

Wilderness in Hungary



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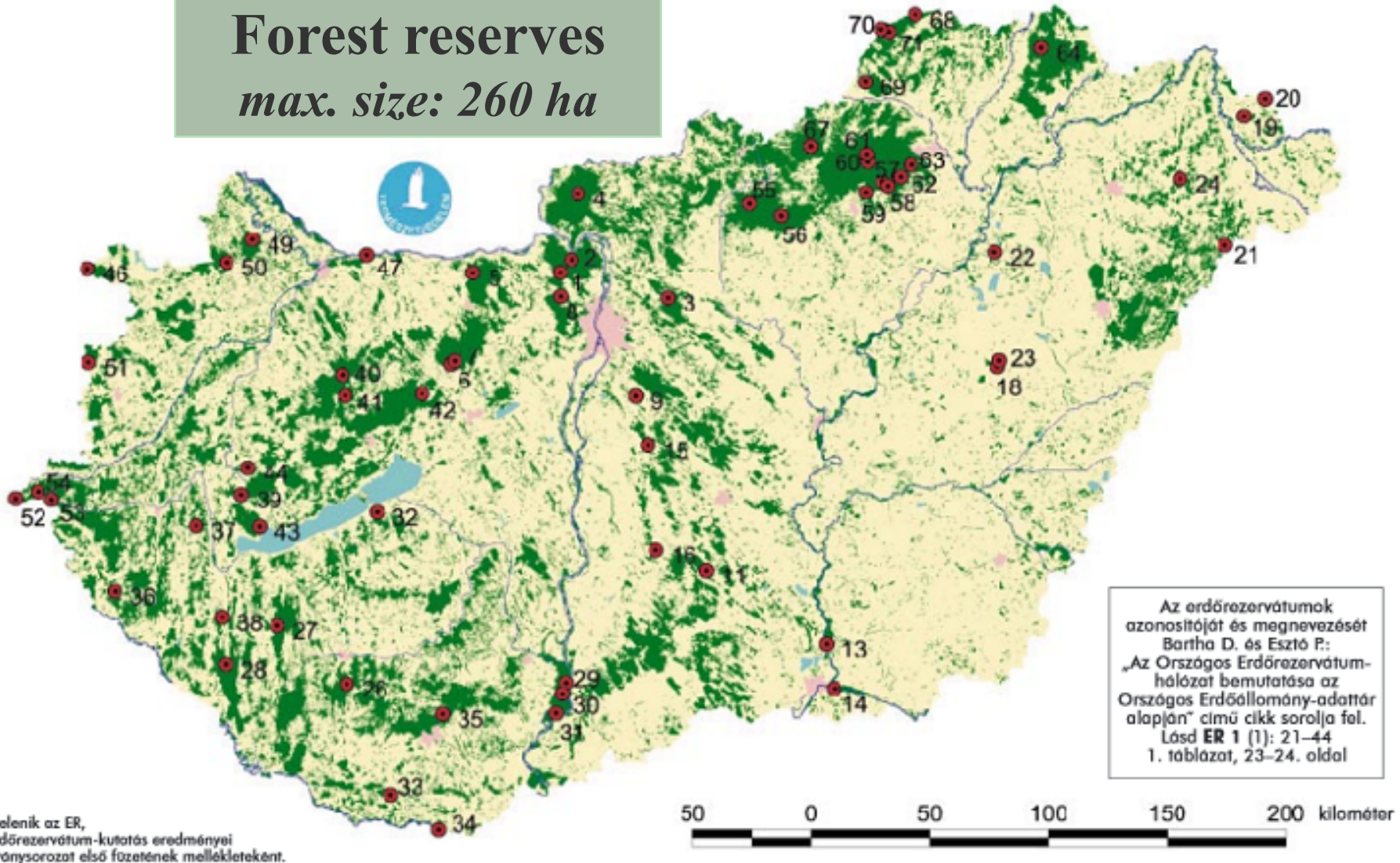


Wilderness, in Hungary???

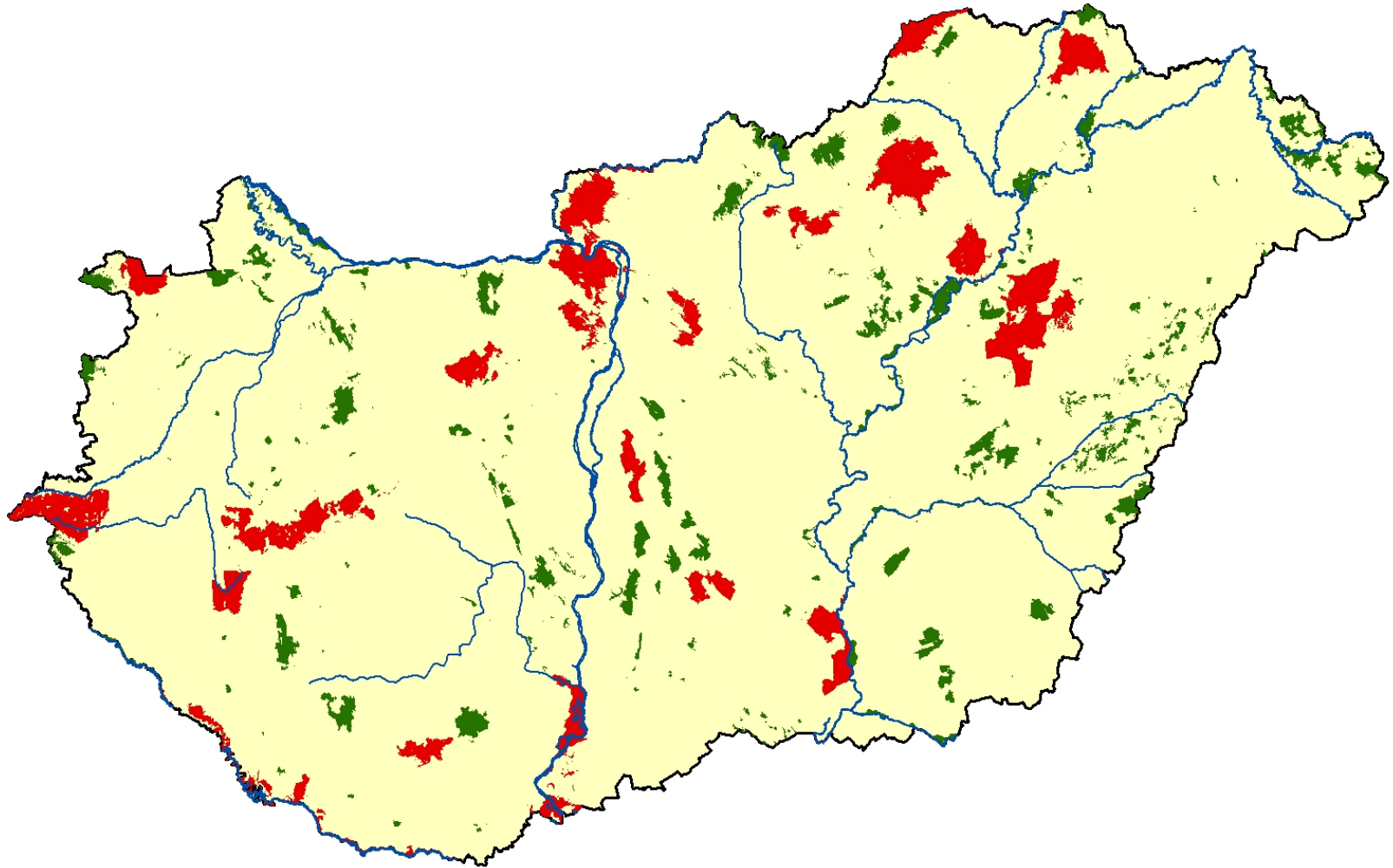


Low potential for wilderness

Forest reserves
max. size: 260 ha



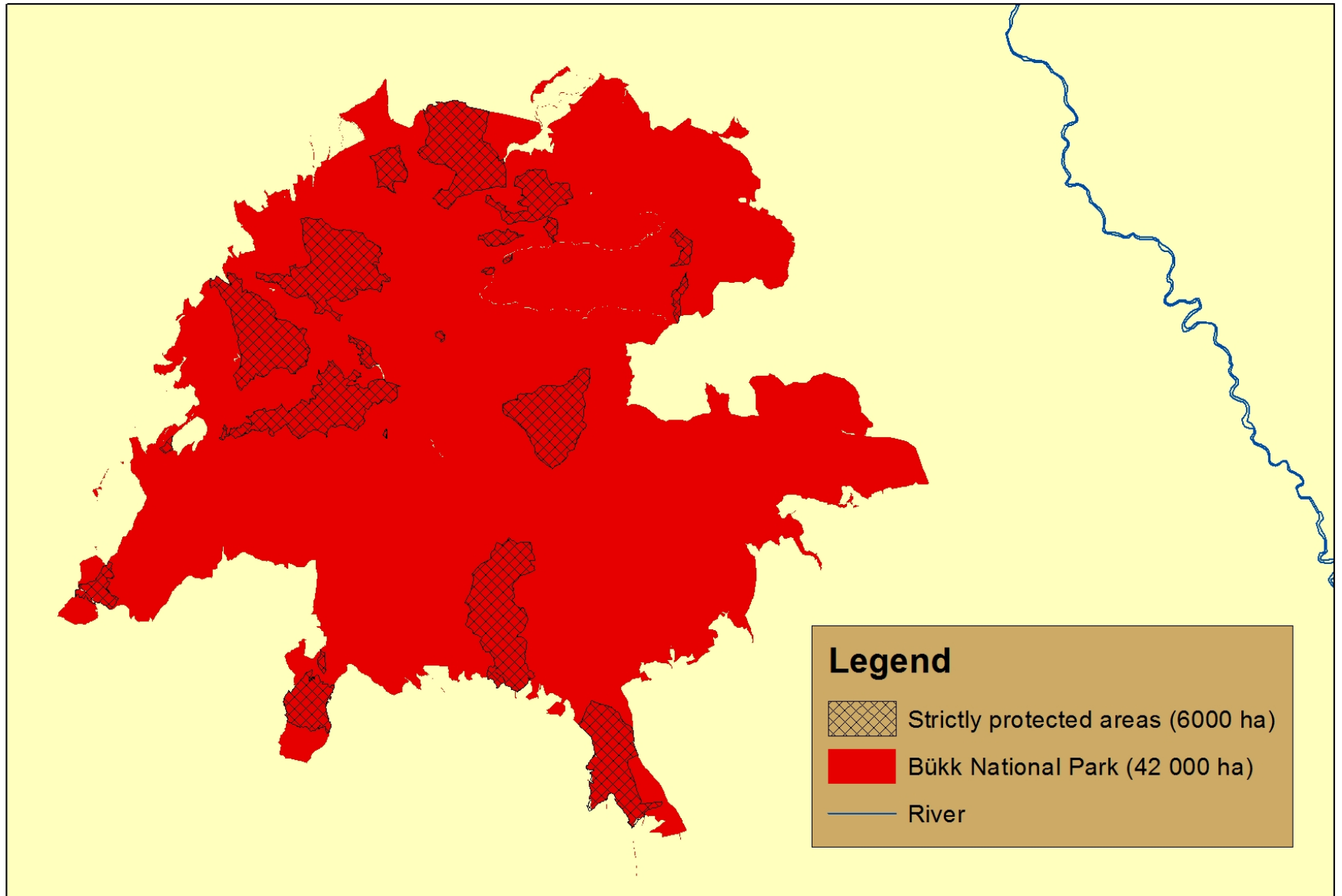
Nationally protected areas – 9% of the country



Question 1 - Strategy

- no comprehensive, countrywide strategy for natural processes protection in Hungary
- various designations, which could support wilderness with different legislation background behind them:
 - strictly protected areas (1,3% of the country)
 - UNESCO Biosphere Reserve core areas
 - forest reserve network (too small areas)
 - zonation of national parks (new piece of legislation)

Strictly protected areas in the Bükk National Park



Questions 2-4

2. the initiators are the regional nature conservation management organizations, the national park directorates, the coverage of such areas – including the potential ones – is small (approximately 1% of the country)
3. the target areas of natural processes protection could be the A-zones of not fragmented national parks and strictly protected areas of some large landscape protection areas
4. regional nature conservation authorities have a permitting role in strictly protected areas

Question 5

Impact	No elimination	Case by case approach	Regular elimination
Wildfire			X
Bark beetle			X
Invasive alien species			X
Game			X

Question 6 – lessons learned

- ✓ Hungary is not an ideal country for establishing wilderness areas and natural process protection,
- ✓ the major issue is always income vs. nature protection, even if the area is state owned (mainly in forests, but also in natural grasslands, because of the subsidies)
- ✓ natural process protection can be successful only in case of which are large enough and managed by the park directorates
- ✓ hardly accessible, remote areas are needed (e.g. on the country borders – transboundary sites)

Thank you for your attention!



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