

 Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Social Affairs, Health, Care
and Consumer Protection

National action plan on wild boar management

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sozialministerium.at



Legal basis

- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 of 16 March 2023 laying down special disease control measures for African swine fever
 - Article 56
 - Annex IV
- Additional documents from EFSA, FAO,

strategic objectives and priorities

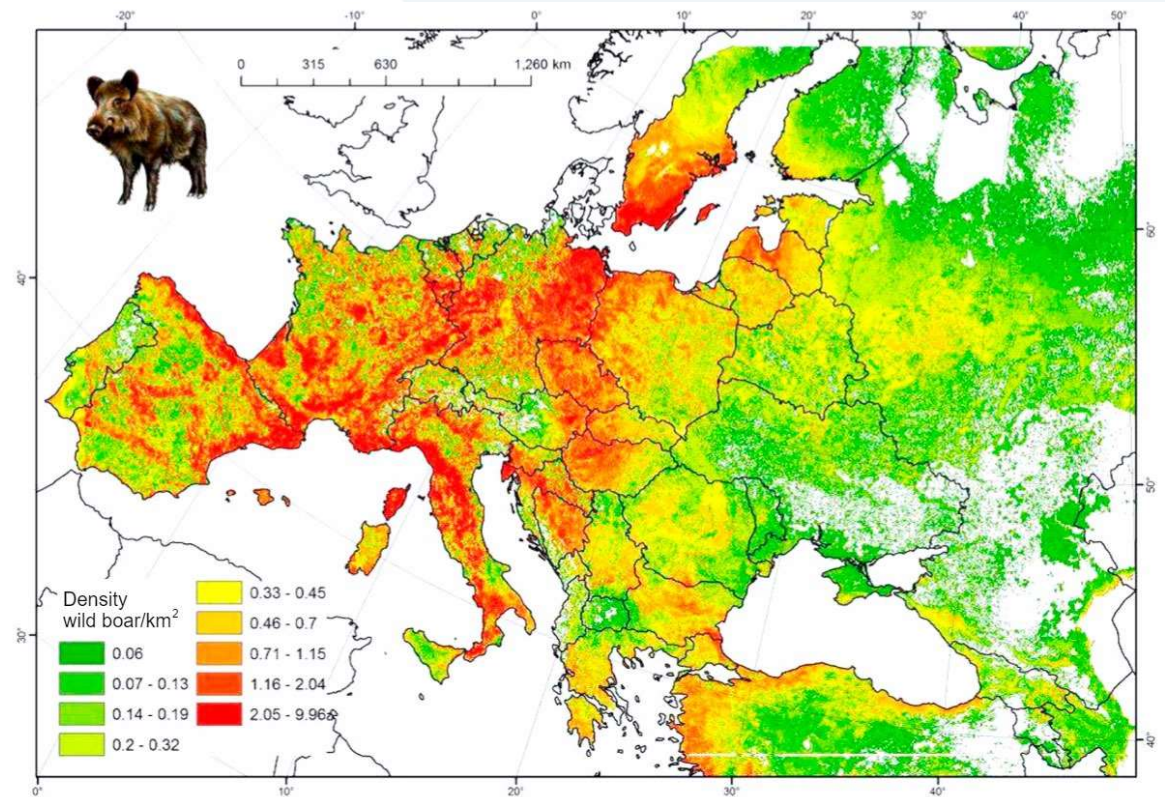
- Main goal: reduction of the density of wild boar
- Important additional goals
 - Collaboration with authorities and organizations involved in animal disease control, data processing, hunting, agriculture and forestry and the environment
 - Creation and updating of information materials

strategic objectives and priorities

- Action plan was developed in collaboration with the following institutions
 - Umbrella association of the hunting associations in the Federal Provinces – JAGD ÖSTERREICH
 - AGES - Austrian Agency for Health and Food Safety
 - Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, Regions and Watermanagement
 - Federal Ministry of Climate Protection and Environment
 - ABC defence center in the Federal Ministry of Defense
 - Research Institute for Wildlife Science at the University of Veterinary Medicine Vienna

scope

- The action plan covers the entire territory of Austria and is valid until 2028
- Hunting is regulated in nine provincial hunting laws
- Wild boar density varies depending on the animals' habitat



Source: FAO-ASFORCE, May 2015: estimated wild boar population in Europe

Scientific data guiding the measures

- Domestic pigs
 - Number of pigs in each federal province
 - Legal basis for biosecurity (Schweinegesundheits-Verordnung, regulation on pig health)
 - Emergency plan African swine fever
 - Task force ASF
 - Monitoring programme to maintain freedom (WOAH self declaration in 2007)

Scientific data guiding the measures

- Wild boar
 - Wild boar density
 - Risk assessment from AGES and monthly animal disease radar
 - Awareness: list of all information material in Annex II of the action plan

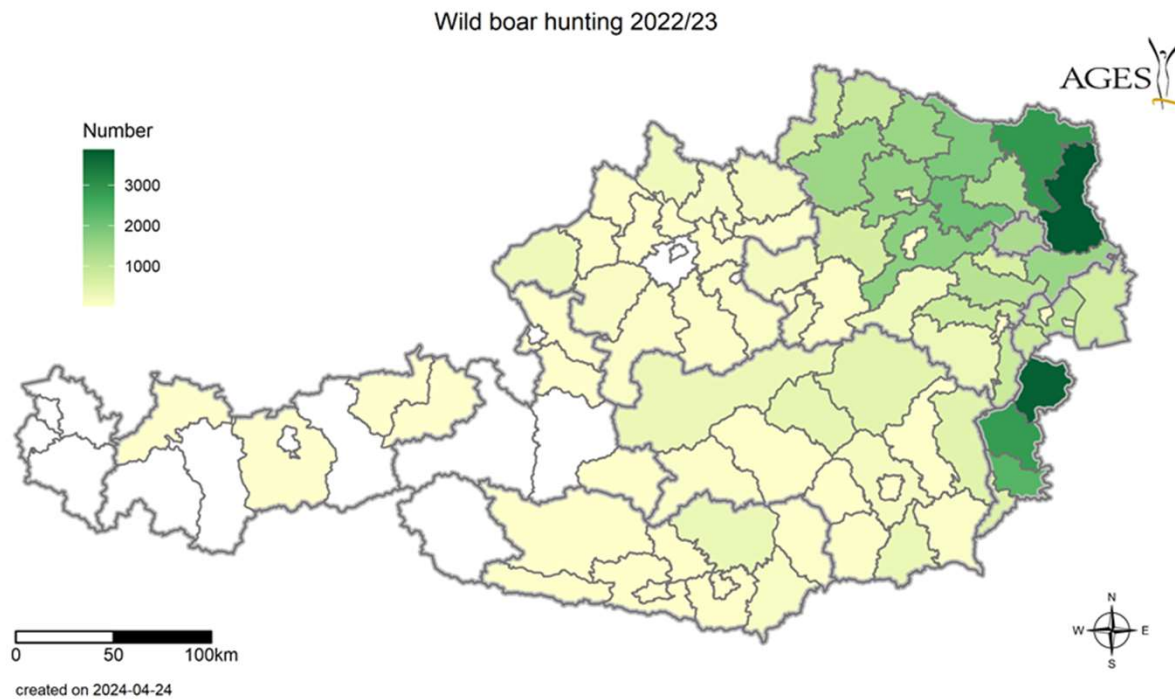
Descriptions of roles and functions of the relevant stakeholders

- All stakeholders were asked to co-operate
- All stakeholders are members of our Task Force ASF – regular meetings of the group
- Result: newspaper report about increased shootings



Description of the wild boar population in Austria

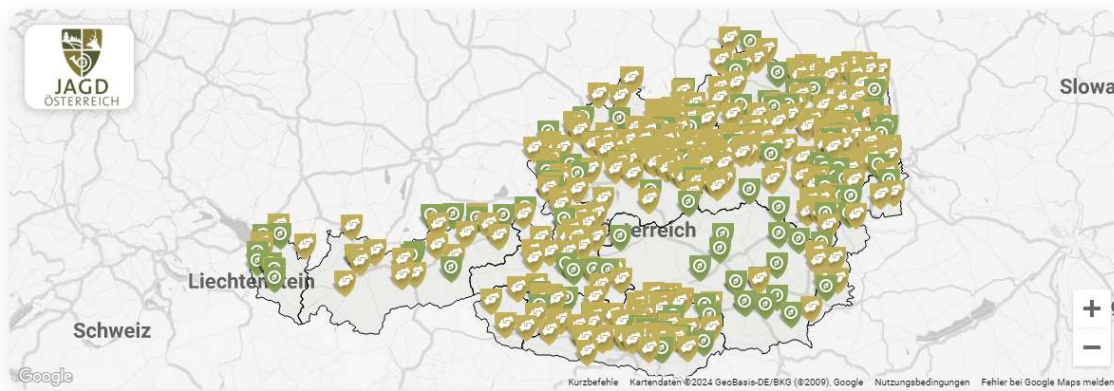
- Estimation of the WB density based on the hunting bag



Hunting management, hunting grounds, hunting seasons, specific hunting tools

- Hunting is a matter of the 9 Federal Provinces – 9 different hunting laws
- Interactive map of hunting grounds

KLICKEN SIE AUF DIE ANGEZEIGTEN SYMBOLE IN DER KARTE - FÜR MEHR INFORMATIONEN



- no hunting season for wild boar
- Hunting tools according to the legislation of the Fed. Province

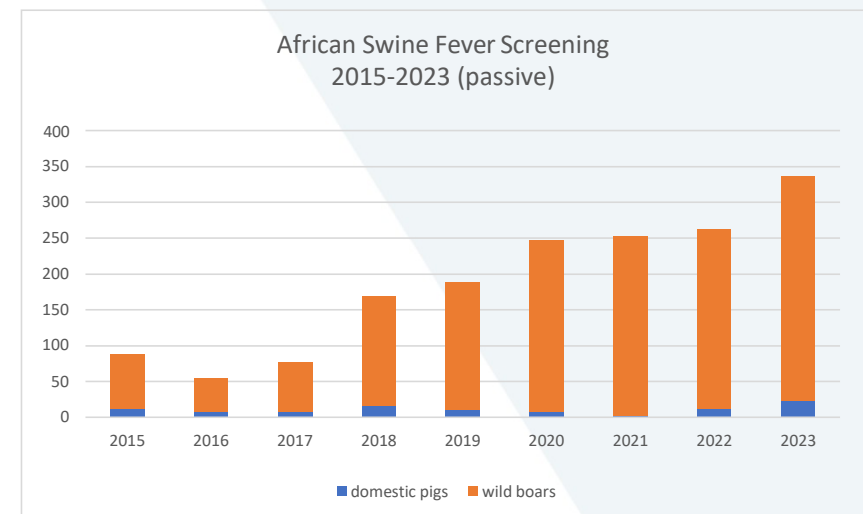
Targets and means for an appropriate control (1)

- federal provinces with a high density of domestic pigs and a high density of wild boar
 - huntig bag should be increased by at least 5 % compared to the previous year

Bundesland	Jagd- strecke 2021/2022	Ziel für				
		22/23	23/24	24/25	25/26	26/27
Burgenland	11.124	11.903	12.498	13.123	13.799	14.469
Kärnten	813	815	815	815	815	815
Niederösterreich	31.936	33.533	35.210	36.970	38.818	40.759
Oberösterreich	2.444	2.566	2.694	2.829	2.970	3.118
Salzburg	69	70	70	70	70	70
Steiermark	3.721	3.907	4.102	4.307	4.522	4.748
Tirol	28	30	30	30	30	30
Vorarlberg	2	2	2	2	2	2
Wien	1.621	1.702	1.787	1.876	1.970	2.068

Targets and means for an appropriate control (2)

- Detection of virus entry into the wild boar population as early as possible in order to be able to initiate control measures immediately
- ASF early warning regulation: every wild boar found dead and every wild boar killed in traffic must be sent to the NRL
- Increasing the number of samples through the possibility of an „exclusion examination,,



Targets and means for an appropriate control (3)

- Maintaining awareness (example: video for farmers on youtube: <https://youtu.be/-Az2aMjYG5o>)
- Maintaining trade in live pigs and their products
- Continuation of the task force ASF
- Improving co-operation with hunters (example: video for hunters on youtube: <https://youtu.be/HHmdcgf9Vrw>)

Biosecurity

- Biosecurity measures related to hunting: special chapter in Emergency plan ASF
- Biosecurity measures in domestic pigs: Pig Health Regulation
 - Manual
 - Photo series on the implementation of the measures
 - Empfehlungen, Handbuch und Fotoreihe der Schweinegesundheitskommission (SGK) - KVG (verbrauchergesundheit.gv.at)

implementation

- Measures are implemented in the respective area of responsibility of the authorities involved
- All laboratory investigations are done in the NRL (AGES)
- Annual evaluation of the action plan in the task force

Communication with and training of hunters

- Basic understanding of the disease and sampling



Short films
Folder
Lectures
Webinars
BTSEF workshop

<https://www.ages.at/themen/krankheitserreger/afrikanische-schweinepest/>

Cross border cooperation

- Participation in GFTADs meetings
- Tri-lateral CVO-meeting in Hungary (Jan. 2020): Hungary, Slovak Republik, Austria
- Sept. 2021: memorandum of understanding regarding ASF: Hungary, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic and Austria
- Regular exchange at CVO-meetings and PAFF-meetings

Support from the NRL

- Training programmes (vets, hunters)
 - Sampling, sample shipping
- Distribution of sampling sets (swabs, tubes, material for safe packaging, submission forms)
- Securing the test capacity (PCR result within 1-2 days)
- Feedback to the authority and the hunters by using the database

Thank you
for your attention



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