

New Wilderness model in the European context Wilderness in Slovenia & selected examples of potentials from Dinaric Arc countries

WILDERNESS WORKSHOP
EUROPARC CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE
Prague, 28.2. – 1.3. 2017
Mag. Martin Šolar, WWF Adria





Nature conservation



Protected areas



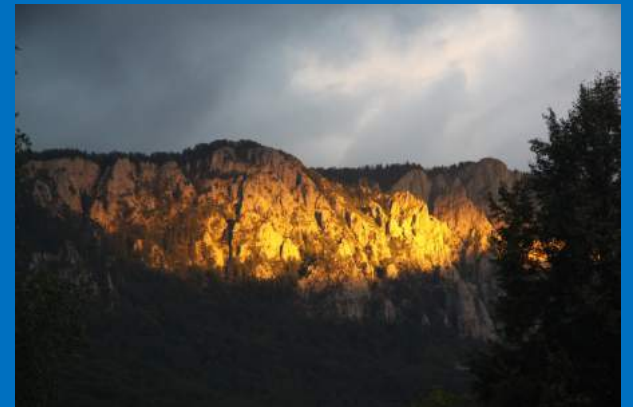
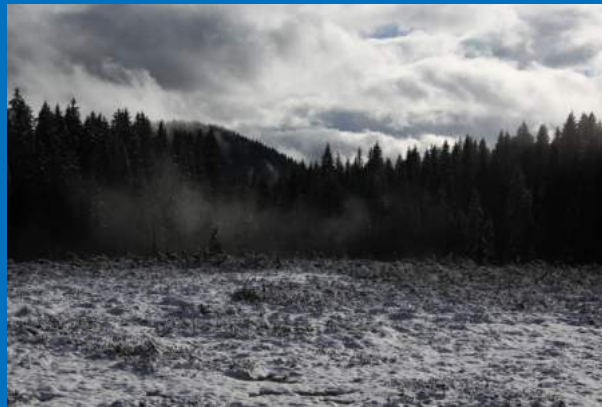
Management objectives



Wilderness

The presentation consists from 3 parts:

- Wilderness in broaden context
- Case study: Triglav National Park in Slovenia
- Dinaric Arc Parks and wildernss potential



Historical background:

Nature → Man → Nature protection

In prehistoric times people were rather insensitive to the beauties of the nature. People were aware and afraid about nature, wilderness in particular. They interpreted many natural phenomena as acts of gods.

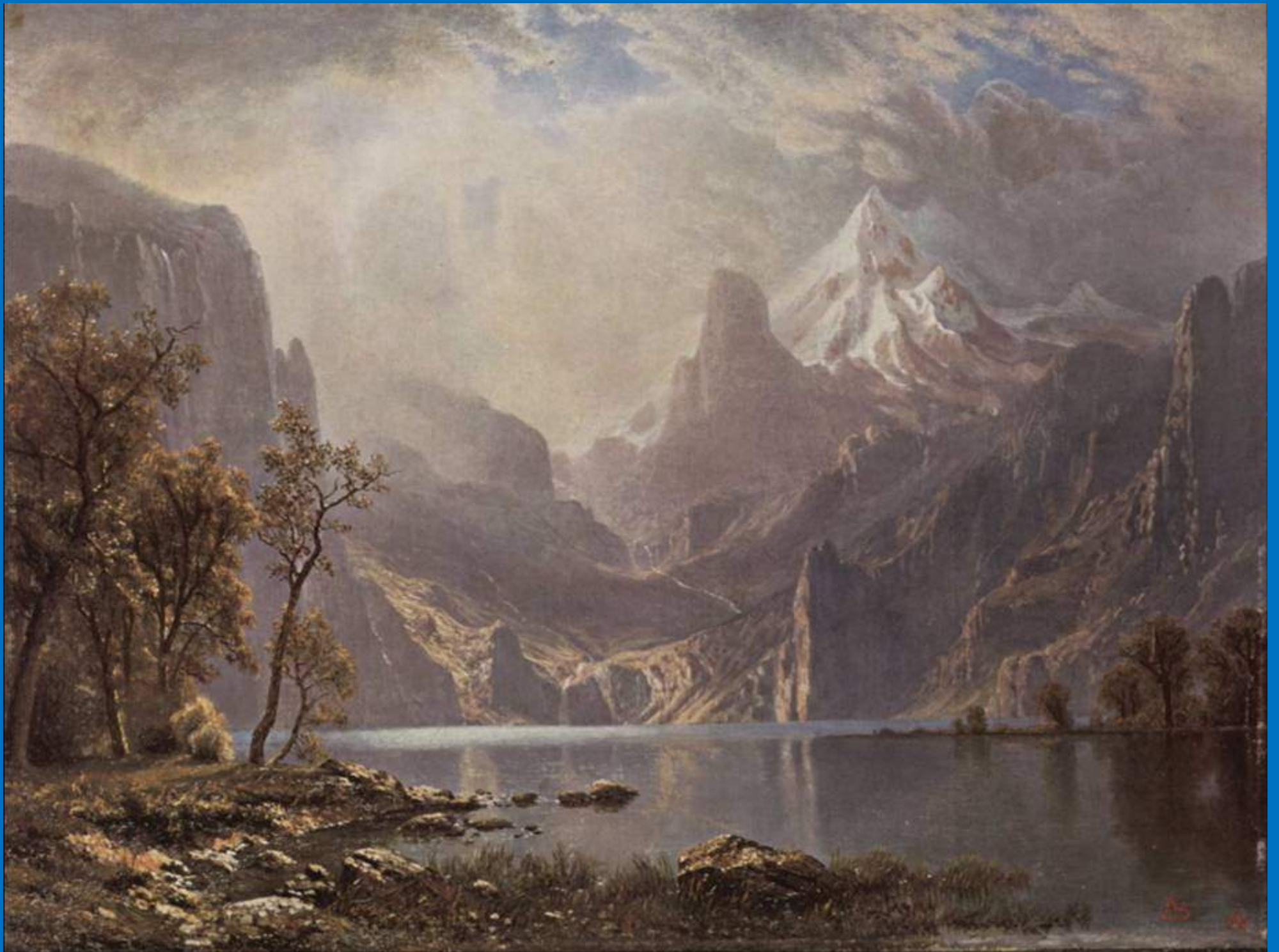


In the new era, humanism in particular stirred a yet undefined interest in man to acquire knowledge of nature.

At the turn of 18th century when during the Reformation Movement and Romanticism more and more attention was devoted to nature and landscape.

Nature became challenge for scientists, discoverers and even artists.

Nature studies became extremely important for research work and scientific findings in natural science.





The idea to protect certain species or areas was spurred by the threat to natural values, and on the other hand protection was motivated by their outstanding value or rarity.



Wilderness and the parks

- North American approach
- IUCN and wilderness
- Wilderness in Europe
- (Scandinavia, Alps, Balkans?...)



EUROPE - No “big” tradition about wilderness protection in the frame of management of protected areas.

Recent movements and situation in Europe



Protected area management with accent on wilderness quality and preservation of it development of sustainable tourism and improving livelihood.

Basic criteria – 10.000 ha of wilderness.

European Wilderness Initiative

The initiative has been signed by all important nature conservation / protected area networks and several individual protected areas:

- Europarc Federation
- IUCN WCPA
- Eurosite
- PAN Parks
- Wild Europe Initiative
- WWF



New wilderness paradigm / model in Europe

Wilderness is understood as a „non-intervention zone“ in the protected area where all management objectives are orientated towards ecosystem protection and enhancing of natural processes in the area.

Non intervention concept.

Renaturation areas.



Project Wild Heart of Europe

Divoké srdce Evropy

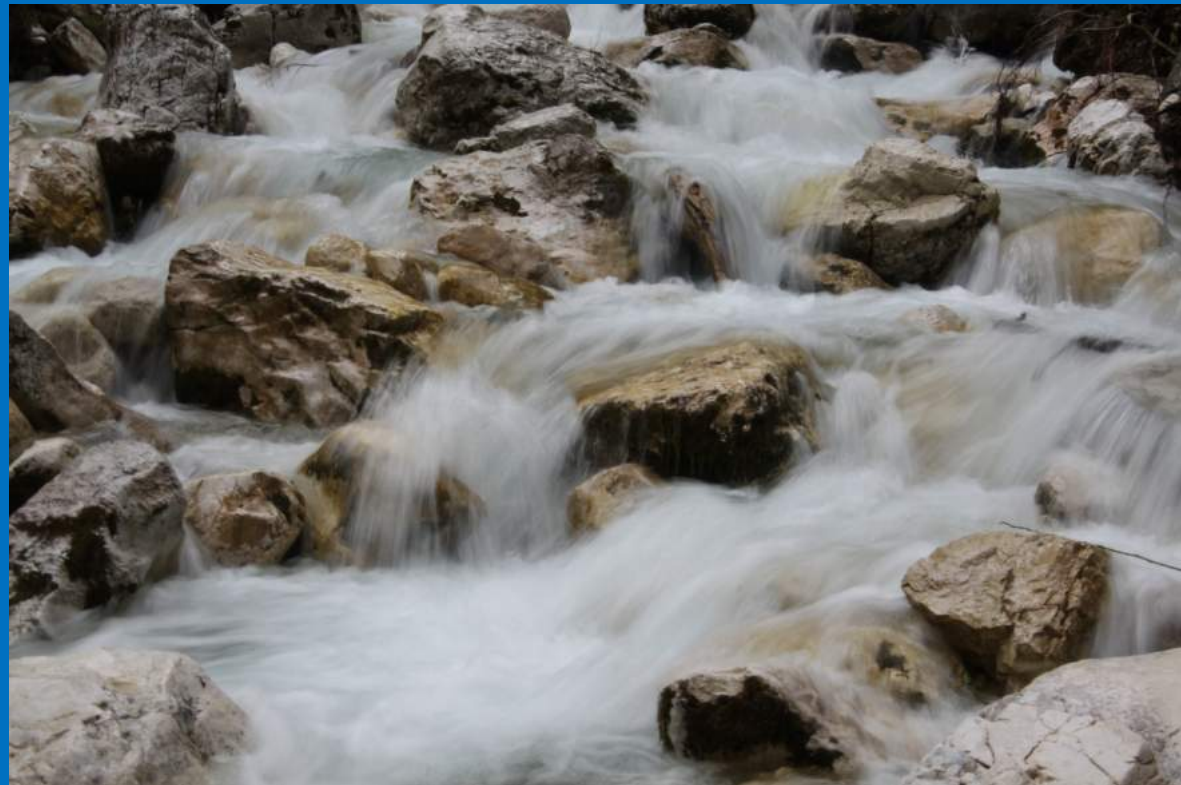


EU wilderness conference in Prague 2009

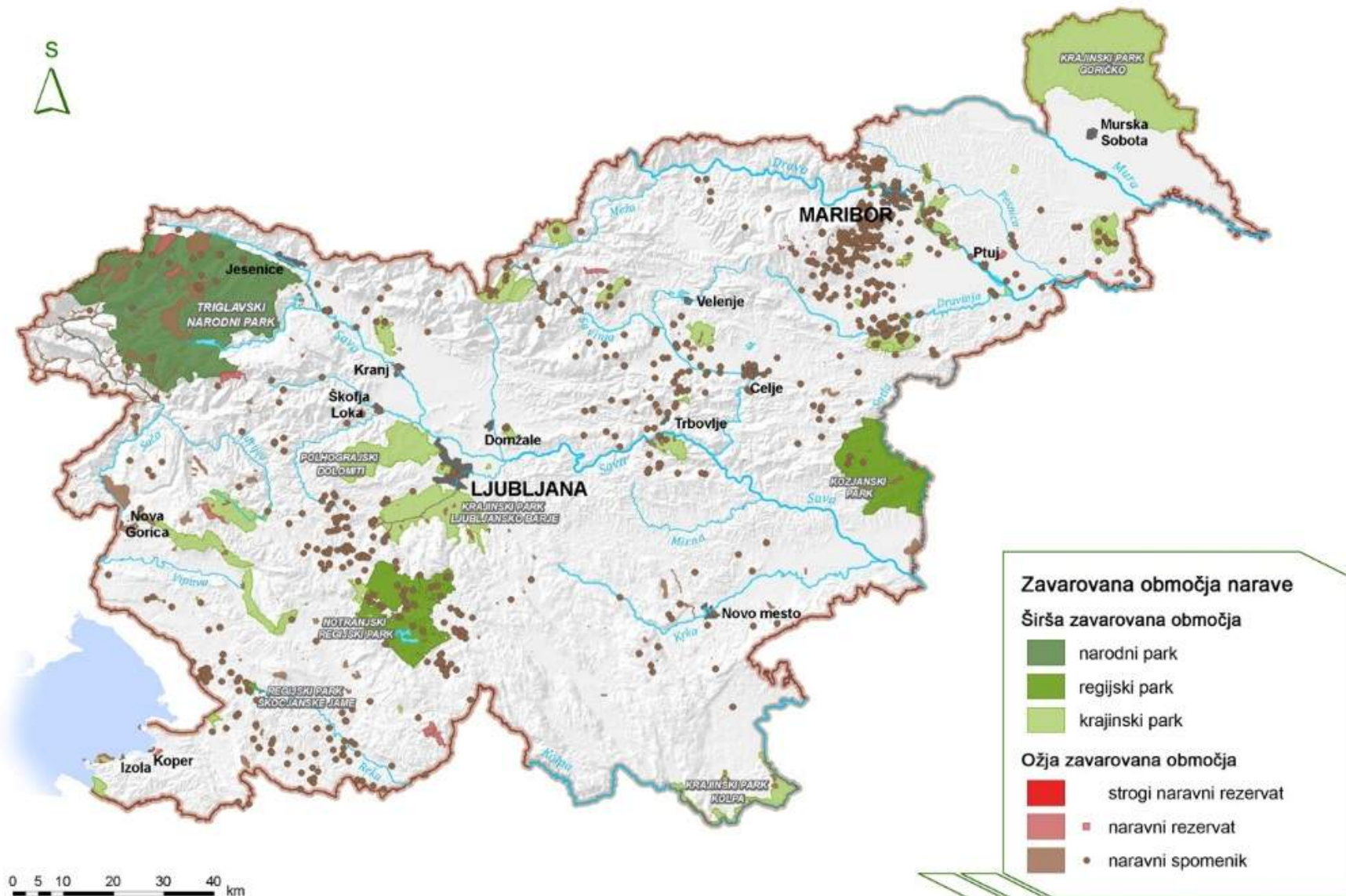


Vision

There is a clear vision to develop the network of wilderness protected areas in Europe and take care of the highest importance to protected the wilderness areas which are jewels on the crone of Europe nature.



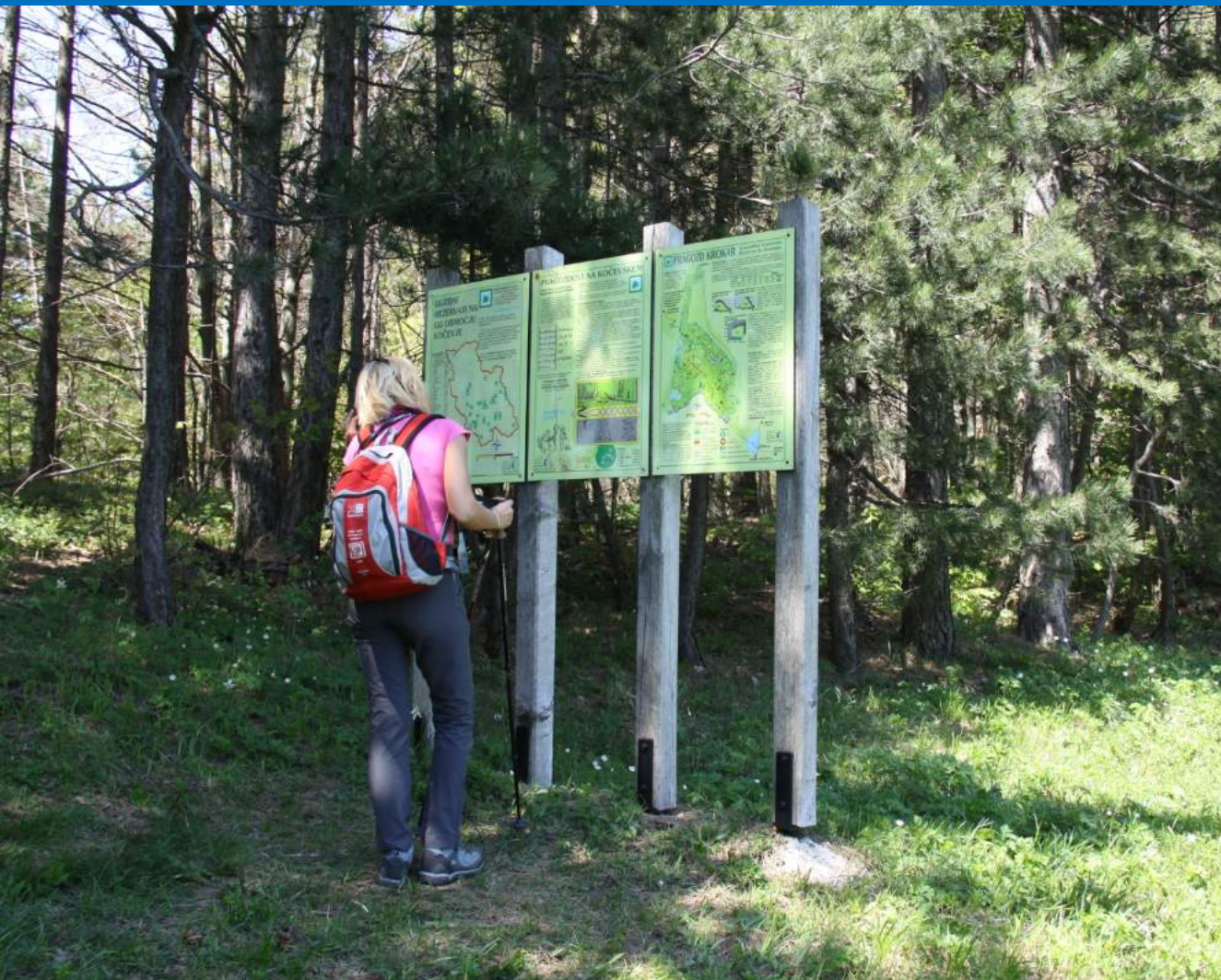
SLOVENIA



Vir: Agencija RS za okolje, Geodetska uprava RS, 2010. Kartografija: Nika Zupan.

Korak naprej v ravnanju z okoljem

SLOVENIA



Nature and forest reserves

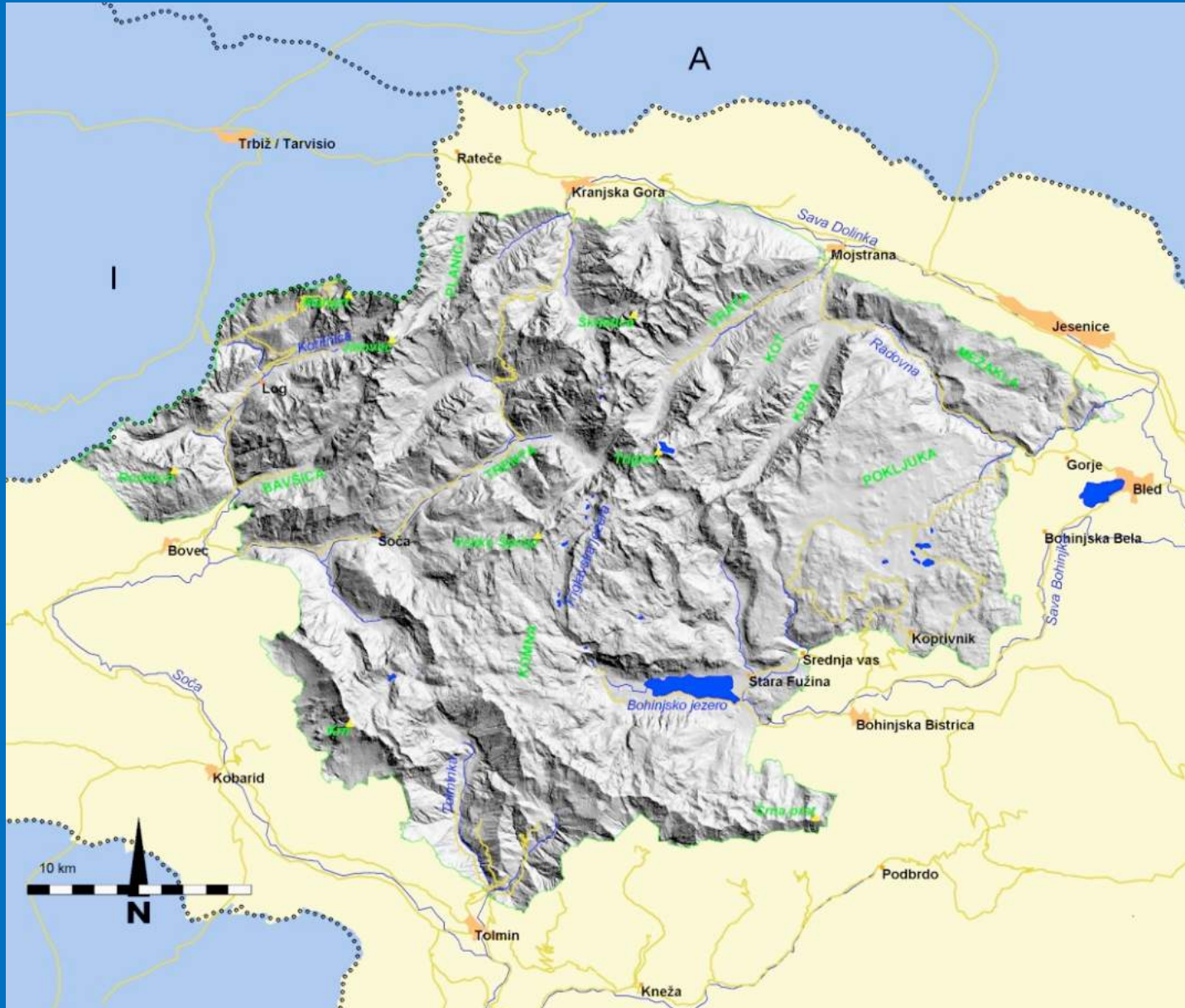
Case study: Triglav National Park





Triglav NP has decided for a strategy of implementation and enforcement of IUCN protected area management categories. The concept provided a step-by-step implementation and allocation of TNP areas to category II and category V where management objectives are different.

Important is to pay attention on “wilderness or non – intervention” concept in the core zone of the park.

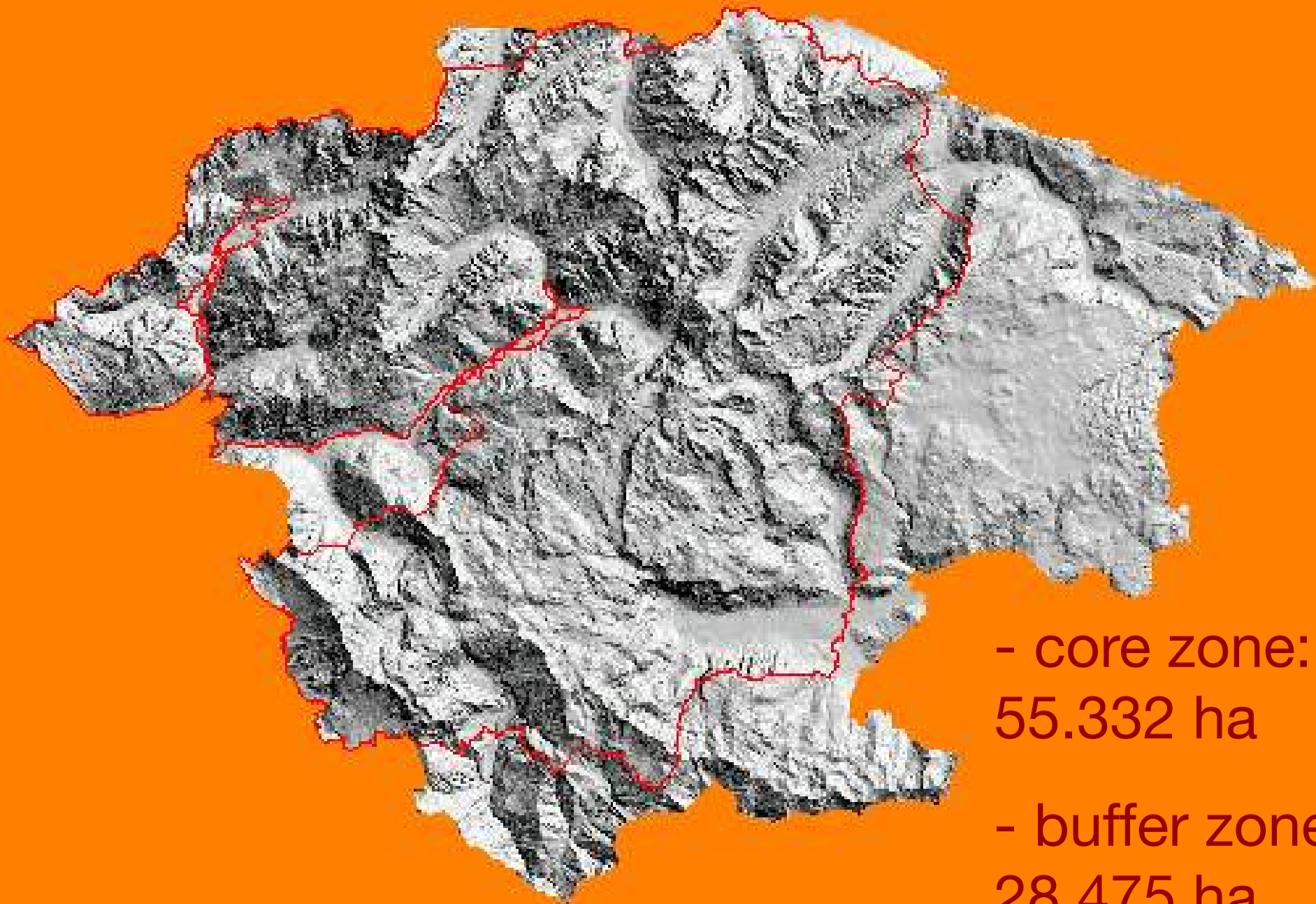


Basic Data

- established:
1981

- area size:
83.807
hectares (4%
of Slovenian
surface)

- inhabitants:
2.200 in 25
settlements



- core zone:
55.332 ha

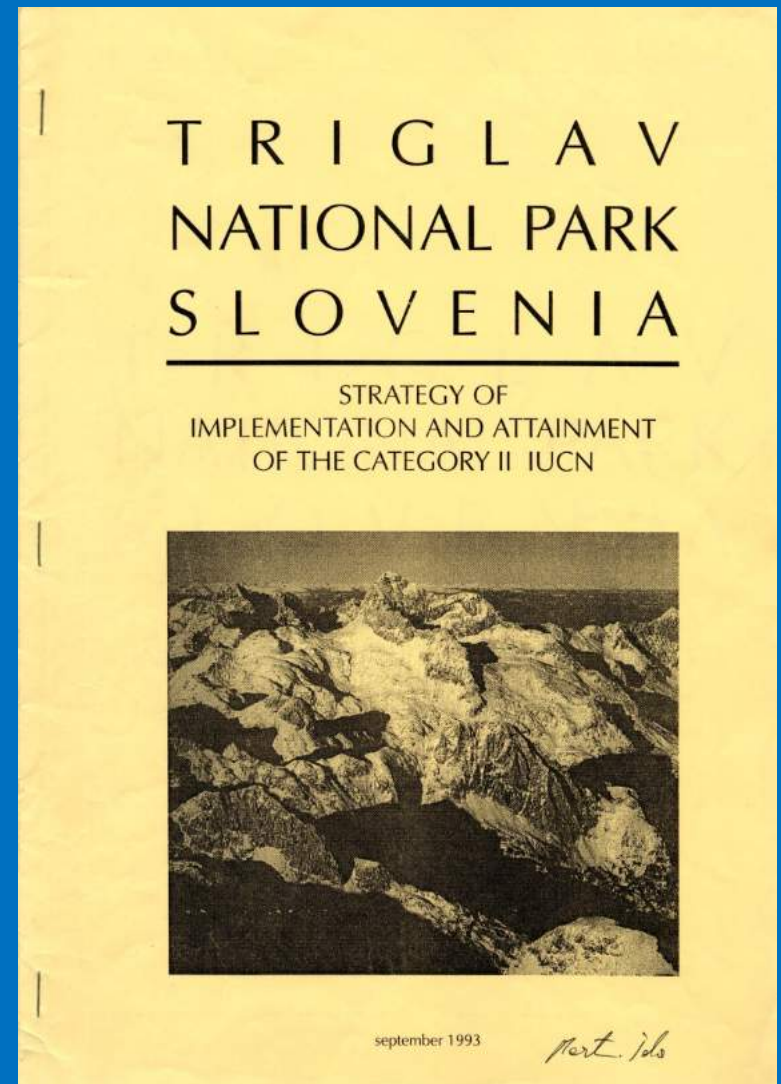
- buffer zone:
28.475 ha

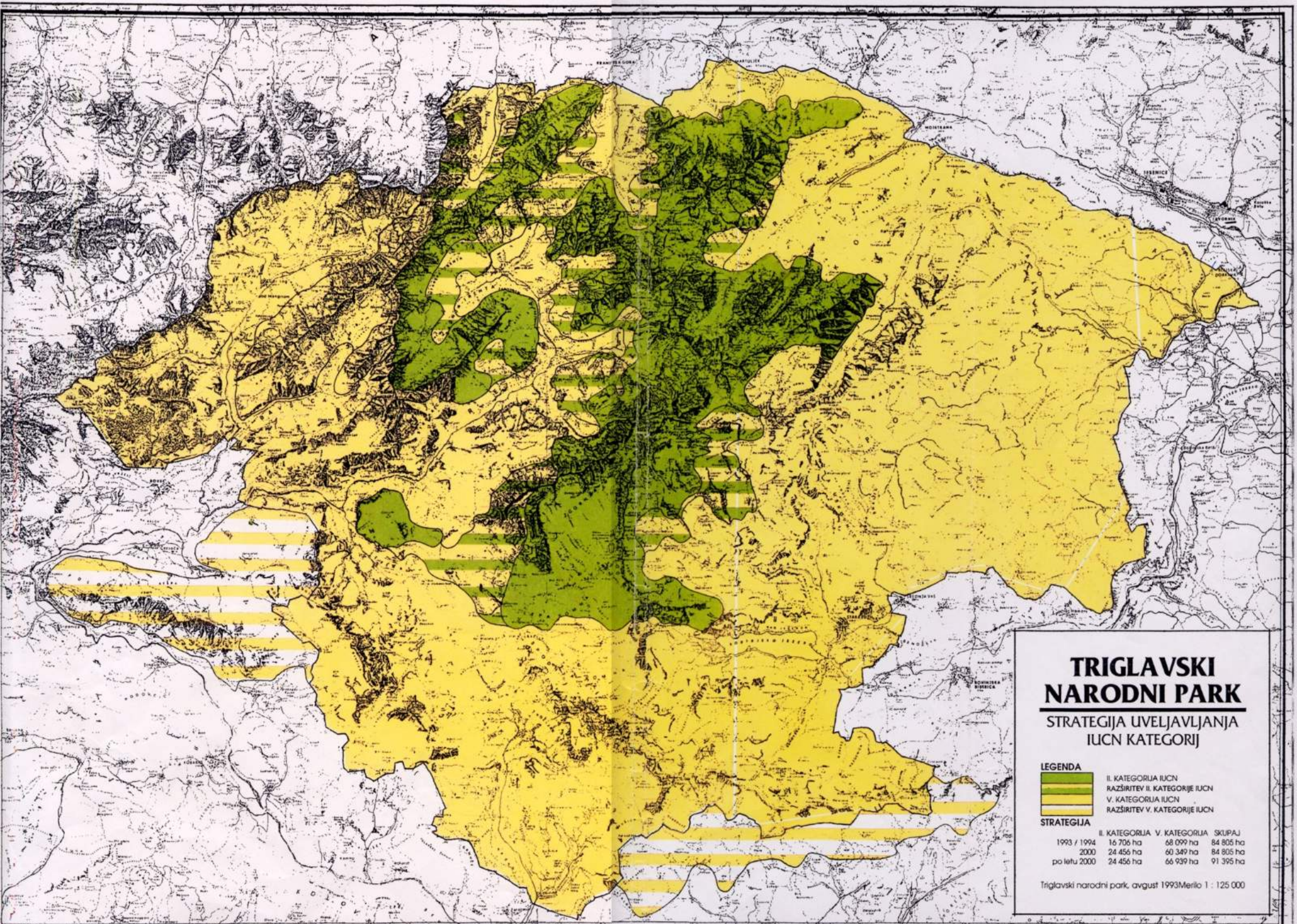
-The “content” of the core and buffer zone according the law from 1981 is far away from proper and modern management objectives in the national parks.

- The following listed activities - hunting, commercial use and felling of forests, intensification of agriculture, unregulated grazing, fishing, energy utilization, exploitation of mineral components, permanent settlements in the core zone, possibility of new buildings in the core zone, traffic load, air transport, all forms of visitation including mass events – have been permitted or not explicitly prohibited.

- In the 1992 – 1993 we prepared the detail analysis and already mentioned strategy of implementation of IUCN management categories objectives.

This was first and unofficial management plan but very useful and efficient document.





TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK

STRATEGIJA UVELJAVLJANJA IUCN KATEGORIJ

LEGENDA

- II. KATEGORIJA IUCN
- RAZŠIRITEV II. KATEGORIJE IUCN
- V. KATEGORIJA IUCN
- RAZŠIRITEV V. KATEGORIJE IUCN

STRATEGIJA

| | II. KATEGORIJA | V. KATEGORIJA | SKUPAJ |
|--------------|----------------|---------------|-----------|
| 1993 / 1994 | 16 706 ha | 68 099 ha | 84 805 ha |
| 2000 | 24 456 ha | 60 349 ha | 84 805 ha |
| po lefu 2000 | 24 456 ha | 66 939 ha | 91 395 ha |

Triglavski narodni park, avgust 1993/Merilo 1 : 125 000

The main management objectives in core (non – intervention) zone independent of its size:

- nature protection
- ecosystem and biodiversity protection
- natural processes
- temporary limited extensive and traditional pasturing at strict allocated alpine pasture areas
- environmentally friendly recreation

In the core (non – intervention) zone there is:

- no hunting
- no forestry
- no agriculture and unregulated grazing, the only exception being occasional extensive use
- no fishing
- no energy use, except for few self-supplies (e.g. mountain huts or a single farm outside the settlements)



In the core (non – intervention) zone there is:

- no sand removal even if it causes the problems of erosion spots
- no settlements and no new constructions, with rare exceptions on pastures and for environmental recovery near mountain cabins
- visitation, recreation and events are limited, and further limitation options are given through the instruments of management plan

With step by step strategy Triglav NP has achieved the enlargement of core or non – intervention zone as follows:

- till 1993 – 0 hectares
- 1994 – 16,700 ha of land set aside (first true IUCN Category II area)
- 1998 - 25,000 ha of land is to be set aside as Category II area
- 2000 – 2008 - with a negotiations with other sectors and all stakeholders Category II area (a non intervention zone) is in “enlarged process” – there is feasible possibilities and arrangements with the owners or land users concerned to reach the area size of 35,000 ha.

The main support of the described approach has been given by:

- Ministry for environment
- IUCN / WCPA
- Slovene Nature Conservation Act (1999)
- UNESCO – MAB programme
- Council of Europe
- EU and Natura 2000 instruments
- staff
- stakeholders

Described management approach was recognised as the proper one and has got reputation and award with:

- Designation of the Biosphere reserve Julian Alps in 2003
- European Diploma award in 2004
- Europarc Transboundary co-operation certificate in 2009

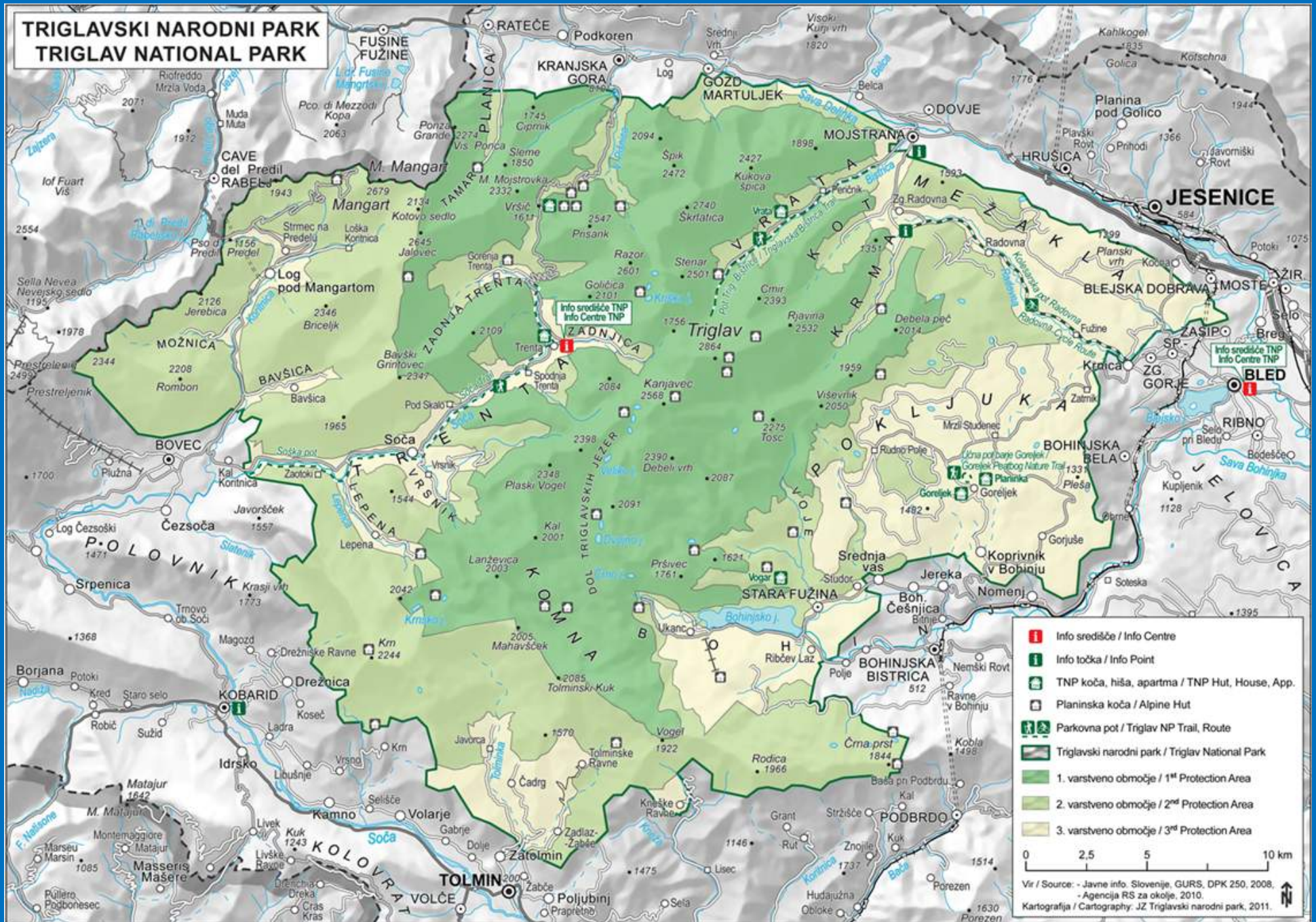


And finally – in 2010 a new Triglav NP law was adopted in Slovene parliament.

Of course no law is perfect and there is no act with full acceptance – but the Triglav NP law is now giving a legal background for the non – intervention concept / management in the park.

The law defines 1. protection zone with size of 31.500 hectares where the non – intervention management is in place.

TRIGLAVSKI NARODNI PARK TRIGLAV NATIONAL PARK



Legend:

- Info središče / Info Centre
- Info točka / Info Point
- TNP koča, hiša, apartma / TNP Hut, House, App.
- Planinska koča / Alpine Hut
- ■ Parkovna pot / Triglav NP Trail, Route
- Triglavski narodni park / Triglav National Park
- 1. varstveno območje / 1st Protection Area
- 2. varstveno območje / 2nd Protection Area
- 3. varstveno območje / 3rd Protection Area

0 2,5 5 10 km

Vir / Source: - Javne info. Slovenije, GURS, DPK 250, 2008.
- Agencija RS za okolje, 2010.
Kartografija / Cartography: JZ Triglavski narodni park, 2011.



TRIGLAV NATIONAL PARK

ensures the guaranteed protection of

29430 hectares of wilderness

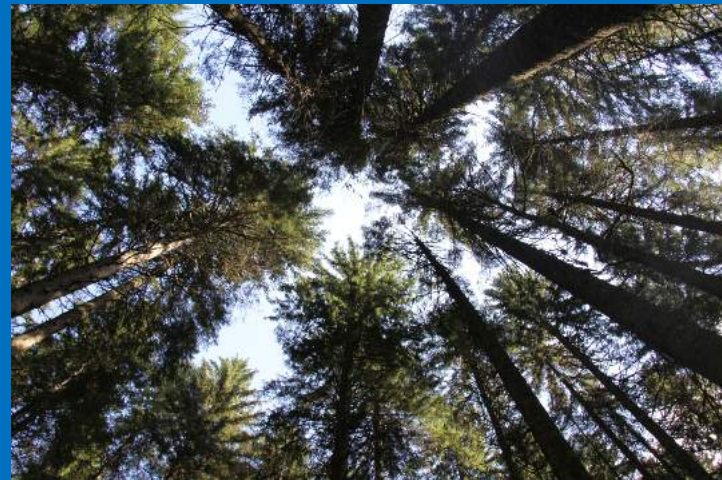
The park joined The Million Project, a Europe-wide wilderness movement lead by PAN Parks Foundation to contribute to preserving **1 million hectares** of Europe's untouched natural areas.

declaration issued by

Executive Director
PAN Parks Foundation

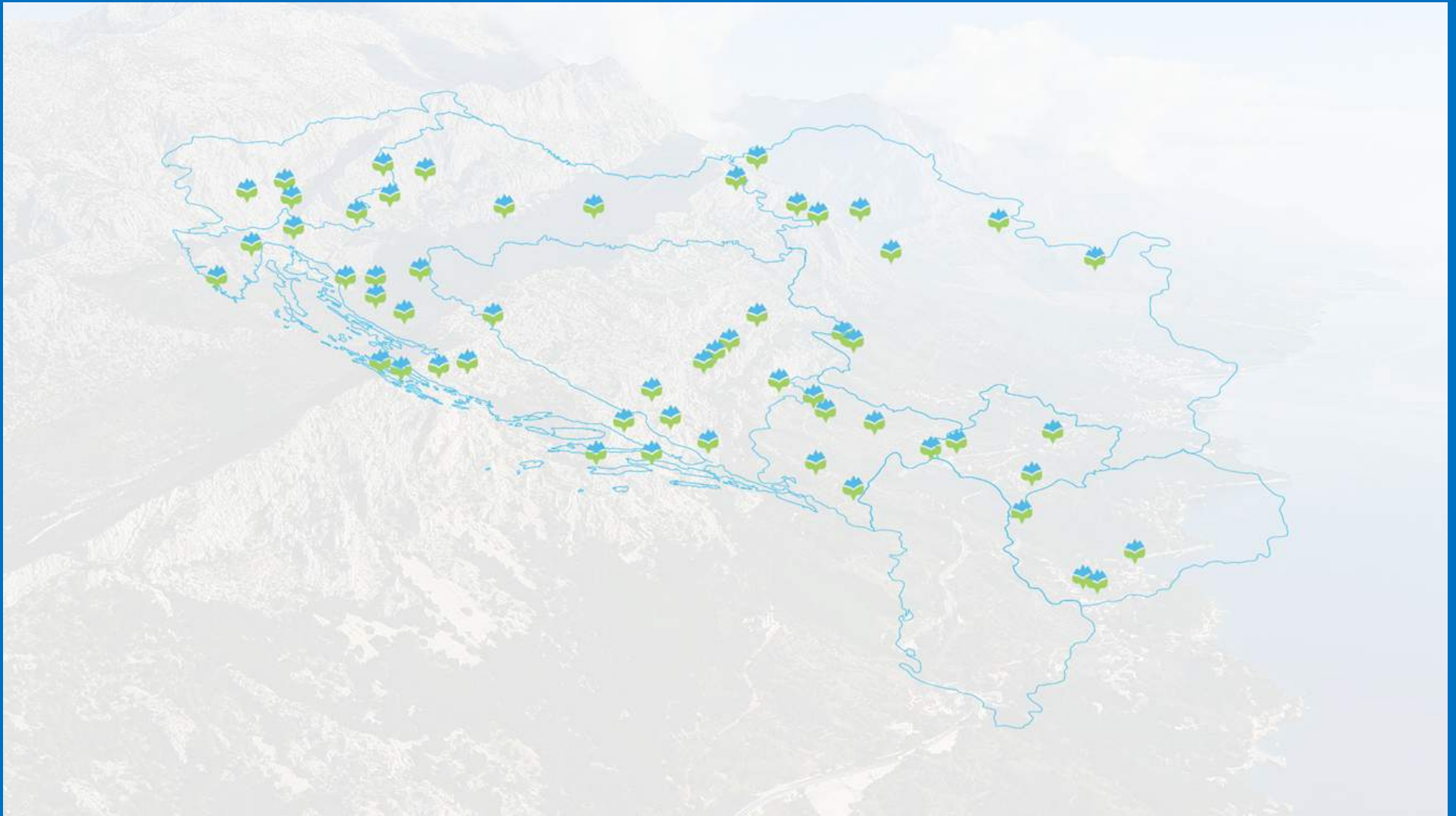
21. 03. 2013

The main positive result of management of the Triglav NP is well preserved nature and culture landscape in this part of Slovenia.



What about Parks Dinarides?





Parks Dinarides – independent association of PAs
in Dinarides.















Goran Šafarek
Photography and Cinematography

Big potential but...

- Lack of appropriate management in the parks.
- Small scaled strict protection zones.
- Legal logging in the parks.
- Poaching.



WWF Adria Strategic Objective & Critical Contribution:
A new governance system for protected areas that generates broad societal support and results in protection of ecosystems and biodiversity, provision of ecosystem services and generation of social and economic benefits for local and national economies.

Adria region: A world un... X

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Adria region: A world undiscovered

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Posted on 03 November 2015

Martin Šolar, the former director of Slovenia's Triglav National Park, became the director of WWF Adria in May this year. WWF Adria is the newest WWF office working to protect nature in parts of the Alps, the Danube-Carpathian region and the Mediterranean. Leading a team of about 30 people to build a world in which humans live in harmony with nature is of special importance for him.


Tell us more about the Adria Region and what it is known for.

As a name, Adria is something new that comes to replace the name Western Balkans, which has become very politicised. Adria encompasses the area of former Yugoslavia plus Albania. It contains parts of not one region, but three: the Alps, the Danube-Carpathians and the Mediterranean. WWF Adria participates in all three programmes.

The special thing about the region is its diverse nature. Of course, we do not have gorillas, pandas and elephants, but we have a wonderful network of protected areas called *Dinaric Arc parks* that we helped establish. We call it *A world undiscovered*. This was a big success. We also have the wonderful Adriatic Sea and the region's flagship species of the region: bluefin tuna, Danube sturgeon and, of course, the Balkan lynx and the wolf. Our region is home to 2/3 of all large carnivores in Europe.

What are your biggest successes so far?

Dinaric Arc parks is our first big programme that successfully connected one field of work in the region. Because if we take



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- [Serbia's protected areas win European Charter for Sustainable Tourism](#)

<http://adria.panda.org>
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