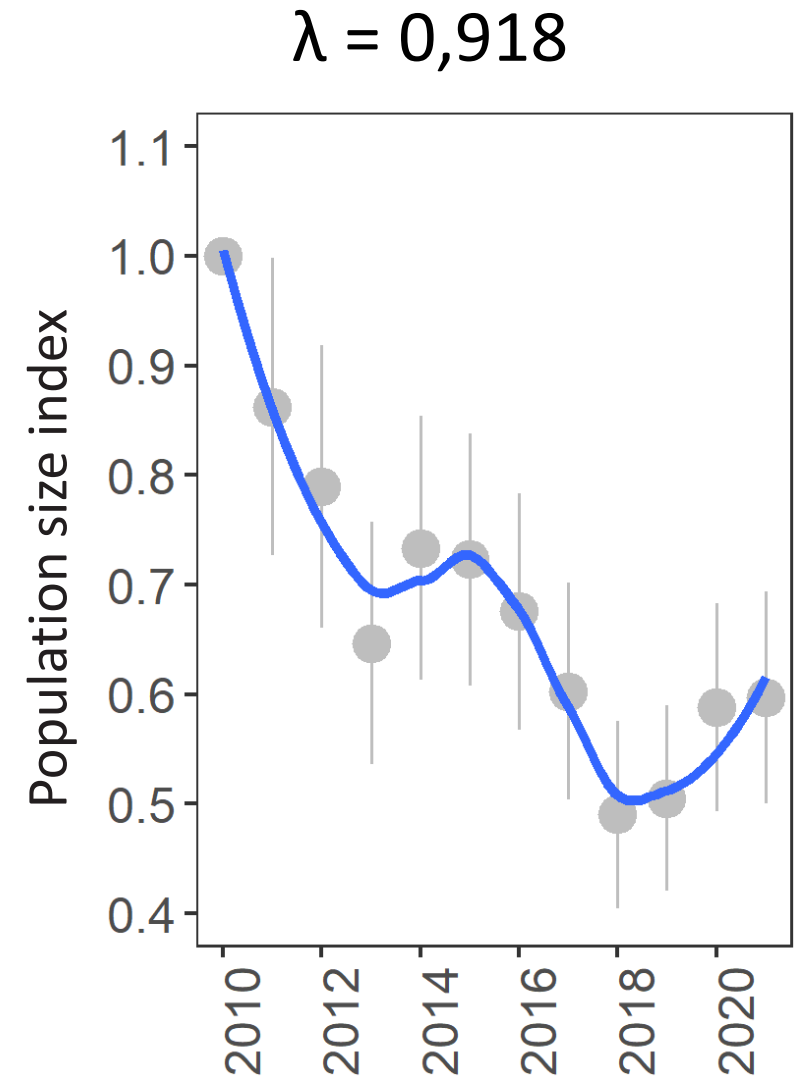
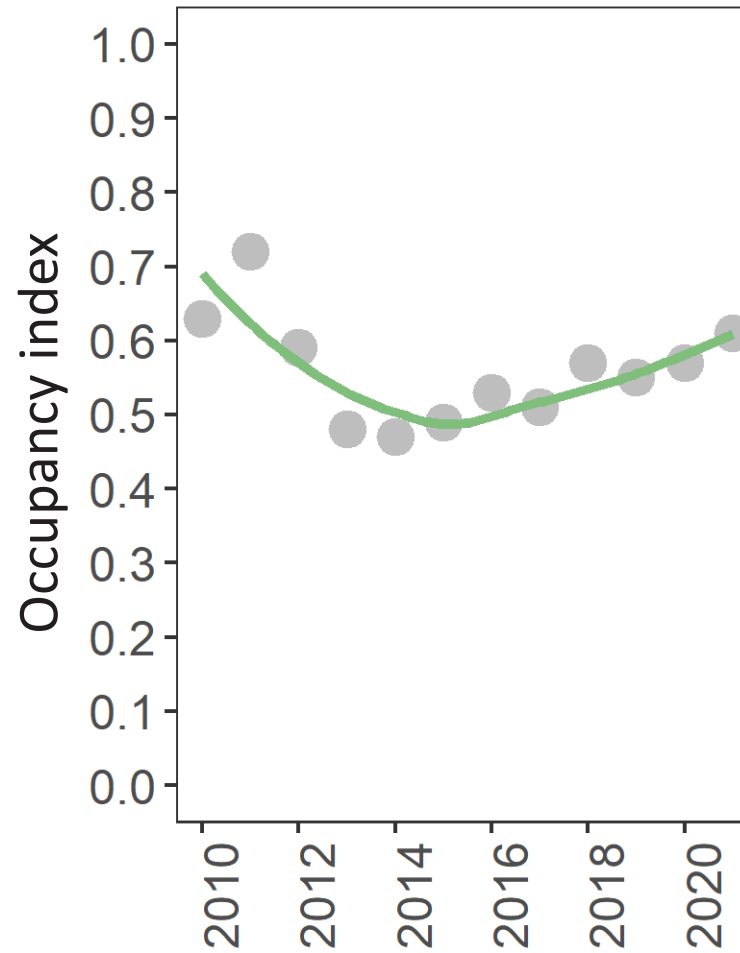
Great Snipe



400–550 m.

GSM VU ↓↓ 8,2%/year

Korniluk et al. 2015



Korniluk in. 2018, 2021

Black-tailed Godwit

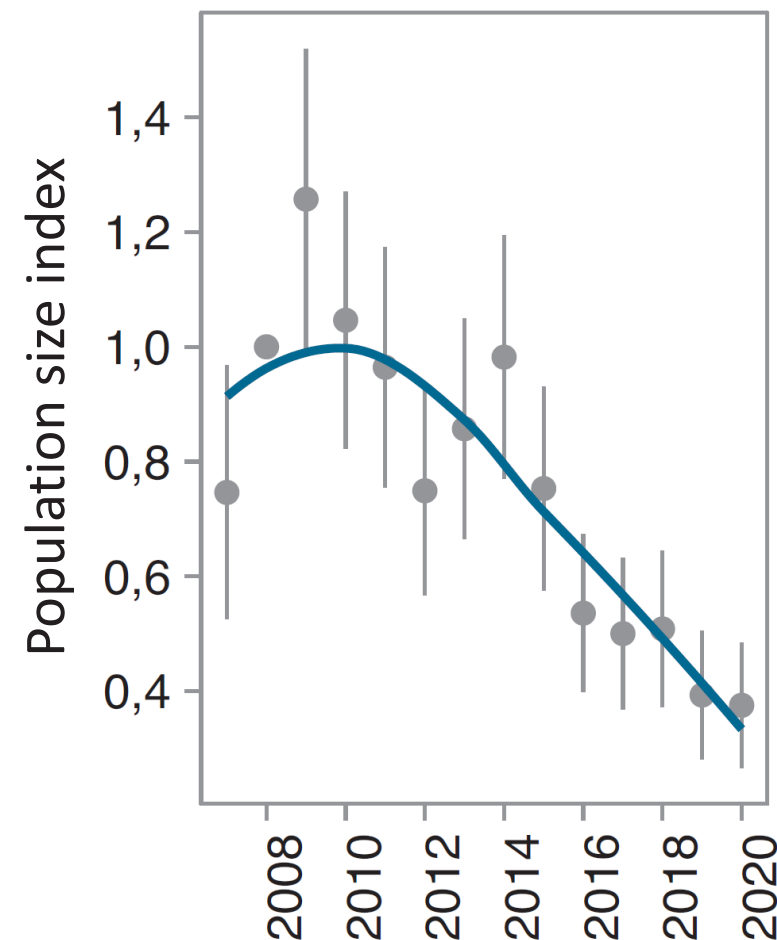
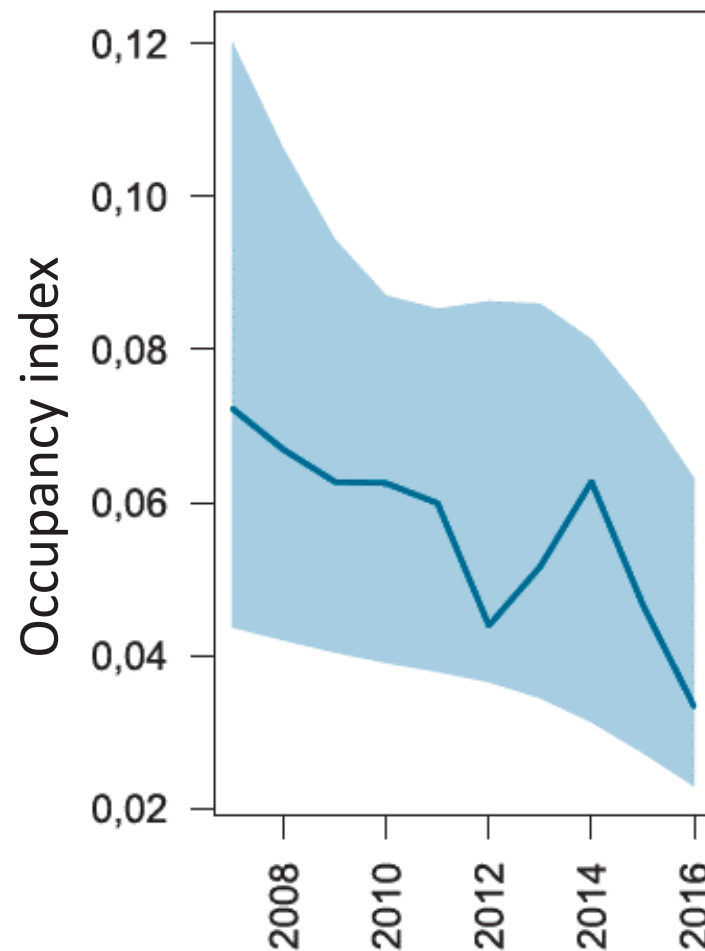
$\lambda = 0,852 (0,737-0,984)$

$\lambda = 1,006 (0,920-1,100)$



1500-2000 p.
 $\lambda = 1,006$, **WBS ?**

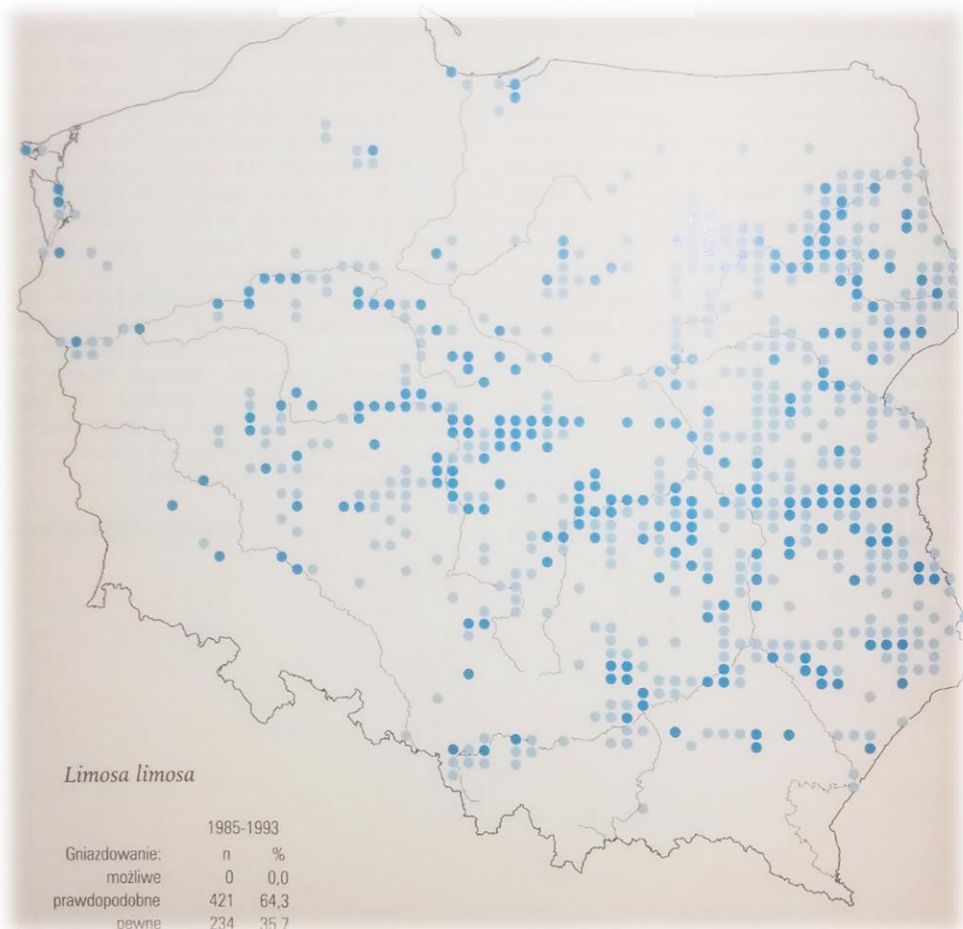
Chodkiewicz et al. 2015



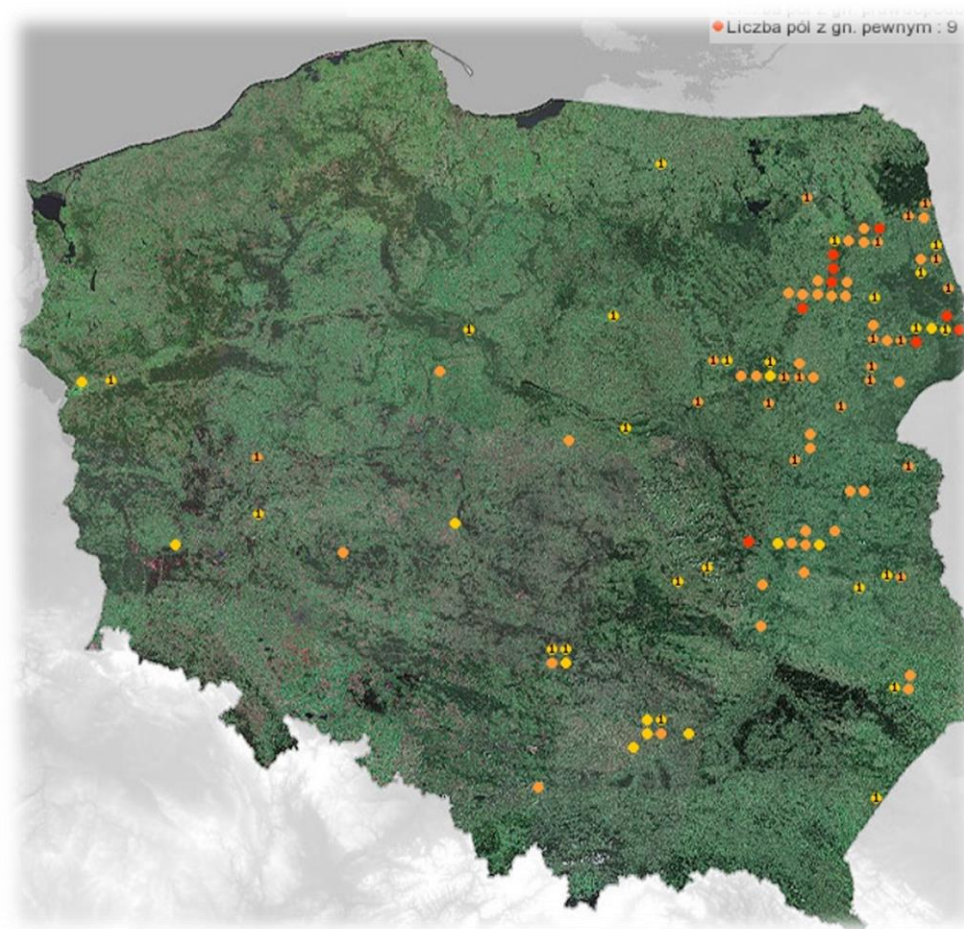
Chylarecki et al. 2018, 2021

Black-tailed Godwit distribution in Poland

1985-1993



2015-2018



Habitat loss and low productivity

i.e. Macdonald & Bolton, 2008; Roodbergen, van der Werf, & Hötter, 2012, Leyrer 2018

Land use intensification and conversion of grassland into arable lands



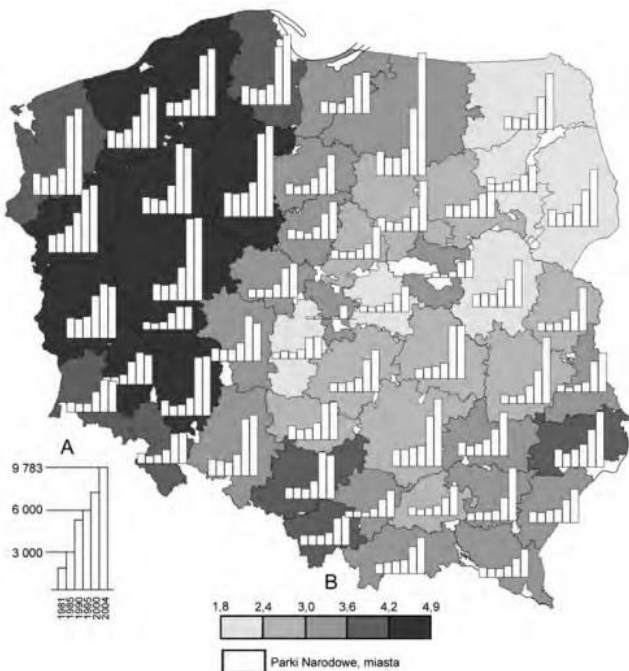
Wetlands drainage and changes in the natural hydrological rivers regime



Land abandonment

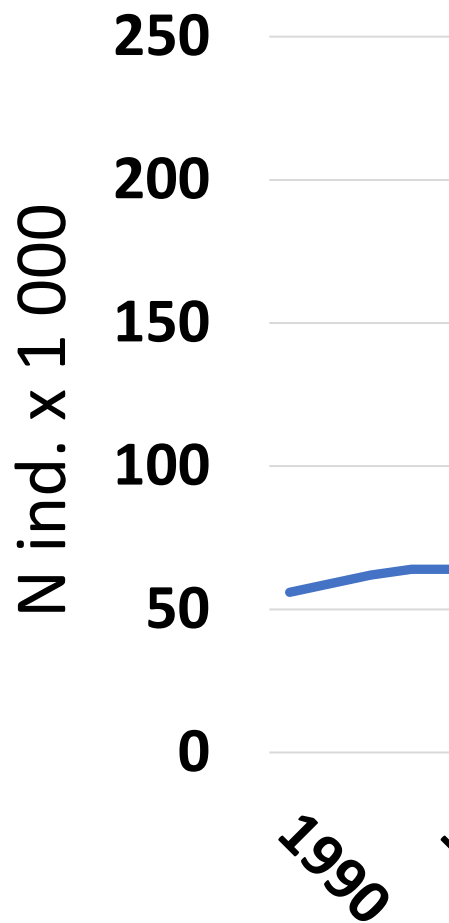


Predation



Grzupczyńska 2007










1-3 ind./10 km

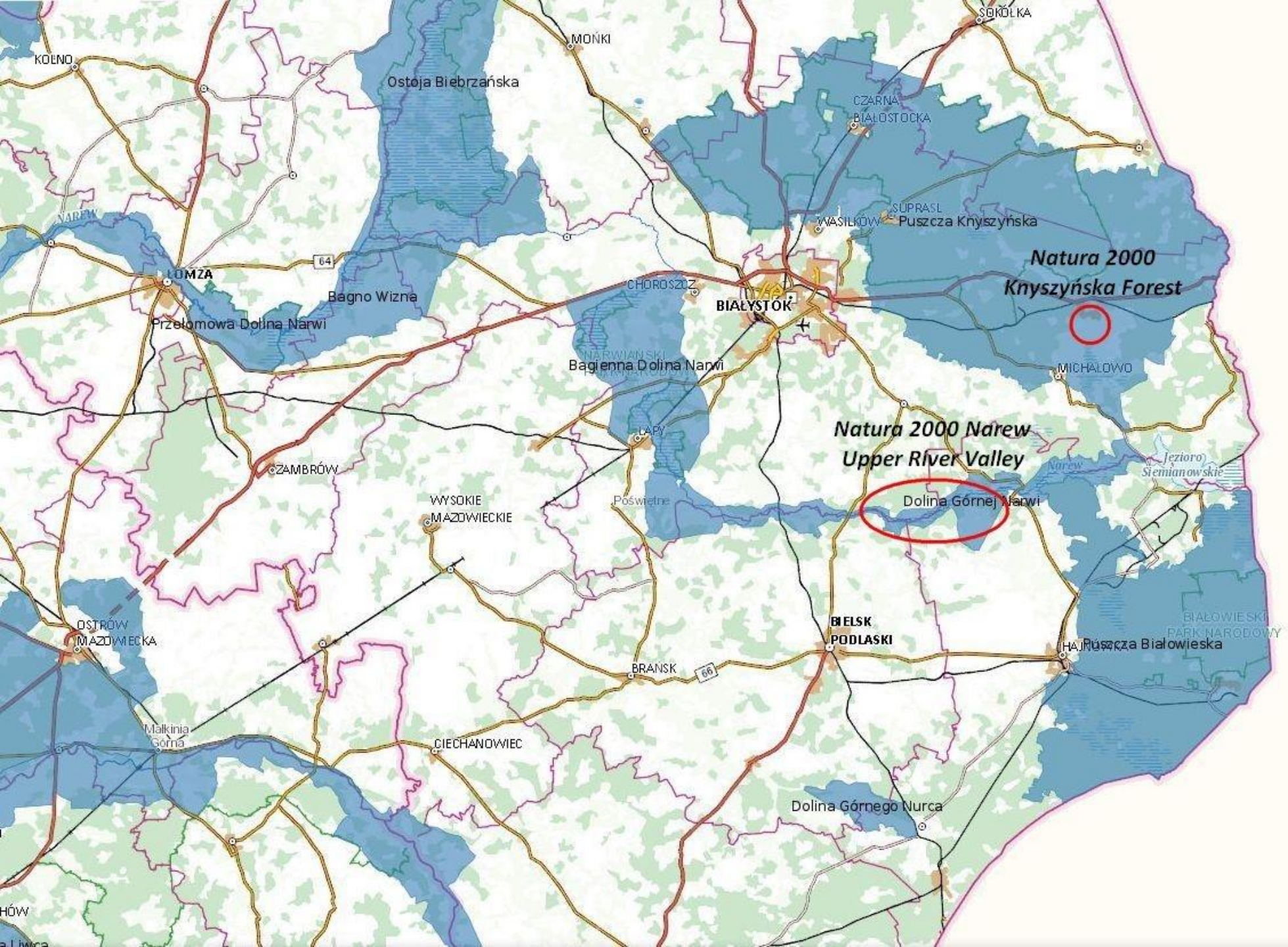


Recent conservation projects in East Poland aiming to enhance meadow waders productivity



Recent conservation projects in East Poland aiming to enhance meadow waders productivity

	Years	EUR	
Active protection of the Great Snipe in rich fens and river valleys in the Natura 2000 SPA Knyszyńska Primeval Forest (PLB200003)	2017-2019	743 662	 
Implementation of the National Action Plan for Great Snipe in Poland - phase 1	2019-2023	2 165 055	  
Protection of waders with the use of grazing and small retention objects construction in the area of OSO Natura 2000 Knyszyńska Forest and Narew Upper River Valley .	2021-2024	893 200	 Iceland Liechtenstein Norway grants   



Active protection of the Great Snipe in rich fens and river valleys in the Natura 2000 SPA Knyszyńska Primeval Forest (PLB200003)



**INFRASTRUKTURA
I ŚRODOWISKO**
NARODOWA STRATEGIA SPÓJNOŚCI

UNIA EUROPEJSKA
EUROPEJSKI FUNDUSZ
ROZWOJU REGIONALNEGO





130 ha

22 ha

June 2016

This are one of our
best waders habitats!

Fine, but were are
the waders?





130 ha

32 ha

22 ha















Nesting success monitoring 2017-2019

- Intensive nests survey (every 3-7 days): Lapwing, BT Godwit, Great Snipe, Redshank
- Flotation, temp. dataloggers, habitat characteristics
- Nesting success - DSR (Mayfield 1961, 1975)
- Broods failure causes





📷 >100

📷 >100

📷 >100



A

2.5x



A

2.5



A

2.5x



23:55







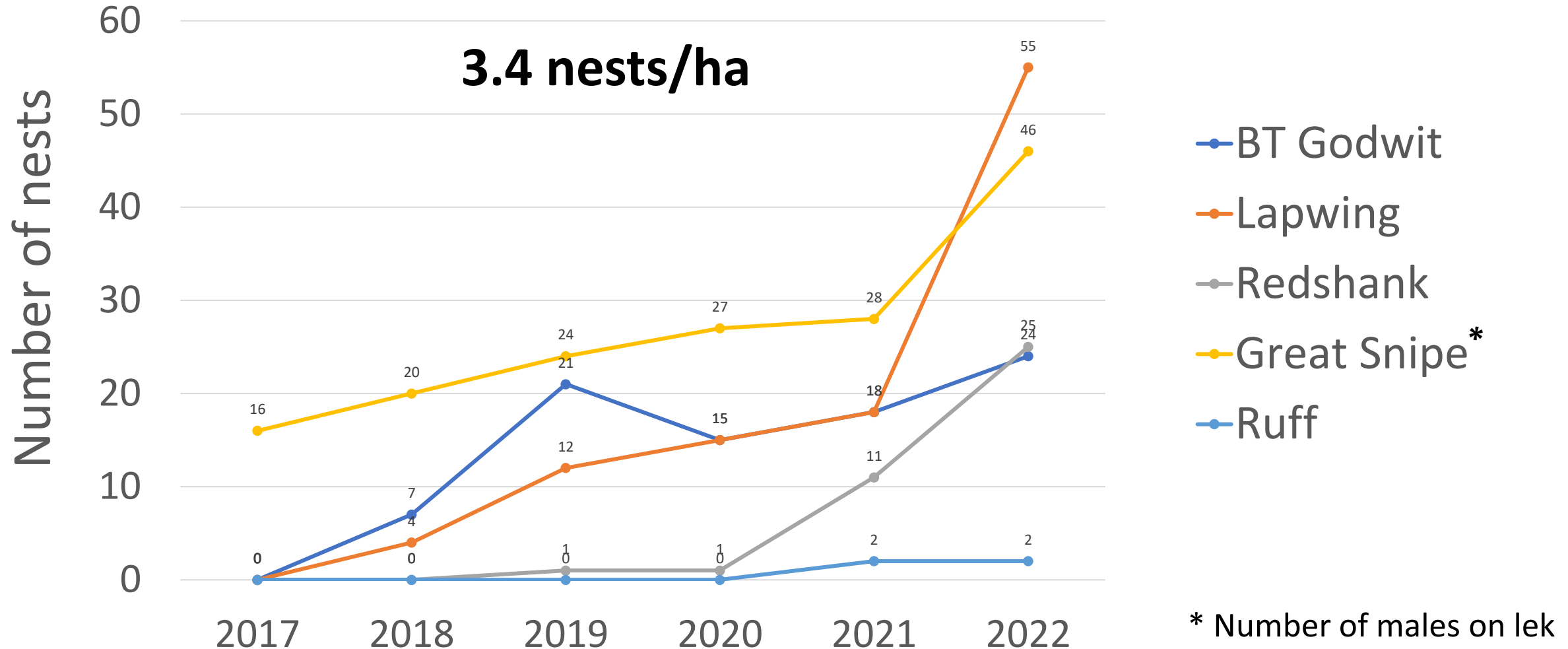




Breeding waders within electro-fenced area



Breeding waders within electric-fenced area

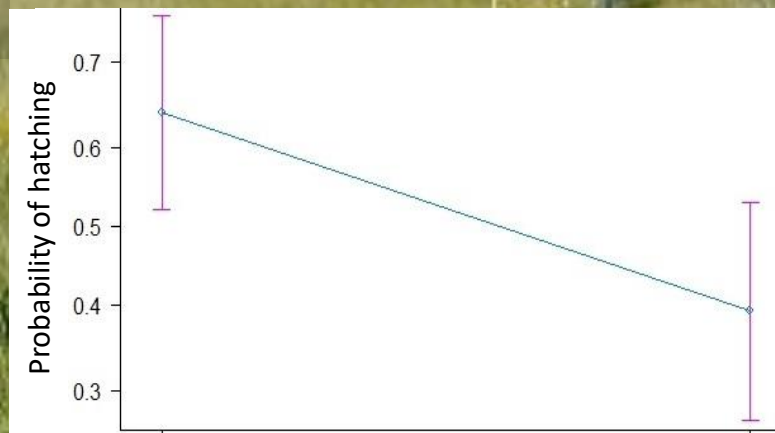


Nesting sukces 2017-2019



36.9%, N=28

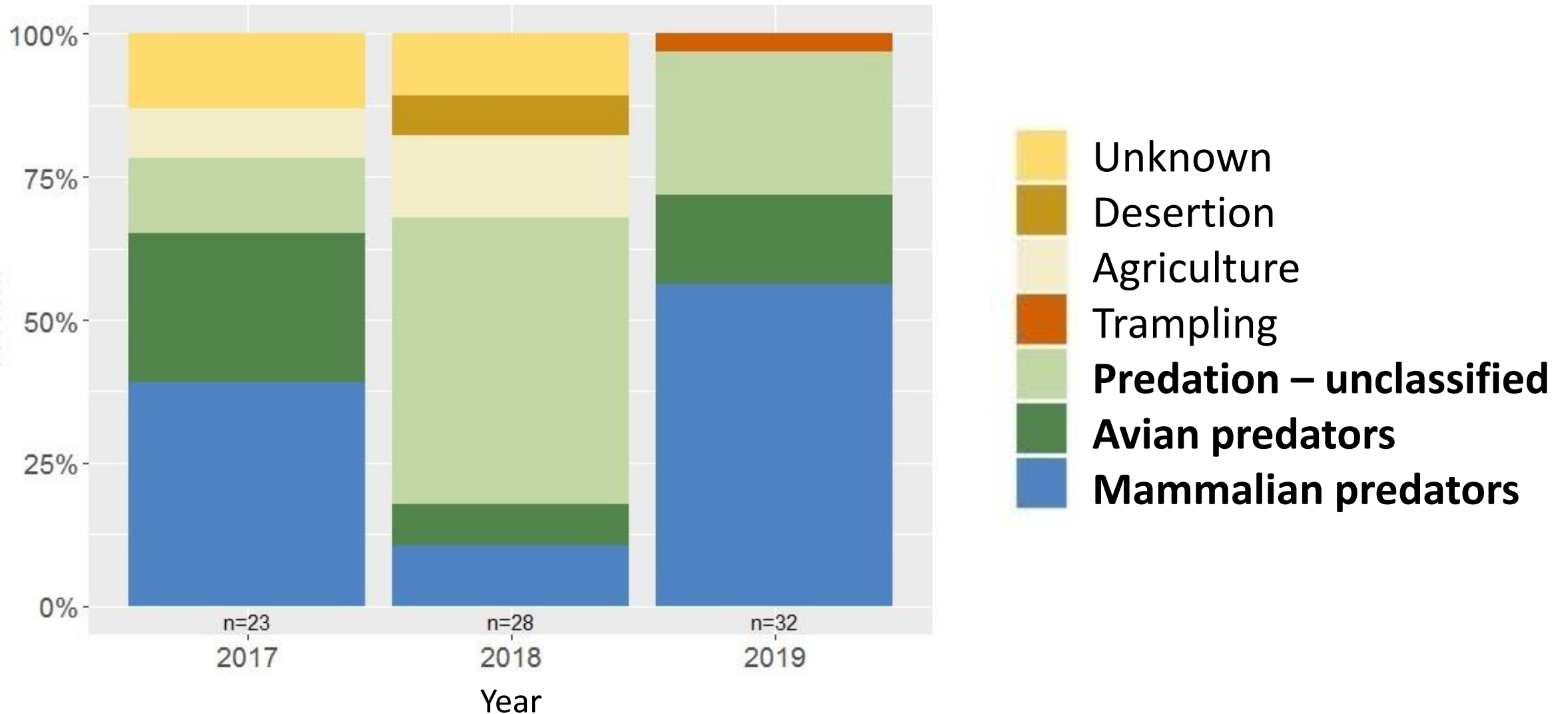
3,7%, N=9



39,5% %, N=16

2,1% %, N=70

Nest predation causes in years 2017-2019 (N=83)





Protection of **waders** with the use of grazing and small retention objects construction in the area Natura 2000 Knyszyńska Forest and Upper Narew River Valley.



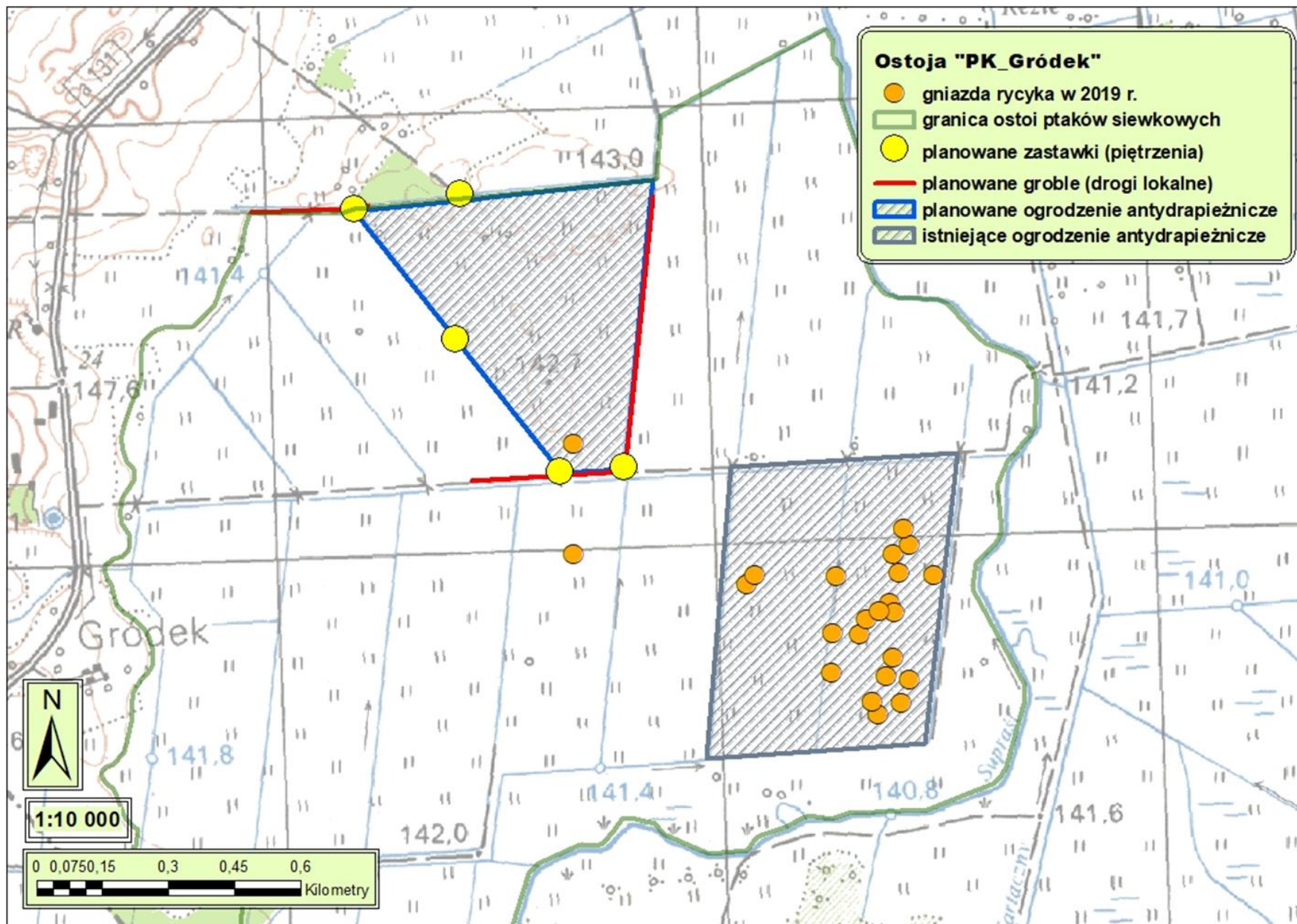
Iceland 
Liechtenstein
Norway grants

Knyszyńska Forest

- construction of electric anti-predatory fencing on 30 ha,
- construction of hydrotechnical infrastructure enabling water management on pastures:

● culverts with damming
— dikes
— electric fence

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants



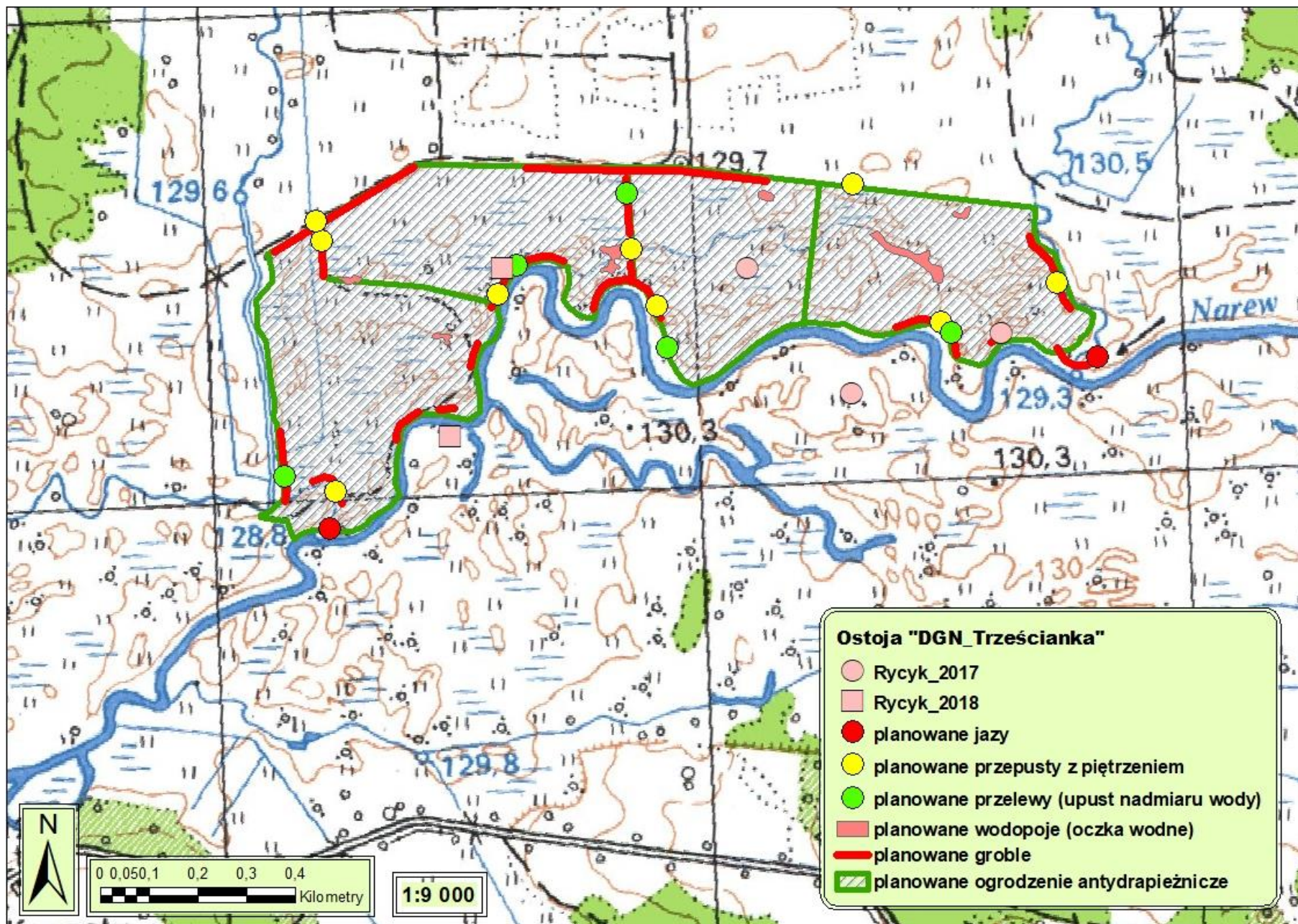
Narew Upper River Valley

„Things to do” list:

- construction of electric anti-predatory fencing on 55 ha,
- construction of hydrotechnical infrastructure enabling water management on pastures:

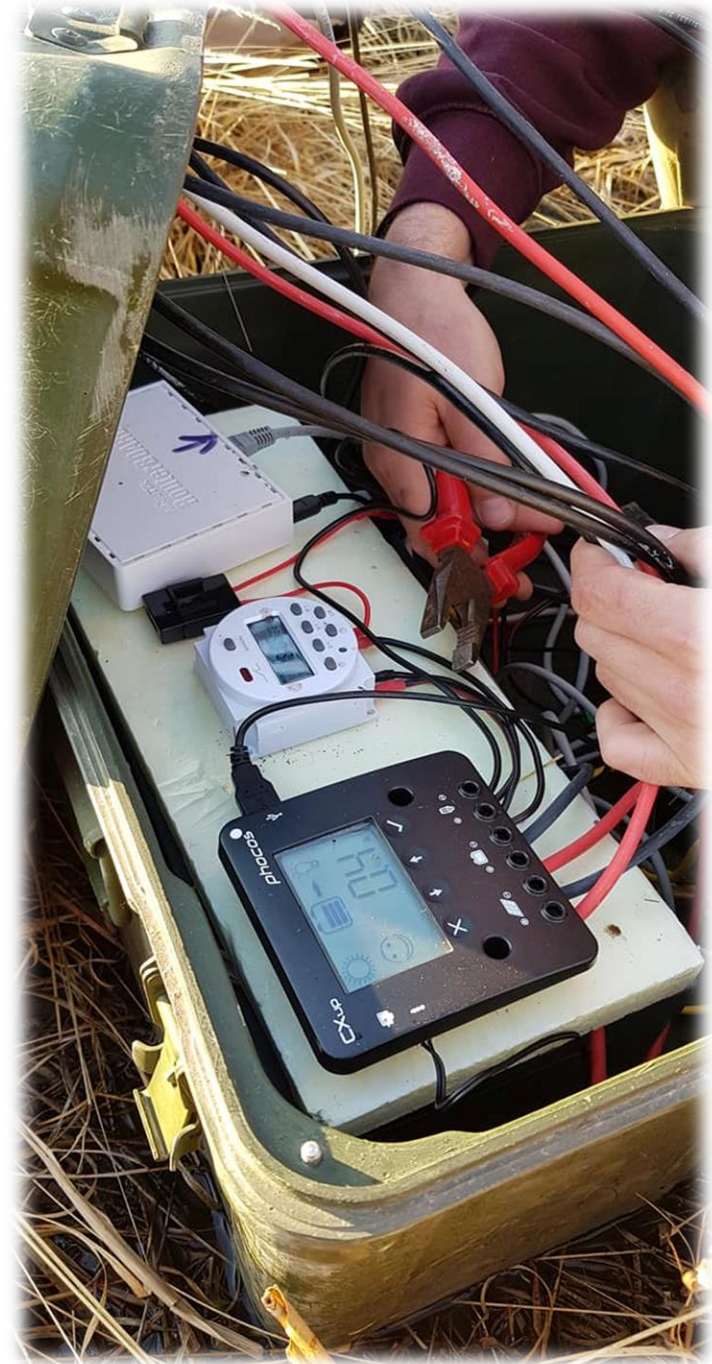
- weirs
- culverts with damming
- spillways
- dikes
- electric fence

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants



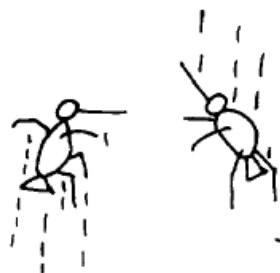
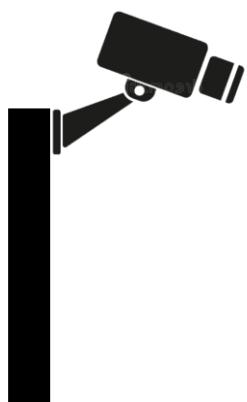
Implementation of the National Action Plan for Great Snipe in Poland - phase 1 LIFE17 NAT/PL/000015



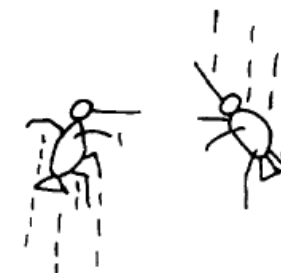


Predators monitoring on two Great Snipe leks 2019-2022

Sezon 1



Sezon 2



19.5°C

8.7°C

2020-04-22 00:41:28

Podlasiaki



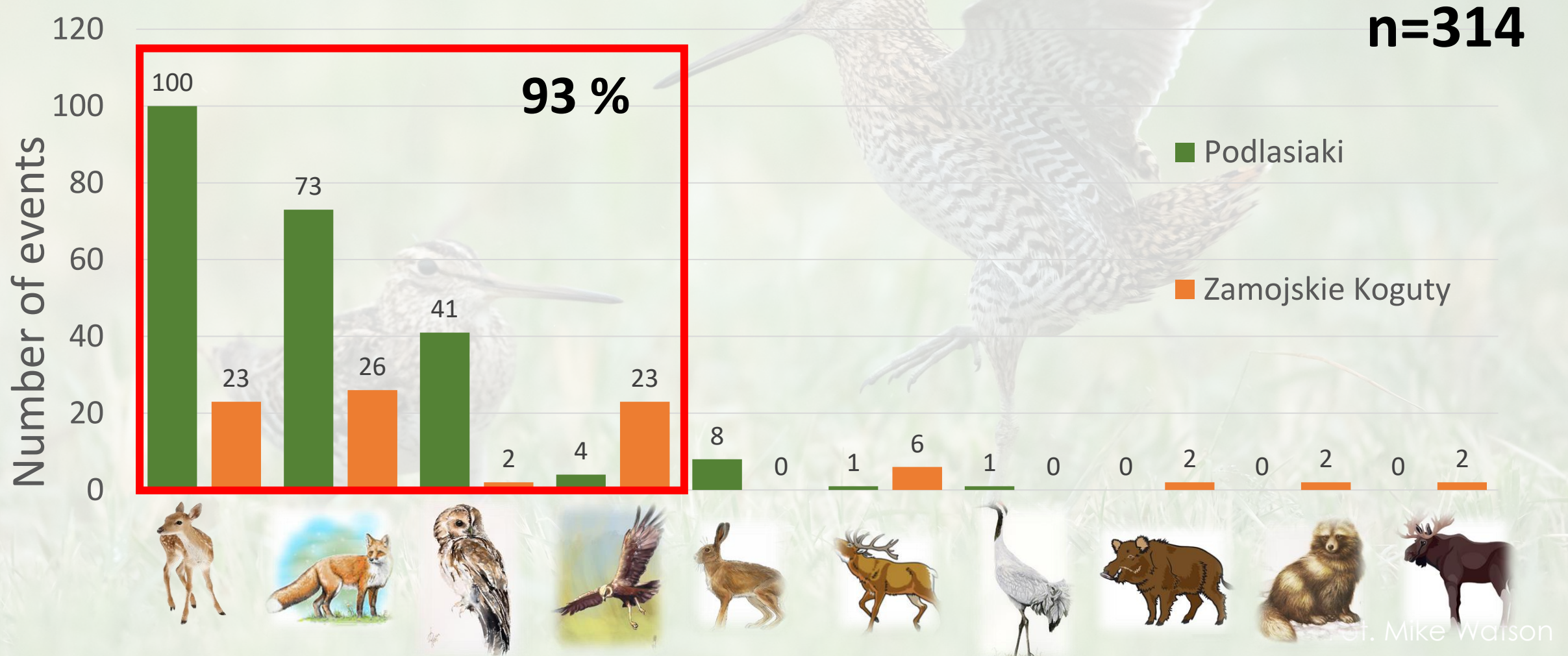
13.7°C

1.5°C

2020-05-13 00:20:44

Podlasiaki

Disturbances on Great Snipe leks: 2 lekking seasons, 2 leks, 196 nights

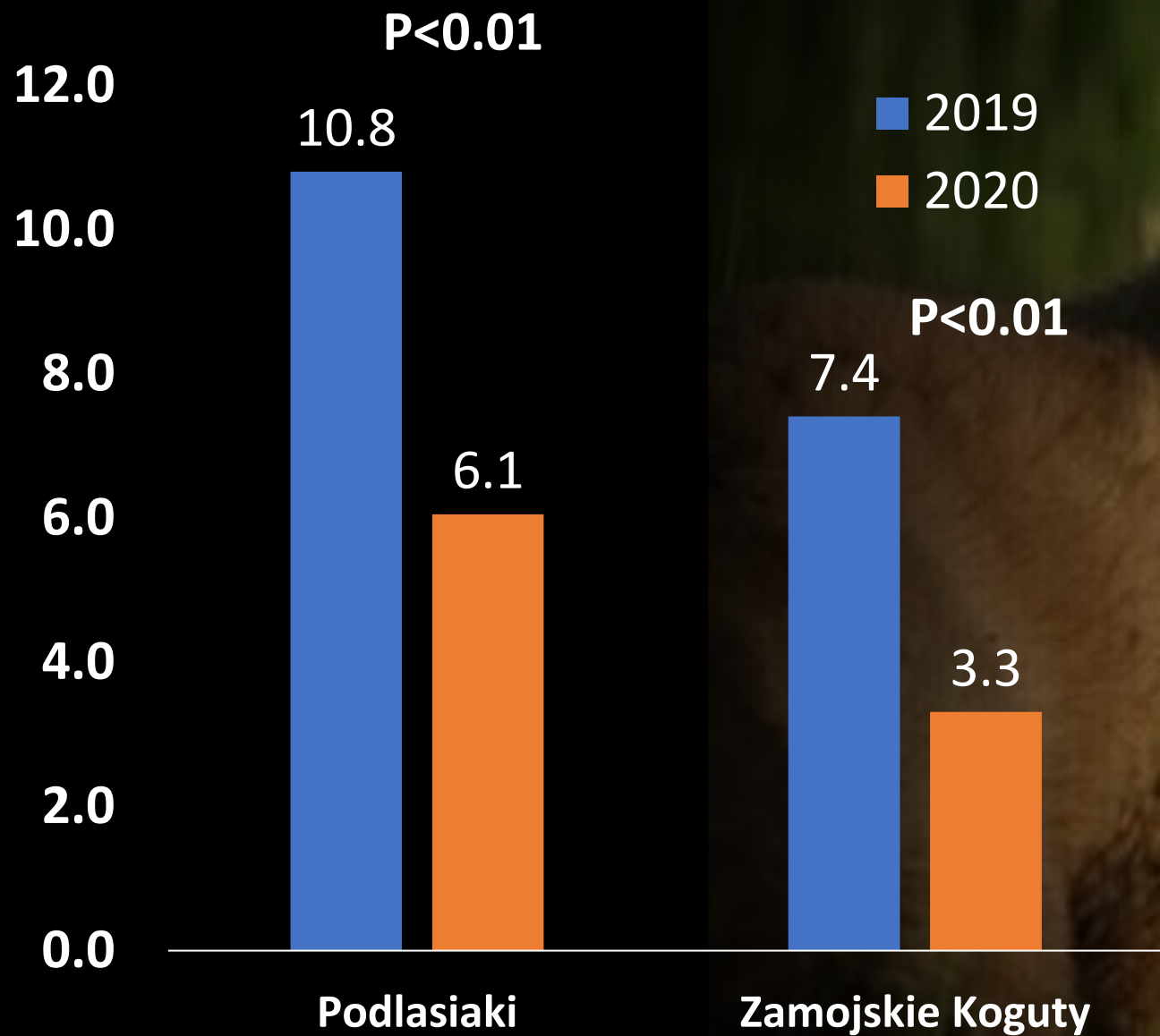


A close-up photograph of a fox with reddish-brown fur and pointed ears, holding a small bird in its mouth. The fox is looking towards the camera with a focused expression. The background is a soft-focus green field of tall grass. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

What is the predation
level on Great Snipe leks?

= 0!

Number of foxes /10 days



Future perspectives



LIFE4WadersPL - Recovery of wet grassland wader populations in Poland through creation of large-scale conservation areas



Polskie Towarzystwo Ochrony Ptaków
ul. Ciepła 17
15-471 Białystok



Natura International Polska
ul. Żyzna 18
15-161 Białystok



Towarzystwo Przyrodnicze "Bocian"
ul. Srebrna 16 lok. 9
00-810 Warszawa



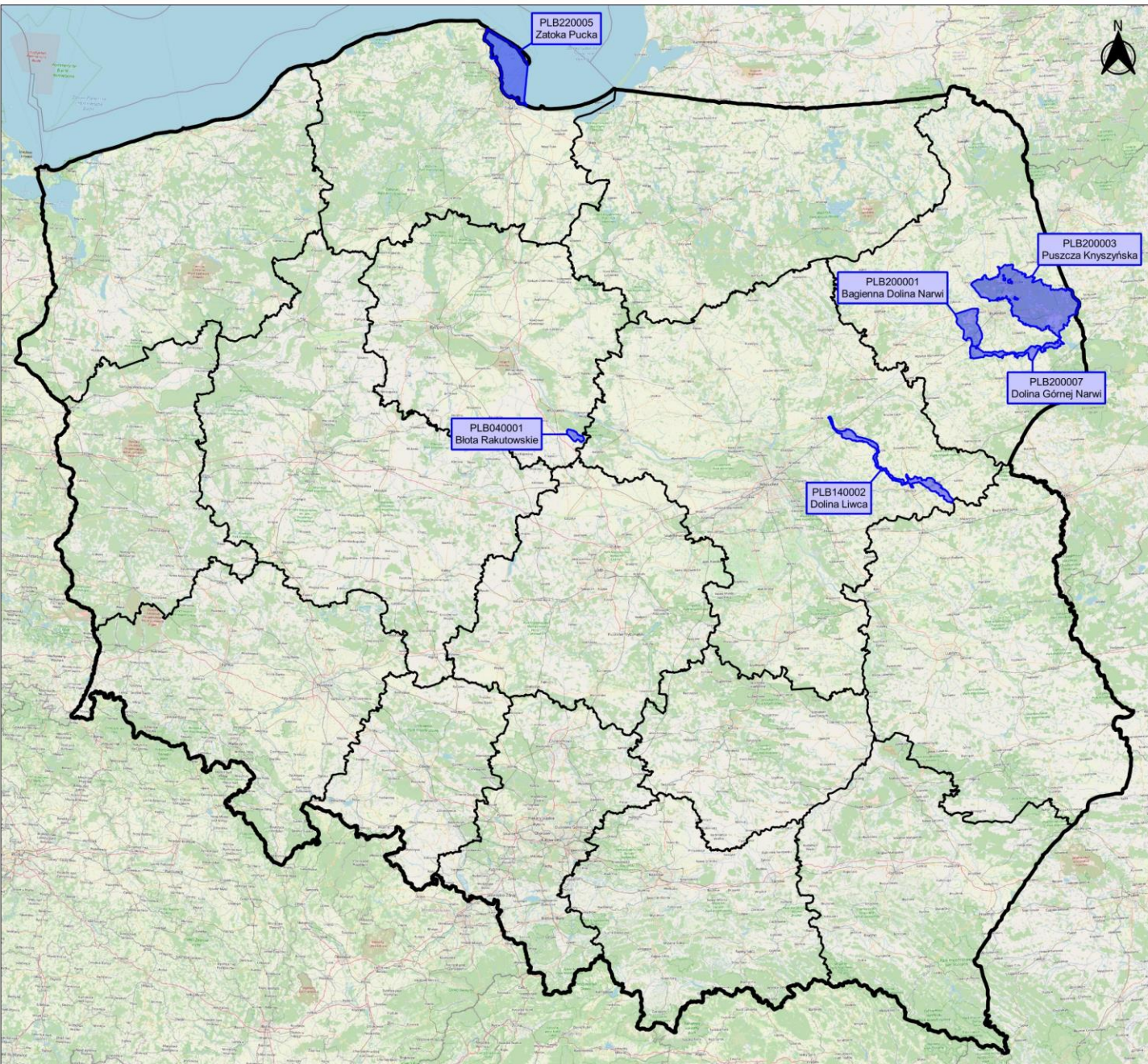
Towarzystwo Przyrodnicze ALAUDA
ul. Popieła 3/36
87-100 Toruń



Ogólnopolskie Towarzystwo
Ochrony Ptaków
ul. Odrowąża 24
05-270 Marki k. Warszawy

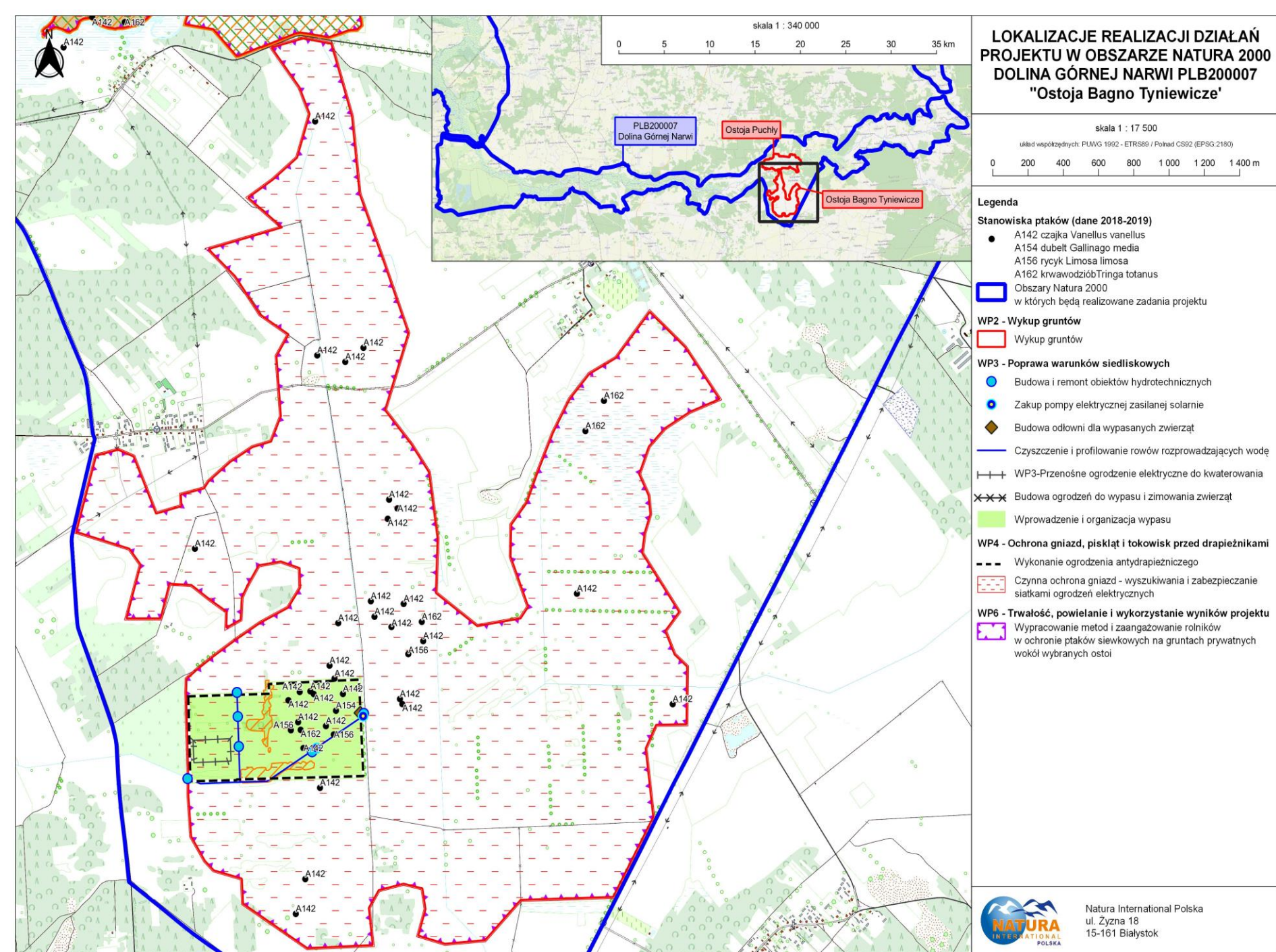
- **Duration: 2022-2027**
- **Habitat improvement on 7 805 ha**
- **50% increase of breeding waders in 10 reserves**
- **Fledging succes > 0.7 in electro-fenced areas**
- **Total budget: 9 445 073 EUR**





Main conservation actions

- Purchase of 220 ha of land
- Rewetting of 920 ha
- Restoration of 298 ha of abandoned meadows
- Introduction of grazing on 429 ha
- Predators control on 5,226 ha
- National black-tailed godwit survey
- Knowledge exchange with Western European organisations



Detailed actions

- Development of active protection in strategic areas
- Introduction of agri-environmental schemes
- Creating a refuge with high quality habitats
- Nesting and fledging success monitoring
- VHF monitoring of Lapwing and BT Godwit chicks survival and mortality causes
- Adult BT Godwits GPS tracking

**Thank you for
listening**



Fot. Tomas Lundquist