

SCALP Monitoring Report lynx year 2018/2019 (1. May 2018 – 30. April 2019)

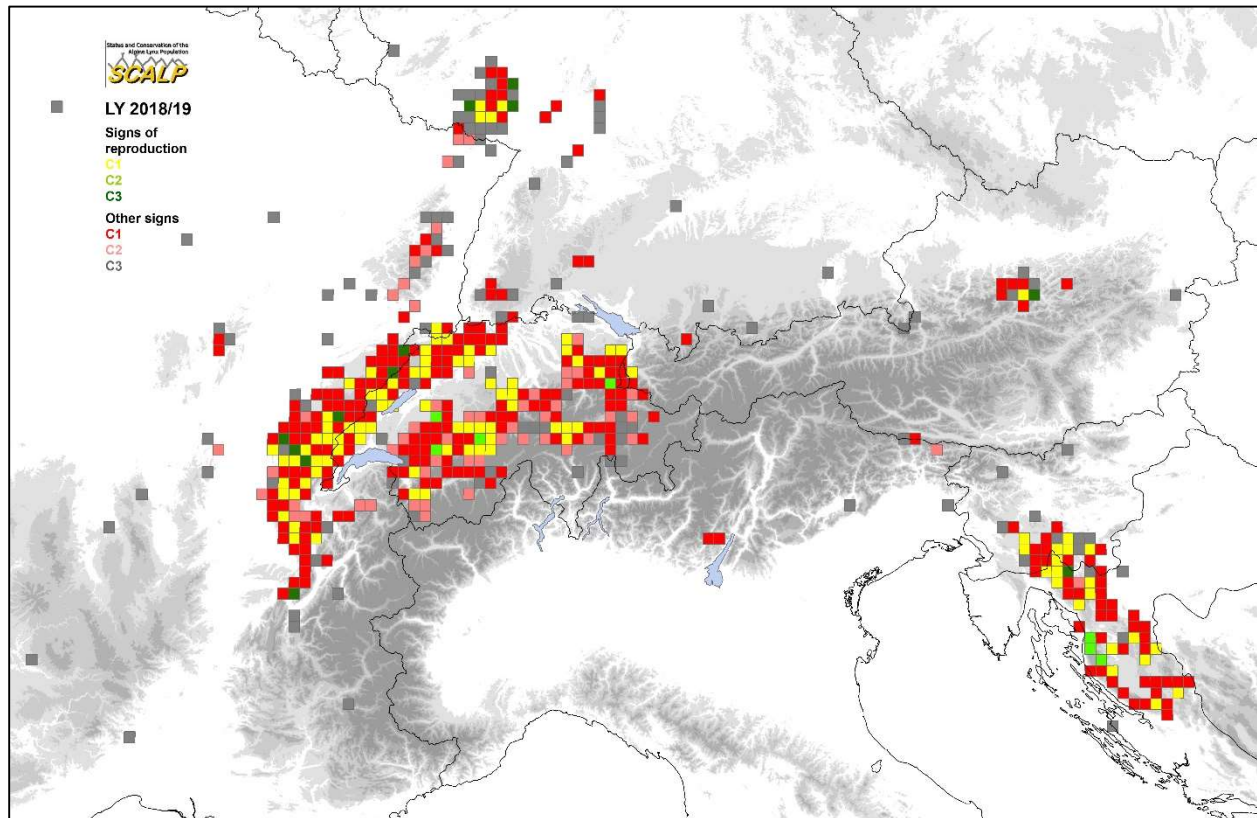


Fig. 1. Observed lynx distribution in the Alps, northern Dinarics, Upper Rhine metapopulation and adjacent regions in lynx year 2018/2019 based on a 10x10 km grid. A distinction was made between different SCALP categories and whether the observation included a reproductive event or not¹.

¹ 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 and lynx tracks. 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). The order of category layers in the map is C1 reproduction, C2 reproduction, C3 reproduction, C1, C2, 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 2018 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	972	335	171	1478
Northern Dinarics	341	39	55	435
Jura	1139	163	132	1434
Vosges/Palatinate Forest	140	18	137	295
Black Forest ¹	154	5	24	183

¹including the region of the Swabian Alb and adjacent regions

Special events:

- *Alps:* After two years without confirmed reproduction in the Kalkalpen (Upper Austria), in 2018 one female had a litter of at least 1 kitten (www.kalkalpen.at).
- *Alps:* Also in the French Alps, close to the Jura Mountains, reproduction was confirmed.
- *Alps:* The north-eastern Swiss subpopulation seems to have joined with the one from the north-western Alps. The real proof by camera traps or genetic data is still missing however.
- *Dinarics:* In winter 2018/2019 the first two lynx have been translocated from the Carpathian Mountains to the Dinarics in the frame of the LIFE Lynx project (www.lifelynx.eu).
- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation:* In the frame of LIFE Luchs 3 males and 2 females were translocated to the Palatinate Forest. Besides, at least 5 kittens from 3 different litters were born (www.luchs-rlp.de).
- *Upper Rhine Metapopulation:* Immigration of a male lynx to Baden-Württemberg from the Harz population (about 300 km).

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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, Association BIOM, Nature Park Velebit, National Parka Paklenica, National park North Velebit, Geonatura, Public Institution for Managing Protected Nature Areas Priroda.

France: Office Français de 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.

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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.

Annex 1

SCALP Coordination:

Anja Molinari-Jobin, KORA

France:

Nolwenn Drouet-Hoguet, OFB

Italy:

Paolo Molinari, Progetto Lince Italia and KORA

Francesca Marucco, Centro Conservazione e Gestione Grandi Carnivori

Switzerland:

Christine Breitenmoser-Würsten, KORA

Urs Breitenmoser, KORA

Fridolin Zimmermann, KORA

Liechtenstein:

Olivier Nägele, Office of Environment, Vaduz

Germany:

Sybille Wölfl, Lynx Project Bavaria

Manfred Wölfl, Bavarian Agency of Environment,

Micha Herdtfelder, Forest Research Institute of Baden-Wuerttemberg,

Michael Back, Research institute for forest ecology and forestry Rhineland-Palatinate

Sylvia Idelberger, Foundation for Nature and Environment Rhineland-Palatinate

Austria:

Thomas Huber, Büro am Berg

Christian Fuxjäger, Kalkalpen Nationalpark

Georg Rauer, Vetmeduni Vienna

Slovenia:

Ivan Kos, University of Ljubljana

Rok Černe, Slovenia Forest Service

Miha Krofel, University of Ljubljana

Croatia:

Magda Sindičić, University of Zagreb

Bosnia and Herzegovina:

Tijana Trbojević, Independent University of Banja Luka and Ecology Research Association (EID)

Igor Trbojević, University of Banja Luka and Ecology Research Association (EID)