

Wildlife rabies in Italy: Epidemiological situation and response strategies

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PLANTS, ANIMALS,
FOOD AND FEED
Animal Health and Welfare

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Epidemiological situation 2015

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>)

2015 – Passive surveillance

Wild animals found dead or showing symptoms

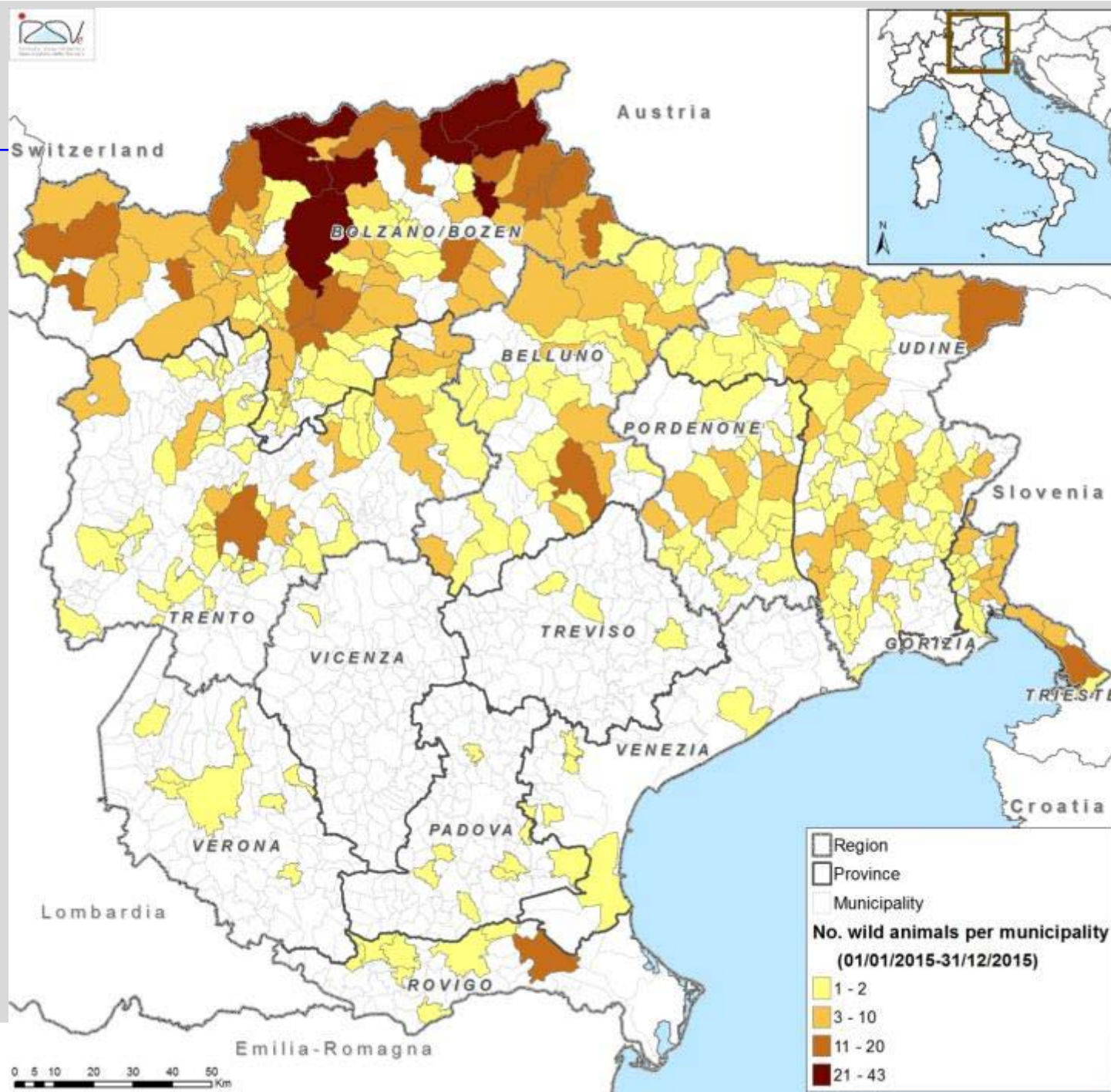
Region	Total wild animal tested	Red foxes	% Red foxes
Friuli Venezia Giulia	290	235	81.03%
P.A. Bolzano	674	306	45.40%
P.A. Trento	104	79	75.96%
Veneto	127	91	71.65%
Total	1,195	711	59.50%



2015

Passive surveillance

Wild animals found dead or showing symptoms





OFV - Oral Foxes Vaccination

•Preventive Campaigns

- Carried out twice a year (**Spring and Fall**) for **2015–2016**
- In 2015 only one campaign was carried out in Fall.
- Vaccination area: 20 km belt on the Italian-Slovenian border

OFV – Preventive campaign 2015

Territory on the Italian-Slovenian border considered suitable for vaccination campaign in 2015

About 2000 sq. km
in Friuli Venezia-Giulia region



OFV – Preventive campaign 2015

Vaccine baits density obtained after the aerial distribution activities in Fall 2015

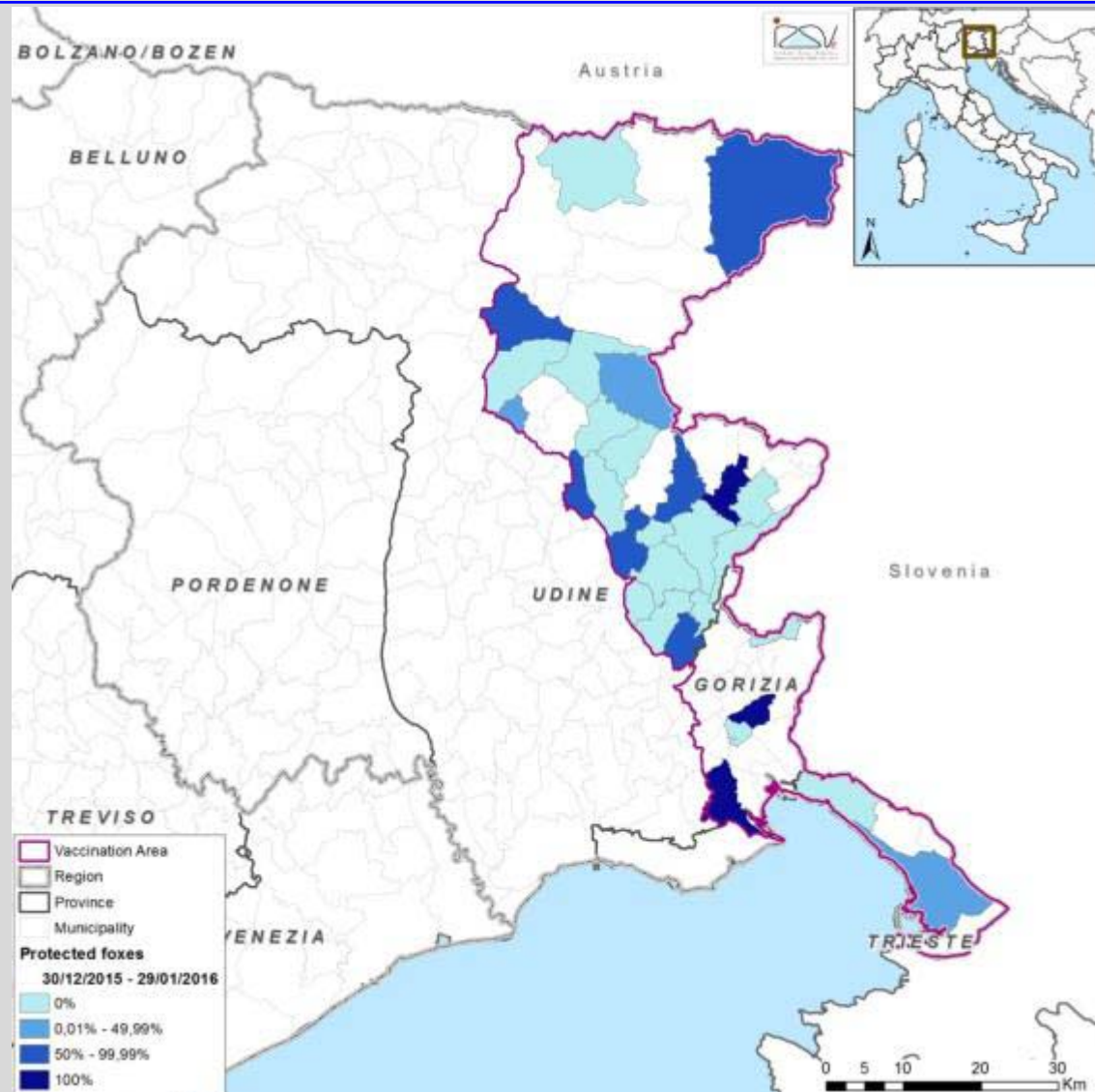
Total No. distributed baits: **49,312**



OFV – Preventive campaign 2015

OFV Efficacy

Map of distribution per municipality of seroconversion in tested foxes (% of protected foxes, Ab >0.5 UI)



OFV – Preventive campaign 2015

% Seroconversions in foxes

Province	Tested foxes	Protected foxes (Ab >0.5 UI)	% Protected foxes
Friuli Venezia Giulia Gorizia	4	2	50.00%
Venezia Trieste	4	1	25.00%
Giulia Udine	45	13	28.89%
TOTAL	53	16	30.19%

Proportion of protected foxes: 30.19% (95% CI: 18.34% – 44.34%)

Bait uptake – biomarker

Region	Tested foxes	Biomarker in jawbone	%
Friuli Venezia Giulia	55	44	80.00%

Proportion of foxes which ingested vaccine baits: 80.00% (95% CI: 67.03% – 89.57%)



THANK FOR YOUR ATTENTION