



LIFE EUROKITE

Cross-border protection
of the *Red Kite* in Europe
by reducing human-
caused mortality
2019 - 2027

WWW.LIFE-EUROKITE.EU





The Red Kite is an *endangered species* in parts of its range.

Project description

Project title

Cross-border protection of the Red Kite in Europe by reducing human-caused mortality (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048)

Acronym

LIFE EUROKITE

Beneficiaries and partners

The coordinating beneficiary is the Central European Society for the Protection of Raptors (MEGEG). The project is implemented together with 18 project partners, 10 co-financiers and 73 cooperation partners.

Project duration

07.12.2019 – 31.01.2027

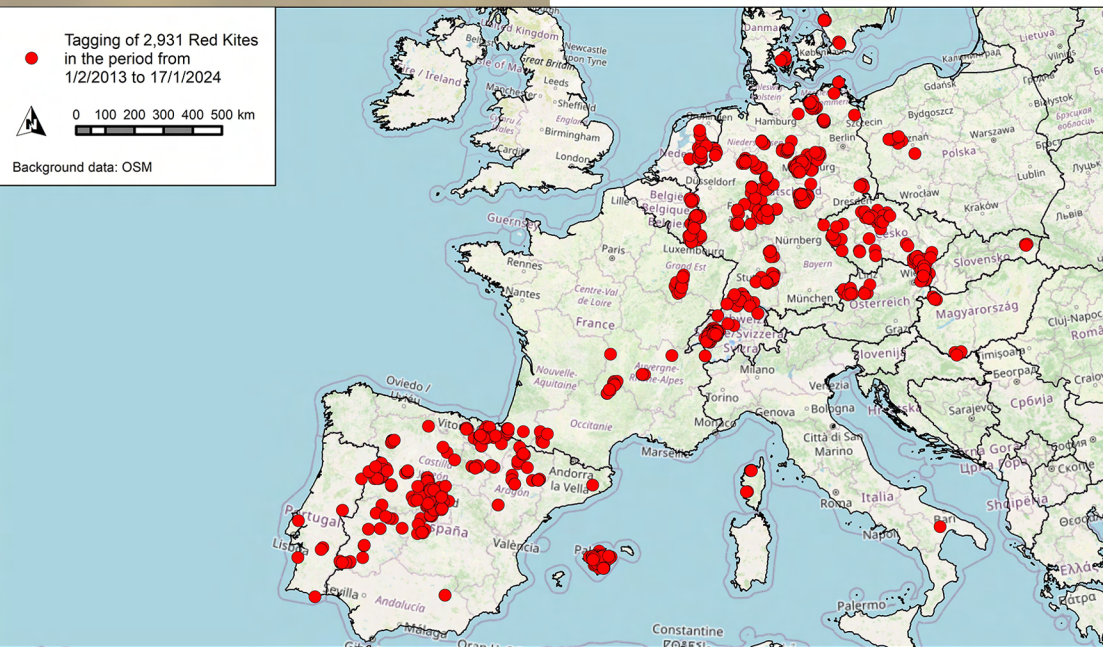
Main project objectives

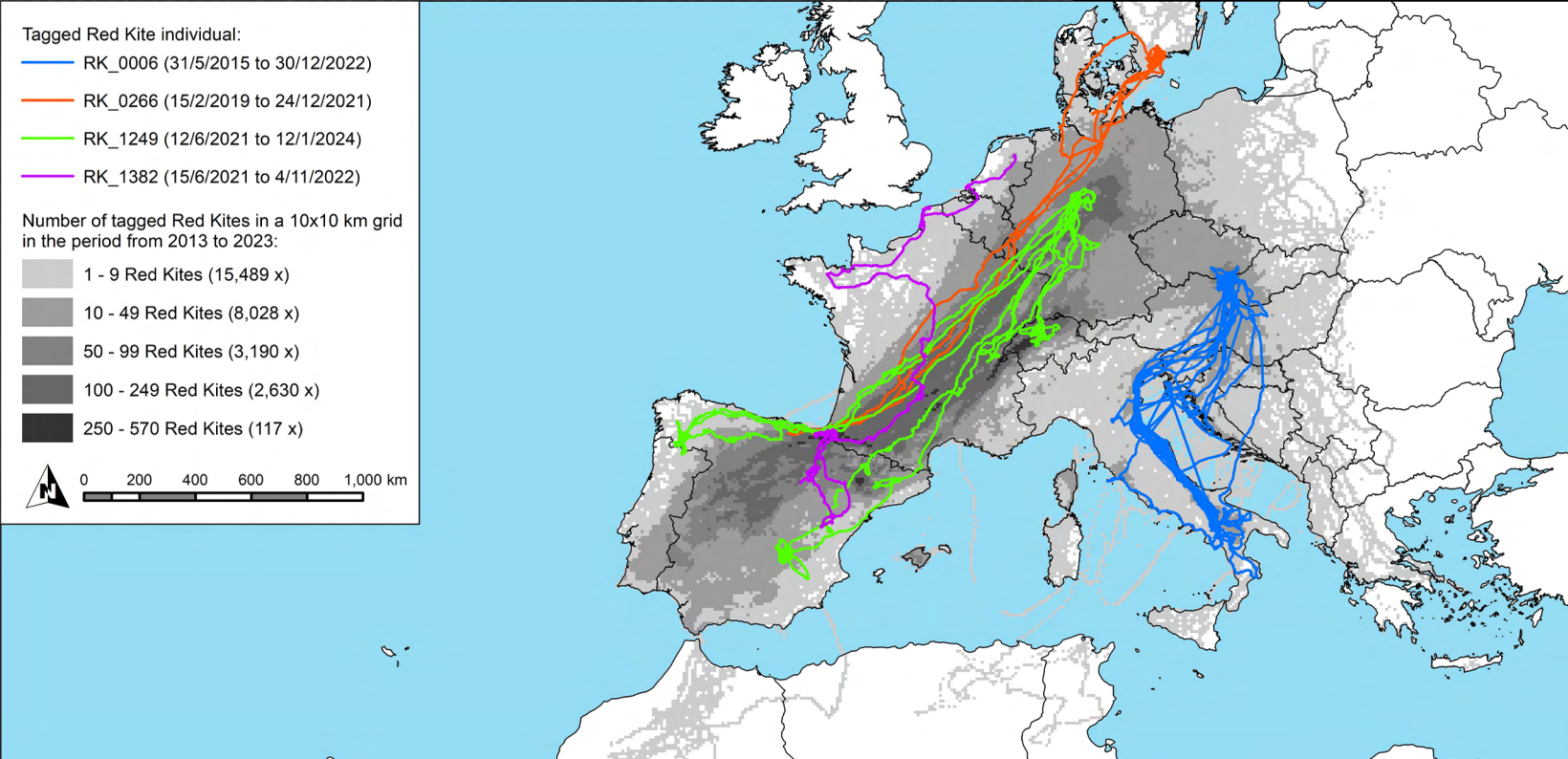
Significant reduction of impact of *poisoning* (reduction of the rate of poisoning cases by 5% on EU level).

Identification and solving of problematic cases concerning *electrocution / collision*.

Reduction of other *anthropogenic reasons* of mortality.

Population reinforcement in Spain halts range loss and identifies the factors causing a decline of the populations, presumably associated with *climate change*.





The core idea of the LIFE EUROKITE project

is to use telemetry technology to identify the spatial habitat use of the target species and quantify the causes of mortality. With the help of partners the LIFE EUROKITE project was able to collect *telemetry data of more than 2,900 tagged individuals of Red Kite* in one database.



Telemetry is a key to identify *mortality reasons* of raptor species.

Illegal activities are more frequent compared to mortality caused by infrastructure* for Red Kites in Europe.

*road and rail traffic, power lines and wind turbines



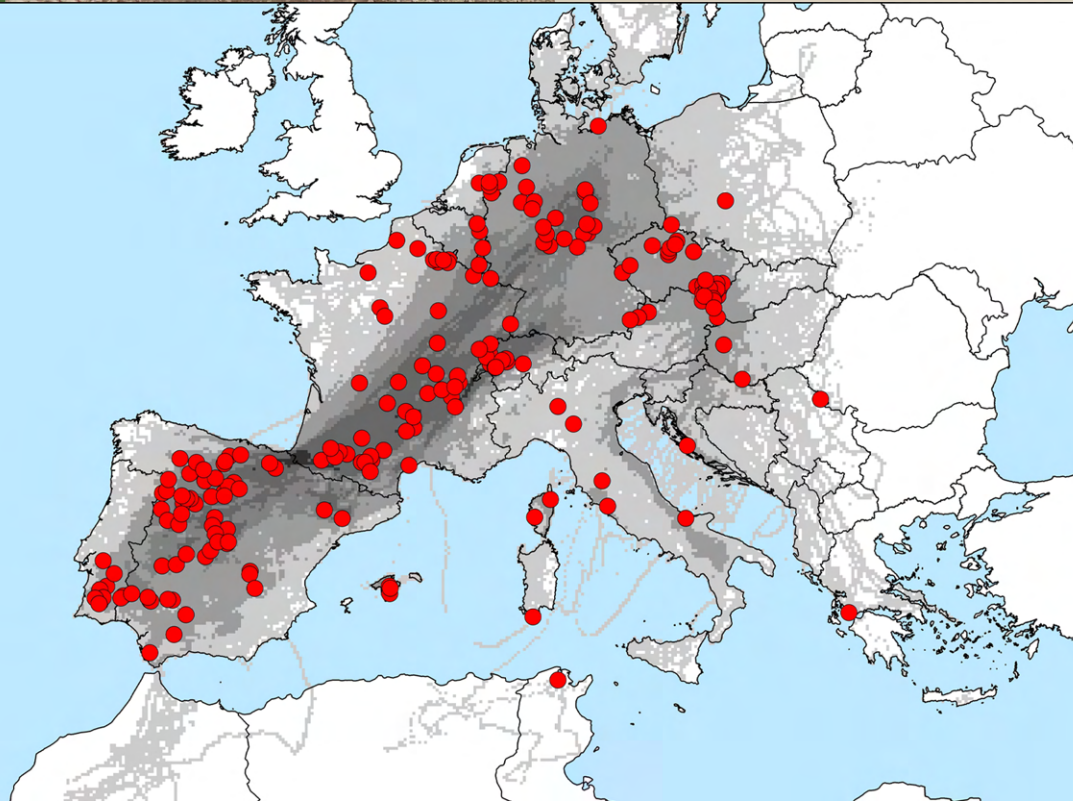
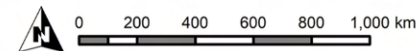
Poisoned Red Kite and Raven
© Karel Makoň

Poisoning and shooting are the main anthropogenic mortality reasons for Red Kites in Europe.

Red Kites illegally killed:
out of 2,931 tagged Red Kites 218 individuals were poisoned or shot in the period from 2013 to 2023

Number of tagged Red Kites in a 10x10 km grid in the period from 2013 to 2023:

- 1 - 9 Red Kites (15,489 x)
- 10 - 49 Red Kites (8,028 x)
- 50 - 99 Red Kites (3,190 x)
- 100 - 249 Red Kites (2,630 x)
- 250 - 570 Red Kites (117 x)



Police investigation on dead Red Kites in Portugal
© AMUS/LIFE EUROKITE



Roosting site of Red Kites
© Pascal Lerch, www.pascallerchfotografie.ch



Roosting site of Red Kites
© Ján Svetlík

Since 2007, hibernating Red Kites have been recorded at their roosts on a weekend at the beginning of January in more and more European countries. Since 2021 the LIFE EUOKITE project is responsible for organizing the *counts of 267 selected roosting sites* in 18 European countries, which will be consistently counted in the next years in January. The main goal of monitoring is to *detect an increase or decrease* of the Red Kite population in Europe.



Young Red Kite in the nest
© TB Raab GmbH

Monitoring
of the
Red Kite
population
to analyze
its *growth*.

Coordinating beneficiary



The TB Raab GmbH was commissioned to implement the LIFE EUROKITE project after a pan-European public tender.



Cooperation partners (73)



Project partners (Associated beneficiaries, 18)



Co-financiers (10)



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Impressum

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