



ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

Fundamentals on species conservation in Estonia



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Nature Conservation Act

- protected species as one of nature conservation objects
- 3 categories

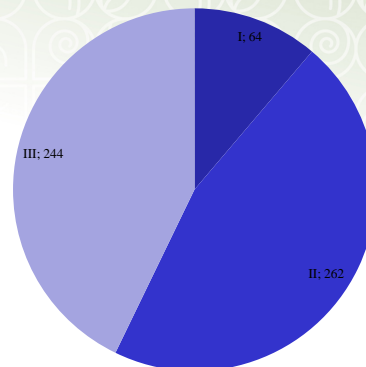


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Categories

- named with regulation of the minister of environment
- based on species rareness, distribution, population size, vulnerability
- I category the strictest, III category the mildest
- 570 protected species in total
- eg 160 vertebrates (18/53/89)



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Measures for protection from the Act

- protection of individuals
- formation of conservation areas
 - 100% of I category
 - 50% of II category
 - 10% of III category
- formation of management plans
- protection obligation notice
- forbidden to publish data (I and II cat)
- obligation to inform EB (3 days)



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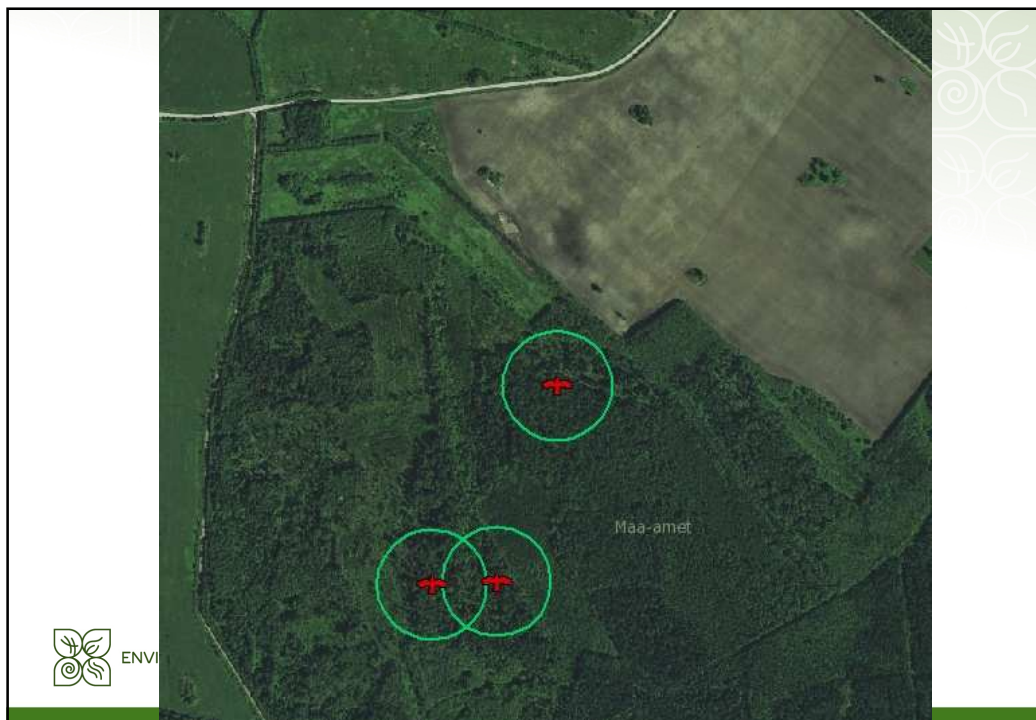


Formation of conservation areas

- automatic species protection site (wilderness conservation zone)
 - *Pteromys volans* – 25 meters radius
 - *Haliaeetus albicilla*, *Circaetus gallicus*, *Pandion haliaetus* – 200 m
 - *Aquila clanga*, *Ciconia nigra* – 250 m
 - *Aquila pomarina* – 100 m
 - *Aquila chrysaetos* – 500 m
 - *A. clanga* x *A. pomarina* – 250 m
- 514 sites in 3943 hectares in total
 - eg *Aquchr* – 5 sites
 - eg *Aqupom* – 324 sites
 - eg *Cicnig* – 43 sites



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Formation of conservation areas

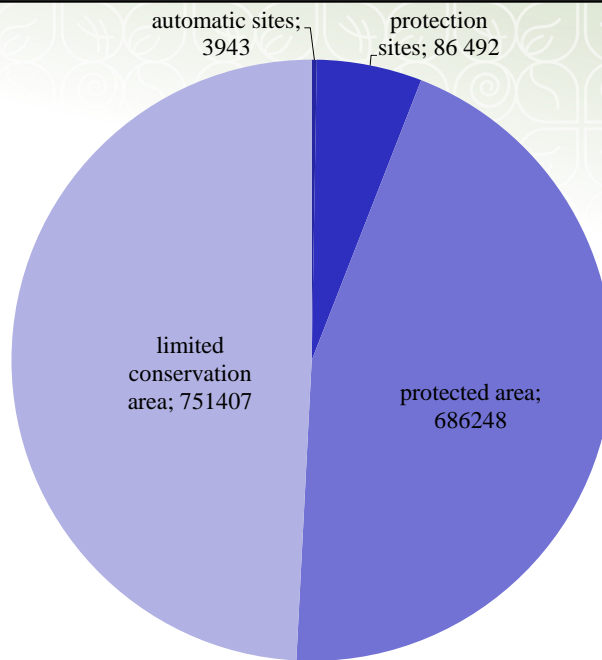
- species protection site by regulation of the minister
 - “logical” borders
 - specific protection rules
 - different management zones
- 449 sites for 79 species in 86 492 hectares in total
 - eg *Tetrao urogallus* – 158 sites, 63 991 ha
 - eg *Agrimonia pilosa* – 2 sites, 13 ha
 - eg *Phoca hispida* – 2 sites, 4 971 ha



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- 1048 species protection sites
- slowly increasing in number and hectares



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Management plans

- I category + others whose measures show no results or are under international interest
- species biology, distribution, populations situation
- conditions for favorable status
- risk factors
- purpose for conservation
- measures, timetable and budget to achieve favorable status
- for 10 years
- put in force by the minister of environment



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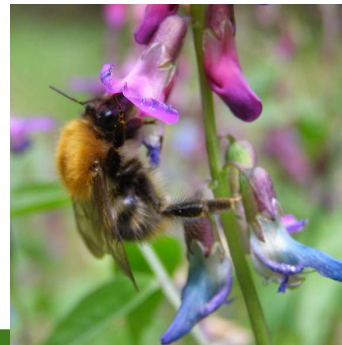
- 9 species management plans are in action (eg *Anser erythropus*, *Pteromys volans*, *Aquila pomarina*)
- 17 species wait for the aproval from the minister
- many species will have in 4 years period

Important measures

- riht measures at the right place at the right time
- monitoring
- evaluation



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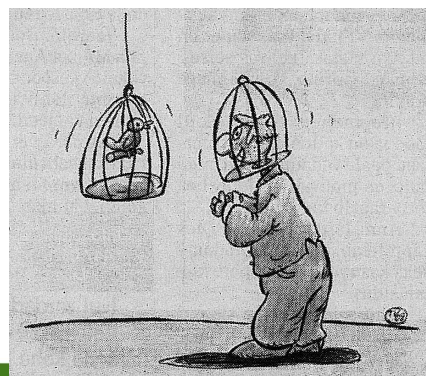


Problems

- fragmentation of sites
- young society - antropocentric approach – low empathy
- still lack of fundamental data
- lack of experts
- specialisation of experts
- partly weak legal system



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- 21 conservation biologists, who
 - data from the field
 - environmental register
 - participation in conservation planning
 - integrating know-how of species in everyday work
 - improving knowledge



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Thank you!



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