



FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR HUNTING AND CONSERVATION OF THE EU

What could a long-term wild boar management in the EU look like?

Dr. David Scallan
Secretary General
European Federation for Hunting and Conservation (FACE)



FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR HUNTING AND CONSERVATION OF THE EU

- International non-profit-making NGO in Brussels since 1977;
- Represent our members, the national associations of hunters from 37 countries, which in turn account for 7 million hunters;
- Liaise with policy/decision-makers on topics relevant for hunting activities.



FACE MEMBERS



DECISION MAKERS



Ради мада кривично дело истражује се у вези са случајем јавног јуриша на једног од члана Црвене бригаде Београда, који се налази у болници у Београду, а који је упућен у болницу у Београду.



Умрлог медведја налазили су у једној од јавних кућа у Београду, а који је упућен у болницу у Београду, а који је упућен у болницу у Београду.



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The role of hunters

- Hunters are the eyes and ears of the countryside.
- Deep understanding of wildlife management.
- Often the first to find evidence of AH issues in the wild:
 - Providing samples of carcasses
 - Assisting in managing diseases, surveying, information exchange
- Hunting of wild boar.
- Biosecurity awareness: essential for containing ASF.



Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in Europe
under the GF-TADs umbrella



Handbook on African Swine Fever in wild boar
and biosecurity during hunting

Main authors:

Vittorio Guberti, Sergei Khomenko, Marius Masiulis, Suzanne Kerba

BIOOHUTUS METSAS SIGADE AAFRIKA KATKU TÕRJUMISEKS

SIISIDA

SIGADE AAFRIKA KATK
Kõrge ja metssigade viirushaigus, mis tapab kuni 100% nakatunud loomadest. Seaduslik haiguselehtaja on haigusest väga põlv. Tavaliselt leviku peatamiseks tuleb looma järelevaldajal teha loomadekannet murega loomadest eraldada.

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KORJUS
Surnud metsisid ei tohi jätta metsas, vaid tuleb viia loomadekannet murega loomadest eraldada.

BIOMEETRIK
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TRANSPORT
Surnud metsisid ei tohi jätta metsas, vaid tuleb viia loomadekannet murega loomadest eraldada.

METSISIGADE LEKASDAMINE
Kõrge ja metssigade viirushaigus, mis tapab kuni 100% nakatunud loomadest. Seaduslik haiguselehtaja on haigusest väga põlv. Tavaliselt leviku peatamiseks tuleb looma järelevaldajal teha loomadekannet murega loomadest eraldada.

STOP AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Prevent spread

- Disinfect your equipment before leaving the hunting area
- Avoid visiting pig farms after hunting
- Do not leave wild boar offal and waste in forests and fields
- Keep your distance if you come across a dead boar
- Do not feed game meat to animals

Report sick or dead boar to local authorities

WWW.SEAKTK.EE

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STOP AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Disinfect your equipment after hunting.

efsa
European Food Safety Authority

STOP AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Report any dead wild boar.

efsa
European Food Safety Authority

Humans can easily and unknowingly spread the disease when they come into contact with an infected animal or infected materials.

ASF

Hunters like you can help stop the spread of this deadly disease by reporting suspicious cases and remember:

- Never approach a dead or sick wild boar, keep your distance and report it to local authorities as soon as possible.
- Do not leave wild boar offal or waste in forests or fields.



CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN THE EU The key role of hunters

African swine fever (ASF) is a devastating, usually deadly, infectious disease of pigs and wild boar for which no vaccine exists.

The **consequences** of the disease affect:

1. Farms and the economy:

- the virus kills animals.
- economic losses for EU farmers are aggravated by disruption of international trade of animals and meat.
- economic losses for the hunters.

2. Wildlife and hunting:

- because of the disease wild boar populations can decrease significantly or even disappear.
- hunting may be restricted or even banned in some infected areas (including collection of carcasses and trophies).

The pig sector is one of the most economically significant farming sectors in the EU.

It represents **8.5% of the total output** of the EU agricultural industry, the highest when compared to other meat sectors.

Pigmeat accounts for **50% of total EU** meat production.

Pigmeat is the most exported of all meat produced in the EU: it represents **62% of EU total meat exports.**

Hunters can make the difference - for better or worse - as they may increase or reduce the spread of the disease.



Health and Food Safety

Disease transmission and spread

Transmission can happen through direct contact of healthy pigs or wild boar with infected (dead or sick) pigs or wild boar. However, humans and especially hunters - while not being affected by the disease - can help spreading it by:

- Any contact with infected animals and dead bodies (carcasses).
- Contact with anything contaminated by the virus (e.g. clothing, vehicles, other equipment).
- Feeding the animals with meat or meat products from infected animals (e.g. sausages or uncooked meat) or garbage containing infected meat (e.g. kitchen waste, swill feed, including offal).

Hunters have a key role to play

The EU and national authorities in the affected countries are taking wide range of measures to control and eradicate the disease, but better **cooperation with hunters (and their associations) and with farmers (and their associations)** is vital. Hunters monitor the health status of wild animals and play a key role in protecting animal health, including that of domestic animals.

If you see unusual wild boar behaviour or, most likely, if you find a dead animal, you should consider the possibility that it has been infected by African swine fever (especially in the infected areas or areas at risk).

During your hunting trips, especially to the areas considered at risk, you should:

- ▶ Collaborate with the competent authority in the finding and reporting of wild boar carcasses.
- ▶ Clean and disinfect your equipment, clothes, vehicle and trophies on site and always before leaving the area.
- ▶ Eviscerate shot wild boar in the designated dressing area of the hunting ground.
- ▶ Contribute to the gradual reduction of the wild boar density in the areas not yet affected by the disease, including targeted hunting of adult and sub-adult females.
- ▶ Do not feed wild boar throughout the whole year.

* Specific provisions provided by national competent authority should be checked.

Which are the areas at risk and which EU countries are affected?



*Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/not-system_en

What are the EU and Member States' competent authorities doing?

The EU has developed an African Swine Fever Strategy and a solid legislative framework to help control and eradicate ASF, including specific regionalisation measures which are focused on control measures and prevention of the spread of the disease (in order to protect disease free areas in the EU) requiring hunters' cooperation among other things. This is based on science as provided by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA). The EU budget for the prevention and eradication of the disease equals **€48.2 million** for the period 2013-2018. The EU ensures the coordination work with the Member States and is working with the Eastern neighbours.



For more information:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en#description
 More about ASF: <http://asf-referencelab.info/asf/en/the-disease>
 @Food_EU



Wild boar hunting yield predicted at 10x10km

EXTERNAL SCIENTIFIC REPORT



APPROVED: 09 August 2021

doi:10.2903/sp.efsa.2021.EN-6825

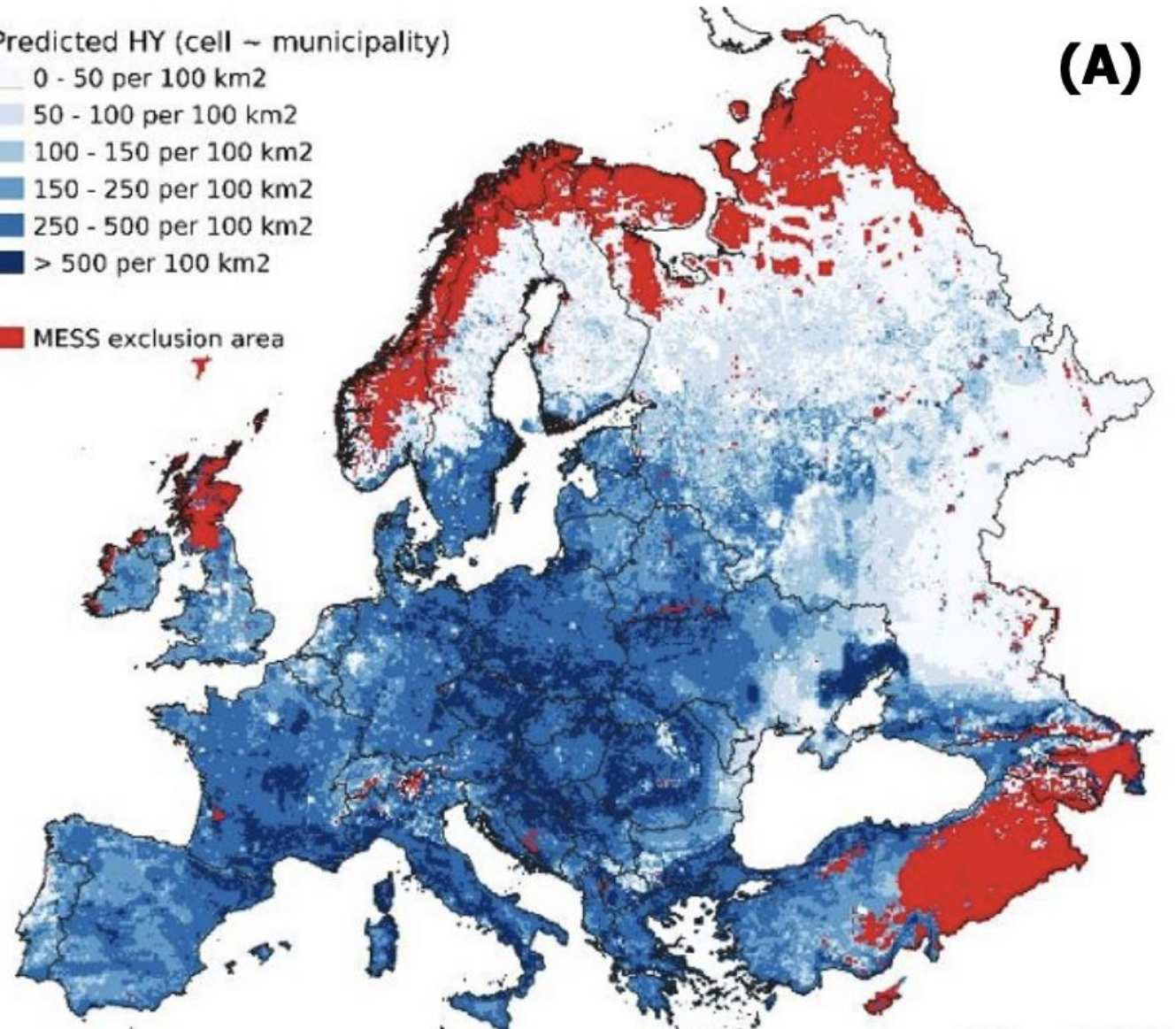
Update of model for wild boar abundance based on hunting yield and first models based on occurrence for wild ruminants at European scale

ENETWILD-consortium¹, Sonia Illanas, Simon Croft, Graham C. Smith, Javier Fernández-López, Joaquín Vicente, Jose Antonio Blanco-Aguiar, Roberto Pascual-Rico, Massimo Scandura, Marco Apollonio, Ezio Ferroglio, Oliver Keuling, Stefania Zanet, Francesca Brivio, Tomasz Podgorski, Kamila Plis, Ramon C. Soriguer, Pelayo Acevedo

Predicted HY (cell ~ municipality)

- 0 - 50 per 100 km²
- 50 - 100 per 100 km²
- 100 - 150 per 100 km²
- 150 - 250 per 100 km²
- 250 - 500 per 100 km²
- > 500 per 100 km²

MESS exclusion area



What's needed for ASF?



*EFSA recommendation (2017):
“Drastic depopulation, targeted hunting of female wild boar and carcass removal implemented as only measure to control ASF in the WB population need to be implemented in a highly effective manner (at or beyond the limit of reported effectivity in wild boar management) to sustainably halt the spread of ASF”*



ANIMAL HEALTH THE EU'S FIGHT AGAINST AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

June 2022



WHAT DOES LONG-TERM MANAGEMENT OF WILD BOAR POPULATIONS ENTAIL?

- ▶ **Intensive hunting and not feeding wild boar** are essential to reduce the risks of outbreaks in free areas.
- ▶ **Specific measures and joint programmes of cooperation** between the agriculture and environmental sectors (hunting management, ban of supplementary feeding, agricultural practises) are tailored to the particular situation of each Member State.

https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/562e4071-2415-40c7-af00-c848ee1ab7bc_en?filename=ad_control-measures_asf_factsheet_202206.pdf

FACE work on ASF in wild boar:

Technical knowledge base:

- Management
- Biosecurity
- Monitoring

Communication:

- With members
- Public
- Other relevant

Stakeholders:

- Sharing best practices
- Engagement in policy discussions



10 SEP 2020 FIRST CASE OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF) IN GERMANY: CONFIRMED

Posted at 18:40h in Animal Welfare, News by FACE



RECOMMENDATIONS TO HUNTING ASSOCIATIONS

Please find the Recommendations to hunting associations and hunters before and after an outbreak. We provide to you the recommendations in [[EN](#) – [DE](#) – [FR](#)]

RECOMMENDATIONS TO HUNTERS

Here you can find the specific recommendations made for you to uphold before and after an outbreak of ASF. As we want to reach out to as many of you as possible, we asked our Member associations to translate these recommendations and to provide us with a copy of them. Seen the variety of countries and the need for diversification, every association might slightly adapt their recommendations to suit the local situation. This is why we offer you the recommendations in your national language using the logo of the Member association of your country.

<https://www.face.eu/animal-welfare/african-swine-fever/recommendations/>





Involving hunters

- Cooperation;
- Understanding viewpoints;
- Effective awareness-raising;
- Good communication and collaboration;
- Legislation (including contingency plans);
 - Making management easier (including use of modern equipment)
- Motivation (including financial - for activities carried out by hunters);
- Regular training (e.g. biosecurity courses).
- www.face.eu/animal-welfare/african-swine-fever/

Afrikanische Schweinepest
Ausbreitung verhindern

Helfen Sie mit!

Wenn Sie ein totes Wildschwein entdecken

- ▶ Tier nicht berühren – Verschleppungsgefahr:
Das Virus überlebt an Kleidung oder Schuhen tagelang.
- ▶ Fundort sofort melden:
 - über die App des Tierfund-Katasters (tierfund-kataster.de)
 - über die Bürgerhotline 115
 - über den Notruf 110 (Polizei) oder 112 (Feuerwehr)
- ▶ Fundstelle möglichst sichern:
zum Beispiel mit Ästen oder einer Plane.

Das Virus der Afrikanischen Schweinepest (ASP) ist für Mensch und Haustier keine Gefahr. Haus- und Wildschweine sterben jedoch qualvoll daran. Aus Tierschutzgründen muss eine Ausbreitung des Virus verhindert werden. Danke für Ihre Hilfe!

www.jagdverband.de/asp



State

Veterinarians

Hunters

**ASF
CO-OPERATION**

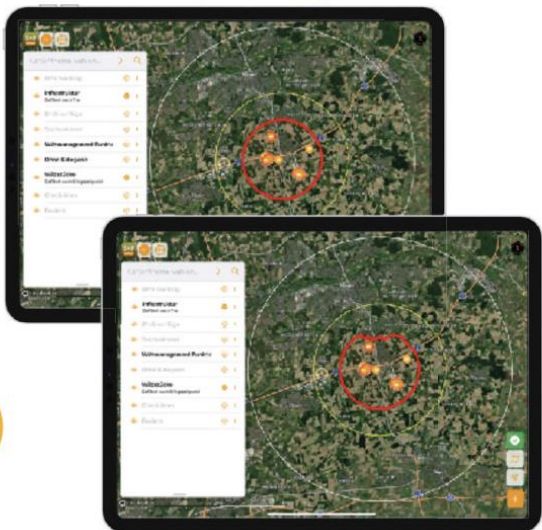
Landowners

Pig keepers

Farmers

1 Immediate action

First encounter, Zone planning, True fencing



3 Robust processes. w. QM search, recovery, lab data

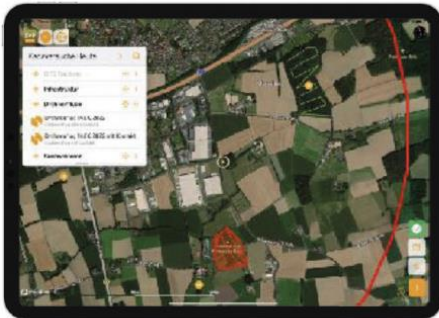
App-based work process support: Maps, Off-Grid navigation, check lists, photo documentation, carcass tags, lab sample data



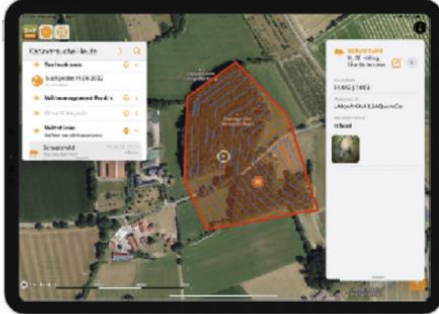
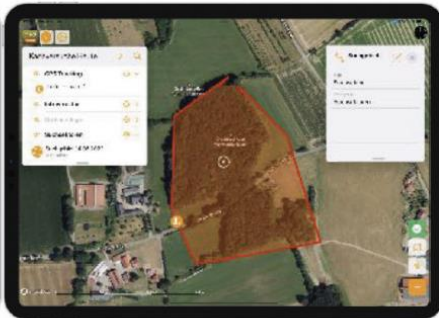
WSVG now relies on digital technology from the company diwima.

2 Plan, schedule, execute, monitor

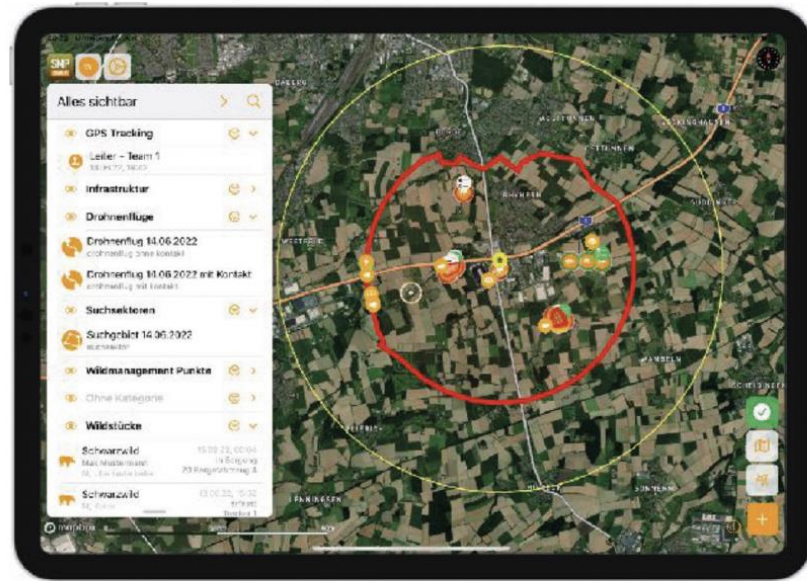
Drone Flight Log Analysis



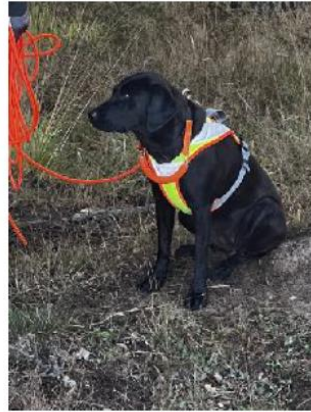
Search Team Planning, Schedule & Live monitoring



4 24/7 live monitoring of all processes ensuring infrastructure, search and removal
24/7 Live Monitoring for all processes



- 24/7 Live Monitoring for all processes
- GPS Zone Mapping, true GPS tracks
- Imported drone flight logs
- Data export for TSN (Germany's national animal disease control system)
- Data integration with HITier (Germany's national vet lab mgmt)
- Live GPS tracker for search teams
- Infrastructure Maps: Gates, Power etc.
- Security management
- Maintenance management
- Process view per case: search, transport, lab data etc.
- App processes with QM, deep digital support, paperless



The Future of Wildlife Research:

AI Based Data Analytics - a Worldwide Wildlife Research Platform



Report and Track Invasive Species

Understand Population Distribution by Location

Game Movement Tracking

Record Damages

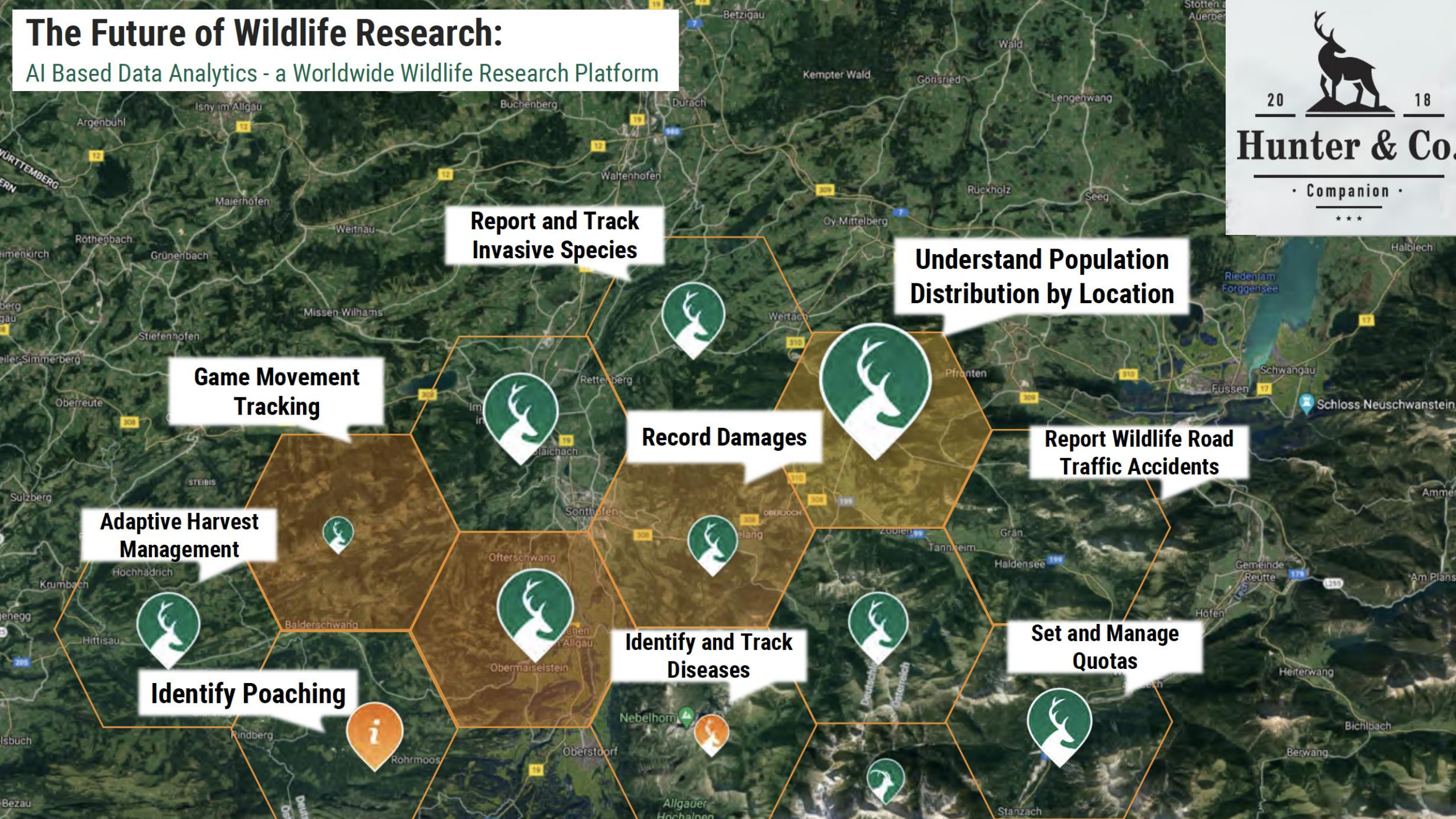
Report Wildlife Road Traffic Accidents

Adaptive Harvest Management

Identify and Track Diseases

Set and Manage Quotas

Identify Poaching





Main challenges (Member replies...)

- *Missing political efforts to do everything that is possible (e.g. concerning fences).*
- *Many different authorities on different levels are involved, sometimes more support from higher levels to the competent authorities in the field is required.*
- *Support for hunter's efforts in prevention of ASF by reducing the wild boar population.*



Main challenges (Member replies...):

- *The main challenge is to resolve the lack of a coordinated strategy between regions and central authorities in order to reduce the risk of ASF spread. As an example, there is not a coordinated activity to collect carcasses and reduce wild boar population density in infected areas.*
- *The role of hunters, of primary importance in the active search for carcasses and, in general, for the early detection of ASF, should be better recognized.*



Main challenges (Member replies...):

- *Hunters are directly involved in stopping ASF and they require full support. They are not the cause, but are on the main battleground. **More funds are needed for educating wider society.***
- *Try to focus on other resources/risks. There's many ways to spread ASF but the state trys to control only wild boars and hunting.*



Main challenges (Member replies...):

- *Convincing people to carry out biosecurity on farms and controlling compliance with these rules;*
- *Large-scale corn cultivations (every year, getting bigger each year);*
- *Too few cold storage facilities to store wild boar;*
- *Costs of disposal of wild boar carcasses (~120 euro per carcass);*
- *Problem with bringing healthy wild boars (zone II and III) to market + purchase points do not want to accept carcasses;*
- *Need for money for cold storage facilities, biosecurity, wild boar carcass disposal.*



What's needed:

- *The same system in Estonia is needed across many other counties.*
- *Improve incentives for hunters to sell game meat.*
- *More resources are needed to finance specific activities in wild boar management, and involvement of public administration in controlling density of populations. Since in Italy game ownership belongs to the State, hunters are considered simple stakeholders; nevertheless, they could play an active role of great value, even within protected areas. This role could be enhanced through specific training activities, and hunters could be prepared for the early warning and for carcass searching; moreover, they should be coordinated in the control of wild boar populations through a close collaboration with Health Authorities and Regional Administrations. A closer collaboration on the territory between State, Regional Administrations and wild boar hunters is, therefore, necessary.*



What's needed:

- *We need more support from our governments and EU in the form of disinfectants and other materials, financing the purchase and building of pits for disposal of animal products, refrigerators, transport trailers, etc.*
- *Need for money for cold storage facilities, biosecurity, wild boar carcass disposal etc.*
- *Try to focusing to other resources and control of spreading of diseases.*



Ради мада криваје које се налазе у близини места где је убијено животиње, наћи се могу остаци животиња које су се налазила у близини места где је убијено животиње. У близини места где је убијено животиње, наћи се могу остаци животиња које су се налазила у близини места где је убијено животиње.



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Thank you very much for your attention

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