



LIFE EUROKITE CRIME REPORT

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

PART 17 - COUNTRY SPECIFIC RESULTS - SLOVAKIA

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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Deutsch-Wagram, Austria, 24.02.2026

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



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Project: LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048 – LIFE EUROKITE



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

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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 EUOKITE project (LIFE18 NAT/AT/000048) is a cross-border protection project for the red kite and other raptor species in Europe. Within the LIFE EUOKITE 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 EUOKITE 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 EUOKITE project. (Figure 1 to Figure 7).

The first results of the LIFE EUOKITE 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 Slovakia and will give a detailed inside of the status of investigations and legal procedure.

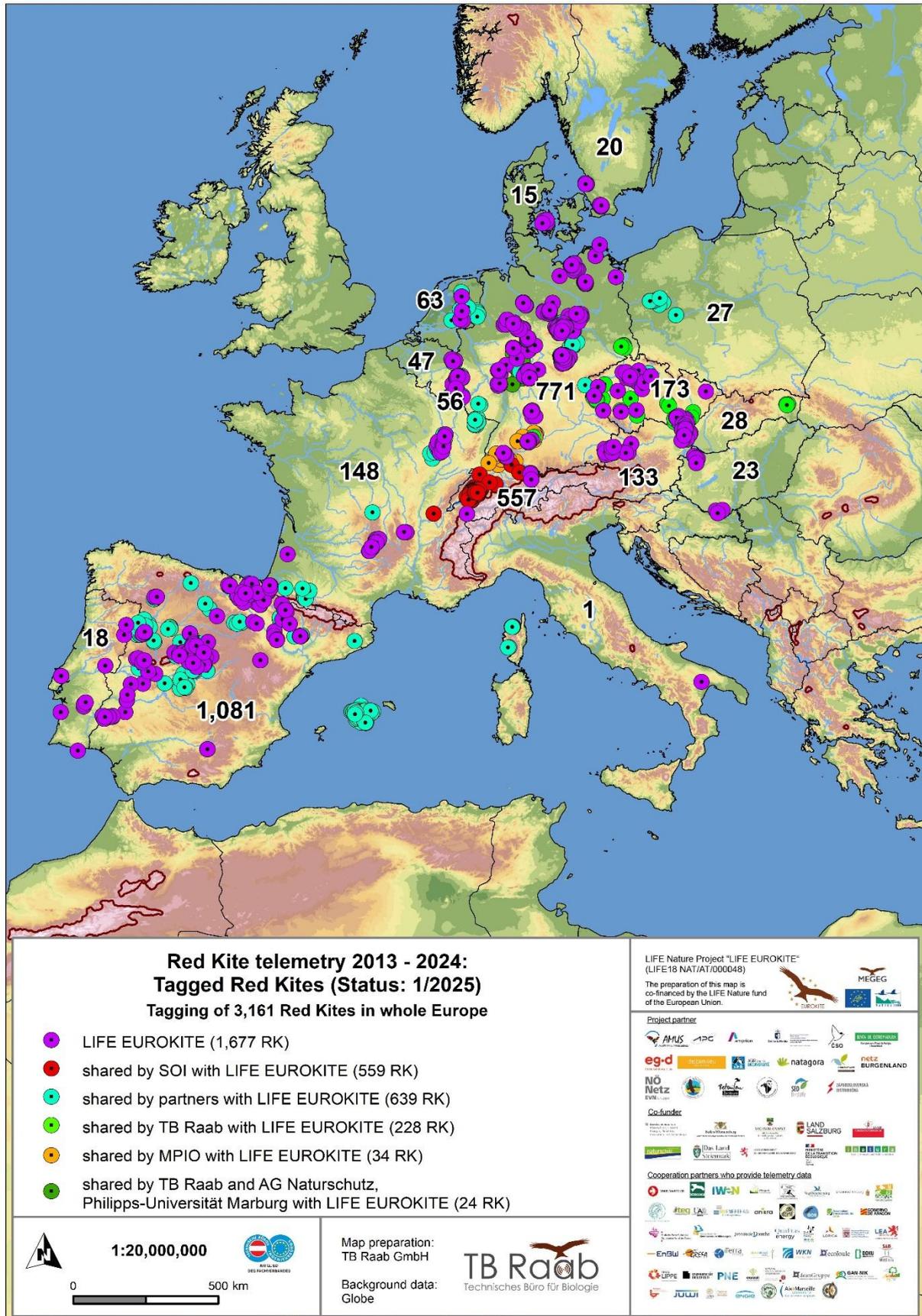


Figure 1: Tagging of 3,161 red kites by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2013- 2024.

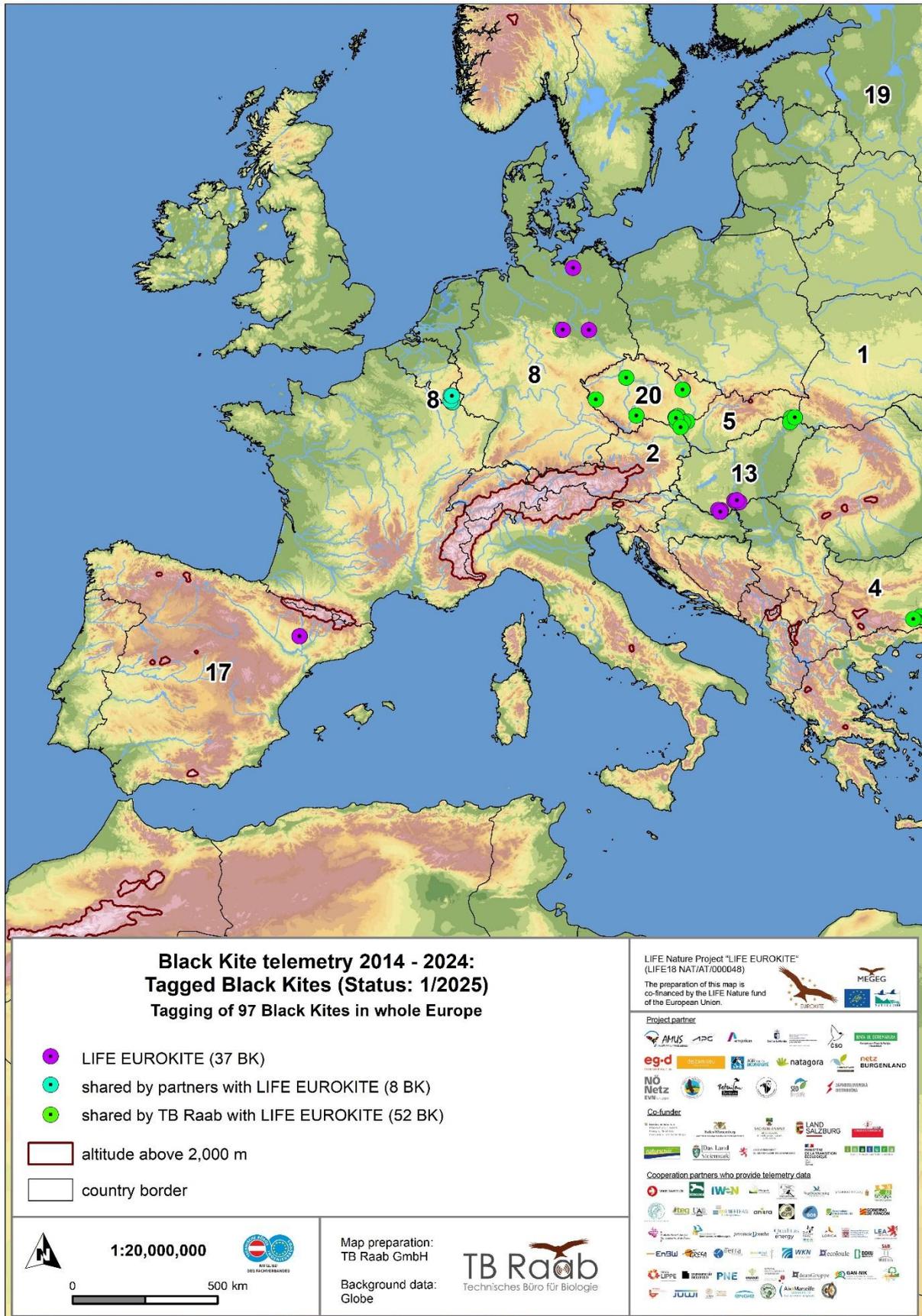


Figure 2: Tagging of 97 black kites by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2014- 2024.

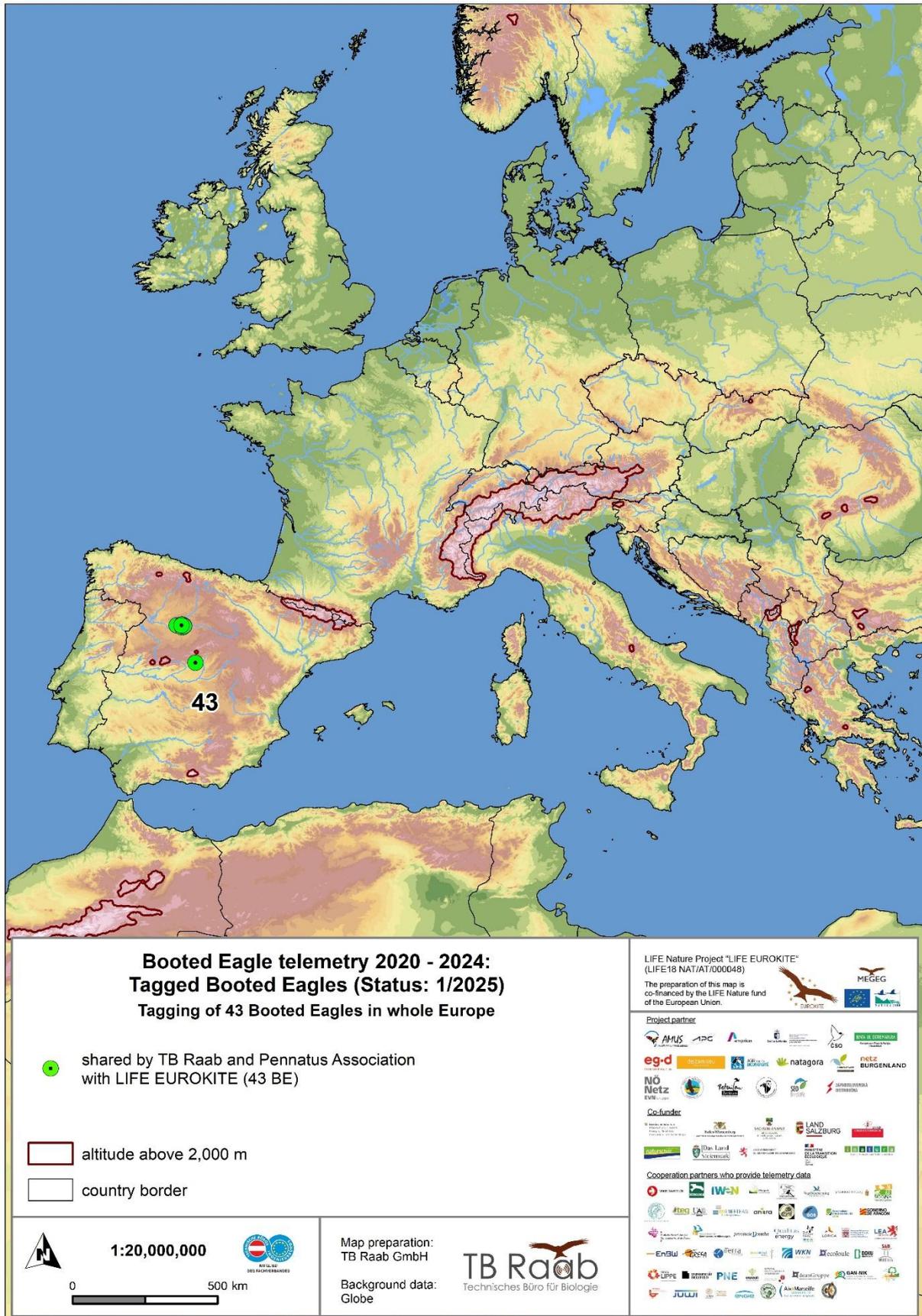


Figure 3: Tagging of 43 booted eagles by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2020- 2024.

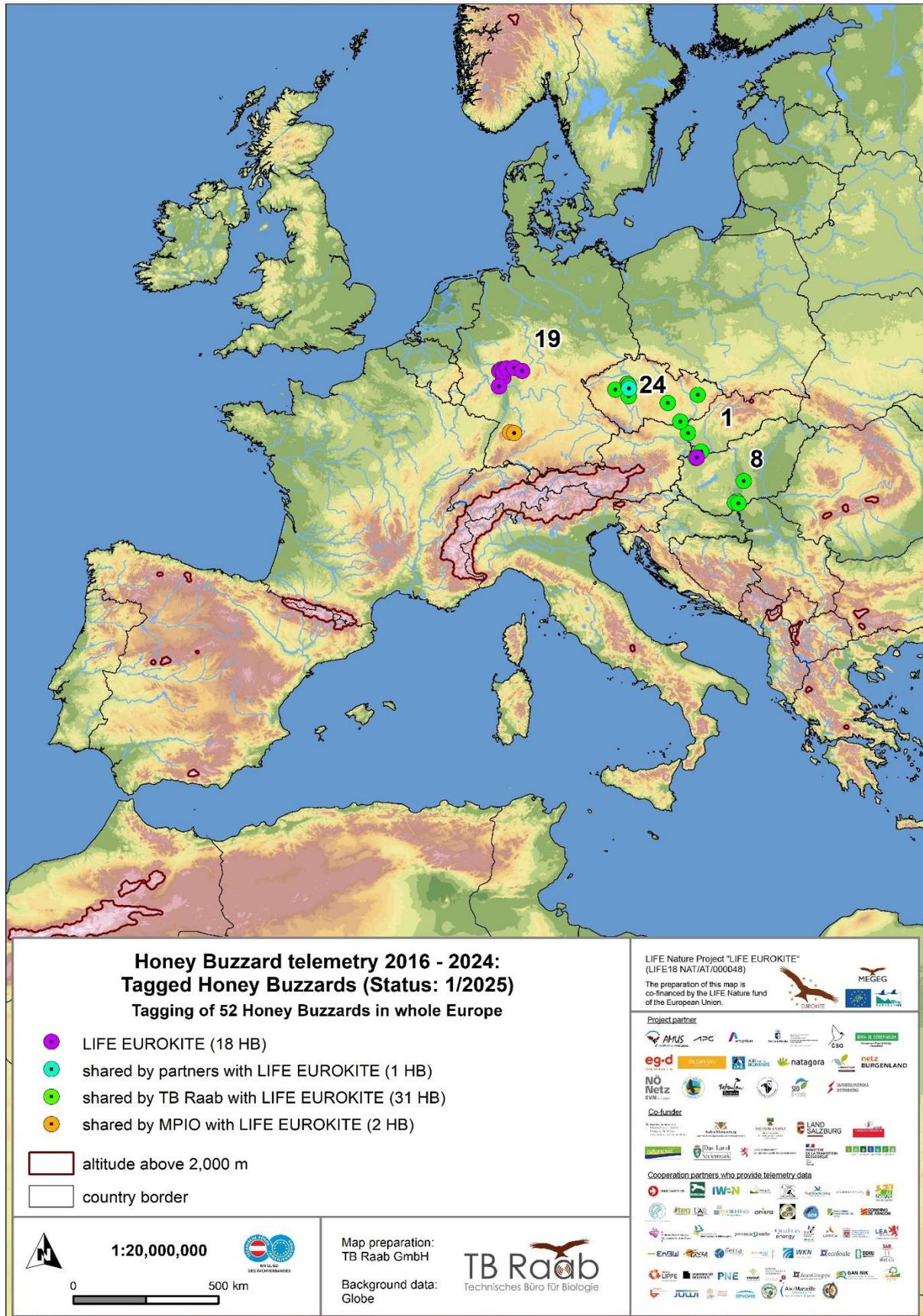


Figure 4: Tagging of 52 honey buzzards by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2016-2024.

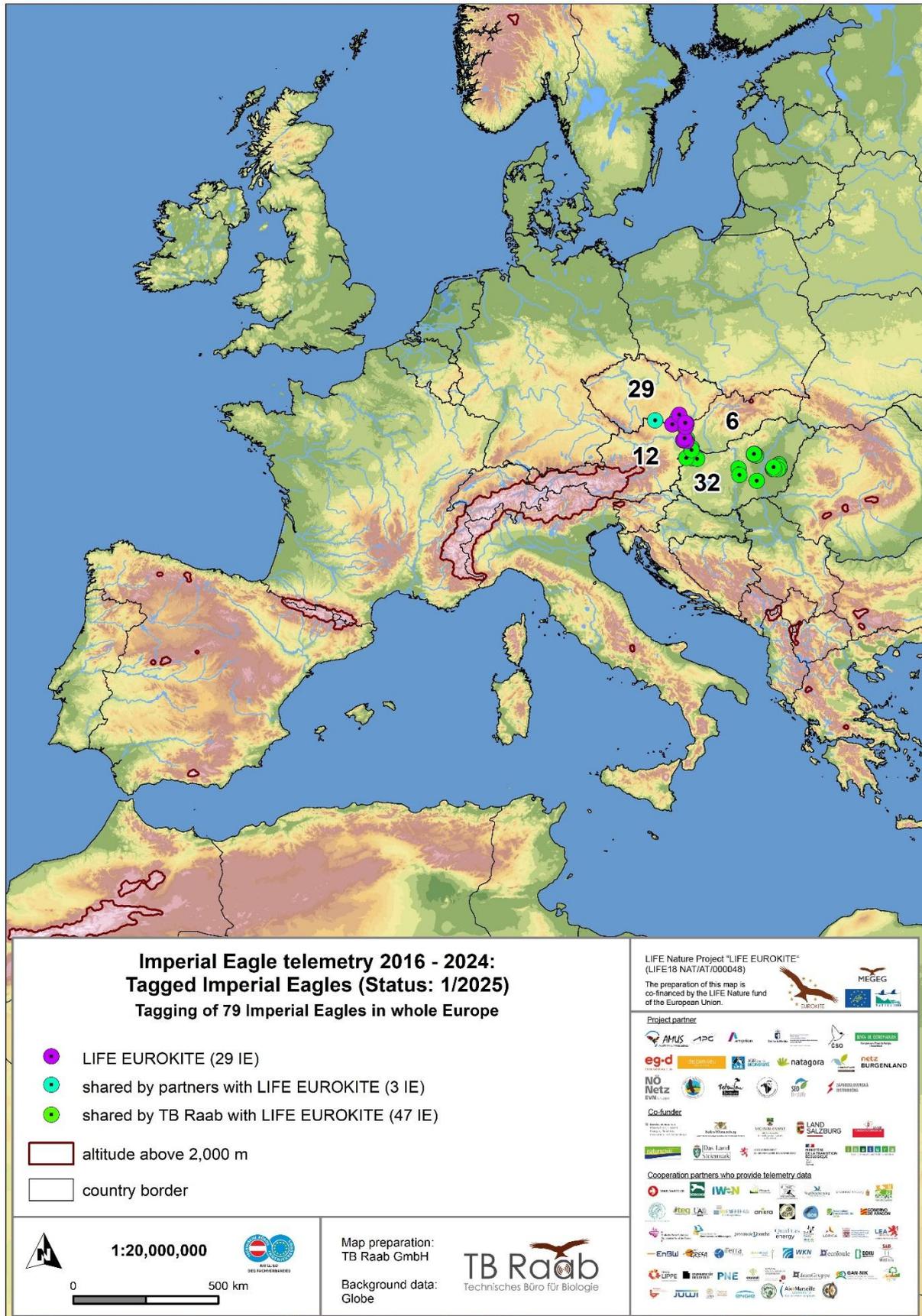


Figure 5: Tagging of 79 imperial eagles by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2016-2024.

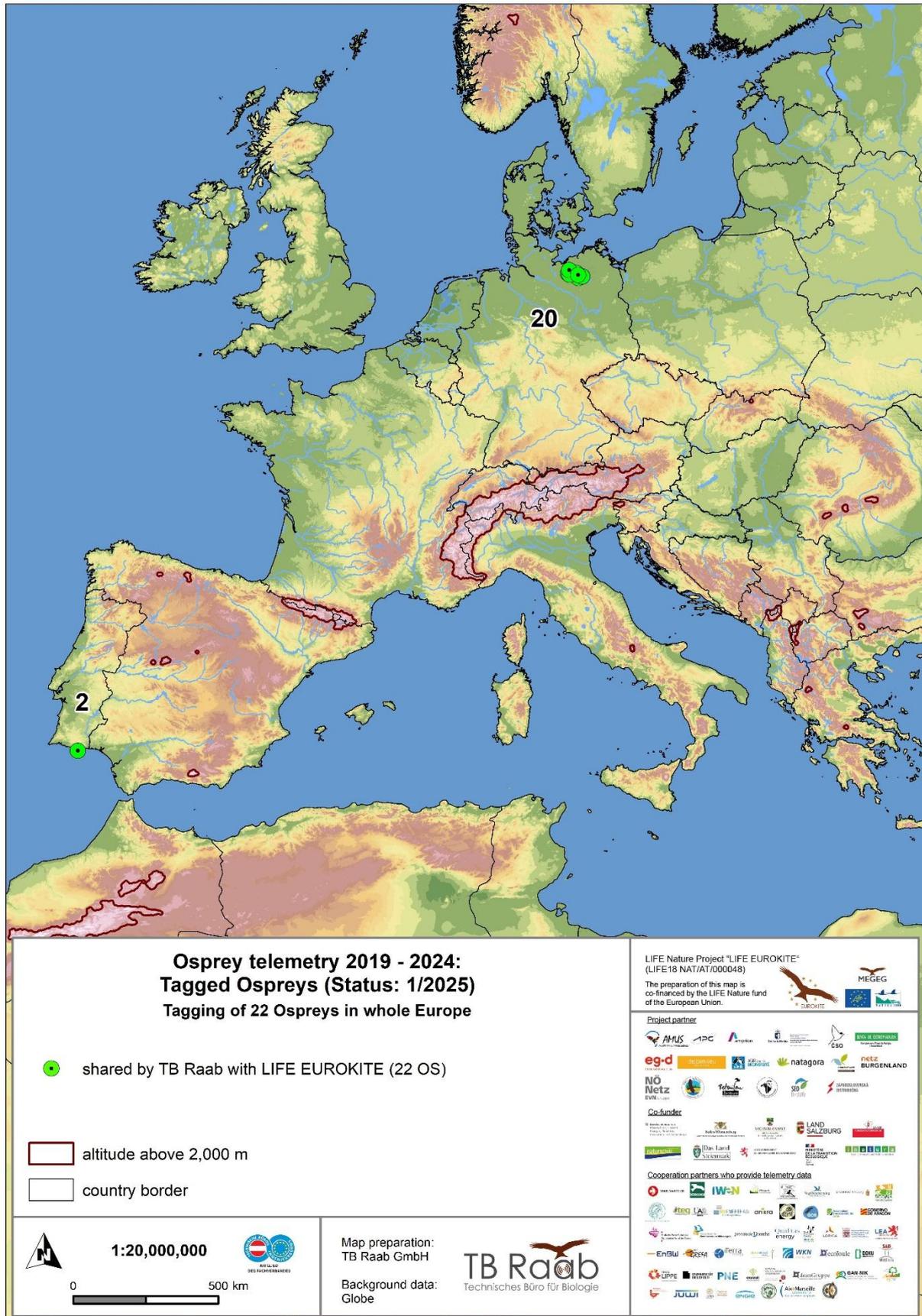


Figure 6: Tagging of 22 ospreys by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2019-2024.

3 Slovak results

The subsequent section provides a detailed overview of the cases with illegal mortality reasons in Slovakia. A total of 8 birds have been confirmed as victims of illegal activities. All 8 individuals died because of poisoning.

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_0010

General information about the bird

Name: Ringelsdorf_02

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 05.05.2015

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

Date of tagging: 14.06.2015

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 02 – MLS 15

Ring number: JC57516

Sex: No information

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Moravský Svätý Ján, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,5617170, 16,965949

Date of bird crime: 04.11.2015, 03:39:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 183

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: No information received

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assessment (RPS)

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: No information received

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

Legal proceeding: No information received

Conviction: No information received

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

No information received

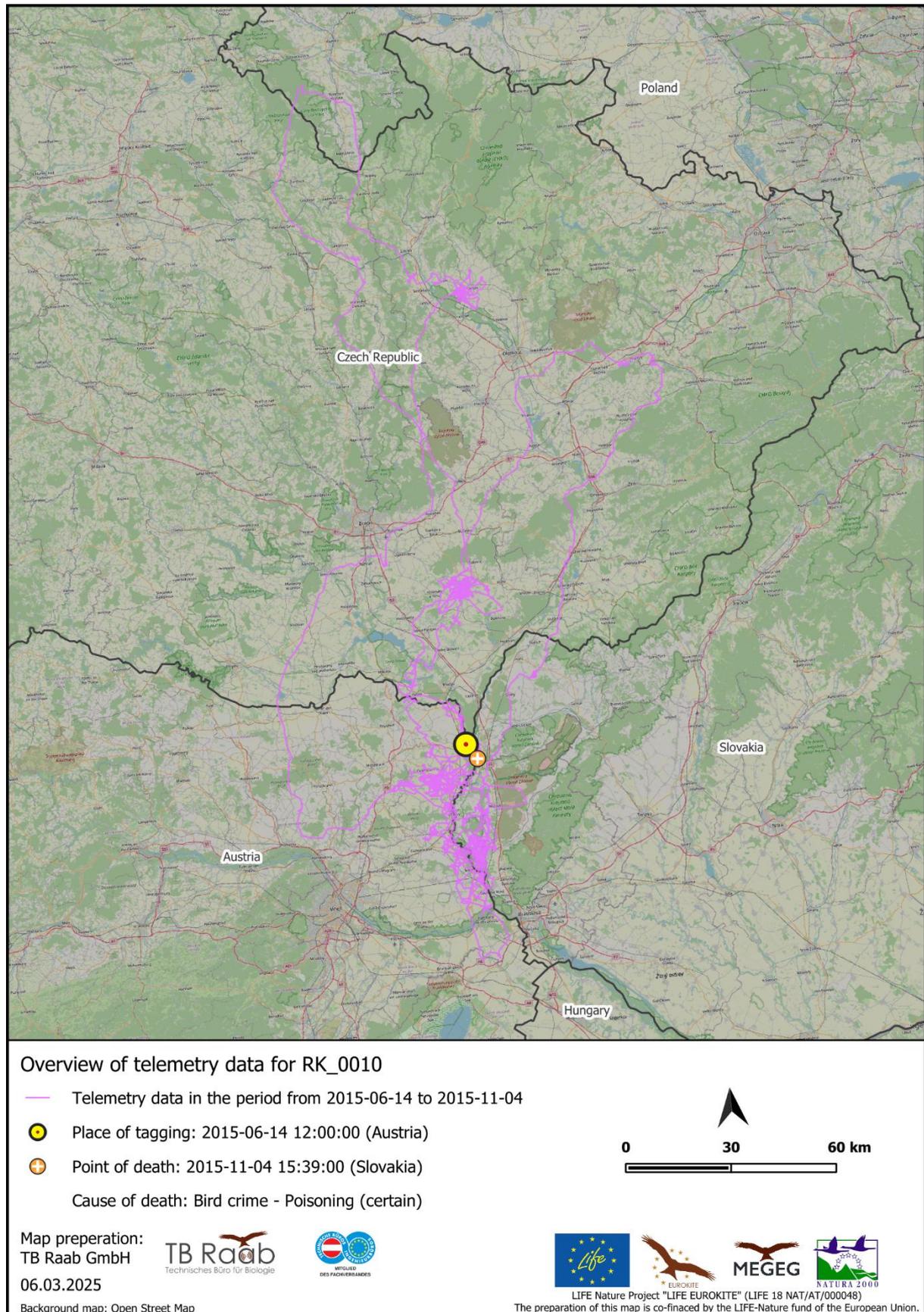


Figure 9: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0010.

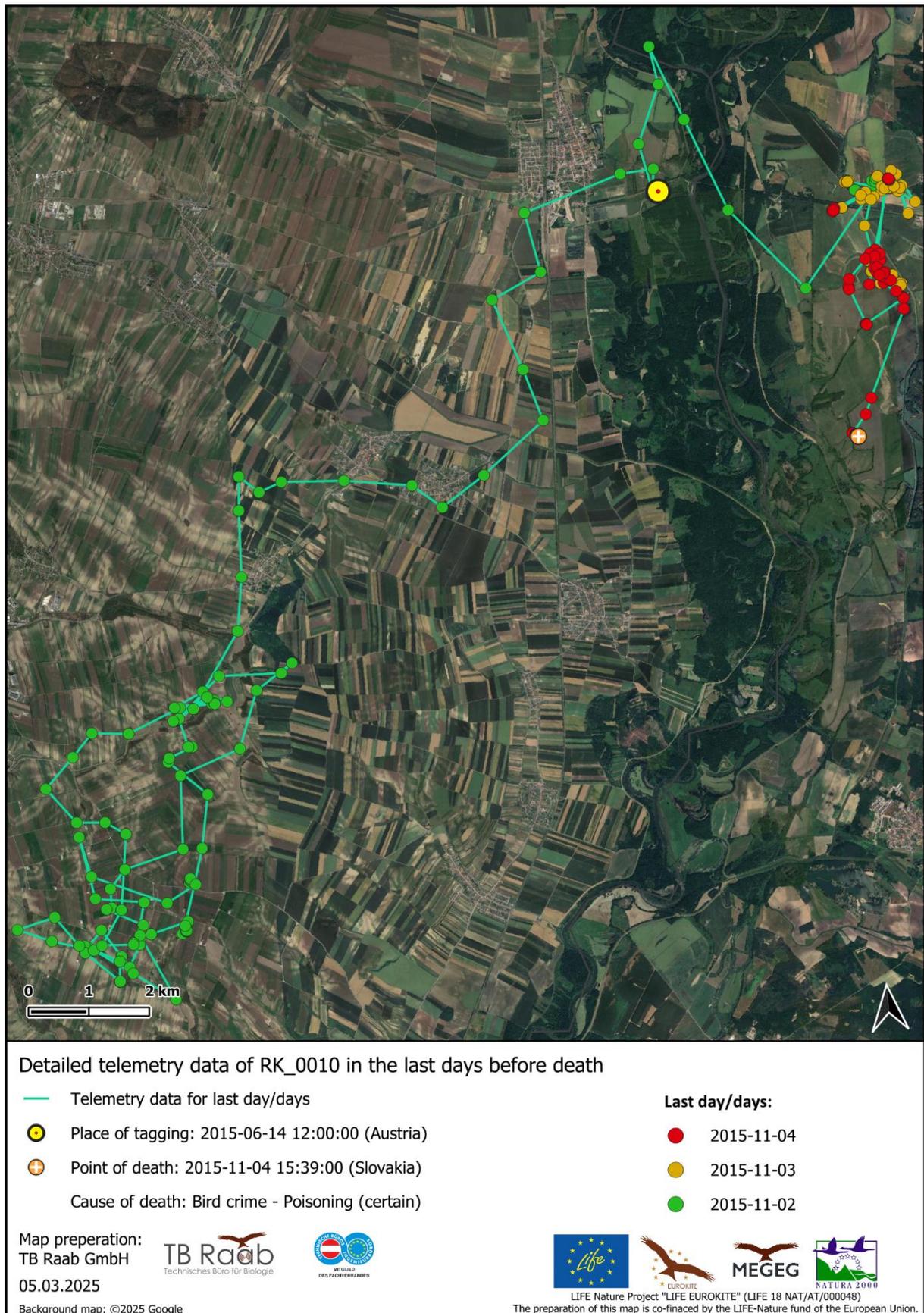


Figure 10: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0010 in the last days before death.



Figure 11: Telemetry data of RK_0010 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0015

General information about the bird

Name: Kite_02_2014

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 04.06.2014

Place of tagging: Vracov/Oskovec, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 10.07.2014

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_VFU

Logger number: KITE02

Ring number: CT1587

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Vrádište, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,8386330, 17,1853830

Date of bird crime: 09.02.2016, 06:00:49 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 615

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: VFÚ

Logger and/or bird found: No information about logger and bird found

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assessment (VFÚ)

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: No information received

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

Legal proceeding: No information received

Conviction: No information received

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

No information received

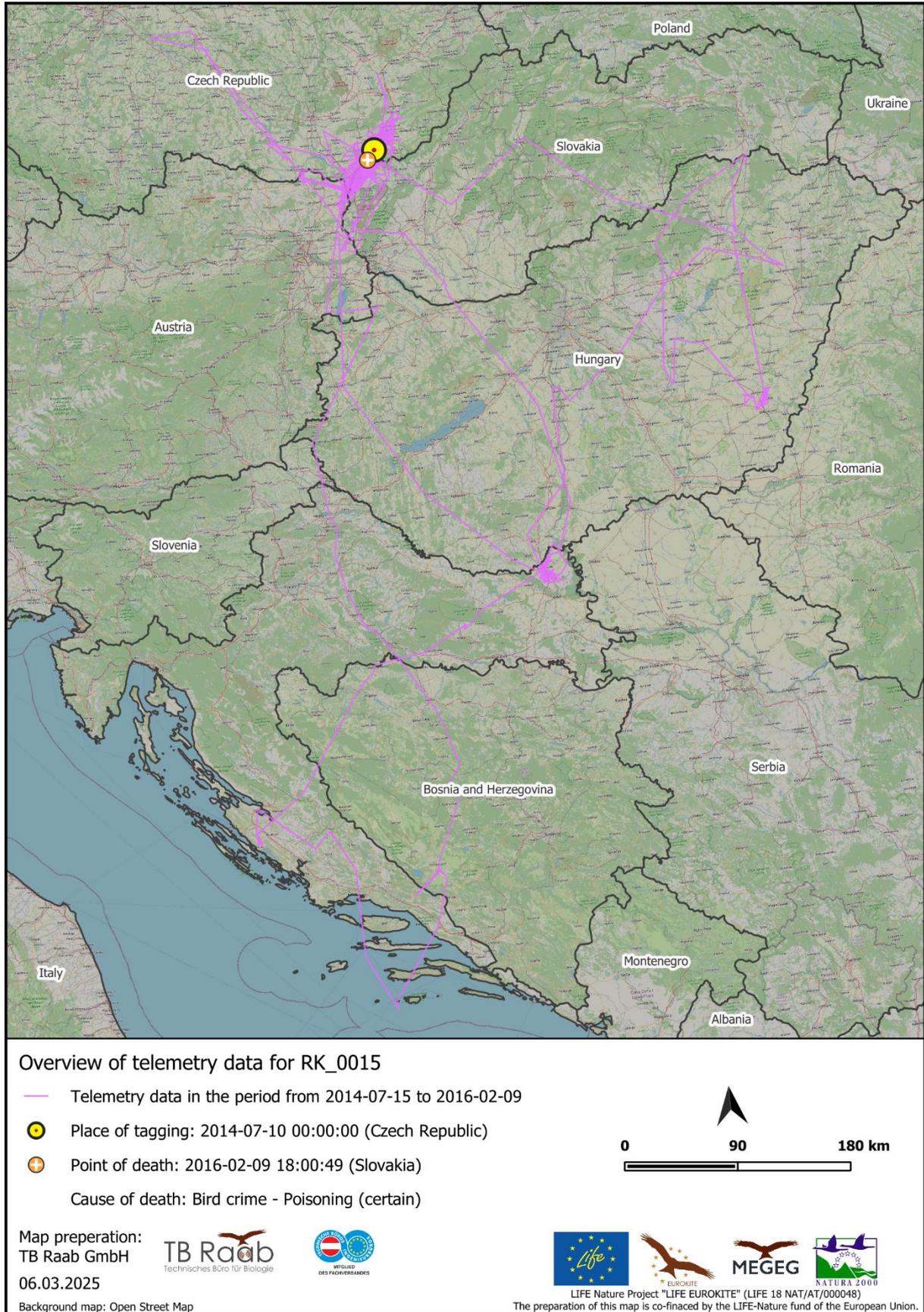


Figure 12: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0015.

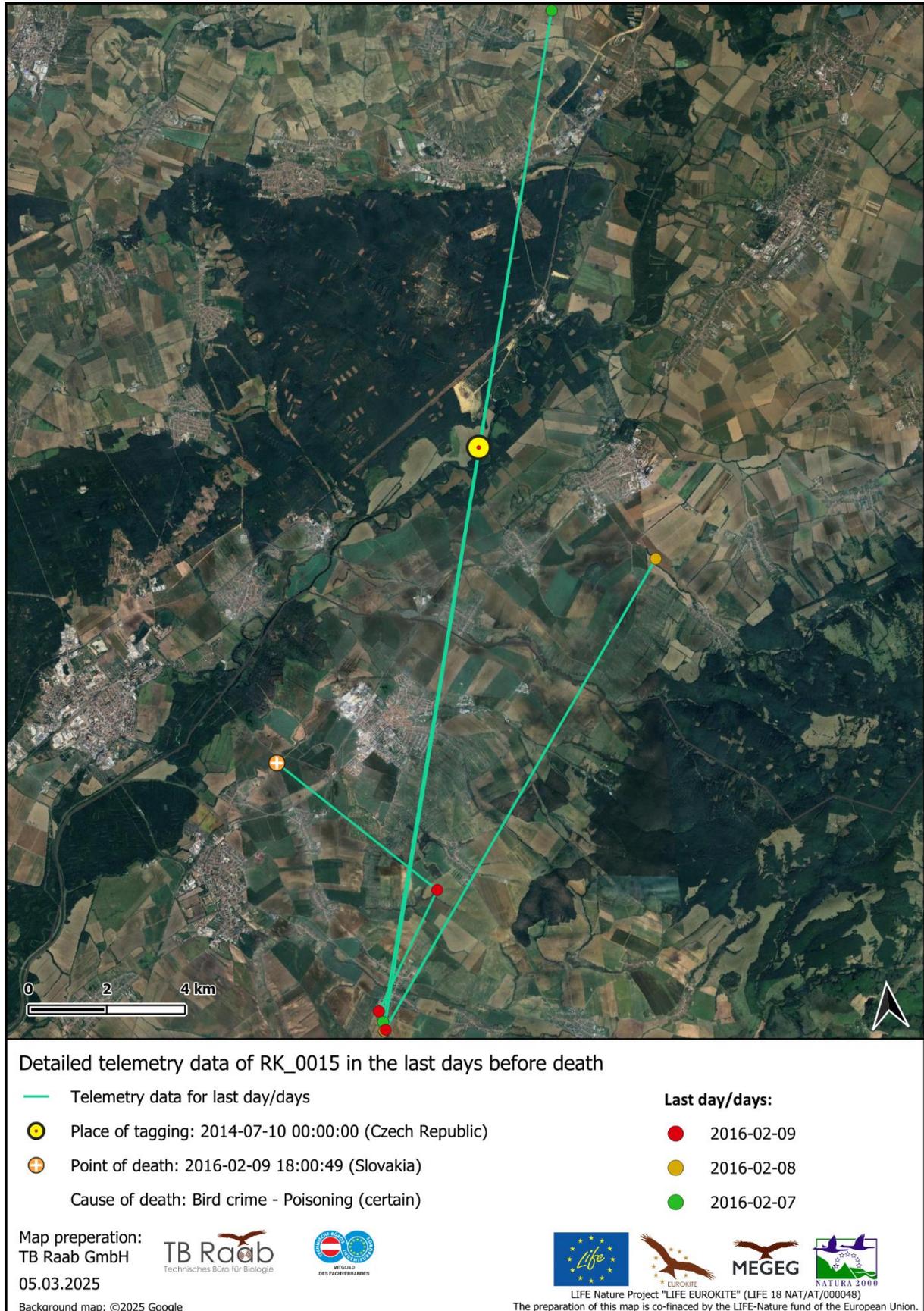


Figure 13: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0015 in the last days before death.



Figure 14: Telemetry data of RK_0015 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0012

General information about the bird

Name: Hausbrunn_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 13.05.2015

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

Date of tagging: 27.08.2015

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Captured with trap

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 19 – MLR 01 kite

Ring number: JC57519

Sex: No Information

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Mokry Háj, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,8027829, 17,2697

Date of bird crime: 25.04.2016, 06:00:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 348

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: No information received

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assessment (RPS)

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

Police and/or authority investigation: Police informed → Stopped

Legal proceeding: No

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

No information received

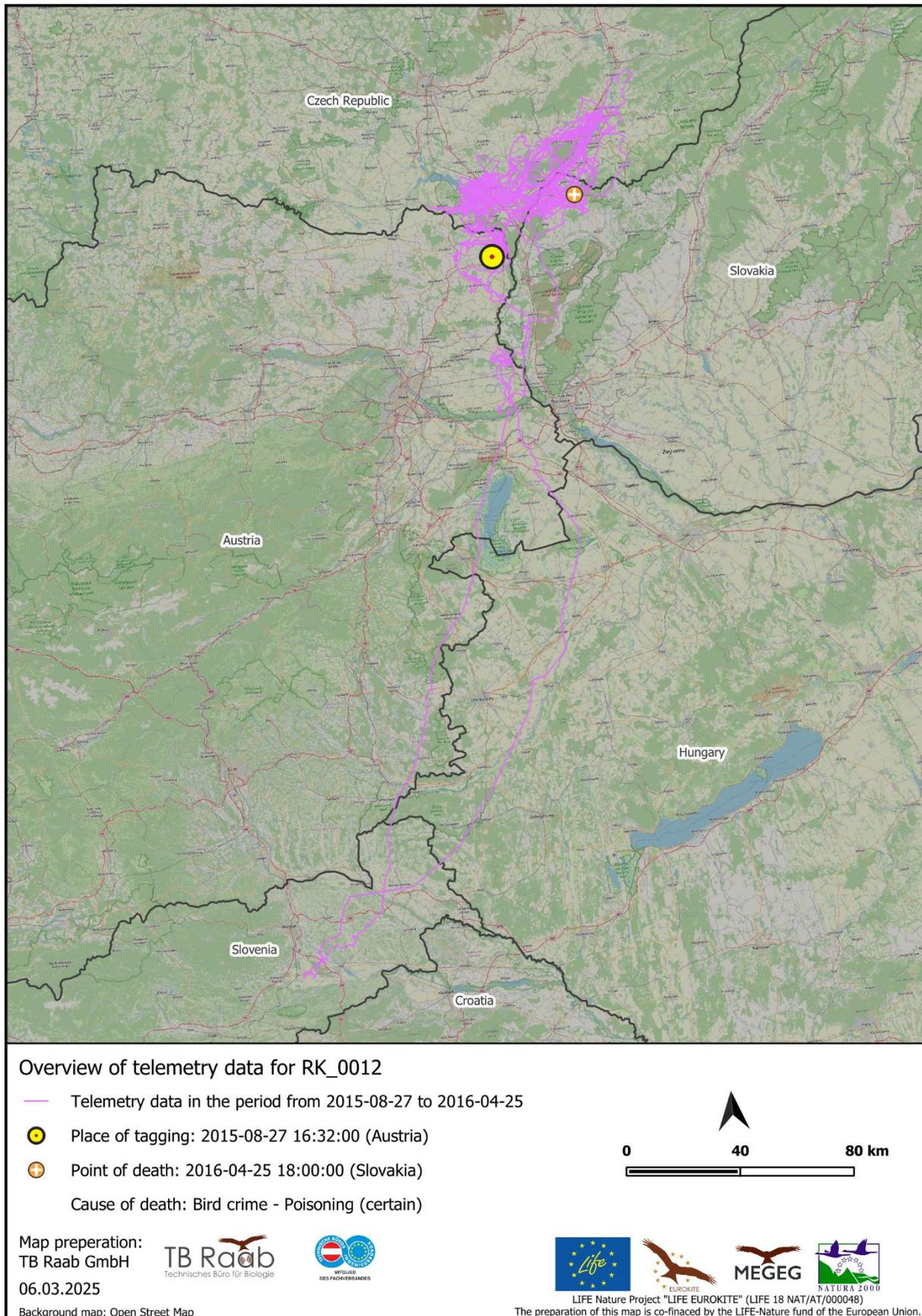


Figure 15: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0012.

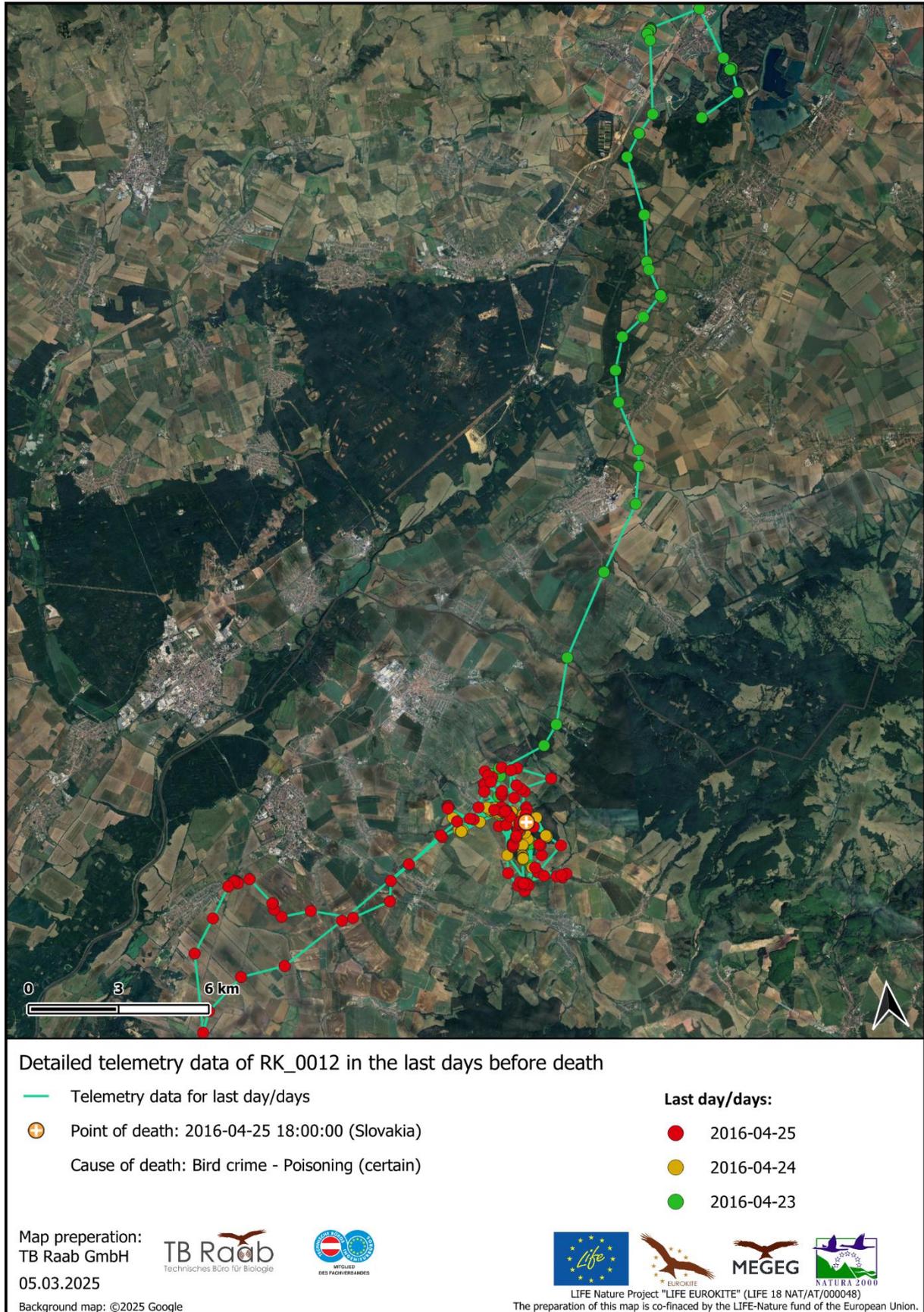


Figure 16: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0012 in the last days before death.

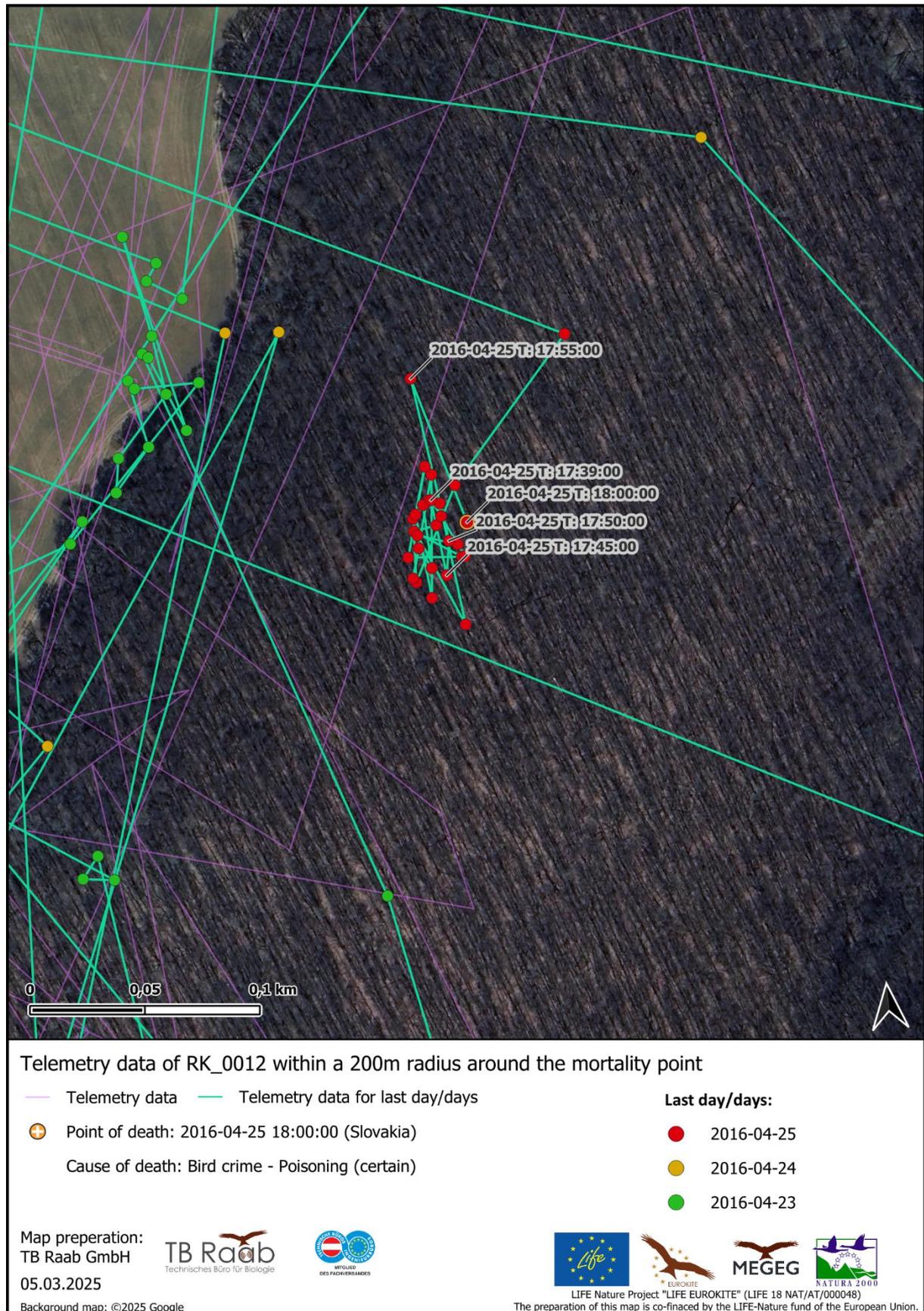


Figure 17: Telemetry data of RK_0012 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0271

General information about the bird

Name: Bori_Dvur_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 06.05.2019

Place of tagging: Bori Dvur, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 22.06.2019

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A2

Logger number: Ornitela 183 - 192187 kite

Ring number: CT2027

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Kopčany, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,765605, 17,110589

Date of bird crime: 23.03.2021, 10:06:15 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 687

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Very Good

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirm that the bird was poisoned. The cause of death was Carbofuran intoxication. Food present in the beak cavity, stomach containing food (rodent remains), Also 12 common buzzards, 2 red kites, a goshawk and a White tail eagle without legs were found.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Ongoing (no further information received since 23.03.2021)

Police and/or authority investigation: Police and authority informed → Completed

Legal proceeding: Pending (no further information received since 23.03.2021)

Conviction: Not yet

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



Figure 18: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_0271, which died on 23.03.2021 in Kopčany, Western Slovakia, Slovakia. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (RPS)

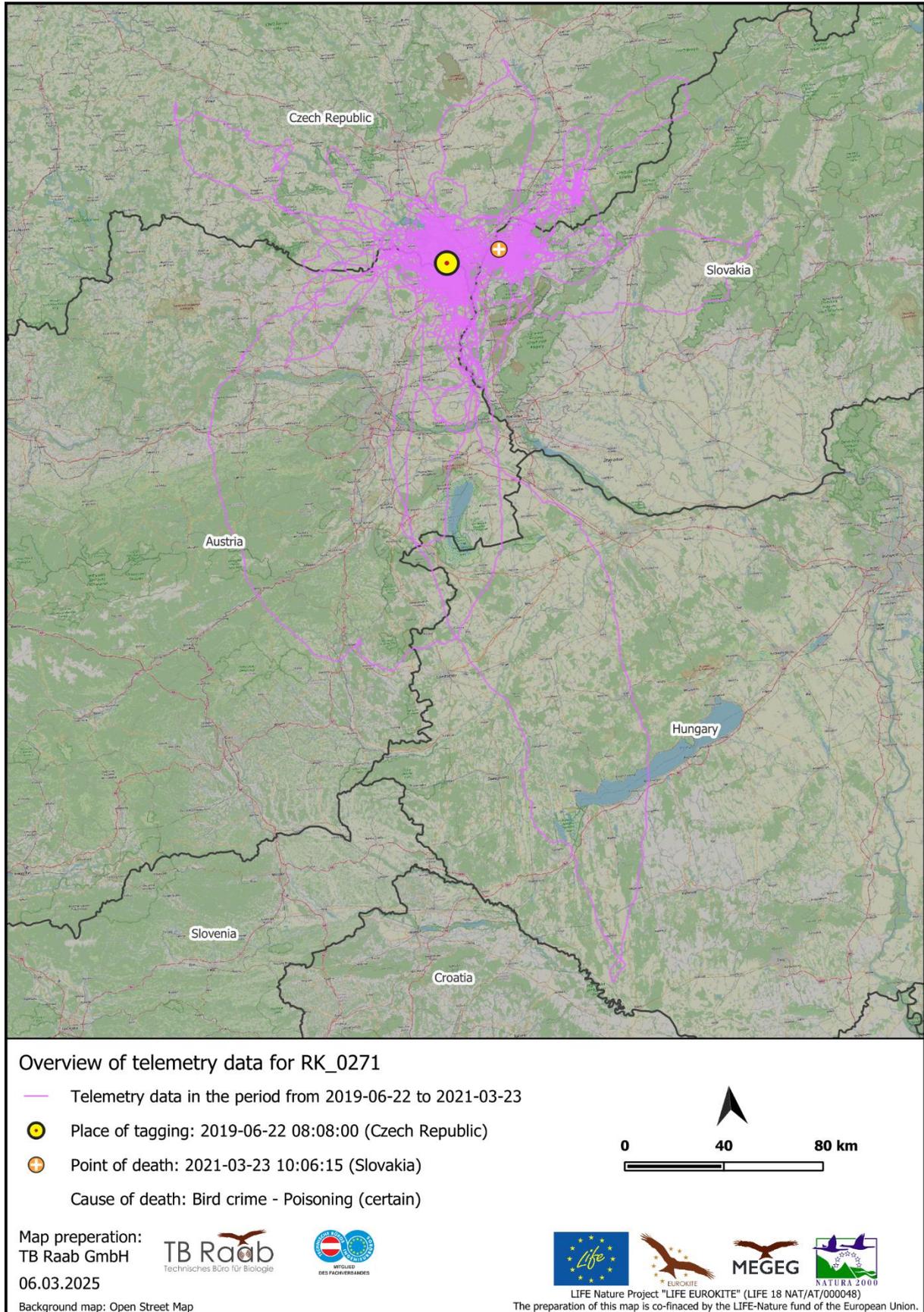


Figure 19: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0271.

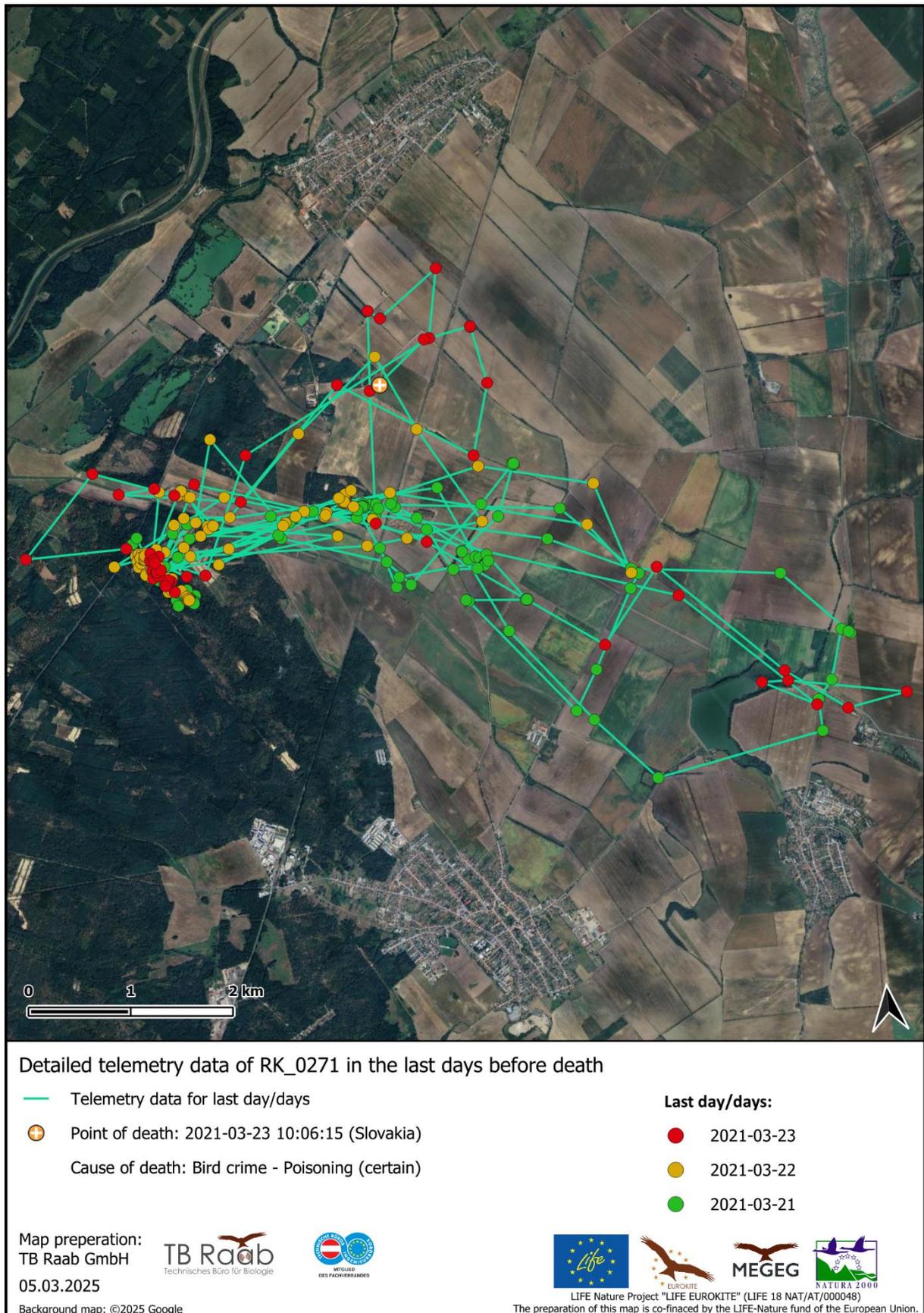


Figure 20: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0271 in the last days before death.

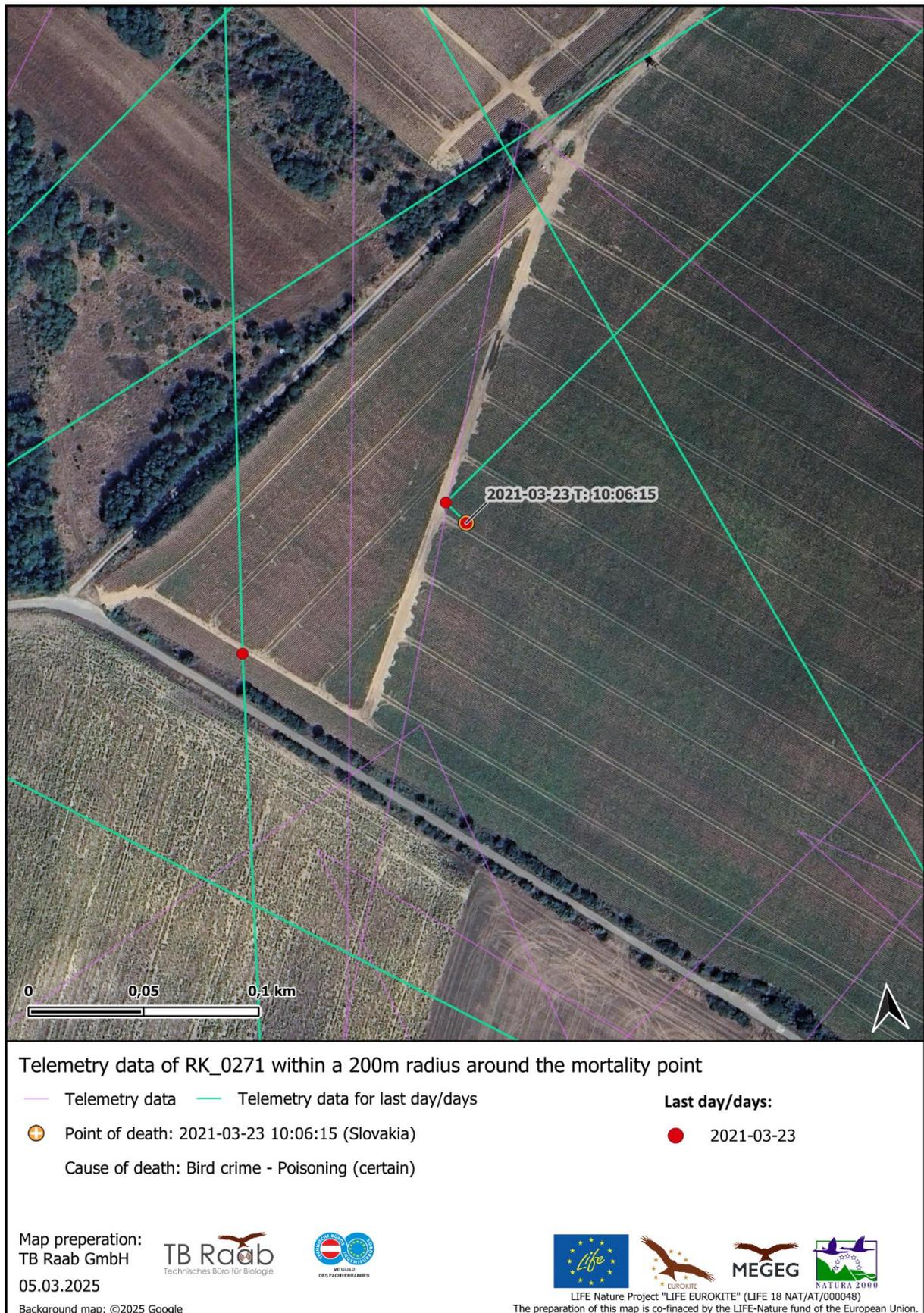


Figure 21: Telemetry data of RK_0271 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0022

General information about the bird

Name: Ringelsdorf_03

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 27.04.2016

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

Date of tagging: 02.06.2016

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile. from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 24 – AAA 14 kite

Ring number: JC75453

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Borský Mikuláš, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,6209660, 17,198349

Date of bird crime: 05.10.2021, 06:00:35 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 1987

Age at bird crime: 6. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Good

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirmed that the bird was poisoned with Carbofuran. The poisoned individual was found in a prone position with claws clasped on his left leg and his head turned back.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: No information received

Police and/or authority investigation: Police and authority 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 22: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_0022, which died on 05.10.2021 in Borský Mikuláš, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (RPS)

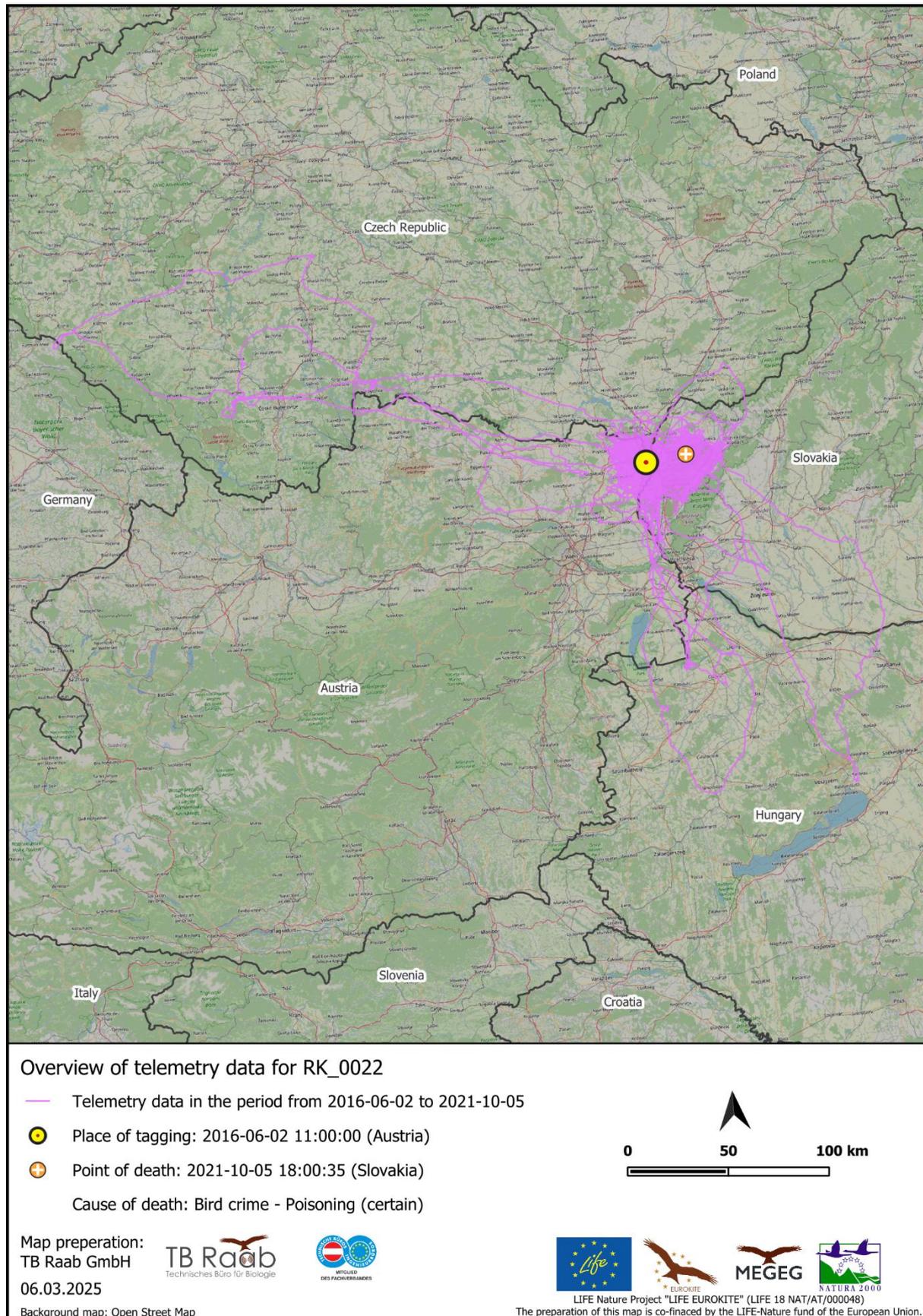


Figure 23: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0022.

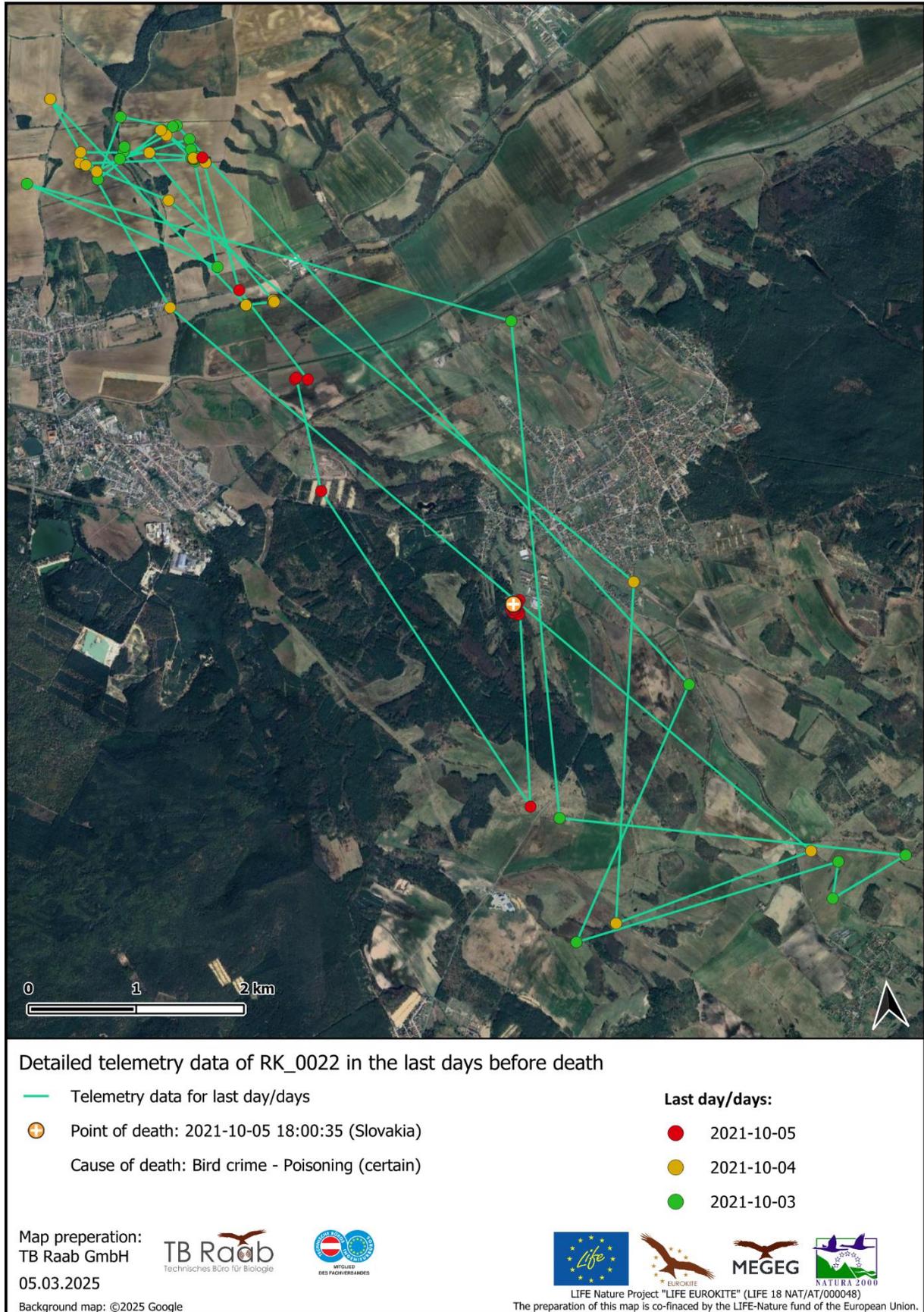


Figure 24: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0022 in the last days before death.

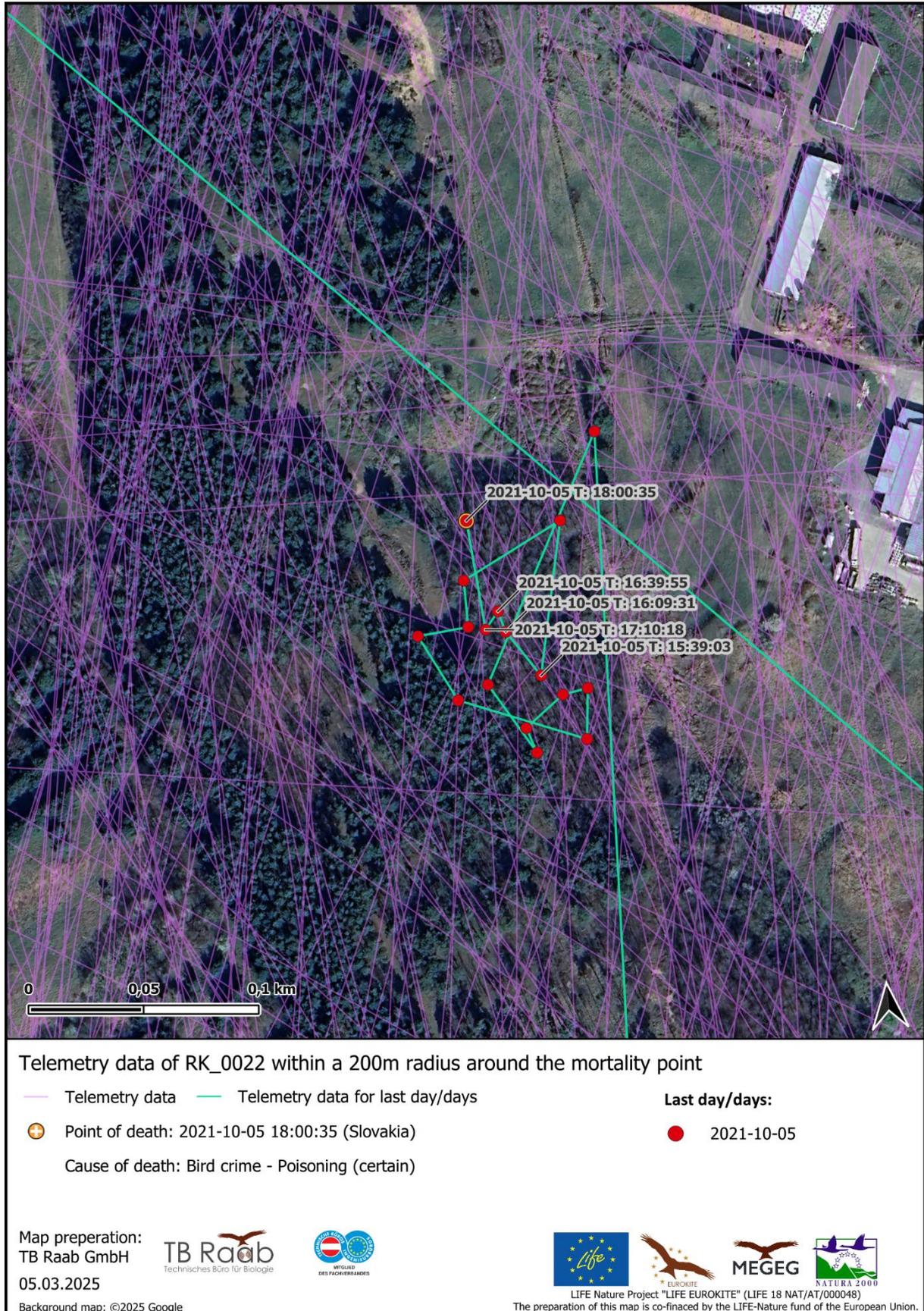


Figure 25: Telemetry data of RK_0022 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1193

General information about the bird

Name: Marchegg_03

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 07.05.2021

Place of tagging: Marchegg, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 04.06.2021

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: ANITRA 177 - 21404

Ring number: G000805

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Malé Leváre, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,489772, 16,9740578

Date of bird crime: 21.03.2022, 12:55:08 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 318

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Very Good

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assessment (RPS). The poisoned individual was found in a prone position with claws clasped on his right leg.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Ongoing (no updated information received 22.03.2022)

Police and/or authority investigation: Police and authority informed → Ongoing (no updated information received 22.03.2022)

Legal proceeding: Pending (no updated information received 22.03.2022)

Conviction: Not yet

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



Figure 26: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1193, which died on 21.03.2022 in Malé Leváre, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (RPS)

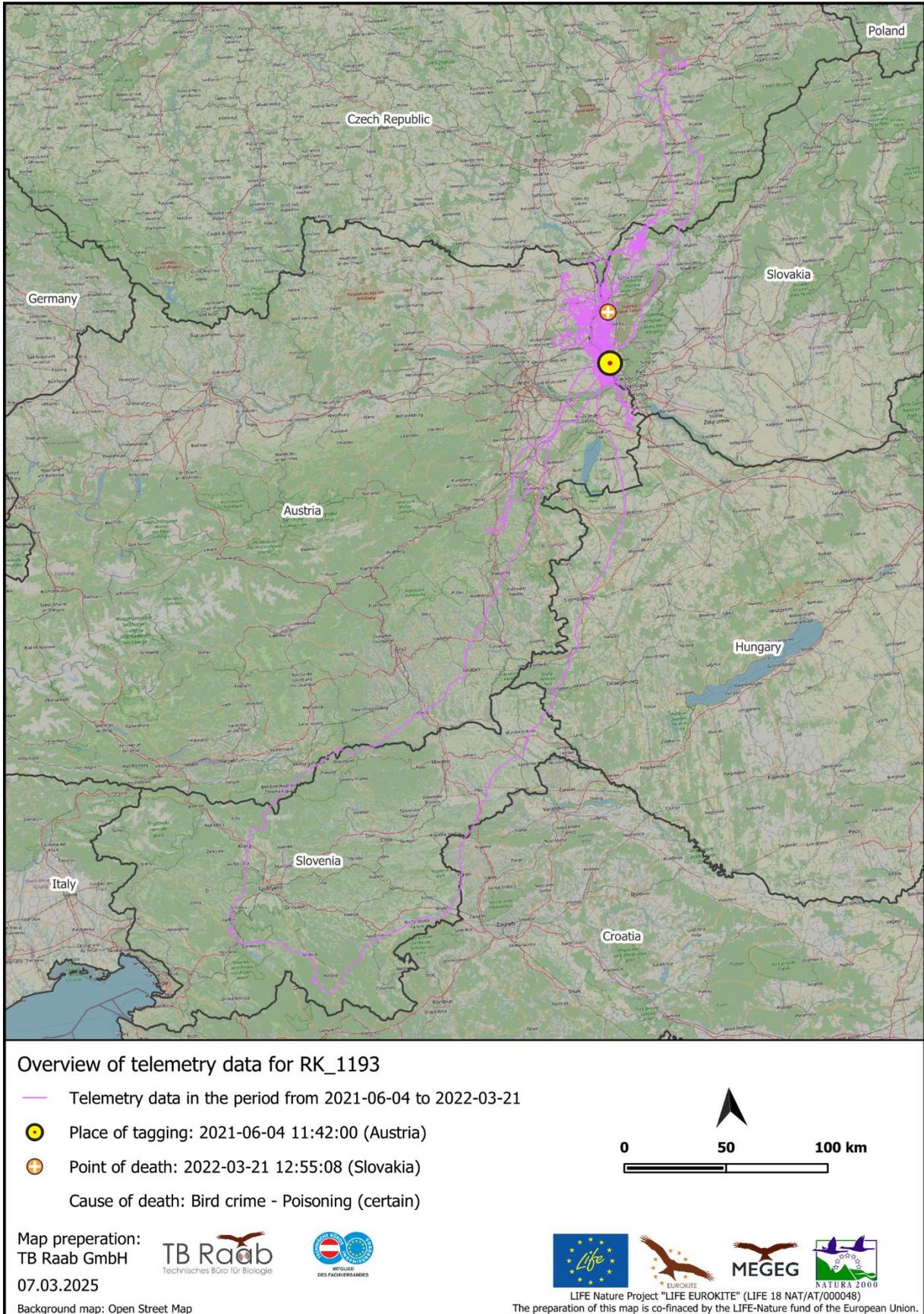
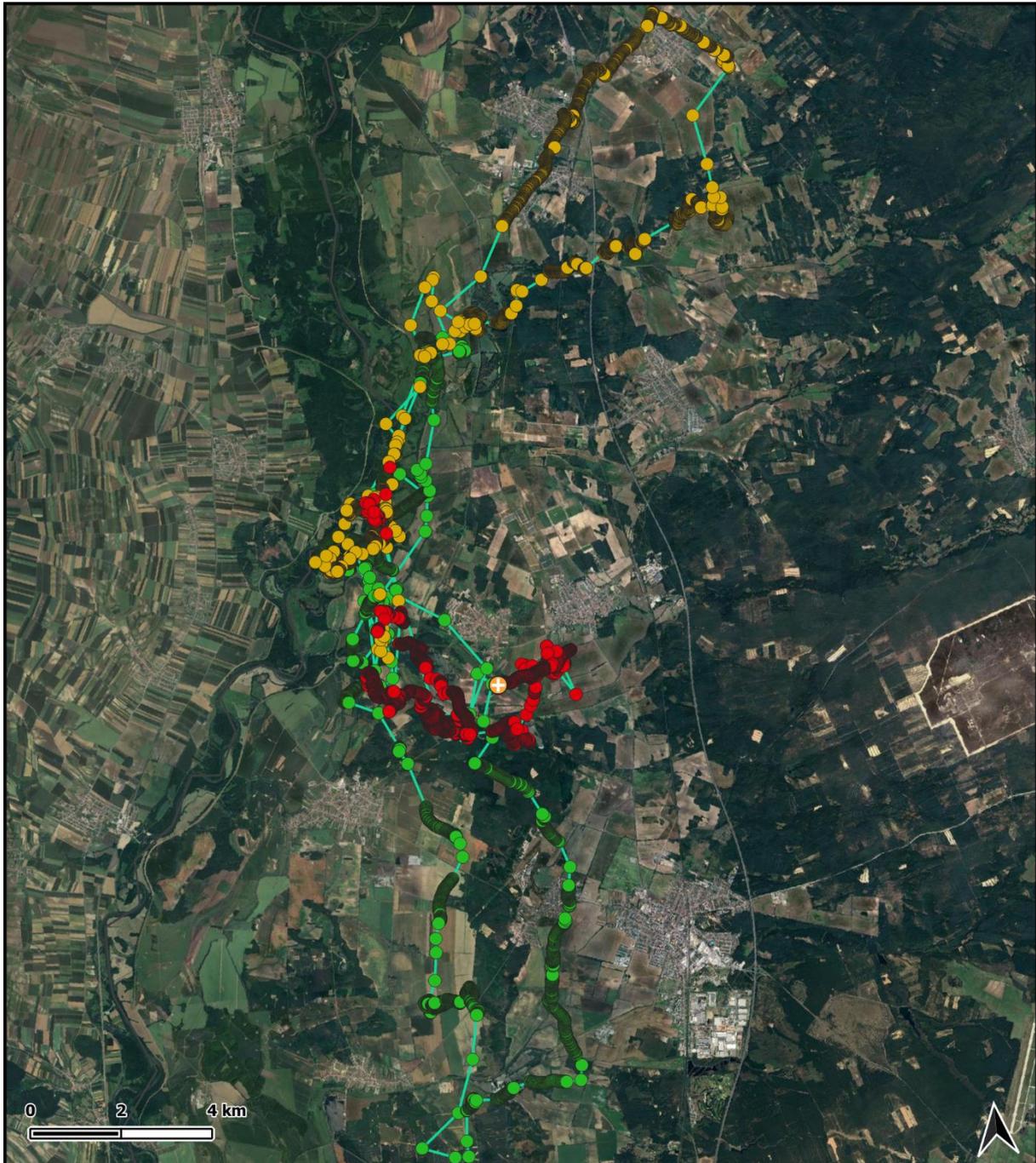


Figure 27: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1193.



Detailed telemetry data of RK_1193 in the last days before death

- Telemetry data for last day/days
- + Point of death: 2022-03-21 12:55:08 (Slovakia)
- Cause of death: Bird crime - Poisoning (certain)

Last day/days:

- 2022-03-21
- 2022-03-20
- 2022-03-19

Map preparation:
TB Raab GmbH
05.03.2025



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

Figure 28: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1193 in the last days before death.

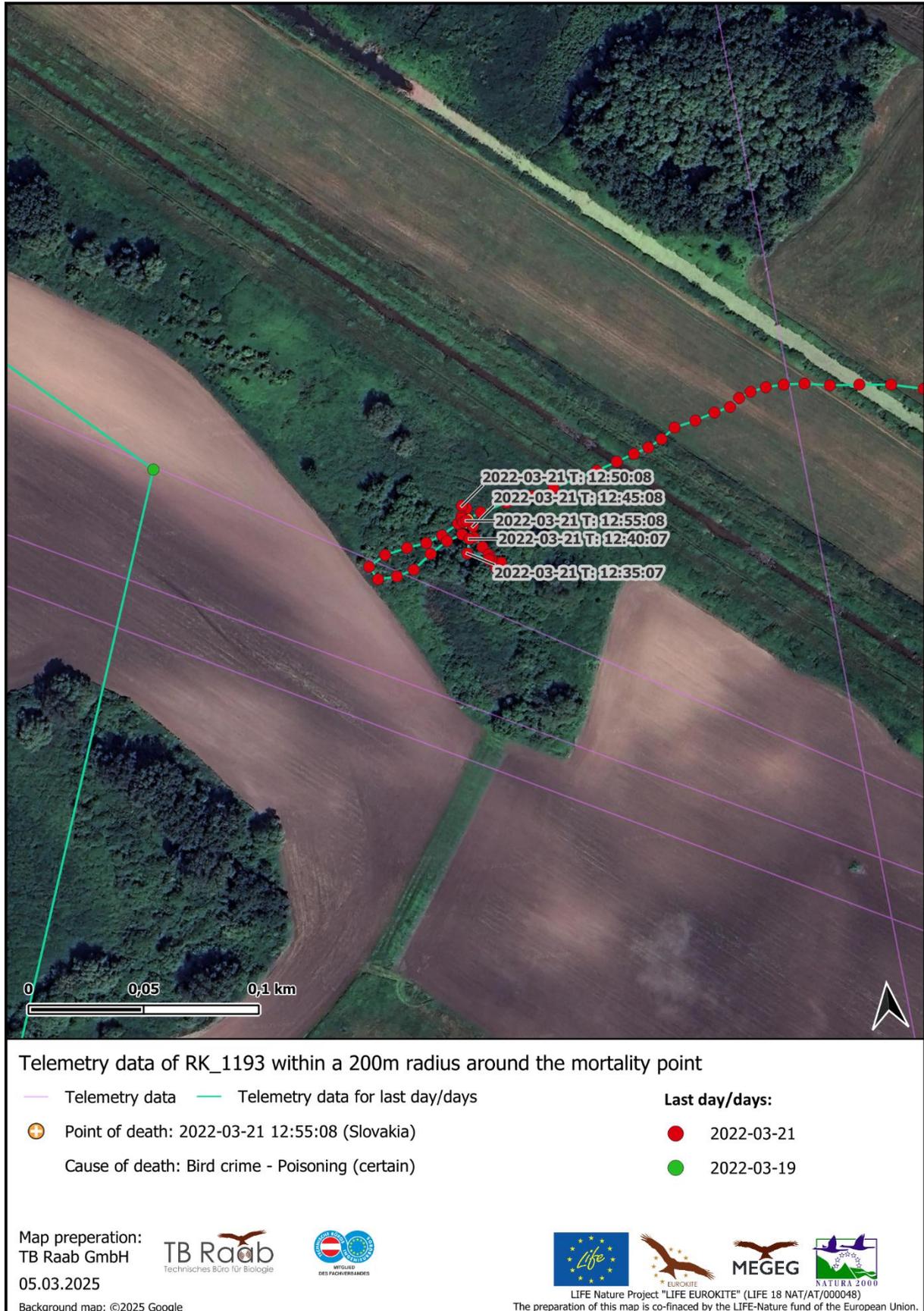


Figure 29: Telemetry data of RK_1193 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1788

General information about the bird

Name: Záhorská_Nová_Ves_03

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 09.05.2022

Place of tagging: Záhorská Nová Ves, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia

Date of tagging: 17.06.2022

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: ANITRA P14 - 22313

Ring number: D6946

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Borinka, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,268371, 16,95918

Date of bird crime: 12.12.2022, 11:00:00 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 217

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Moderate

Bird crime: Poisoning - Anticoagulants / Coumarin derivatives

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirmed that the bird was poisoned by Anticoagulants (Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone).

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Ongoing (no updated information received 13.12.2022)

Police and/or authority investigation: Police and authority informed → Ongoing (no updated information received 13.12.2022)

Legal proceeding: Pending (no updated information received 13.12.2022)

Conviction: No information received

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

No information received



Figure 30: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1788, which died on 12.12.2022 in Borinka, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia.
© LIFE EUROKITE Archive (RPS)

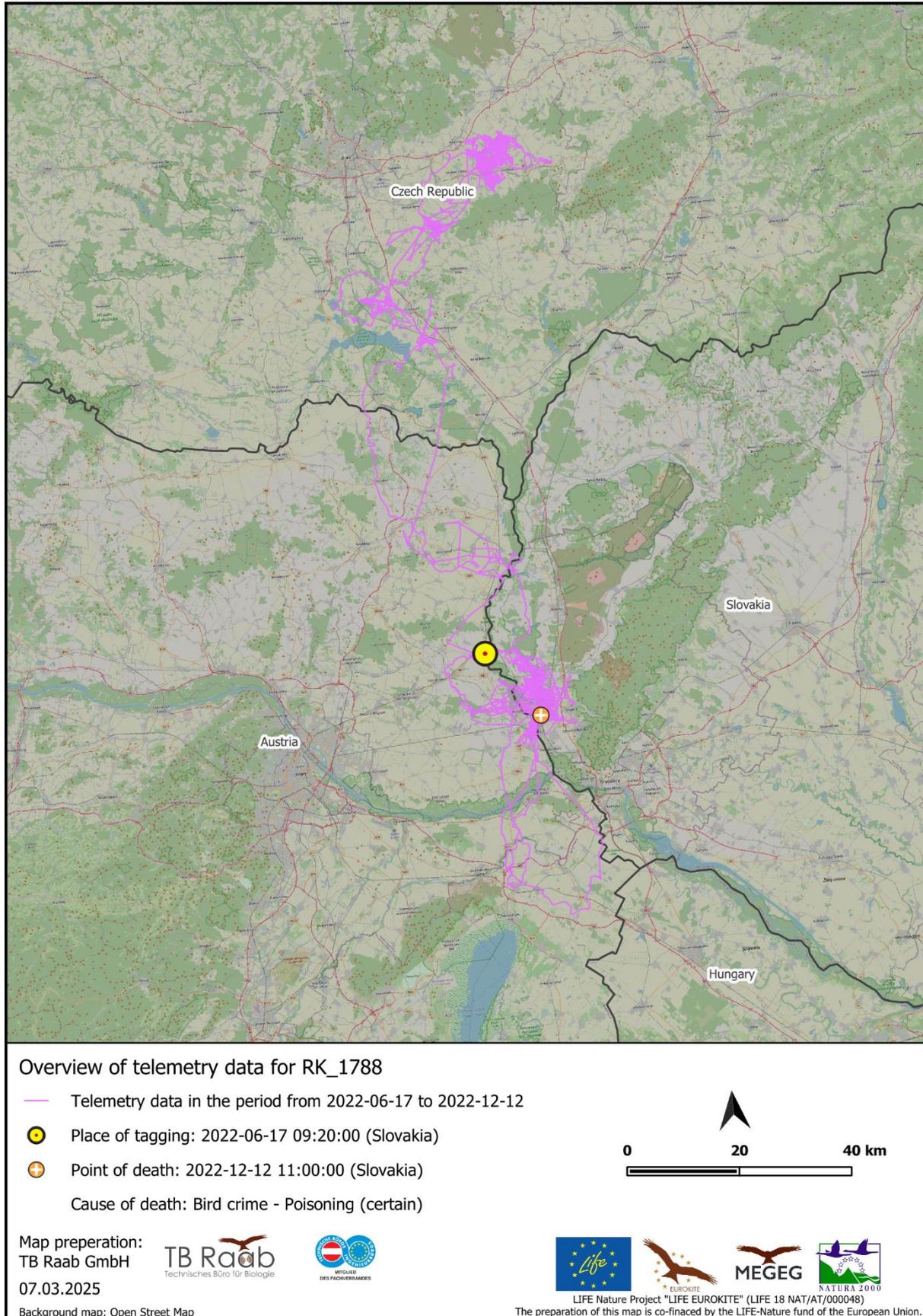


Figure 31: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1788.

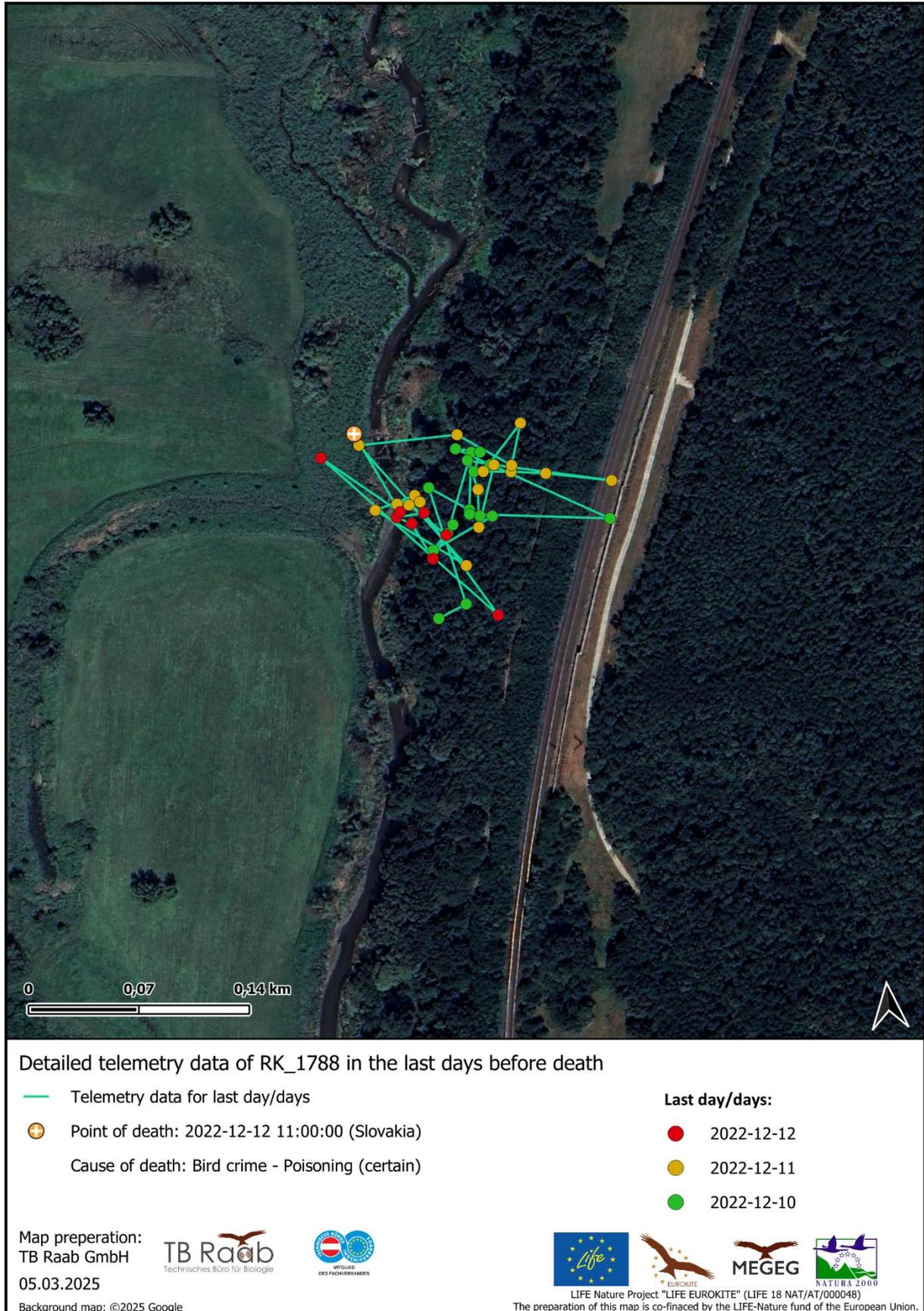


Figure 32: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1788 in the last days before death.

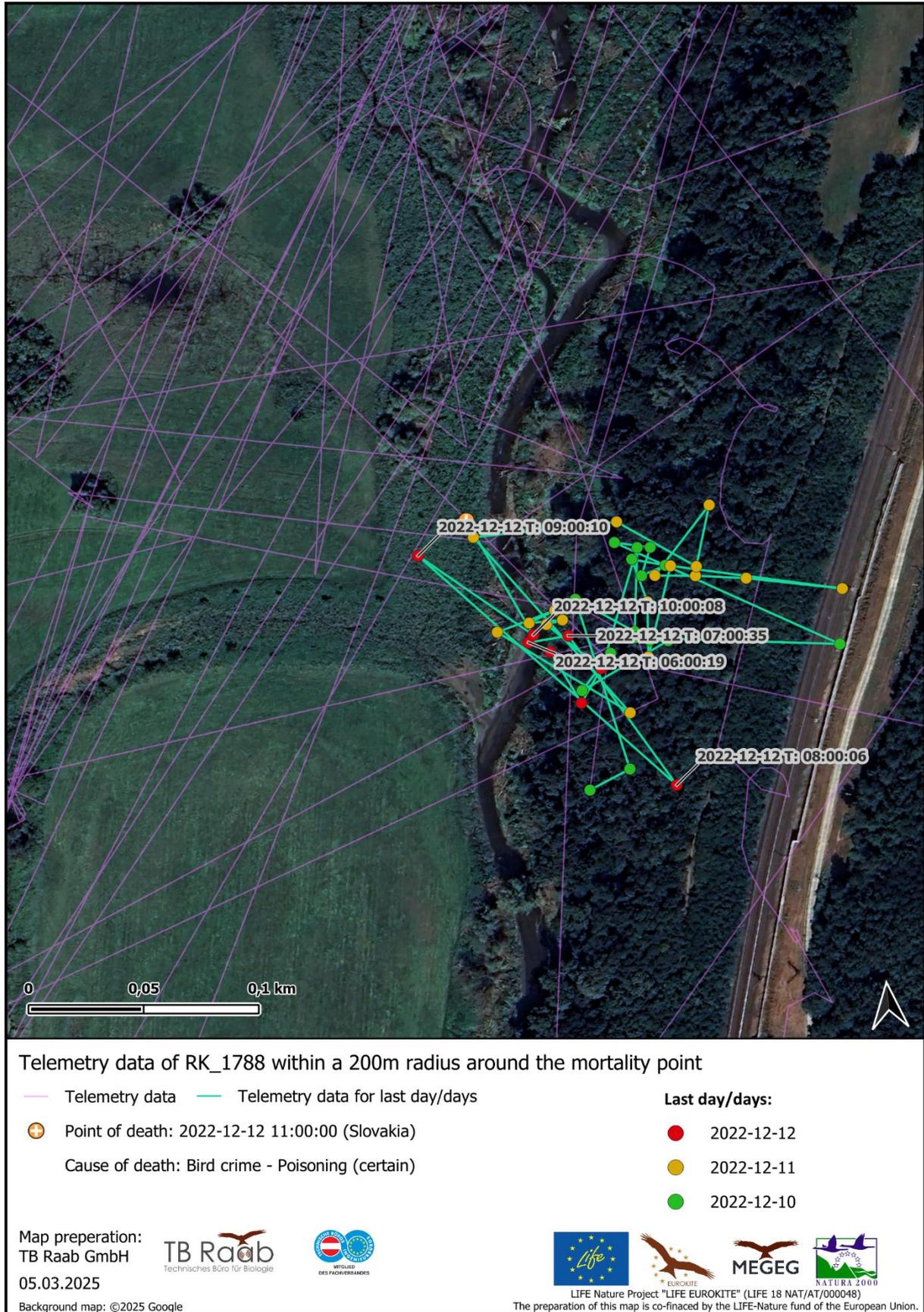


Figure 33: Telemetry data of RK_1788 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1681

General information about the bird

Name: Zistersdorf_06

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 11.05.2022

Place of tagging: Zistersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 13.06.2022

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: ANITRA P08 - 22310

Ring number: G000836

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Vrbovce, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia

Coordinates: 48,804456, 17,466446

Date of bird crime: 30.05.2024, 07:46:04 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 750

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: RPS

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and Bird found

Carcass state: Good

Bird crime: Poisoning

Certainty category: Possible

Additional information: Expert assessment (RPS). Bird was hanging in a tree.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: No information received

Police and/or authority investigation: Authority 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 34: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1681, which died on 30.05.2024 in Vrbovce, Západné Slovensko, Slovakia. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (RPS)

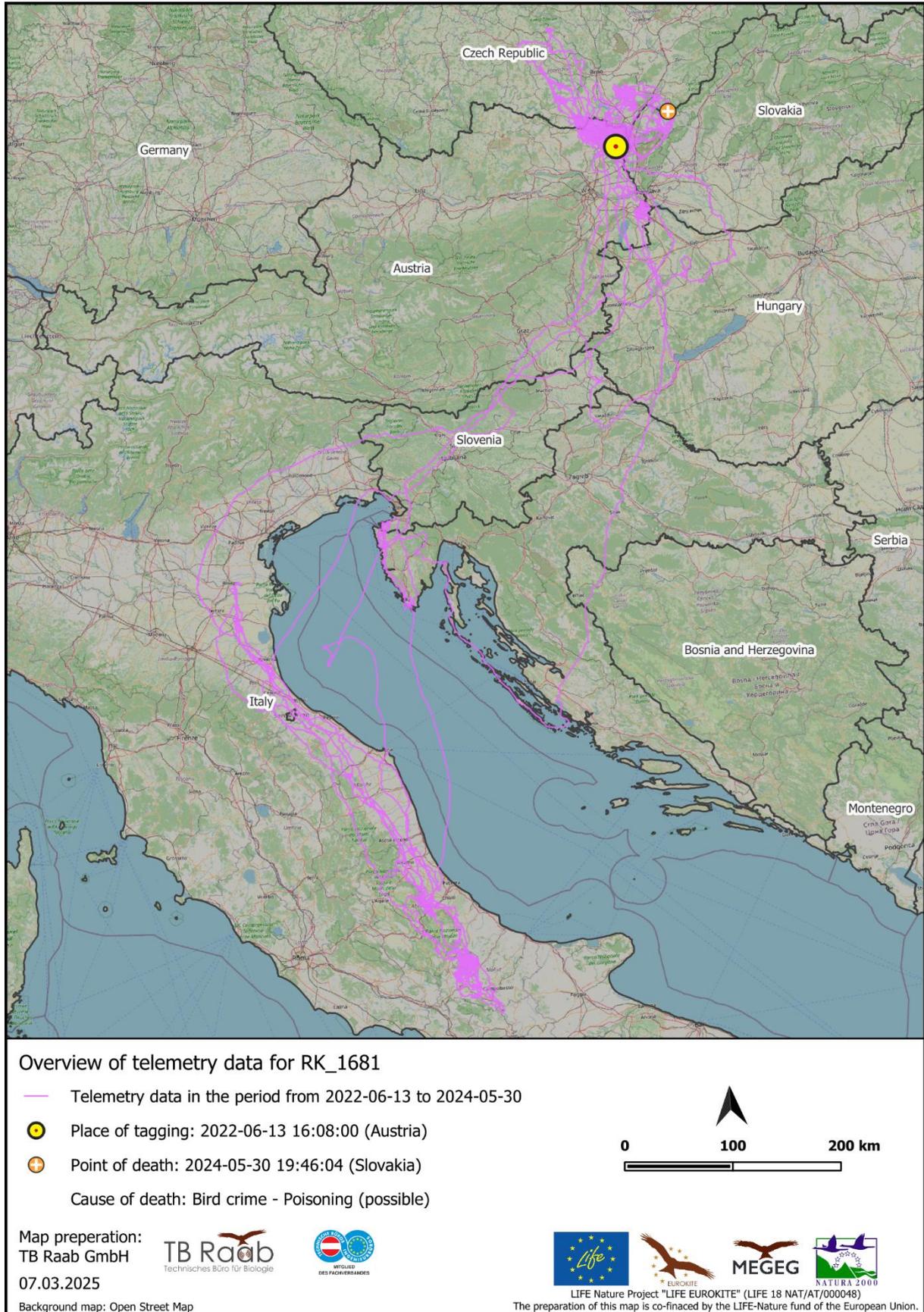


Figure 35: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1681.

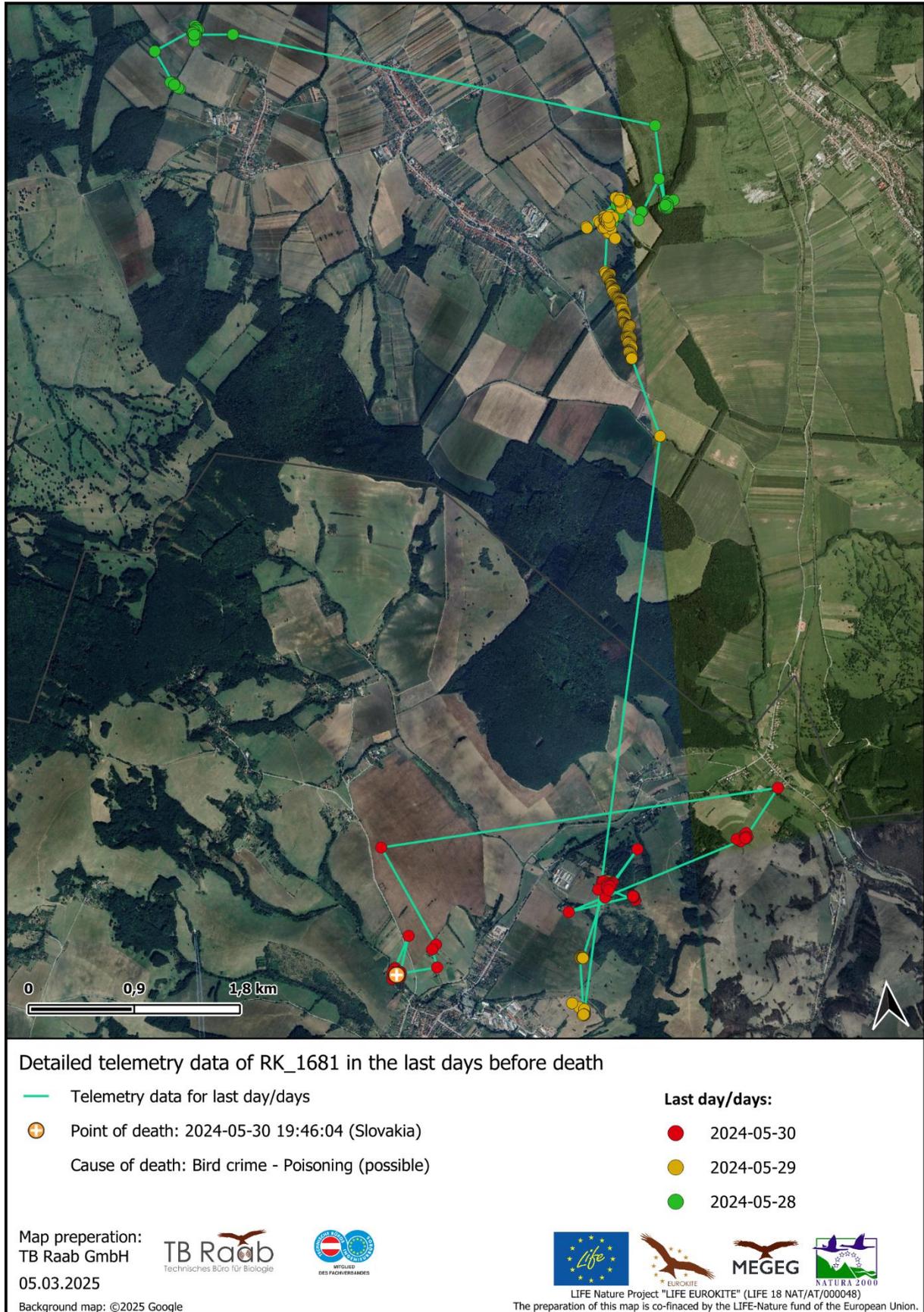


Figure 36: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1681 in the last days before death.

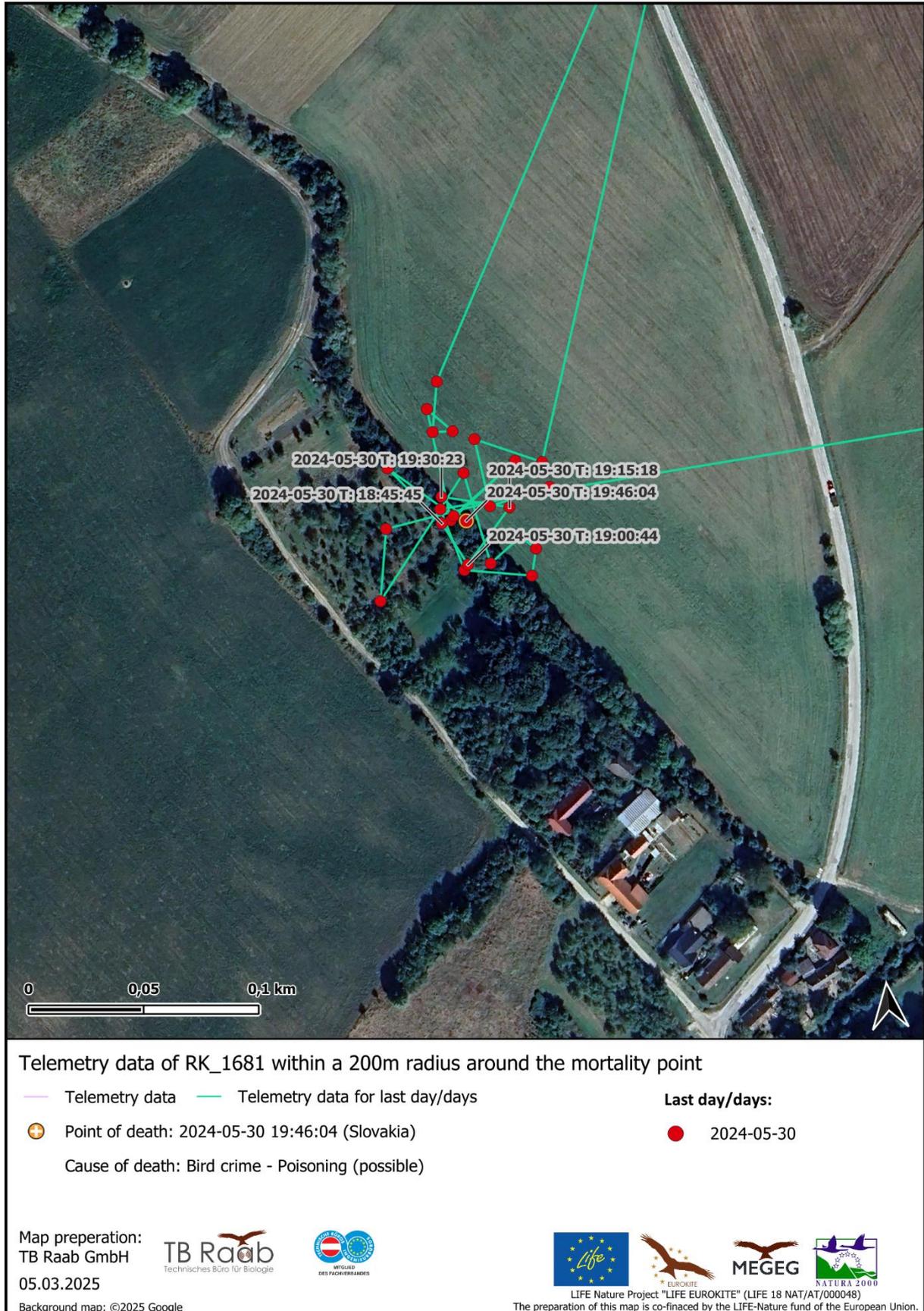


Figure 37: Telemetry data of RK_1681 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

3.2 Summary of the Slovak 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 20 tagged raptors died in Slovakia. Of those, 8 individuals (red kites) died due illegal activities. All of them were victims of poisoning (Table 1 to Table 2 & Figure 41).

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

Mortality reason	Red kite	Total
Bird crime - Poisoning	8	8
Total	8	8

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

Federal State	Bird crime - Poisoning	Total
Bratislava Region (Bratislavský kraj)	2	2
Western Slovakia (Západné Slovensko)	6	6
Total	8	8

Detected substance

3 different substances were detected in 7 toxicologically analysed birds. While Carbofuran was detected in 6 birds, 2 types of Rodenticides (Brodifacoum and Bromadiolone) were detected in 1 bird (Figure 38). Out of the 8 poisoned birds, 1 bird was either not toxicologically analysed, or the detected substance was categorised as unknown.

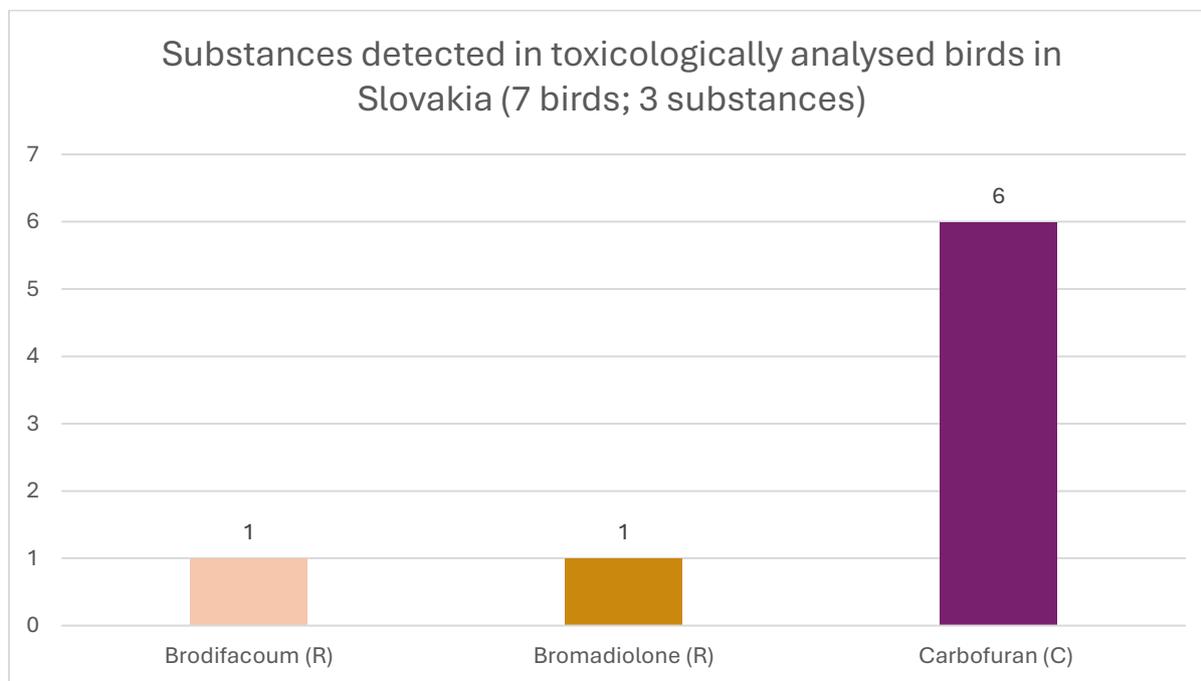


Figure 38: Substances detected (3 substances) in poisoned birds in Slovakia (7 toxicologically analysed birds with detected substances). In total, 8 birds were classified as poisoned based on field evidence and GPS data. Toxicological analyses were available for 7 individuals. One bird contained more than one toxic substances. Detected substances are classified into the following chemical groups: (C) carbamates and (R) rodenticides.

Toxicological analyses of poisoned birds revealed the presence of 3 active substances. Among the compounds identified was Carbofuran, a carbamate insecticide, as well as two rodenticides Brodifacoum, Bromadiolone. Carbofuran is not approved for use under current European legislation (European Parliament and Council of the European Union, 2009) (

Table 3). Under Regulation (EU) 528/2012 (BPR), the detected rodenticides (Brodifacoum and Bromadiolone) are approved as active substances, even though they are strictly regulated (European Parliament and Council of the European Union, 2012).

Table 3: Regulatory status and legal framework of not approved toxic substances detected in poisoned raptors in Slovakia, tagged in the LIFE EUROKITE project (2013–2024) according to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and Council.

Substance	Status	Regulation	Legislation
Carbofuran	Not approved	Reg. (EC) No 1107/2009 (repealing Directive 91/414/EEC)	Reg. (EU) 2007/416

Substances confirmed as lethal

Toxicological analyses confirmed the presence of toxic substances in 7 birds, whereas in 1 case poisoning was suspected but the responsible substance remained unknown. In all the 7 toxicologically analysed birds, toxicological threshold values were exceeded, allowing the lethal substance to be clearly identified. 6 birds were confirmed to have died from Carbofuran exposure, and 1 bird has died from rodenticide exposure (Figure 39).

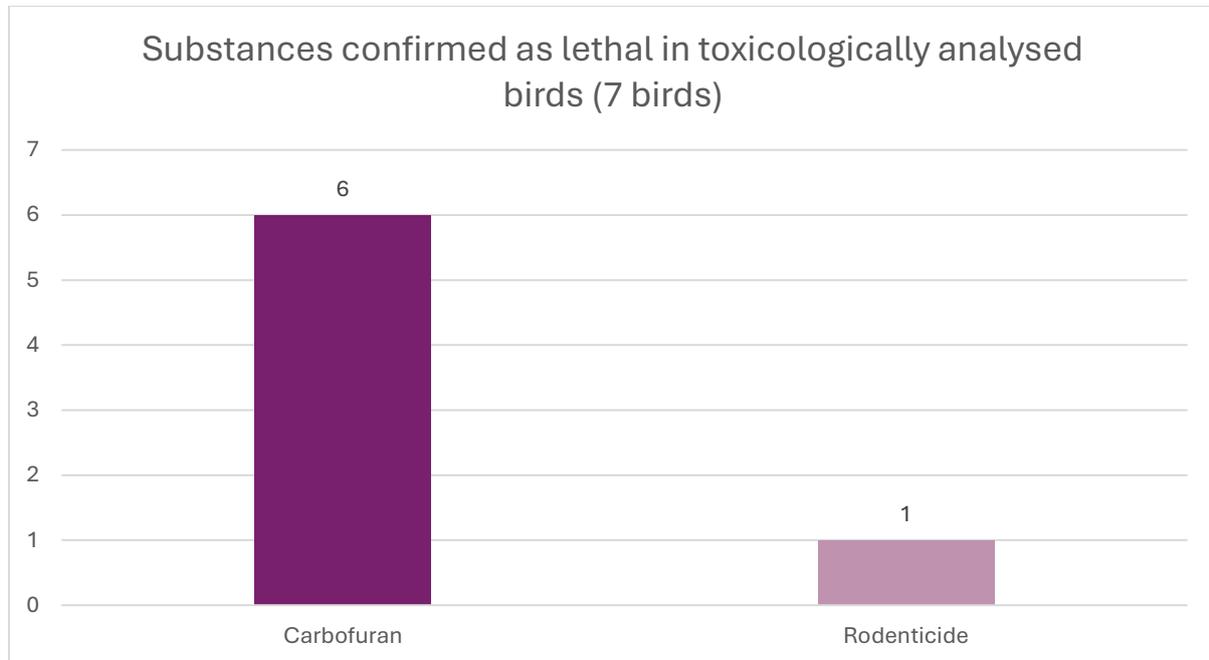


Figure 39: Toxic substances confirmed as lethal (2 substances) in poisoned birds in Slovakia. In total, 8 birds were classified as poisoned based on field evidence and GPS data. Toxicological analyses were available for 7 birds, all of which were confirmed to have died as a result of poisoning, with 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, 6 of the 8 poisoned birds were classified as intentional poisoning cases, while 2 cases remained undefined.

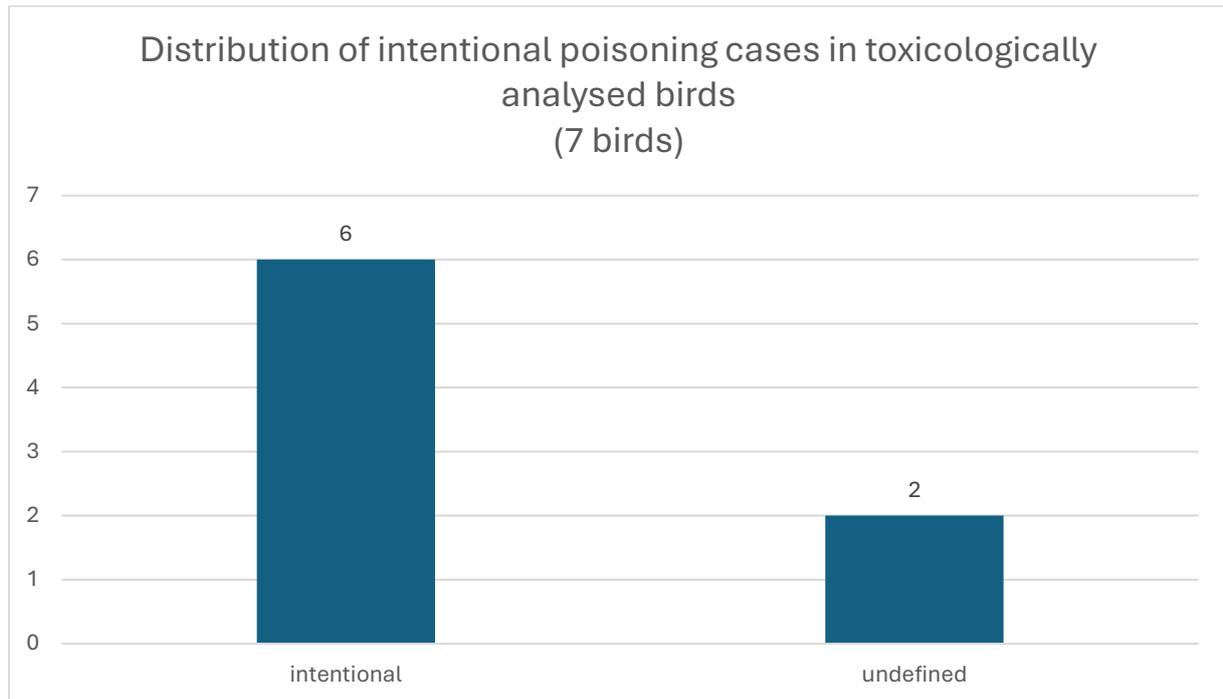


Figure 40: Number of poisoned birds classified as confirmed intentional poisoning or as cases with undetermined intent. Confirmed intentional poisoning includes cases involving toxic substances prohibited in the European Union, the presence of poisoned bait, multiple birds found dead at the same site or instances where the perpetrator has been identified. Cases with undetermined intent include birds exposed to legally permitted substances or birds without toxicological analysis. Of the 8 toxicologically analysed poisoned birds in Slovakia, 6 were classified as confirmed intentional poisoning and 2 as cases with undetermined intent.

Results of the investigation

Regarding the reporting of bird crimes to the police and or authorities, 1 case shows that only the authority was informed. In 4 cases, both the police and an authority were informed, and in 3 cases, only the police were informed (Table 4).

Table 4: Overview of Slovakian reporting of bird crimes to the police/authorities

Reporting to the police/authority	
Police and authority informed	4
Police informed	3
Authority informed	1
Total	8

Regarding the investigation status, 4 cases had no information received about the investigation. In 3 cases, the investigation is ongoing, and 1 case had the investigation stopped. For the legal proceeding status, 1 case had no legal proceeding initiated. 4 cases had no information regarding the legal proceedings, and 3 cases are pending (Table 5).

Table 5: Overview of the status of Slovakian investigation and prosecution measures for bird crime

	Investigation status	Prosecution status
No investigation/prosecution	-	1
Ongoing	3	-
Pending	-	3
Stopped	1	-
Completed	-	-
No information received	4	4
Total	8	8

In terms of conviction, 1 case resulted in no conviction, and 4 cases had no information received about the conviction status. 3 cases are still not yet convicted (Table 6).

Table 6: Overview of the conviction status

Conviction	
No conviction	1
Not yet	3
Convicted	-
No information received	4
Total	8

The reasons for no conviction include 3 cases where the legal proceedings are still ongoing. In 5 cases, no information was received regarding the reason for the lack of conviction (Table 7).

Table 7: Overview of the reasons, why there was no conviction of the bird crimes

Reason for no conviction	
Legal proceeding ongoing	3
No information received	5
Total	8

4 References

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5 List of tagged individuals which died in Slovakia

Red kite

RK_0010.....	11
RK_0015.....	16
RK_0012.....	21
RK_0271.....	26
RK_0022.....	31
RK_1193.....	36
RK_1788.....	41
RK_1681.....	46



CPEW
Campaign against criminal poisoning of European Wildlife

**POISONING
IS THE DIFFERENCE.**

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

<https://chng.it/zCZhxGhQSy>

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