

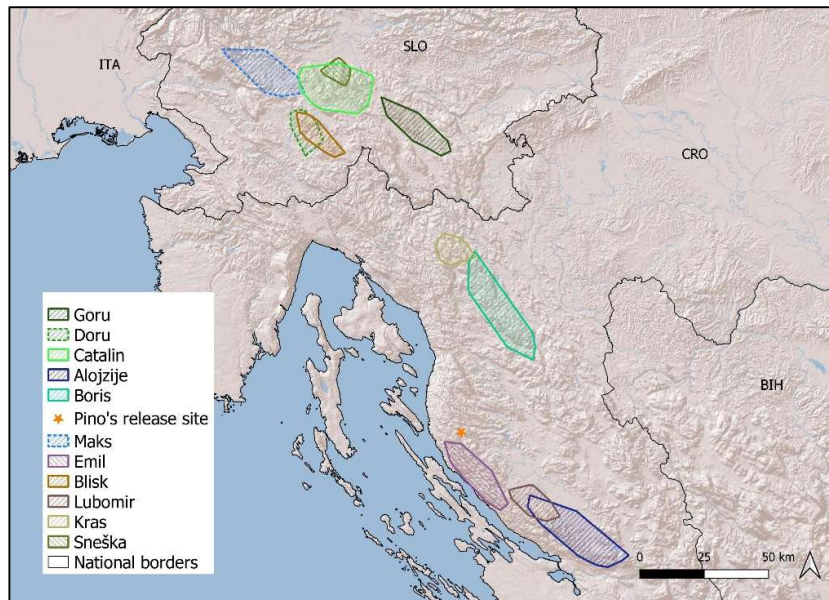
## Positive population trend after reinforcement of the Dinaric lynx population

### Press release

The EU funded project LIFE Lynx is coming to an end. Seven years ago, the situation of the lynx in the Dinaric population was critical. The population was founded with only six individuals in 1973. As the population remained isolated over the years, inbreeding became a serious issue. It was no longer a matter whether the population will go extinct, but when.

Presently, the negative population trend has been reversed. The translocations of twelve lynx from the Romanian and Slovakian Carpathians have shown the desired effect. The Dinaric population has expanded its range and the density has increased from prereinforcement of 0.83 individuals/100 km<sup>2</sup> to 1.24 in 2022. The number of lynx was estimated at ca. 100 in 2018, while in 2022 ca. 150 lynx were estimated. The team has made great efforts in camera trapping, as in 2022 as many as 129 different independent lynx and 30 kittens were photographed. And maybe most importantly, the level of inbreeding has already decreased. The LIFE Lynx project was a success!

However, population modelling has shown that the level of inbreeding will again increase in about 15 years if the population remains isolated. In that case, further reinforcements will be necessary in the long-term.



Home ranges of the translocated lynx (solid line = lynx are still monitored, dashed line = lynx no longer detected)

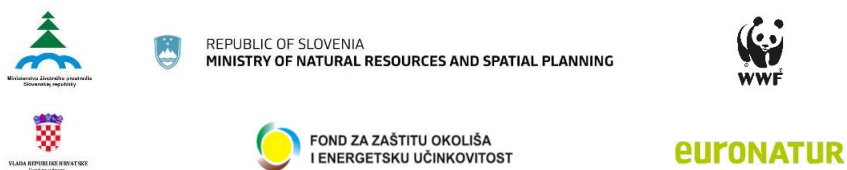


Romanian and Slovakian team has made it possible, providing lynx for saving the Dinaric-SE Alpine population. Photo: E. Furlani, Progetto Lince Italia

Project partners:



Cofinanciers:



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