



LIFE EUROKITE CRIME REPORT

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

PART 2 - COUNTRY SPECIFIC RESULTS - AUSTRIA

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, 23.02.2026

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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Part 7 - Country specific results - France

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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. So far (10/01/2025), 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 Austria and will give a detailed inside of the status of investigations and legal procedure.

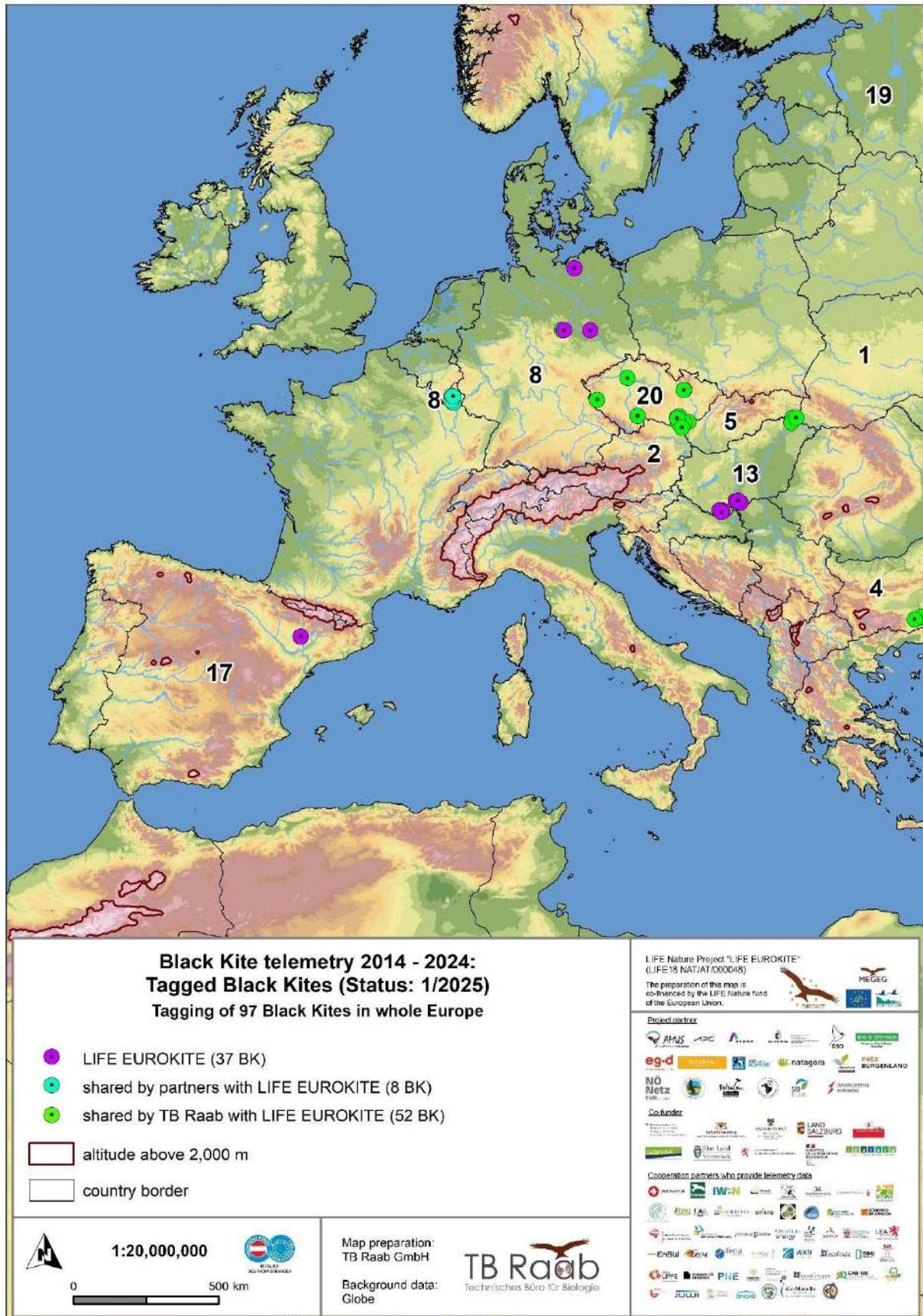


Figure 2: Tagging of 97 black kites by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2014- 2024.

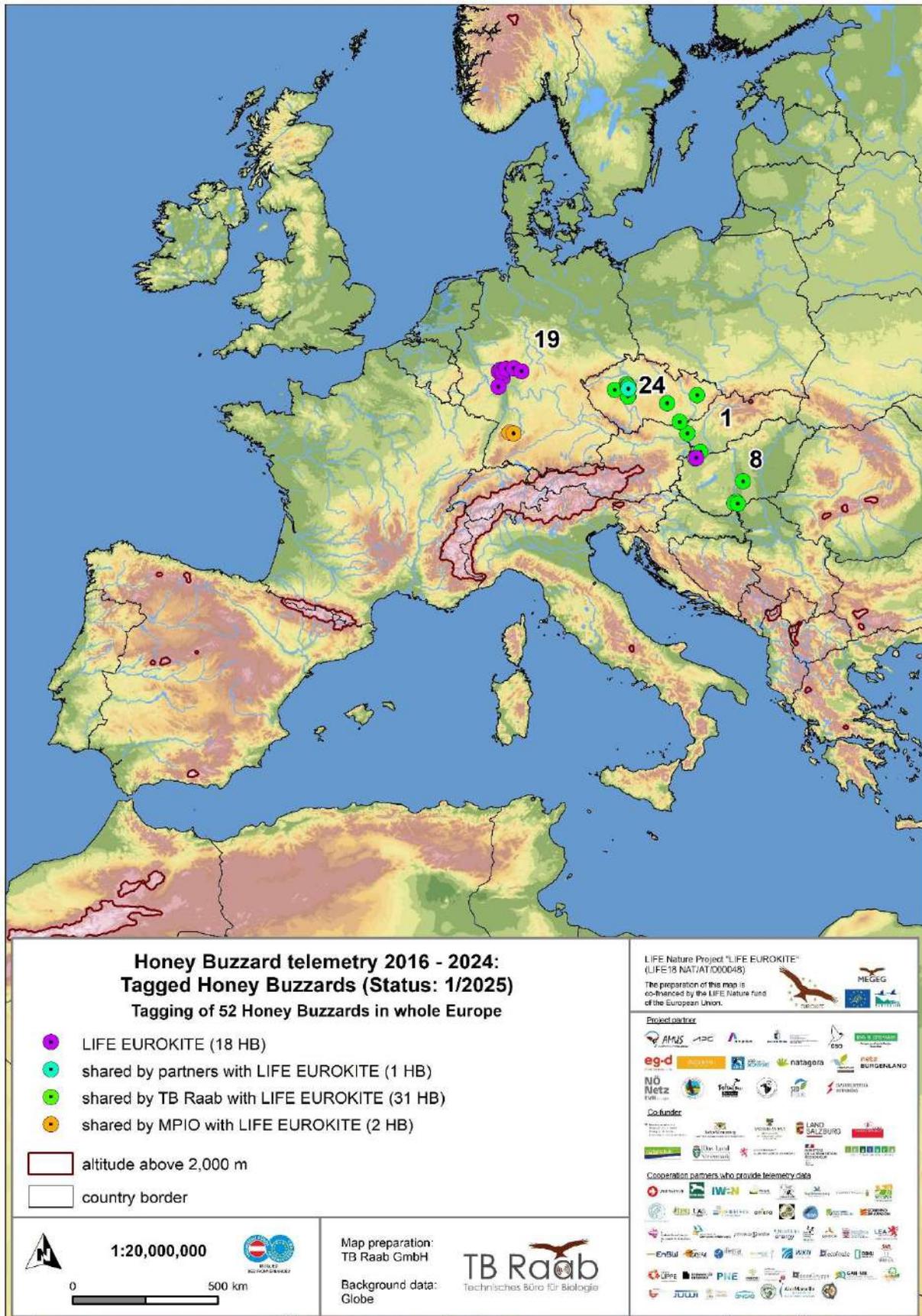


Figure 4: Tagging of 52 honey buzzards by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe in the years 2016-2024.

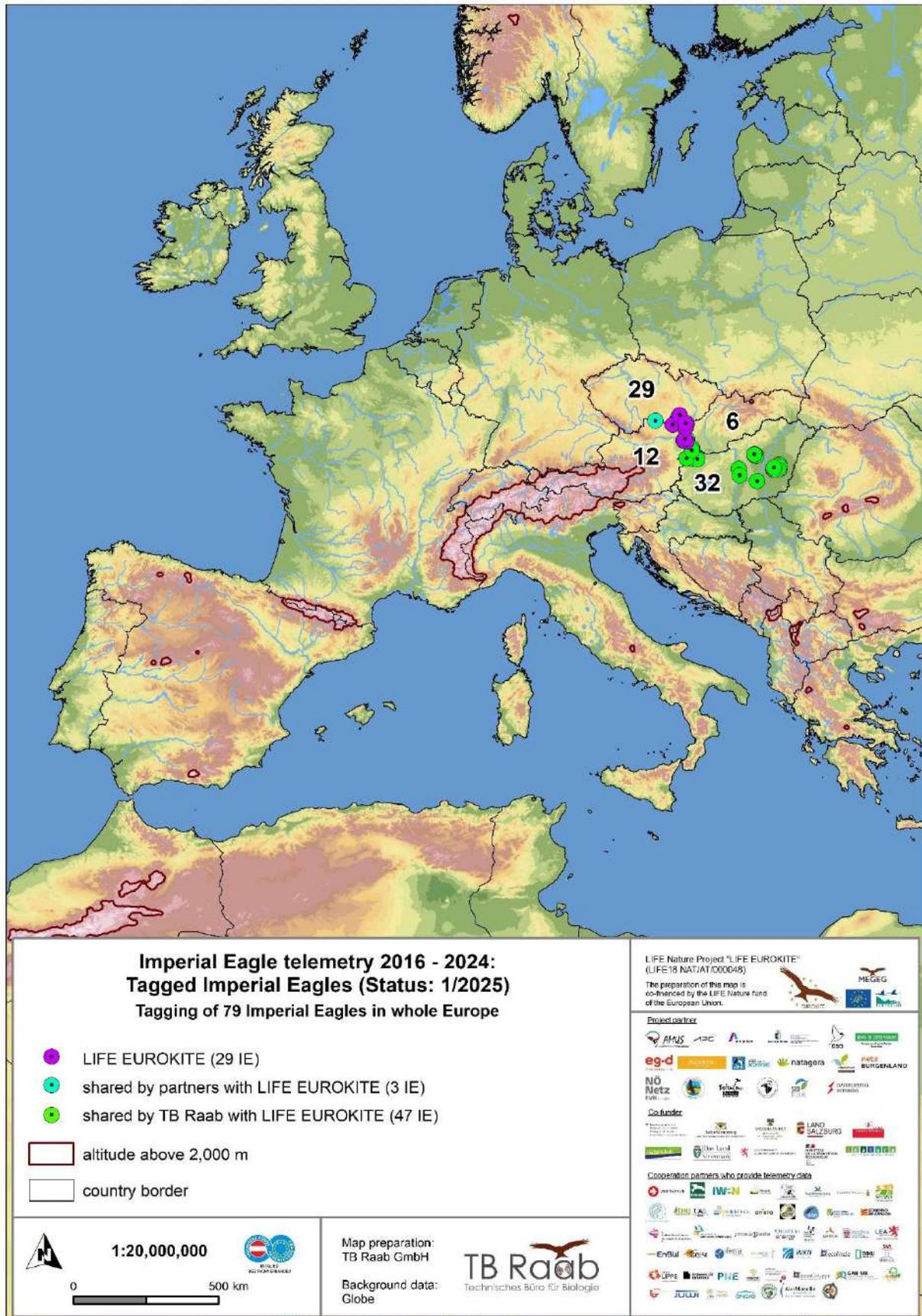


Figure 5: Tagging of 79 imperial eagles by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2016-2024.

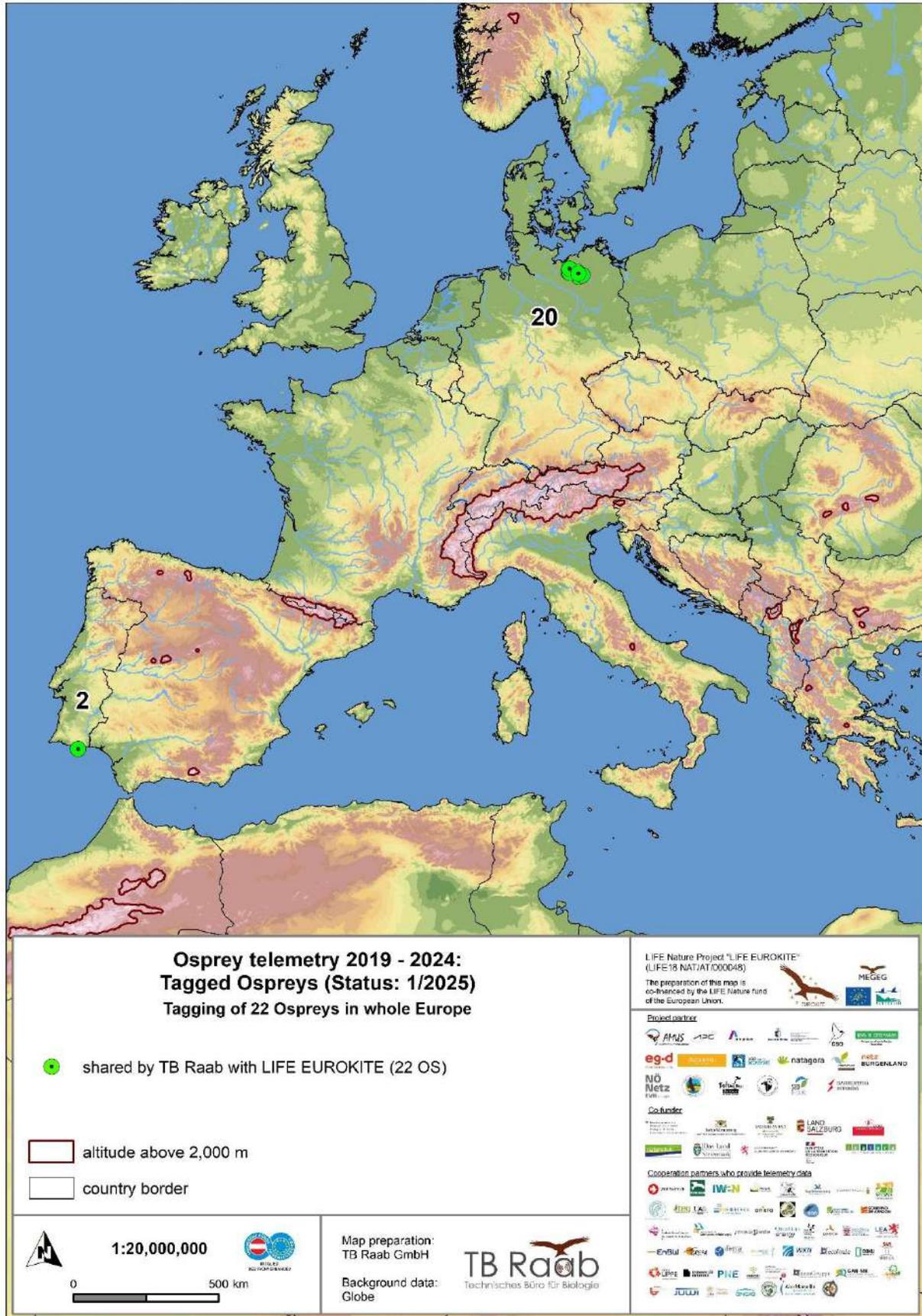


Figure 6: Tagging of 22 Ospreys by the LIFE EUROKITE project and numerous cooperation and project partners across Europe the years 2019-2024.

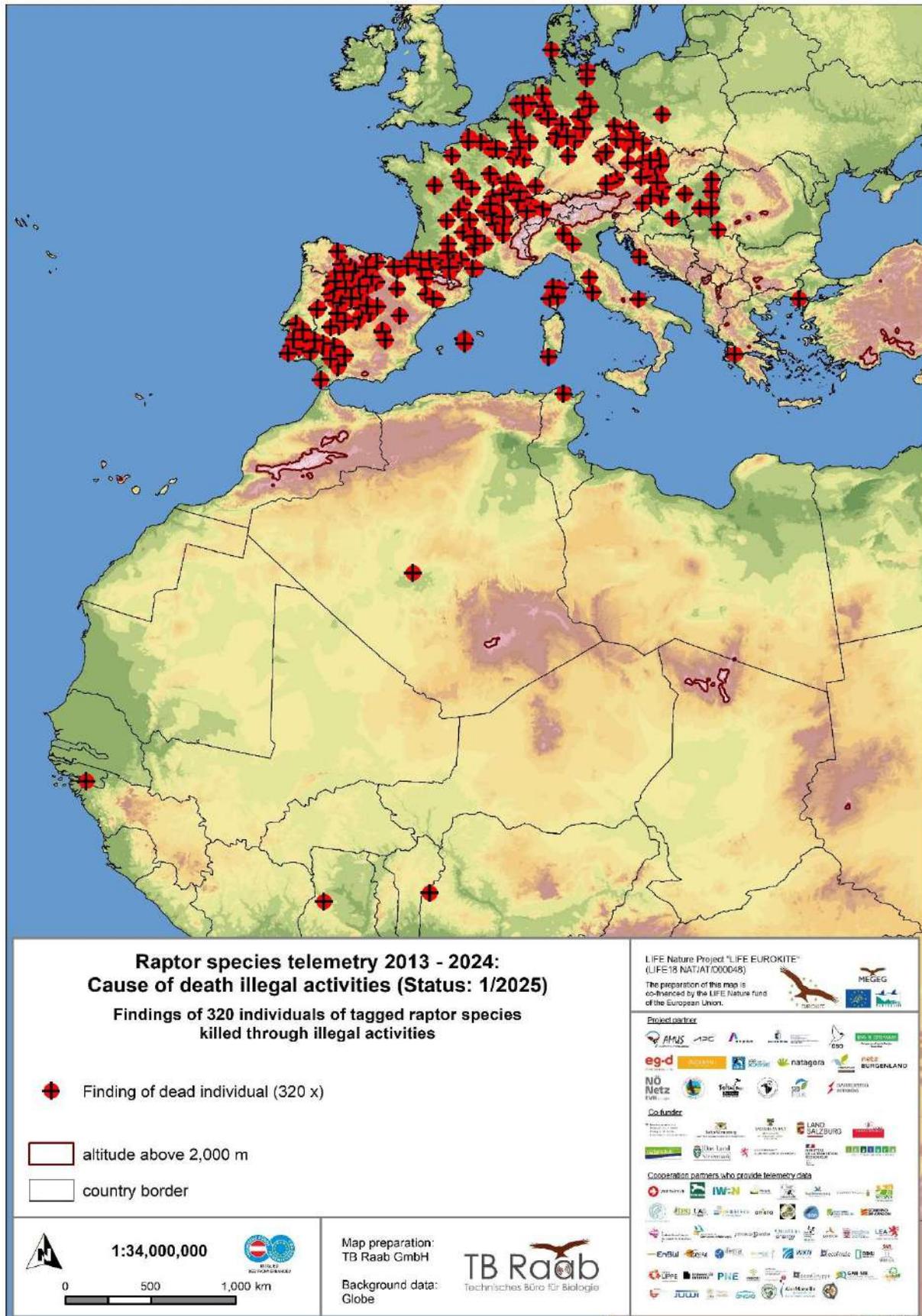


Figure 8: Interim results of 320 tagged birds which died due to illegal activities in the years 2013 to 2024.

3 Austrian results

The subsequent section provides a detailed overview of the cases with illegal mortality reasons in Austria. A total of 21 tagged birds have been confirmed as victims of illegal activities. Of these, 10 succumbed to poisoning, 9 were shot, 1 died due to trapping and 1 died as a result of bird crime.

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_0001

General information about the bird

Name: Gösting_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 13.05.2013

Place of tagging: Zistersdorf, Lower-Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 17.05.2015

Age at tagging: 3.+ CY

Origin of bird: Captured with trap

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 08 – MLS 04

Ring number: JC57503

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Gösting, Lower-Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,5655330, 16,7404329

Date of bird crime: 20.08.2015, 8:02:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 829

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Good

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirm that the bird was poisoned by Carbofuran.

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 9: Left: Finding situation of the red kite RK_0001 which died on 20 August 2015 in Gösting, Lower-Austria, Austria. Right: Close-up of the animal's head. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive

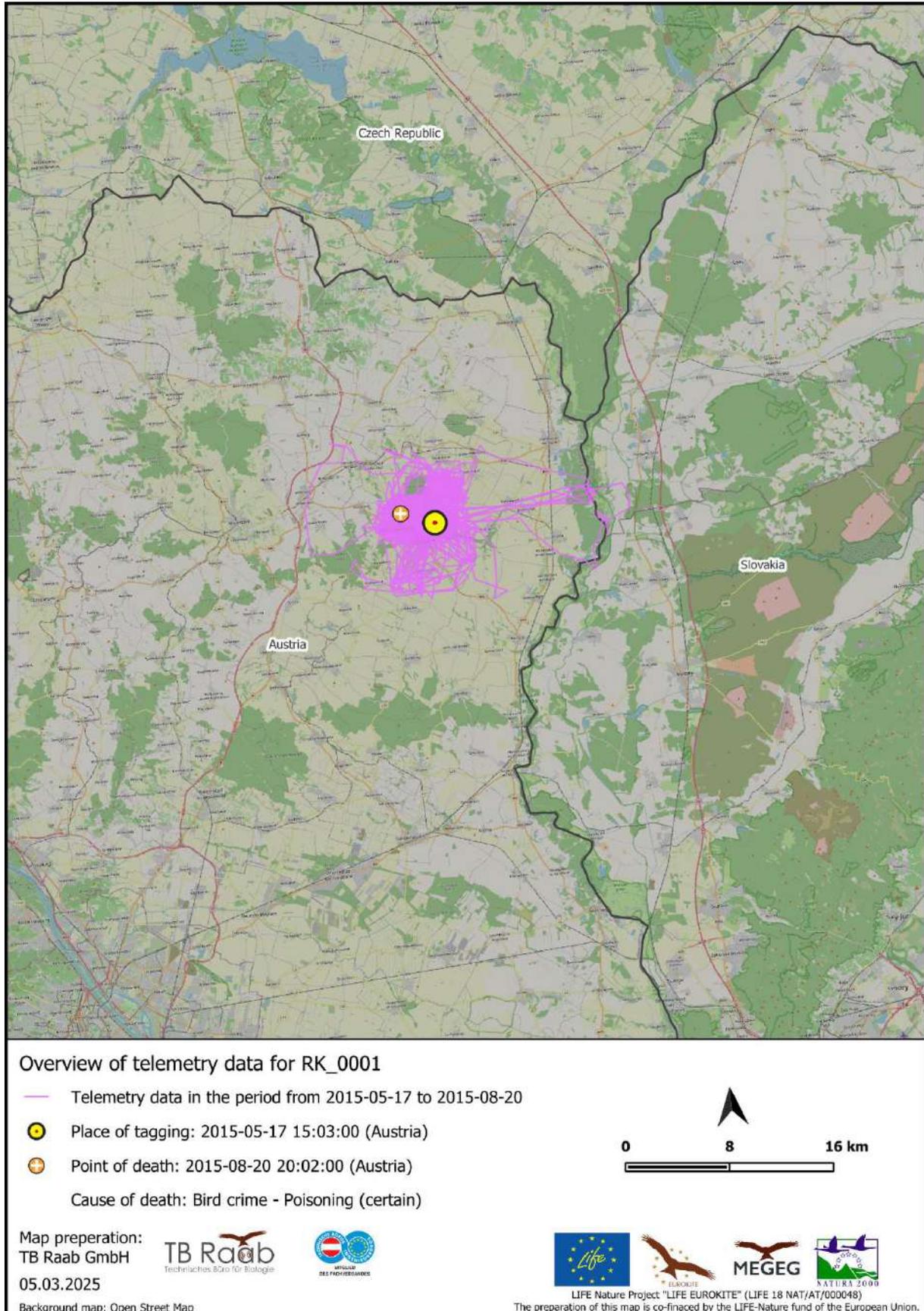


Figure 10: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0001.

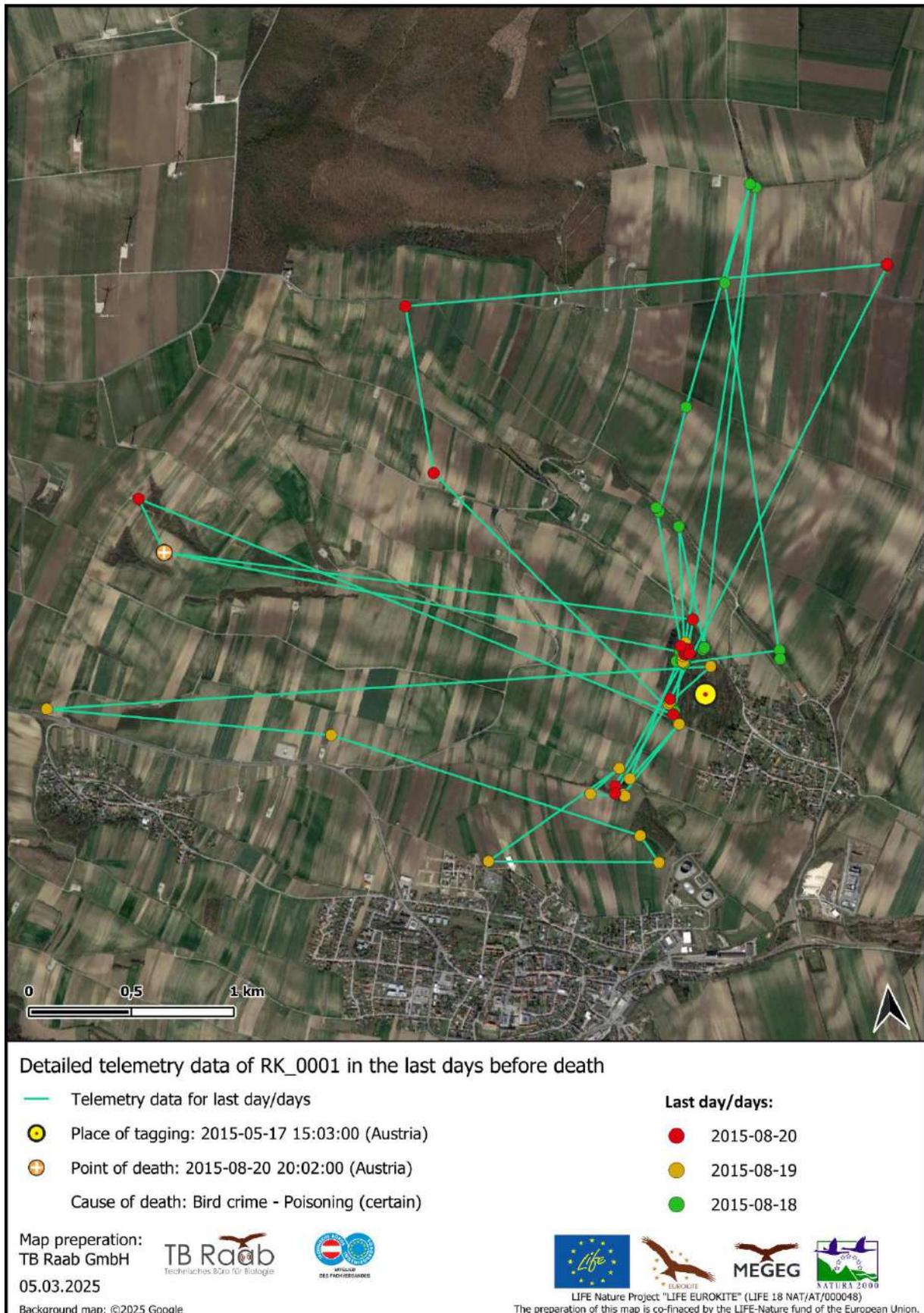


Figure 11: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0001 in the last days before death.

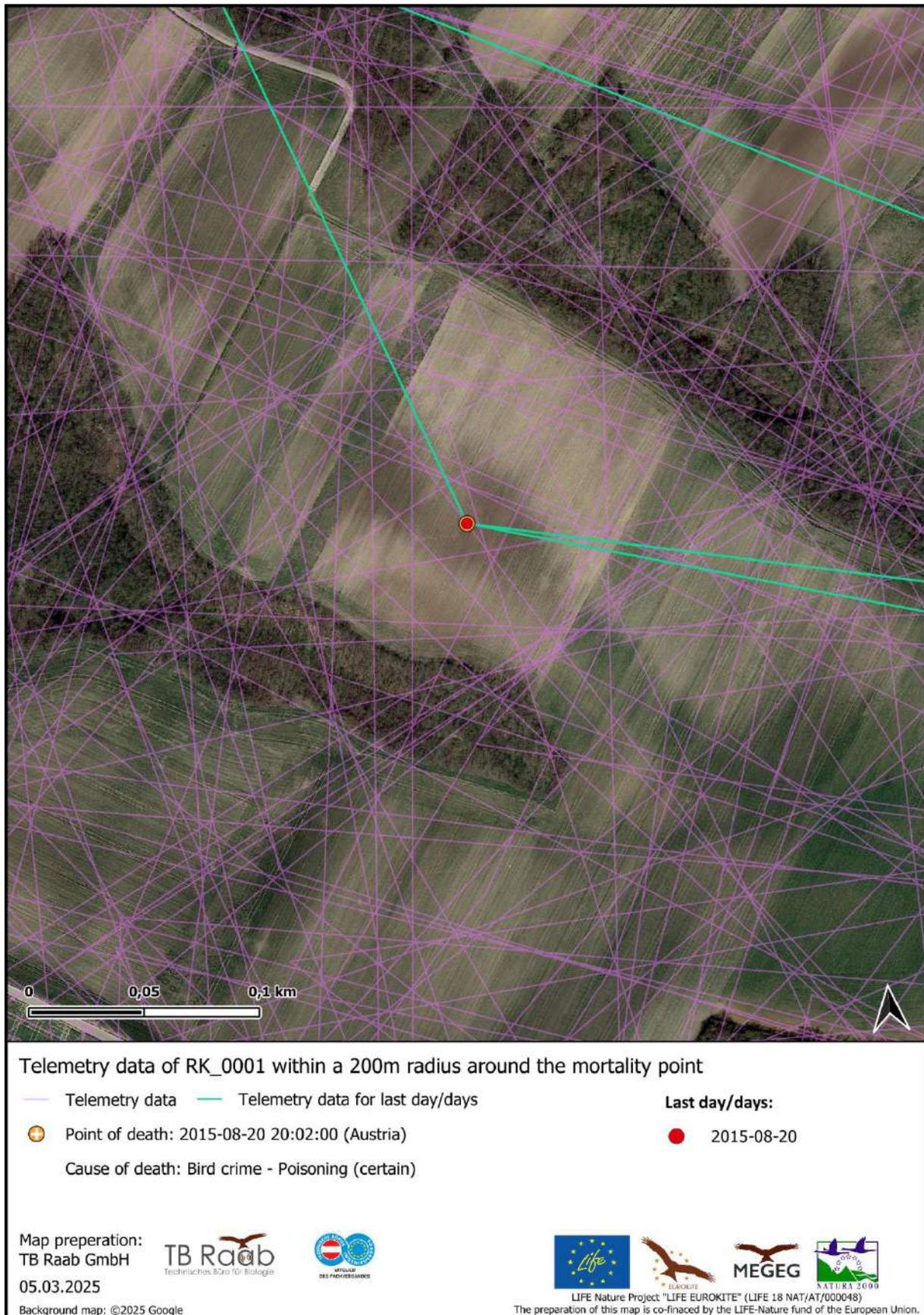


Figure 12: Telemetry data of RK_0001 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0029

General information about the bird

Name: Lanzhot_03

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 13.05.2016

Place of tagging: Lanzhot, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 05.06.2016

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 31 – AAA 29 kite

Ring number: CT1681

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Groß-Inzersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,5230669, 16,7946829

Date of bird crime: 25.09.2016, 8:04:00 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 135

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: No information received

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirm that the bird was poisoned by Carbofuran.

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

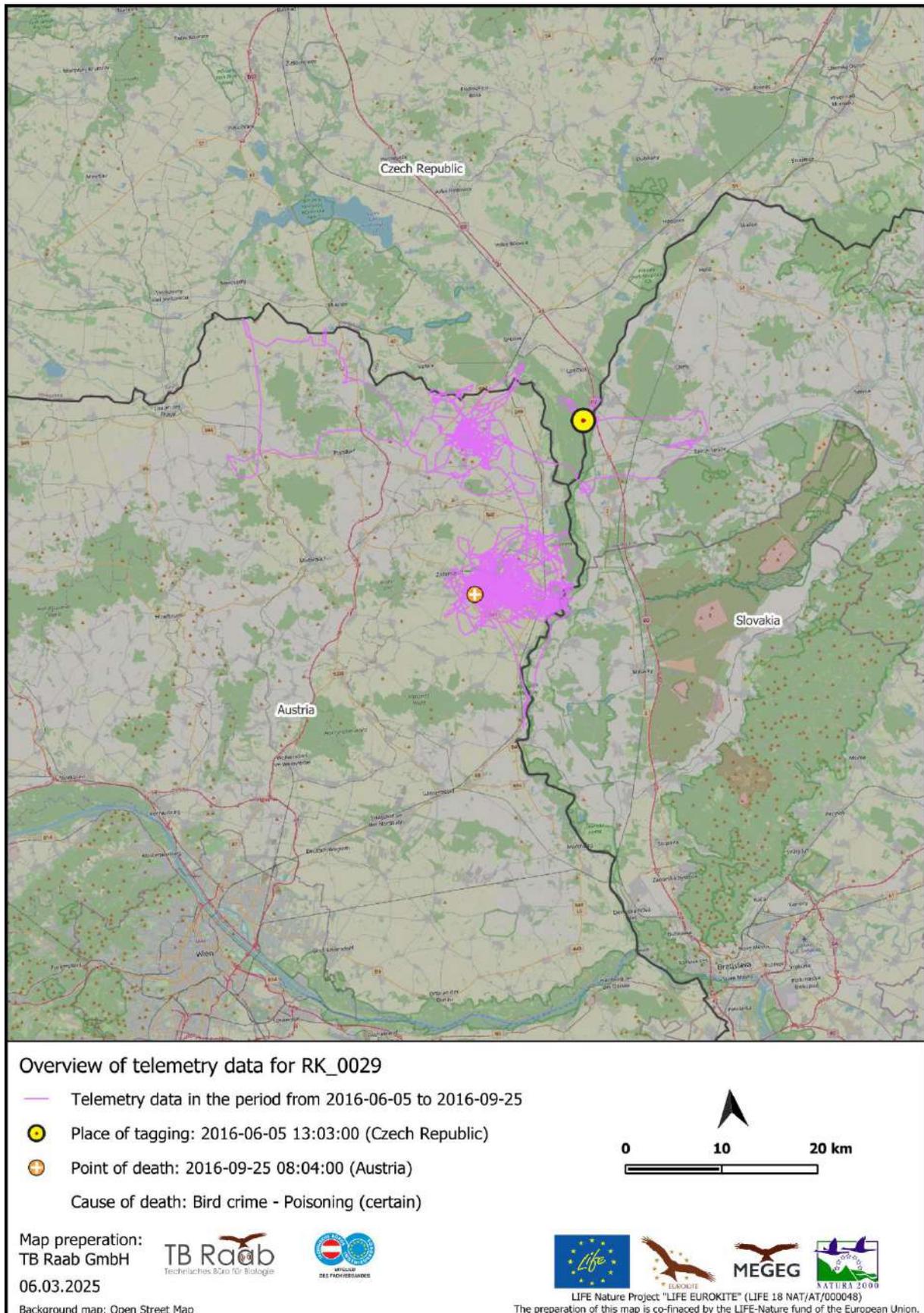


Figure 13: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0029.

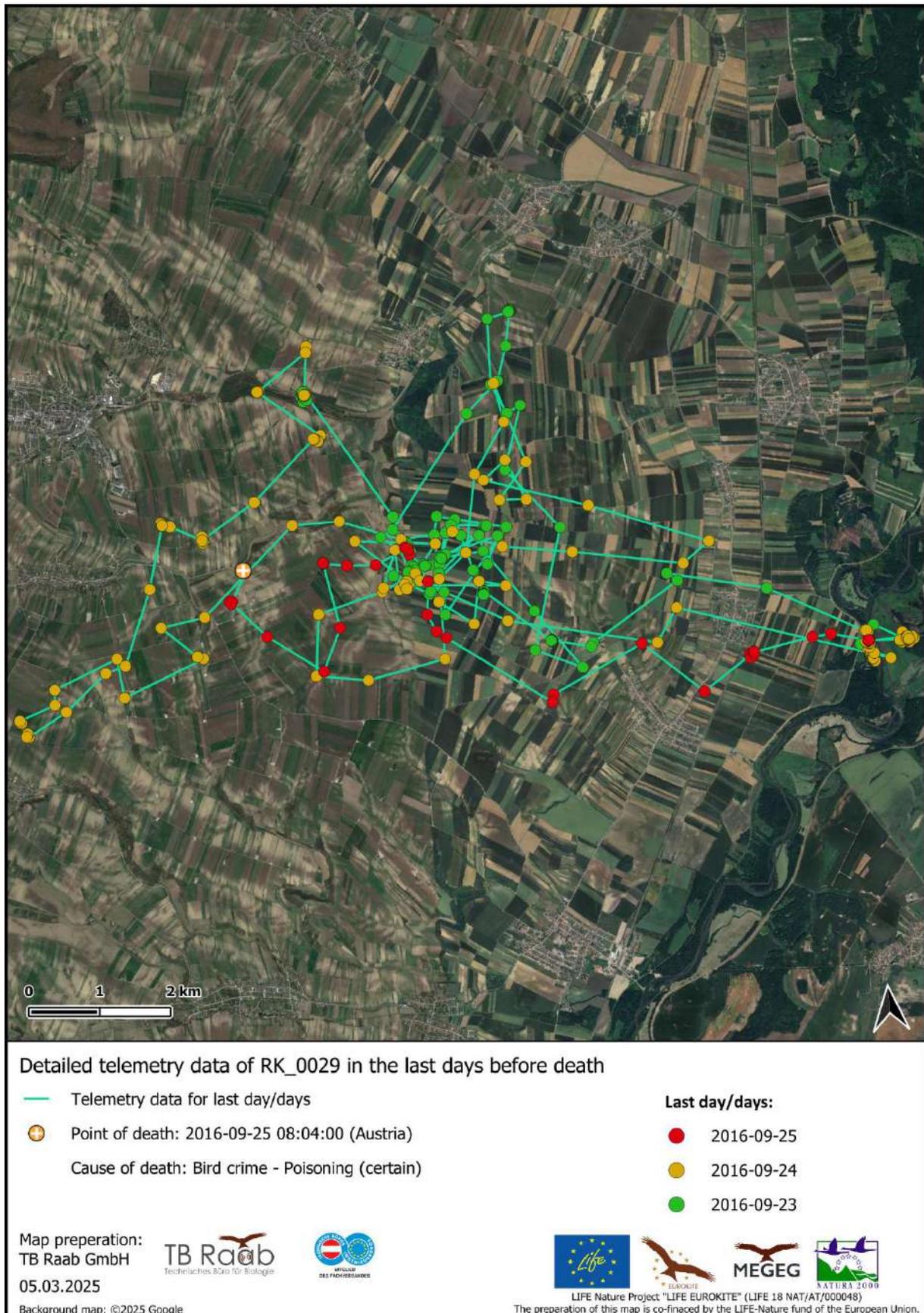


Figure 14: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0029 in the last days before death.

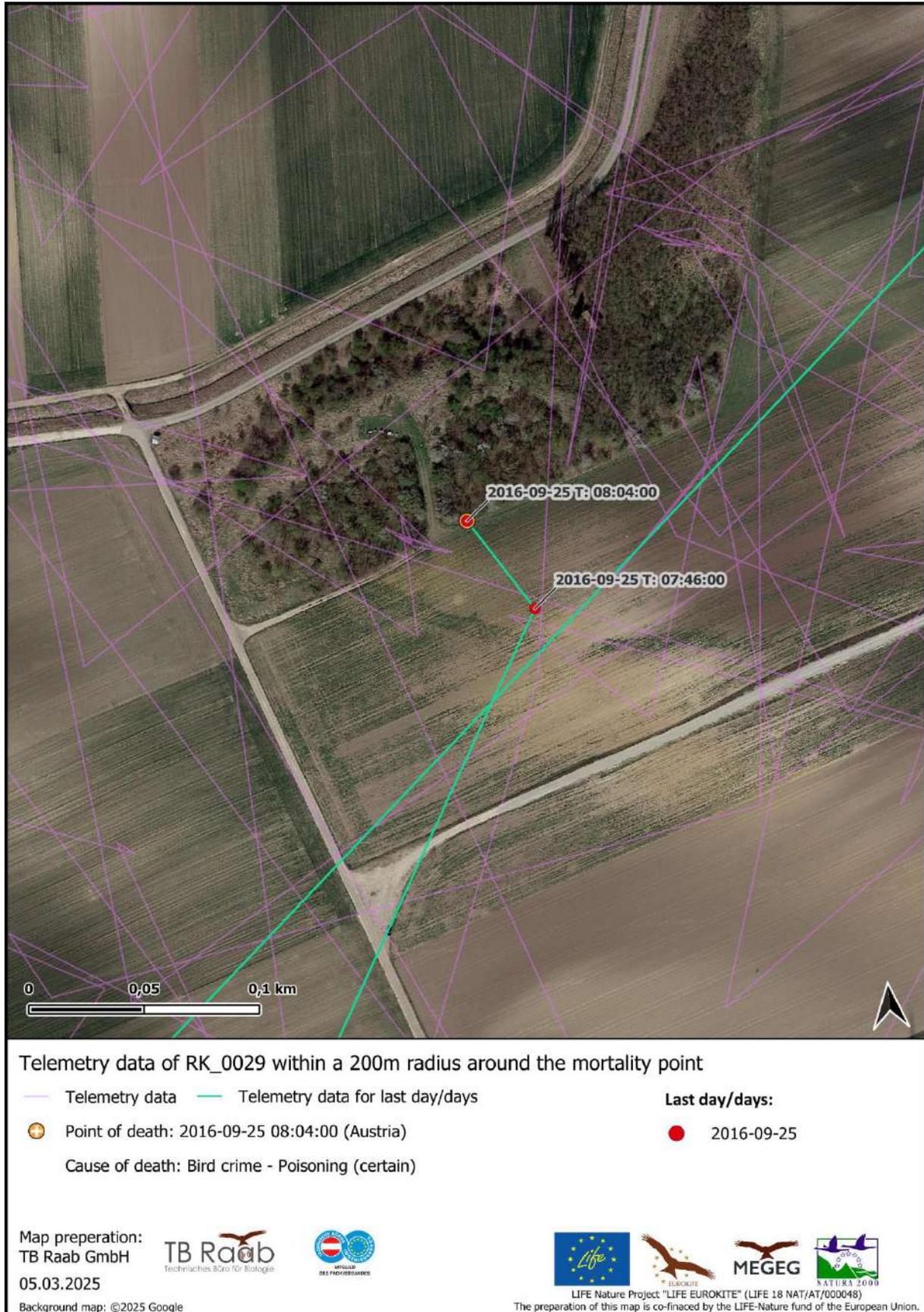


Figure 15: Telemetry data of RK_0029 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0049

General information about the bird

Name: Ivan_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 03.05.2016

Place of tagging: Ivan, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 13.06.2016

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 52 – AAA 05 kite

Ring number: CT735

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Nickelsdorf, Burgenland, Austria

Coordinates: 47,9667170, 17,0864170

Date of bird crime: 17.02.2017, 12:41:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 290

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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)

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? Too little evidence

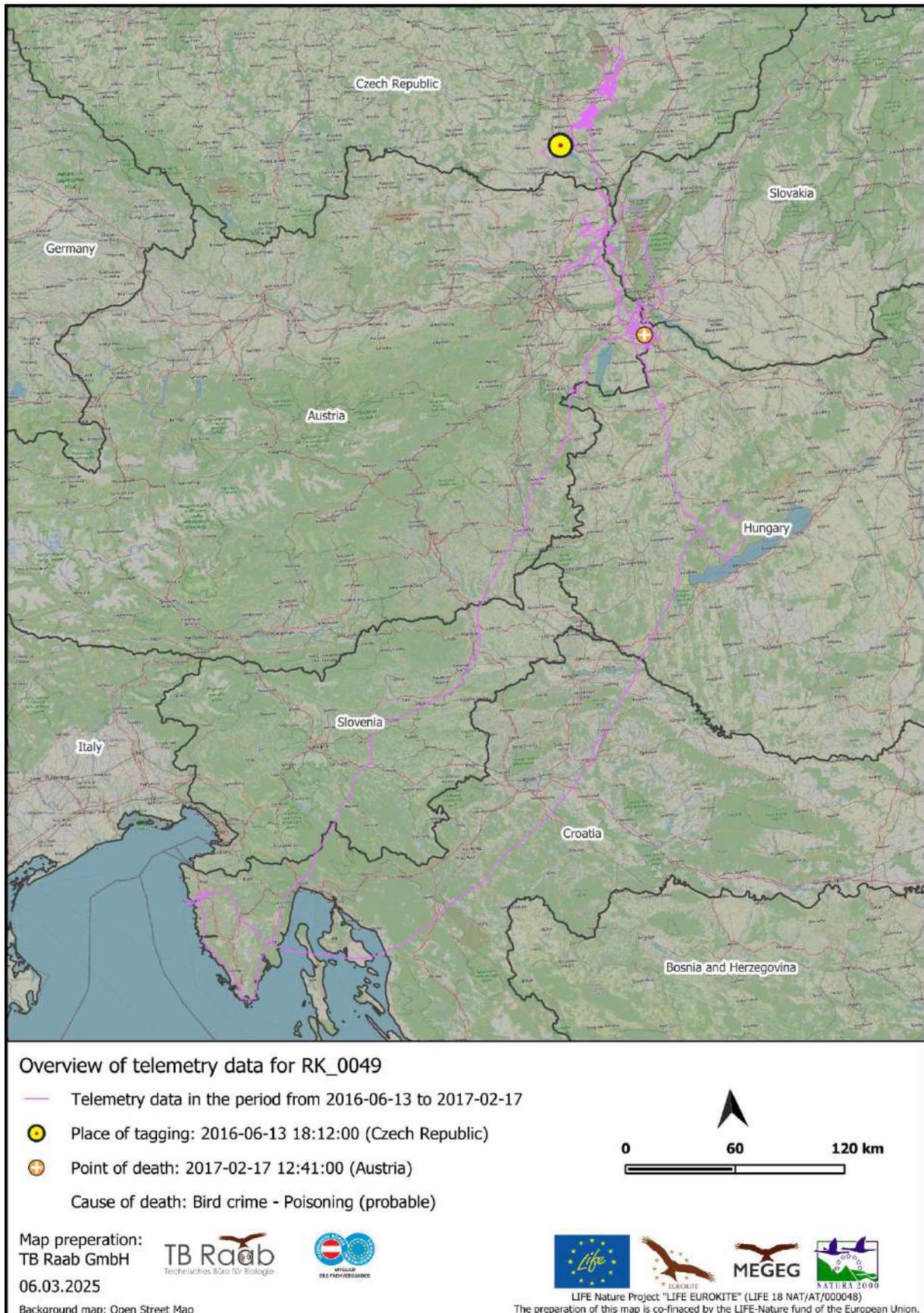


Figure 16: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0049.

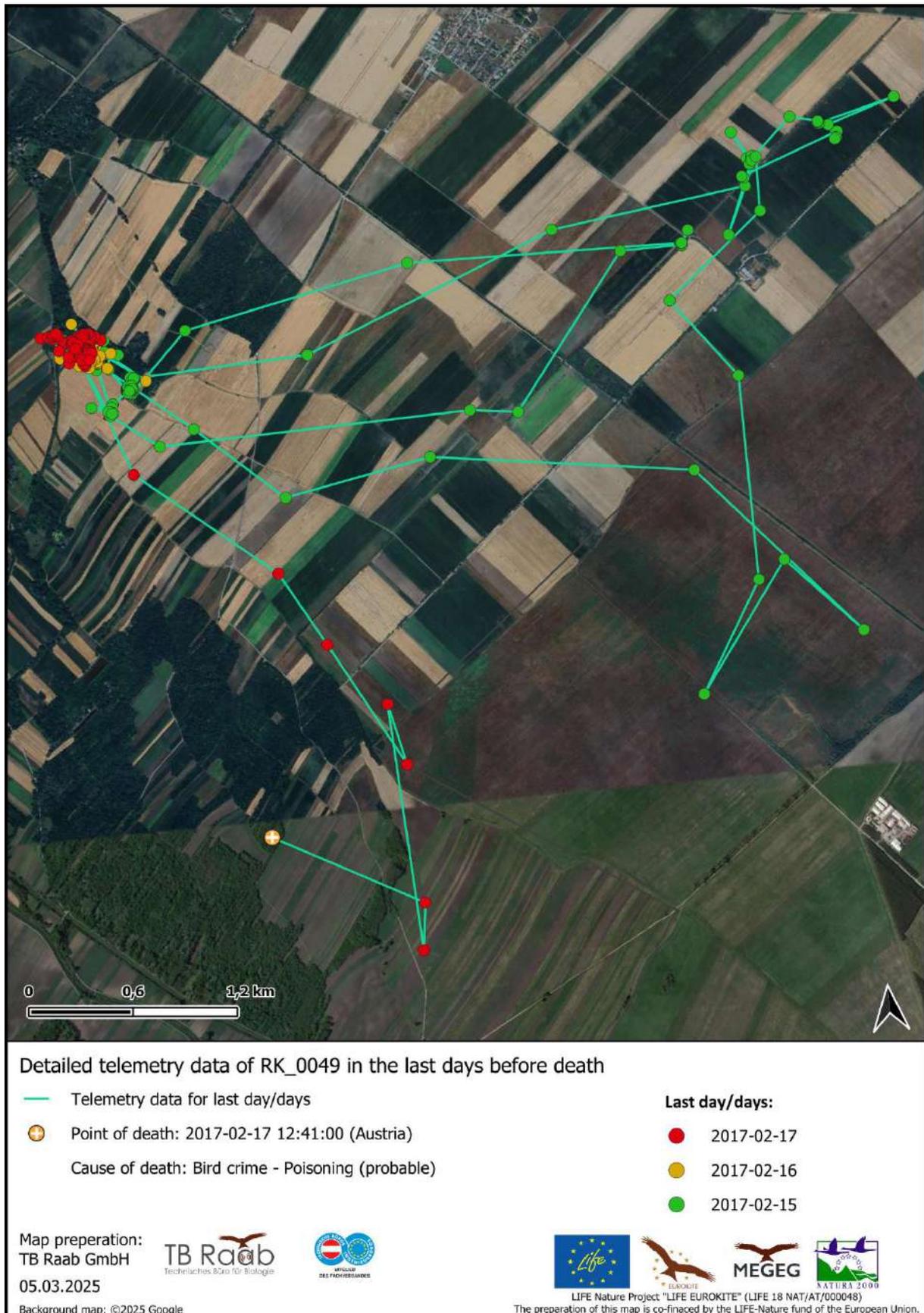


Figure 17: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0049 in the last days before death.

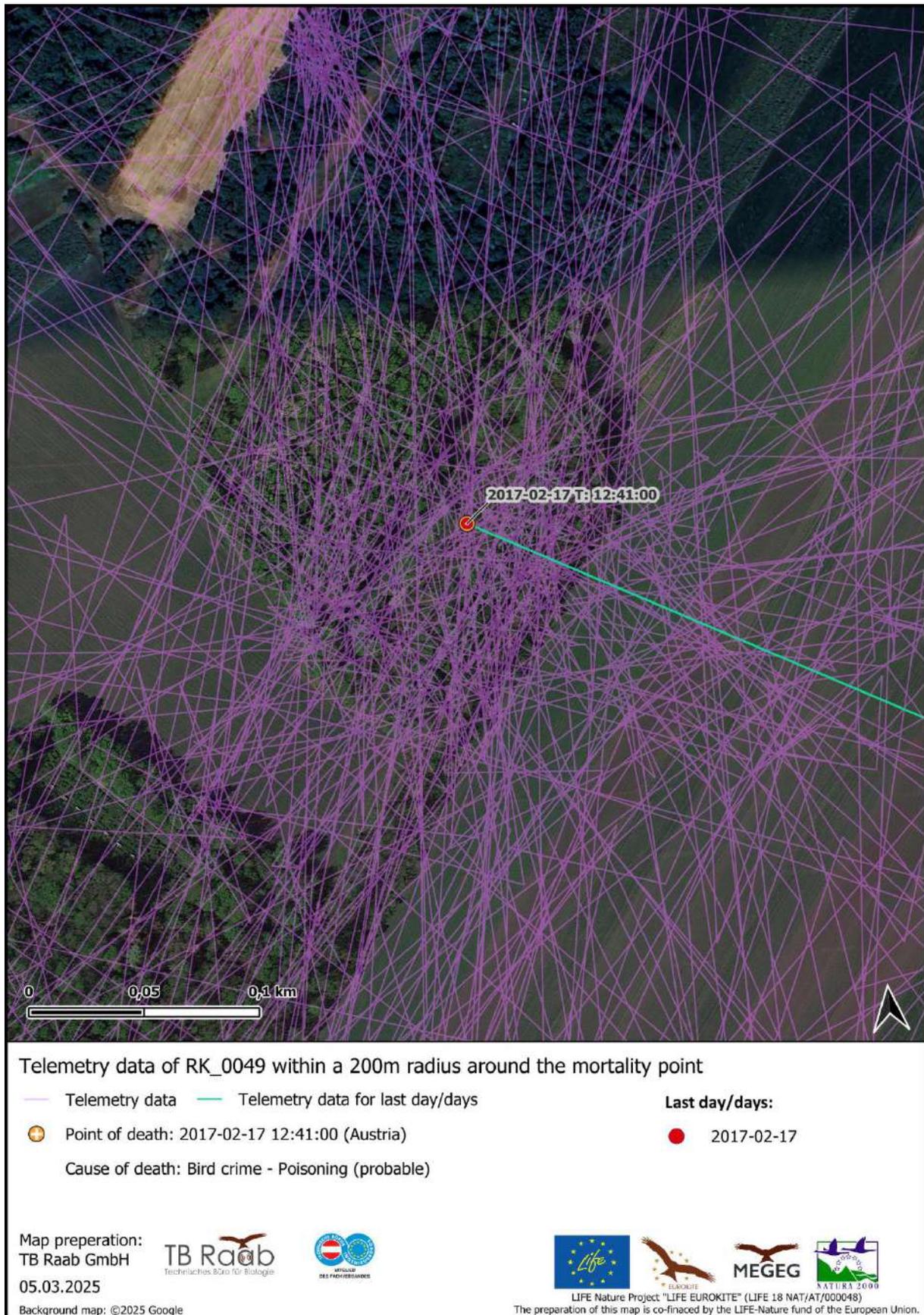


Figure 18: Telemetry data of RK_0049 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0033

General information about the bird

Name: Gösting_04

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 01.05.2016

Place of tagging: Zistersdorf, Lower-Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 11.06.2016

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 35 – AAA 25 kite

Ring number: JC75456

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Gaiselberg, Lower-Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,5302999, 16,7372830

Date of bird crime: 02.04.2017, 12:45:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 336

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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: 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

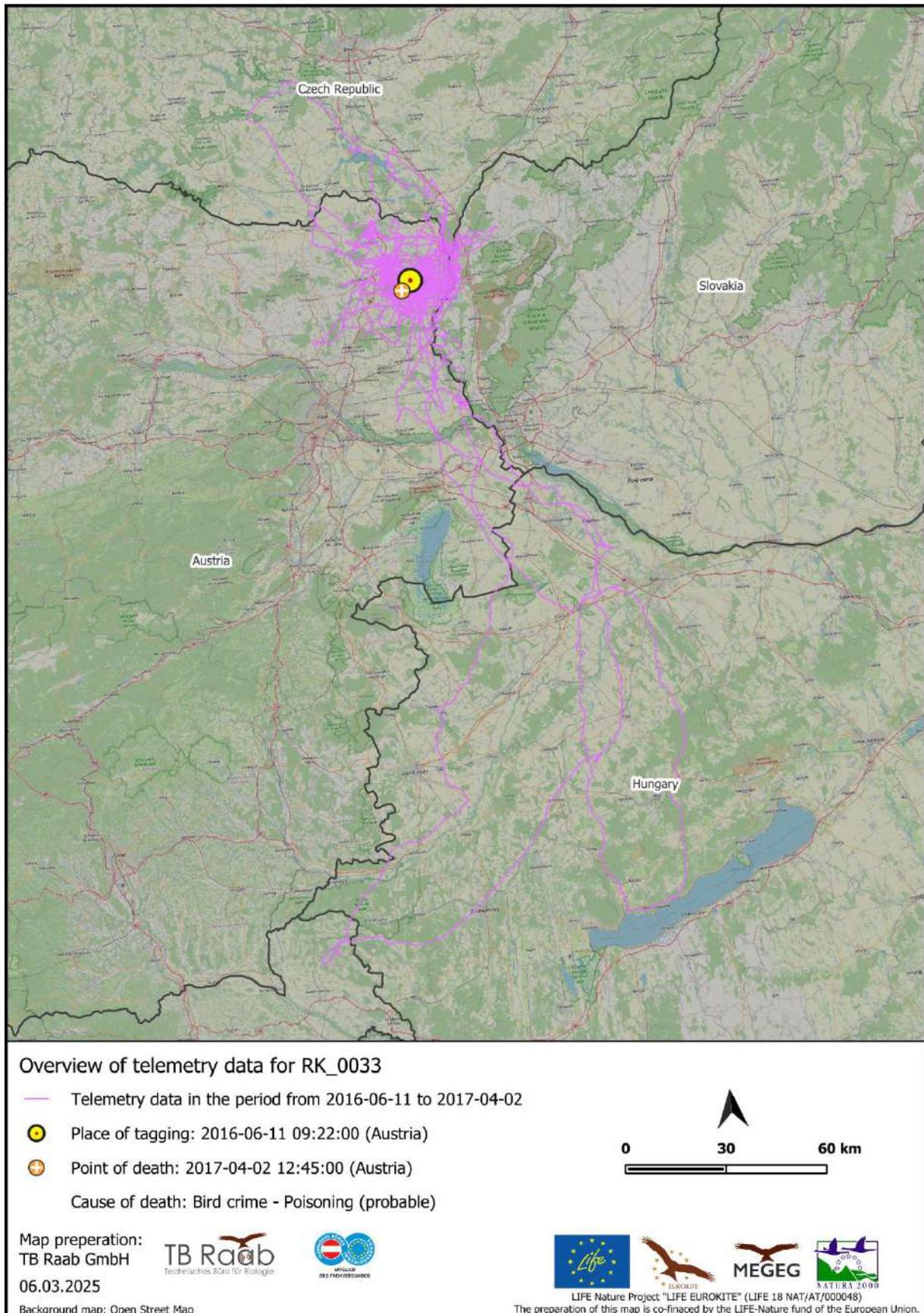


Figure 19: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0033.

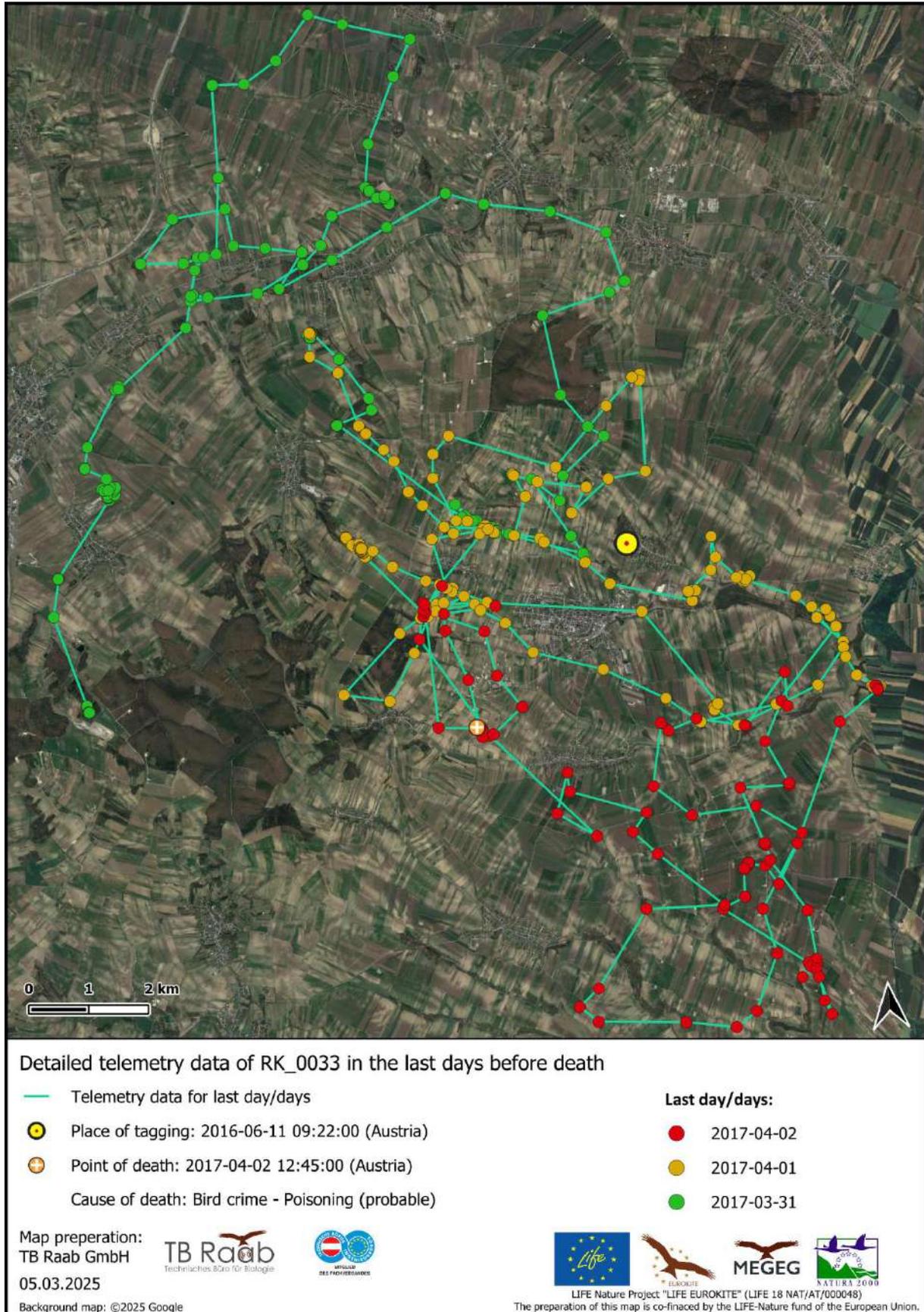


Figure 20: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0033 in the last days before death.

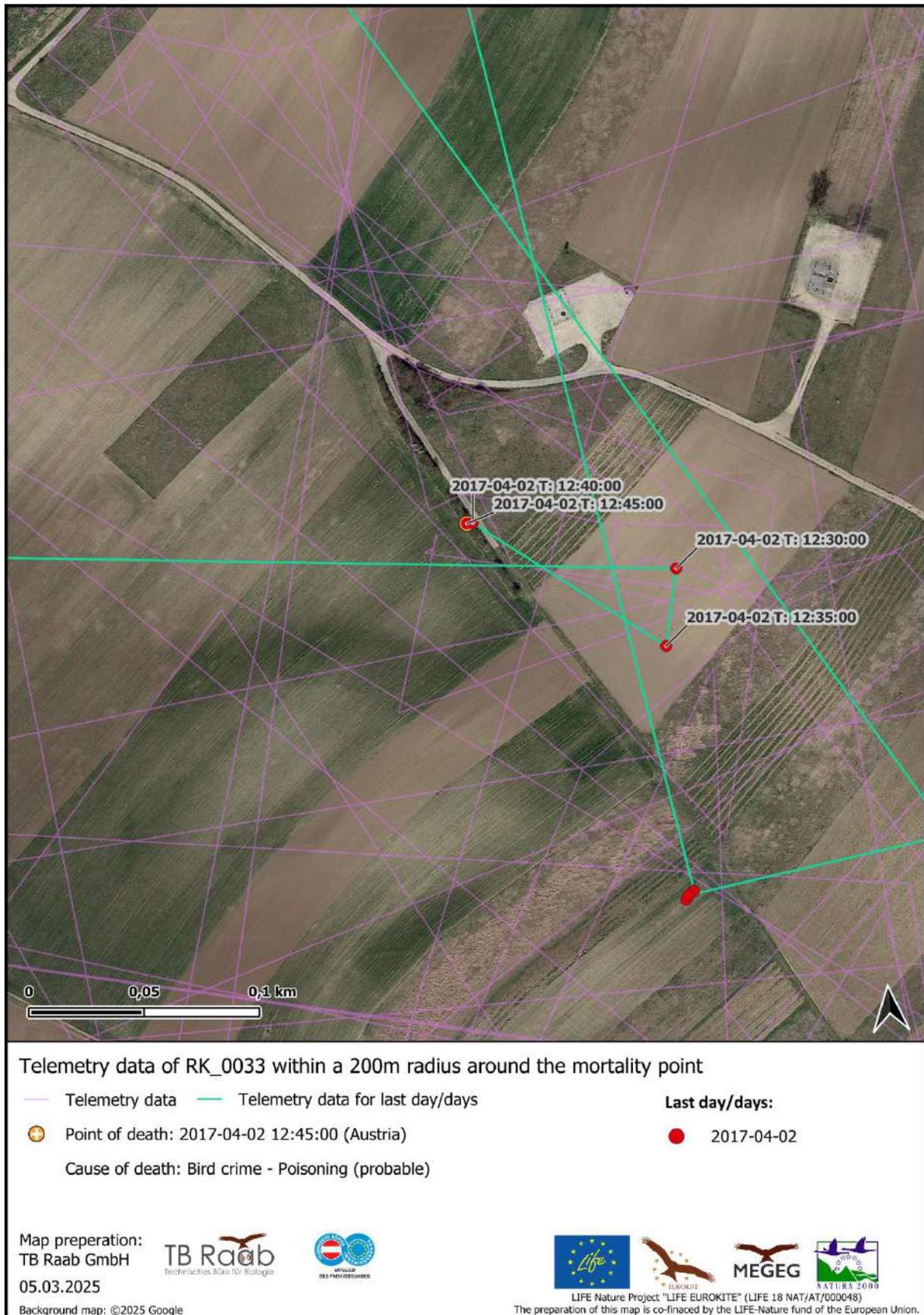


Figure 21: Telemetry data of RK_0033 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0069

General information about the bird

Name: Moravska_Nova_Ves_04

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 05.05.2017

Place of tagging: Moravska Nova Ves, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 08.06.2017

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 37 - AAA 20 kite

Ring number: CT1455

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Zistersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,5430330, 16,7421499

Date of bird crime: 31.07.2017, 9:43:00 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 87

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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)

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

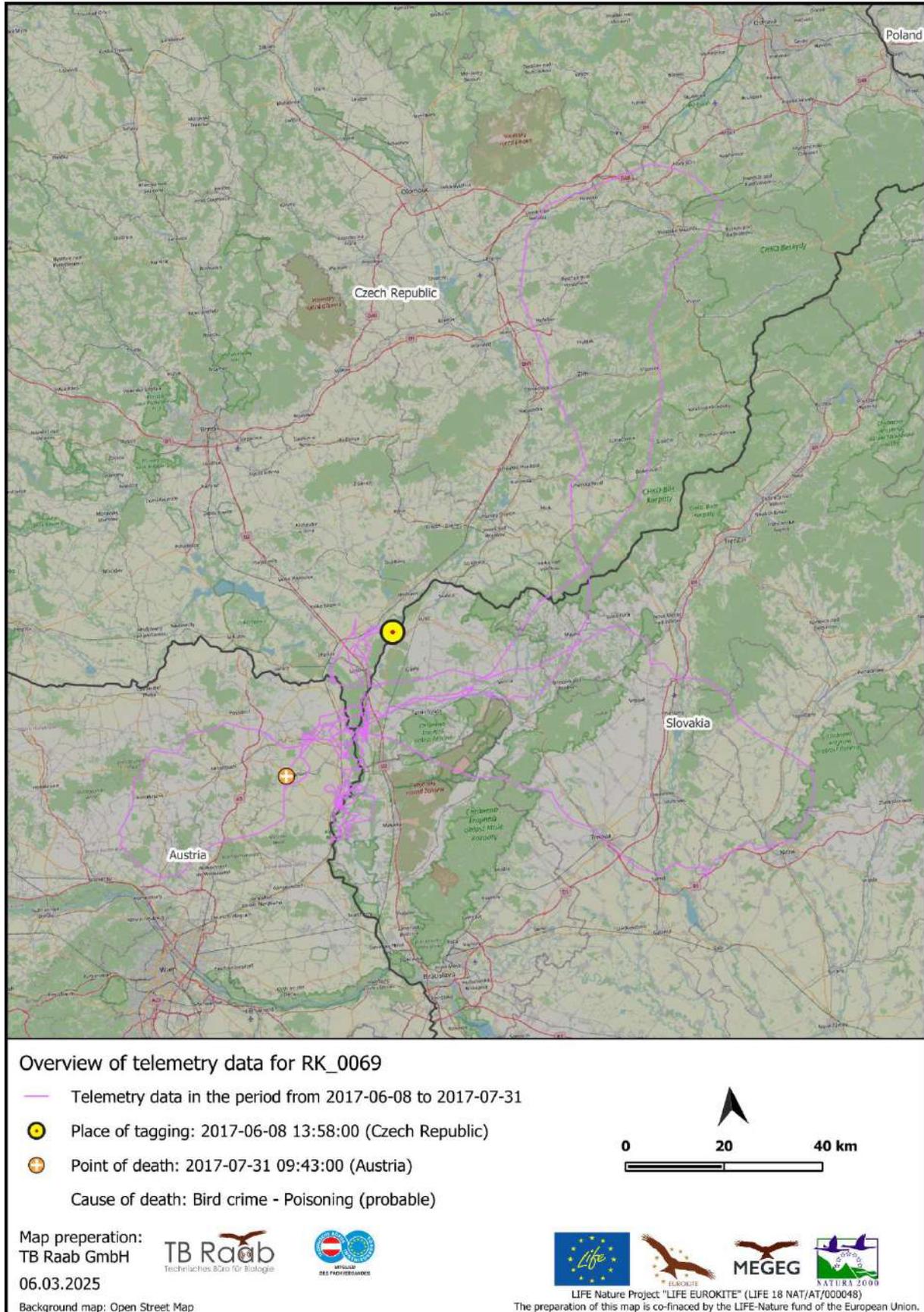


Figure 22: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0069.

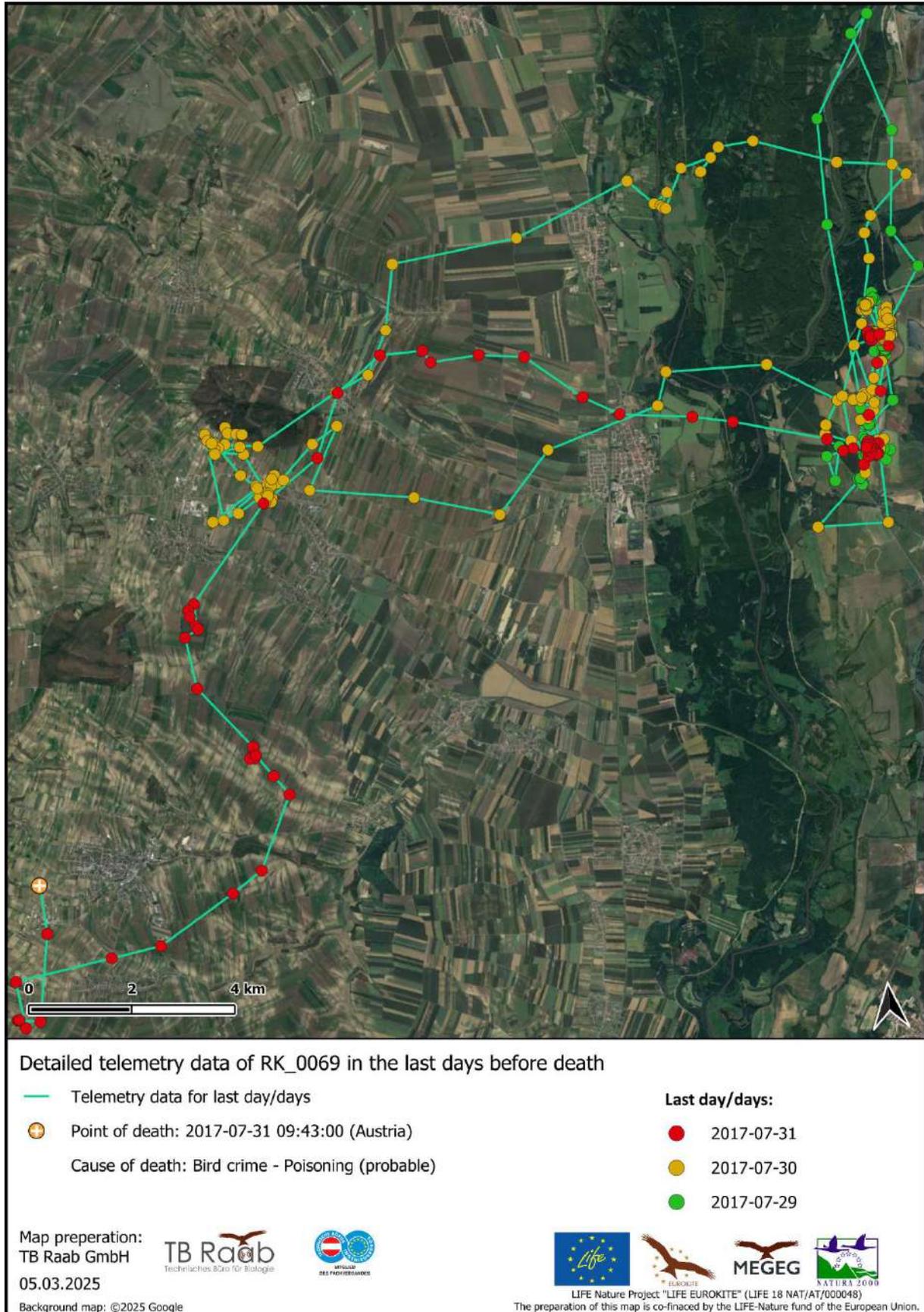


Figure 23: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0069 in the last days before death.



Figure 24: Telemetry data of RK_0069 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0007

General information about the bird

Name: Gösting_02

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 05.05.2015

Place of tagging: Zistersdorf, 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 07 – MLS 05

Ring number: JC57513

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Groß-Inzersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,514567, 16,76125

Date of bird crime: 17.02.2019, 3:00:00 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 1384

Age at bird crime: 5. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Very bad

Bird crime: Poisoning

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirmed that the red kite died through poisoning. In addition, a poisoned white-tailed eagle and a hare were found nearby.

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 25: Feathers of the red kite RK_0007 that died on 17.02.2019 in Groß-Inzersdorf, Lower-Austria, Austria. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive

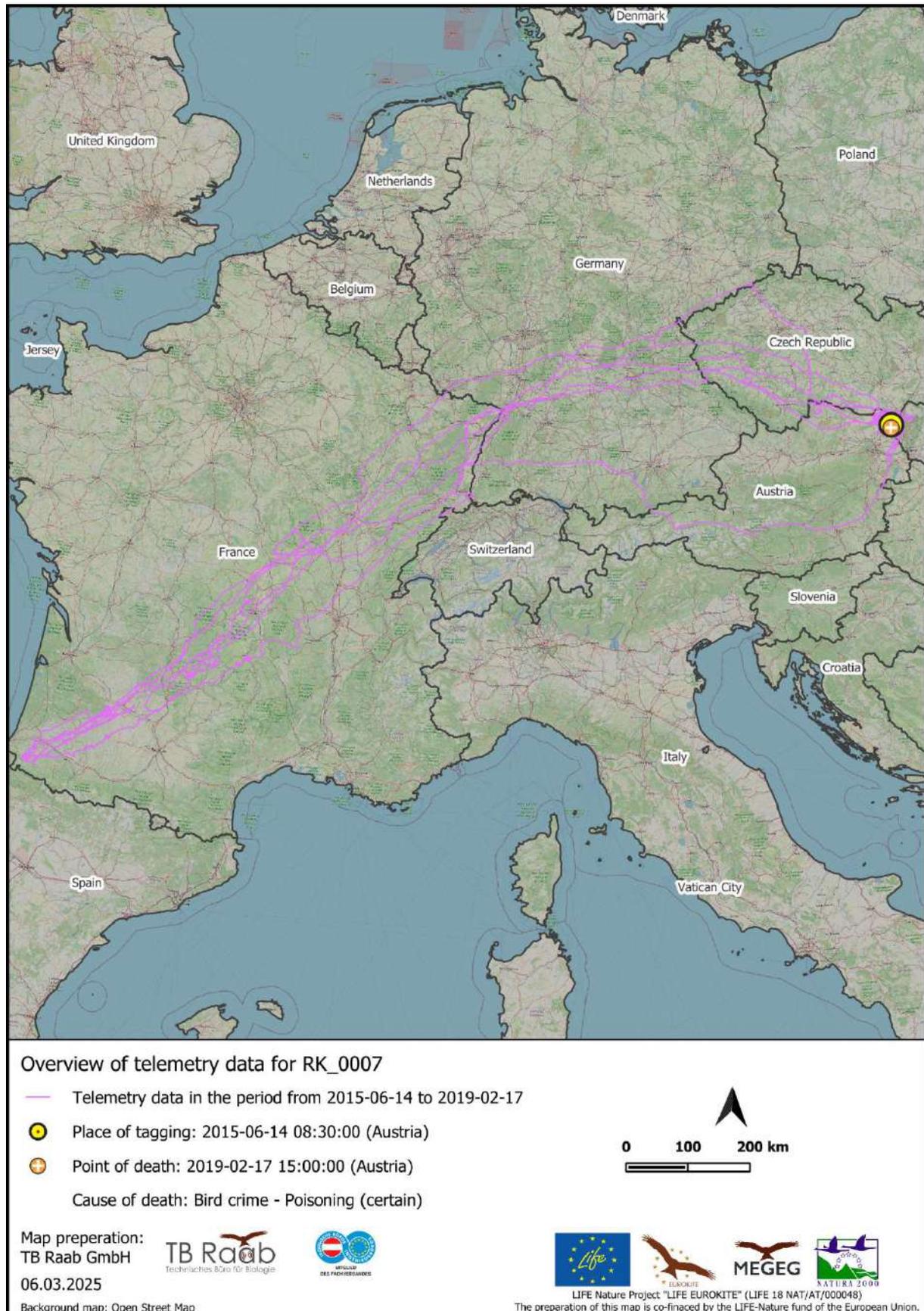


Figure 26: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0007.

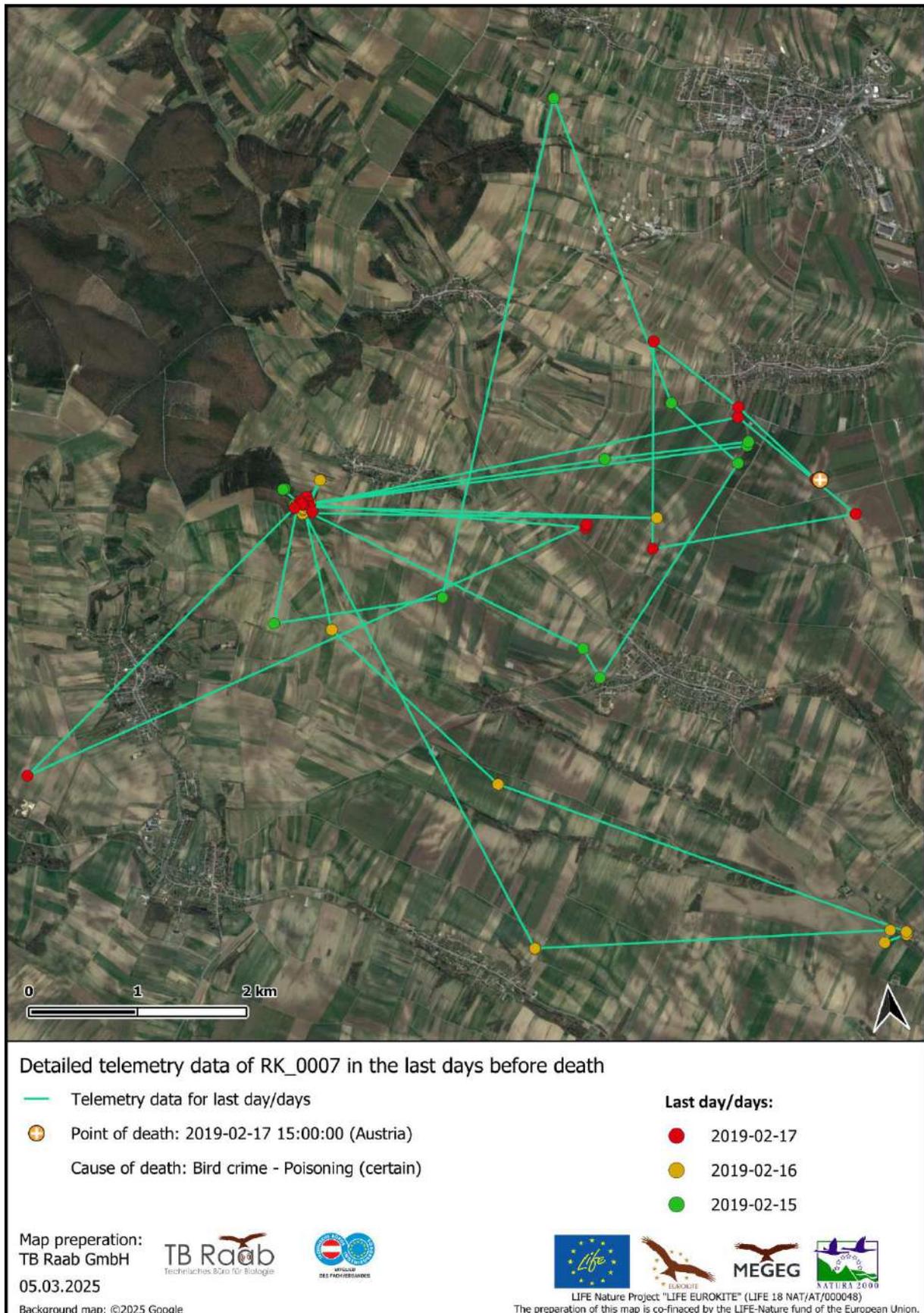


Figure 27: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0007 in the last days before death.

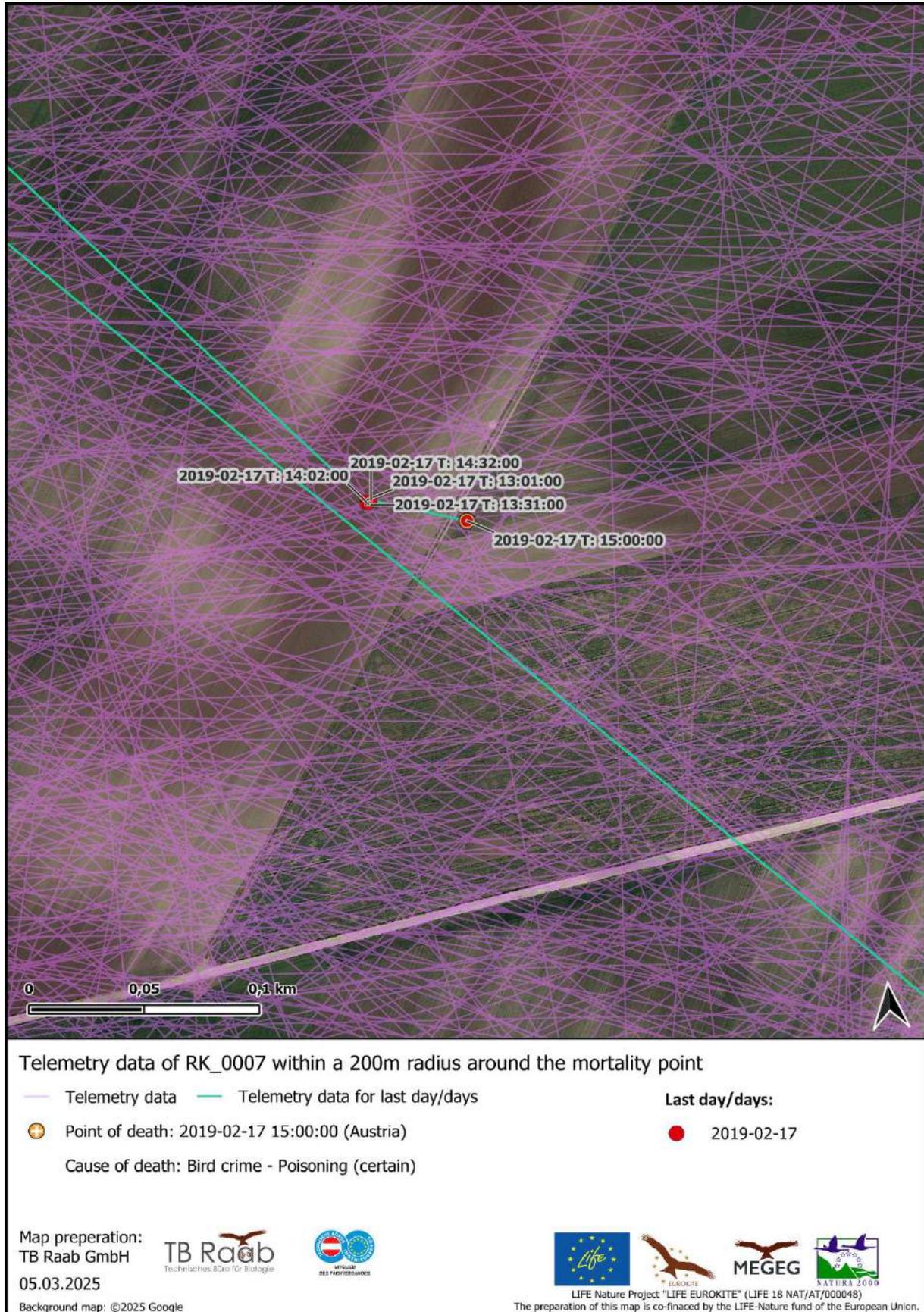


Figure 28: Telemetry data of RK_0007 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0440

General information about the bird

Name: Zistersdorf_03

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 13.05.2020

Place of tagging: Zistersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 16.06.2020

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: ANITRA 086 - 20297

Ring number: G000803

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Ladendorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.515924, 16.454565

Date of bird crime: 20.03.2022, 12:30:09 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: Very good

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The bird's feet were severely cramped, later poisoned bait were found at the last feeding place. Laboratory confirmed poisoning with Carbofuran.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

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

Legal proceeding: No

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

The case was stopped as no perpetrator could be identified. If new evidence emerges, the case will be reopened.



Figure 29: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_0440 that died on 20.03.2022 in Ladendorf, Lower Austria, Austria.
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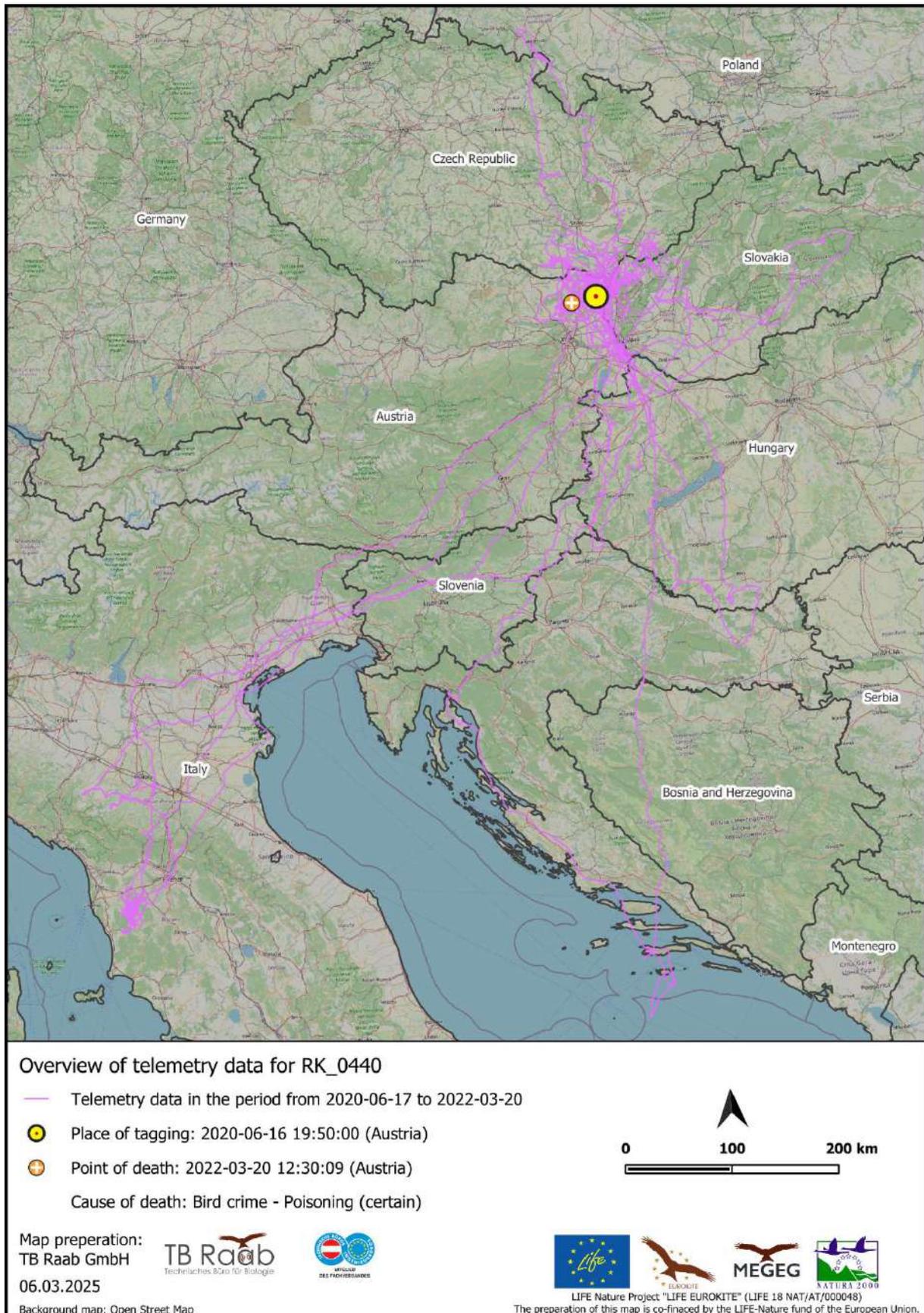


Figure 30: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0440.

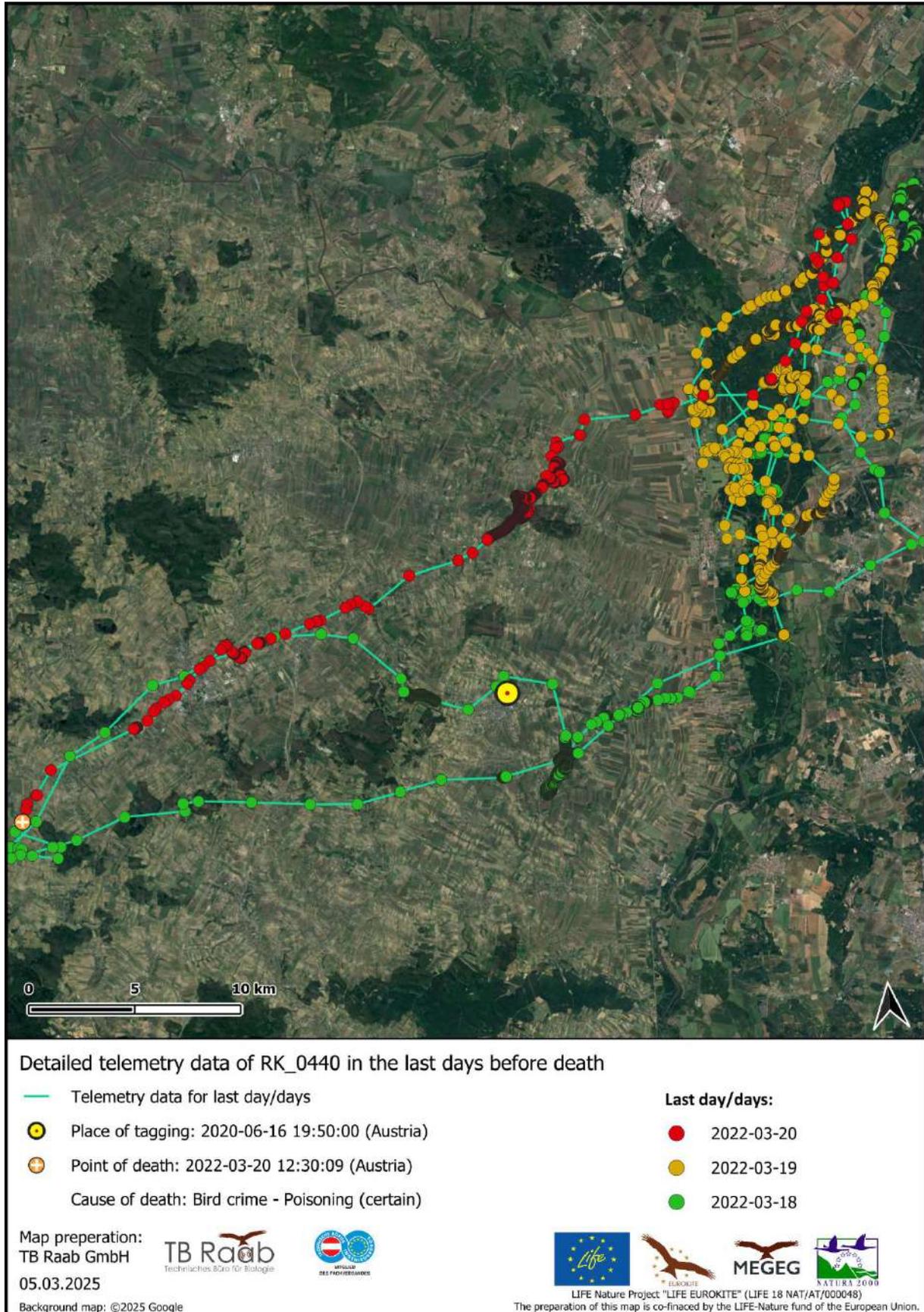


Figure 31: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0440 in the last days before death.

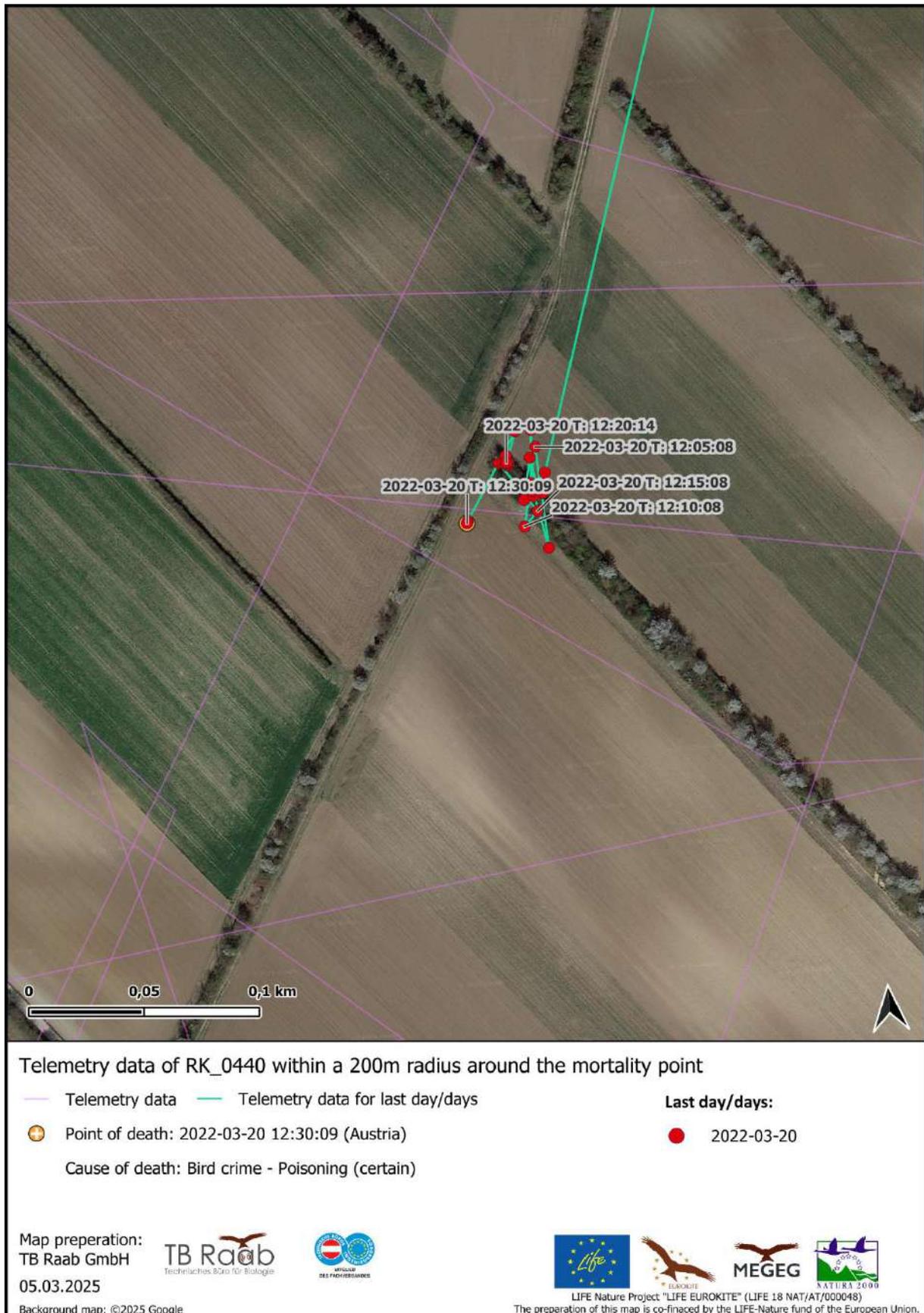


Figure 32: Telemetry data of RK_0440 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

IE_0049

General information about the bird

Name: Dyjakovice_01

Species: Imperial eagle

Birth date: 03.05.2016

Place of tagging: Dyjakovice, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 13.06.2019

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: Ornitela 123 - 192127 eagle

Ring number: LX531

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Sierndorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,4210890, 16,1819169

Date of bird crime: 02.04.2022, 02:10:33 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 1.049

Age at bird crime: 4. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: No Information received

Bird crime: Poisoning

Certainty category: Probable

Additional information: Expert assessment (TB Raab)

The bird was found together with the harness near Stockerau. The transmitter could not be found.

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? Too little evidence

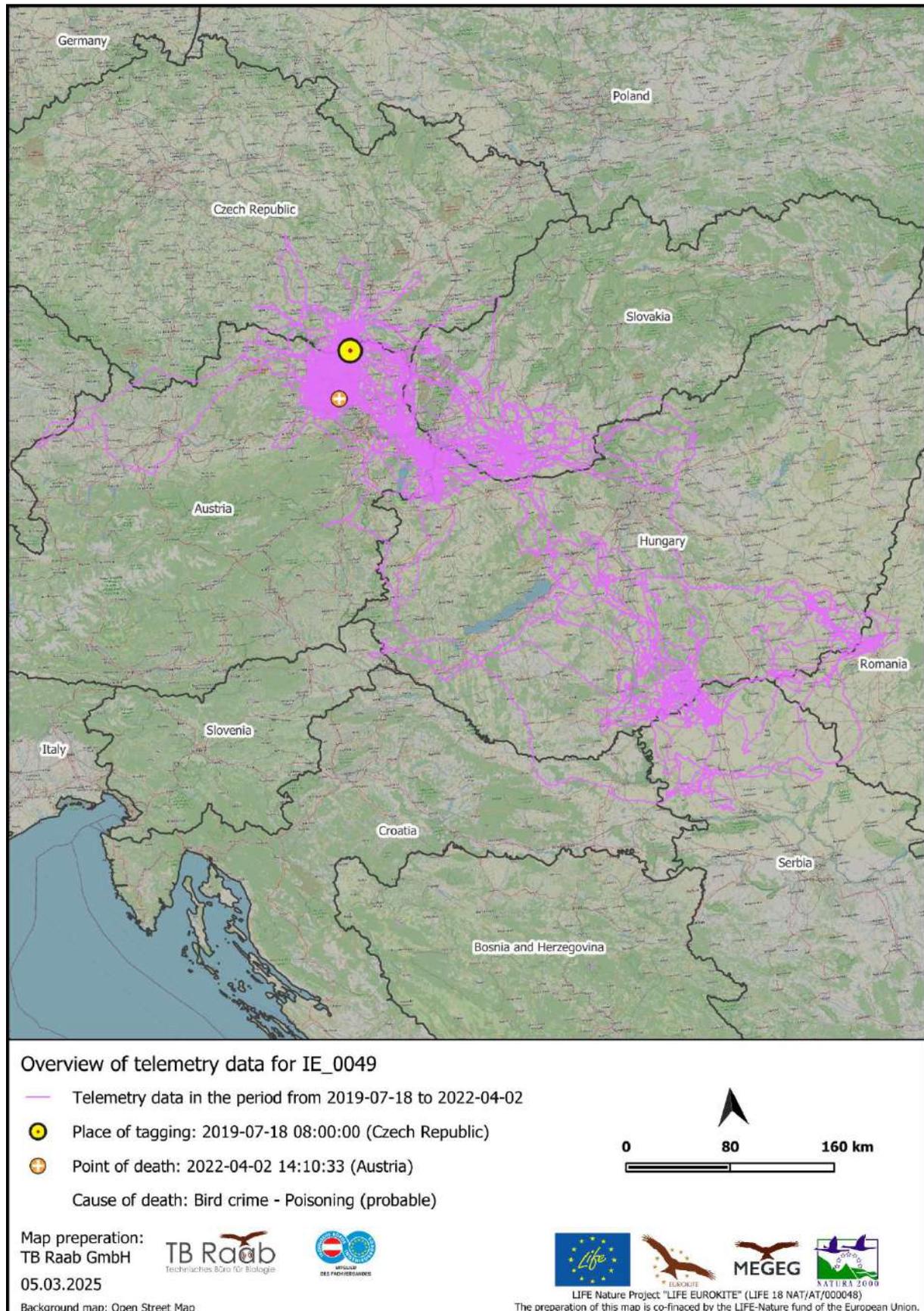


Figure 33: Overview of the telemetry data for IE_0049.



Figure 34: Detailed telemetry data of IE_0049 in the last days before death.

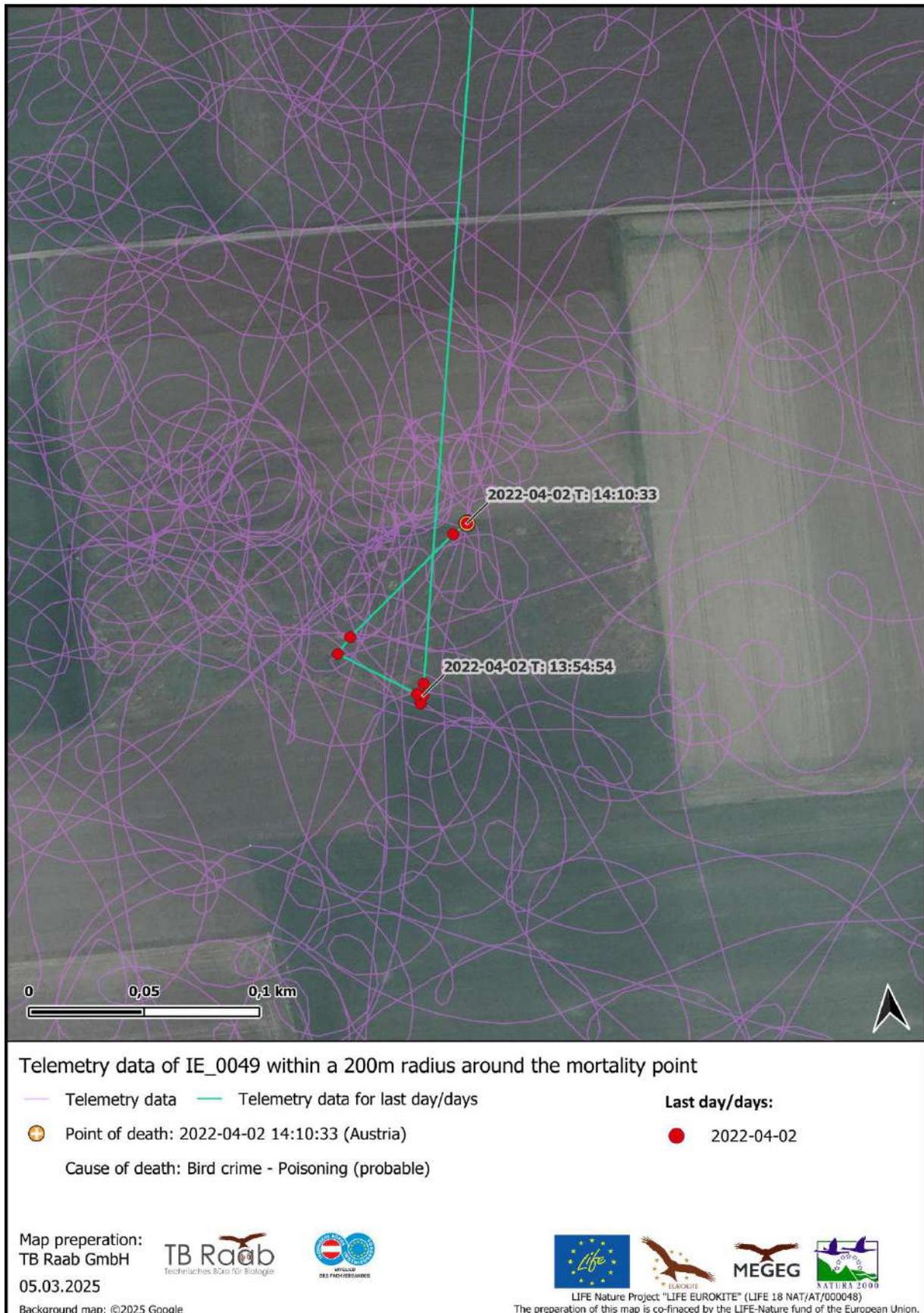


Figure 35: Telemetry data of IE_0049 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1863

General information about the bird

Name: Csorna_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 07.06.2022

Place of tagging: Csorna, Nyugat-Dunántúl, Hungary

Date of tagging: 13.07.2022

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: Anitra P06 - 22295

Ring number: 537894

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Rechnitz, Burgenland, Austria

Coordinates: 47.3002, 16.474138

Date of bird crime: 20.03.2024, 07:01:03 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 652

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirmed that the bird died through Carbofuran.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

Police and/or authority investigation: Police informed → Stopped

Legal proceeding: Yes → Stopped

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

The case was closed as no perpetrator could be identified. If new evidence emerges, the case will be reopened.



Figure 36: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1863 that died on 20.03.2024 in Rechnitz, Burgenland, Austria.
© LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Gerhard Gabriel)

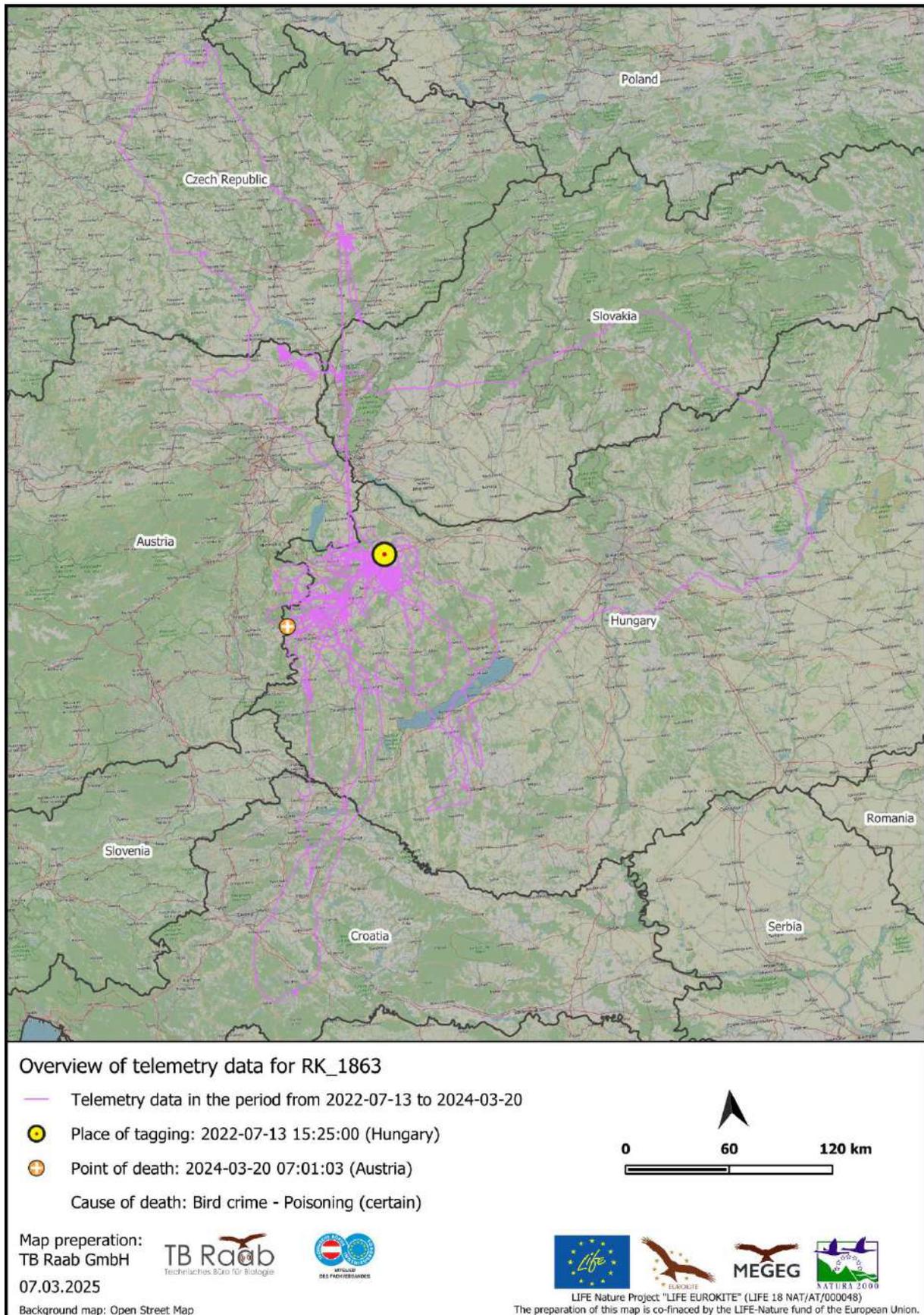


Figure 37: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1863.

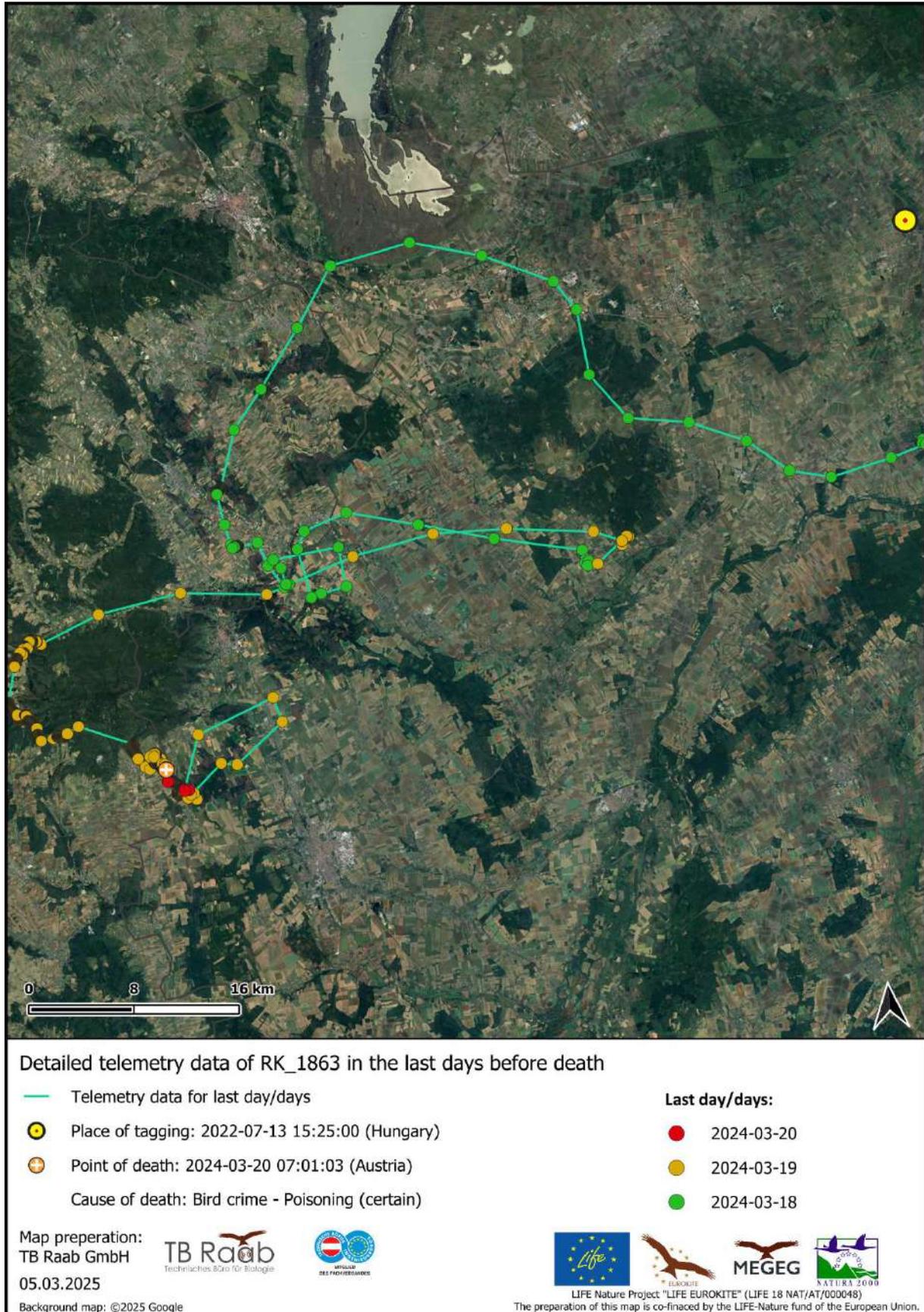


Figure 38: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1863 in the last days before death.

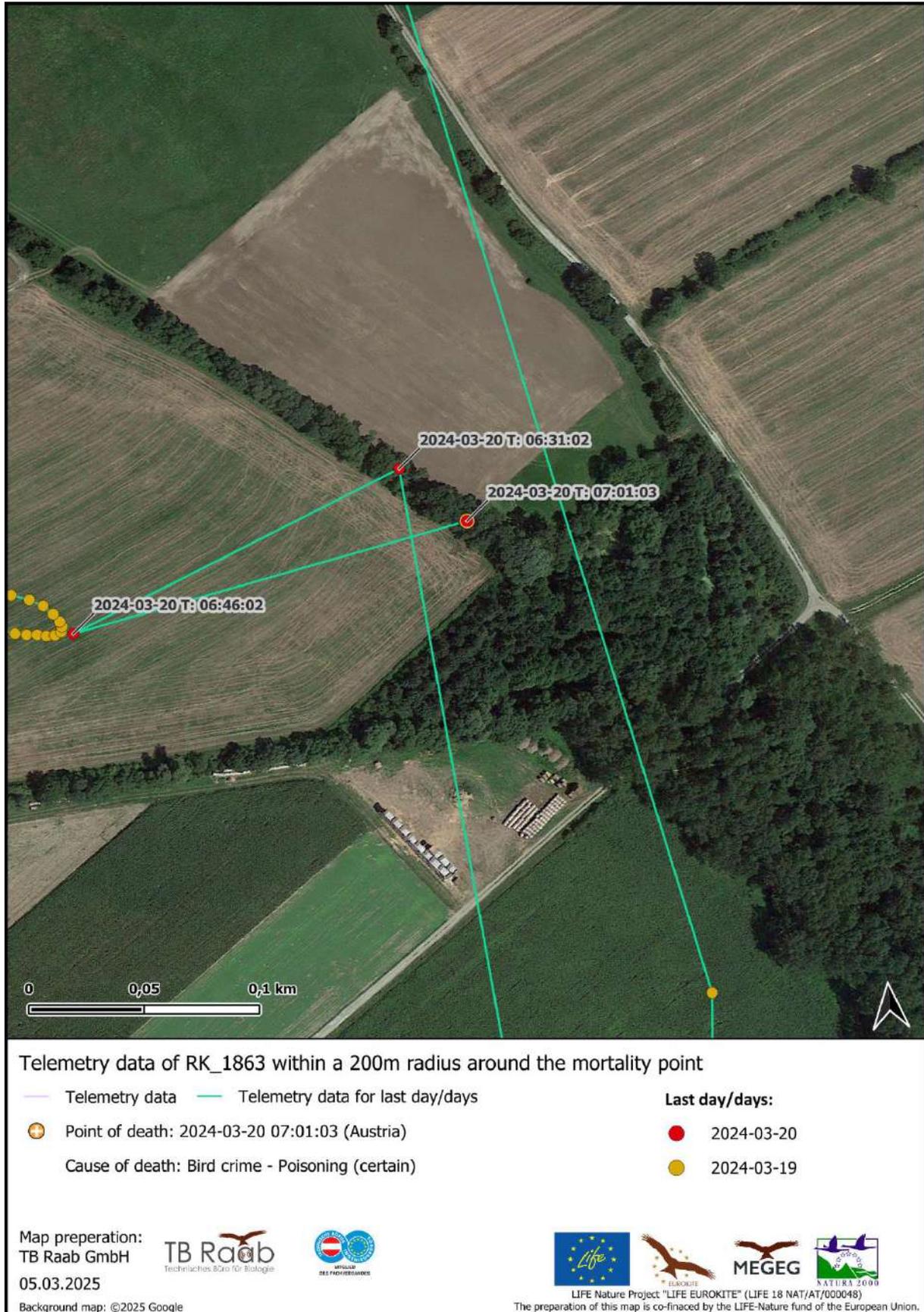


Figure 39: Telemetry data of RK_1863 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1295

General information about the bird

Name: Stillfried_12

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 19.05.2021

Place of tagging: Stillfried, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 25.06.2021

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: Anitra 240 - 21752

Ring number: G000813

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Wolkersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.399392, 16.581343

Date of bird crime: 23.05.2024, 04:00:09 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime: 4. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and Bird found

Bird crime: Poisoning - Carbofuran

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The adult bird and one chick were found dead together under the nest. In the nest itself, two more live chicks were rescued. However, one of the chicks died on the way to the rescue station. The telemetry analysis showed that the female, which was found dead, had stayed in the nest for the last few weeks. From this, we conclude that the male must have brought in the poison during feeding. Despite the search, the male could not be found. The remaining chick was nursed at the rescue station and was able to be released into the wild. The laboratory confirmed that both red kites died because of Carbofuran.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

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

Legal proceeding: Yes → Stopped

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

The case was stopped as no perpetrator could be identified. If new evidence emerges, the case will be reopened.



Figure 40: Left: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1295 that died on 23.05.2024 in Wolkersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria. Right: Dead chick of RK_1295 under the nest. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Péter Spakovszky)

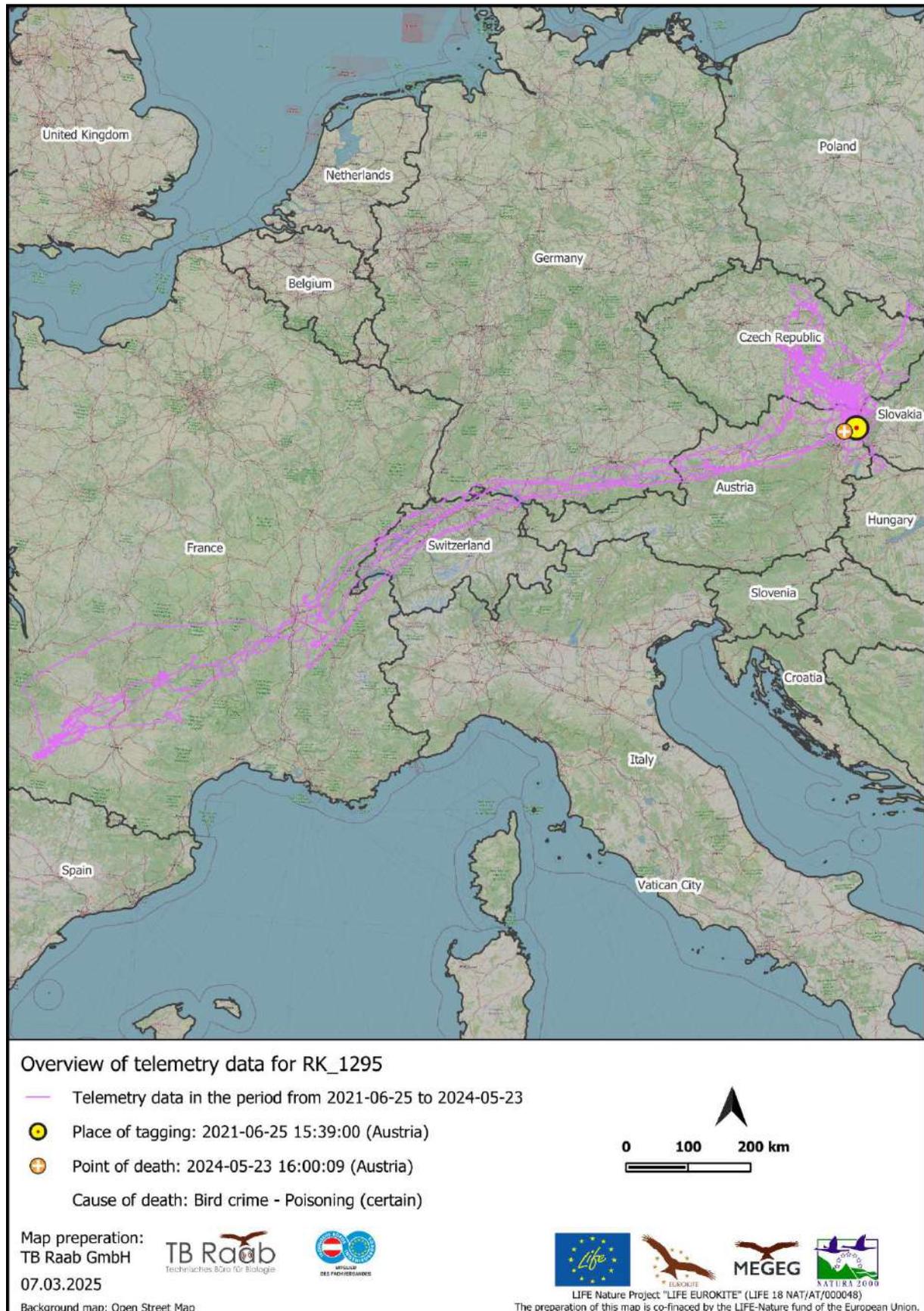


Figure 41: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1295.

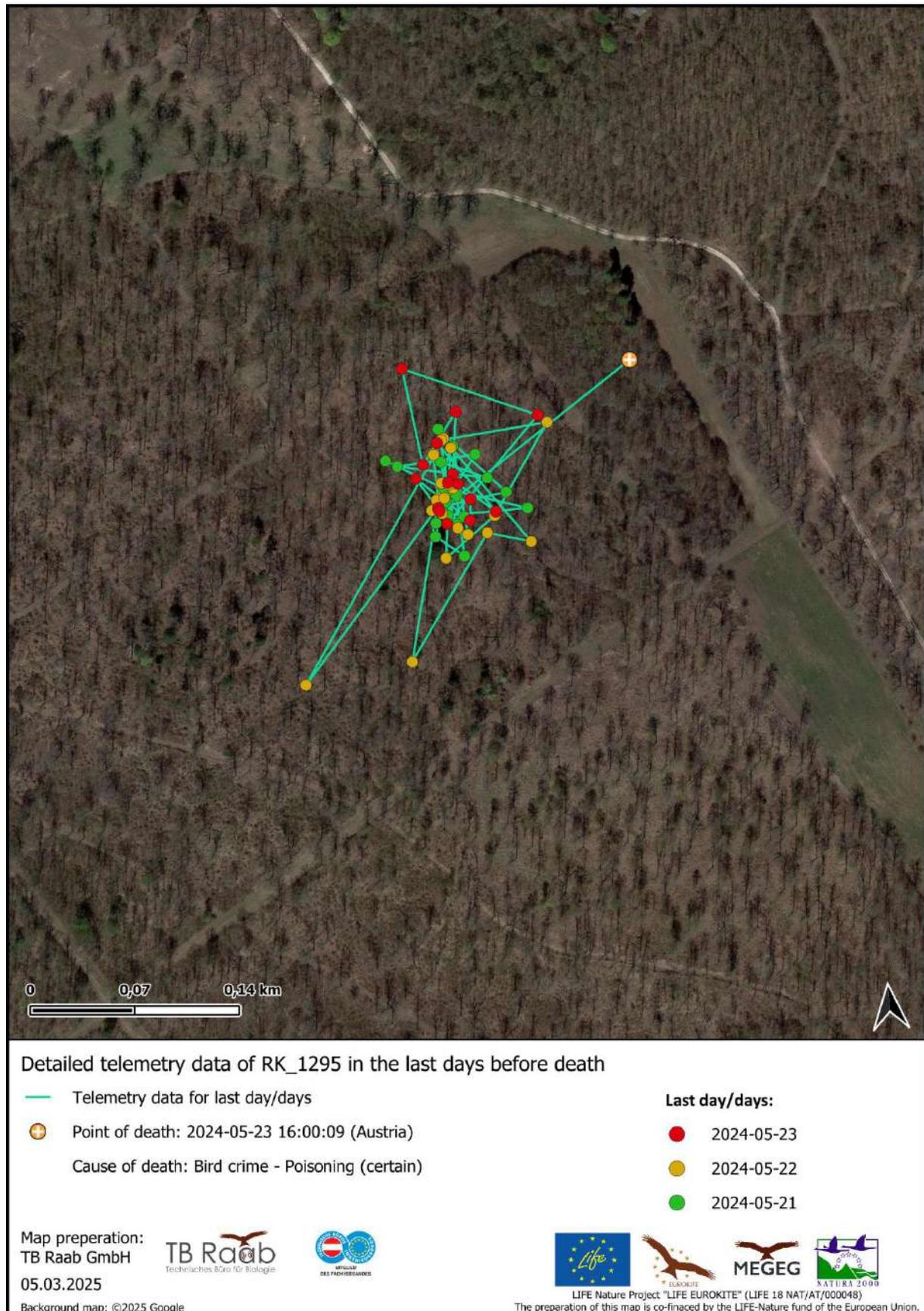


Figure 42: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1295 in the last days before death.

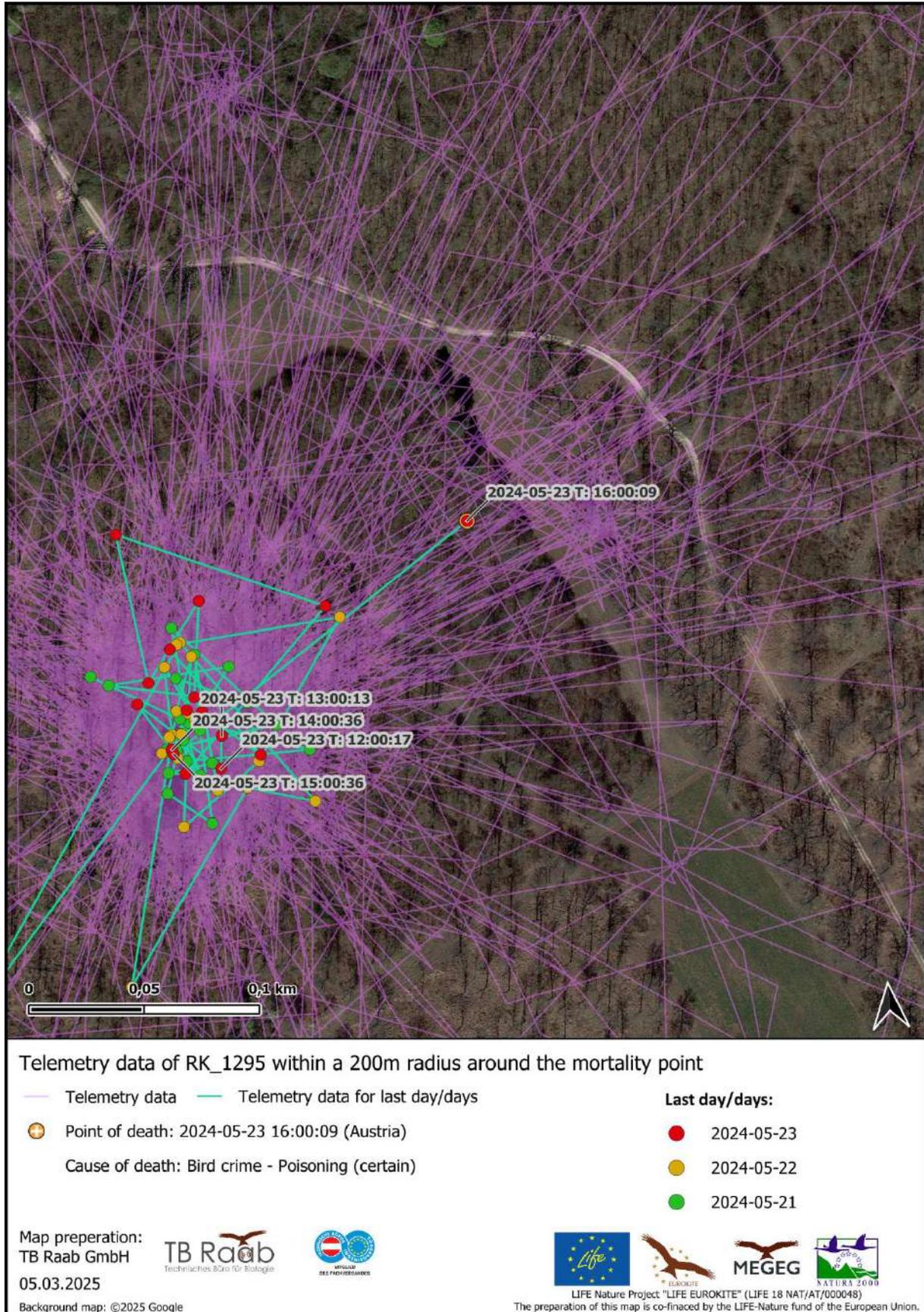


Figure 43: Telemetry data of RK_1295 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

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.

IE_0002

General information about the bird

Name: Stupava_01

Species: Imperial eagle

Birth date: 01.05.2016

Place of tagging: Stupava, Bratislavský kraj, Slovakia

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 55 – AAB 02 eagle

Ring number: SK535

Sex: No information

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Zistersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,5566999, 16,7989330

Date of bird crime: 09.10.2016, 6:00:08 AM (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 were not found

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Possible

Additional information: Expert assessment (TB Raab). The bird was found in a region where many illegal activities have been recorded.

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

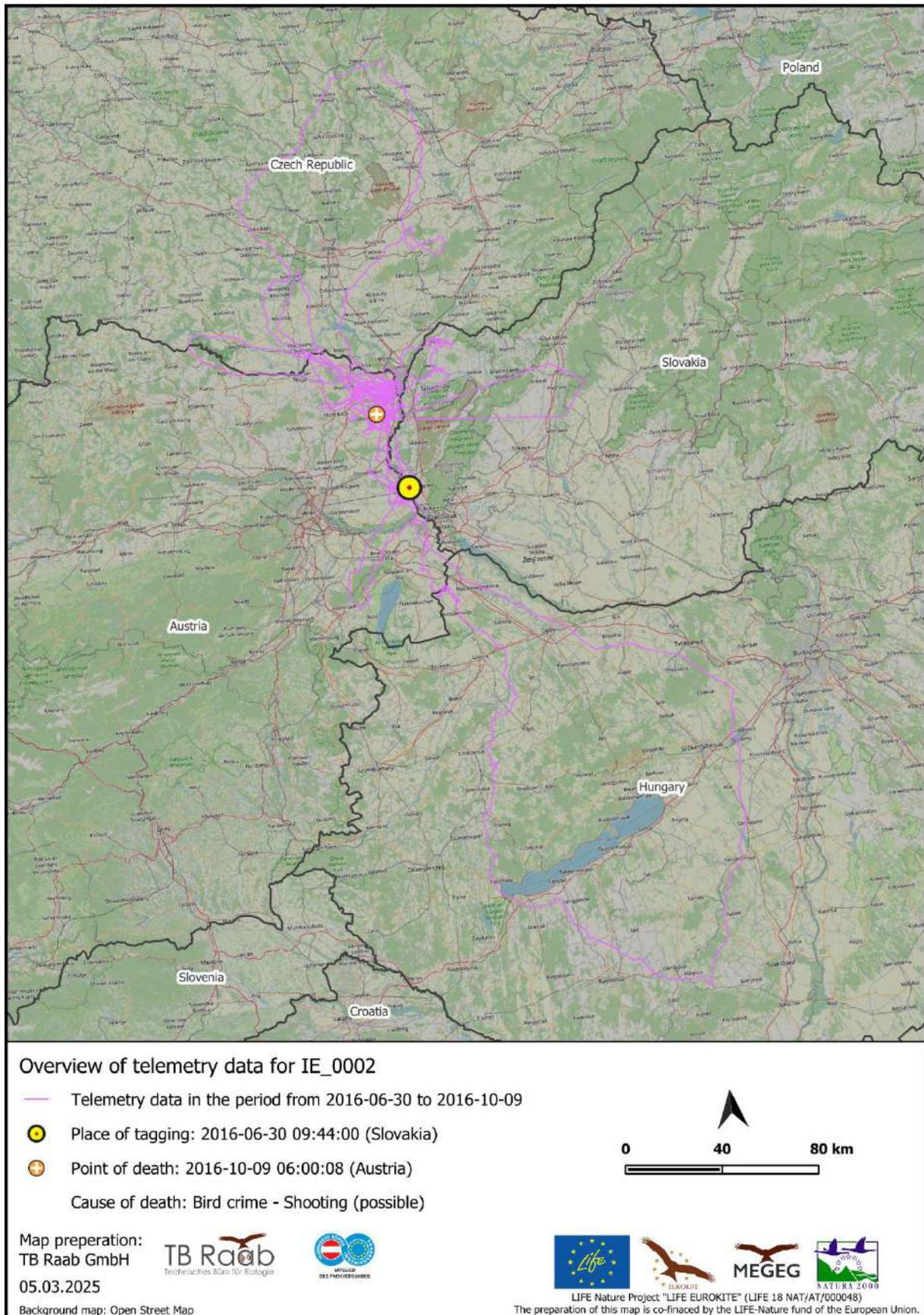


Figure 44: Overview of the telemetry data for IE_0002.

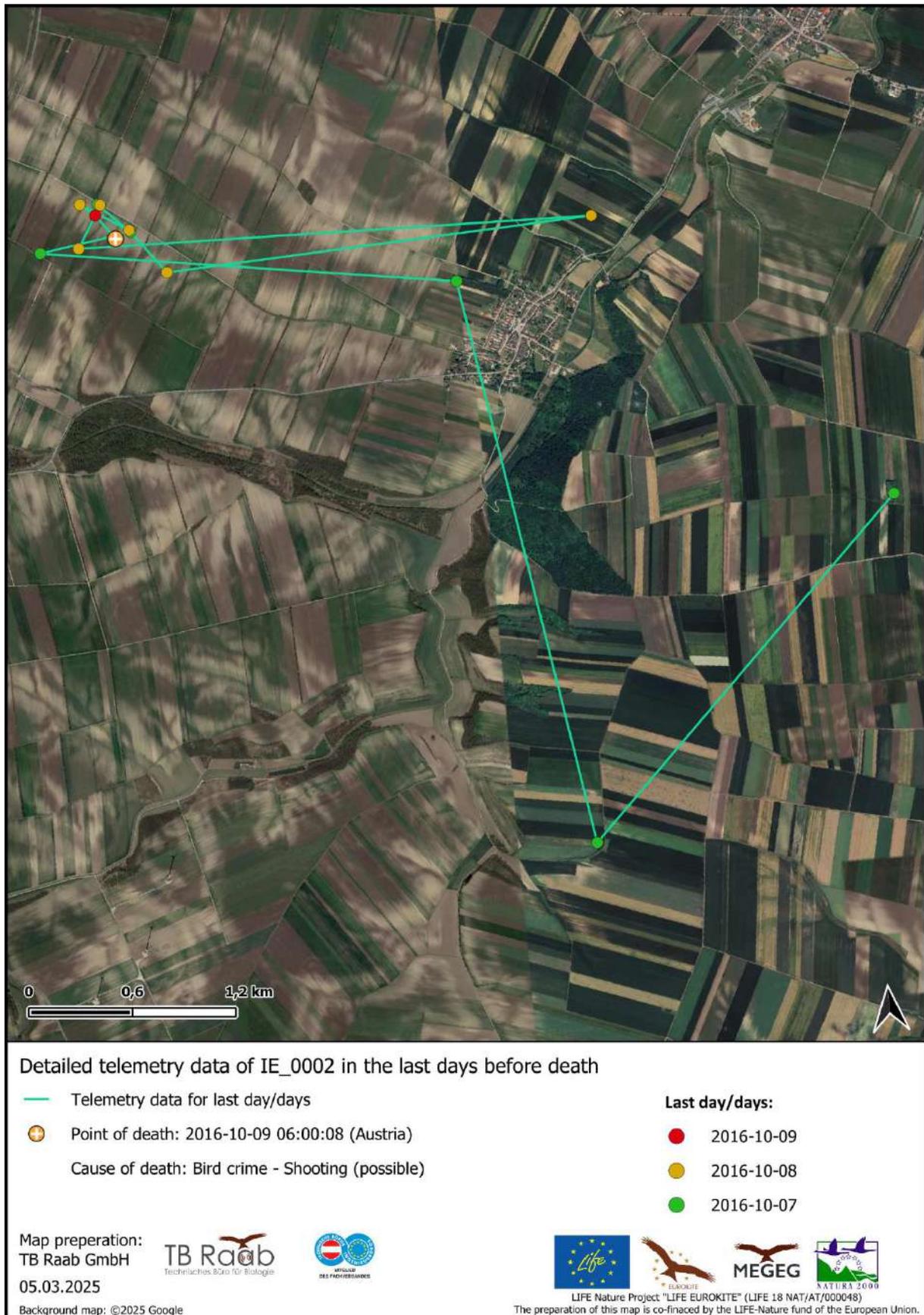


Figure 45: Detailed telemetry data of IE_0002 in the last days before death.



Figure 46: Telemetry data of IE_0002 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

IE_0019

General information about the bird

Name: Ivan_02

Species: Imperial eagle

Birth date: 04.05.2017

Place of tagging: Brno - Venkov, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 03.07.2017

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: From rescue station

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 71 - AAB 17 eagle

Ring number: LX035

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Münzengraben, Styria, Austria

Coordinates: 46,9213489, 15,792149

Date of bird crime: 17.09.2017, 6:00:08 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 136

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Possible

Additional information: Expert assessment (TB Raab)

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: No investigation

Police and/or authority investigation: Neither police nor authorities informed

Legal proceeding: No

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why? Too little evidence as neither the bird nor the logger has been found

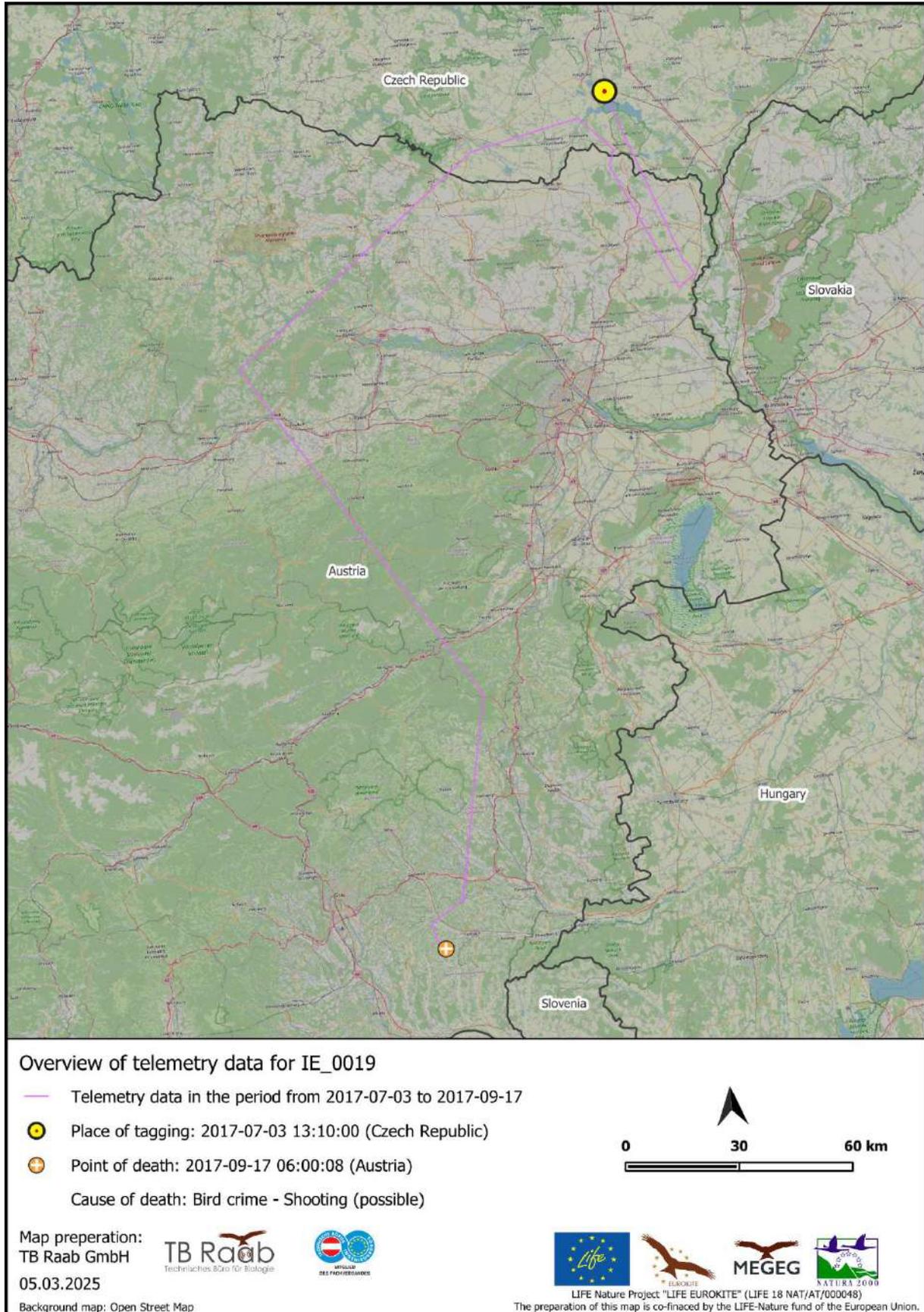


Figure 47: Overview of the telemetry data for IE_0019.

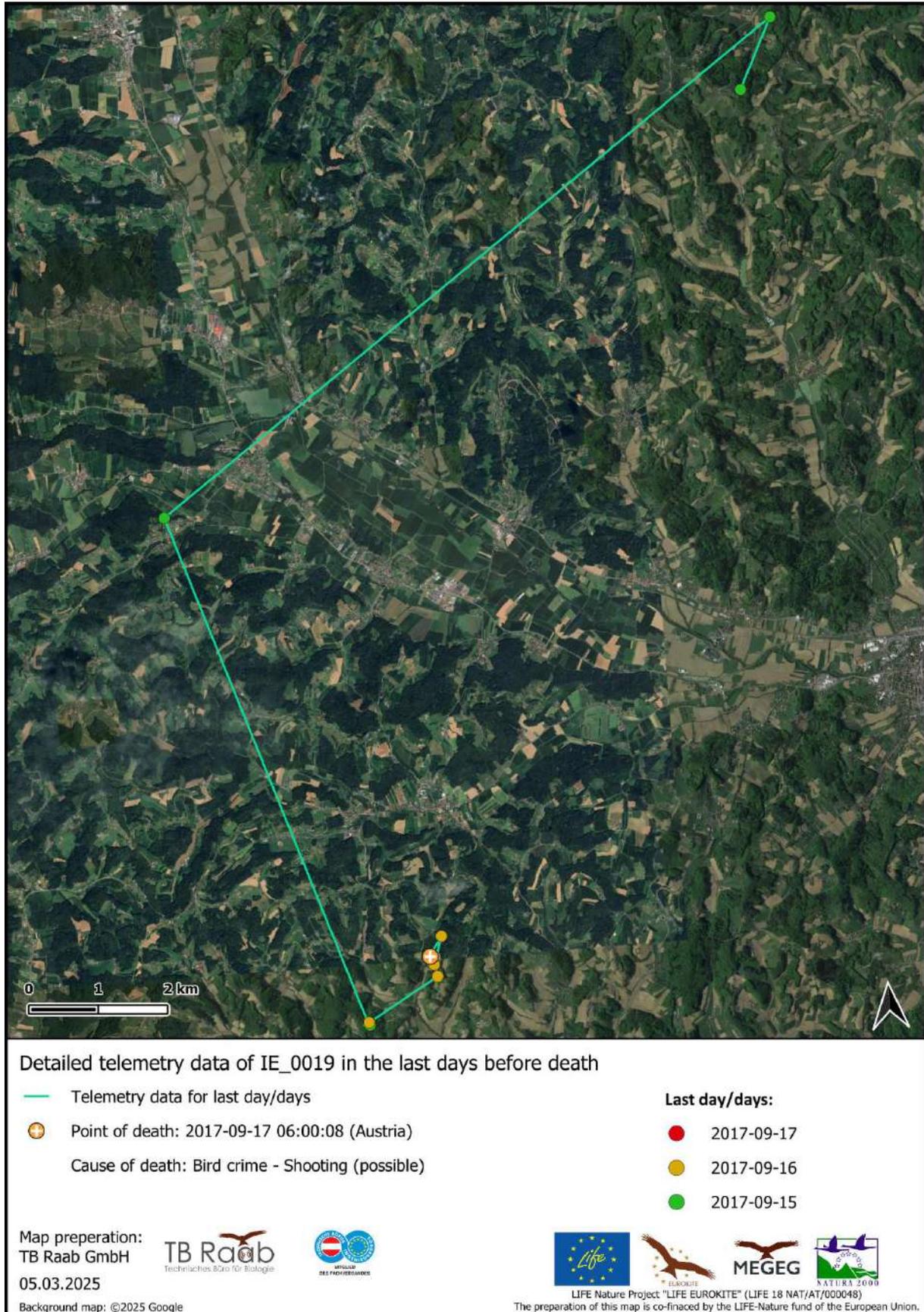


Figure 48: Detailed telemetry data of IE_0019 in the last days before death.



Figure 49: Telemetry data of IE_0019 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0113

General information about the bird

Name: Stare_Sedliste_02

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 28.05.2017

Place of tagging: Stare Sedliste, Jihozápad, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 28.06.2017

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 90 - AAS 09 kite

Ring number: C159201

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Ober Lengau, Upper Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,2860829, 13,926349

Date of bird crime: 24.04.2018, 6:00:16 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 331

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Probable

Additional information: Expert assumption (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

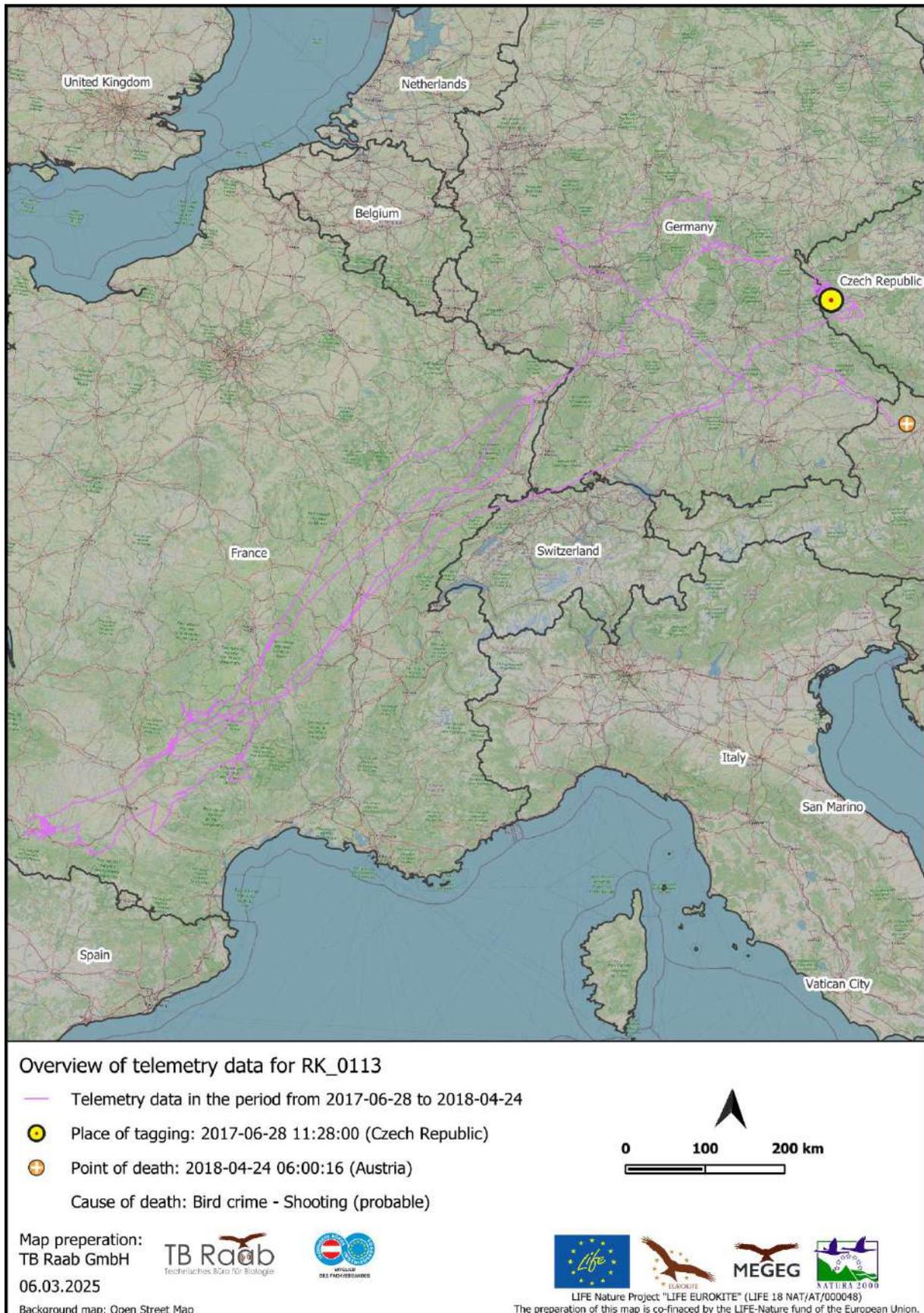


Figure 50: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0113.

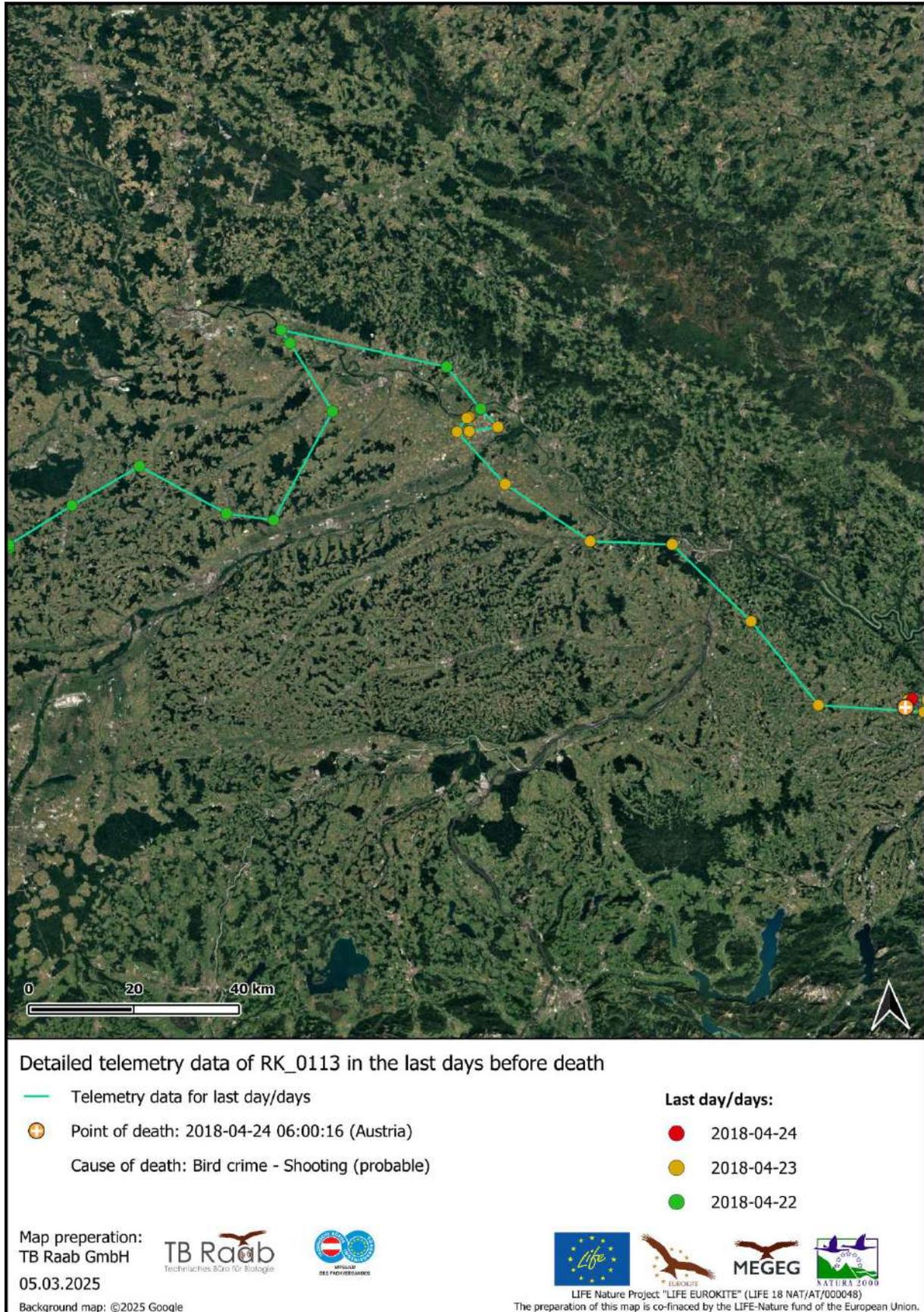


Figure 51: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0113 in the last days before death.



Figure 52: Telemetry data of RK_0113 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0243

General information about the bird

Name: Prisnotice_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 13.05.2018

Place of tagging: Přisnotice, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 10.09.2018

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: From rescue station

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_VFU

Logger number: OT-715

Ring number: CT1936

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Kirchstetten, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,736725, 16,5106959

Date of bird crime: 19.10.2018, 3:28:05 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 159

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: No information received

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assumption (TB Raab). Logger clearly torn down and thrown into hedge.

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?

Too little evidence

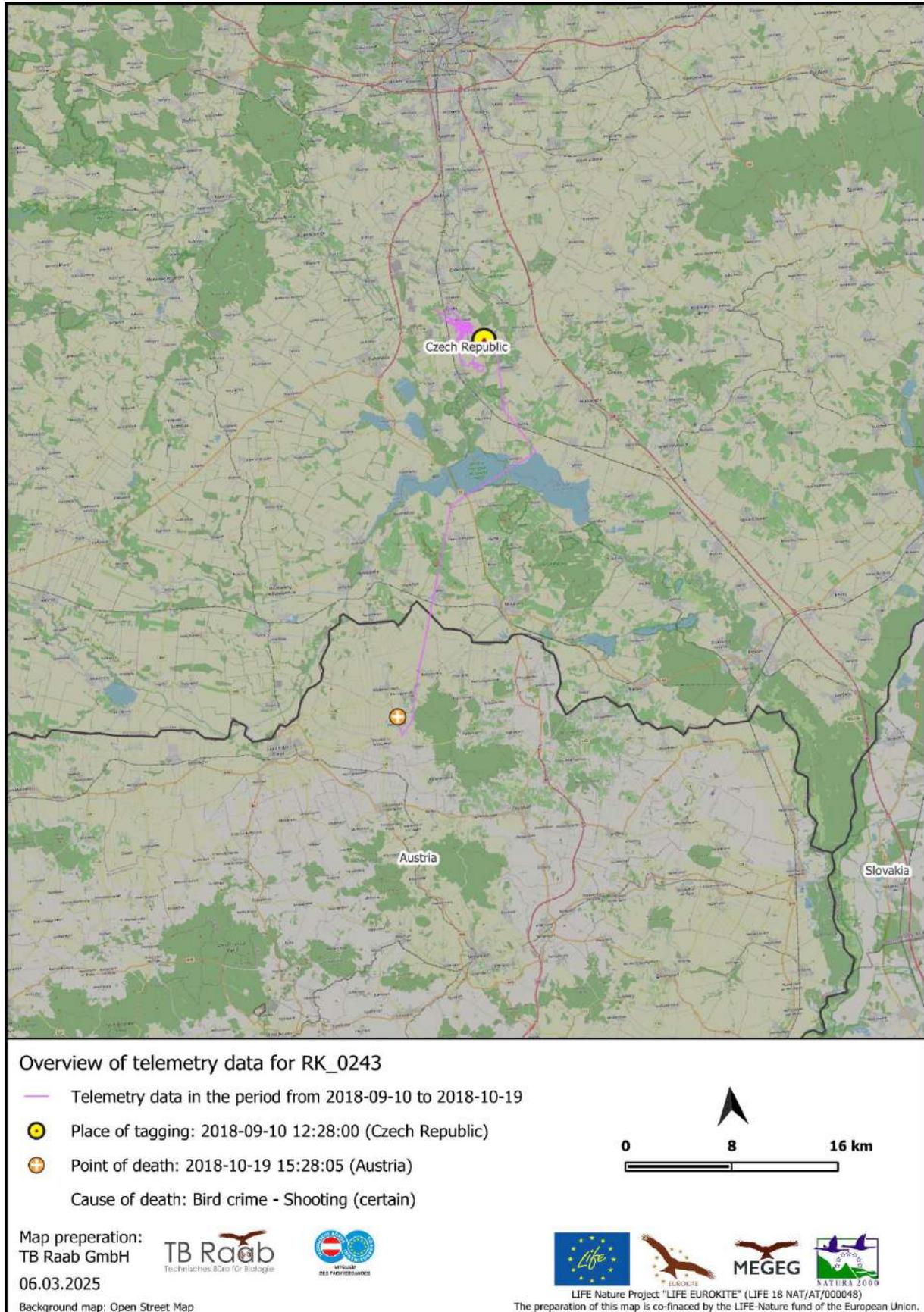


Figure 53: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0243.

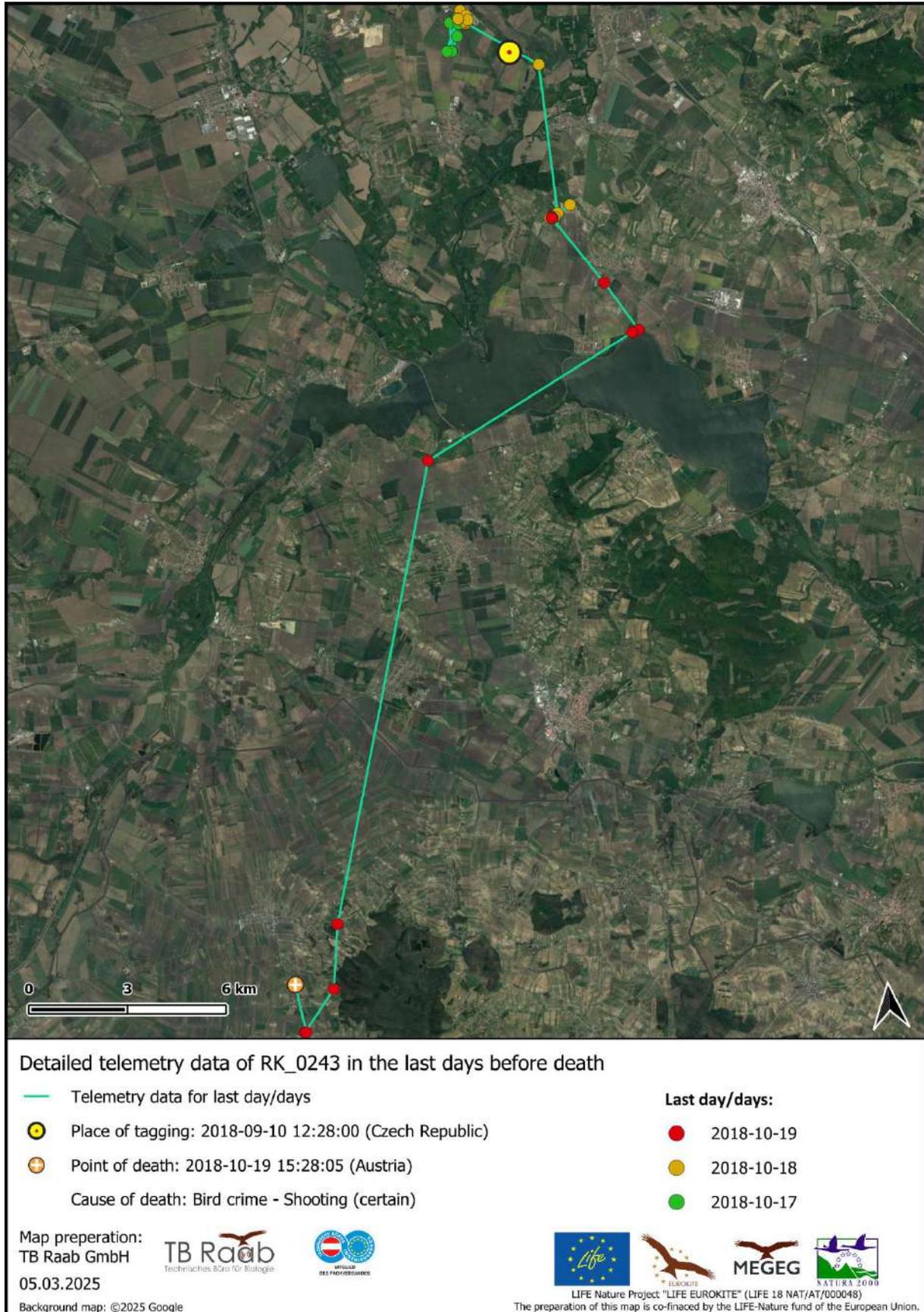


Figure 54: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0243 in the last days before death.



Figure 55: Telemetry data of RK_0243 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_0332

General information about the bird

Name: Gösting_13

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 08.06.2019

Place of tagging: Gänserndorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 08.07.2019

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A2

Logger number: Ornitela 192 - 192582 - kite

Ring number: G000788

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Poysdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.684498, 16.689966

Date of bird crime: 17.04.2021, 01:05:50 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 679

Age at bird crime: 3. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and Bird found

Carcass status: Very good

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirmed that the bird was shot. Shotgun pellet in the right thigh area.

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? Too little evidence



Figure 56: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_0332 that died on 17.04.2021 in Poysdorf, Lower Austria, Austria.
© LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Richard Katzinger)

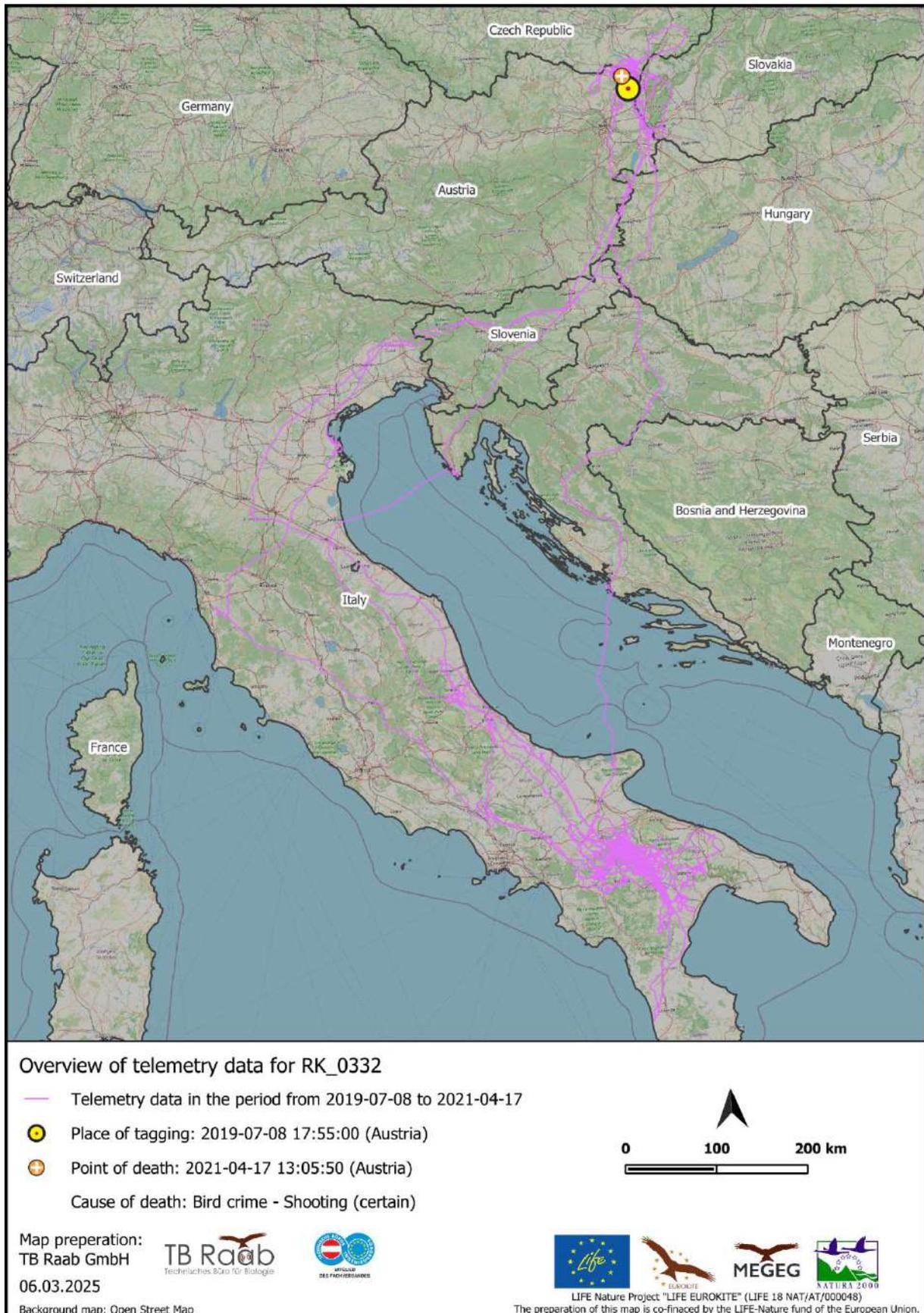


Figure 57: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0332.

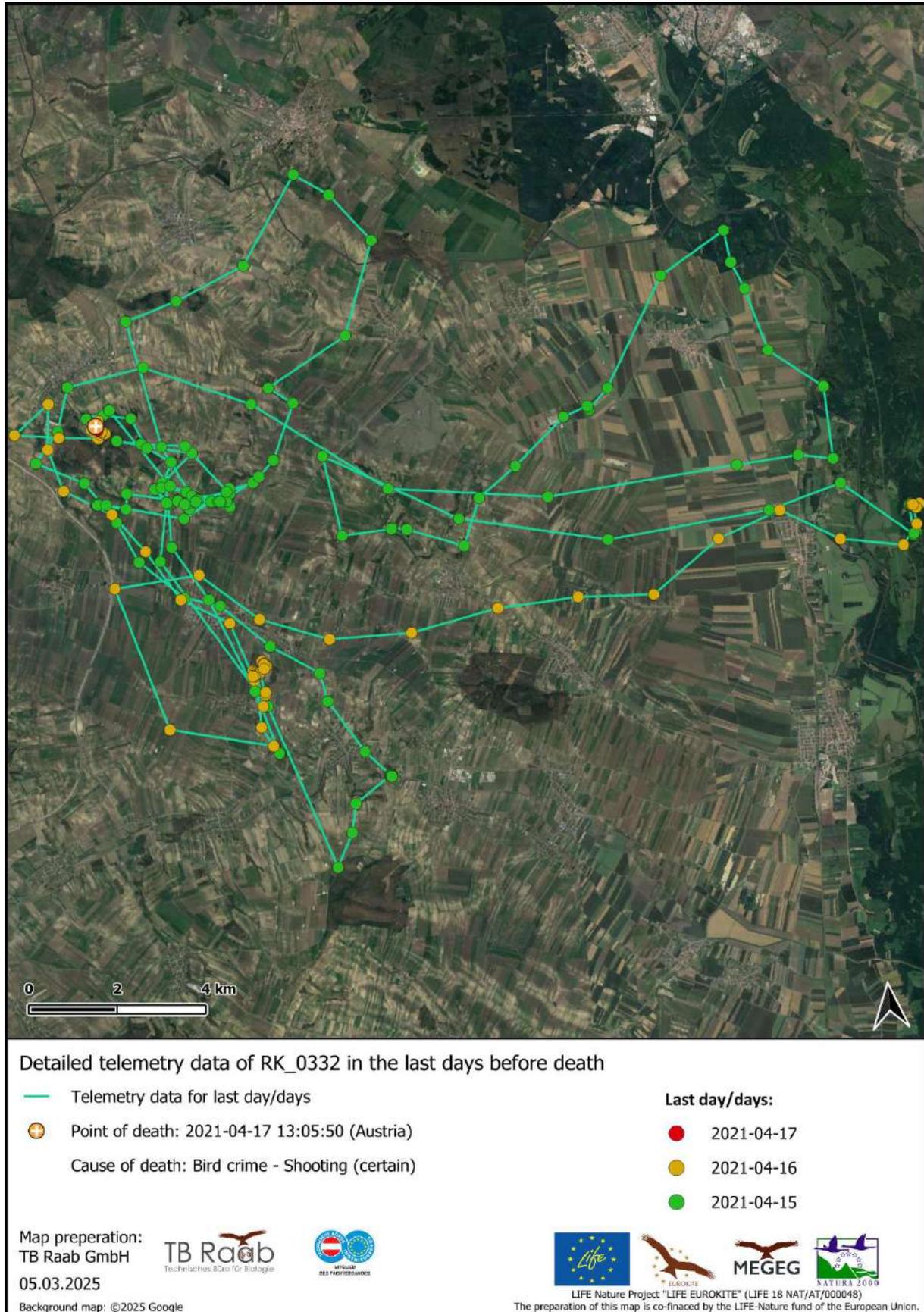


Figure 58: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0332 in the last days before death.

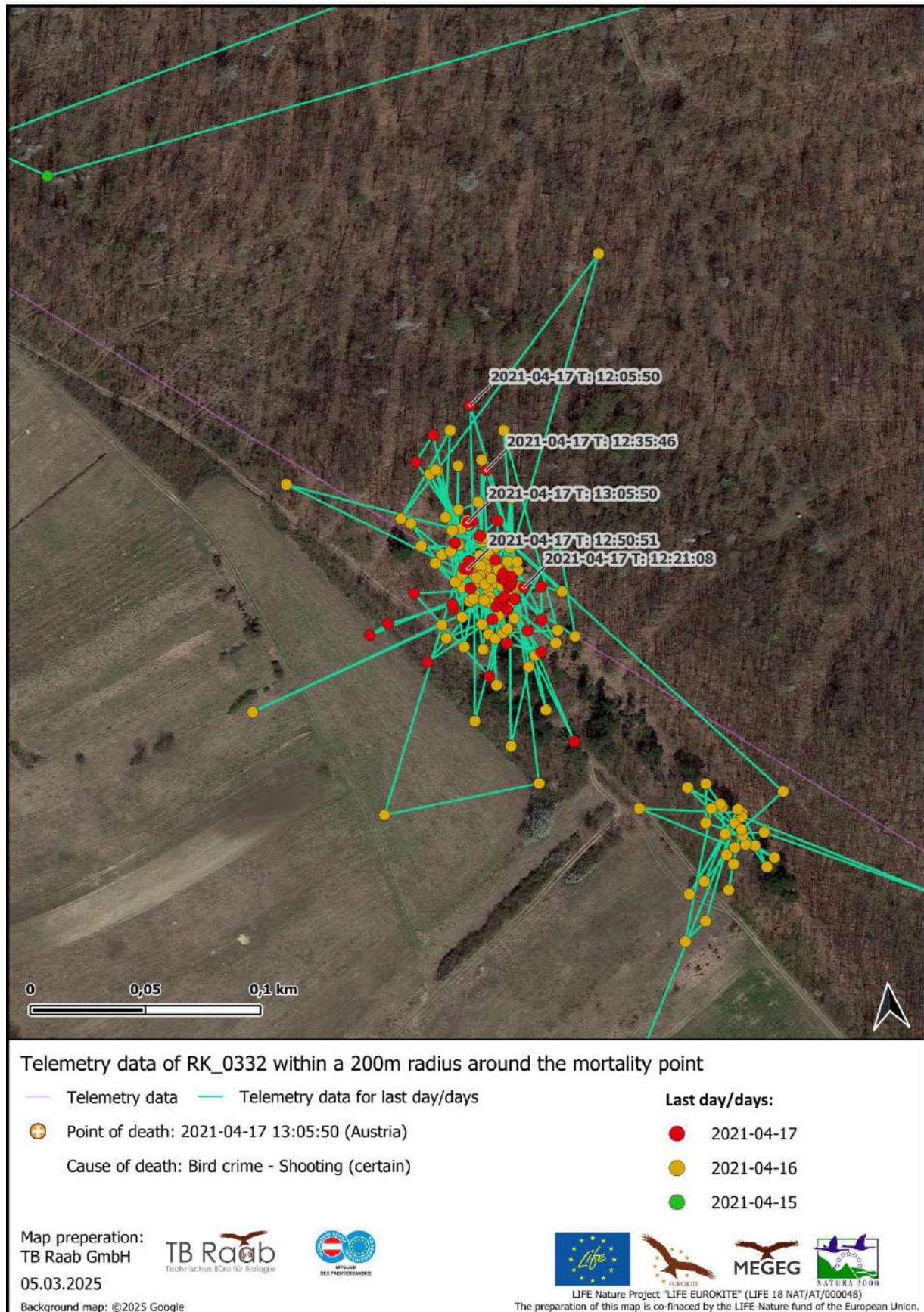


Figure 59: Telemetry data of RK_0332 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1303

General information about the bird

Name: Schildorn_02

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 04.06.2021

Place of tagging: Ried im Innkreis, Upper Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 28.06.2021

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: ANITRA 249 - 21411

Ring number: G000820

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Waldzell, Upper Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.143891, 13.445602

Date of bird crime: 19.08.2021, 09:00:09 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 76

Age at bird crime: 1 CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Probable

Additional information: Expert assumption (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

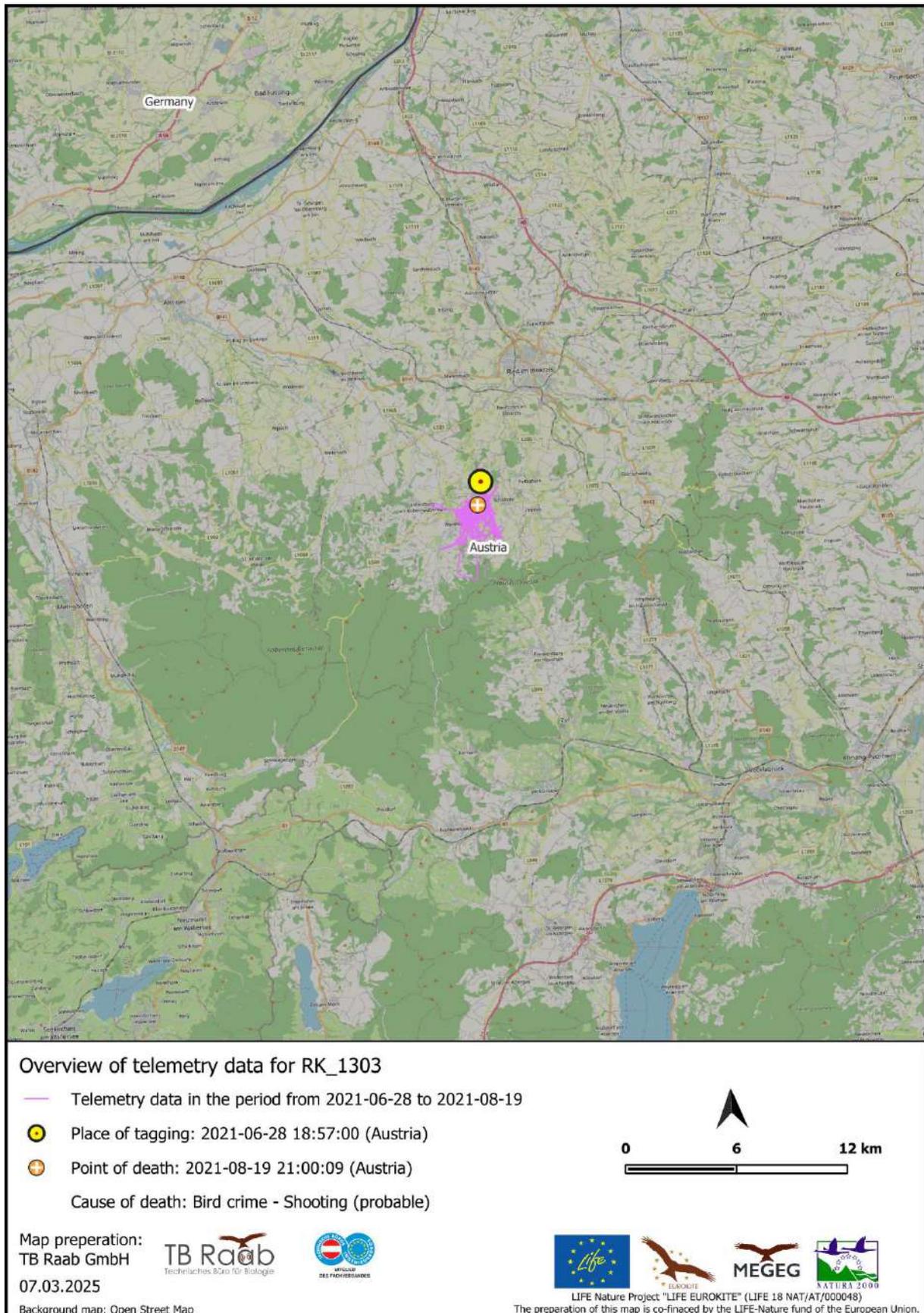


Figure 60: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1303.

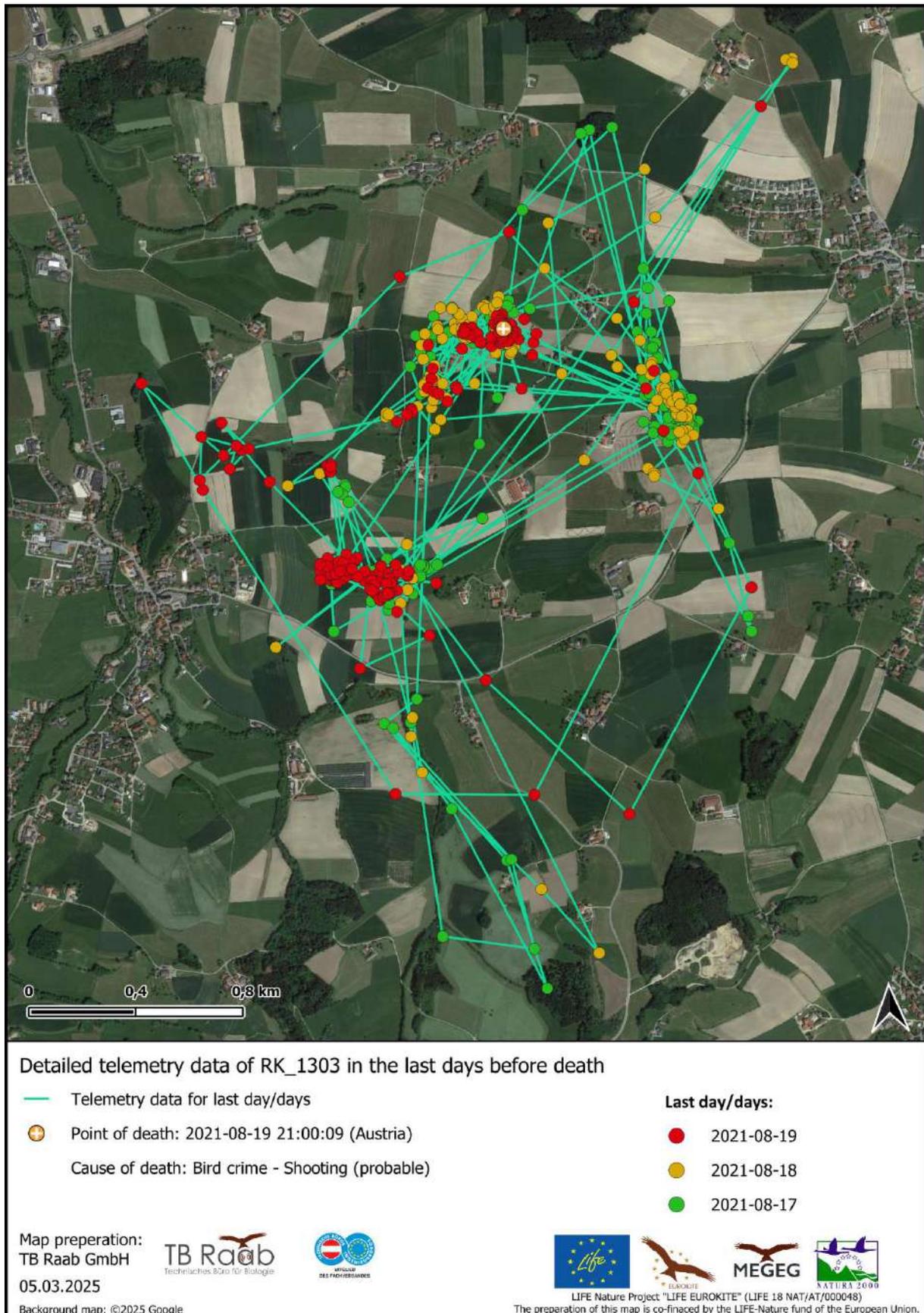


Figure 61: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1303 in the last days before death.

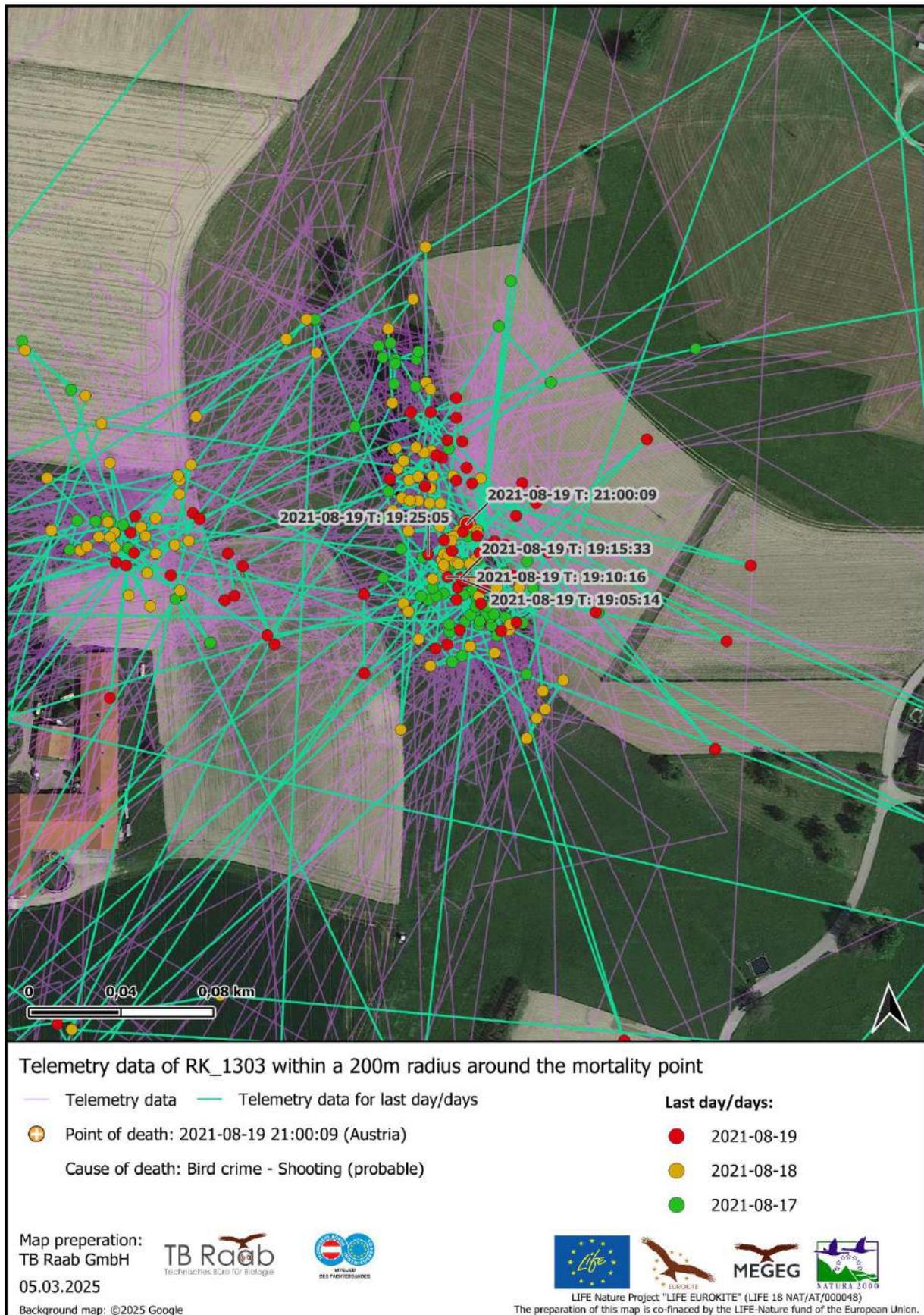


Figure 62: Telemetry data of RK_1303 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1195

General information about the bird

Name: Gösting_14

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 11.05.2021

Place of tagging: Gänserndorf, 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 179 - 21402

Ring number: G000807

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Kleinhadersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.663864, 16.569996

Date of bird crime: 25.05.2022, 08:18:39 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 379

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and Bird found

Carcass state: Medium

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: The laboratory confirms that the bird died from a shotgun blast. It also had a bacterial intestinal infection.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Ongoing

Police and/or authority investigation: Police informed → Ongoing

Legal proceeding: Yes → Ongoing

Conviction: Not yet

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

An investigation could unfortunately only be initiated against an unknown person. So far, no perpetrator has been identified. The case is currently on hold.



Figure 63: Left: Discovery situation of the red kite RK_1195 that died on 25.05.2022 in Kleinhadersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Richard Katzinger) Right: X-ray image of the bird RK_2295. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (Vetmed Uni Vienna)



Figure 64: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1195.

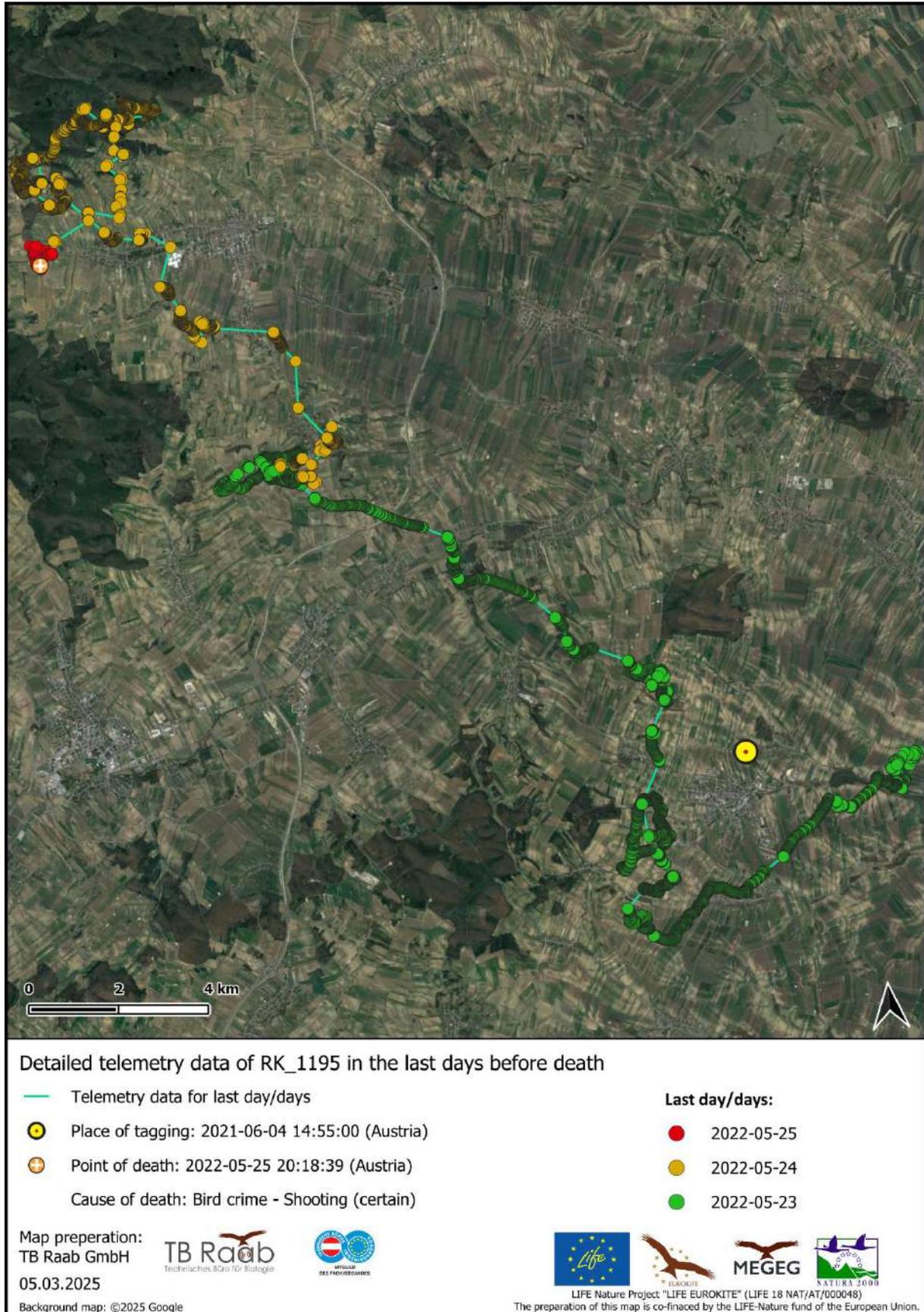


Figure 65: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1195 in the last days before death.



Figure 66: Telemetry data of RK_1195 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

IE_0069

General information about the bird

Name: Oberweiden_01

Species: Imperial eagle

Birth date: 13.05.2022

Place of tagging: Gänserndorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 30.06.2022

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: Anitra 383 - 22261

Ring number: BS0276

Sex: Male

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Nickelsdorf, Burgenland, Austria

Coordinates: 47.962768, 17.068520

Date of bird crime: 21.12.2022, 11:30:10 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 222

Age at bird crime: 1. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

Logger and/or bird found: Logger found, Bird not found (only feathers)

Carcass state: Very Bad

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assumption (TB Raab). Transmitter cut off, hanging on a branch in the Leitha; at the point of the last “living” location, compressed grass was found on a forest path with various imperial eagle feathers.

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? The transmitter was removed from the bird and thrown into the nearby Leitha River. The bird's carcass was never found. All investigations were authorized here as well, and all traces were analysed – unfortunately, with no results. The case was also closed here, as no suspect could be identified.



Figure 67: Discovery situation of the Logger Anitra 383 - 22261 of the bid IE_0069 on 27.12.2022 in the Leitha © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (BirdLife Austria, Johannes Hohenegger)

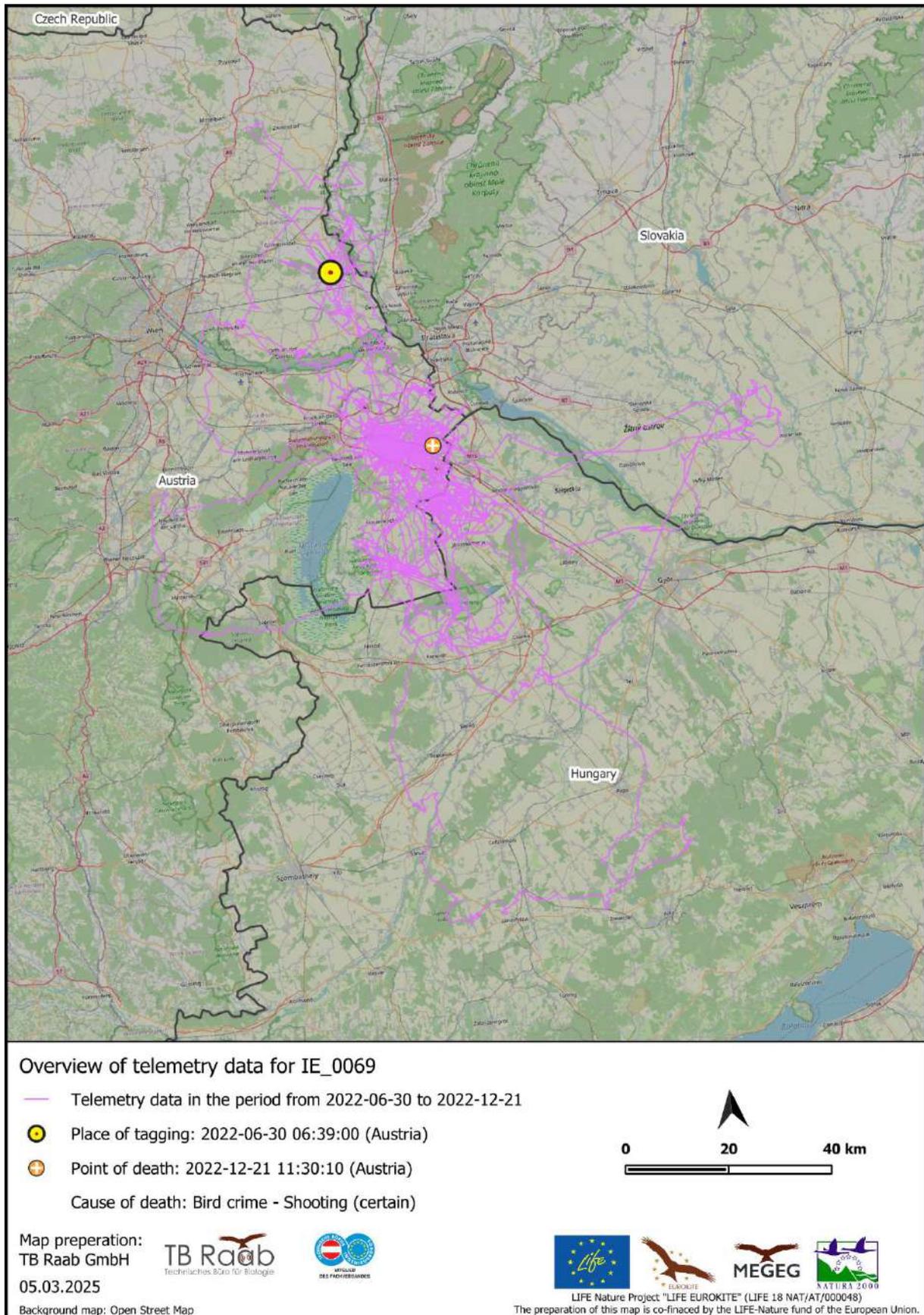


Figure 68: Overview of the telemetry data for IE_0069.

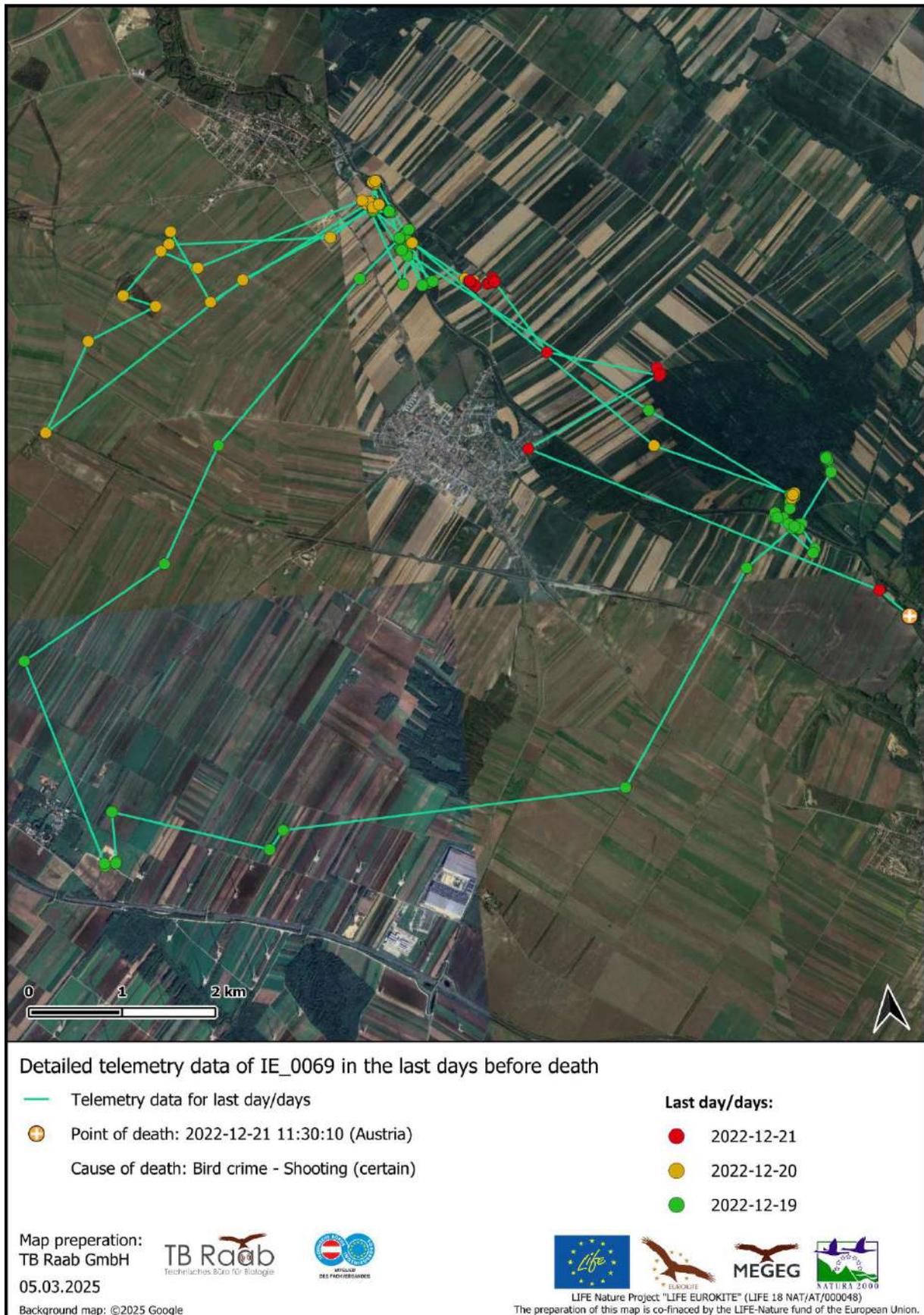


Figure 69: Detailed telemetry data of IE_0069 in the last days before death.



Figure 70: Telemetry data of IE_0069 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

RK_1807

General information about the bird

Name: Torekov_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 04.05.2022

Place of tagging: Skåne län, Sweden

Date of tagging: 26.06.2022

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: A1

Logger number: Anitra 380 - 22388

Ring number: no ring

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Riensberg, Upper Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.076472, 13.074146

Date of bird crime: 29.03.2023, 15:05:08 PM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 329

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Shooting

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assumption (TB Raab). The transmitter was found attached to a chicken leg, with no trace of the red kite.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

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

Legal proceeding: Yes → Stopped

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why?

Since only the transmitter was found attached to a chicken leg, with no trace of the red kite, a complaint could only be filed against an unknown person. The lack of evidence meant that no perpetrator could be identified. If new evidence emerges, the case will be reopened.



Figure 71: Logger Anitra 380 - 22388, found attached to a chicken leg, from the red kite RK_1807, which died on 29.03.2023 in Riensberg, Upper Austria, Austria © LIFE EUROKITE Archive (BirdLife Austria, Florian Billinger)

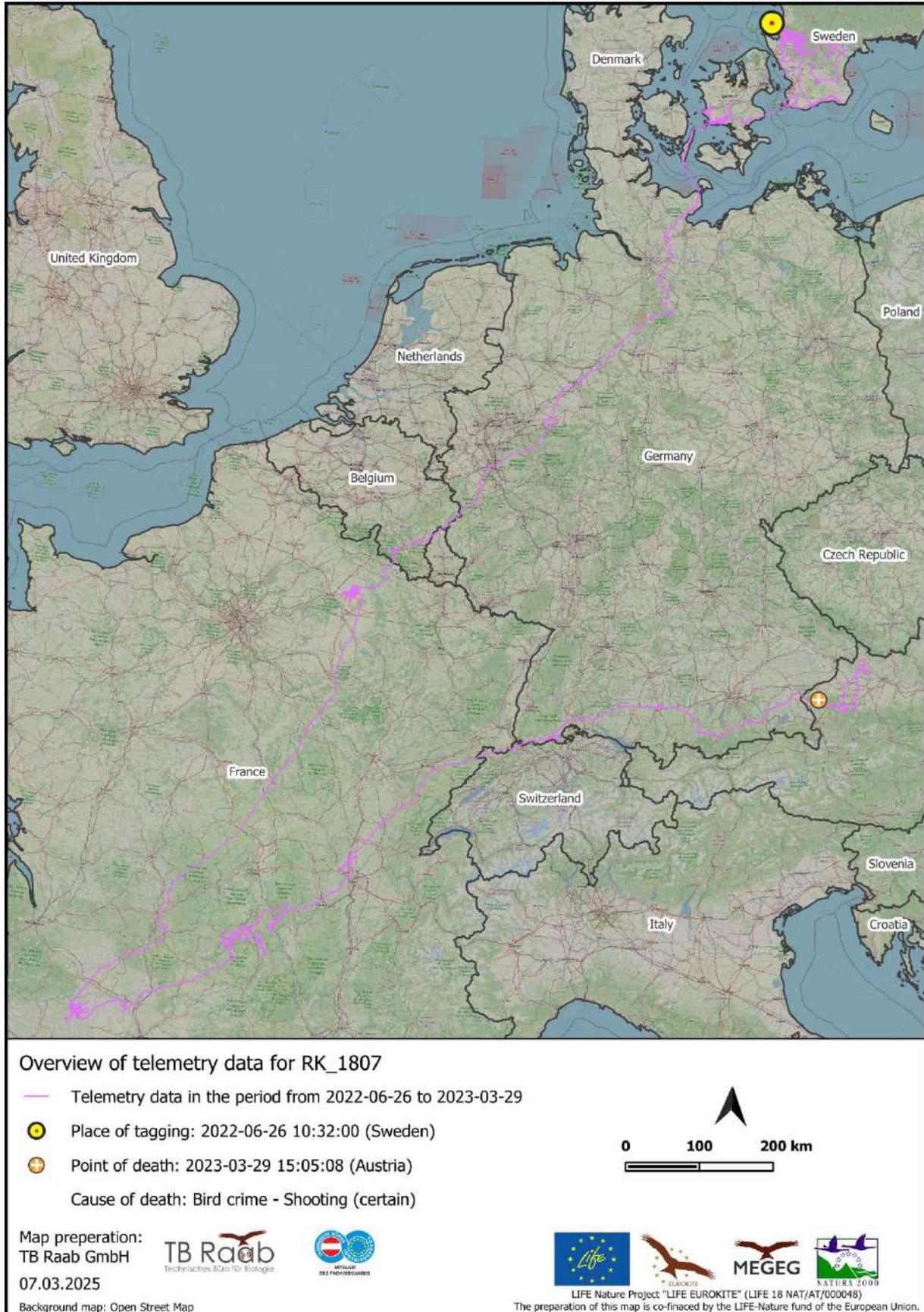


Figure 72: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_1807.

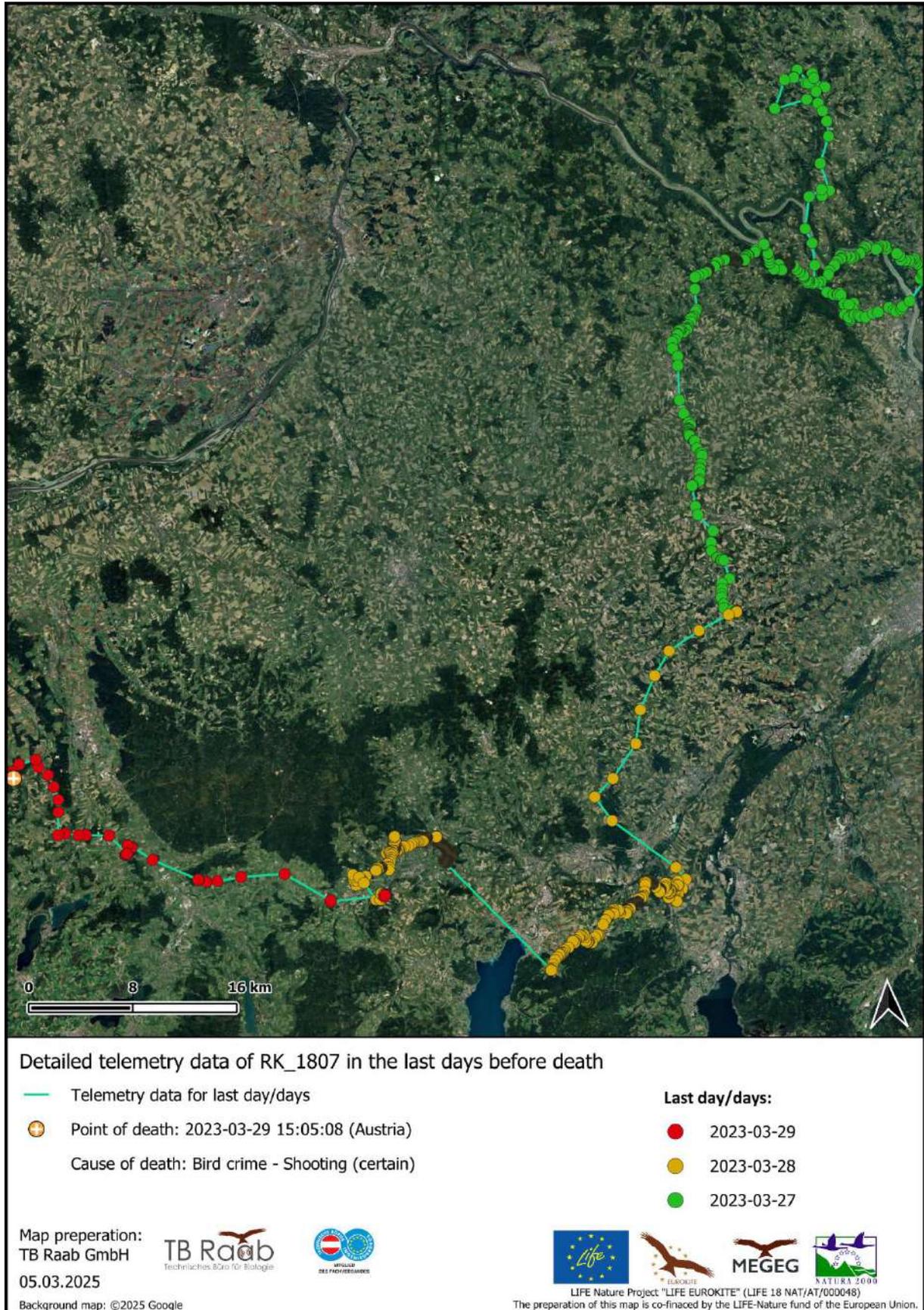


Figure 73: Detailed telemetry data of RK_1807 in the last days before death.

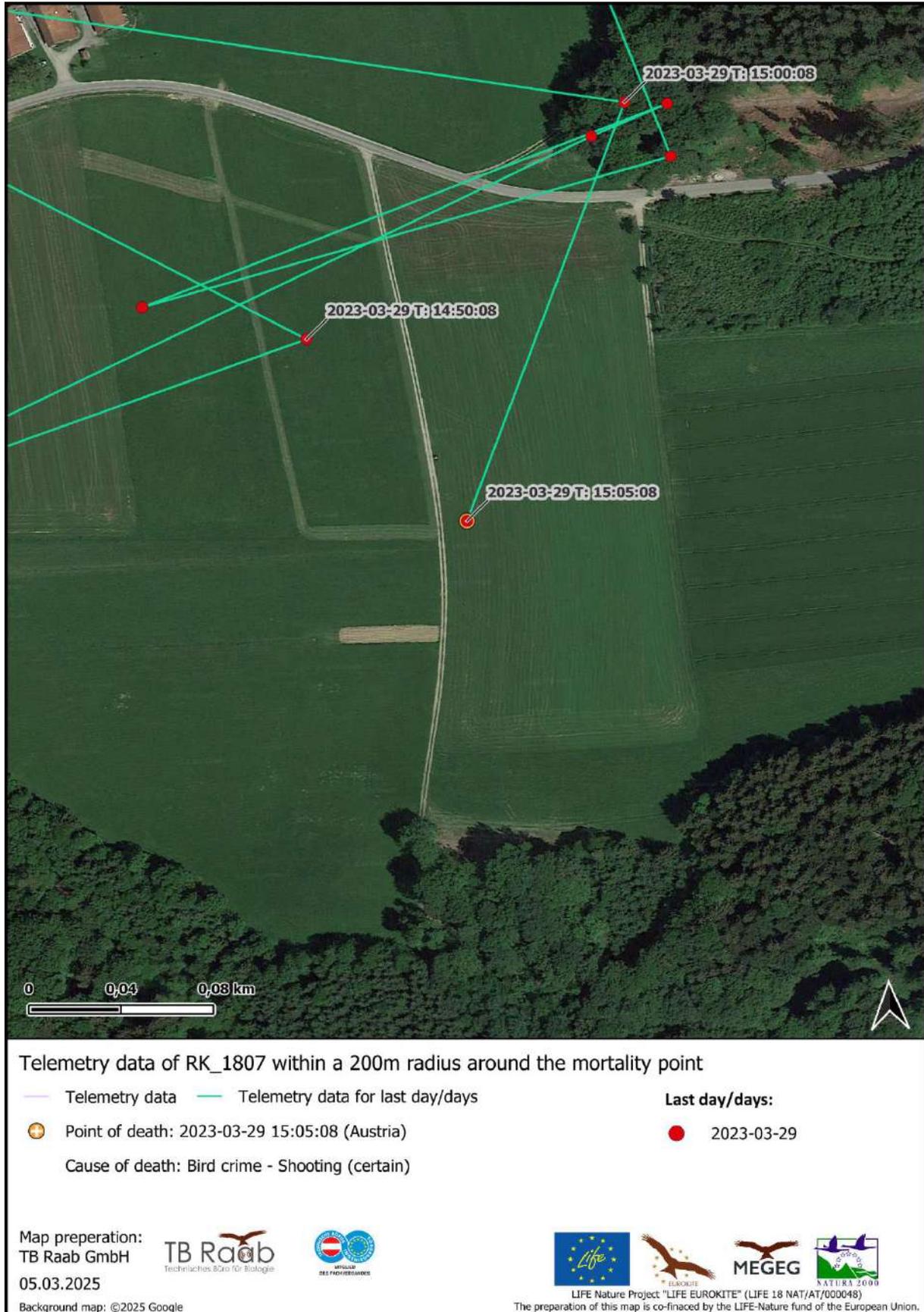


Figure 74: Telemetry data of RK_1807 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

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.

RK_0039

General information about the bird

Name: Zwerndorf_01

Species: Red kite

Birth date: 07.05.2016

Place of tagging: Weiden an der March, Lower Austria, Austria

Date of tagging: 12.06.2016

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: E_TBRAAB_1

Logger number: AUKI 40 – AAA 08 kite

Ring number: JC75462

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Groß-Inzersdorf, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48,522717, 16,7844830

Date of bird crime: 19.03.2017, 9:13:00 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 316

Age at bird crime: 2. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic

Logger and/or bird found: Logger and bird found

Carcass state: No information received

Bird crime: Trapping

Certainty category: Probable

Additional information: Expert assumption (Ministry of the Environment of the Czech Republic). Probably the bird was trapped somehow, killed and thrown in the place where it was found.

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

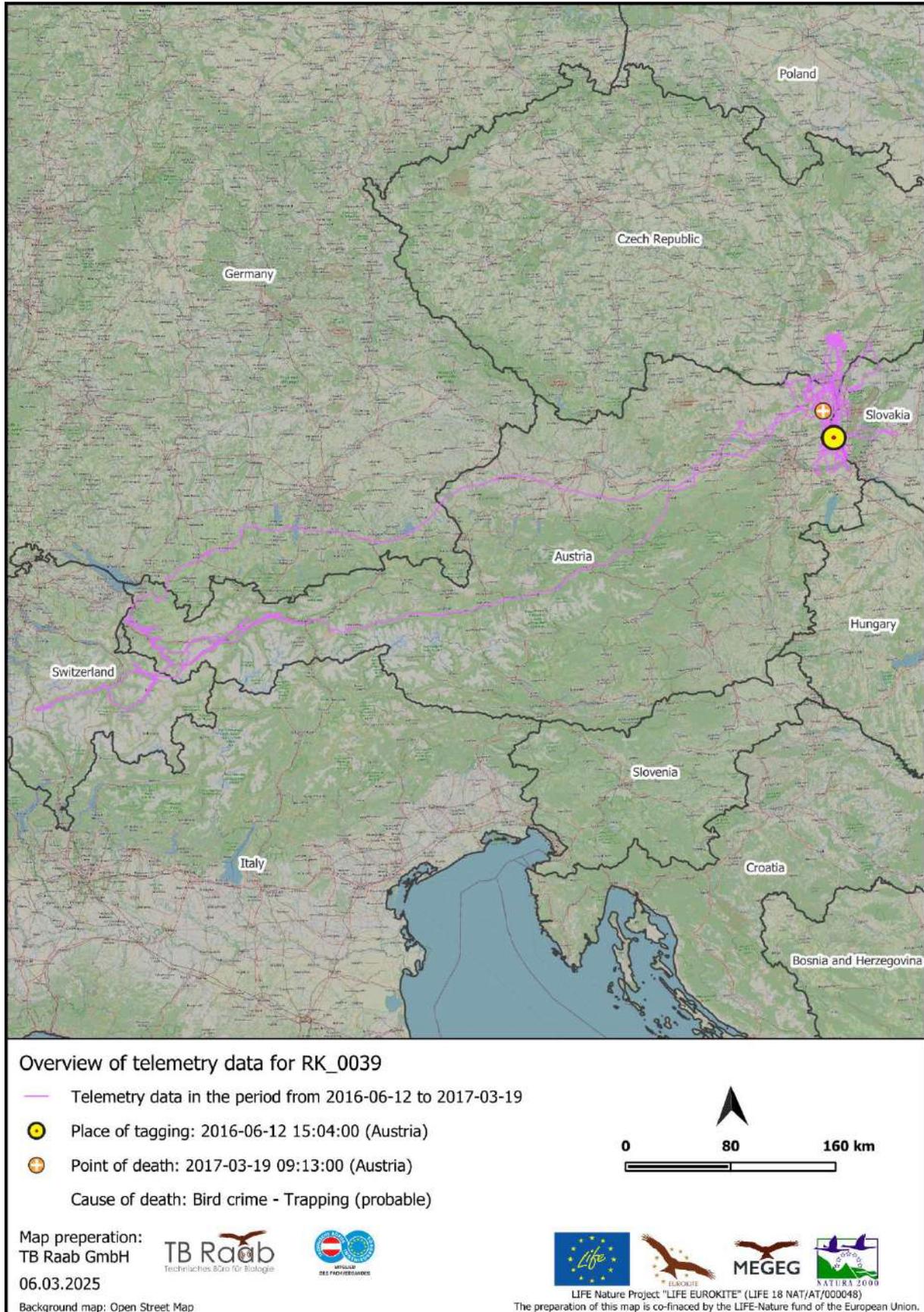


Figure 75: Overview of the telemetry data for RK_0039.

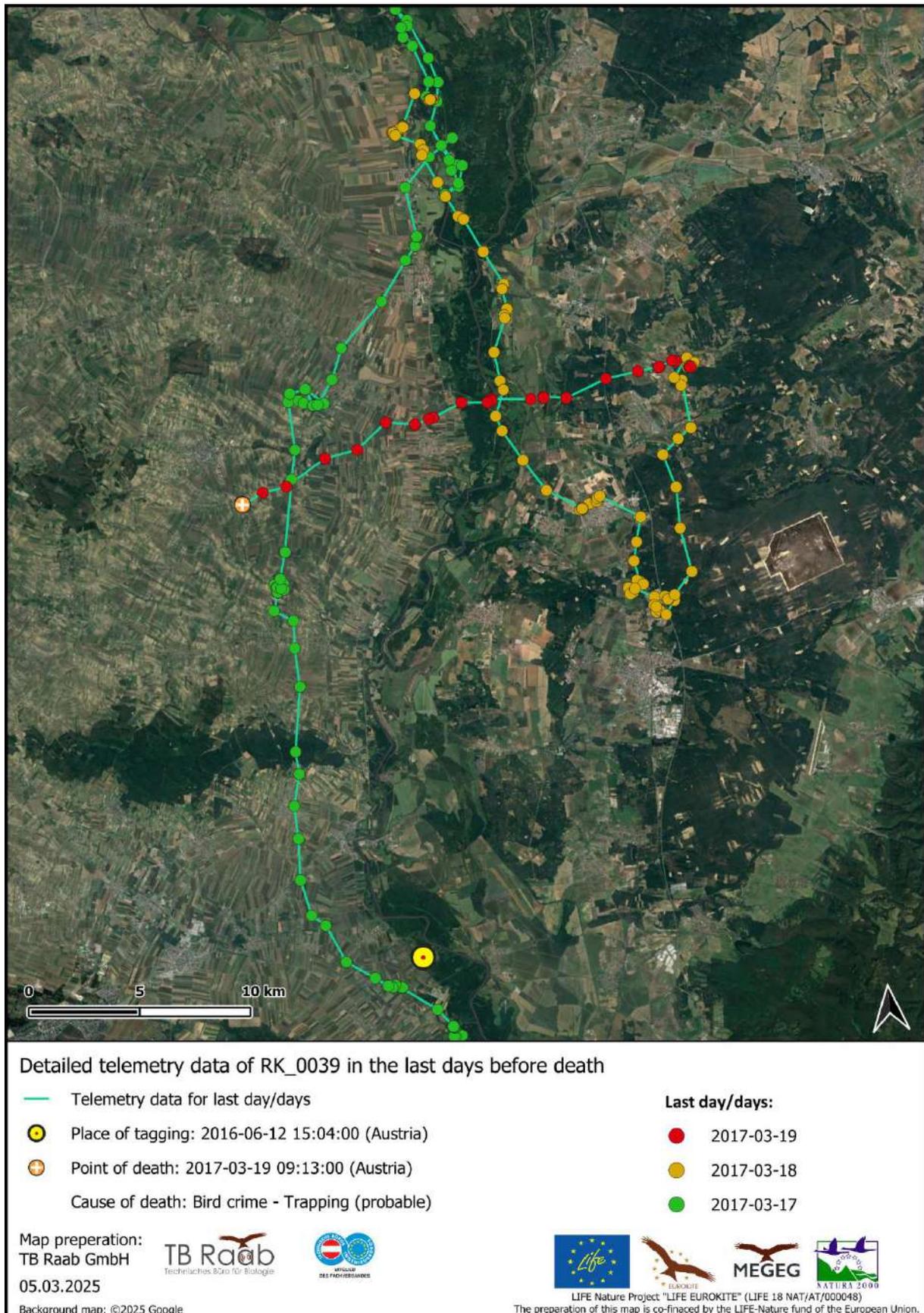


Figure 76: Detailed telemetry data of RK_0039 in the last days before death.

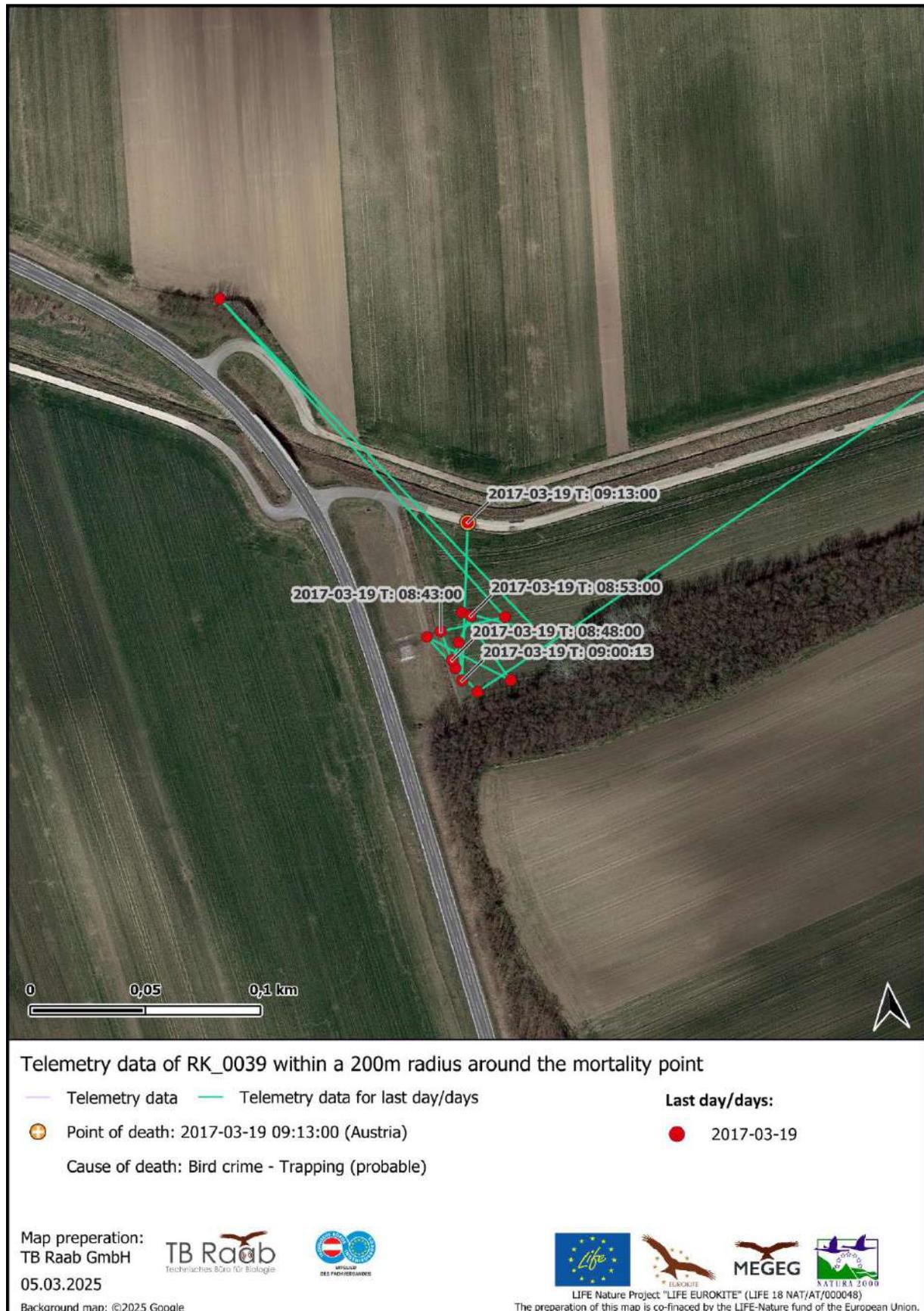


Figure 77: Telemetry data of RK_0039 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

3.4 Tagged individuals that have died due to bird crime

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

IE_0063

General information about the bird

Name: Tvrdonice_02

Species: Imperial eagle

Birth date: 02.05.2021

Place of tagging: Tvrdonice, Jihovýchod, Czech Republic

Date of tagging: 01.07.2021

Age at tagging: 1. CY

Origin of bird: Juvenile from the nest

Ownership category: B_MEGEG (CSO)

Logger number: Ornitela 181 - 192185 kite

Ring number: LX546

Sex: Female

Bird crime information

Place of bird crime: Tulln, Lower Austria, Austria

Coordinates: 48.290745, 15.848048

Date of bird crime: 27.05.2024, 07:33:30 AM (UTC)

Age at bird crime (Days): 1121

Age at bird crime: 4. CY

Responsible organization for the investigation: TB Raab

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

Carcass state: -

Bird crime: Bird crime

Certainty category: Certain

Additional information: Expert assumption (TB Raab). Based on the telemetry data, it was initially suspected that the bird had collided with a power line. However, the bird or the transmitter

was finally transported across the road (presumably by car) towards the Danube. The logger was finally recovered from the Danube near Tulln. The bird could not be found.

Investigation information

Last editing: 08.01.2025

Investigation: Stopped

Police and/or authority investigation: Police informed → Stopped

Legal proceeding: Yes → Stopped

Conviction: No

If investigation stopped or no conviction was achieved, why? Despite thorough investigations, no perpetrator could be identified. Therefore, the case has been suspended. If new evidence emerges, the case will be reopened.

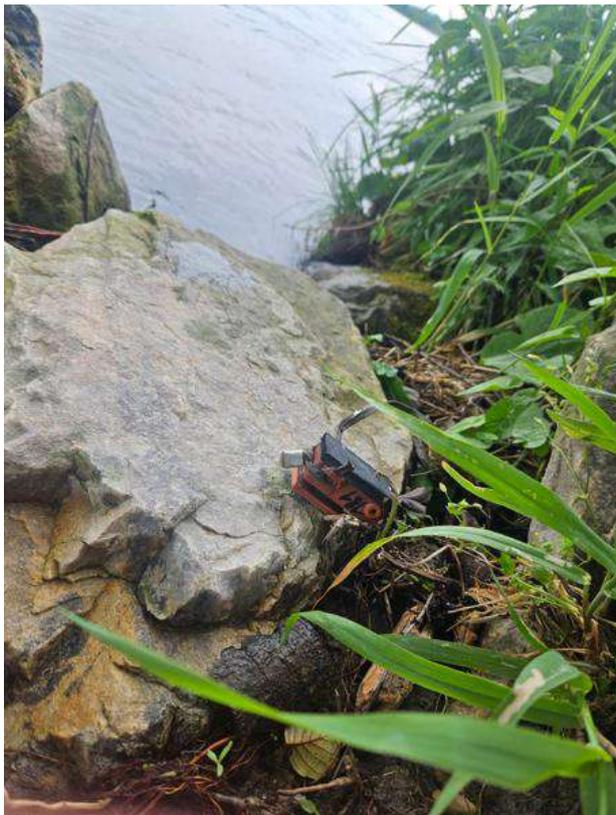


Figure 78: Finding situation of the logger from the imperial Eagle IE_0063, which died on 27.05.2024 in Lower Austria, Austria. © LIFE EUROKITE Archive

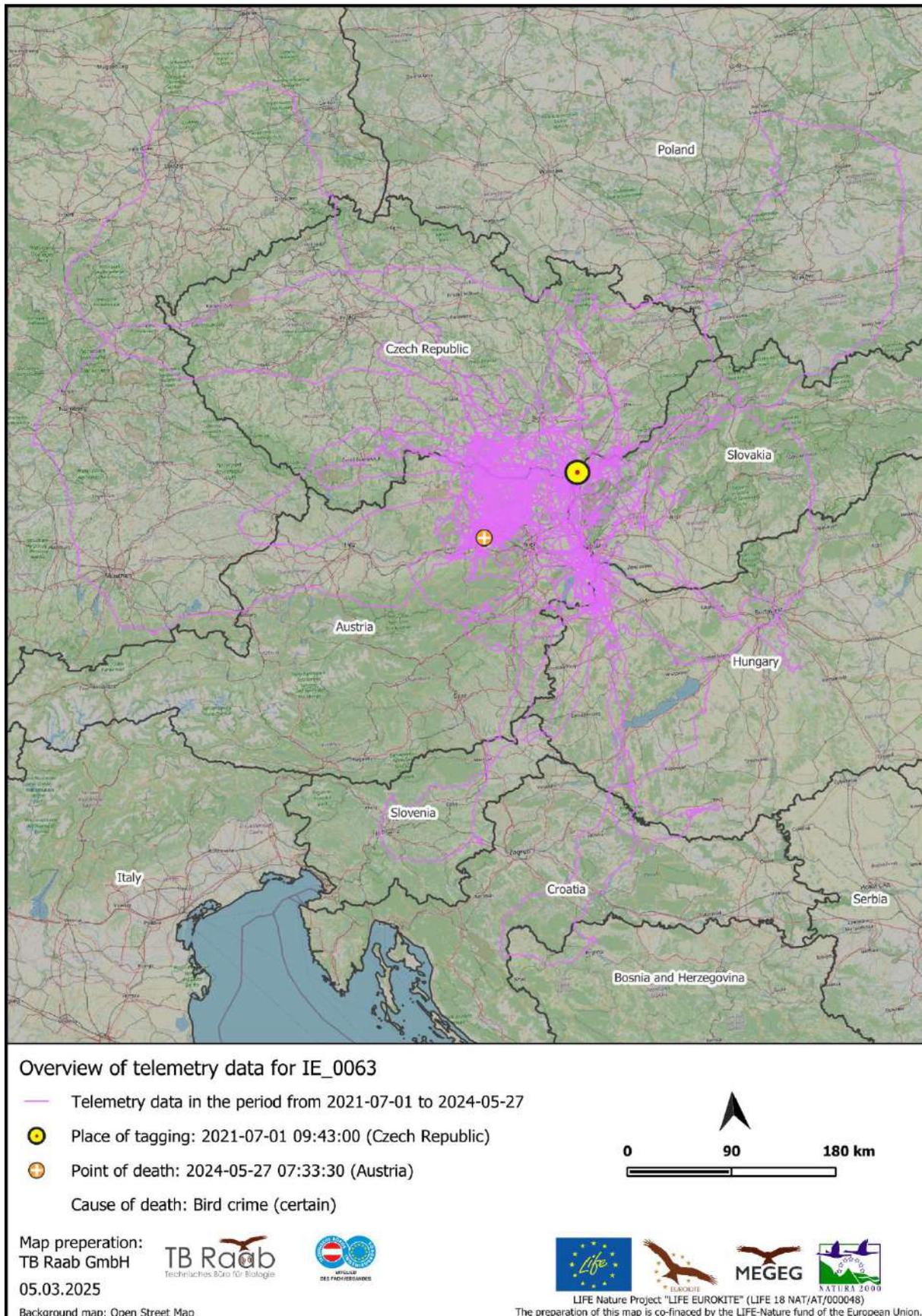


Figure 79: Overview of the telemetry data for IE_0063.

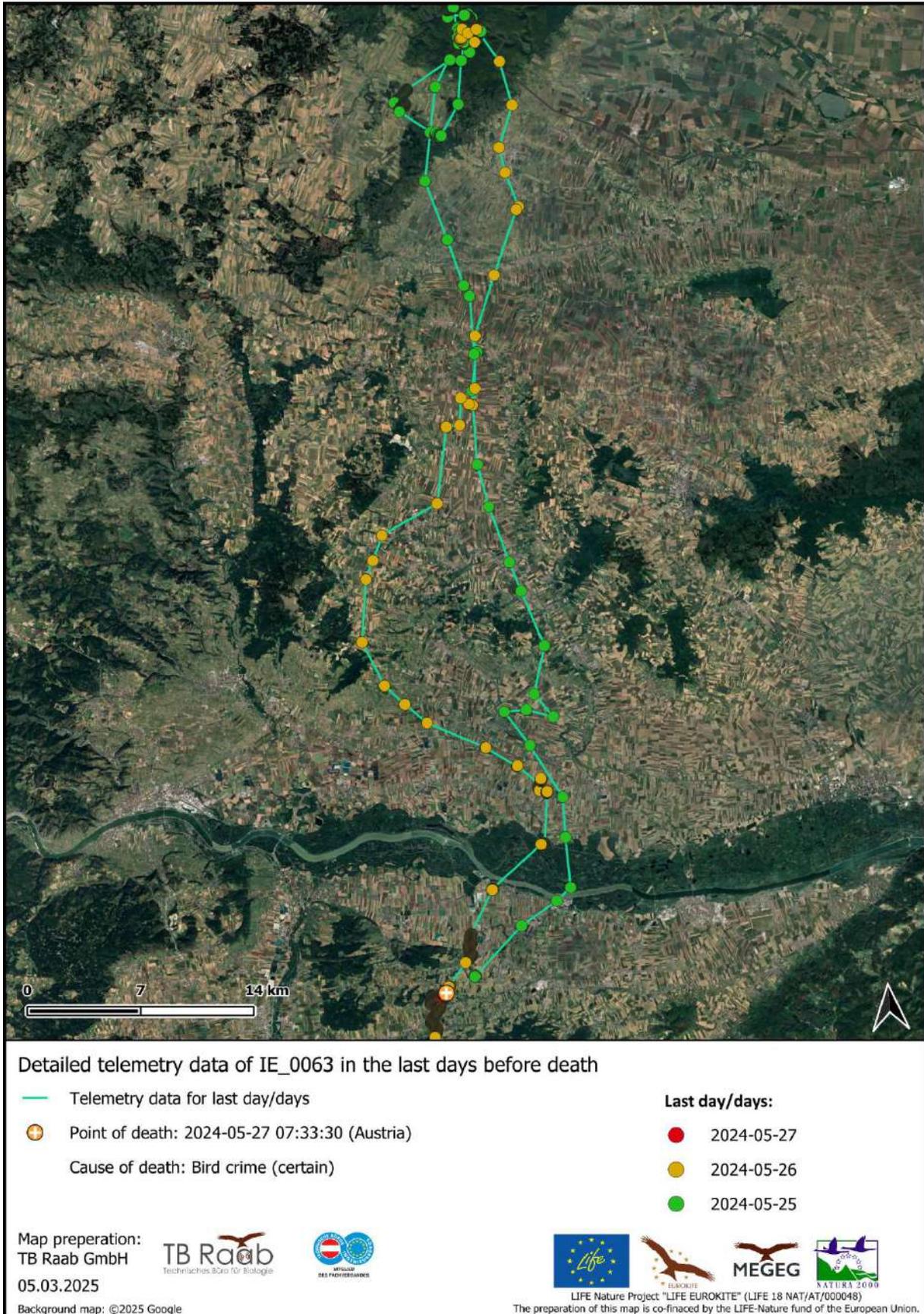


Figure 80: Detailed telemetry data of IE_0063 in the last days before death.

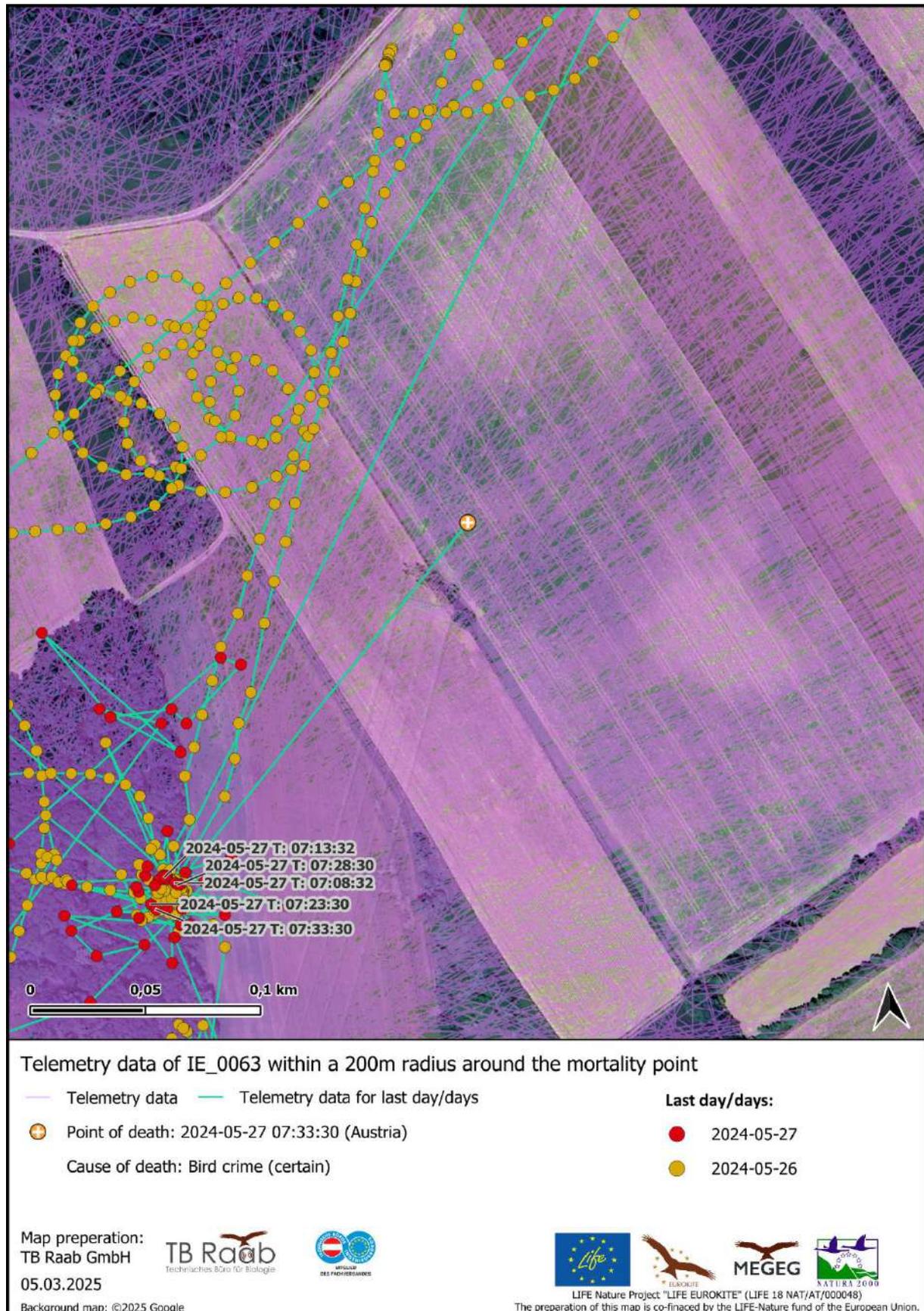


Figure 81: Telemetry data of IE_0063 within a 200m radius around the mortality point.

3.5 Summary of the Austrian 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 in total 62 birds died in Austria. Of those, 21 tagged raptors (16 red kites and 5 imperial eagles) died due to illegal activities. Tagged individuals that died due to illegal activities in Austria were either poisoned (10) or shot (9) (Table 1 to Table 2 & Figure 82).

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

Mortality reason	Imperial eagle	Red kite	Total
Bird crime	1	-	1
Bird crime - Shooting	3	6	9
Bird crime - Trapping	-	1	1
Bird crime - Poisoning	1	9	10
Total	5	16	21

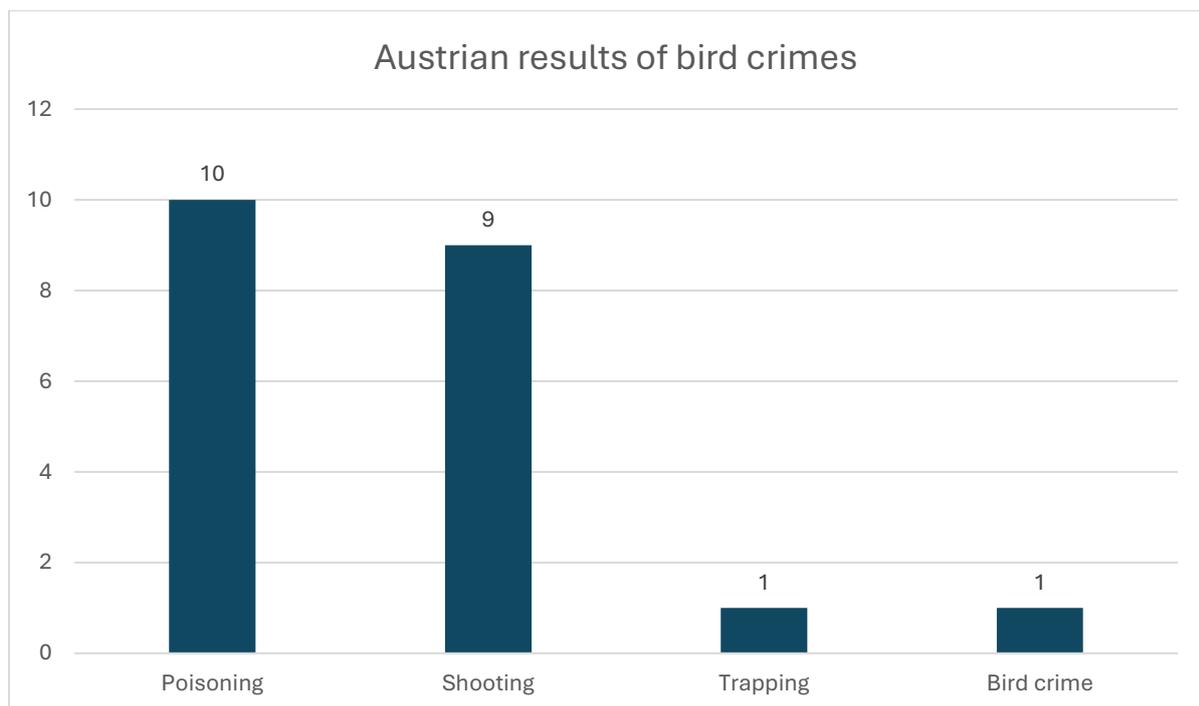


Figure 82: Overview of confirmed bird crime cases involving tagged individuals in Austria.

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

Federal State	Bird crime	Bird crime - Shooting	Bird crime - Trapping	Bird crime - Poisoning	Total
Burgenland (Burgenland)	-	1	-	2	3
Lower Austria (Niederösterreich)	1	4	1	8	14
Styria (Steiermark)	-	1	-	-	1
Upper Austria (Oberösterreich)	-	3	-	-	3
Total	1	9	1	10	21

Used poison

Toxicological analyses of poisoned birds revealed the presence of 1 active substance. Carbofuran was detected in 5 out of 10 poisoned birds (Figure 83), the remaining 5 birds were either not analysed, or the detected substance was categorised as unknown. Carbofuran is a carbamate which is not approved for use under current European legislation ((European Parliament and Council of the European Union, 2009)) (Table 3).

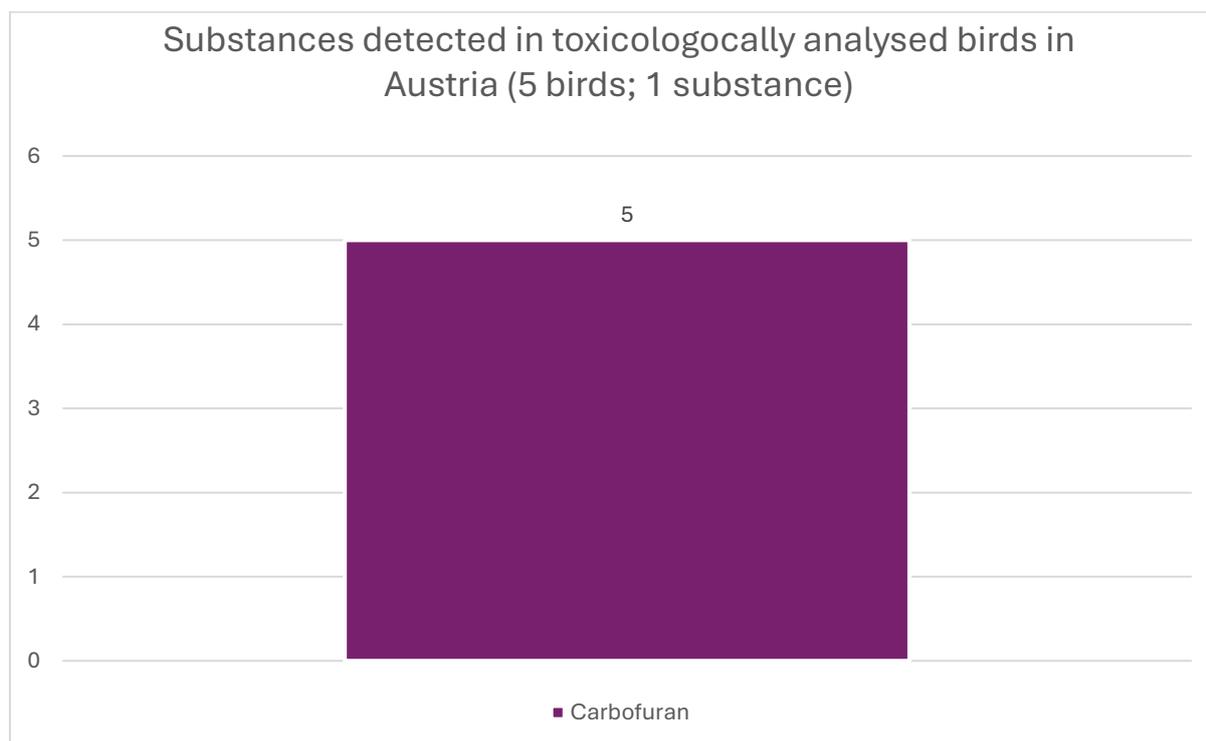


Figure 83: Substances detected (1 substance) in poisoned birds in Austria (5 toxicologically analysed birds). In total, 10 birds were classified as poisoned based on field evidence and GPS Data. Toxicological analyses were available for 5 individuals.

Table 3: Regulatory status and legal framework of not approved toxic substances detected in poisoned raptors in Austria 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 5 birds, whereas in 5 cases poisoning was suspected but the responsible substance remained unknown. In all the 5 toxicologically analysed birds, toxicological threshold values were exceeded, allowing the lethal substance to be clearly identified: All 5 birds were confirmed to have died from Carbofuran exposure (Figure 84).

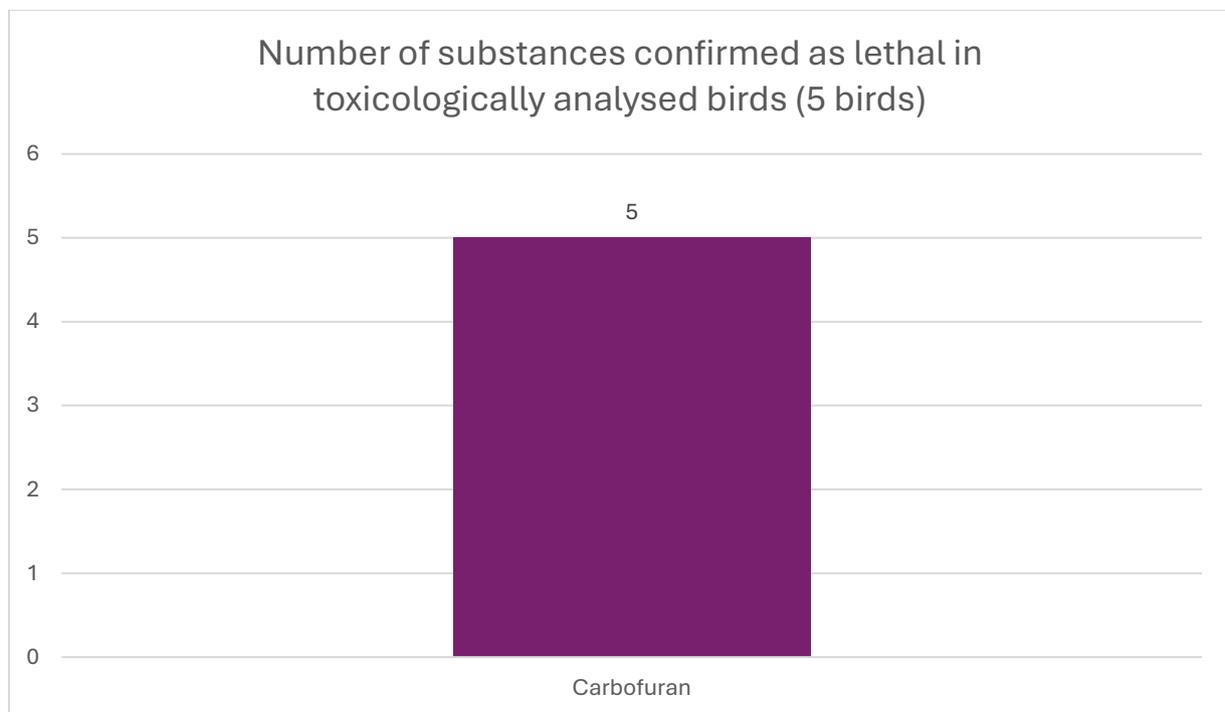


Figure 84: Toxic substances confirmed as lethal (1 substance) in poisoned birds in Austria. In total, 10 birds were classified as poisoned based on field evidence and GPS data. Toxicological analyses detected substances in 5 birds. In all of them toxicological thresholds have been exceeded.

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, 5 of the 10 poisoned birds were classified as intentional poisoning cases, while 5 cases remained undefined (Figure 85).

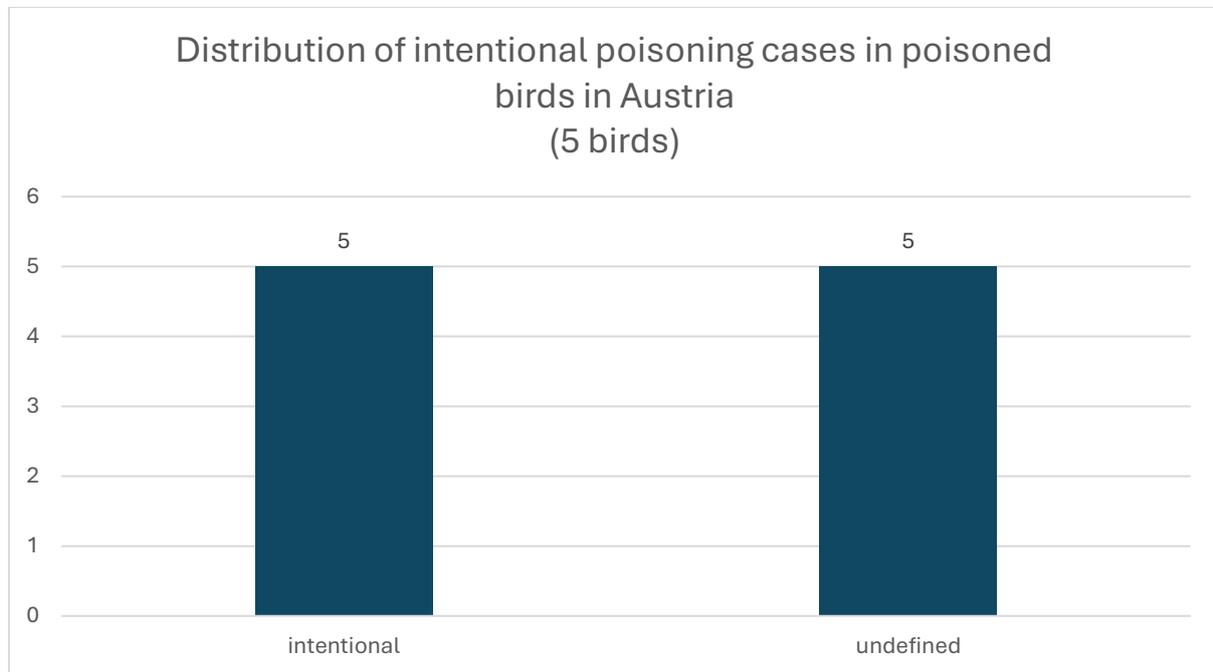


Figure 85: Number of poisoned birds classified as confirmed intentional poisoning or as cases with undetermined intent. Confirmed intentional poisoning includes cases involving toxic substances prohibited in the European Union, the presence of poisoned bait, multiple birds found dead at the same site 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 10 poisoned birds in Austria, 5 were classified as confirmed intentional poisoning and 5 as cases with undetermined intent.

Results of the investigation

There were 2 cases where no information was received regarding communication with the police or authorities. In 3 cases, both the police and the authority were informed, while in 15 cases, only the police were informed. In 1 case, neither the police nor the authorities were informed (Table 4).

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

Reporting to the police/authority	
No information received yet	2
Police informed	15
Police and authority informed	3
Neither police nor authorities informed	1
Total	21

For the investigations, 9 cases had no information available regarding their status. In 1 case, the investigation is ongoing, and in 10 cases, the investigations were stopped and in one case, there was no investigation. Like the investigation status, 9 cases had no information regarding the legal proceedings. 1 case has an ongoing legal proceeding, and 10 cases were stopped and in one case, there was no investigation (Table 5).

Table 5: Overview of the status of Austrian investigation and prosecution measures for bird crimes

	Investigation status	Legal proceeding status
No investigation/legal proceeding	1	1
Ongoing	1	1
Stopped	10	10
Completed	-	-
No information received	9	9
Total	21	21

In terms of conviction, 11 cases resulted in no conviction, and 9 cases had no information available regarding the conviction. There is 1 case where the perpetrator is not yet convicted (Table 6).

Table 6: Overview of the conviction status

Conviction	
No conviction	11
Not yet	1
Convicted	-
No information received	9
Total	21

The reasons for the lack of conviction in these cases was that in 6 cases, no perpetrator was identified and in 5 cases, there was too little evidence. In 1 case, the legal proceeding is still ongoing and in 9 cases, no information was received (Table 7).

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

Reason, why there was no conviction	
No perpetrator identified	6
Too little evidence	5
Legal proceeding ongoing	1
No information received	9
Total	21

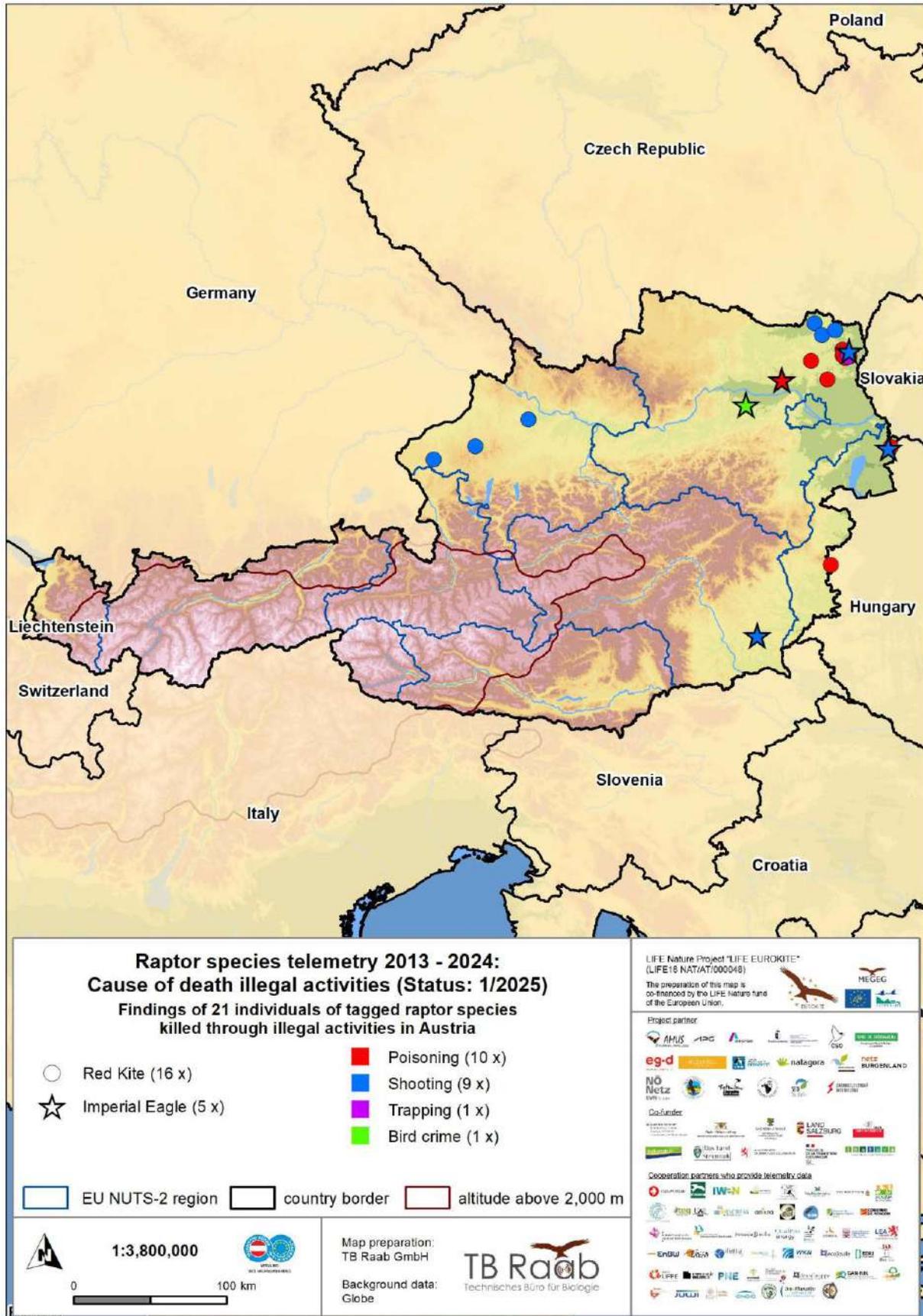


Figure 86: Map of tagged raptor species killed by illegal activities in Austria, broken down by species, region and cause of death.

3.6 Best practice

An effective prevention approach against illegal raptor persecution was implemented in Austria (Zistersdorf, Niederösterreich) even before the start of the LIFE EUROKITE project: The municipality Zistersdorf had experienced a series of illegal poisonings and cases of raptor persecution. The responsible district authority organised an information event, in close cooperation with the current LIFE EUROKITE coordinator and the police. All gamekeepers from the region were invited. During the event, the legal framework was explained, the extent of past incidents was highlighted, and the consequences of further violations were clearly communicated.

A central element of the communication was the announcement that, in the event of further incidents, an external official hunting inspector would be appointed to monitor local hunting practices. This clear message had an impact: since then, the number of bird crime in this region declined.

This case demonstrates the effectiveness of proactive communication, clearly defined responsibilities, and official presence.

4 References

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5 List of tagged individuals which died in Austria

Imperial eagle

IE_0002	61
IE_0019	66
IE_0049	46
IE_0063	111
IE_0069	96

Red kite

RK_0001	11
RK_0007	36
RK_0029	16
RK_0033	26
RK_0039	106
RK_0049	21
RK_0069	31
RK_0113	71
RK_0243	76
RK_0332	81
RK_0440	41
RK_1195	91
RK_1295	56
RK_1303	86
RK_1807	101
RK_1863	51

CPEW
Campaign against chemical 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

