

Wildlife rabies in Italy: Epidemiological situation and response strategies

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS,
FOOD AND FEED

Animal Health and Welfare

Brussels, 7-8 October 2015



Epidemiological situation 2014

The last rabid fox was detected on 14 February 2011.
No further cases were identified during the surveillance program for rabies in the wildlife in 2 years

Italy re-gain the rabies-free status as of 14 February 2013

according to Article 8.10.2 of Chapter 8.10. of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code

“Self-declaration from Italy on the recovery of its rabies-free status”

OIE bulletin 2013 No 2 (<http://www.oie.int/index.php?id=86>)

2014 – Passive surveillance

Wild animals found dead or showing symptoms

Region	Total wild animal tested	Red foxes	% Red foxes
Friuli Venezia Giulia	213	169	79.34%
P.A. Bolzano	714	295	41.32%
P.A. Trento	133	101	75.94%
Veneto	129	85	65.89%
Total	1,189	650	54.67%

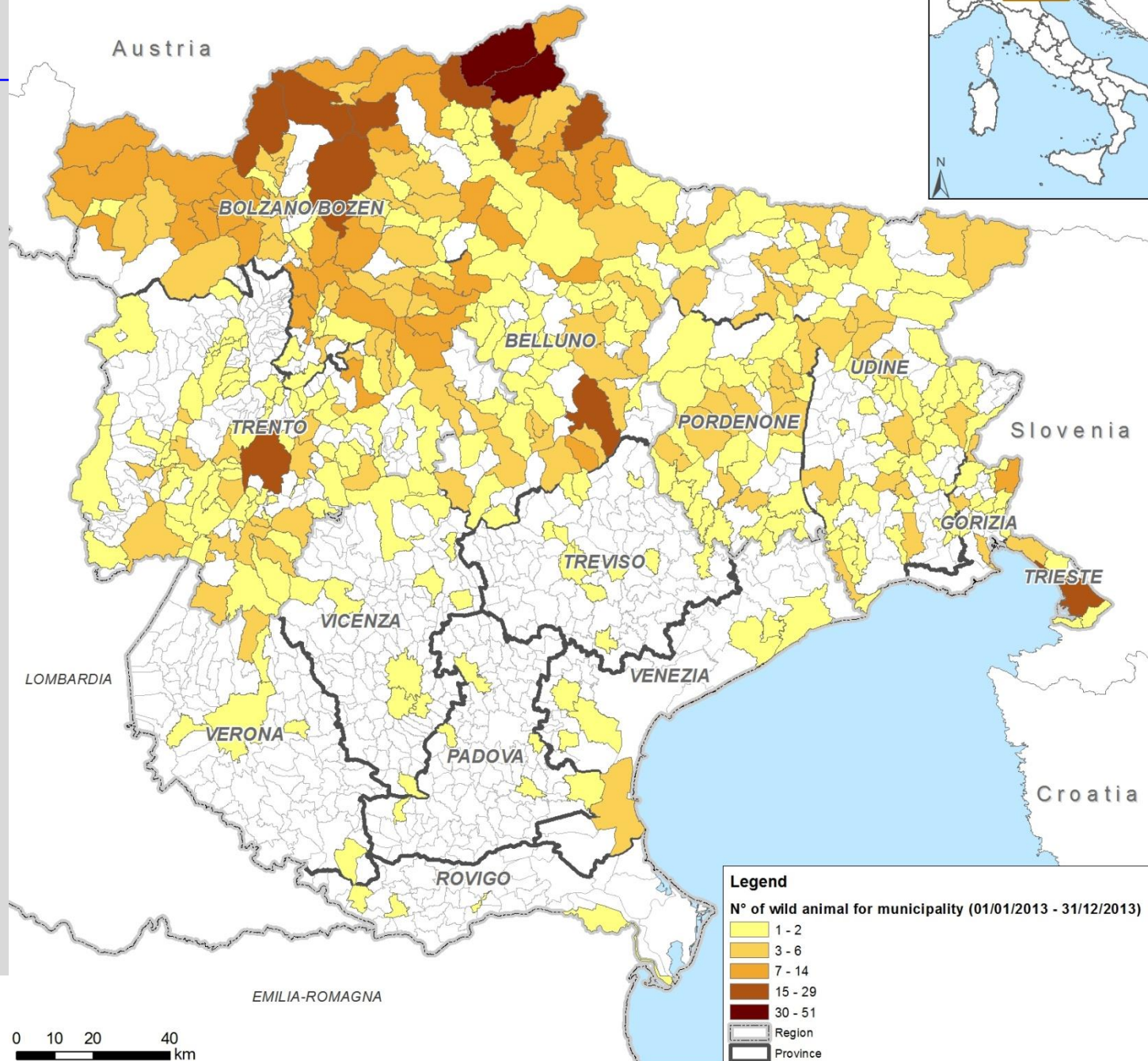


Austria

2014

Passive surveillance

Wild animals found dead or showing symptoms



Legend

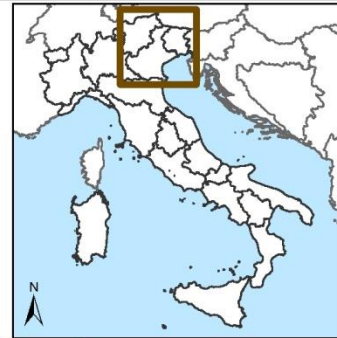
N° of wild animal for municipality (01/01/2013 - 31/12/2013)

- 1 - 2
- 3 - 6
- 7 - 14
- 15 - 29
- 30 - 51
- Region
- Province

2015 – Passive surveillance (Updated to 21/09/2015)

Wild animals found dead or showing symptoms

Region	Total wild animal tested	Red foxes	% Red foxes
Friuli Venezia Giulia	201	158	78.61%
P.A. Bolzano	472	221	46.82%
P.A. Trento	70	53	75.71%
Veneto	95	65	68.42%
Total	838	497	59.31%

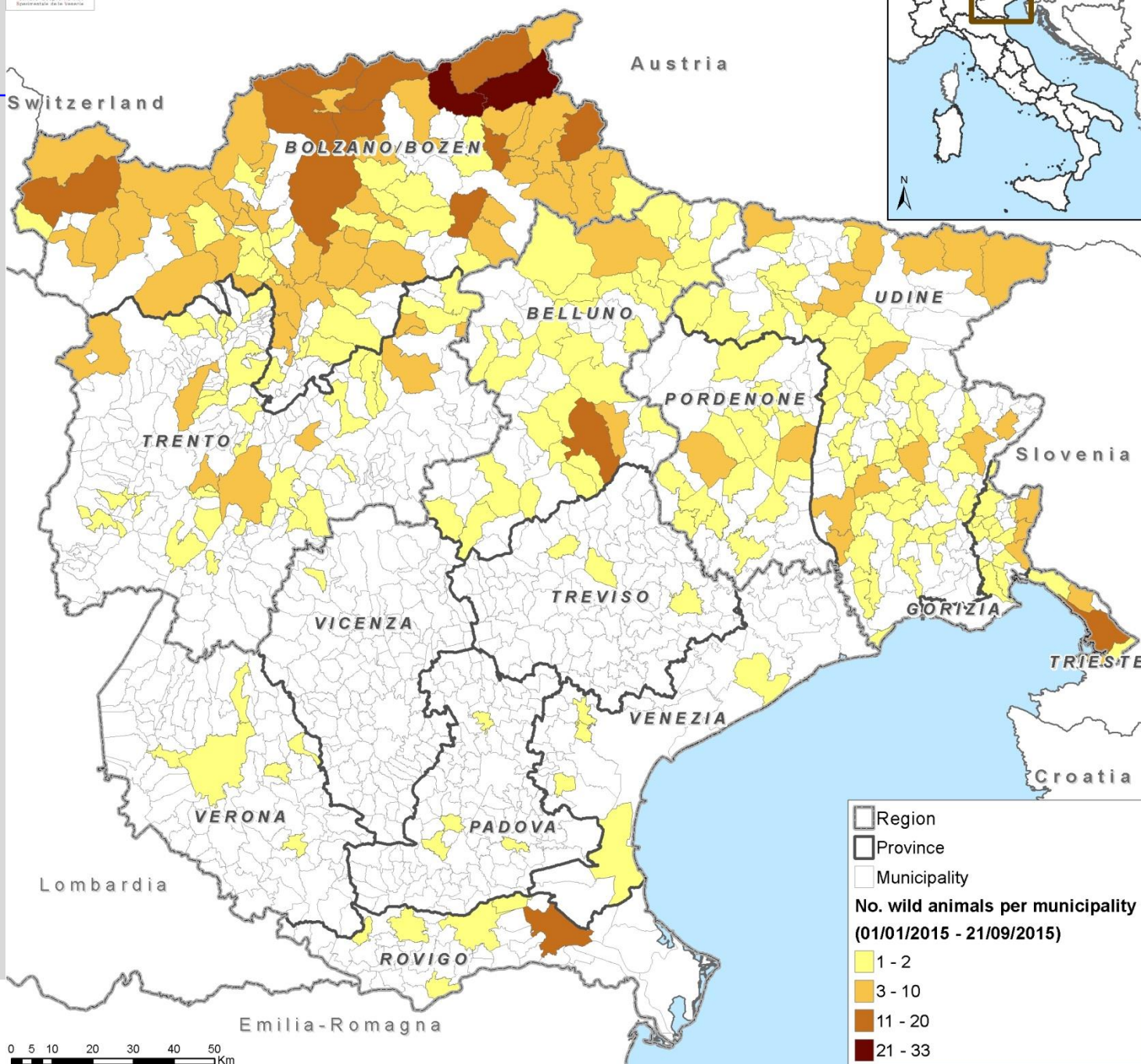


2015

Passive surveillance

Updated to
21/09/2015

Wild animals
found dead or
showing
symptoms





Oral Foxes Vaccination (OFV) campaigns

AERIAL
FOLLOWED BY

MANUAL
DISTRIBUTION

PREVENTIVE OFV

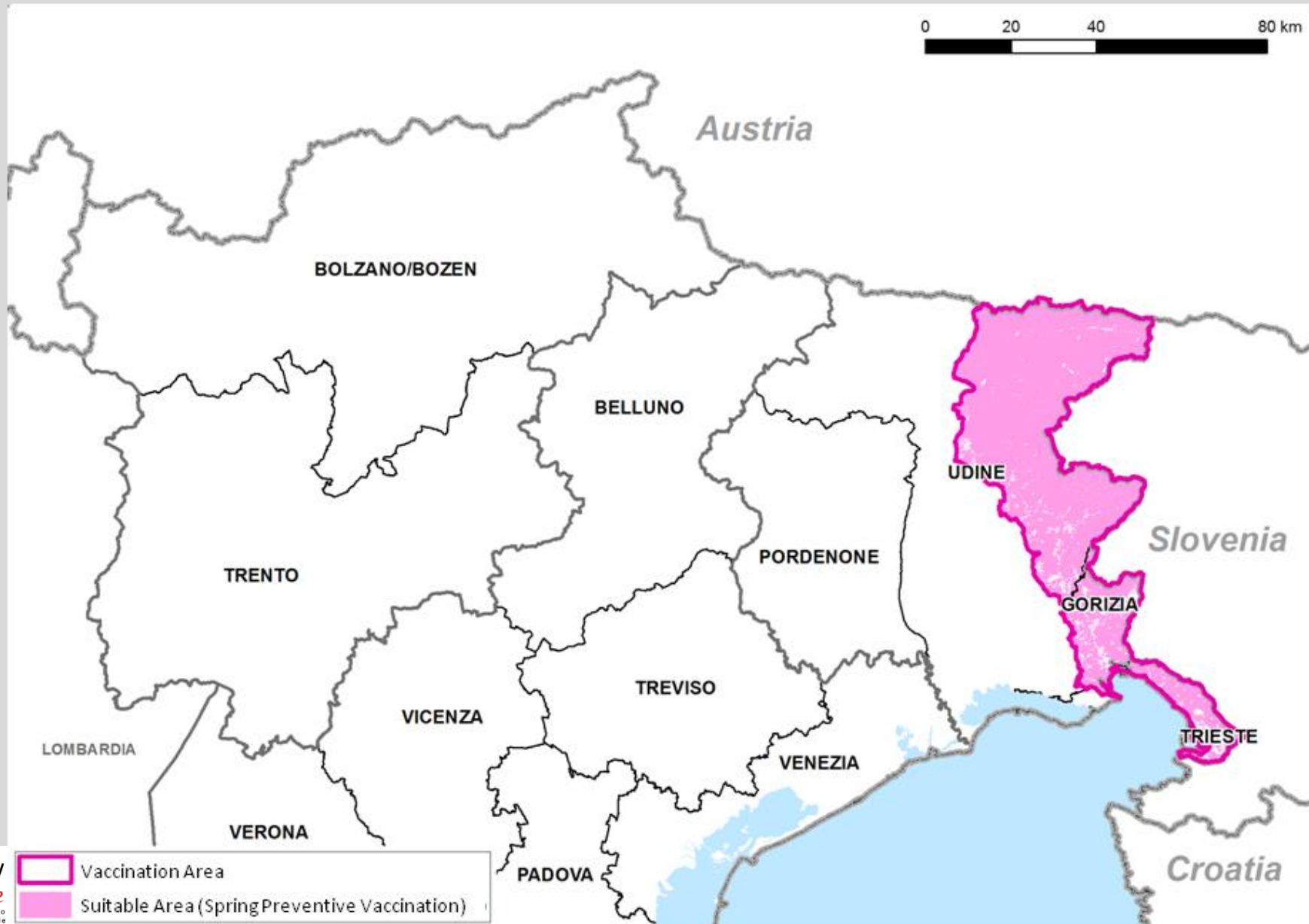
- MAY 2013
- NOV 2013
- APR 2014
- NOV 2014
- NOV 2015



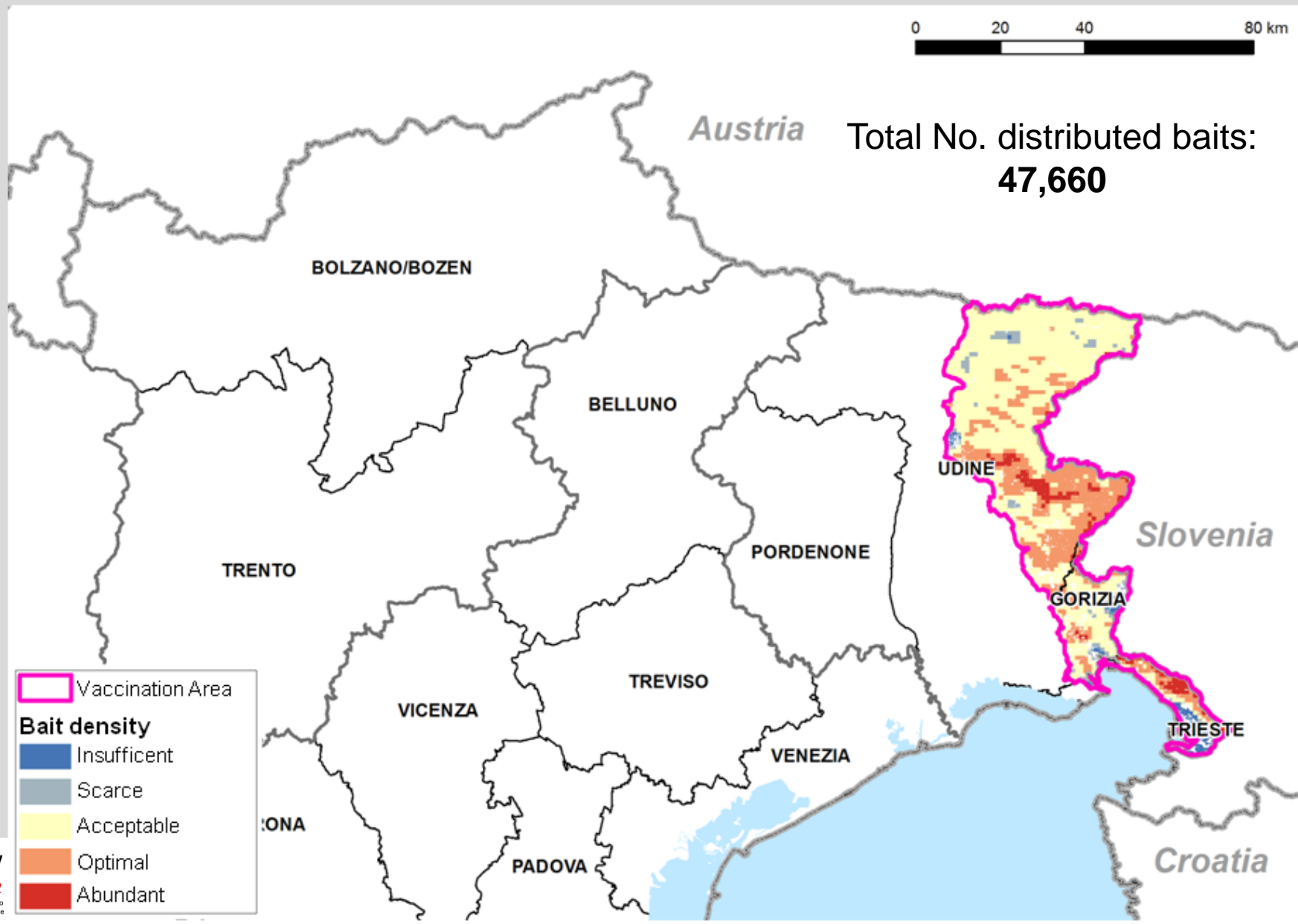
OFV – Preventive campaign

- **Preventive Campaigns**
 - Co-founded by EU (Decision 2012/761/EC)
 - Carried out twice a year (**Spring and Fall**) for **2013–2014**
 - Extension has been granted for **2015-2016**
 - Vaccination area: 20 km belt on the Italian-Slovenian border

OFV – Preventive campaign Spring



OFV – Preventive campaign May 2014



OFV – Preventive campaign May 2014

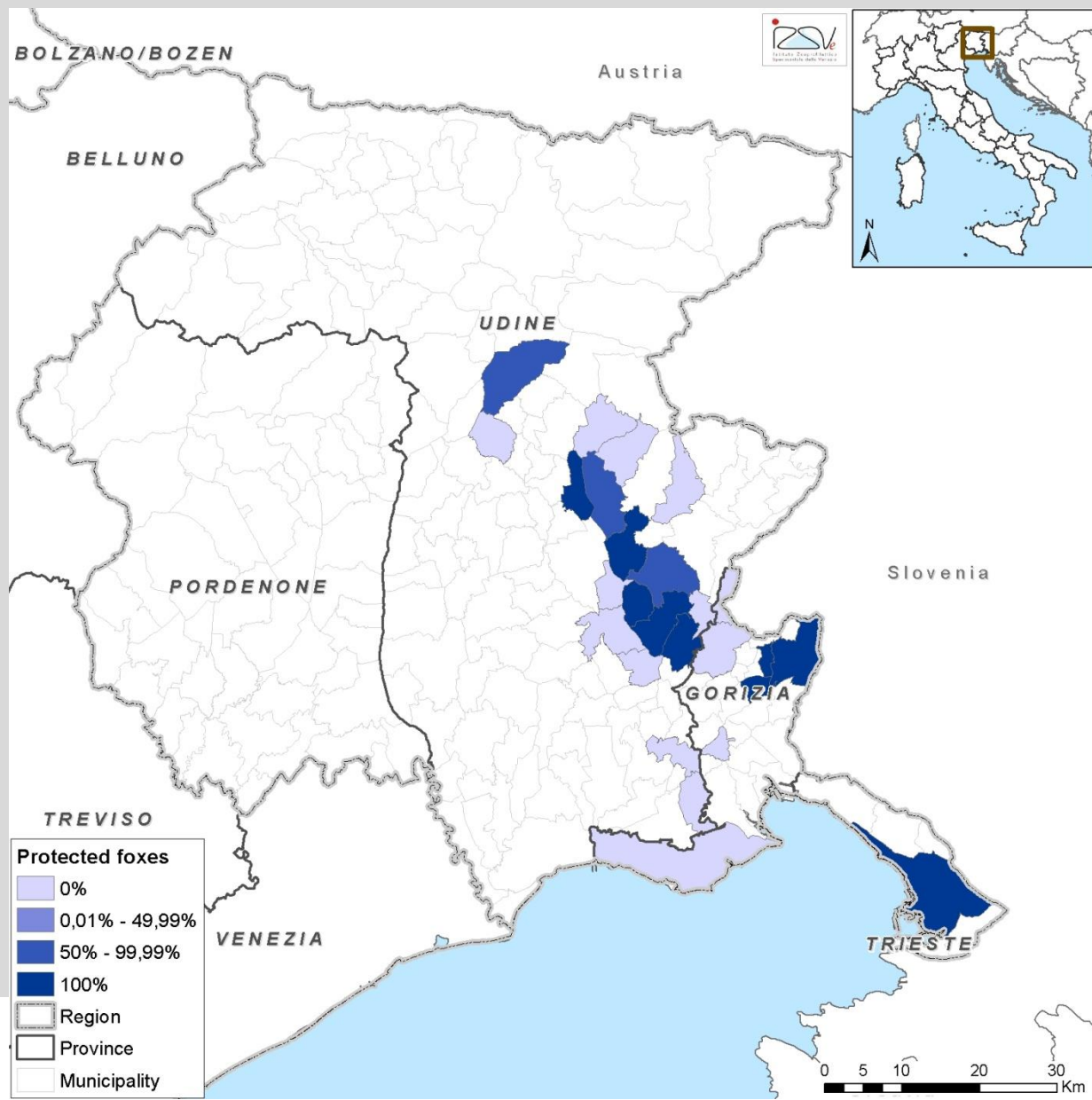
May 2014

OFV Efficacy

% Protected
foxes

(Ab >0.5 UI)

per municipality



OFV – Preventive campaign May 2014

% Seroconversions in foxes

Province		Tested foxes	Protected foxes (Ab >0.5 UI)	% Protected foxes
Friuli Venezia Giulia	Gorizia	14	3	21.43%
	Trieste	1	1	100.00%
	Udine	30	10	33.33%
TOTAL		45	14	31.11%

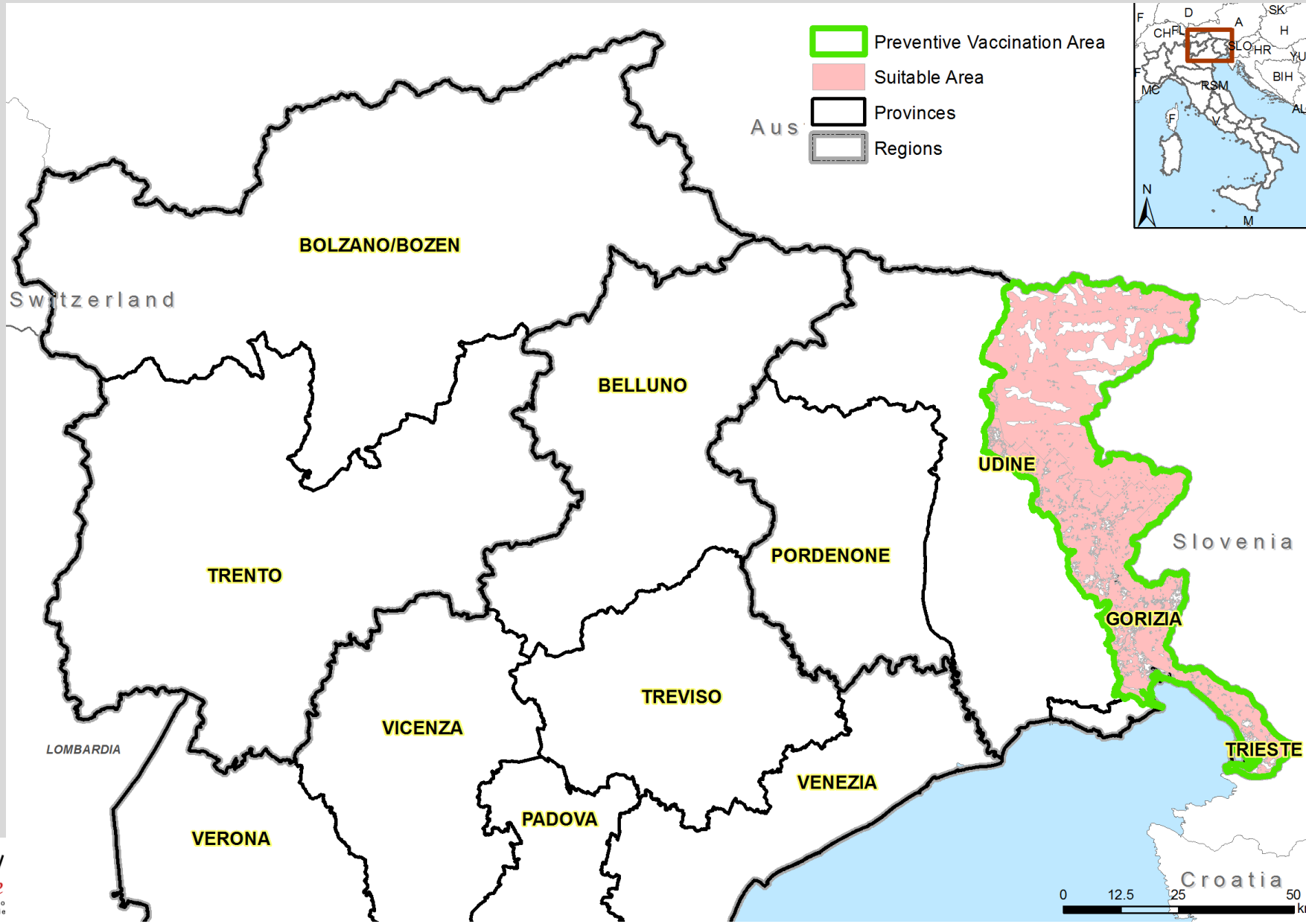
Proportion of protected foxes: 31.11% (95% CI: 18.17% – 46.65%)

Bait uptake – biomarker

Region	Tested foxes	Biomarker in jawbone	%
Friuli Venezia Giulia	47	35	74.47%

Proportion of foxes which ingested vaccine baits: 74.47% (95% CI: 59.65% – 86.06%)

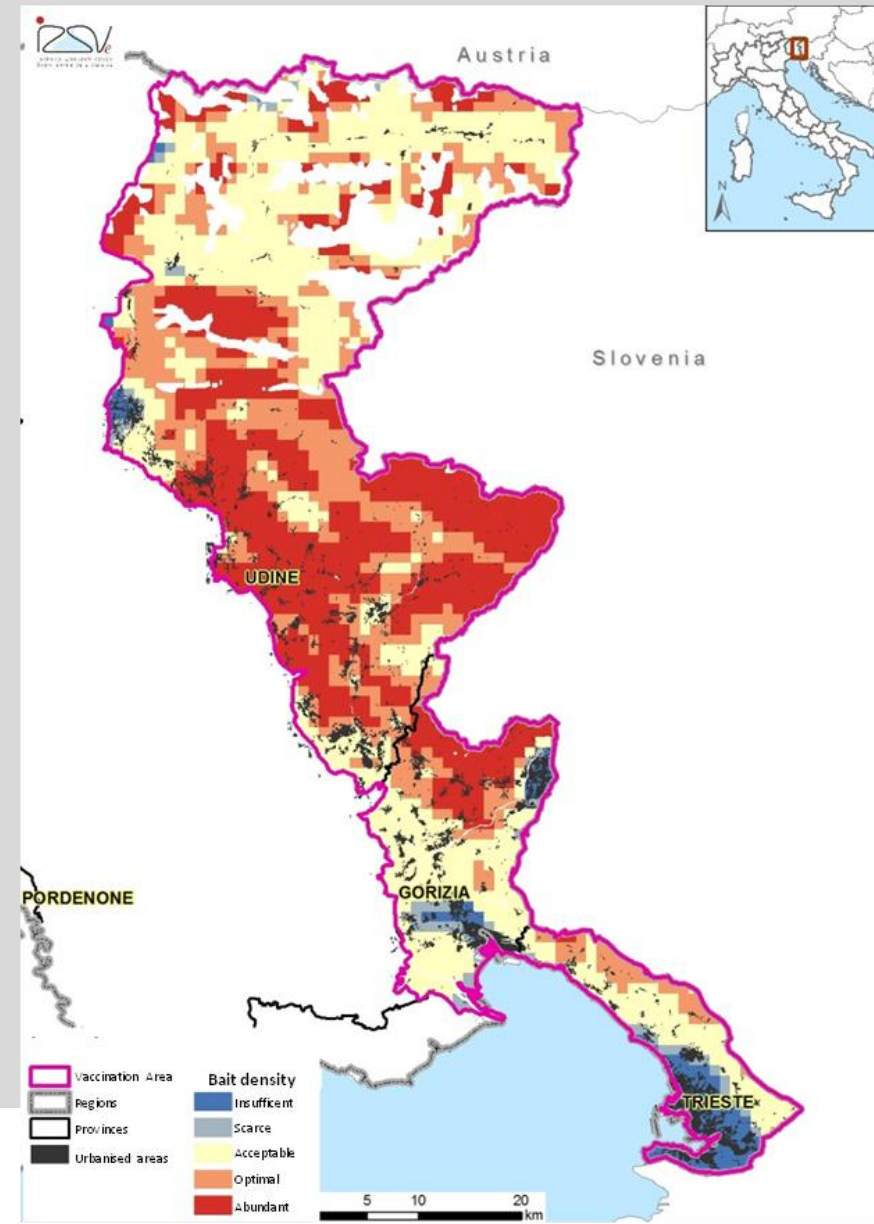
OFV – Preventive campaign Fall



OFV – Preventive campaign November 2014

Total No distributed baits:

51,194



OFV – Preventive campaign November 2014

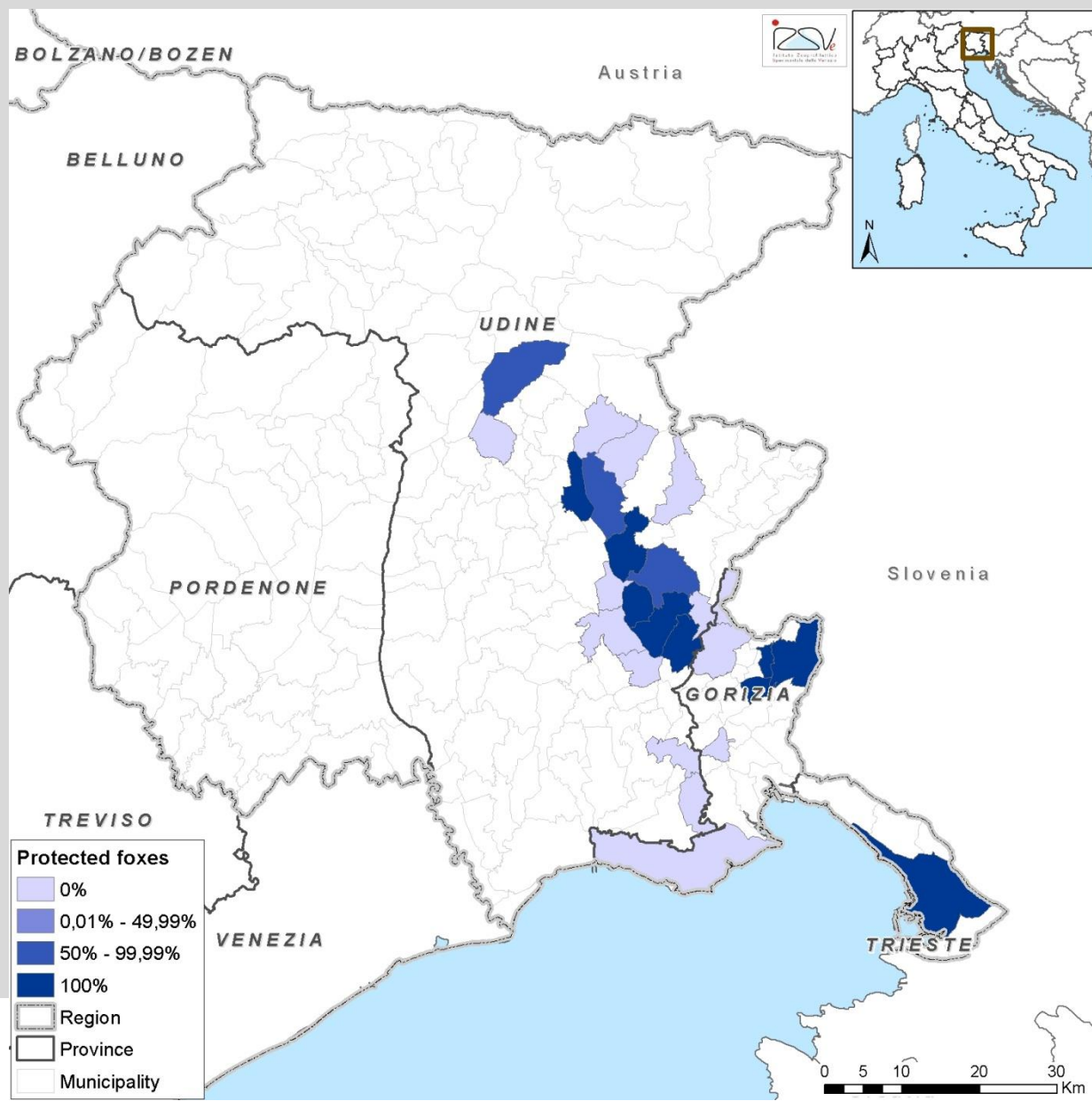
November 2014

OFV Efficacy

% Protected foxes

(Ab >0.5 UI)

per municipality



OFV – Preventive campaign November 2014

% Seroconversions in foxes

Province		Tested foxes	Protected foxes (Ab > 0.5 UI)	% Protected foxes
Friuli	Gorizia	8	3	37.50%
Venezia	Trieste	1	1	100.00%
Giulia	Udine	24	9	37.50%
TOTAL		33	13	39.39%

Proportion of protected foxes: 39.39% (95% CI: 22.91% – 57.86%)

Bait uptake – biomarker

Region	Tested foxes	Biomarker in Jawbone	%
Friuli Venezia Giulia	37	26	70.27%

Proportion of foxes which ingested vaccine baits: 70.27% (95% CI: 53.02% – 84.13%)



THANK FOR YOUR ATTENTION