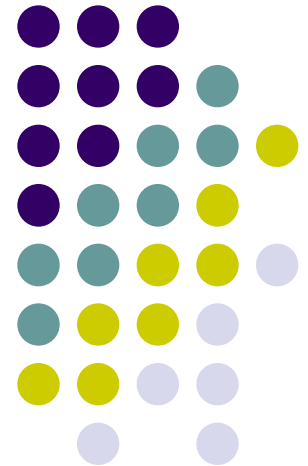
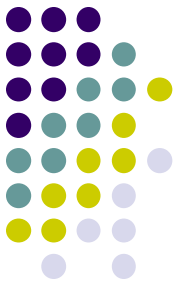


Workshop Large Carnivores

Lauri Kontro
Nordic Hunters' Cooperation
President

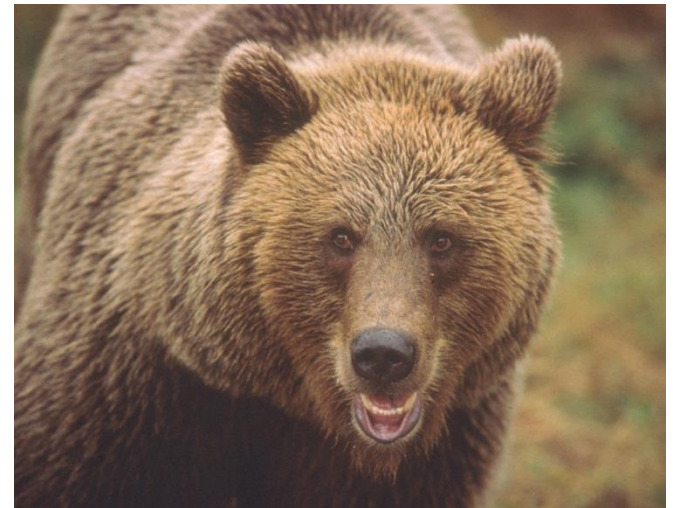
Öster Malma 11.4.2014





European Large Carnivores

- Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*)
 - Wolf (*Canis lupus*)
 - Lynx (*Lynx lynx*)
 - Wolverine (*Gulo gulo*)
-
- All big four have viable populations in Europe

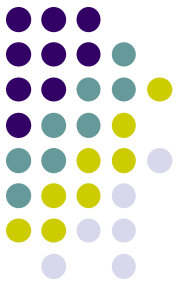




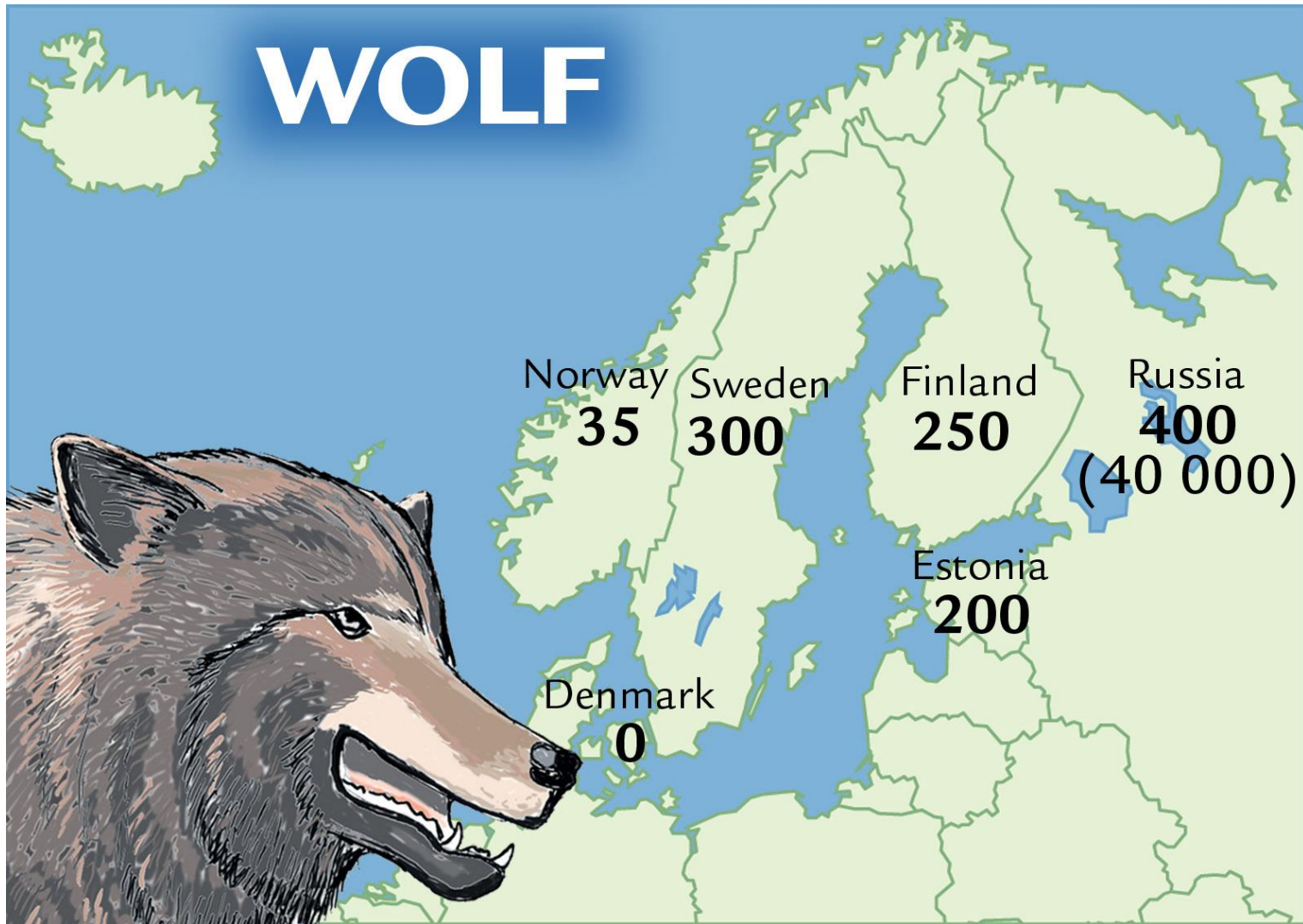
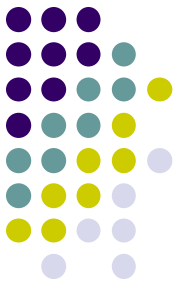
The big four



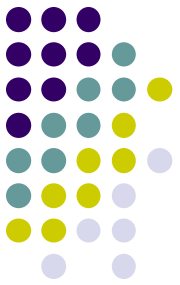
Nordic Countries



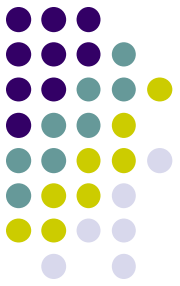
Nordic Countries

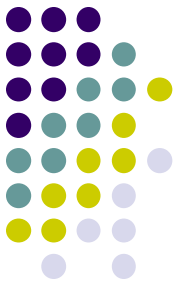


Nordic Countries



Nordic Countries



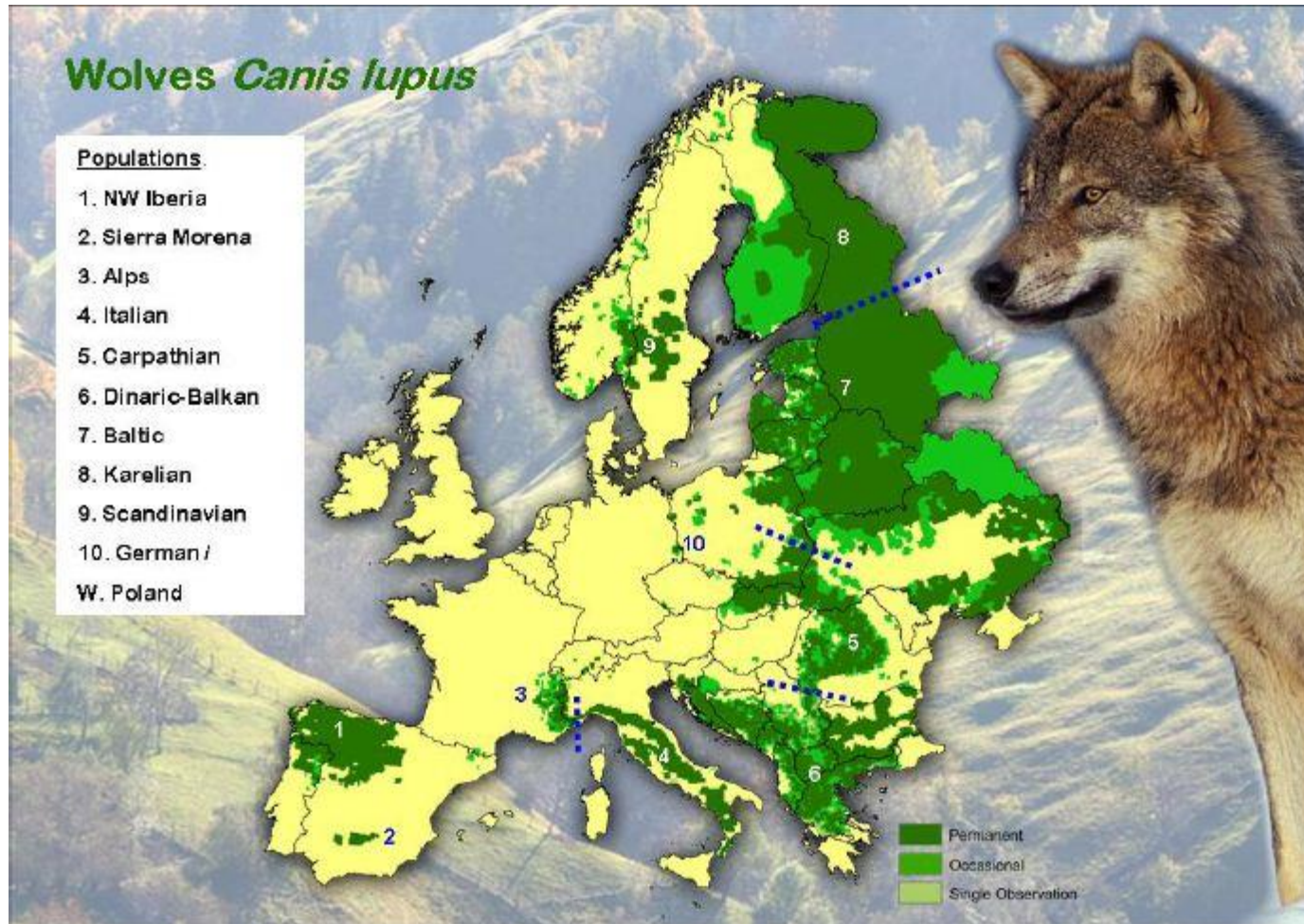


Europe is united

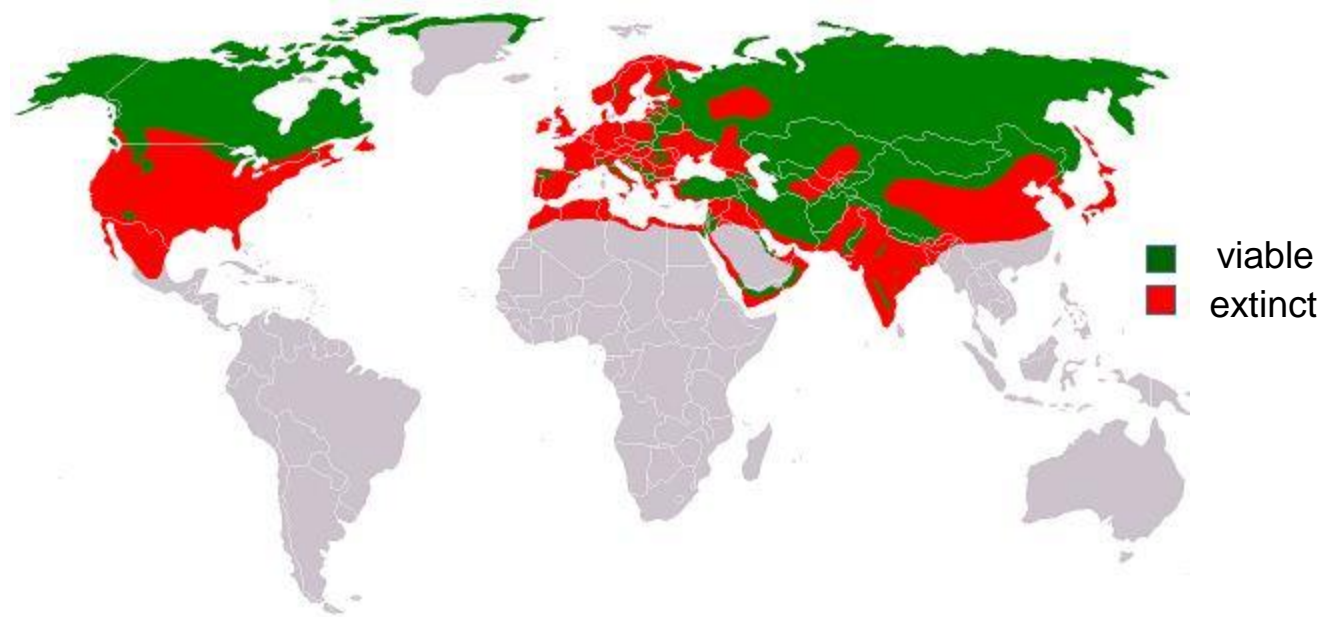
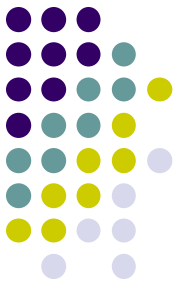
- Finnish (Karelian), Scandinavian and Baltic populations have their origins in the West Russian populations
- Russian LC populations are very large
- Wolf pop. in Russia 40 000-60 000



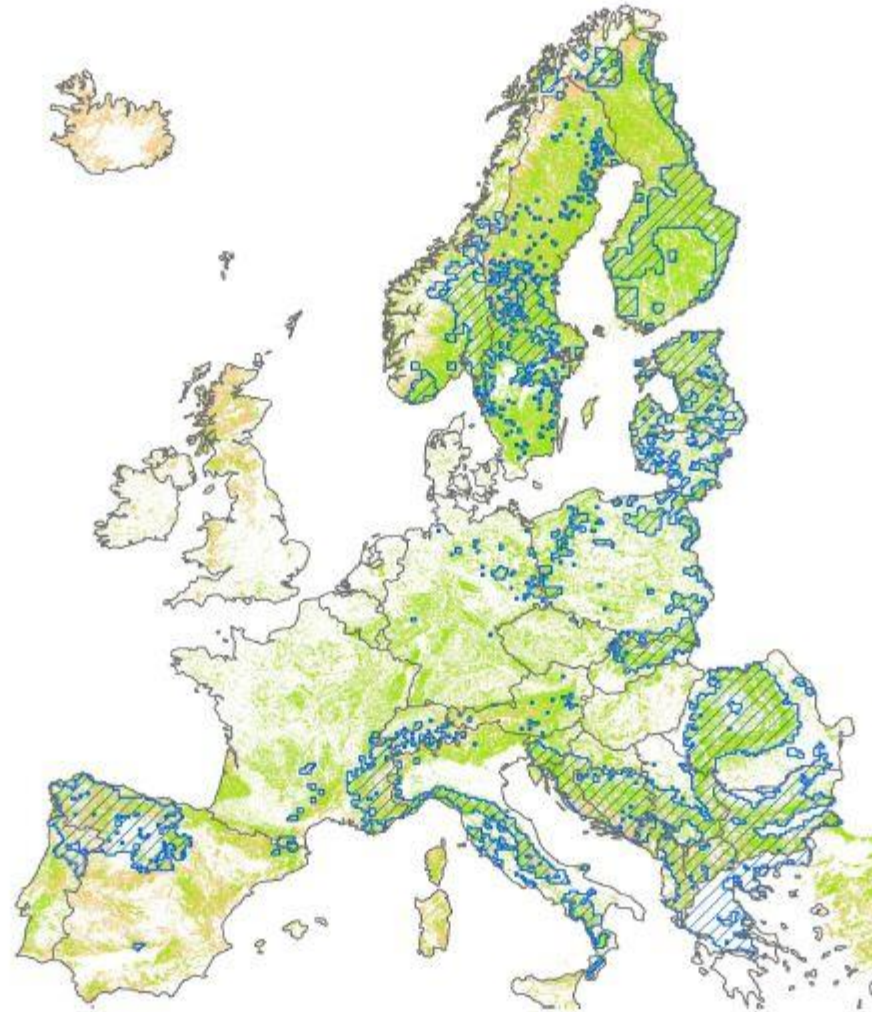
West-European populations



Wolves of the World

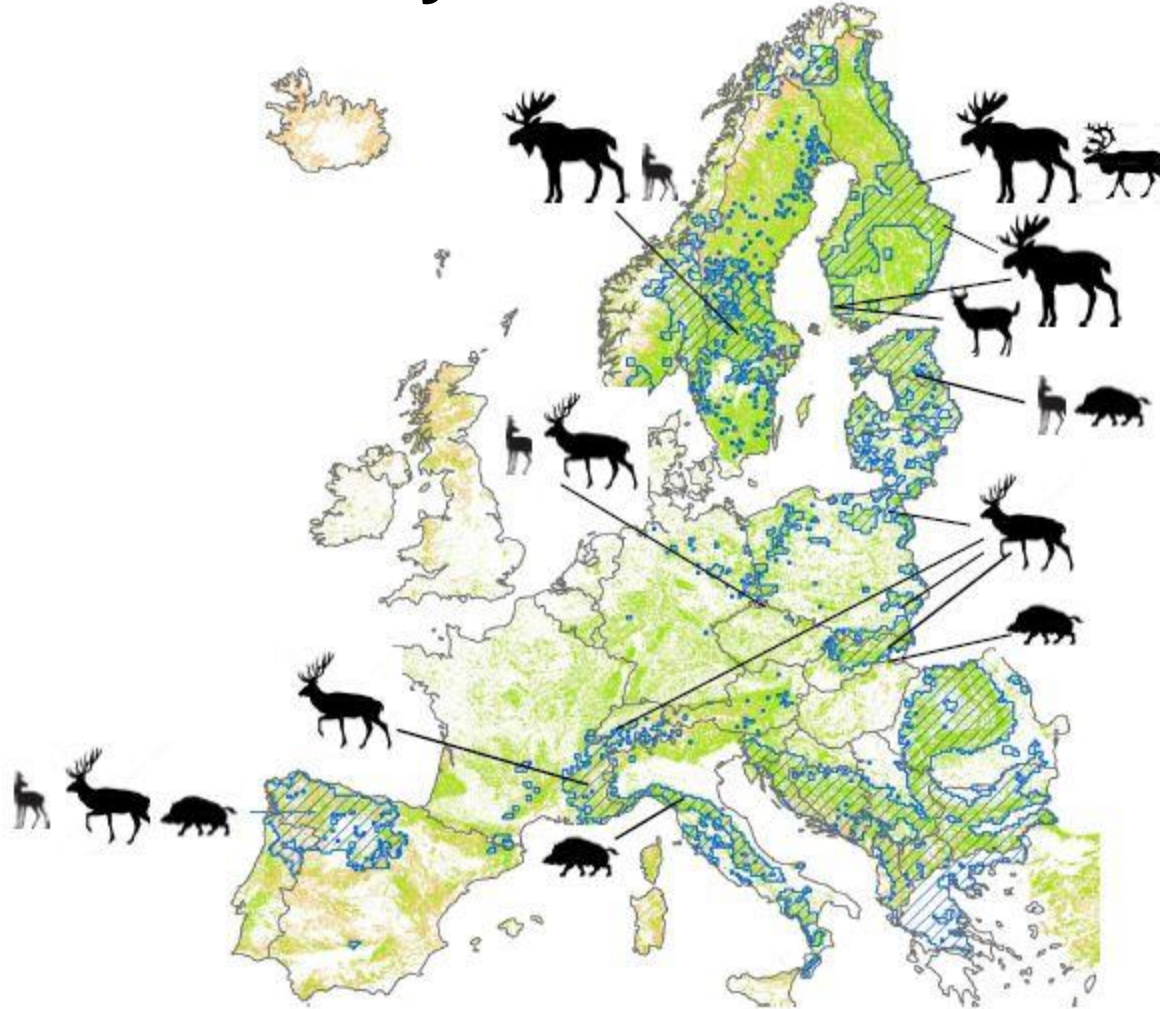


Forests and wolves

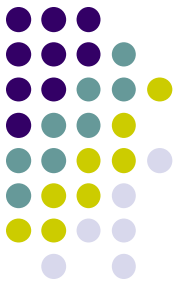


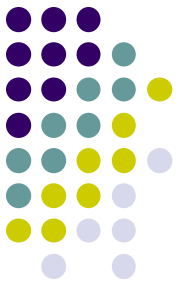
Kojola ym, julkaisematon

Pray

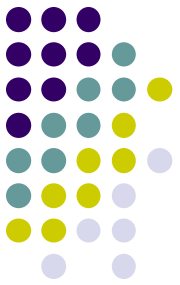


Kojola ym, julkaisematon

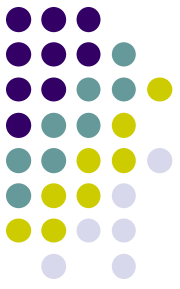




Case Finland: Protection of LCs



- Habitats Directive 1994, Annex IV, V
- Management plans of LCs
- Favourable status of conservation
- Wolf: 20 reproductive pairs (150 wolves)
- Dangerous wolves can be killed
- Limited hunting possible if favourable status not changed
- Scientific data basis for administrative decisions



Problems

- Social conflicts cannot be avoided
- Wolf populations too large in many regions
- Interchange of wolves with Russia
- Damages to reindeer farming, cattle, dogs
- Animal rights' groups focus on wolf - political tensions

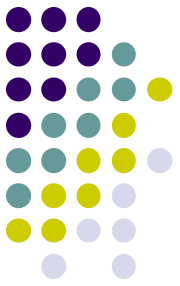


Conflicts



Case Finland:

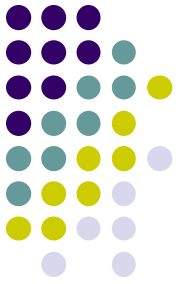
Damages to reindeer farming



- Total loss of **4 090** animals (2007)
- Wolves killed 1001 reindeer
- Wolverines killed 1794 reindeer
- Bears killed 828 reindeer
- Lynxes killed 467 reindeer

- Other main damages: sheep, dogs
- Game losses: a pack of wolves kills 100 moose a year

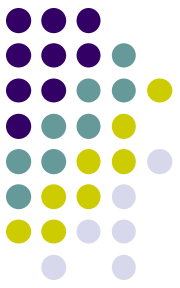
**One wolf
pack
kills 100-
130
moose
or 200
white-
tailed
deer a
year**



**Wolves kill
hundreds
of dogs
each year**

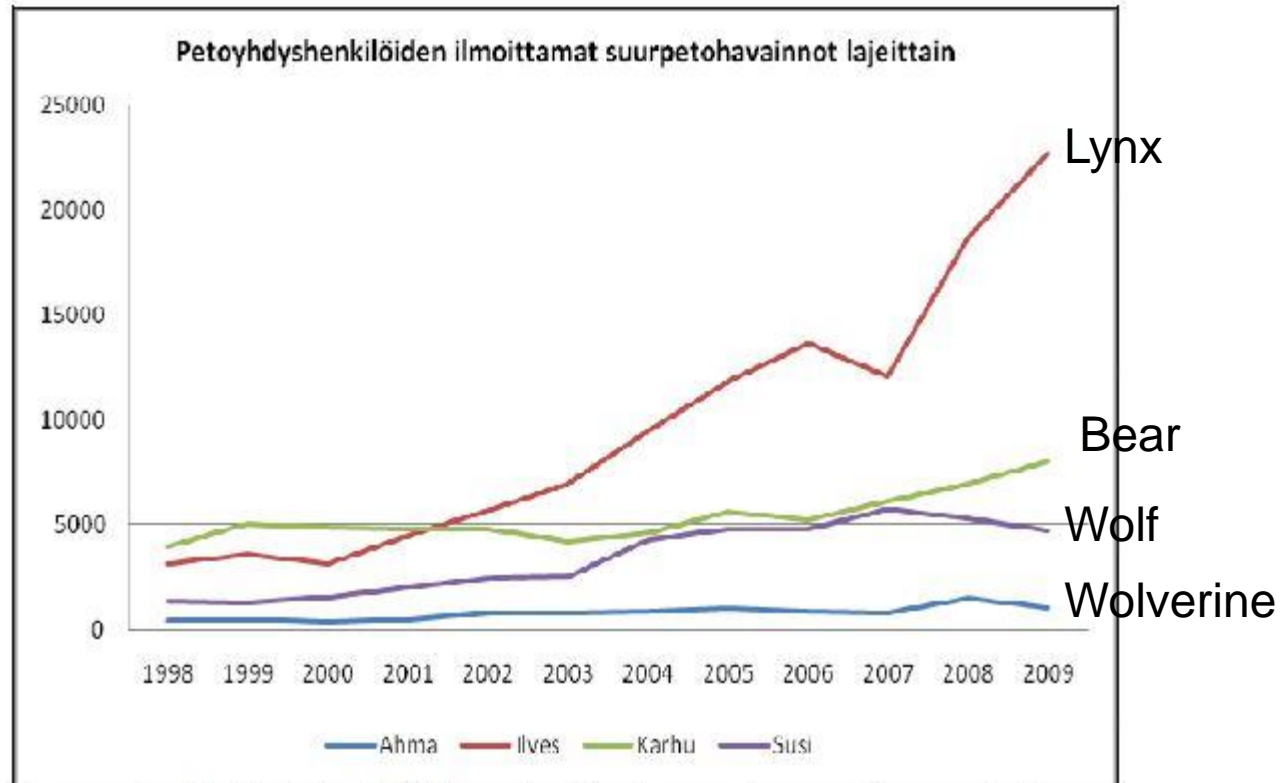
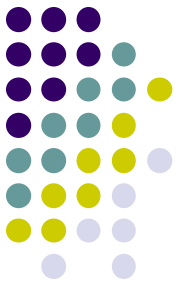


Political pressure: Wolf girls' demonstration for wolves



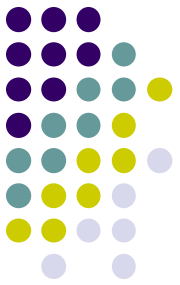
LC populations grow

Annual LC observations in Finland by LC network



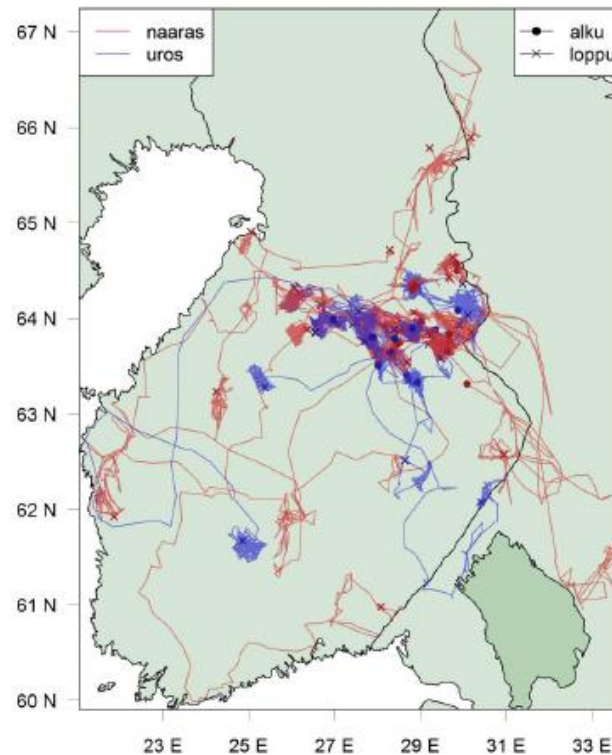
Kuva 4. Petohäydyshenkilöiden ilmoittamien ahma-, ilves-, karhu- ja susihavaintomäärät Suomessa vuosina 1998-2009 (RKTL, petotutkimus).

Interboundary movements

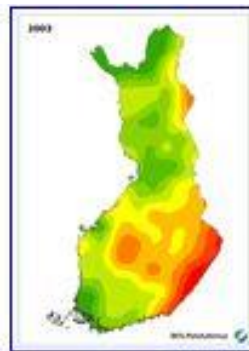
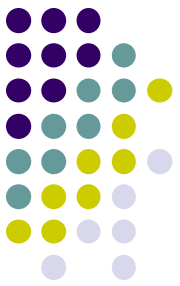


I.Kojola

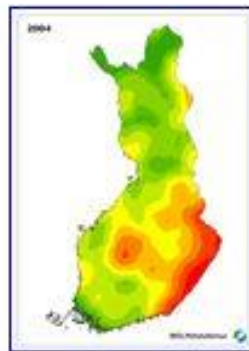
Movements by GPS collared wolves



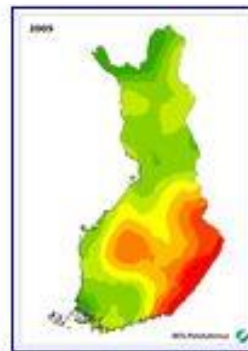
Bear population in Finland



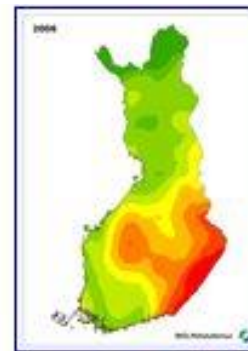
2003



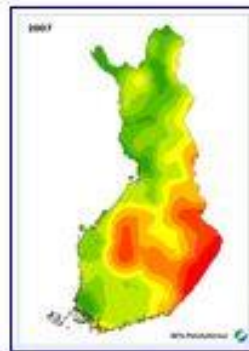
2004



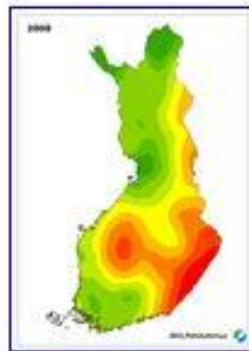
2005



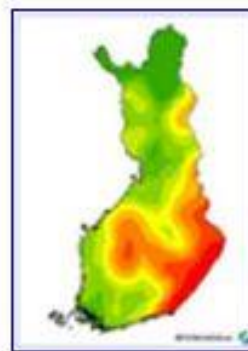
2006



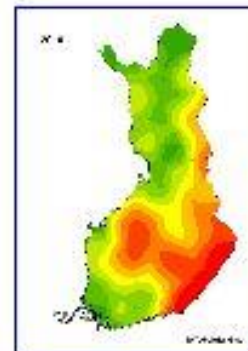
2007



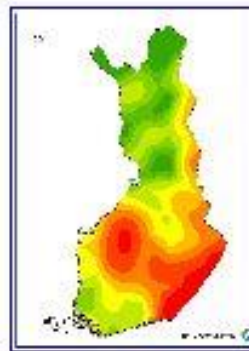
2008



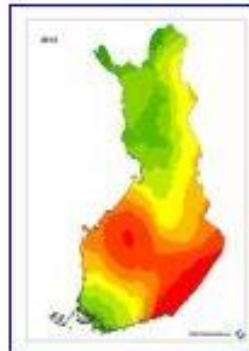
2009



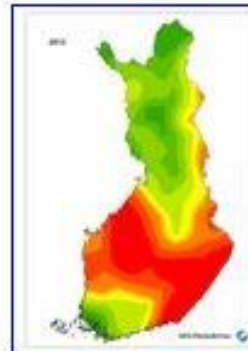
2010



2011

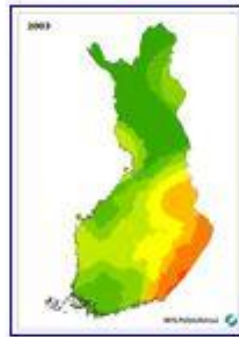
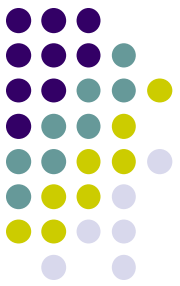


2012

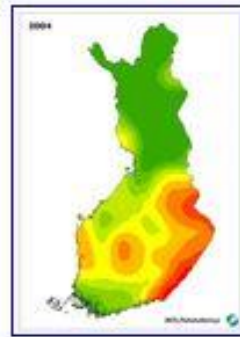


2013

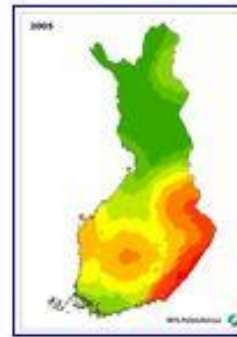
Wolf population in Finland



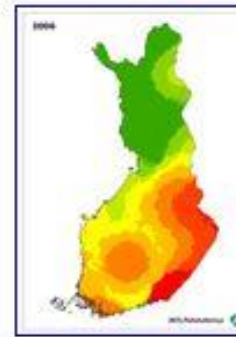
2003



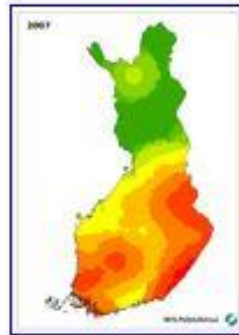
2004



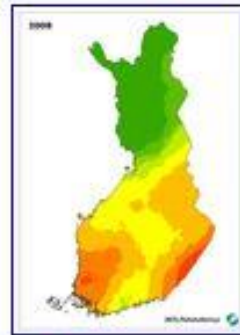
2005



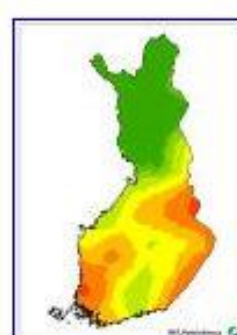
2006



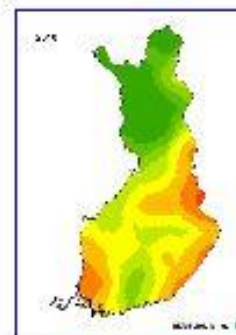
2007



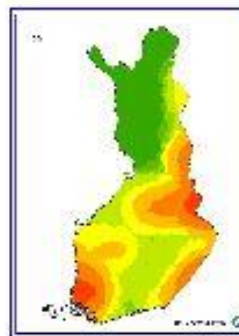
2008



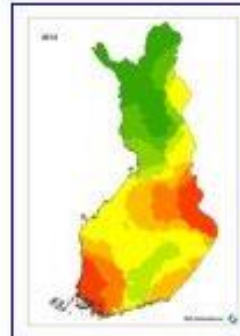
2009



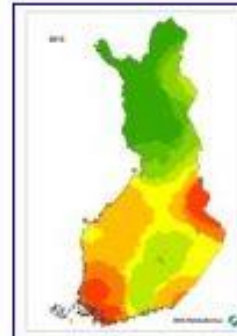
2010



2011

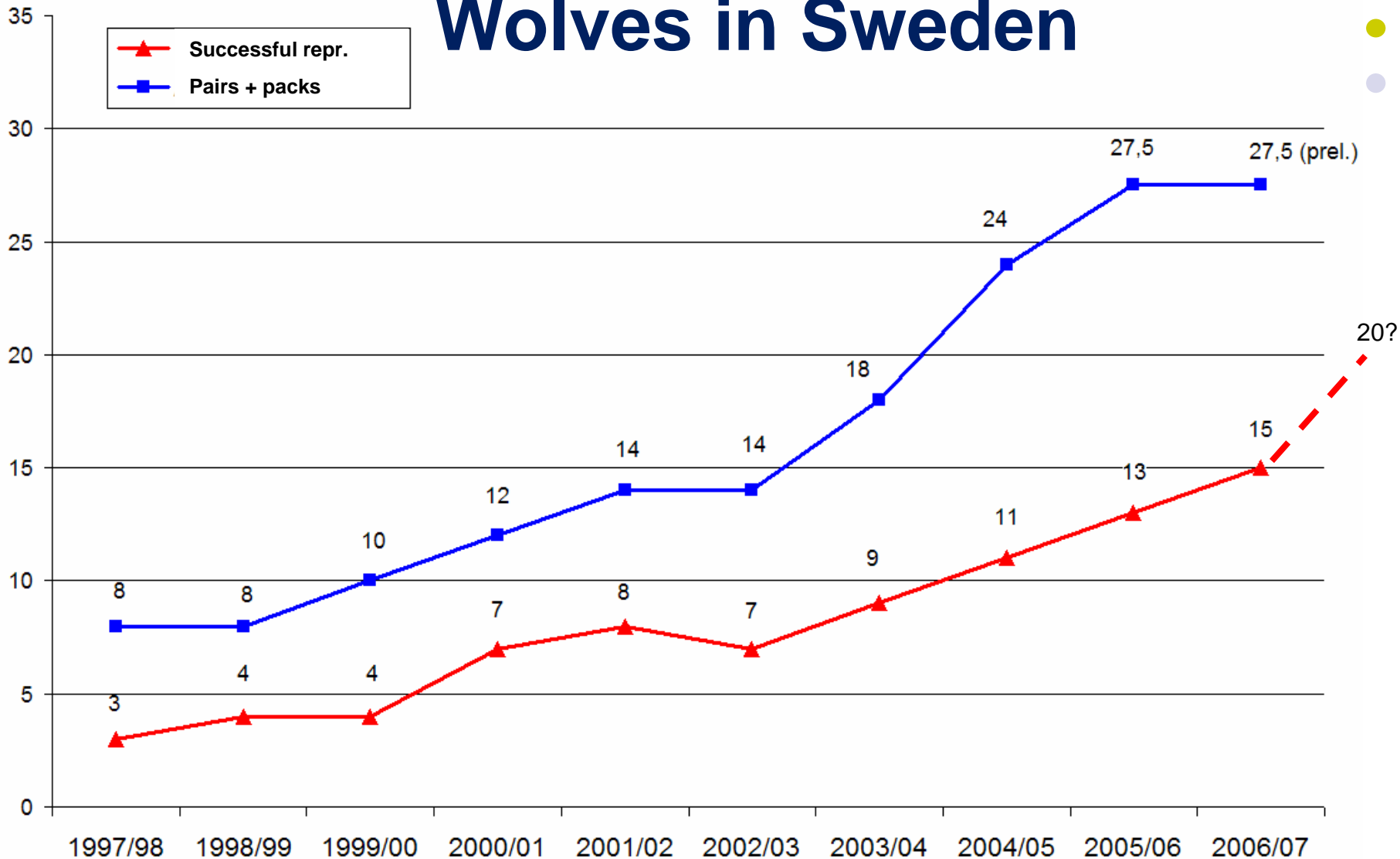


2012



2013

Wolves in Sweden



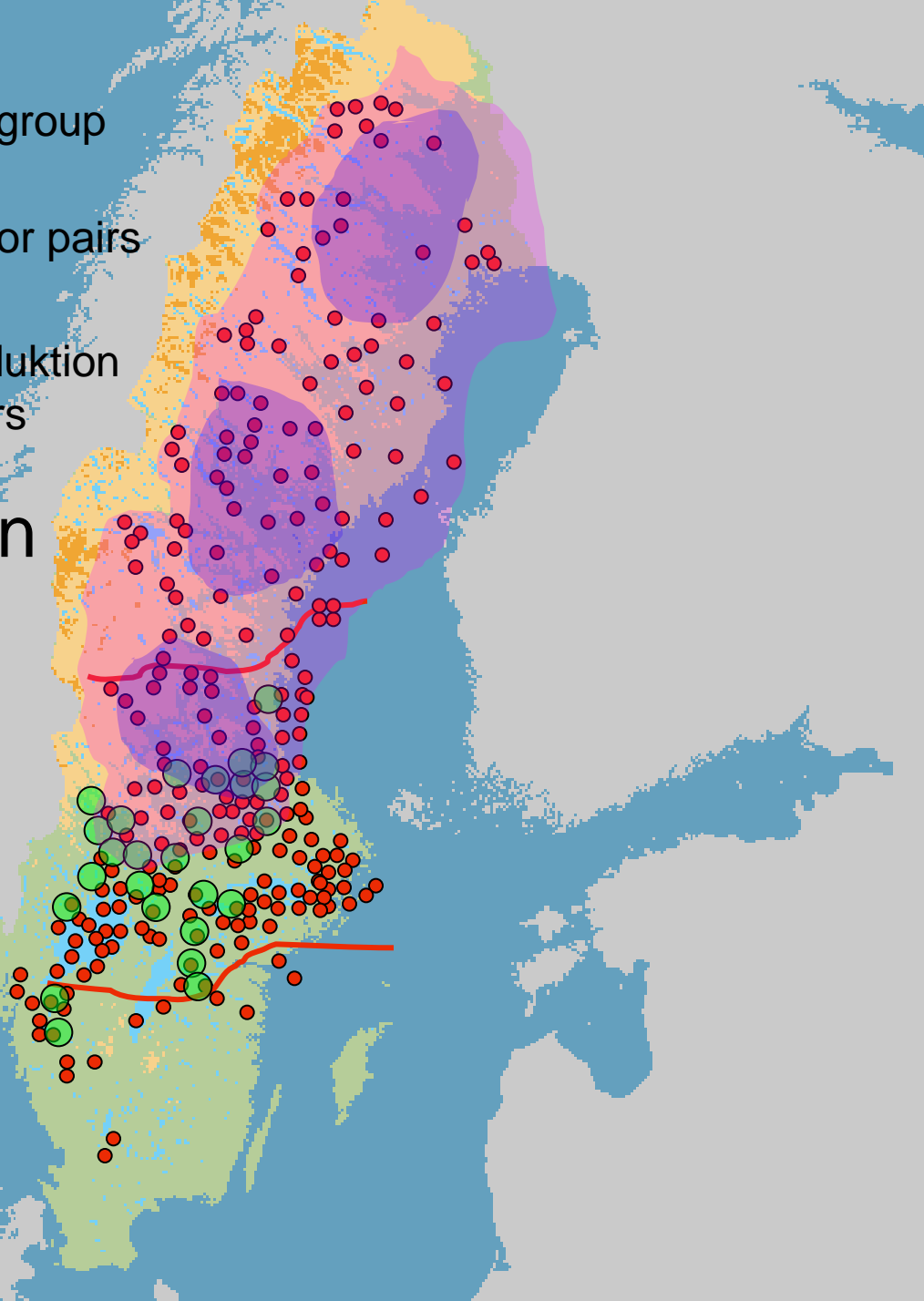
Figur 4. Growth of the Swedish wolf population from 1997-2007. The blue line shows the number of wolf packs and pairs. The red line shows the number wolf packs with succesfull reproduction.

- =Lynx, family group
- = Wolf packs or pairs
- = Main reproduction areas for bears

Central Sweden

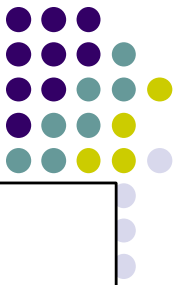
90% of the wolves
50% of the lynxes
30% of the bears

In 30 % of
Sweden!

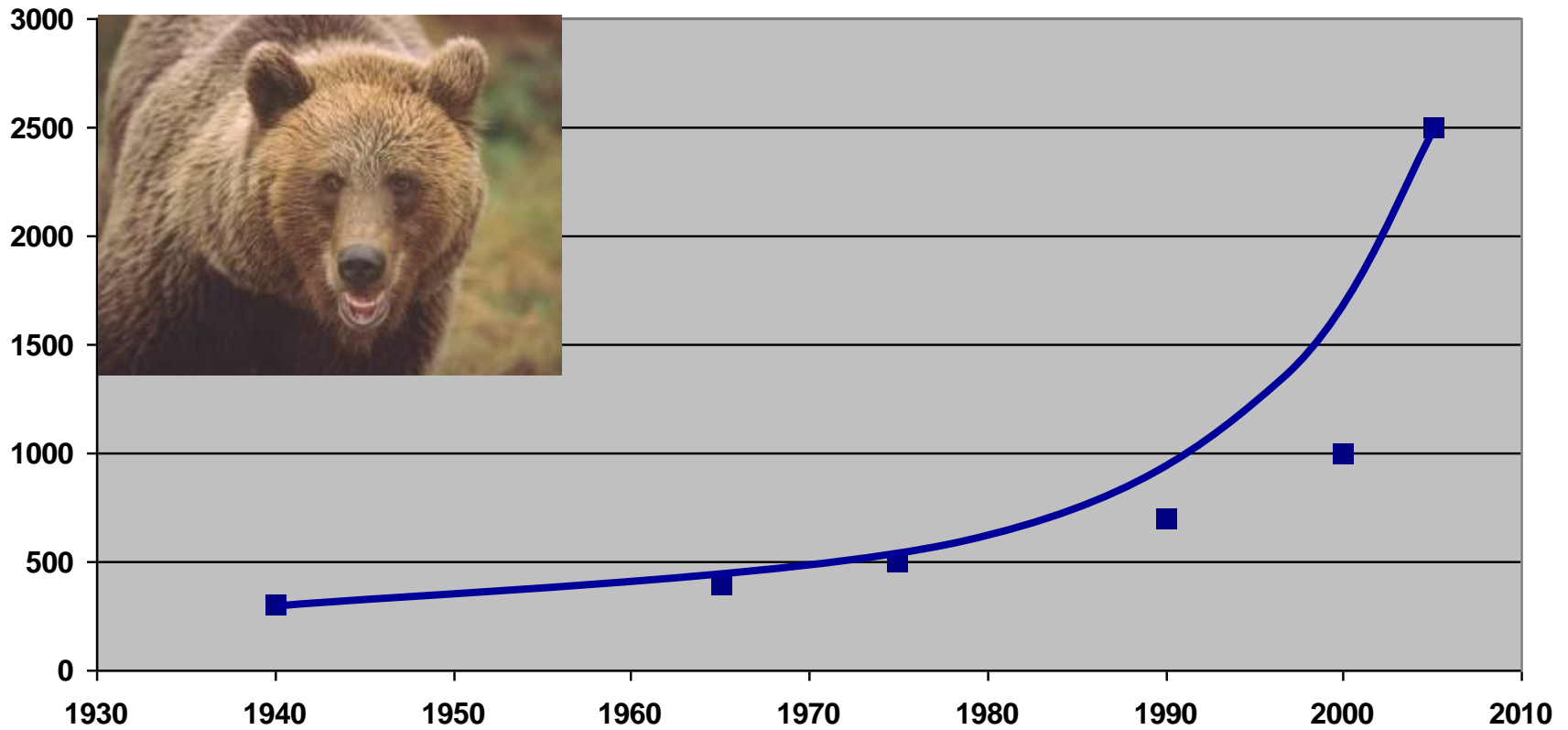


**One wolf pair or pack kills 100-130
moose per year.**





Bears in Sweden



Finnish forest reindeer



Rangifer tarandus fennicus

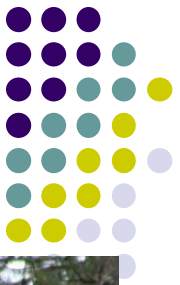
The last ones in the world



- Only 1880 forest reindeer in two populations are left in Finland
- Some 3000 (?) animals live in small groups in Western Russia

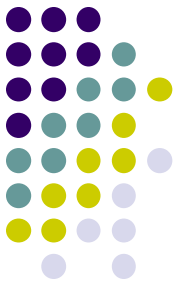


Rangifer tarandus fennicus



- 650 000 yrs old European wild reindeer
- Enemies: wolf, lynx, bear, wolverine
- Choice: Do we save the forest reindeer or wolves?

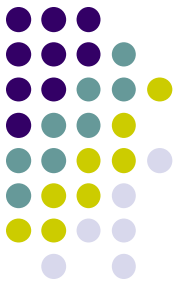




Can forest reindeer survive?

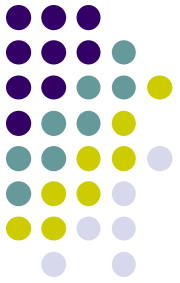
- Large carnivores are the only threat to forest reindeer





Summary

- Coexistence man/large carnivores a challenge
- Favourable status of conservation
- Sustainable hunting – is it possible?
- Problems in rural areas
- Political tensions: animal right activists – hunters?



Thank you for your attention