



# LIFE EUROKITE CRIME REPORT

## ILLEGAL PERSECUTION OF TAGGED RED KITES AND OTHER RAPTOR SPECIES IN EUROPE

### PART 10 - COUNTRY SPECIFIC RESULTS - HUNGARY

First interim report on the results of the LIFE EUROKITE (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) project 2020-2024 with additional results from 2013 onwards

“Cross-border protection of the red kite in Europe by reducing human-caused mortality”



This company project report was compiled by TB Raab GmbH within the LIFE EUROKITE project (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) and was checked by the owner of the loggers and the representatives of the (cooperation) partners responsible for finding the dead birds.

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Cover photo: Poisoned red kite © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Ján Svetlík)



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Project: LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048 – LIFE EUROKITE



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## Structure of the Crime Report

Due to the size of the report, it is divided in the following parts. Please see the other report parts for further information.

Part 1 - Introduction, Methods, Overall Results, Discussion, Conclusion & Recommendation

Part 2 - Country specific results - Austria

Part 3 - Country specific results - Belgium

Part 4 - Country specific results - Croatia

Part 5 - Country specific results - Czech Republic

Part 6 - Country specific results - Denmark

Part 7 - Country specific results - France

Part 8 - Country specific results - Germany

Part 9 - Country specific results - Greece

**Part 10 - Country specific results - Hungary**

Part 11 - Country specific results - Italy

Part 12 - Country specific results - Luxembourg

Part 13 - Country specific results - Netherlands

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Part 15 - Country specific results - Portugal

Part 16 - Country specific results - Serbia

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Part 18 - Country specific results - Spain

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## 1 Overall summary

The LIFE EUROKITE project (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) is a cross-border protection project for the red kite and other raptor species in Europe. Within the LIFE EUROKITE project the core idea is to use telemetry technology to identify the spatial habitat use of the target raptor species, quantify the key reasons of mortality of bird of prey species in the EU and reduce human-caused mortality, particularly illegal activities such as poisoning.

Between 2013 and 2024, 3,554 individuals of 7 raptor species (3,161 red kites, 97 black kites, 43 booted eagles, 52 honey buzzards, 79 imperial eagles, 22 ospreys and 100 white-tailed eagles) were tagged with solar-powered GPS satellite tags in 19 countries across Europe with the help of many project partners and cooperation partners. From this a total of 1,795 individuals (1,680 red kites, 37 black kites, 18 honey buzzards, 29 imperial eagles and 31 white-tailed eagles) were tagged within the LIFE EUROKITE project.

From the 3,554 tagged birds a total of 1,623 died so far. Of these, a total of 1,594 individuals (1,480 red kites, 13 black kites, 14 booted eagles, 17 honey buzzards, 32 imperial eagles, 8 ospreys, 30 white-tailed eagles) died in the respective country where we also detected bird persecution within our sample. The first results of the LIFE EUROKITE project show, that 320 (20.08 %) of the tagged birds (293; 19.80 % red kites, 3; 23.08 % black kites, 1; 7.14 % booted eagles, 2; 11.76 % honey buzzards, 12; 37.50 % imperial eagles, 1; 12.50 % ospreys, 8; 26.67 % white-tailed eagles) were victims of illegal activities in 24 countries (10/01/2025). Poisoning (n= 238; 74.38 % of illegal activities) was by far the most common illegal act that caused the death of these tagged birds. The most used poison was Carbofuran which is banned in the EU since 2008. The second most common illegal act that caused the death of these tagged birds was shooting (66 individuals; 20.63 % of illegal activities). Of the 320 birds that were tagged and illegally killed, only 8 cases resulted in a conviction for bird persecution.

When extrapolating the data on illegal bird persecution over the past five years (2020–2024), it is estimated that approximately 46.180 red kites have died as a result of persecution. This estimate is derived by scaling up known persecution rates of tagged birds to the entire European red kite population, based on published population size estimates, average annual mortality rates, and the proportion of mortality attributed to illegal killing. It therefore reflects a population-level extrapolation, not a direct count of detected cases.

Due to varying numbers of tagged individuals and differing red kite population densities across countries, the results may vary considerably. Consequently, these findings do not allow for conclusions regarding the statistical frequency of illegal activities relative to red kite density in any given country.

Bird persecution in Europe persists all over Europe. Effective conservation requires stronger law enforcement, public education, international cooperation, and better tools like GPS tracking to detect and prosecute offenders. Political commitment across countries is crucial, along with harmonized laws, stricter penalties, and national action plans with clear goals. Raising awareness through initiatives like the “European Day Against Criminal Poisoning of Wildlife” and systematic data collection can help inform both the public and policymakers. Finally, stronger cross-border collaboration and support for monitoring and reporting systems are essential to address bird persecution at a European level.

## 2 Introduction

The LIFE EUROKITE project (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) is a cross-border protection project for the red kite and other raptor species in Europe. Within the LIFE EUROKITE project the core idea is to use telemetry technology to identify the spatial habitat use of the target raptor species, quantify the key reasons of mortality of bird of prey species in the EU and reduce human-caused mortality, particularly from illegal activities such as poisoning.

Specifically, the red kite (*Milvus milvus*) can act as an indicator of anthropogenic mortality across broad extents (Donázar et al. 2016; Natsukawa and Sergio, 2022) due to its high individual variability in migration strategies (García-Macía et al. 2022) and its condition of good sentinel species for main threats to raptors (Mattson et al. 2022). As migratory behaviour is associated with different exposure and risk levels, understanding the causes of cross-border mortality in red kites can provide important warning signs regarding wider impacts of human activities on wildlife populations in Europe (Donázar et al. 2016; Natsukawa and Sergio, 2022).

In response to ongoing illegal threats to migratory birds, international conservation bodies have taken major steps toward unified action. Under the leadership of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and the Bern Convention, and with the involvement of numerous states, observers, and expert groups, a comprehensive framework was adopted: the *Rome Strategic Plan 2020–2030*. This plan outlines a joint commitment to halving illegal bird killings in Europe and the Mediterranean by 2030, using 2020 as a baseline (Council of Europe, 2019). By generating large-scale, cross-border evidence on mortality causes, the LIFE EUROKITE Crime Report plays a key role in tracking progress toward this ambitious objective.

The Article 12 of the Habitats Directive clearly defines that member states shall take requisite measures to establish a system of strict protection for the animal species listed in Annex IV(a) in their natural range, prohibiting, among others, all forms of deliberate capture or killing and shall establish a system to monitor the incidental capture and killing of specimens of these species in the wild (European Commission, 2021; Panter et al. under review).

Between 2013 and 2024, 3,554 individuals of 7 raptor species (3,161 red kites, 97 black kites, 43 booted eagles, 52 honey buzzards, 79 imperial eagles, 22 ospreys and 100 white-tailed eagles) were tagged with solar-powered GPS satellite tags in 19 countries across Europe with the help of many project partners and cooperation partners. From this a total of 1,795 individuals (1,680 red kites, 37 black kites, 18 honey buzzards, 29 imperial eagles and 31 white-tailed eagles) were tagged within the LIFE EUROKITE project (Figure 1 to Figure 7).

The first results of the LIFE EUROKITE project show that illegal persecution of tagged birds (shooting, poisoning, trapping) is one of the biggest threats for those species. To date (as of 10 January 2025), 320 tagged birds have been victims of bird crime (Figure 8).

This report will give an overview of tagged birds which died due to illegal activities in Hungary and will give a detailed inside of the status of investigations and legal procedure.



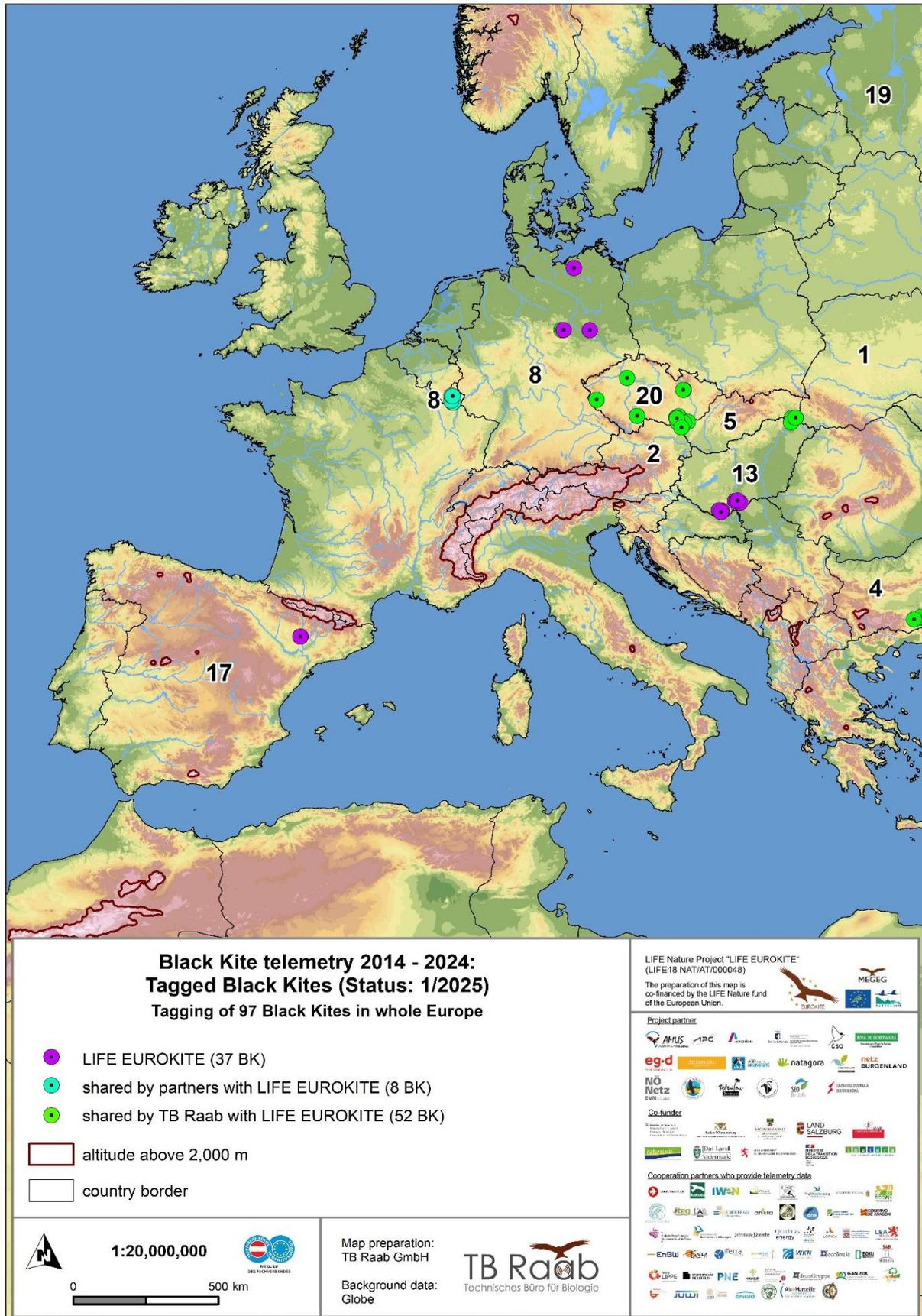


Figure 2: Tagging of 97 black kites by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2014- 2024.



Figure 3: Tagging of 43 booted eagles by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2020- 2024.





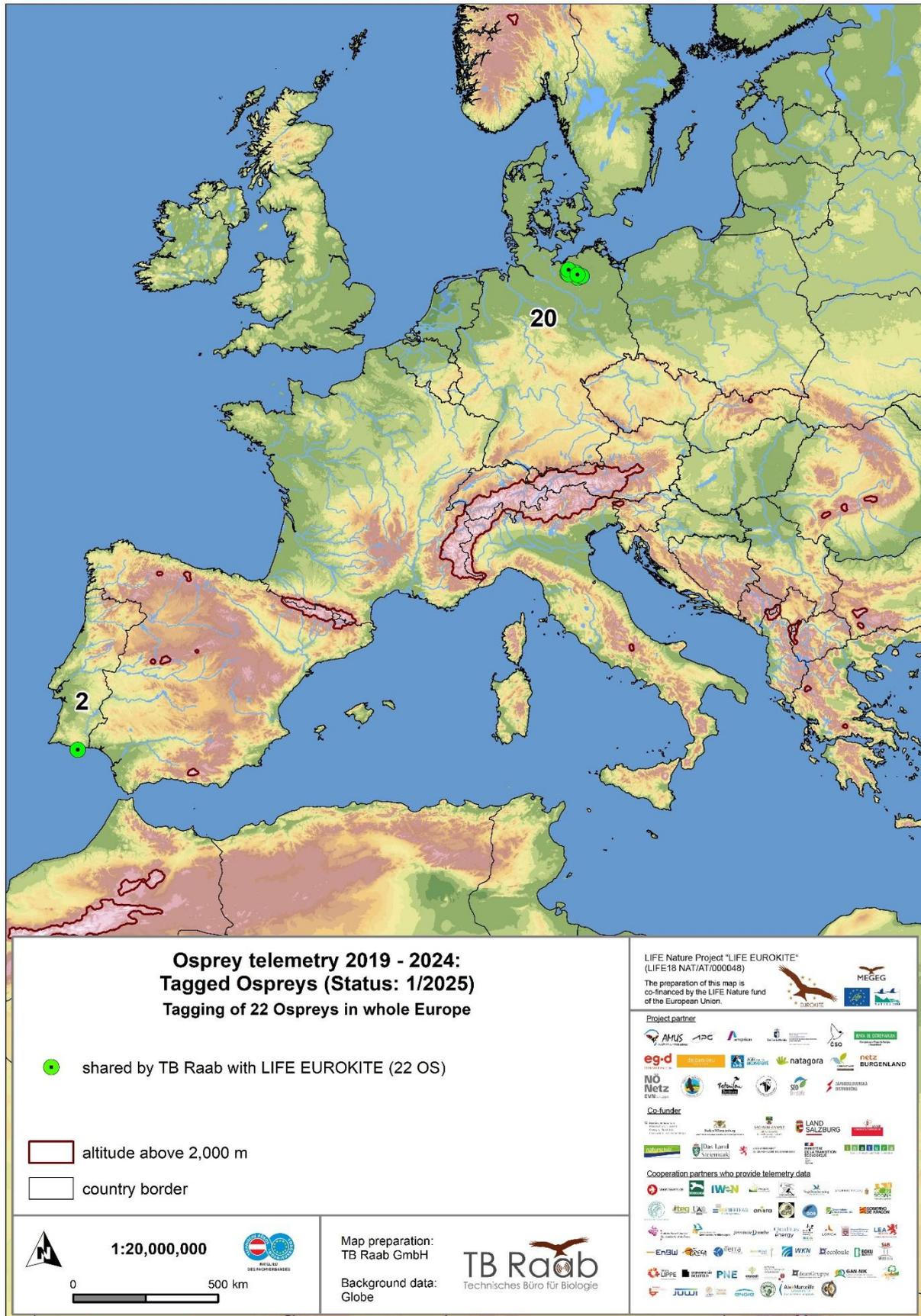


Figure 6: Tagging of 22 Ospreys by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2019-2024.

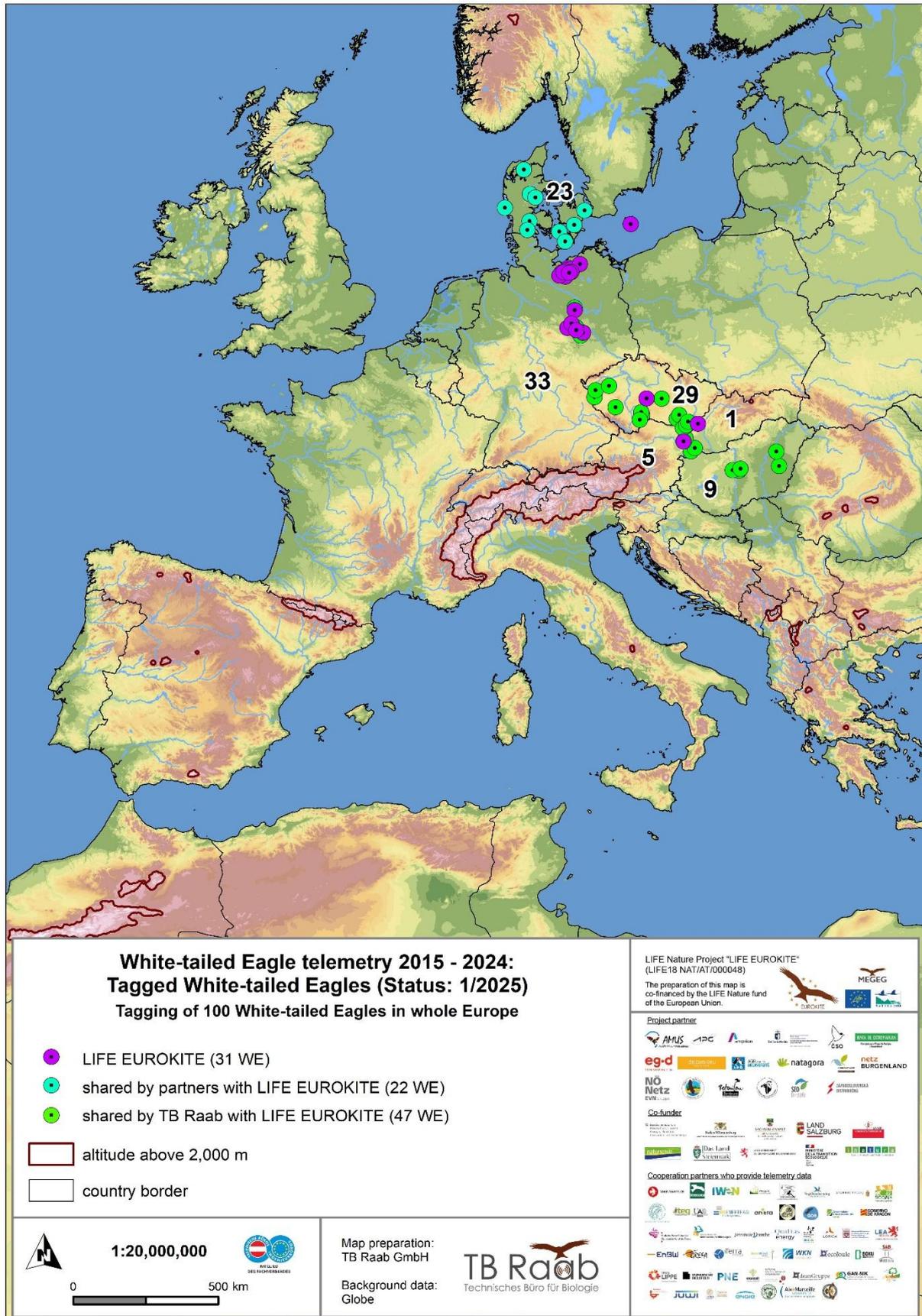


Figure 7: Tagging of 100 white-tailed eagles by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2015-2024.



## 3 Hungarian results

The subsequent section provides a detailed overview of the cases with illegal mortality reasons in Hungary. A total of 9 birds have been confirmed as victims of illegal activities. Of these, 6 succumbed to poisoning, 2 were shot, and 1 died because of trapping.

### 3.1 Tagged individuals that have been poisoned

The birds are listed in chronological order by date of bird crime, commencing with the first recorded case.

#### **RK\_0004**

##### General information about the bird

**Name:** Stillfried\_02

**Species:** Red kite

**Birth date:** 25.04.2015

**Place of tagging:** Angern an der March, Lower Austria, Austria

**Date of tagging:** 31.05.2015

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKI 04 – MLS 19

**Ring number:** JC57509

**Sex:** Male

##### Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Kisberzsény, Közép-Dunántúl, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,1043670, 17,2592479

**Date of bird crime:** 26.12.2015, 9:00:00 AM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 245

**Age at bird crime:** 1. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** No information received

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird not found

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**Carcass state:** -

**Bird crime:** Poisoning

**Certainty category:** Possible

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab).

Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



Figure 9: Overview of the telemetry data for RK\_0004.



Figure 10: Detailed telemetry data of RK\_0004 in the last days before death.



Figure 11: Telemetry data of RK\_0004 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**IE\_0009**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Eddie

**Species:** Imperial eagle

**Birth date:** 13.05.2015

**Place of tagging:** Jászberény, Észak-Alföld, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 12.03.2017

**Age at tagging:** 3.+ CY

**Origin of bird:** From rescue station

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKI 63 - AAB 10 eagle

**Ring number:** AAA0943

**Sex:** Male

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Pród, Észak-Alföld, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,74629, 21,3260669

**Date of bird crime :** 04.05.2017, 10:24:00 AM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 722

**Age at bird crime:** 3. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** No information

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird found

**Carcass state:** No information received

**Bird crime:** Poisoning

**Certainty category:** Probable

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab). The bird was certainly poisoned, but possibly indirectly, as it was eating a dead sheep. The bird was found dead on the fence of the pasture.

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Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received

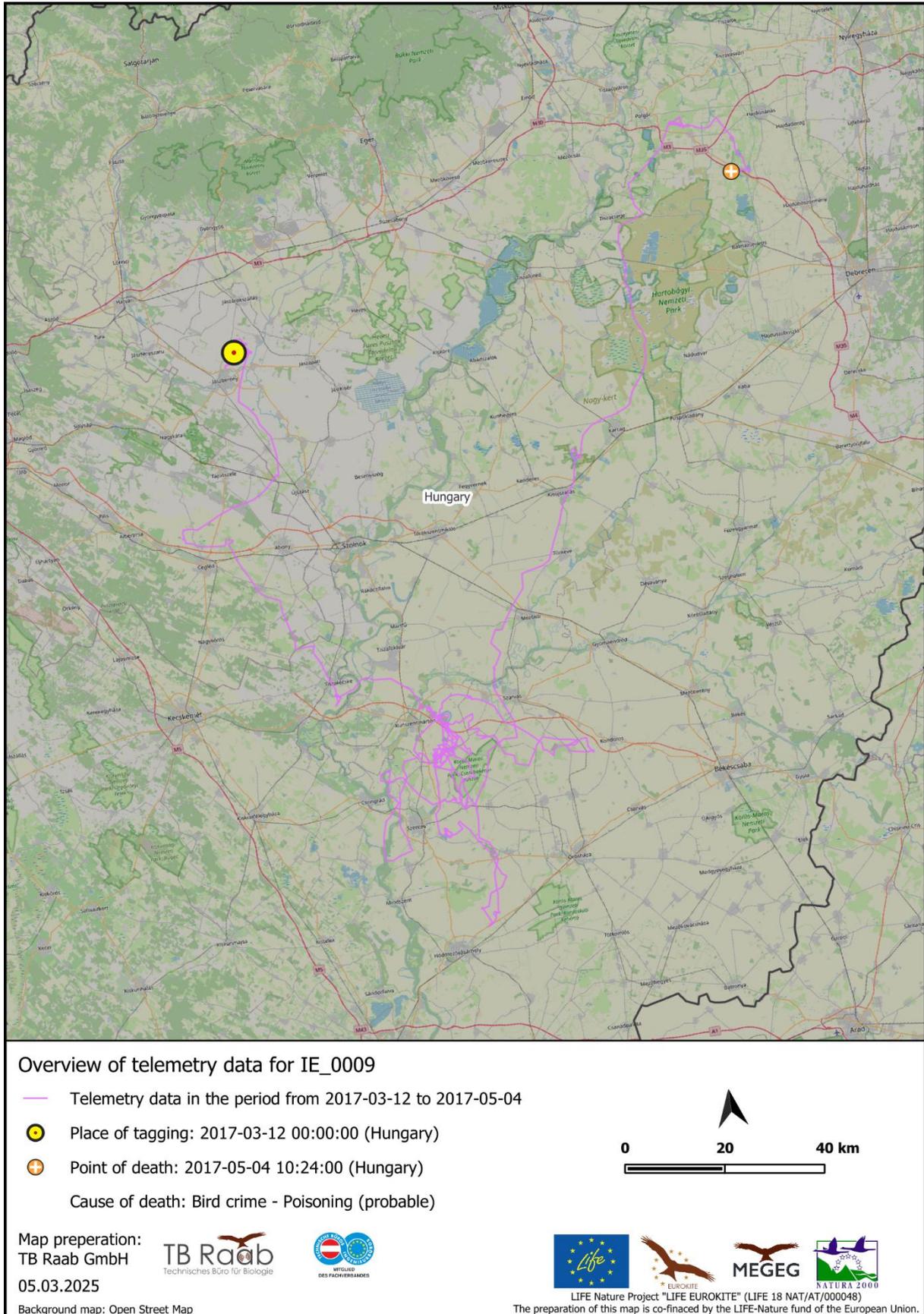


Figure 12: Overview of the telemetry data for IE\_0009.

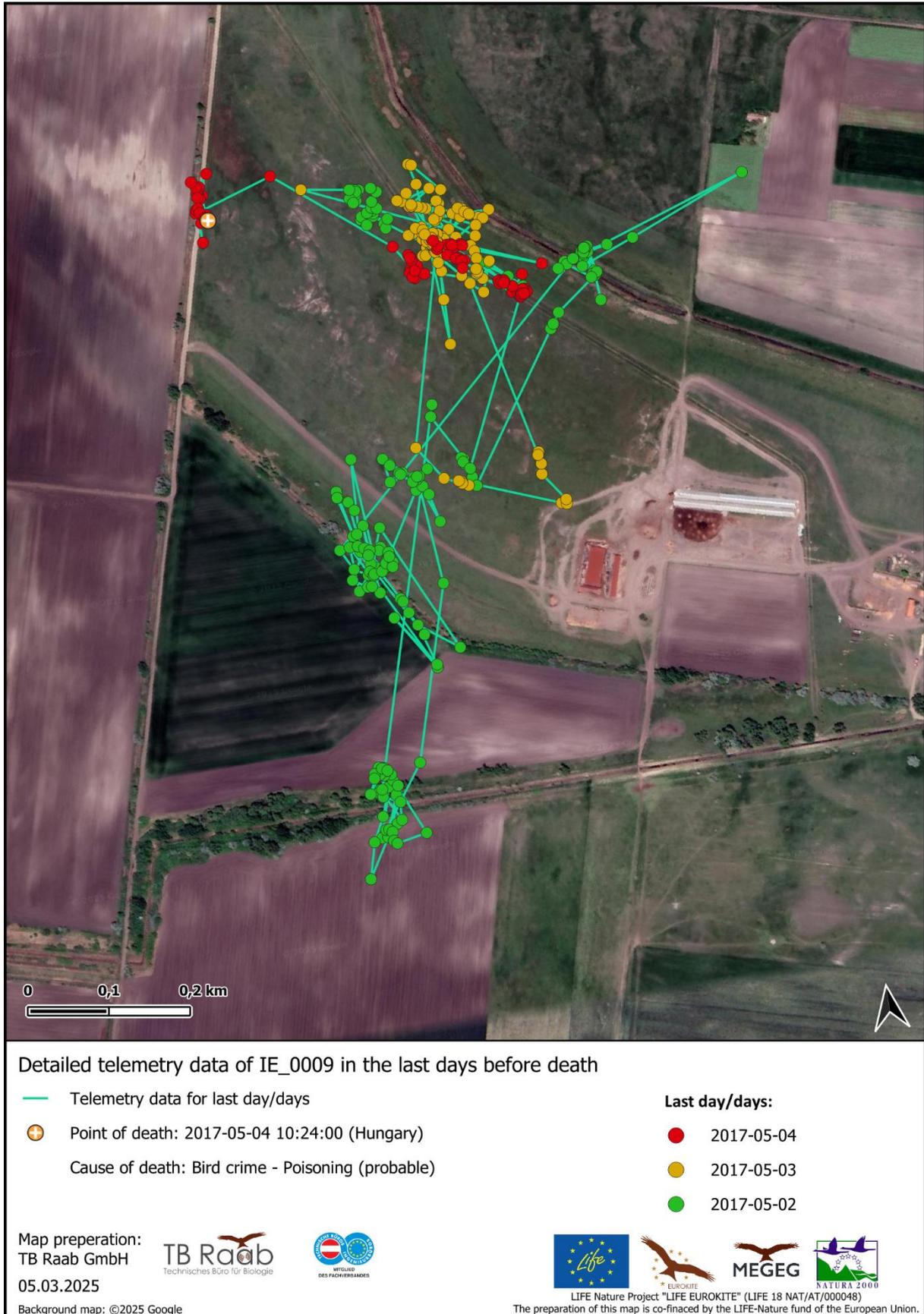


Figure 13: Detailed telemetry data of IE\_0009 in the last days before death.



Figure 14: Telemetry data of IE\_0009 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**WE\_0026**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Hausbrunn\_03

**Species:** White-tailed eagle

**Birth date:** 18.04.2017

**Place of tagging:** Hausbrunn, Lower Austria, Austria

**Date of tagging:** 01.06.2017

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKI 81 - AAB 27 eagle

**Ring number:** BS0044

**Sex:** Probably Male

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Bezenye, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,934649, 17,2145830

**Date of bird crime :** 26.09.2017, 04:41:00 PM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 161

**Age at bird crime:** 1. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** TB Raab

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird found

**Carcass state:** Moderate

**Bird crime:** Poisoning

**Certainty category:** Certain

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab). A dead fox was also found on the field in some distance to the bird.

Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



Figure 15: Left: Discovery situation of the White-tailed eagle WE\_0026, which died on 26.09.2017, in Bezenye, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary. A dead fox was also found on the field in some distance to the bird. Right: Full-body photo of the White-tailed eagle WE\_0026. The bird was found lying dead on its back on a field. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (TB Raab)

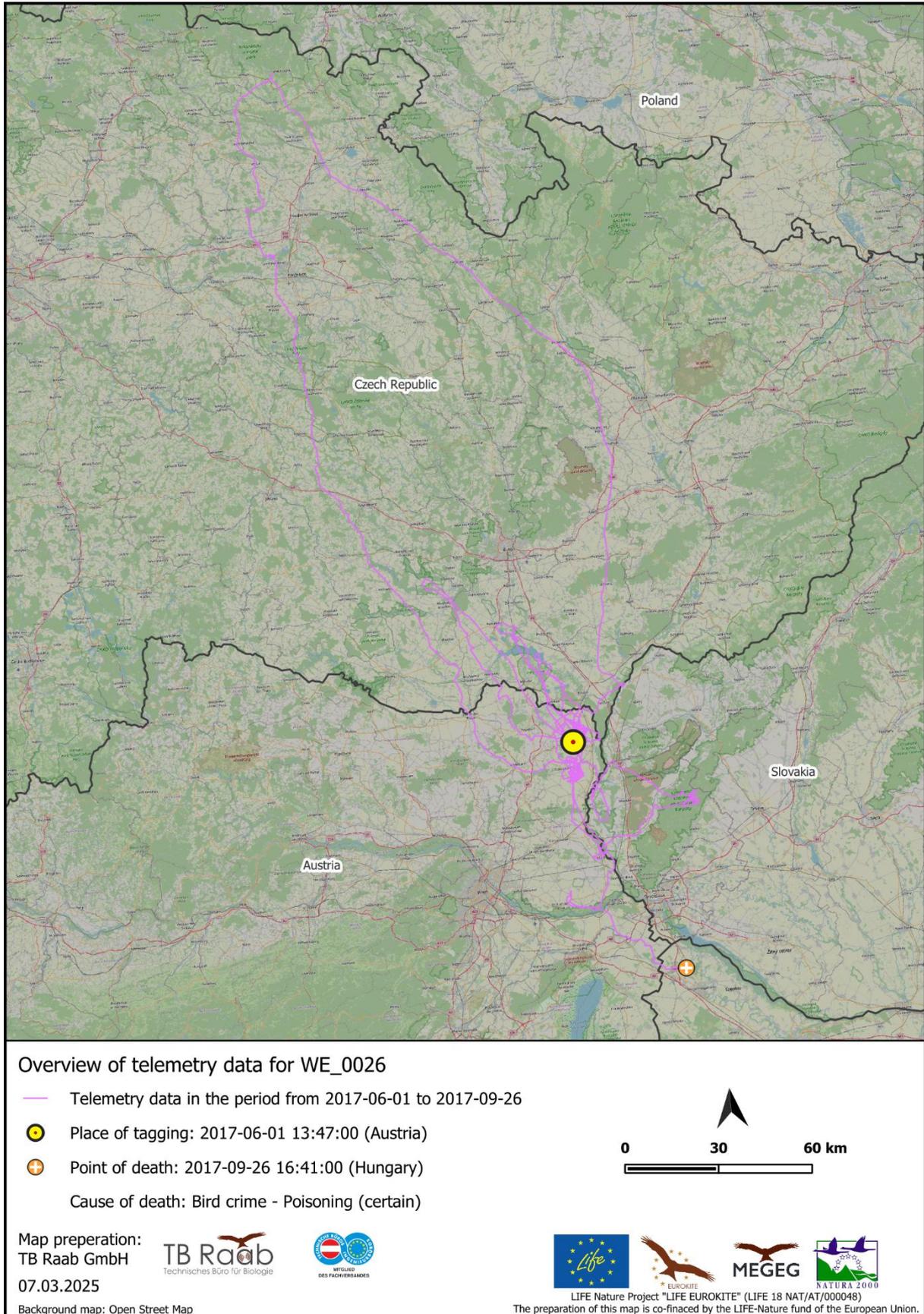


Figure 16: Overview of the telemetry data for WE\_0026.

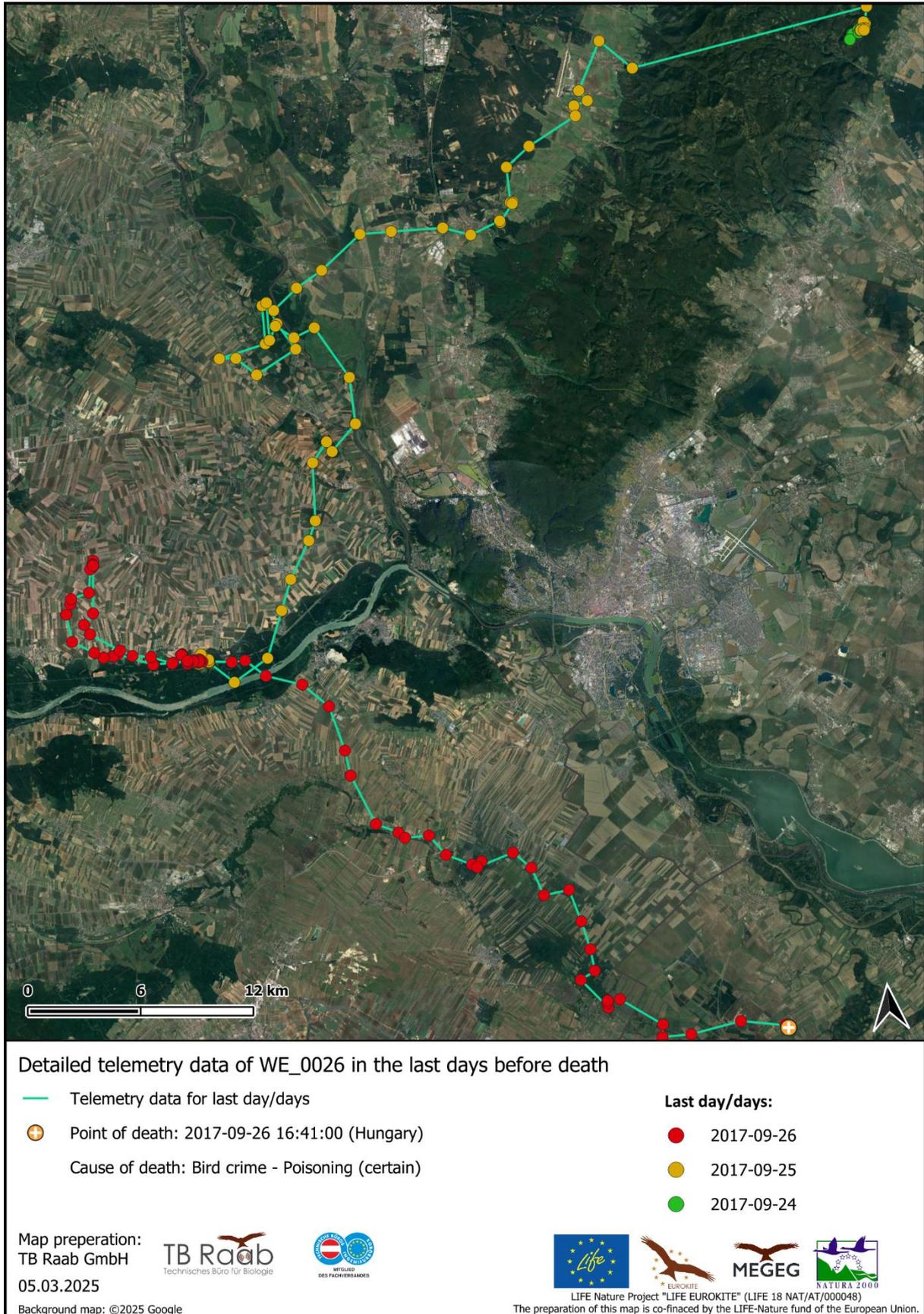


Figure 17: Detailed telemetry data of WE\_0026 in the last days before death.

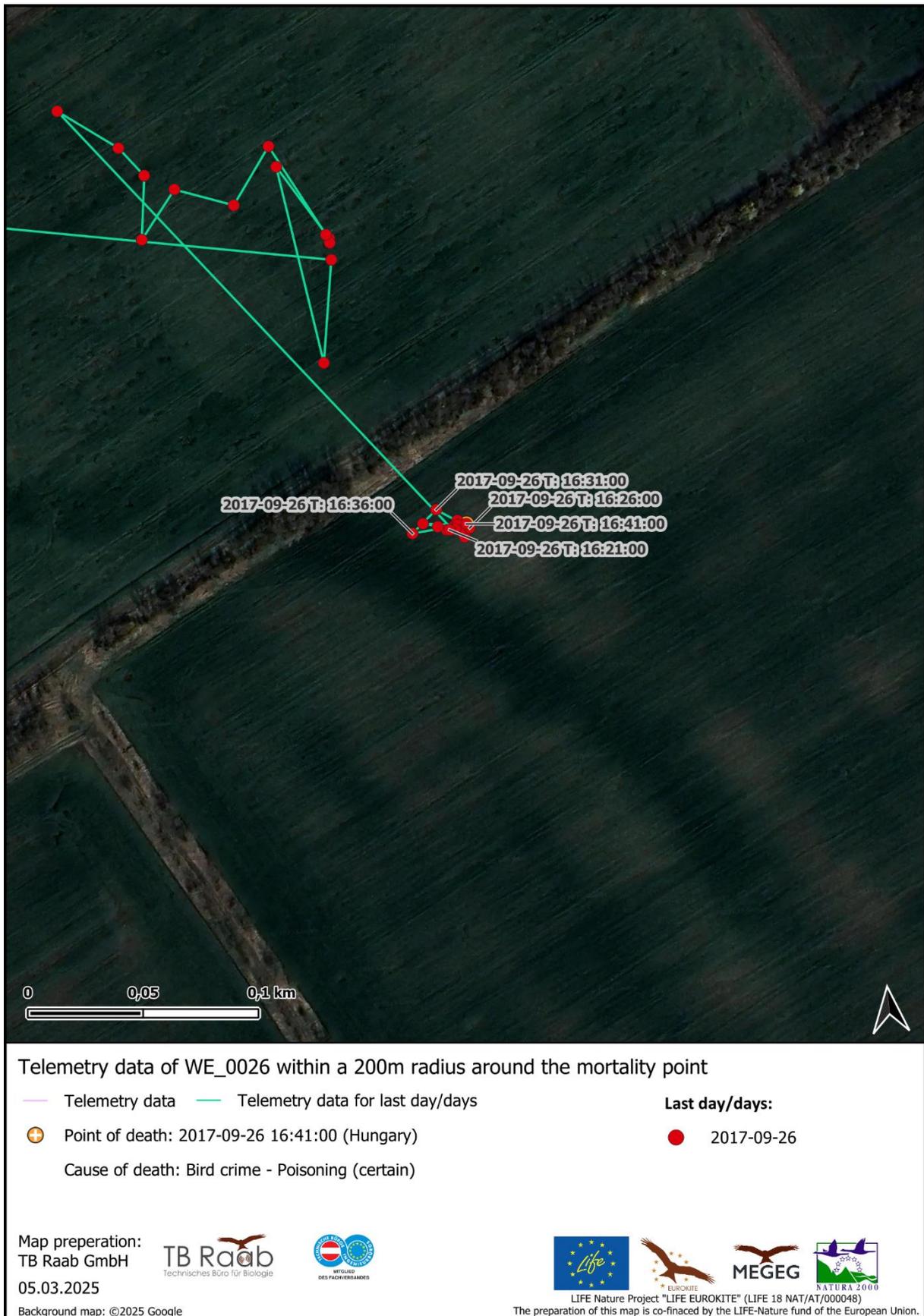


Figure 18: Telemetry data of WE\_0026 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**IE\_0005**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Rabatamasi\_02

**Species:** Imperial eagle

**Birth date:** 01.05.2016

**Place of tagging:** Rábatamási, Csorna, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 30.06.2016

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKI 58 – AAB 05 eagle

**Ring number:** AAA1316

**Sex:** No information

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Börcs, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,6710160, 17,4755660

**Date of bird crime :** 19.11.2017, 09:00:14 PM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 567

**Age at bird crime:** 2. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** No information received

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird not found

**Carcass state:** -

**Bird crime:** Poisoning

**Certainty category:** Probable

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab).

Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



*Figure 19: Surrounding in which the Imperial eagle IE\_0005 died on 19.11.2017, near Börcs, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive*

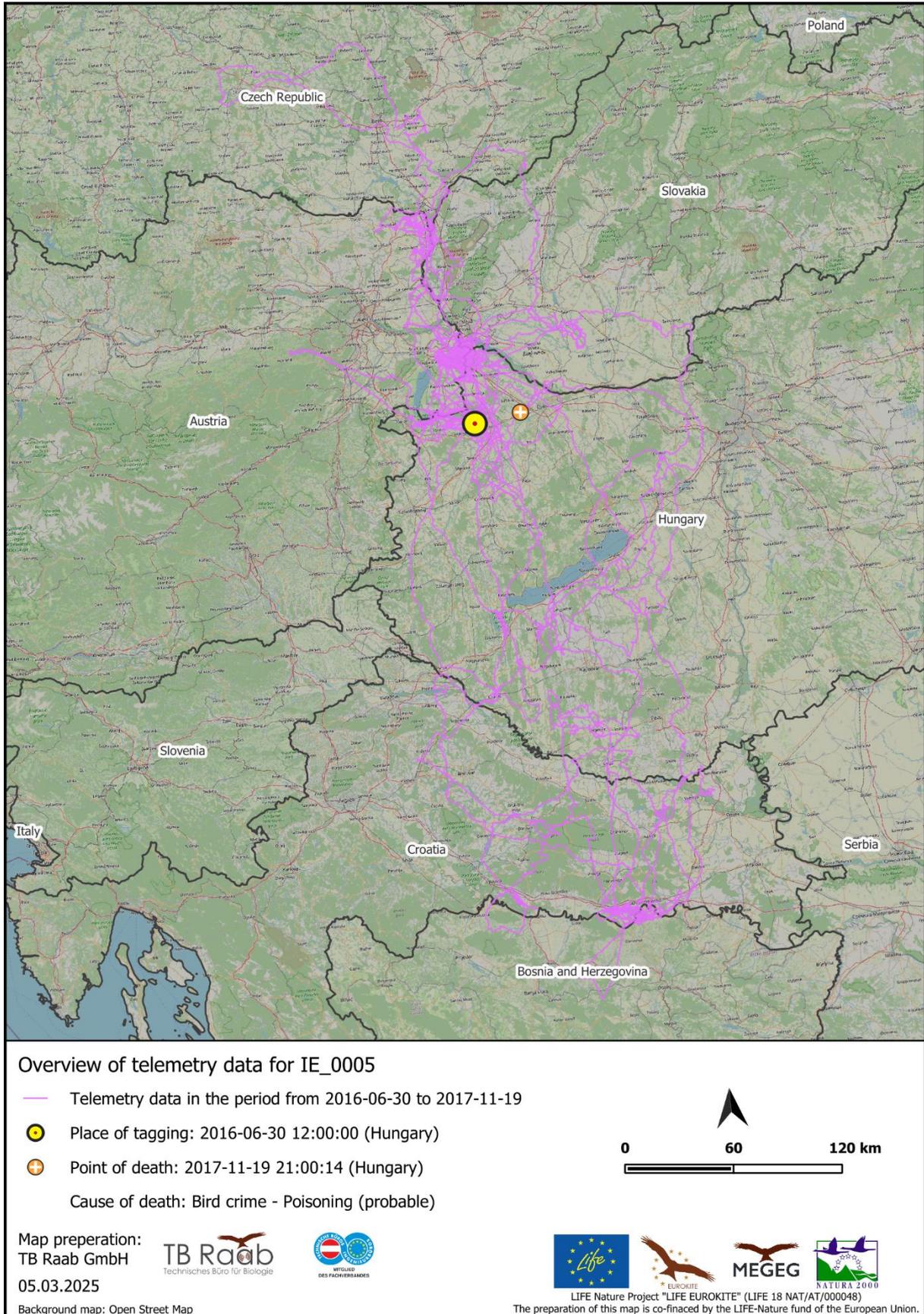


Figure 20: Overview of the telemetry data for IE\_0005.



Figure 21: Detailed telemetry data of IE\_0005 in the last days before death.

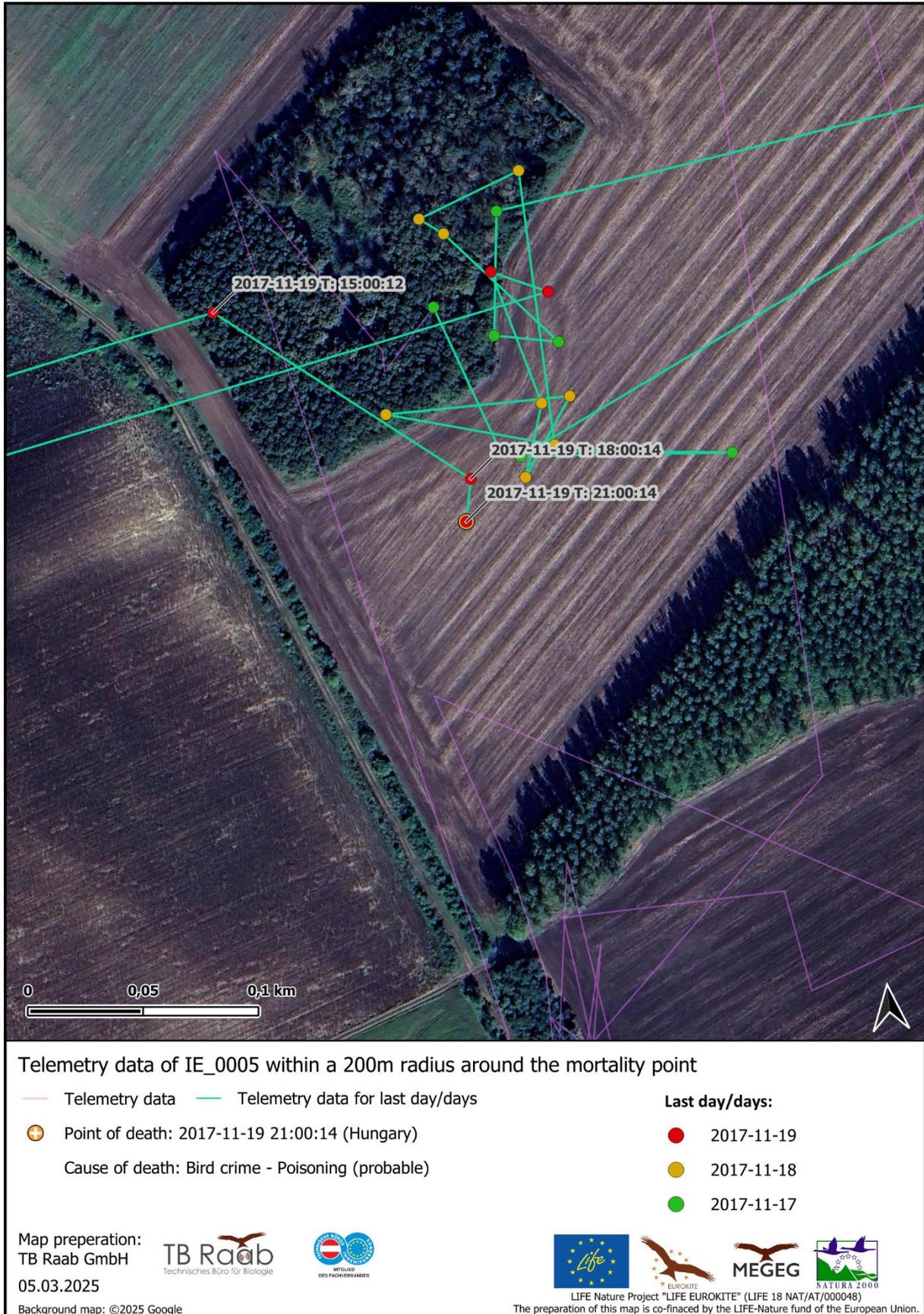


Figure 22: Telemetry data of IE\_0005 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**IE\_0033**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Turkedd\_01

**Species:** Imperial eagle

**Birth date:** 11.05.2018

**Place of tagging:** Túrkedd, Észak-Alföld, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 10.07.2018

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** Ornitela 026 - 181131 eagle

**Ring number:** AAA2333

**Sex:** Male

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Battonya, Dél-Alföld, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 46,2632260, 20,989891

**Date of bird crime :** 02.11.2018, 08:31:40 PM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 175

**Age at bird crime:** 1. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** Private Person

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird found

**Carcass state:** Good

**Bird crime:** Poisoning – Anticoagulants / Coumarin derivatives

**Certainty category:** Certain

**Additional information:** The laboratory confirm that the bird died due poisoning with Brodifacoum and Anticoagulants. The bird was lying on a hamster.

Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** Police informed → No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



Figure 23: Finding situation of the imperial eagle IE\_0033, which died on 02.11.2018, in Battonya, Dél-Alföld, Hungary.  
© LIFE EUROKITE Archive

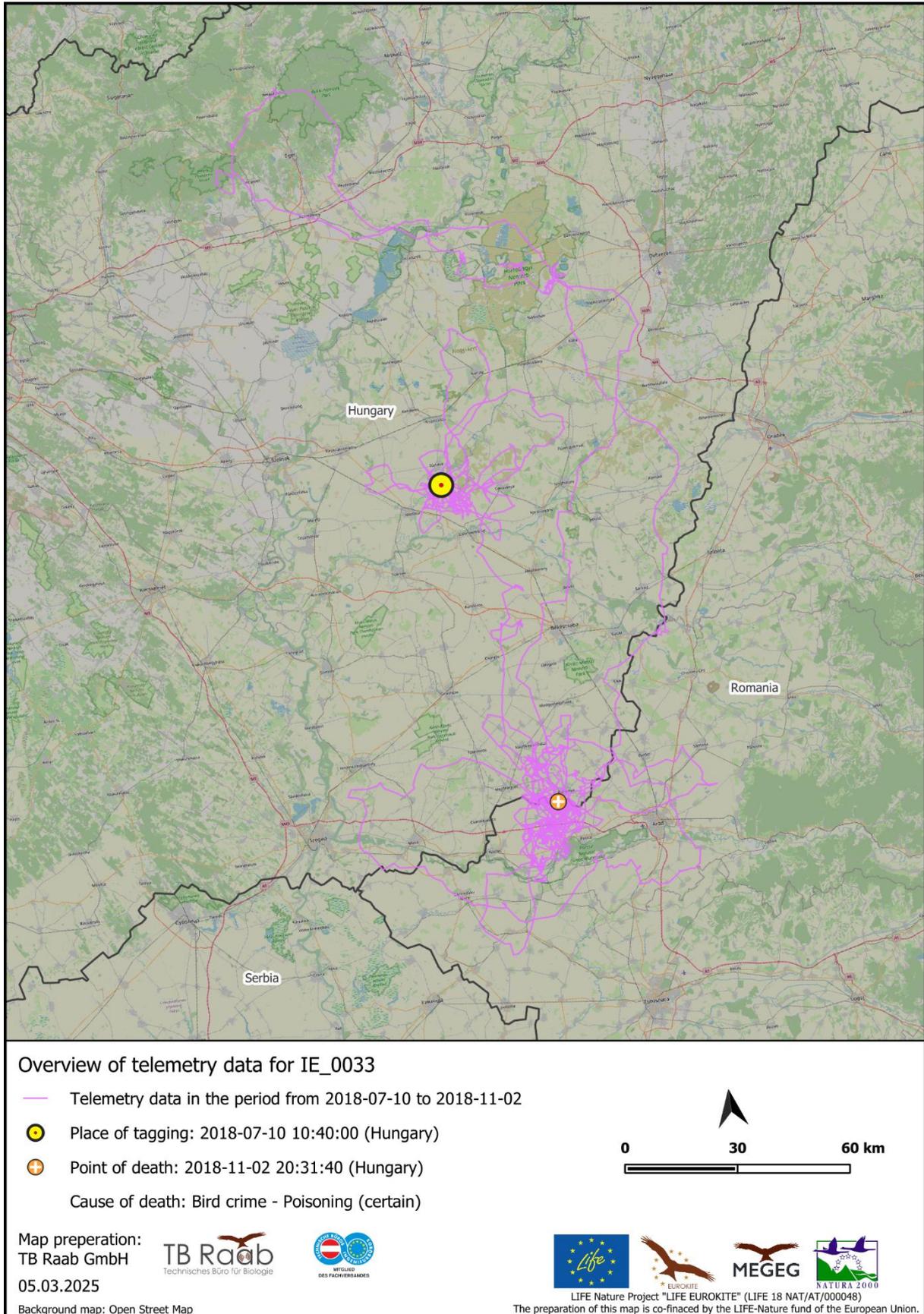


Figure 24: Overview of the telemetry data for IE\_0033.



Figure 25: Detailed telemetry data of IE\_0033 in the last days before death.

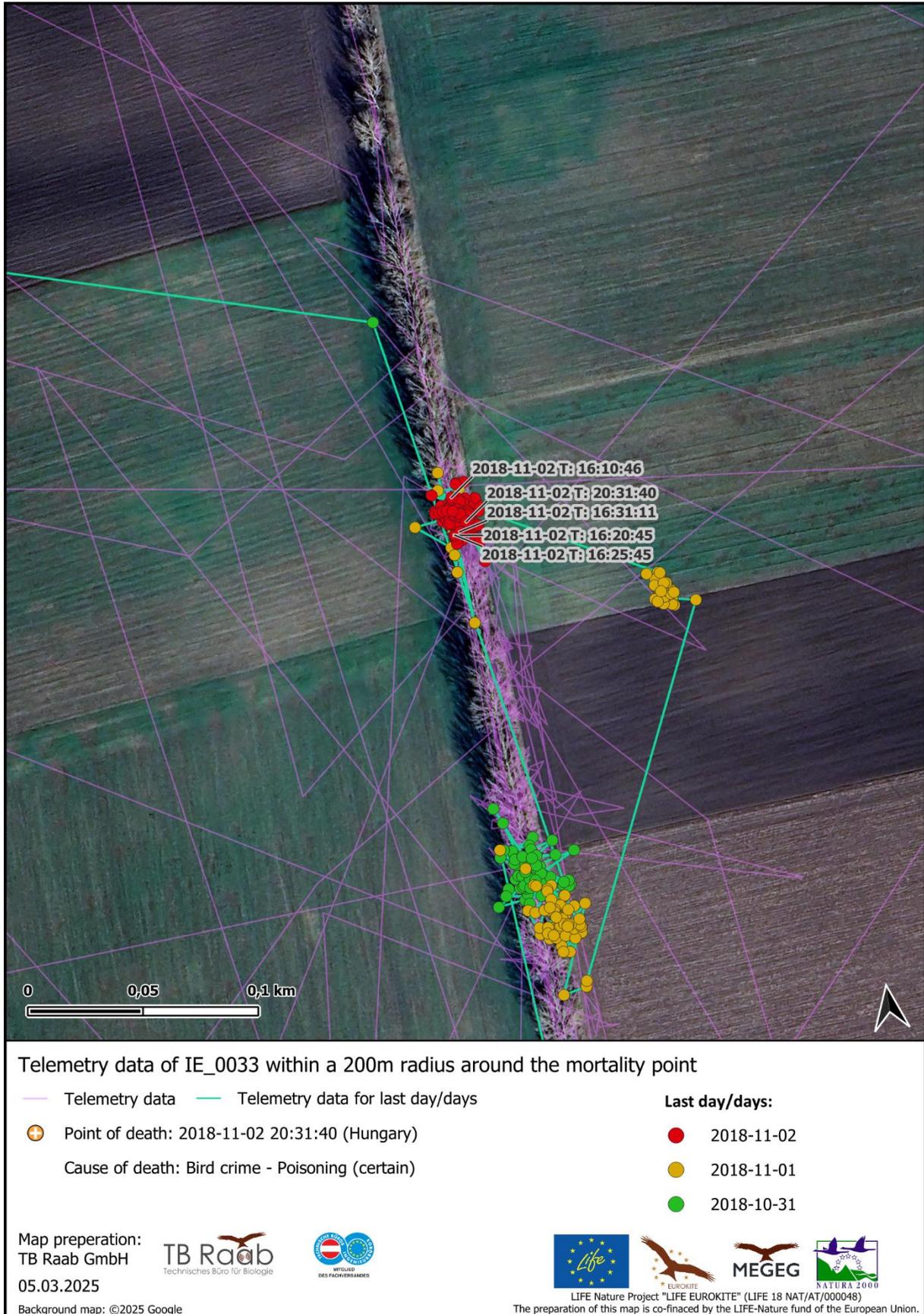


Figure 26: Telemetry data of IE\_0033 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**IE\_0050**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Jaszbereny\_02

**Species:** Imperial eagle

**Birth date:** 13.05.2019

**Place of tagging:** Mezőtúr, Észak-Alföld, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 29.12.2019

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** From rescue station

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** Ornitela 124 - 192128 eagle

**Ring number:** AAA2421

**Sex:** Probably Male

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Füzegyarmat, Dél-Alföld, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,1125339, 21,1663609

**Date of bird crime:** 23.05.2023, 02:10:31 AM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 1.471

**Age at bird crime:** 5. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** MME

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger and bird found

**Carcass state:** Bad

**Bird crime:** Poisoning

**Certainty category:** Possible

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (MME). The eagle ate poisoned rodents in Sárrétudvari and after died in Füzegyarmat. The poison was probably Brodifacoum, but unfortunately the lab could no longer detect it because the carcasses were highly decomposed. Where the bird used to stay, many dead rodents, voles and rabbits, were found.

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Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No

**Police and/or authority investigation:** Police and authority not informed

**Legal proceeding:** No

**Conviction:** No

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

Police and authority not informed

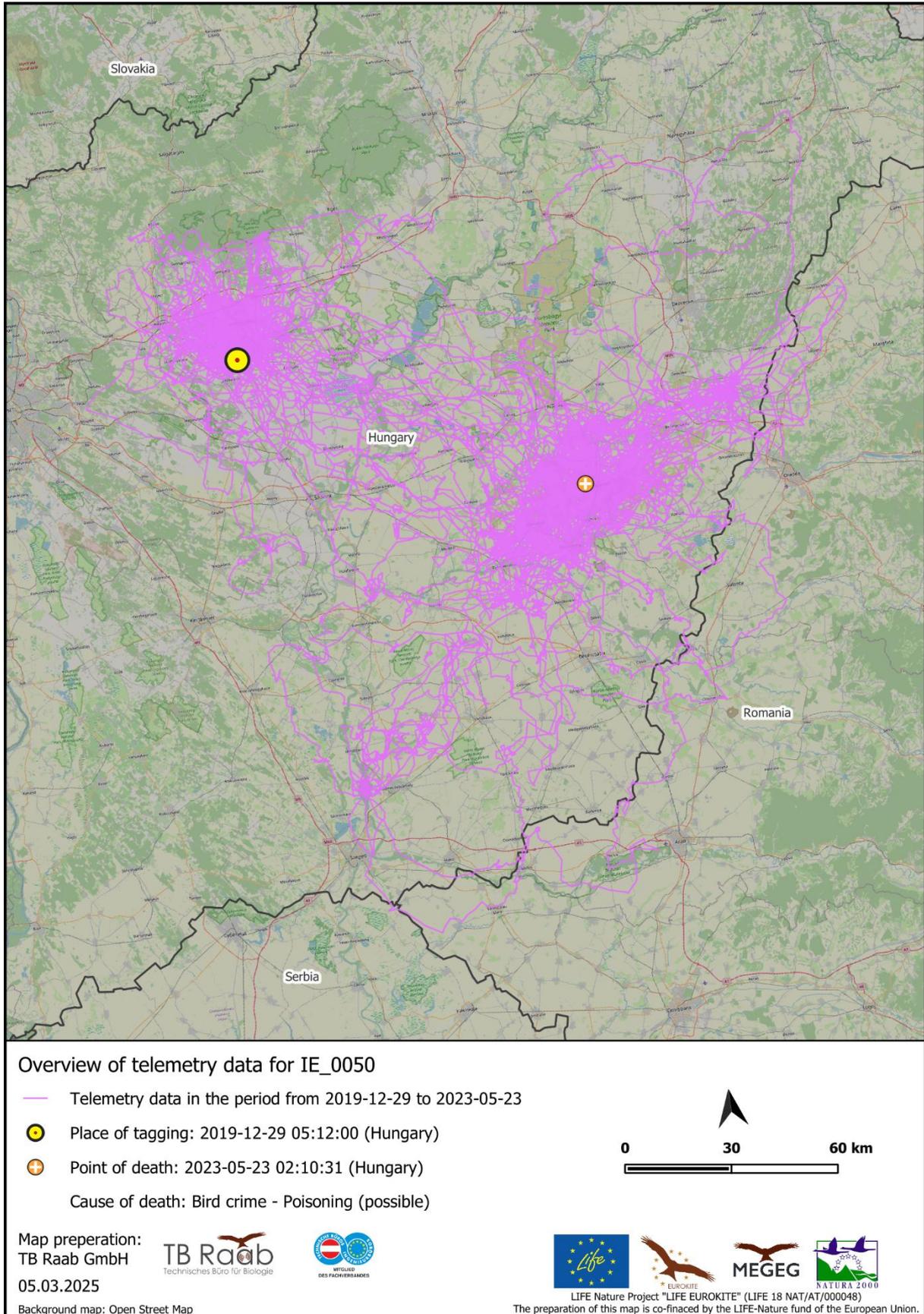


Figure 27: Overview of the telemetry data for IE\_0050.



Figure 28: Detailed telemetry data of IE\_0050 in the last days before death.

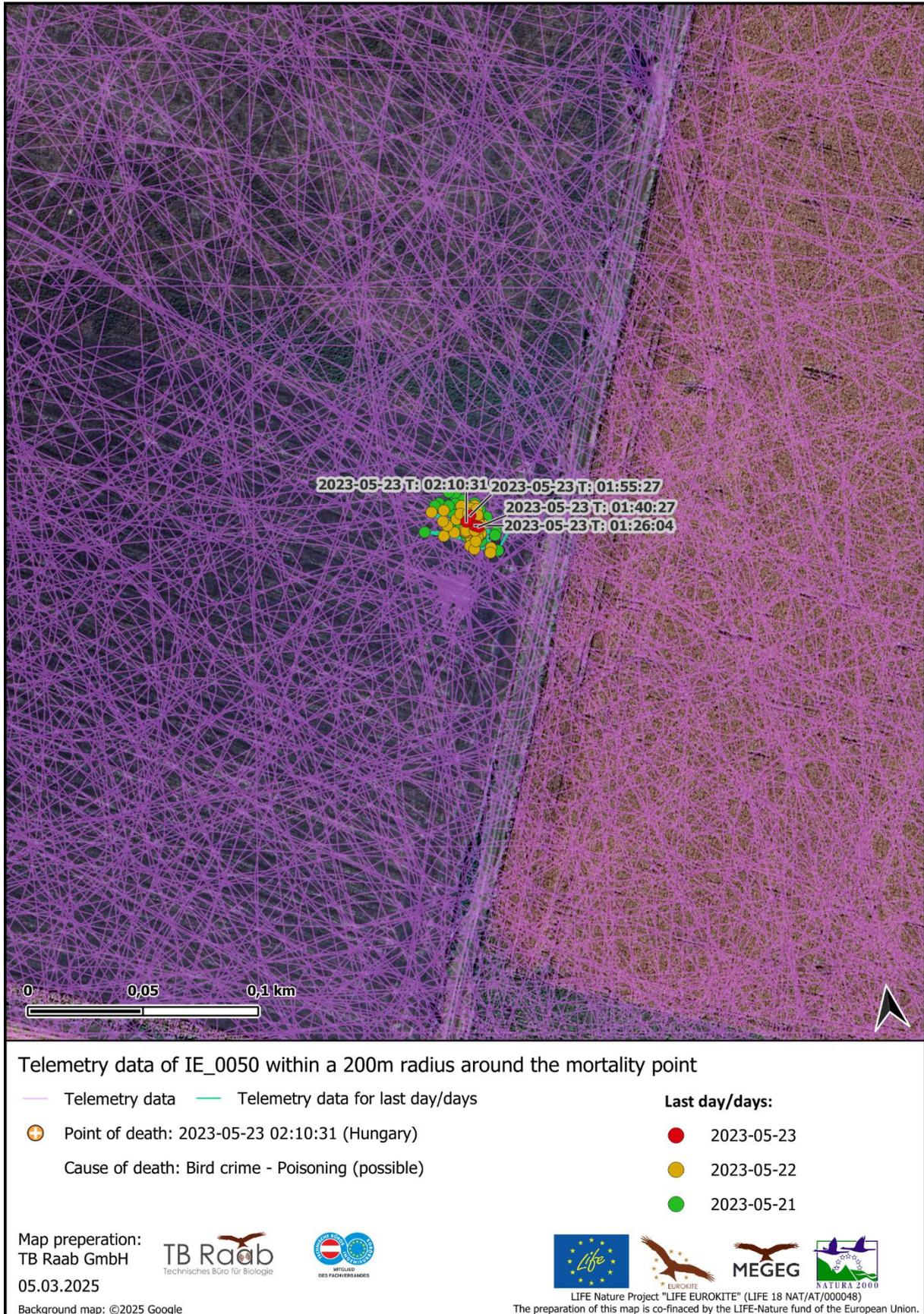


Figure 29: Telemetry data of IE\_0050 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

## 3.2 Tagged individuals that have been shot

The birds are listed in chronological order by date of bird crime, commencing with the first recorded case.

### **RK\_0212**

#### General information about the bird

**Name:** Hohenau\_01

**Species:** Red kite

**Birth date:** 03.05.2018

**Place of tagging:** Ringelsdorf-Niederabsdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

**Date of tagging:** 25.06.2018

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile. from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKI 48 - AAA 16 kite

**Ring number:** JC75475

**Sex:** Male

#### Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Szentdénés, Dél-Dunántúl, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 45,9900670, 17,9298329

**Date of bird crime:** 04.11.2018, 01:03:00 PM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 185

**Age at bird crime:** 1. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** Private person

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger found, and bird not found

**Carcass state:** -

**Bird crime:** Shooting

**Certainty category:** Certain

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab). The Logger was found in the immediate vicinity of the Okor-channel. The harness was cut off.

Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



Figure 30: Logger of the red kite RK\_0212, which died on 04.11.2018, in Szentdénés, Dél-Dunántúl, Hungary, found with a cut harness. © LIFE UEROKITE Archive (Dénes Laczik)

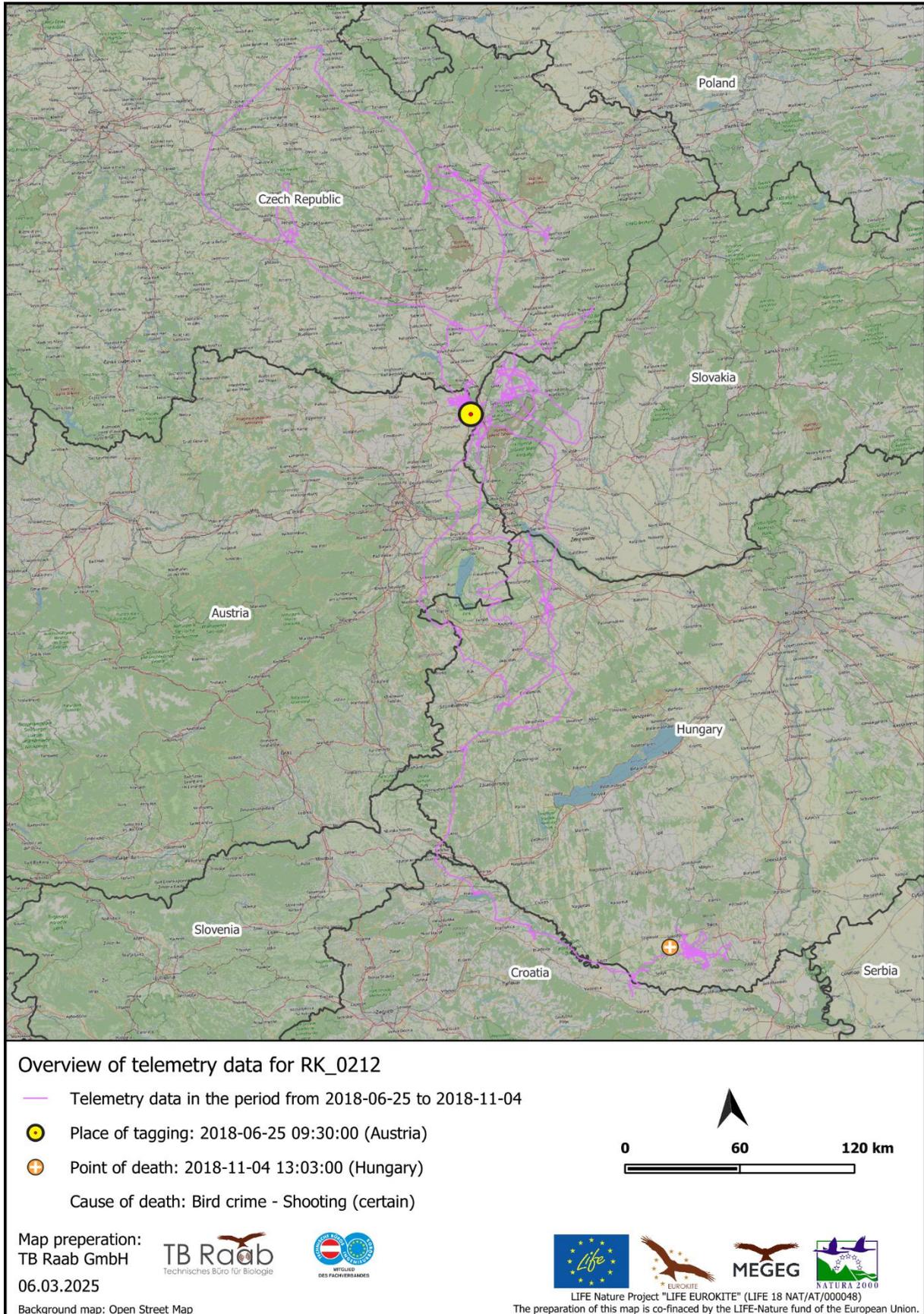


Figure 31: Overview of the telemetry data for RK\_0212.



Figure 32: Detailed telemetry data of RK\_0212 in the last days before death.

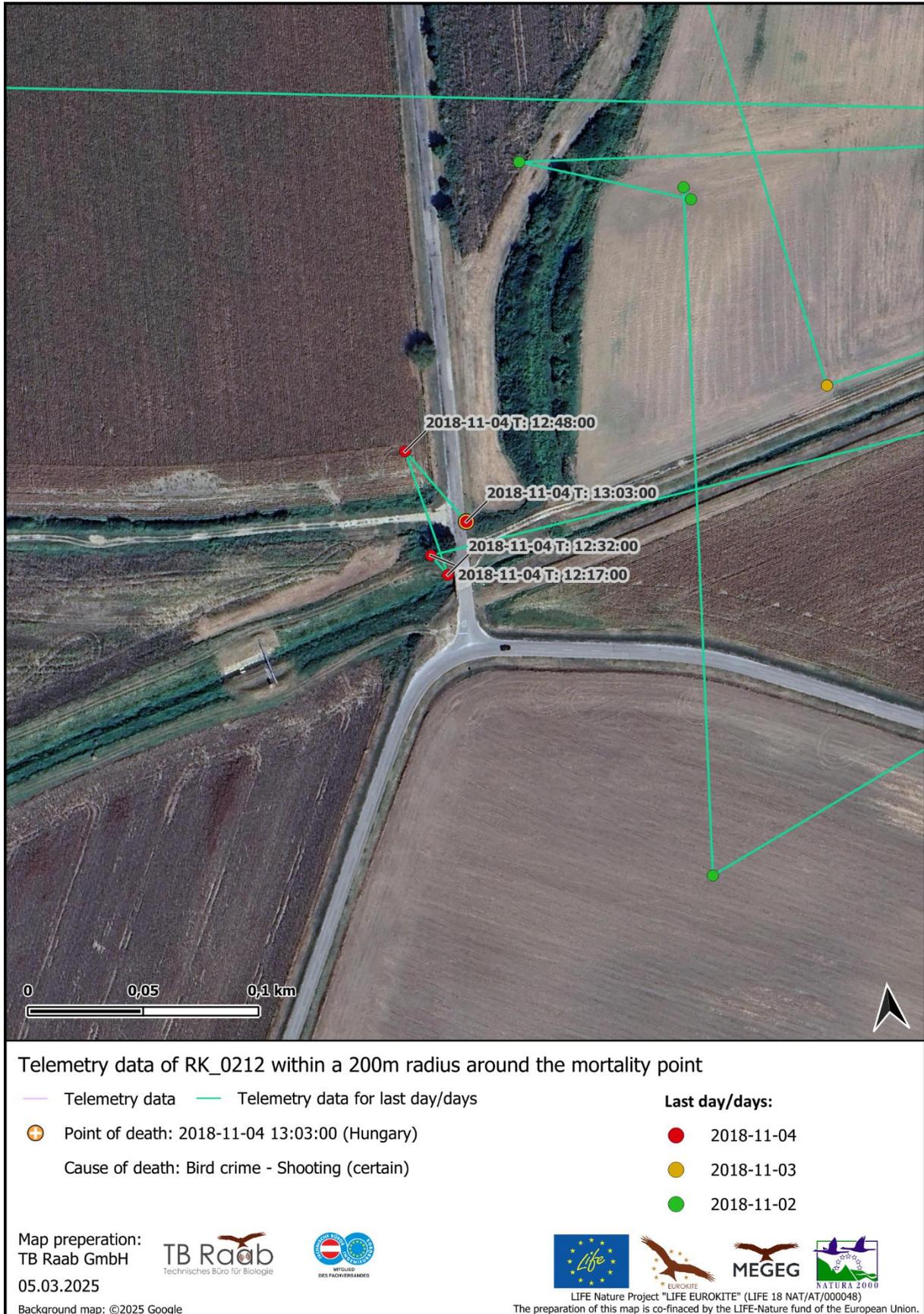


Figure 33: Telemetry data of RK\_0212 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

**WE\_0028**

General information about the bird

**Name:** Rackeve\_01

**Species:** White-tailed eagle

**Birth date:** 06.04.2018

**Place of tagging:** Ráckeve, Pest, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 18.05.2018

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** Ornitela 010 - 181115 eagle

**Ring number:** HO624

**Sex:** Probably Male

Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Szeged, Dél-Alföld, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 46,3438030, 20,1524010

**Date of bird crime:** 19.01.2019, 10:41:23 AM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 288

**Age at bird crime:** 2. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** Private person

**Logger and/or bird found:** Bird found, no information about the logger

**Carcass state:** No information received

**Bird crime:** Shooting

**Certainty category:** Probable

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (TB Raab). The bird had a wing injury and was transferred to Szeged Zoo.

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Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received

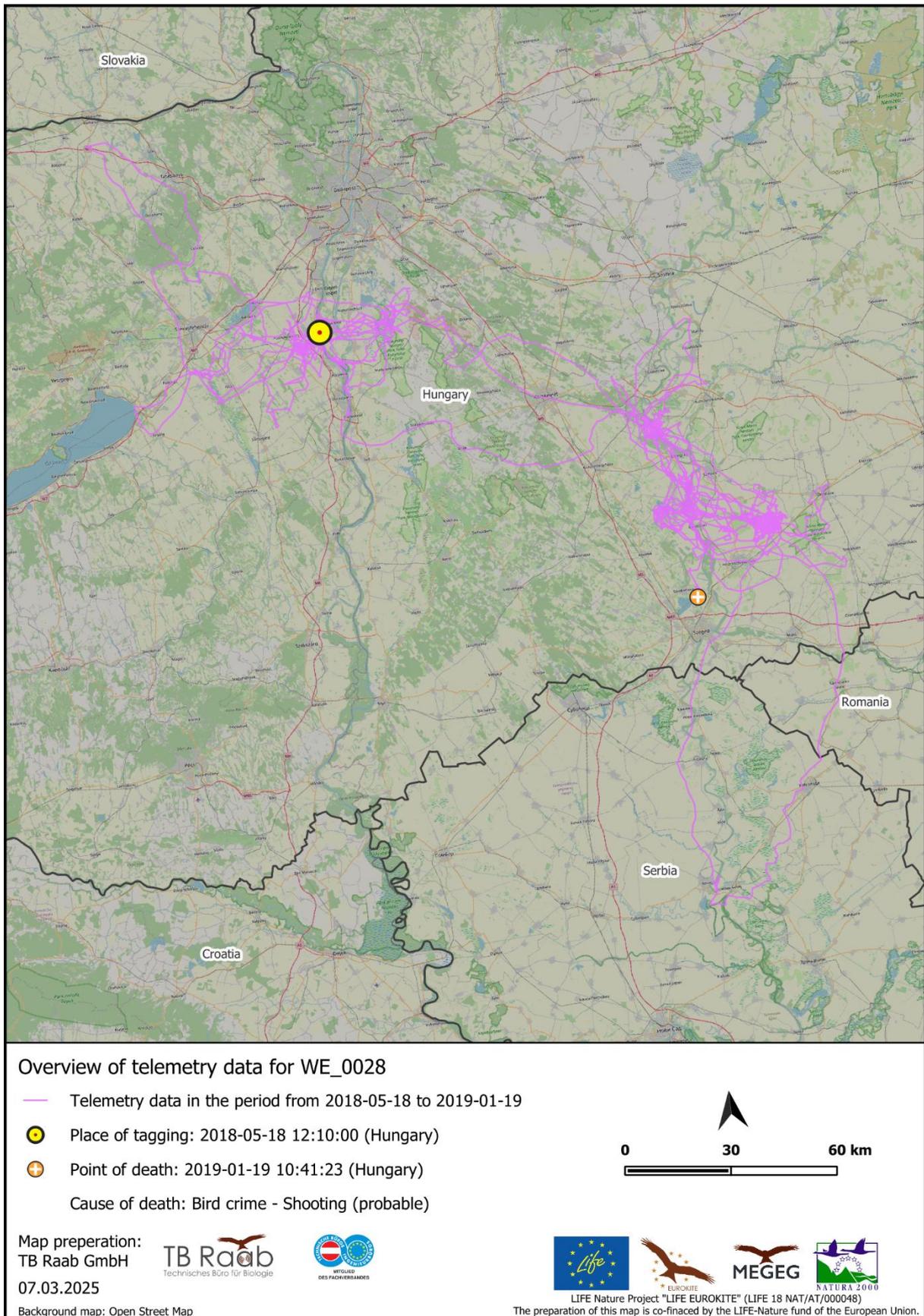


Figure 34: Overview of the telemetry data for WE\_0028.



Figure 35: Detailed telemetry data of WE\_0028 in the last days before death.

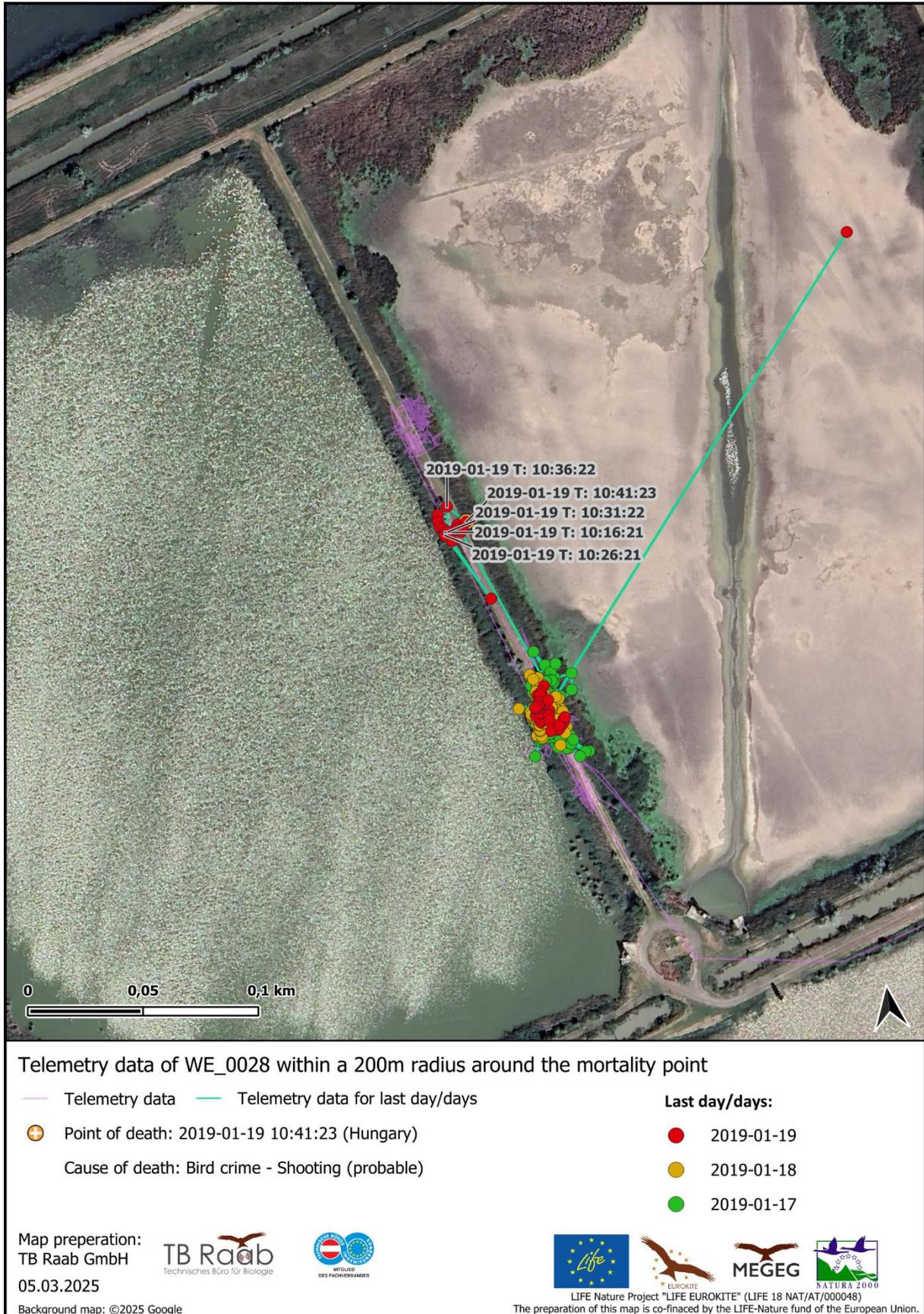


Figure 36: Telemetry data of WE\_0028 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

### 3.3 Tagged individuals that have been trapped

The birds are listed in chronological order by date of bird crime, commencing with the first recorded case.

#### **WE\_0015**

##### General information about the bird

**Name:** Dabas\_01

**Species:** White-tailed eagle

**Birth date:** 01.04.2017

**Place of tagging:** Dabas, Pest, Hungary

**Date of tagging:** 17.05.2017

**Age at tagging:** 1. CY

**Origin of bird:** Juvenile from nest

**Ownership category:** E\_TBRAAB\_1

**Logger number:** AUKO 10 - AAE10 eagle

**Ring number:** H0581

**Sex:** Probably Female

##### Bird crime information

**Place of bird crime:** Bugyi, Pest, Hungary

**Coordinates:** 47,187350, 19,1256169

**Date of bird crime:** 10.04.2018, 02:37:00 PM (UTC)

**Age at bird crime (Days):** 374

**Age at bird crime:** 2. CY

**Responsible organization for the investigation:** Kiskunsági Nemzeti Park

**Logger and/or bird found:** Logger found and bird not found

**Carcass state:** -

**Bird crime:** Trapping

**Certainty category:** Certain

**Additional information:** Expert assessment (Kiskunsági Nemzeti Park). Logger was thrown into a lake.

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Investigation information

**Last editing:** 08.01.2025

**Investigation:** No information received

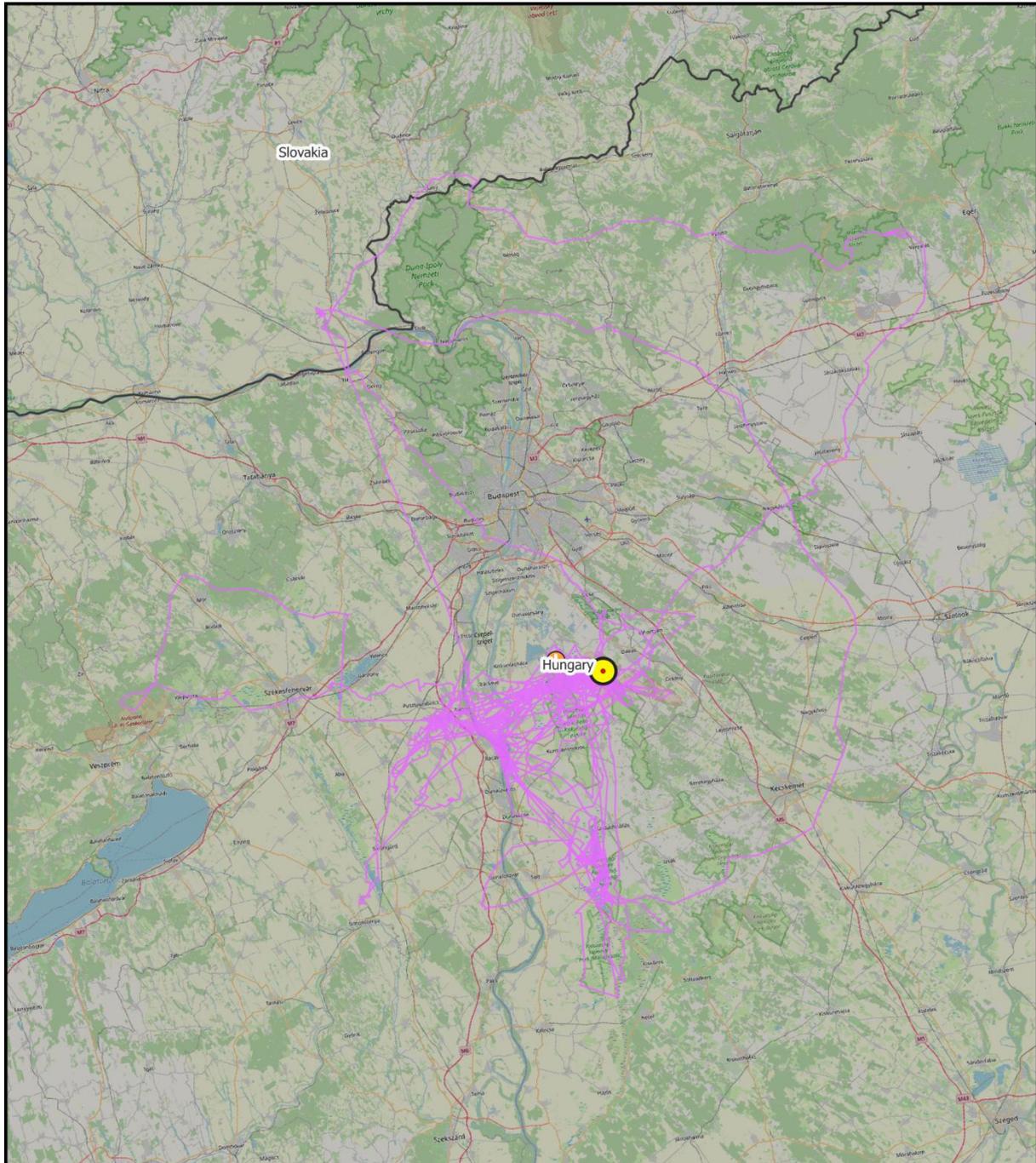
**Police and/or authority investigation:** No information received

**Legal proceeding:** No information received

**Conviction:** No information received

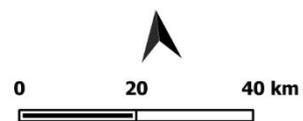
**If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?**

No information received



Overview of telemetry data for WE\_0015

- Telemetry data in the period from 2017-05-17 to 2018-04-10
  - Place of tagging: 2017-05-17 09:50:00 (Hungary)
  - ⊕ Point of death: 2018-04-10 14:37:00 (Hungary)
- Cause of death: Bird crime - Trapping (certain)



Map preparation:  
TB Raab GmbH  
07.03.2025



LIFE Nature Project "LIFE EUKITE" (LIFE 18 NAT/AT/000048)  
The preparation of this map is co-financed by the LIFE-Nature fund of the European Union.

Figure 37: Overview of the telemetry data for WE\_0015.



Figure 38: Detailed telemetry data of WE\_0015 in the last days before death.

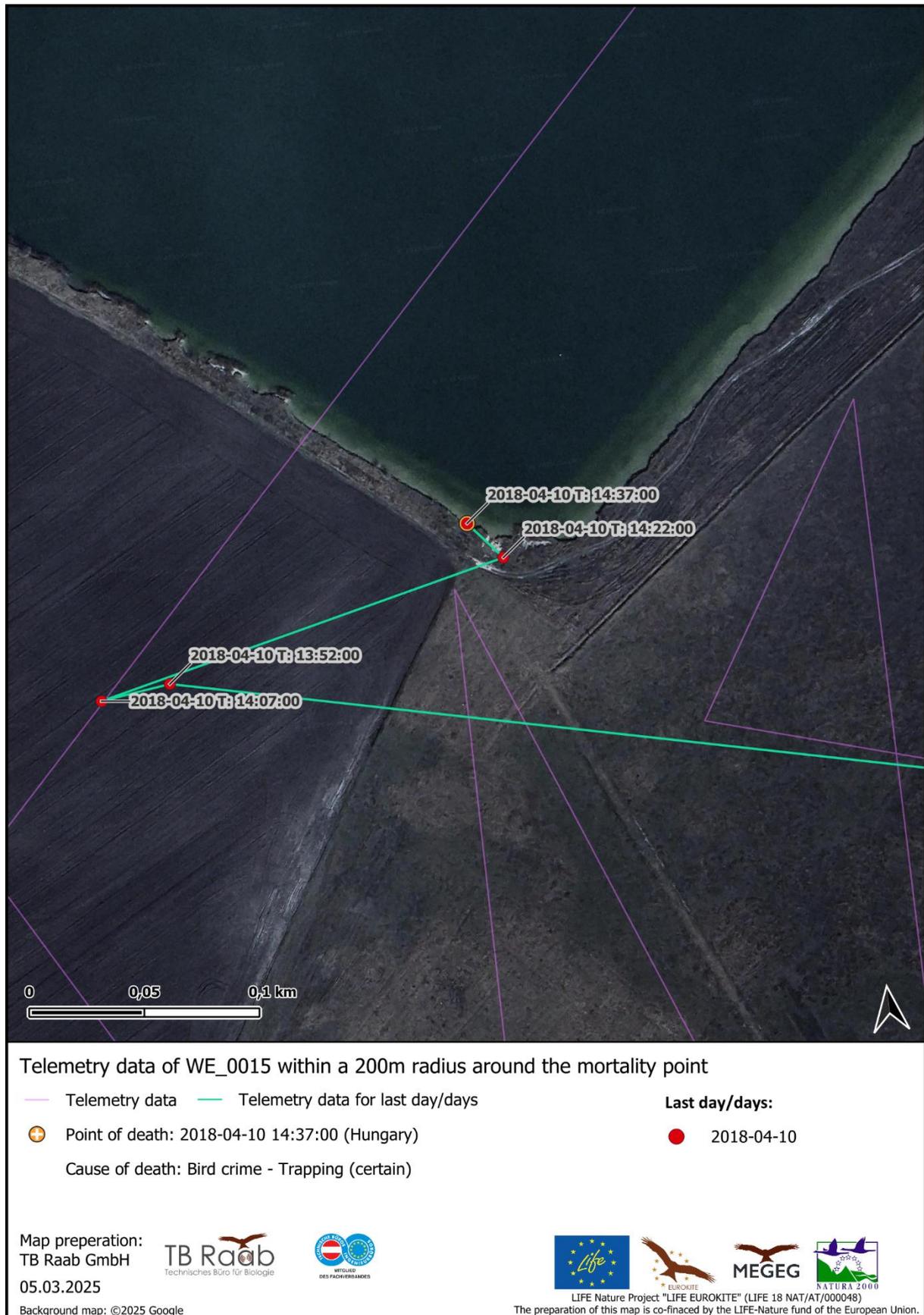


Figure 39: Telemetry data of WE\_0015 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

### 3.4 Summary of the Hungarian results

Please note, that due to different number of tagged birds per countries and especially the different density of red kites per country the results can differ significant per country. Therefore, these results do not provide any information about the statistical frequencies of illegal activities in the respective country.

The interim results of the LIFE EUROKITE (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) project 2020-2024 with additional results from 2013 onwards show, that a total of 25 tagged raptors died in Hungary. Of those, 9 individuals (2 red kites, 4 imperial eagles and 3 white-tailed eagles) died due to illegal activities. Most of the tagged individuals (6) died due to poisoning, followed by shooting (2) and trapping (1) (Table 1 to Table 2 & Figure 43).

Table 1: Overview of the numbers of tagged birds which died due to bird crime in Hungary.

Mortality reason	Imperial eagle	White tailed eagle	Red kite	Total
Bird crime - Shooting	-	1	1	2
Bird crime - Trapping	-	1	-	1
Bird crime - Poisoning	4	1	1	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>

Table 2: Overview of the districts where tagged birds died due to bird crime in Hungary.

Federal State	Bird crime - Shooting	Bird crime - Trapping	Bird crime - Poisoning	Total
Southern Great Plain (Dél-Alföld)	1	-	2	3
Southern Transdanubi (Dél-Dunántúl)	1	-	-	1
Northern Great Plain (Észak-Alföld)	-	-	1	1
Central Transdanubia (Közép-Dunántúl)	-	-	1	1
Western Transdanubia (Nyugat-Dunántúl)	-	-	2	2
Pest County (Pest)	-	1	-	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>

### Detected substance

Toxicological analysis was available for 1 out of 6 poisoned birds. The remaining 5 birds were either not analysed, or the detected substance was categorised as unknown. The analysis revealed the presence of the active substance Brodifacoum, which is a rodenticide (Figure 40).

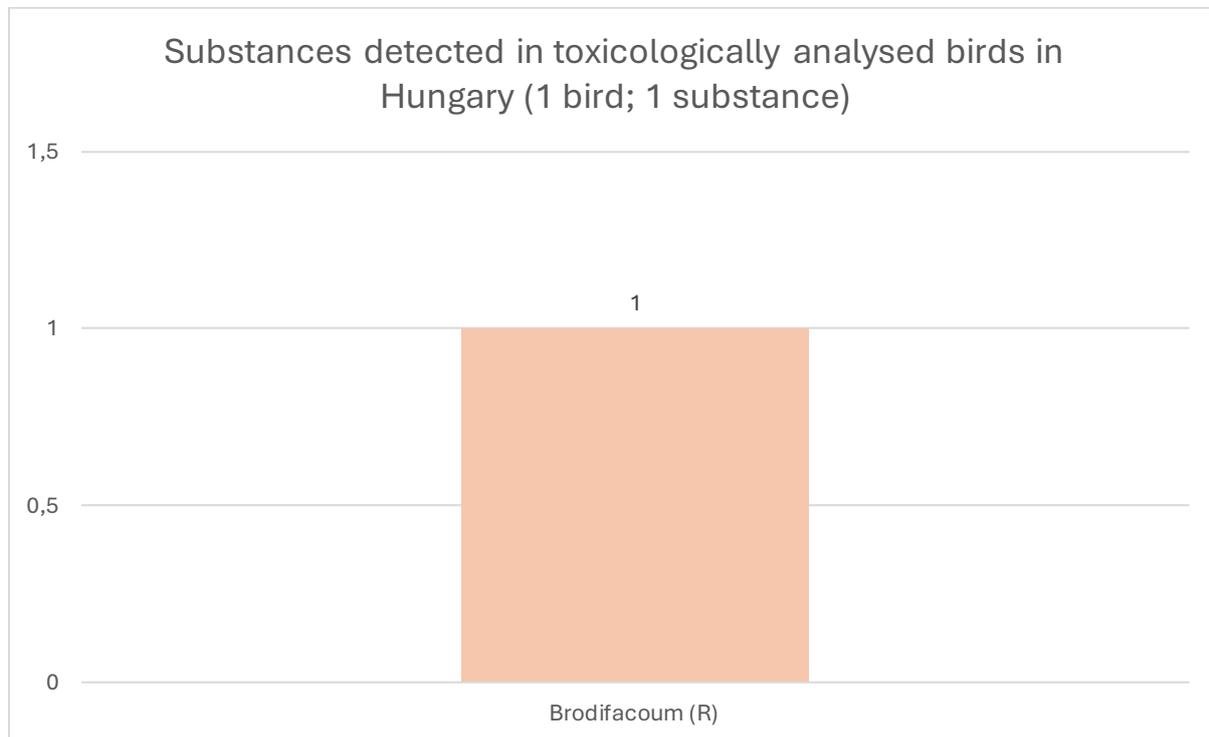


Figure 40: Substance detected (1 substance) in poisoned birds (1 toxicologically analysed birds with detected substance). In total, 6 birds were classified as poisoned based on field evidence and GPS data. Toxicological analysis was available for 1 individual. The detected substance is classified into the following chemical groups: (R) rodenticides.

Under Regulation (EU) 528/2012 (BPR), the detected rodenticide (Brodifacoum) is approved as active substance, even though they are strictly regulated (European Parliament and Council of the European Union, 2012).

### Substances confirmed as lethal

Toxicological analyses confirmed the presence of toxic substances in 1 bird, whereas in 5 cases poisoning was suspected but the responsible substance remained unknown. The toxicological analysis reveals that the bird is confirmed to have died as a result of poisoning, with toxicological threshold values enabling the lethal substance to be clearly identified. The bird is confirmed to have died from rodenticide exposure (Figure 41).

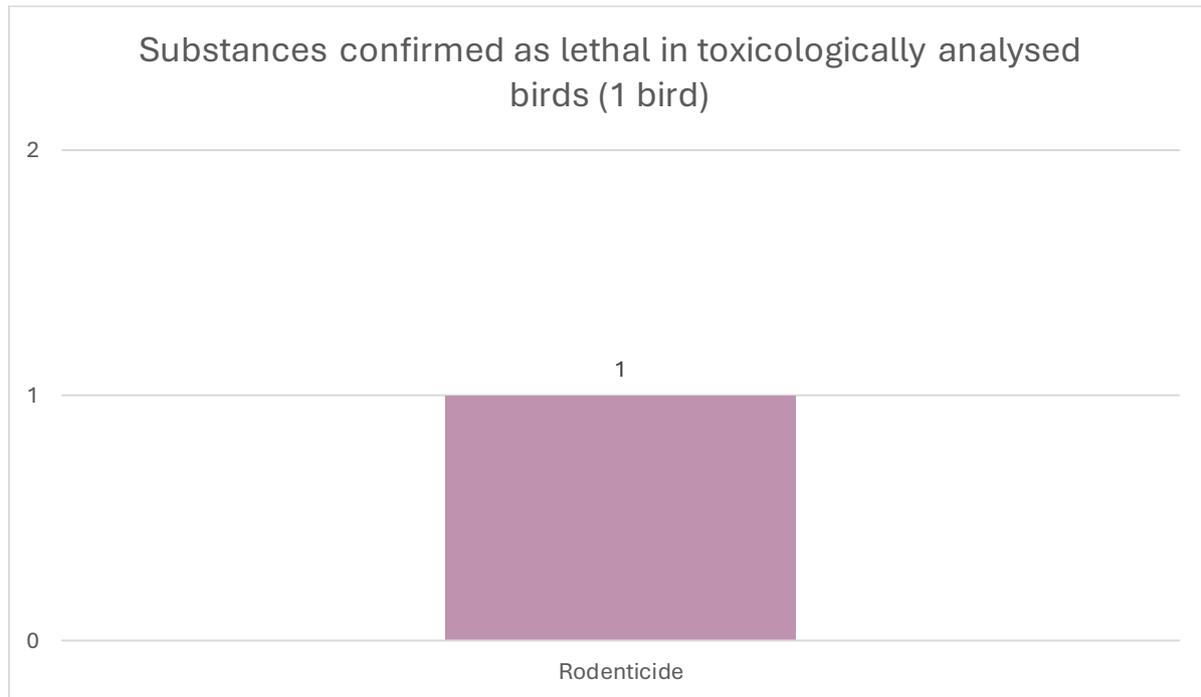


Figure 41: Toxicological analysis was available for 1 bird, which was confirmed to have died as a result of poisoning, with toxicological threshold values enabling the lethal substance to be clearly identified.

### Assessment of intentional poisoning

Poisoning cases were evaluated using toxicological findings together with field observations. Birds were classified as intentionally poisoned when evidence clearly indicated deliberate poisoning, such as detection of substances banned in the European Union, discovery of poisoned bait near the carcass, the presence of multiple dead birds at the same site or when the perpetrator had been identified. When available evidence did not allow a clear determination of intentional poisoning, cases were classified as undefined. This group includes birds exposed to substances that are legally permitted in the EU (e.g. rodenticides, metaldehyde or cadmium), cases of secondary poisoning, birds recovered from landfill sites, and birds without toxicological examination. It also covers cases in which a detected substance was banned at the time of analysis but remained legally authorised when the poisoning event occurred. Overall, all the poisoned birds were classified as cases with undefined intent.

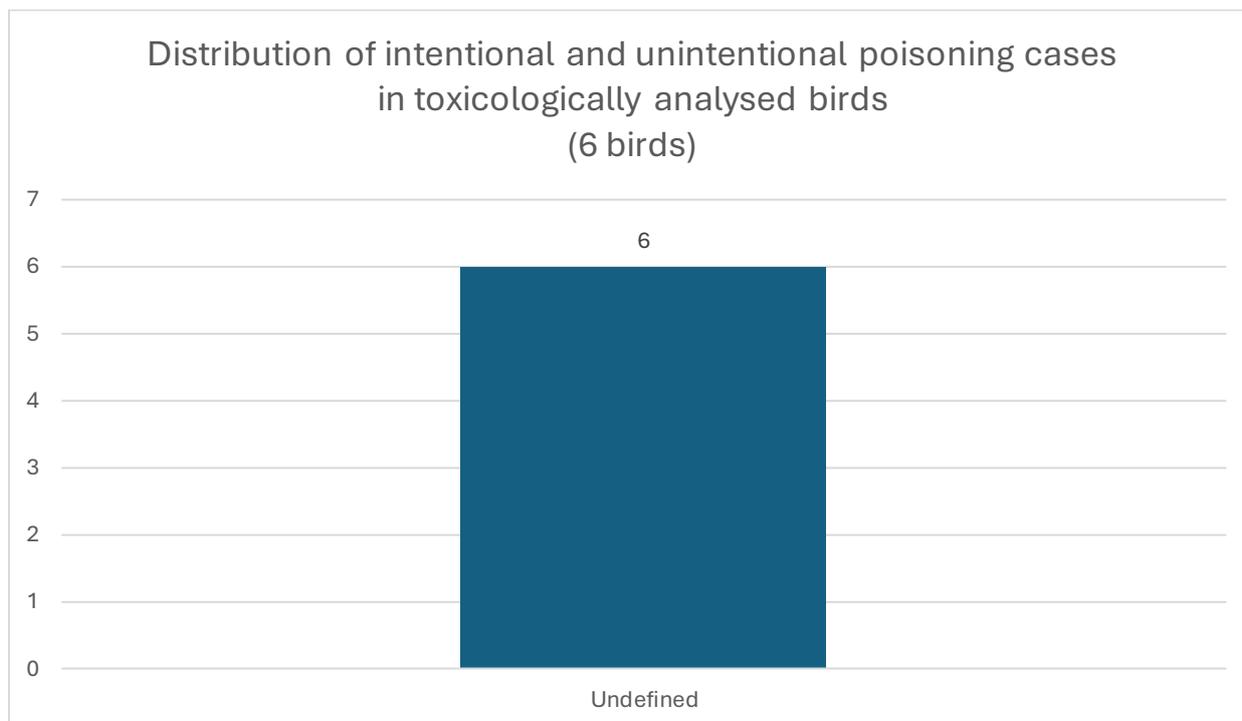


Figure 42: Number of poisoned birds classified as confirmed intentional poisoning or as cases with undetermined intent. Confirmed intentional poisoning includes cases involving toxic substances prohibited in the European Union, the presence of poisoned bait, multiple birds found dead at the same site or instances where the perpetrator has been identified. Cases with undetermined intent include birds exposed to legally permitted substances, secondary poisoning, landfill-related cases, or birds without toxicological analysis. Of the 6 poisoned birds in Hungary, all were classified as cases with undetermined intent.

### Results of the investigation

In 1 case, neither the police nor an authority were informed. In 1 case, the police were informed, while for 7 cases, no information was received regarding the police investigation (Table 3).

Table 3: Overview of Hungarian reporting of bird crimes to the police/authorities

Reporting to the police/authority	
Neither police nor authority informed	1
Police informed	1
No information received	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

Regarding the investigations, in 1 case, no investigation took place. For 8 cases, no information was received regarding the status of the investigation. In terms of legal proceeding, in 1 case, no legal proceedings occurred. For 8 cases, no information was received regarding the status of the legal proceedings (Table 4).

Table 4: Overview of the status of Hungarian investigation and prosecution measures for bird crime

	Investigation status	Prosecution status
No investigation/prosecution Completed	1	1
Completed	-	-
No information received	8	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>

In terms of conviction, in 1 case, no conviction occurred. For 8 cases, no information was received regarding the conviction status (Table 5).

Table 5: Overview of the conviction status

Conviction	
No conviction	1
Convicted	-
No information received	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>

In the case where no conviction occurred, neither the police nor an authority were informed, which may have impacted the legal process. For 8 cases, no information was available regarding the reason for the lack of conviction (Table 6).

Table 6: Overview of the reasons, why there was no conviction of the bird crimes

Reason for no conviction	
Neither police nor authority informed	1
No information received	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>



## 4 References

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# 5 List of tagged individuals which died in Hungary

## Imperial eagle

IE_0009 .....	16
IE_0005 .....	26
IE_0033 .....	31
IE_0050 .....	36

## Red kite

RK_0004 .....	11
RK_0212 .....	41

## White-tailed eagle

WE_0026 .....	21
WE_0028 .....	46
WE_0015 .....	51



**CPEW**  
Campaign against the illegal poisoning of European Wildlife

**POISONING  
IS THE DIFFERENCE.**

**THESE CRIMES MUST STOP.  
SIGN OUR PETITION NOW.**

<https://chng.it/zCZhxGhQSy>

[www.stopwildlifepoisoning.eu](http://www.stopwildlifepoisoning.eu)

Coordinating beneficiary



The TB Raab GmbH was commissioned to implement the LIFE EUROKITE project after a pan-European public tender.



Project partner (Associated Beneficiary)



Co-financier



This project is co-financed by the LIFE Nature Programme of the European Union



Cooperation partner



 This project is co-financed by the LIFE Nature Programme of the European Union 