

Setting targets for the Carpathian conservation planning system

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1) Species

- Targets are needed for each species mapped in the planning system.
- For most species these must ensure the long-term persistence of the species in the Carpathians.
- For some wide-ranging species (eg large raptors) the target must ensure the long-term persistence of important sub-populations.



1) Species

Best approach is probably to:

- 1) Divide species into groups with similar characteristics
- 2) Estimate a viable population size for each group (or viable sub-population)
- 3) Estimate the amount of habitat needed to contain a viable population size
- 4) When appropriate, estimate the amount needed for a population and draw a map showing the distribution of the population

2) Landcover and habitat types

Best approach is probably to:

- 1) Divide species into groups with similar characteristics
- 2) Set percentage of original extent of habitat that is needed for target
- 3) Estimate percentage of habitat type that has been cleared.

2) Landcover and habitat types

- Final target is calculated as:

Original extent (ha) * target proportion

E.g.

$$3500 \text{ ha} * 0.4 = 1400 \text{ ha}$$

NB Targets should be based on original extent so need to estimate this value.

3) Ecological processes

- Some features are large and found in only a few places (eg corridors), so targets are small.
- Most targets are based on expert review
- Climatic gradients that are covered in natural vegetation
- Maintenance of avalanches
- Flooding regimes
- Natural river lengths
- Maintenance of traditional biodiversity-maintaining land-uses

3) Ecological processes

Best approach is probably to:

- 1) Set number of features that are needed for target
- 2) Draw on maps the approximate location of suitable features