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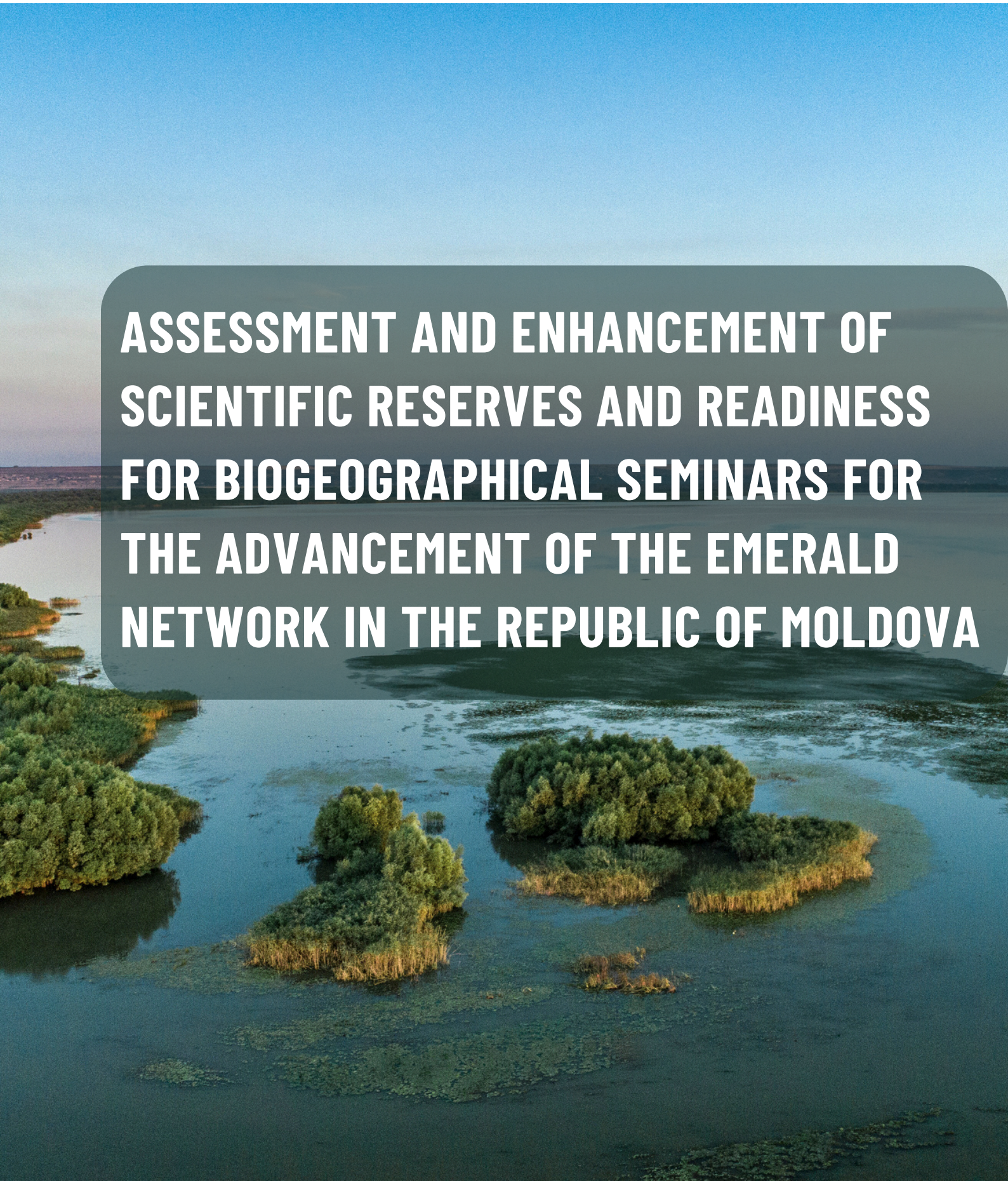

ASSESSMENT AND ENHANCEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC RESERVES AND READINESS FOR BIOGEOGRAPHICAL SEMINARS FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE EMERALD NETWORK IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Assessment and Enhancement of Scientific Reserves and Readiness for Biogeographical Seminars for the Advancement of the Emerald Network in the Republic of Moldova

December 2025

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This document presents the results of the assessment and enhancement of Scientific Reserves and the evaluation of readiness for Biogeographical Seminars in support of the advancement of the Emerald Network in the Republic of Moldova. It is provided for informational and advisory purposes under the EU4Environment Programme and does not constitute an official policy document.

The content is intended to support the Government of the Republic of Moldova — the Ministry of Environment and relevant institutions — in updating the Emerald Network database for submission to the Bern Convention Secretariat and in further developing the Emerald Network in the Republic of Moldova.

The findings and recommendations presented in this document may be used by the Government of the Republic of Moldova to support national decision-making processes. Their application remains subject to national legislation and site-specific assessments.

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Acronyms and Definitions

A-sites for habitats	Sites where the habitat covers more than 15 percent of the total habitat coverage of the country
A-sites for species	Sites that contain more than 15 percent of the country's total population of species
B-sites for habitats	Sites where the habitat covers 2–15 percent of the country's total habitat coverage
B-sites for species	Sites that contain 2–15 percent of the country's total population of species
bp	Breeding pair
BGR	Biogeographical Region
C sites for habitats	Sites where the habitat covers less than 2 percent of the country's total habitat coverage
C sites for species	Sites that contain less than 2 percent of the country's total population of species
CON	Continental Biogeographical Region
D-sites	Non-significant population or habitat cover
EBBA2	European Breeding Bird Atlas 2 (Keller et al. 2020)
ELLE	Estonian, Latvian & Lithuanian Environment
ERL	European Red List
ILE SAS	Institute of Landscape Ecology of Slovak Academy of Sciences
IBA	Important Bird Area (BirdLife International)
IN MAJ	Habitat or species is present but is not protected by the Emerald Network
IN MIN	Known presence of habitat or species in a specific Emerald site. Protection of habitat or species needs to be declared in the specific Emerald site
IN MOD	Habitat or species is protected by Emerald site(s). Protection is not sufficient, and more sites for the protection of habitats or species need to be declared
MD	Moldova
n/a	not available
NGO	Nongovernmental organization
SDF	Standard Data Form; information provided in the Emerald databases by national authorities—r = reproducing, p = permanent, c = concentration, w = wintering and units: pairs (= p), individuals (= i)
SR[1]	Scientific reserve; insufficient knowledge about habitats or species
SR REF	Scientific reserve on reference list; insufficient knowledge about the presence of habitats or species in the respective biogeographical region of the country
STE	Steppic Biogeographical Region
SUF	Sufficient protection of specific species or habitat by the Emerald Network
UA	Ukraine

[1] In this report, the acronym 'SR' (**"**Scientific Reserve") is used within the framework of the Emerald Network assessment methodology. The word "reserve" refers to elements that are retained for potential future use. In this context, "reserve" signifies species or taxa that were not included in the current assessment cycle, but may be (re)introduced in future assessments depending on data availability, scientific prioritisation, or future evaluation cycles. This usage does not imply any legal status or territorial designation. It **shouldn't be confused** with the term "SR" ("Rezervația Științifică"), as defined under national legislation of the Republic of Moldova, which designates a legally protected area.

1. Introduction

This report is an output of the activity 'Regional Collaboration in Protecting Biodiversity & Ecosystems (the Emerald Network) in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) Countries' under the EU4Environment Programme. The document is intended to assist Moldova in preparing the next version of its Emerald database for submission to the Bern Secretariat. It should serve the Moldovan government, authorities, scientists, experts, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and local stakeholders as a tool for preparing for the next biogeographical seminar and for further development of the Emerald Network in Moldova.

This document presents findings on the progress, current situation, and remaining gaps related to the representation of Bern Convention species and habitats within the Emerald Network in Moldova. The report summarizes the analytical work conducted to assess progress in knowledge about Bern Convention species and habitats in Moldova. It draws on information presented in the pre-scoping document 'Review of Progress in Scientific Knowledge of Emerald Habitats and Species Distribution in Moldova'. To prepare the pre-scoping document, we analyzed the national Emerald Network development plans and performed an extensive literature review covering scientific papers, reports, national conservation lists, databases, and citizen science sources. These materials were used to summarize existing knowledge on those Bern Convention species and habitats identified in the last biogeographical seminar as not sufficiently represented in the Emerald Network in Moldova, or for which there was insufficient information and a need for further study. Data sources supporting these recommendations are provided in the relevant sections and in the list of references.

The pre-scoping document was delivered to authorities and experts in Moldova. Its findings were then discussed with local experts during the self-evaluation workshop in Chișinău on October 16, 2025. This discussion provided additional information, which we have included under 'Comments from local experts' in the tables in Chapter 3. These insights helped us refine our recommendations for developing the Emerald Network in Moldova and addressing remaining scientific gaps.

The core of the document focuses on individual species and habitats that are insufficiently protected by the Emerald Network. Their identification is based on conclusions from the last biogeographical seminars, namely the seminar on animals, habitats, and plants held on 18–19 June 2019 and the seminar on birds held on May 23–24, 2018. We focused on species with insufficient knowledge (conclusion: SR), insufficient knowledge that does not allow confirming the presence or absence of the species or habitat in the biogeographical regions (BGRs) of Moldova (conclusion: SR REF), insufficient protection of species or habitat by the Emerald Network (conclusion: IN MOD), or absence of such protection (conclusion: IN MAJ). We checked the current distribution of species in the Emerald Network and, based on conclusions from the biogeographical seminar and our literature review, provided recommendations for each assessed species and habitat.

Besides reviewing the status and knowledge on individual species and habitats, the Chișinău workshop provided an opportunity to discuss more general aspects of Emerald Network development in Moldova. Results of this discussion were used to formulate recommendations for the future improvement of the Emerald Network, protection of Emerald species and habitats, and management of Emerald sites. These recommendations are presented in Chapter 4; they summarize and synthesize those provided in the preceding sections and discussed in the self-evaluation workshop.

1. Introducere

Acest raport reprezintă un rezultat al activității „Colaborarea regională pentru protecția biodiversității și a ecosistemelor (Rețeaua Emerald) în țările Parteneriatului Estic (EaP), în cadrul Programului EU4Environment". Documentul este destinat să sprijine Republica Moldova în pregătirea următoarei versiuni a Bazei de Date Emerald pentru transmiterea către Secretariatul Convenției de la Berna. Raportul ar trebui să servească drept instrument pentru Guvernul Republicii Moldova, autorități, comunitatea științifică, experți, organizații neguvernamentale (ONG) și părțile interesate locale, în vederea pregătirii următorului seminar biogeografic și a dezvoltării ulterioare a Rețelei Emerald în Republica Moldova.

Documentul prezintă constatările privind progresele înregistrate, situația actuală și lacunele rămase în reprezentarea speciilor și habitatelor menționate în Convenția de la Berna în cadrul Rețelei Emerald din Republica Moldova. Prin raport, se rezumă activitatea analitică care a evaluat aceste progrese, cu accent pe nivelul de cunoaștere al speciilor și habitatelor Convenției de la Berna, prezente în Republica Moldova. Informațiile prezentate în documentul de pre-scoping „Review of Progress in Scientific Knowledge of Emerald Habitats and Species Distribution in Moldova" („Revizuirea progresului cunoștințelor științifice privind habitatele și distribuția speciilor Emerald în Moldova") au stat la baza acestei evaluări. Pentru elaborarea documentului de pre-scoping, au fost analizate planurile naționale de dezvoltare a Rețelei Emerald și realizată o analiză extinsă a literaturii de specialitate, care a acoperit articole științifice, rapoarte, liste naționale, relevante pentru conservarea naturii, baze de date și surse de tip „inițiative științifice cetățenești". În baza acestor materiale au fost sintetizate informațiile/cunoștințele existente privind speciile și habitatele (conform Convenției de la Berna), indicate în cadrul ultimului seminar biogeografic ca fiind insuficient reprezentate în Rețeaua Emerald din Republica Moldova, sau speciile și habitatele pentru care informațiile disponibile au fost insuficiente și a fost necesară aprofundarea studiilor. Sursele de date, care stau la baza acestor recomandări, sunt prezentate în secțiunile relevante și în lista de referințe.

Documentul de pre-scoping a fost transmis autorităților și experților din Republica Moldova. Constatările acestuia au fost apoi discutate cu experții locali în cadrul atelierului de autoevaluare, organizat la Chișinău, în data de 16 octombrie 2025. Acest atelier a furnizat informații suplimentare, care au fost incluse în tabelele din Capitolul 3, la rubrica „Comentarii ale experților locali". Contribuția experților locali a permis ajustarea recomandărilor privind dezvoltarea Rețelei Emerald în Republica Moldova și abordarea lacunelor științifice rămase.

Partea centrală a documentului se concentrează asupra anumitor specii și habitate, cele care nu sunt suficient protejate în cadrul Rețelei Emerald. Identificarea acestora se bazează pe constatările ultimelor seminare biogeografice, și anume: Seminarul privind animalele, habitatele și plantele, desfășurat în perioada 18–19 iunie 2019, și Seminarul privind păsările, desfășurat în perioada 23–24 mai 2018. Accentul a fost pus pe speciile și habitatele pentru care s-a constatat o cunoaștere insuficientă (concluzie: SR); o cunoaștere insuficientă, care nu permite confirmarea prezenței sau absenței speciei ori a habitatului în regiunile biogeografice ale Republicii Moldova (concluzie: SR REF); o protecție insuficientă în cadrul Rețelei Emerald (concluzie: IN MOD); sau absența unei astfel de protecții (concluzie: IN MAJ). A fost verificată distribuția actuală a speciilor și habitatelor în cadrul Rețelei Emerald, iar în baza concluziilor seminarului biogeografic și a analizei literaturii de specialitate au fost formulate recomandări pentru fiecare specie și habitat evaluat.

Pe lângă analiza stării de conservare și a nivelului de cunoaștere al speciilor și habitatelor individuale, atelierul de la Chișinău a oferit ocazia de a discuta și aspecte mai generale ale dezvoltării Rețelei Emerald în Republica Moldova. Rezultatele acestei discuții au fost utilizate pentru formularea de recomandări privind viitoarea îmbunătățire a Rețelei Emerald, protecția speciilor și habitatelor din cadrul acestei rețele și managementul sustenabil al siturilor Emerald. Recomandările prezentate în Capitolul 4 constituie o sinteză a activităților descrise în secțiunile anterioare și discutate în cadrul atelierului de autoevaluare.

2. Available scientific knowledge useful for Emerald Network development

In 2009–2017, the Republic of Moldova, with the support of the Council of Europe and the European Union project on the creation of the Emerald Network of natural areas of special protection, developed the national database for Emerald Network sites, species, and habitats protected under the Europe's Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979), Bern Convention. The total number of Emerald Network sites: 52; habitats: 34; species: 165. The total area of the Emerald sites represents 8 percent of the country's territory. The Moldovan Emerald sites were approved as Adopted Emerald Network Sites in 2018.

The published information on the **habitats** of Moldova is quite limited and mostly dispersed across short papers; information on the distribution of habitat types is scarce. A habitat book or manual is absent, and there is a general lack of information about the distribution of most habitat types. If some information about habitat distribution is available, then the distribution is more or less generally characterized, but habitat maps are not available. Some information on habitats is available in regional studies, for example, the report by Ungureanu et al. (2017) related to the Soroca and Stefan Voda districts. Steppe habitats are described by Shabanova (2012) and Andreev et al. (2007). The study on the Dniester River (Afanasyev and Manturova 2021) provides information on the freshwater and wetland habitats of the Dniester River, including its floodplains and tributaries. In summary, knowledge of habitat types, especially their spatial distribution, is insufficient and should be improved. Because both main rivers of Moldova (Dniester and Prut) are transboundary, useful information on (especially) freshwater habitats was also extracted from Romanian and Ukrainian literature and the Ramsar Sites Information System. For further development of the Emerald Network, the knowledge on habitat types and their distribution should be improved. The preparation of the habitat manual and development of a mapping and monitoring program are needed. The analysis of the existing regulatory framework, along with the identification of gaps and barriers in the protection, conservation, and effective management of Emerald sites, is summarized in the document 'Status of Emerald Species and Habitats in the Republic of Moldova: A Legal and Institutional Framework Assessment'.[2]

Data on the distribution of **mammals** in Moldova until 2015 are presented in the Red Book of the Republic of Moldova by Toderaş et al. (2015). It is an important data source. This book also has distribution maps with historical and current occurrences for individual mammal species (until 2014). Other important records on Emerald species from Pridnestrovia (part of Moldova) are published in the Red Book of the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic (second edition) by Kovali (2020), which includes distribution maps showing the locations of occurrence of individual species (until 2019).

The northern crested newt (*Triturus cristatus*) is an **amphibian** for which the available data are outdated, relying primarily on older literature (Cozari et al. 2015; Edgar and Bird 2006; Wielstra et al. 2014) with no contemporary information currently available. Its habitats have been significantly reduced in extent due to the drainage of marshy land in river valleys (Drucioc, pers. com. in Edgar and Bird 2006). Another *Triturus* species, the Danube crested newt (*Triturus dobrogicus*), is not listed in the Red Book 2015 (Toderaş 2015) or on any Moldovan Emerald site. Still, its occurrence was reported in the southernmost part of the Prut River Valley (Moldova) by Litvinchuk and Borkin (1995) and Borkin et al. (1997). Data are poor—data deficient—at present, this species is not recognized as a member of the Moldovan herpetofauna (Edgar and Bird 2006). Further surveys were planned to prove its existence (Drucioc, pers. com. in Edgar and Bird 2006), but no contemporary data are available. Therefore, other research is needed. *Bombina* species were not evaluated because their coverage by Emerald sites was sufficient (final conclusion from the Biogeographical Seminar 2019). Still, knowledge of their distribution is primarily based on older literature sources (Cozari 2015a, 2015b).

The distribution of **fishes** and ***Agnatha*** (*Cyclostomata*) is poorly studied in most areas, except for the ichthyofauna of the Prut and Dniester rivers, which have sufficient recent data on most species (Levin and Holcik, 2006; Bulat et al. 2016, 2024). For the weatherfish (*Misgurnus fossilis*), site-specific data are generally lacking, and further research on its distribution is needed. For the golden spined loach (*Sabanejewia aurata*), some or all populations in Moldova may actually belong to *S. baltica* (Vasil'eva and Vasil'ev 2023). The Rhone streber (*Zingel asper*) occurs in French and Swiss rivers, and its reported record in Moldova is most likely a misidentification of another species (EU4Environment 2024a).

[2] EU4Environment 2024a.

There is a significant absence of precise data on specific occurrence sites for **Molluscs**. These species are either briefly mentioned or absent in the available literature, making it difficult to assess their distribution and ecological requirements accurately. Further detailed research on this group is needed, along with a reassessment of their conservation status. One of the relatively well-studied locations is the Prut River, which could serve as a reference point for future ecological studies and biodiversity monitoring. These findings underscore the importance of a systematic approach to mapping species occurrence and ecological preferences, which is crucial for their effective protection and integration into current conservation strategies.

Obtaining relevant data on the assessed **insects** was extremely problematic, with available information being either minimal, outdated, or completely absent, significantly hindering analysis of their current distribution. Retrieving existing records was complicated due to limited access to literature and database resources. Specifically, for the species *Coenagrion mercuriale*, several scientific publications mentioned it, but these data could not be used for more accurate mapping of its occurrence because they lacked detailed information about specific locations.

The knowledge base for **bird species** is compiled through The Red Book of the Republic of Moldova (Duca et al. 2015) and the European Breeding Bird Atlas 2 (Keller et al. 2020§). EBBA2 maps species occurrences at a 50 km resolution, based on data collected between 2016 and 2017. The Important Bird Areas (IBAs) database, compiled by BirdLife International, serves as an additional reference for key bird habitats. There are 11 IBAs in Moldova, but those in the south are not well covered by the Emerald Network. More recent observational data are available through various online platforms, including the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF), iNaturalist, Trektellen, Xeno-canto, and Observation.org. Emerald Network coverage was assessed for 29 species (*Charadriiformes*: 7, *Passeriformes*: 7, *Falconiformes*: 6, *Ciconiiformes*: 4, *Strigiformes*: 3, *Piciformes*: 2) and one category of migratory birds. Several assessed species have breeding records from neighboring countries, but current data do not confirm their occurrence in Moldova (for example, *Melanocorypha calandra*, *Calandrella brachydactyla*). EBBA2 data indicate their presence mainly in the south of the country. Since IBAs in the south are not well covered, further research should focus on these areas. Other data gaps occur along the Răut River, particularly regarding *Bubo bubo* (Duca et al. 2015).

The extent of scientific knowledge about the assessed **plant species** varies. Some of the species are included in the Red Book of Moldova, which provides information on their status and conservation measures at the national level. Scientific articles, primarily published in the national language, provide valuable insights; however, further studies would be helpful and could provide a better understanding of their distribution. As another source of information, GBIF was used, which includes access to a vast database of biodiversity records from scientific institutions. However, while GBIF is a valuable resource, additional validation of records is often necessary. Some species, such as *Adenophora lilifolia*, *Agrimonia pilosa,* and *Luronium natans*, are classified as 'Scientific Reserve' (SR). The existing records are old, and authors have confirmed their absence in Moldova. For some species, data on their presence in Moldova are scarce, underscoring the need for further research.

During the self-evaluation workshop held in Chișinău on October 16, 2025, the participants identified the ongoing projects LIFE RENATA (Roadmap for the alignment of EMERALD network establishment and management to NATURA 2000 standards in Moldova, https://liferenata.eu/) and New Red Book as sources of up-to-date data on the distribution of selected Emerald species. The final results will be available at the end of the project. A source of up-to-date bird data is the national bird database ORNITODATA.[3]

[3] https://ornitodata.sppn.md/ornitodata

3. Progress, current situation, gaps, and recommendations for the next round of biogeographical seminar

This chapter focuses on individual species and habitats that, according to conclusions from the last biogeographical seminar, have been classified as poorly known or insufficiently protected within the Emerald Network. For Moldova, we considered 118 cases:

- Present habitat or species but is not protected by the Emerald Network (conclusion **IN MAJ**): 6 cases.
- Habitat or species is protected by Emerald site(s). Protection is not sufficient, and more sites for the protection of habitats or species need to be declared (conclusion **IN MOD**): 41 cases.
- More sites for the protection of habitats or species need to be declared, and the presence is known in a specific Emerald site (conclusion **IN MOD/IN MIN**): 18 cases.
- Insufficient knowledge about habitats or species; additional research is needed (conclusion **SR**): 34 cases.
- Insufficient knowledge about the presence of habitats or species in the respective biogeographical region of the country (conclusion **SR REF**): 19 cases.

Each habitat or species is presented in a table containing the following fields:

- **Number of sites:** The number of Emerald sites where the presence of the habitat or species is recorded in the Emerald database. The information in brackets indicates the category of the site based on the habitat area or species population at the site (see Acronyms and Definitions).
- **BGR seminar 2018/2019 conclusion:** The conclusion from the latest biogeographical seminar (see Acronyms and Definitions).
- **Recommendation 2025:** Recommendations for further steps in developing the Emerald Network, based on a synthesis of comments from external and local experts.
- **Comments from external experts:** Based on the review conducted by external experts, presented in the pre-scoping document 'Review of Progress in Scientific Knowledge of Emerald Habitats and Species Distribution in Moldova' (see Introduction).
- **Comments from local experts:** Based on the input from local experts during the self-evaluation workshop (see Introduction).
- **References:** Data sources or literature supporting the comments and conclusions.

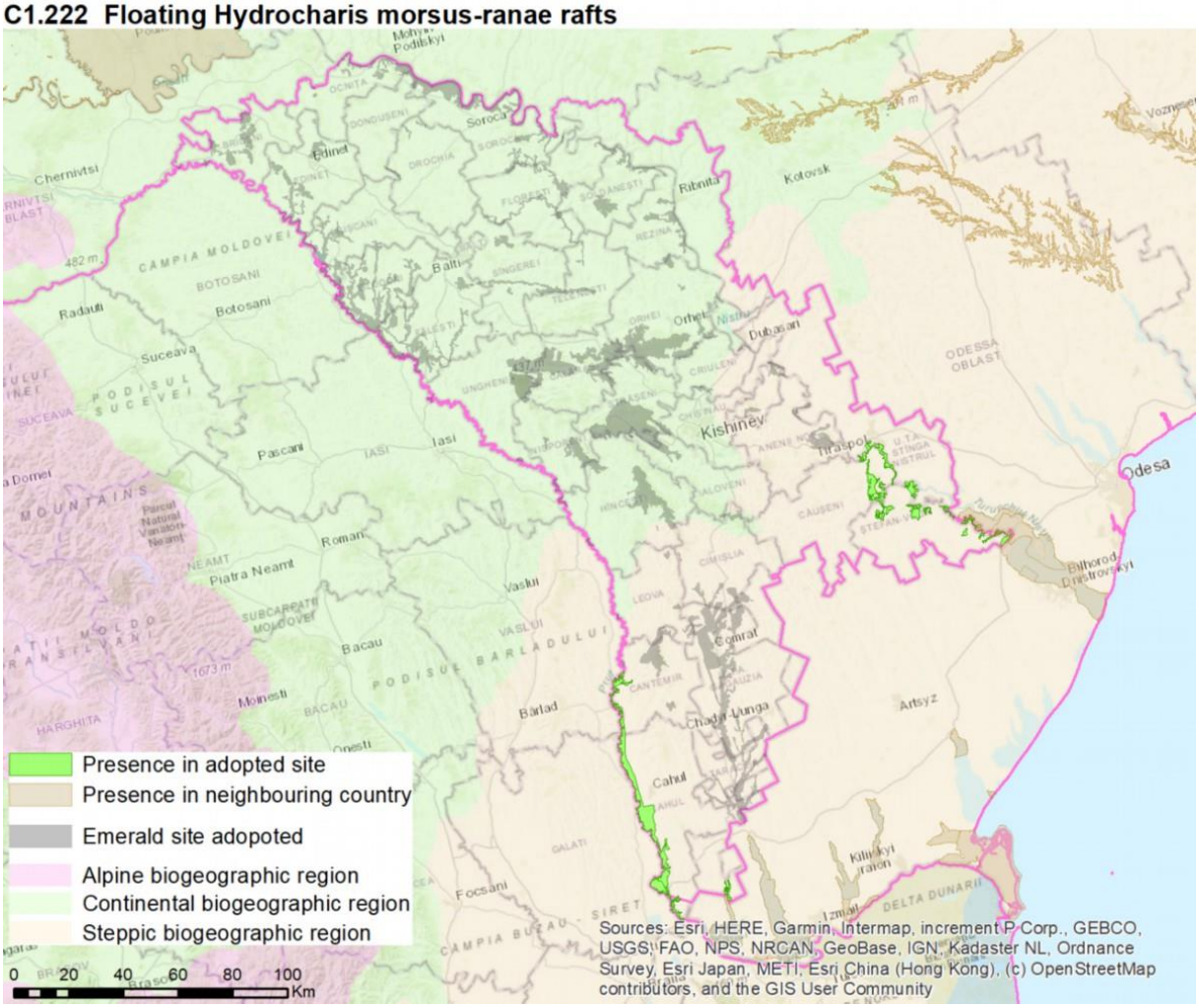
Each table is accompanied by a map showing the distribution of the habitat or species within the Emerald Network. **These maps include data for all site categories (Adopted, Proposed, Candidate);** however, in Moldova's case, every site has already been fully adopted.

Habitats

BGR	**C1.222 Floating Hydrocharis morsus-ranae rafts**	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey water bodies, especially the Prut and Dniester rivers, their floodplains, and tributaries. Use new knowledge to remove SR and improve habitat representation in the Emerald Network.**
	Comments from external experts:	EU4Environment (2024a): "Widespread habitat, occurring in surrounding biogeographic regions, high probability of occurrence in MD/CON." Radu et al. (2012) indicate this habitat in the middle part of the Prut River at the boundary with Romania. Related habitat 3150 is protected in the N2000 site, ROSCI0213 River Prut at the RO/MD border. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.

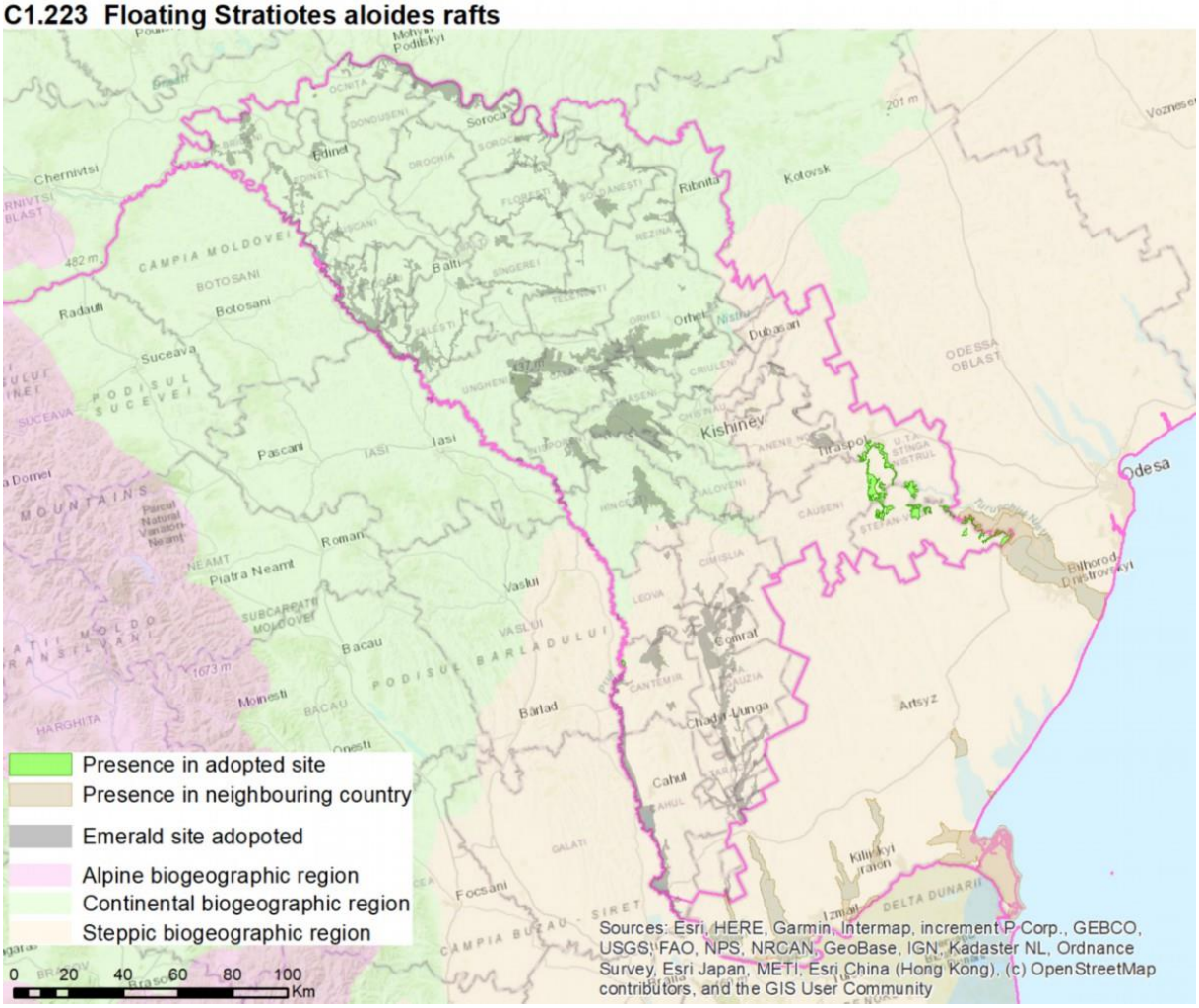
	Comments from local experts:	Knowledge exists; new data will be provided. At least 2 new sites will be proposed, and the habitat could be added to existing sites.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a; Radu et al 2012
STE	Number of sites:	4 (B:2, C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey especially the Prut and Dniester floodplains and tributaries.**
	Comments from external experts:	4 sites (2B2C). Habitat is quite widespread; it should be distributed more broadly in MD/STE.
	Comments from local experts:	No additional information about existence in other sites.
	References:	n/a

C1.222 Floating Hydrocharis morsus-ranae rafts



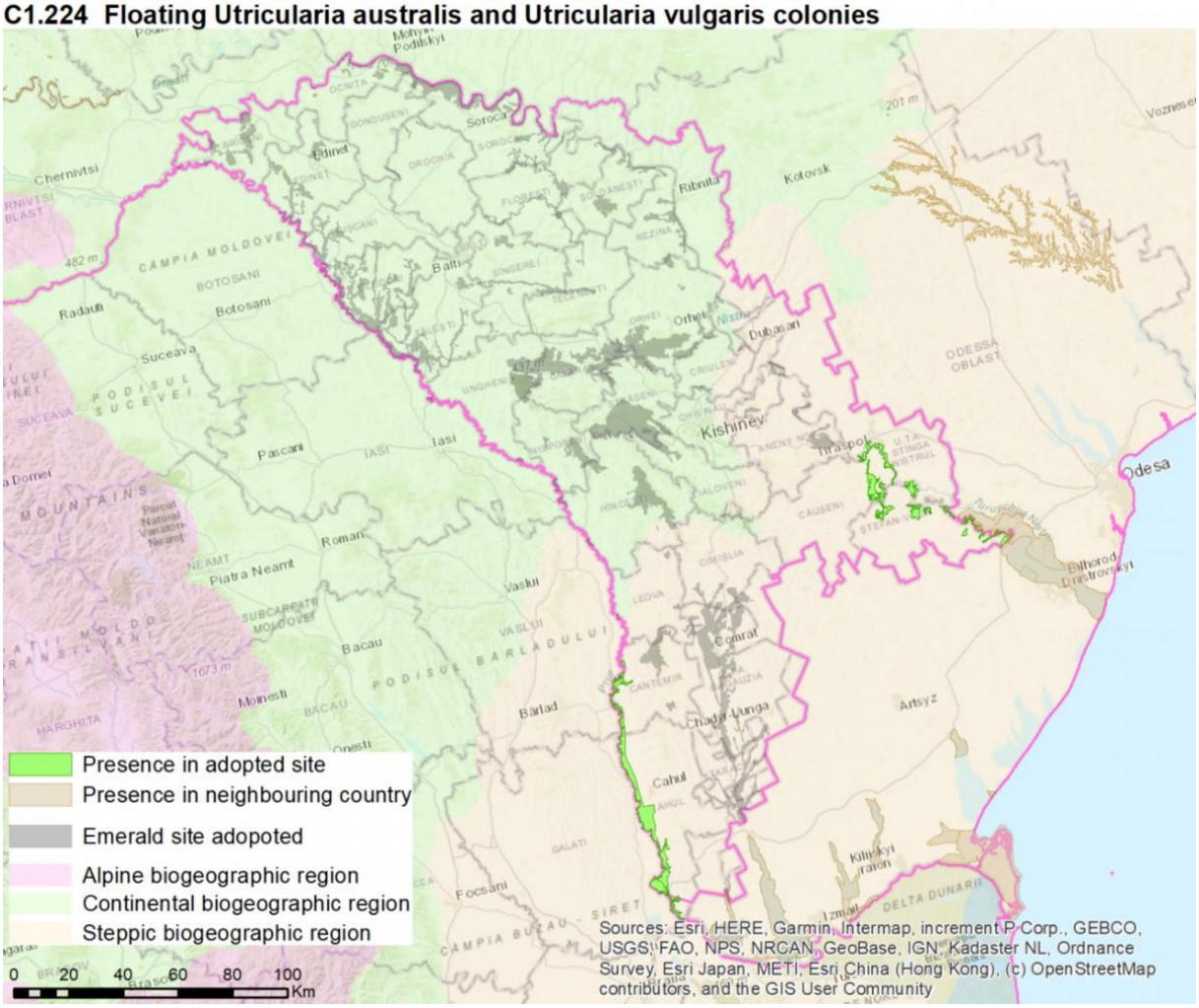
BGR	C1.223 Floating Stratiotes aloides rafts	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey water bodies in the Dniester River sections where habitat is reported from the Ukrainian side before asking for EXCL Ref List.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. The Red Book of Moldova (2015) indicates Stratiotes aloides only from 2 sites in STE. However, habitat is protected in the Emerald site UA0000035 Aria Naturala Protejata Ocnita in the upper Dniester River in Ukraine, and Afanasyev and Manturova (2021) reported Stratiotes aloides from the dead arms of the middle section of the Dniester River in Ukraine. Occurrence in MD/CON is thus possible. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	The outcomes of the RENATA LIFE project indicate that the habitat type has not occurred in MD for 30 years.
	Reference:	Duca et al. 2015

C1.223 Floating Stratiotes aloides rafts



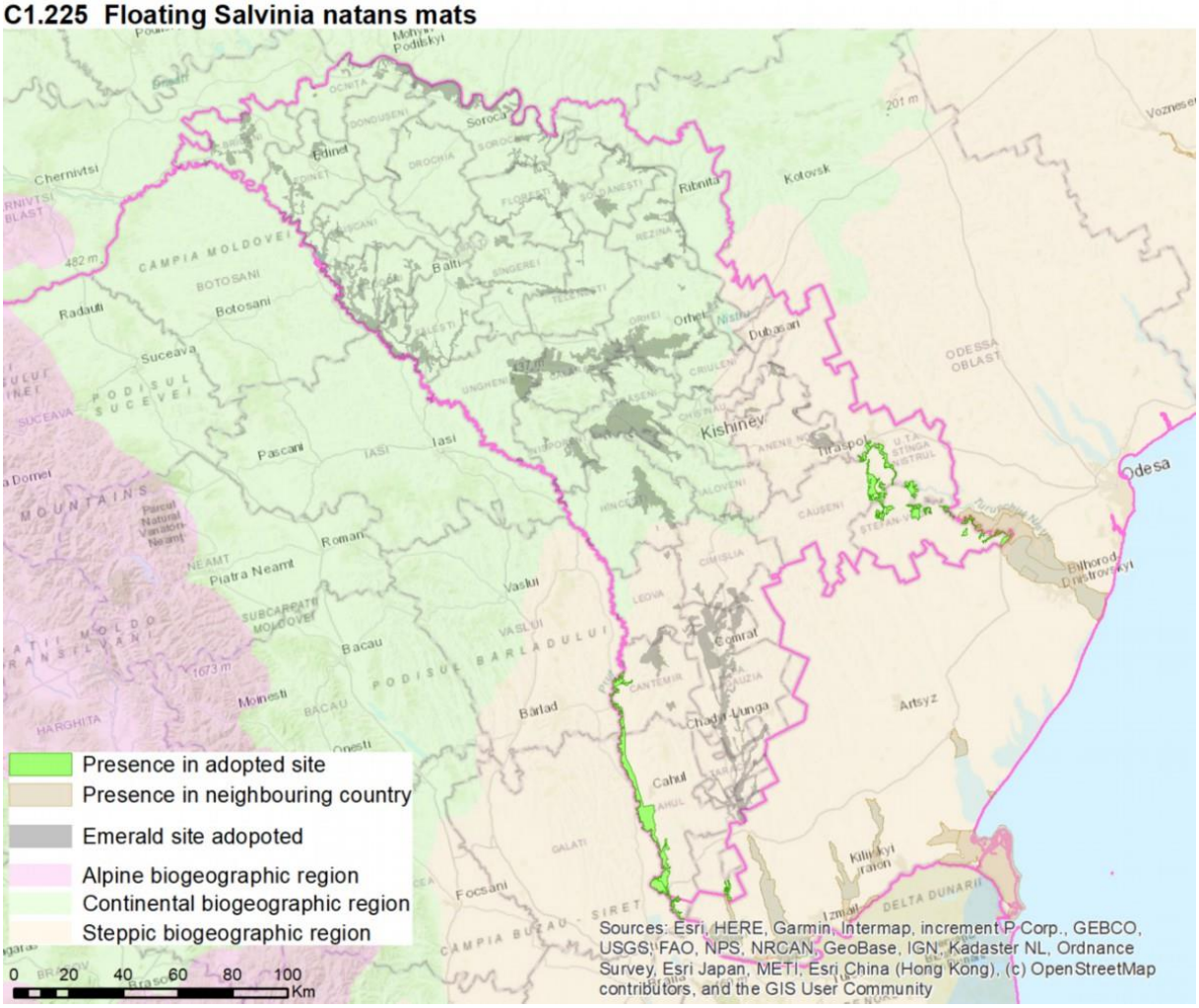
BGR	C1.224 Floating Utricularia australis and Utricularia vulgaris colonies	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**The published sources indicate that the habitat could occur in the Prut River in CON. Further research is needed before asking for exclusion from the Reference List.**
	Comments from external experts:	The habitat distribution in surrounding countries and the occurrence of the related habitat 3150 in Romania, near the border with Moldova, make the presence of this habitat in MD/CON highly probable. The habitat is protected in site MD0000045 Lunca Antonesti at Prut River, which is located only 17 km from the STE/CON border. Its occurrence is also possible in the Prut River floodplain in CON. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are present in Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat does not occur in MD/CON.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a

C1.224 Floating Utricularia australis and Utricularia vulgaris colonies



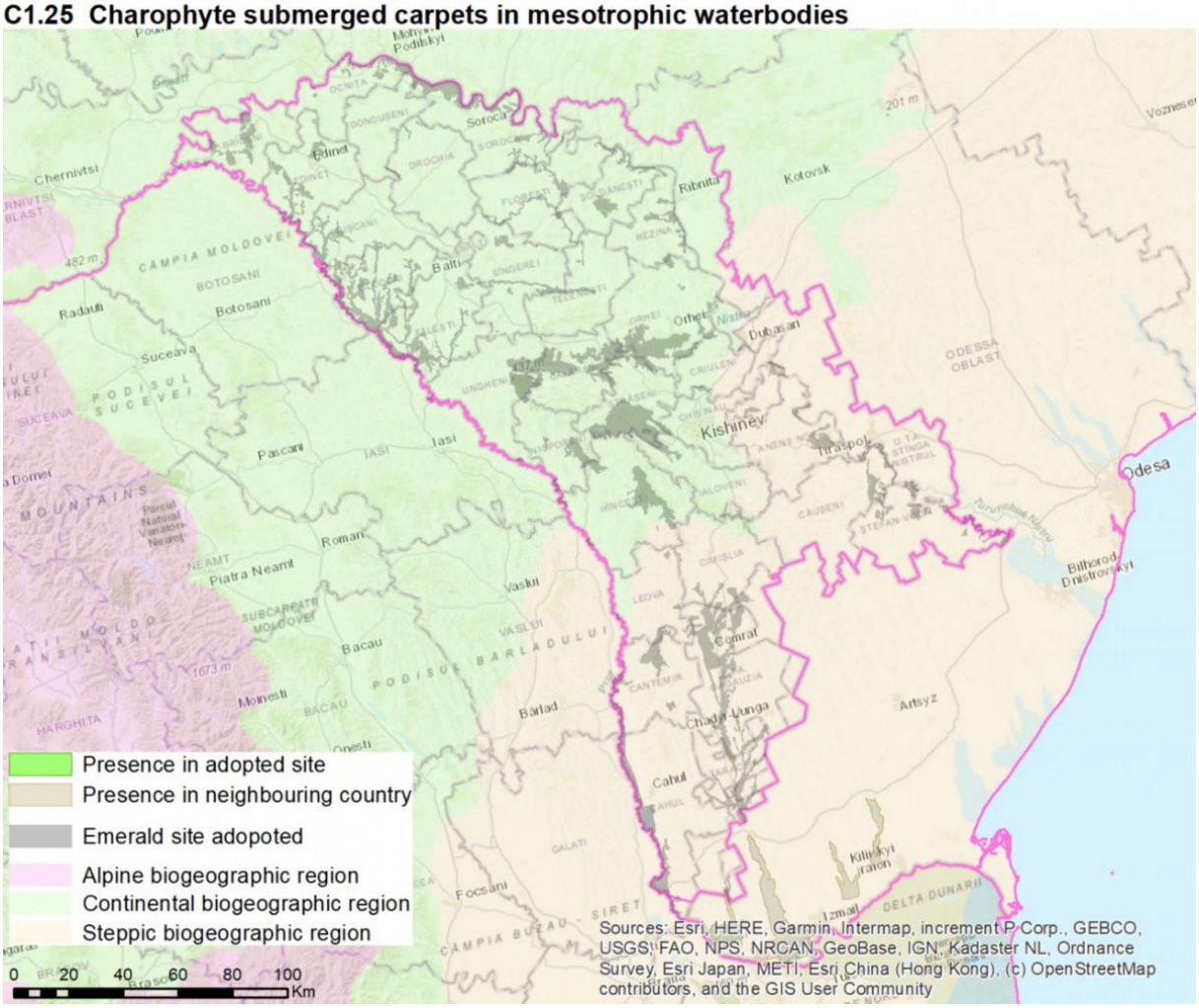
BGR	C1.225 Floating Salvinia natans mats	
STE	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation:	**Consider the site near the commune of Nezavertailovca and other sites in the Prut and Dniester basins.**
	Comments from external experts:	4 sites (1B3C). The Red Book of Moldova (2015) specifies the occurrence of Salvinia natans near the commune of Nezavertailovca (Transnistrian region). Ungureanu et al. (2017) reported the habitat from Stefan Voda region, but generally in the basins of the Prut and Dniester rivers.
	Comments from local experts:	The recommendation is to be kept; the Red Book is a good source.
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; Ungureanu et al. 2017

C1.225 Floating Salvinia natans mats



BGR	C1.25 Charophyte submerged carpets in mesotrophic waterbodies	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed; particularly in the lower Prut River floodplain.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. The habitat occurs in the Danube floodplain close to the MD border; its occurrence in MD is probable.
	Comments from local experts:	No information; further research is needed.
	References:	n/a

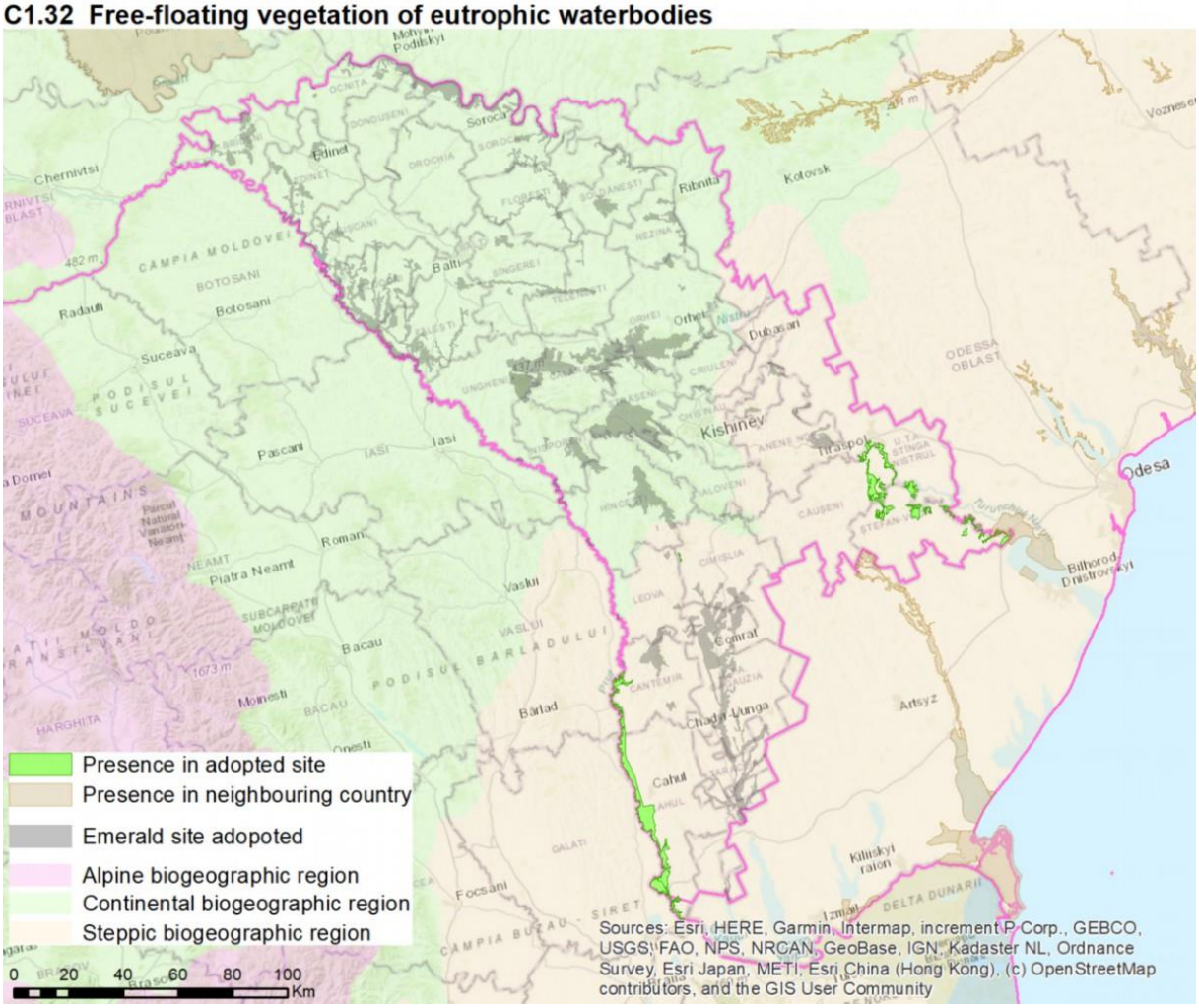
C1.25 Charophyte submerged carpets in mesotrophic waterbodies



BGR	C1.32 Free-floating vegetation of eutrophic waterbodies	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to the mentioned site MD0000002 Padurea Domneasca; survey the Prut and Dniester floodplains and basins for the habitat presence.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Because there is no site, the correct conclusion is IN MAJ. EU4Environment 2024a: "The Natura 2000 site, which extends along a significant portion of the border with Romania, suggests that habitat may also occur in MD/CON; the habitat can also occur in another part of the region; the habitat is listed in the reference list for MS/CON." Afanasyev and Manturova (2021) reported typical species of this habitat from the Dniester River, also from parts close to the MD border. Ungureanu et al. (2017) reported Ceratophyllum demersum from Soroca district.
	Comments from local experts:	One site: MD0000002 Padurea Domneasca. The habitat is disappearing in the floodplain of the Dniester River.
	References:	Afanasyev and Manturova 2021, 384; EU4Environment 2024a; Ungureanu et al. 2017
STE	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add habitat to site MD0000055 Limanul Cahul–Etulia. Survey water bodies at the lower Dniester floodplain and the Prut River floodplain north of the MD Ramsar site, Lower Prut.**
	Comments from external experts:	Four sites (1B3C). Afanasyev and Manturova (2021) reported typical species of this habitat from the Pontic part of the Dniester River, that is, the part where the river forms the border between MD and UA. The habitat is also listed in the fact sheet of the UA Ramsar site Dniester-Turunchuk Crossrivers Area at the MD/UA border. Thus, its occurrence in the MD part could be expected. Similarly, the species' occurrence in the Prut River basin north of the MD Ramsar sites, Lower Prut lakes, can be expected.

	Comments from local experts:	Two sites in STE: MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos and MD0000055 Limanul Cahul - Etulia
	Reference:	Afanasyev and Manturova 2021, 384

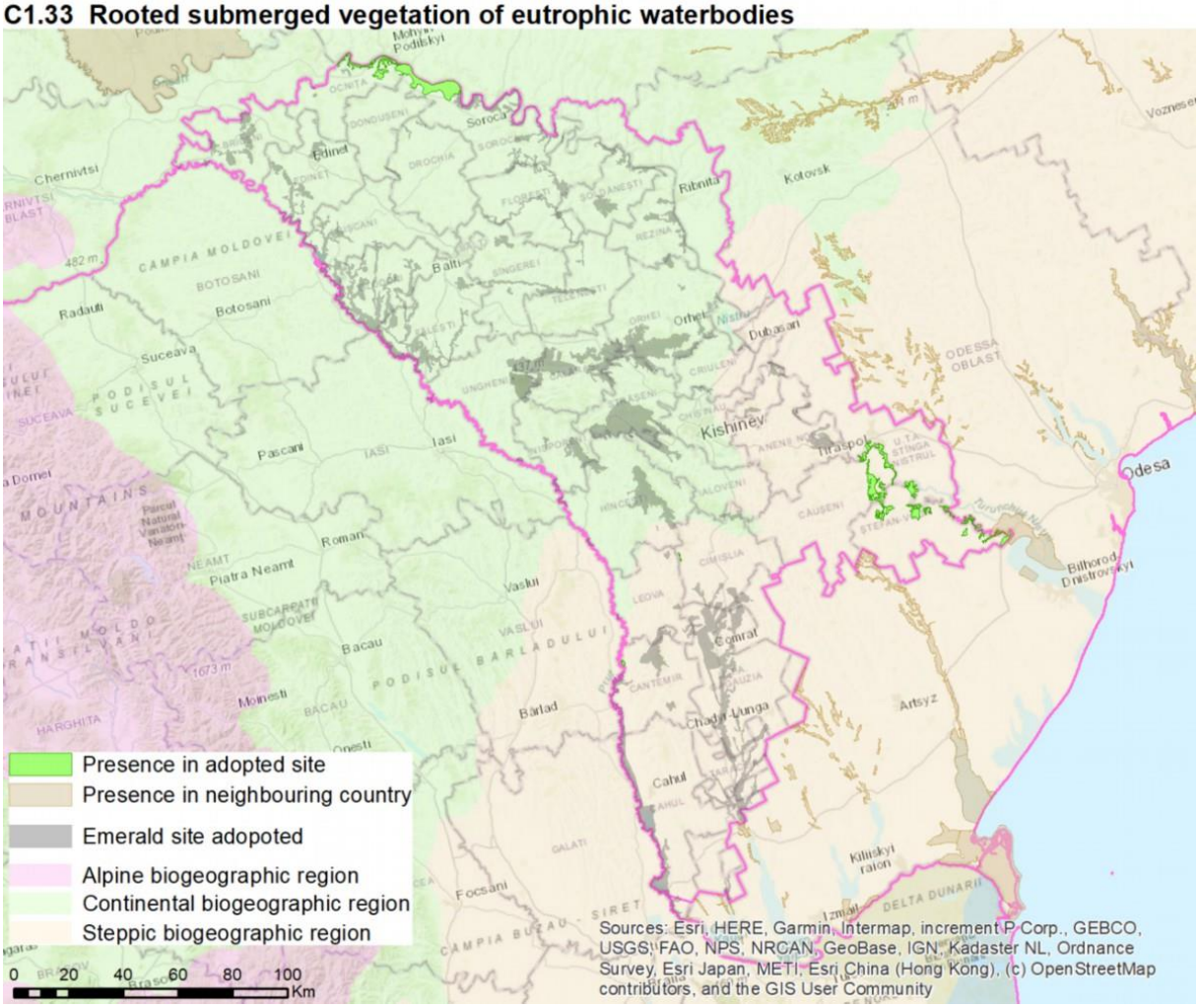
C1.32 Free-floating vegetation of eutrophic waterbodies



BGR	C1.33 Rooted submerged vegetation of eutrophic waterbodies	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, especially in water bodies across the Dniester and Prut catchments.**
	Comments from external experts:	One C site. Afanasyev and Manturova (2021) reported typical species of this habitat from many sites in the Dniester floodplain and its tributaries. The habitat should occur in more sites in the MD part of the floodplain. The same can be expected in the Prut basin. EU4Environment (2024a): "The habitat presence in a bordering Natura 2000 site in Romania (Prut River) suggests occurrence of this habitat in MD/CON."
	Comments from local experts:	No new information now; the ongoing projects (for example, LIFE RENATA) should bring new data about habitat distribution.
	References:	Afanasyev and Manturova 2021, 384; EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	3 (B:1, C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Use results of ongoing projects and survey water bodies in the Dniester and Prut catchments.**
	Comments from external experts:	3 sites (1B2C). Afanasyev and Manturova (2021) reported typical species from the Dniester River in the Pontic region; the habitat is listed for the UA Ramsar site Dniester-Turunchuk Crossrivers Area at the MD/UA border. The habitat should occur in more sites in the Dniester basin and the Prut catchment.

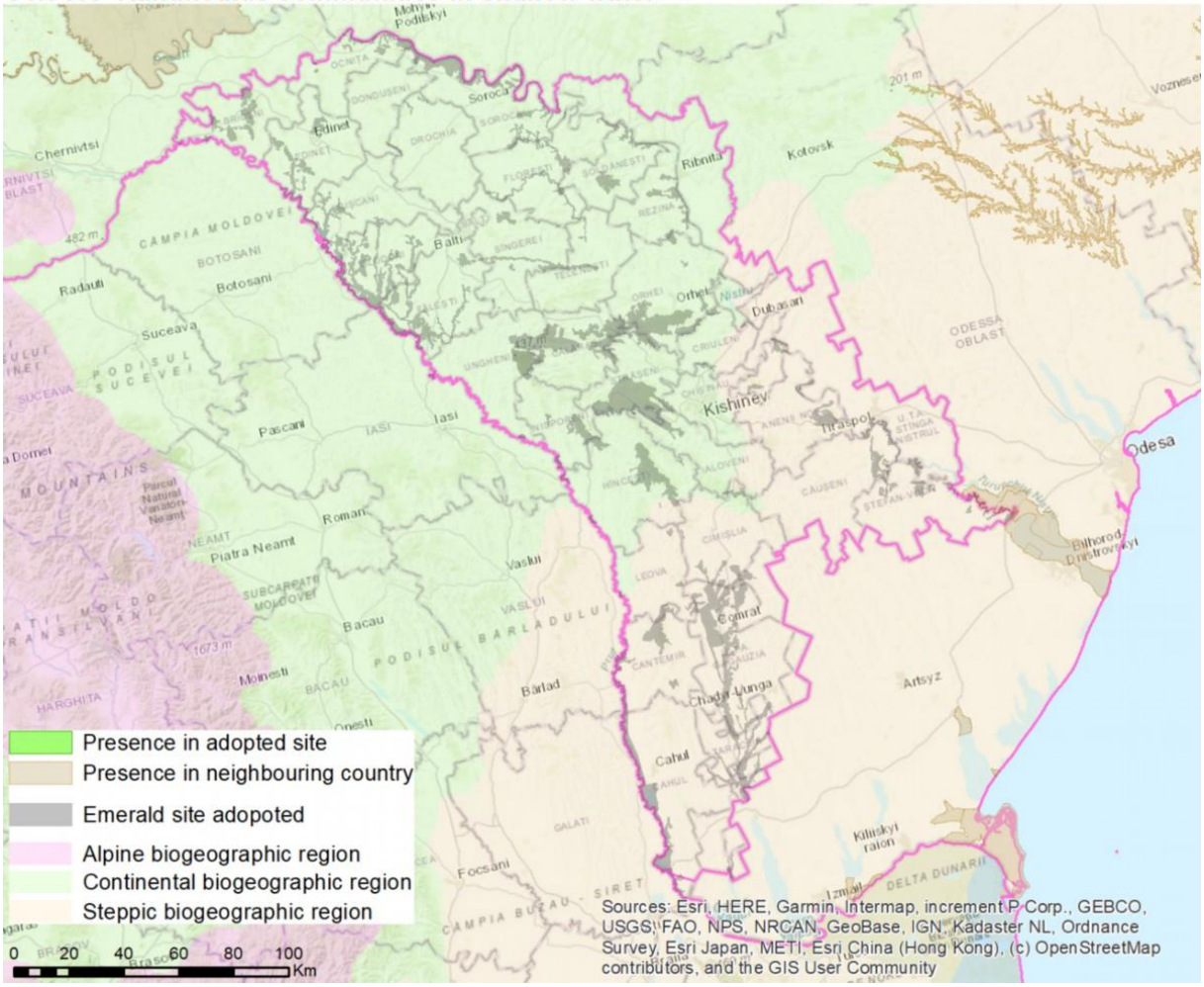
		EU4Environment (2024a): "The habitat presence in a bordering Natura 2000 site in Romania (Prut River) suggests occurrence of this area in MD/CON."
	Comments from local experts:	Based on the RENATA LIFE project, the habitat exists in other locations.
	References:	Afanasyev and Manturova 2021, 384; EU4Environment 2024a

C1.33 Rooted submerged vegetation of eutrophic waterbodies



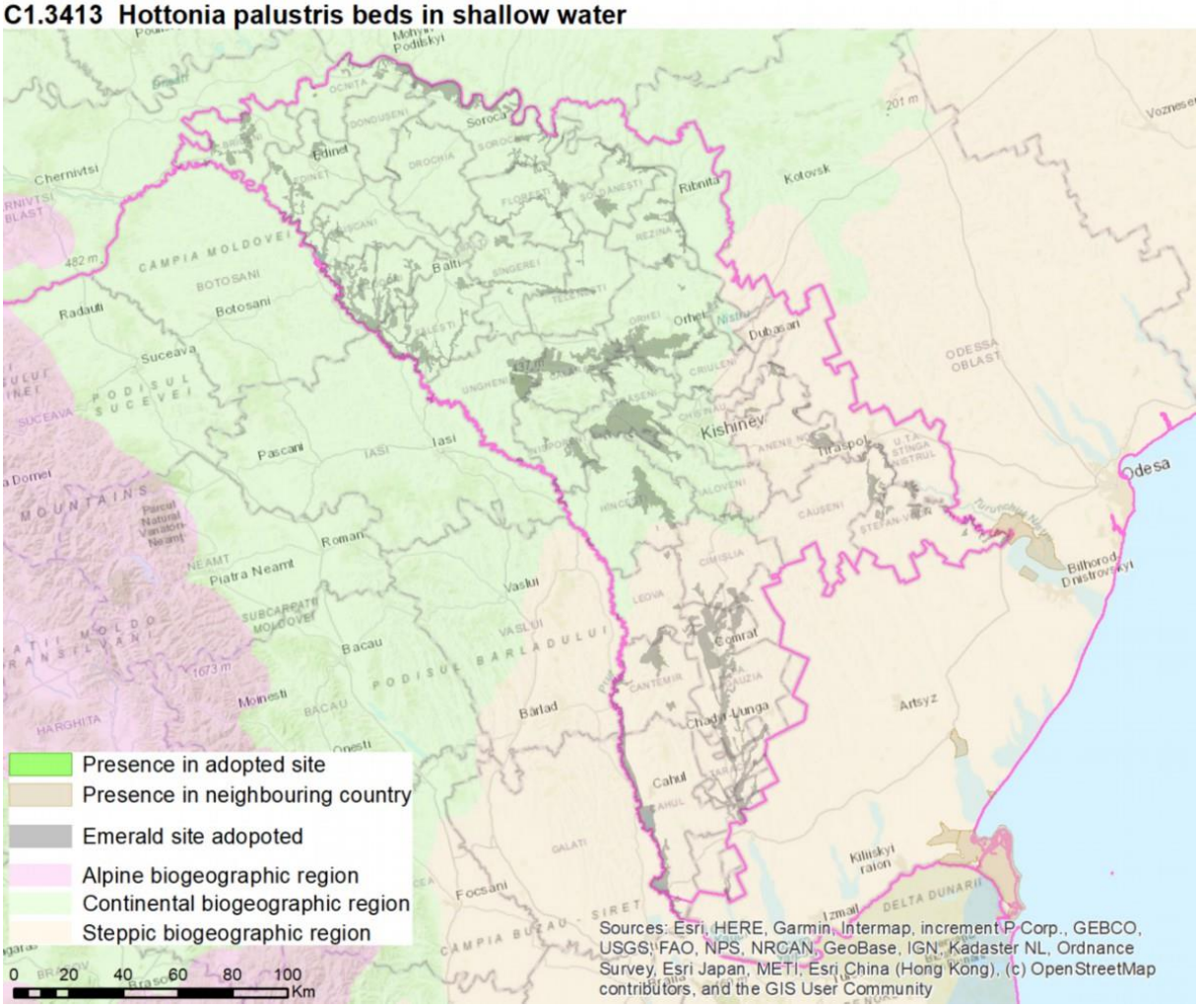
BGR	C1.3411 Ranunculus communities in shallow water	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, particularly in Dniester and Prut floodplains.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Miron (2008) reported Batrachium rionii from Nirnova River (Prut tributary). Afanasyev and Manturova (2021): Stryi River. Only in reservoir: Batrachium circinatum. Postolache (2022) reported a plant community belonging to this habitat from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	No recent information
	References:	Afanasyev and Manturova 2021, 384; Miron 2008
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**The habitat occurrence in MD/STE remains unclear. Further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Ungureanu et al. (2017) reported Nymphaea alba, Trapa natans, Nuphar lutea, Nymphoides peltata from Stefan Voda district.
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat does not exist in MD/STE.
	Reference:	Ungureanu et al. 2017

C1.3411 Ranunculus communities in shallow water



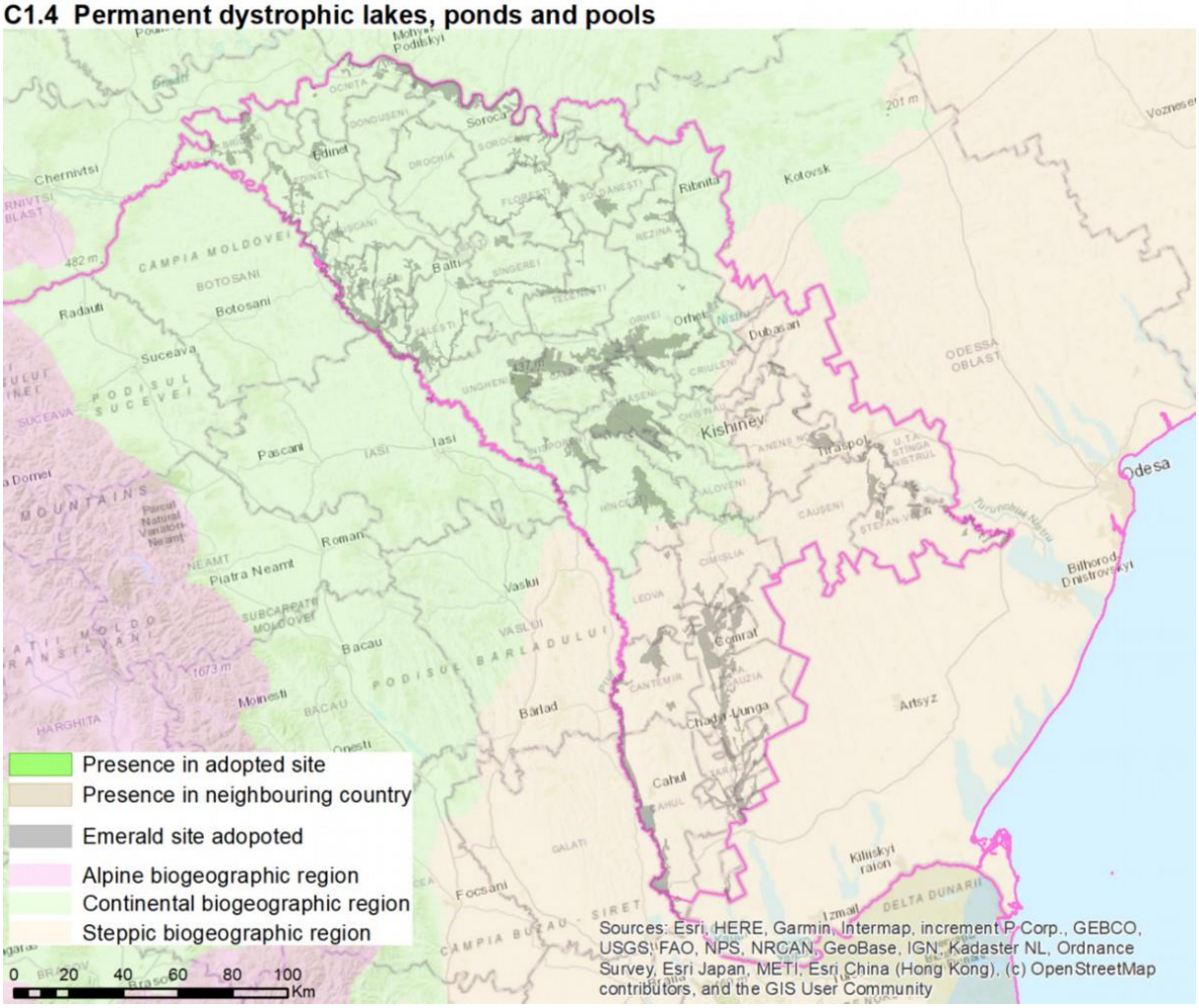
BGR	C1.3413 Hottonia palustris beds in shallow water	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR present in Lake Nekraskovka
	Recommendation 2025:	**Based on information from local experts, the habitat is probably to be deleted from the Reference List for MD/CON.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): Presence of the habitat in Natura 2000 sites in Romania at the Moldova border suggests its occurrence in MD/CON. Bondarenko et al. (2023): It is distributed mainly in Polesie, with island habitats in the forest-steppe zone. It is protected in the Kharkiv region.
	Comments from local experts:	The species does not occur in Moldova.
	References:	Bondarenko et al. 2023; EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Based on information from local experts, the habitat is probably to be deleted from the Reference List for MD/STE.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The habitat occurrence in Natura 2000 sites in Romania at the Moldova border suggests habitat occurrence in MD/STE. There is a lack of information, but habitat occurrence is possible.
	Comments from local experts:	The species does not occur in Moldova.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

C1.3413 Hottonia palustris beds in shallow water



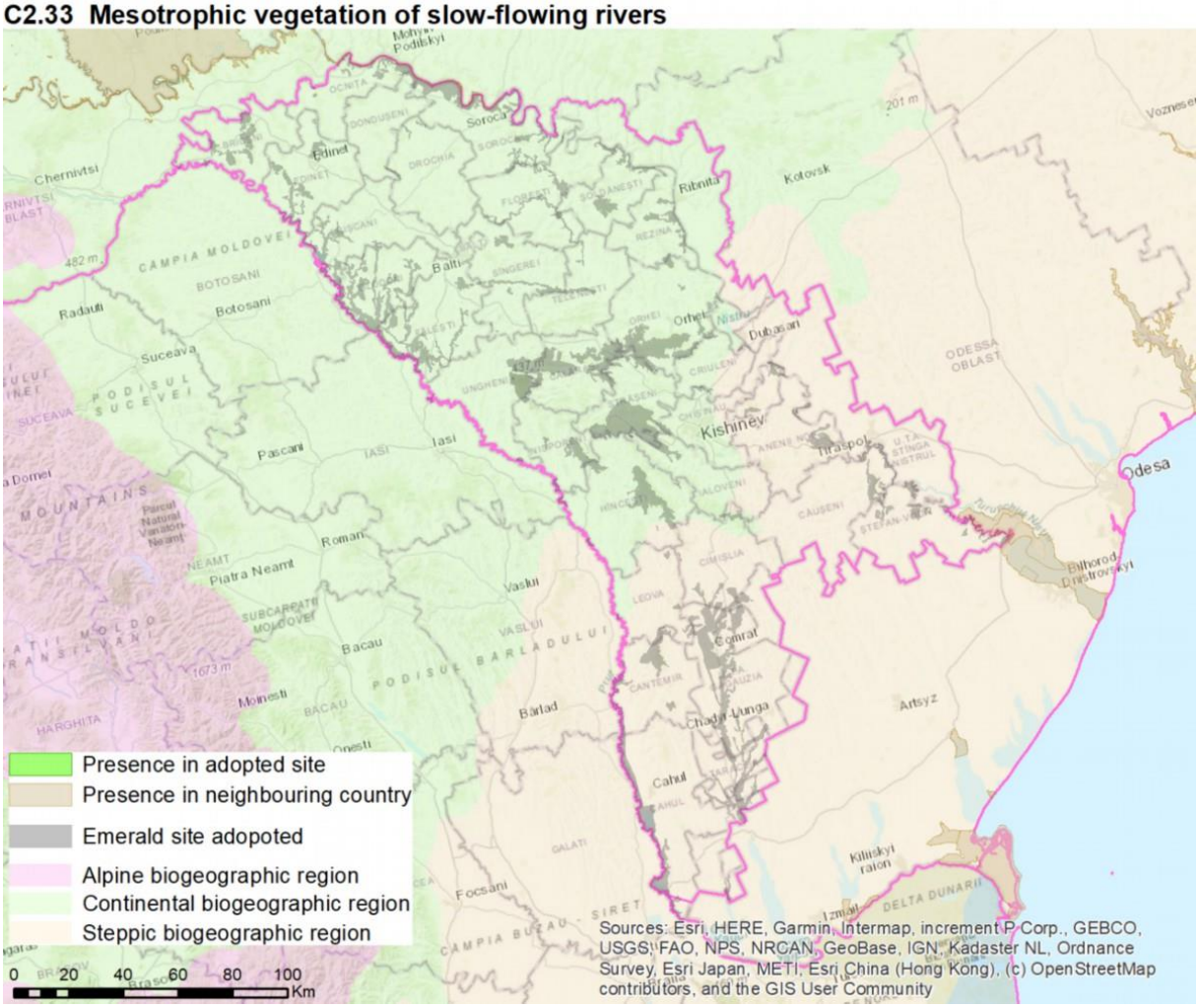
BGR	C1.4 Permanent dystrophic lakes, ponds and pools	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, particularly in the Prut River.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The habitat occurrence in the Romanian Natura 2000 site ROSCI0213 Prut River at the RO/MD boundary suggests habitat occurrence in MD/CON. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be maintained.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Stefan Voda region, valley of the Dniester and Prut Rivers.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The habitat occurrence in the Natura 2000 site at the RO/MD boundary suggests habitat occurrence in MD/STE. Ungureanu et al. (2017) specified the distribution as spread in lakes and water basins in the southern part of the country, near the valleys of the Dniester tributary, the Prut River, and its tributaries, and specifically mentioned the region of Stefan Voda. Reported from the Natura 2000 site ROSCI0213 Prut River (RO) at the border with MD. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Occurrence is doubtful; the proposed recommendation is to be maintained.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a; Ungureanu et al. 2017

C1.4 Permanent dystrophic lakes, ponds and pools



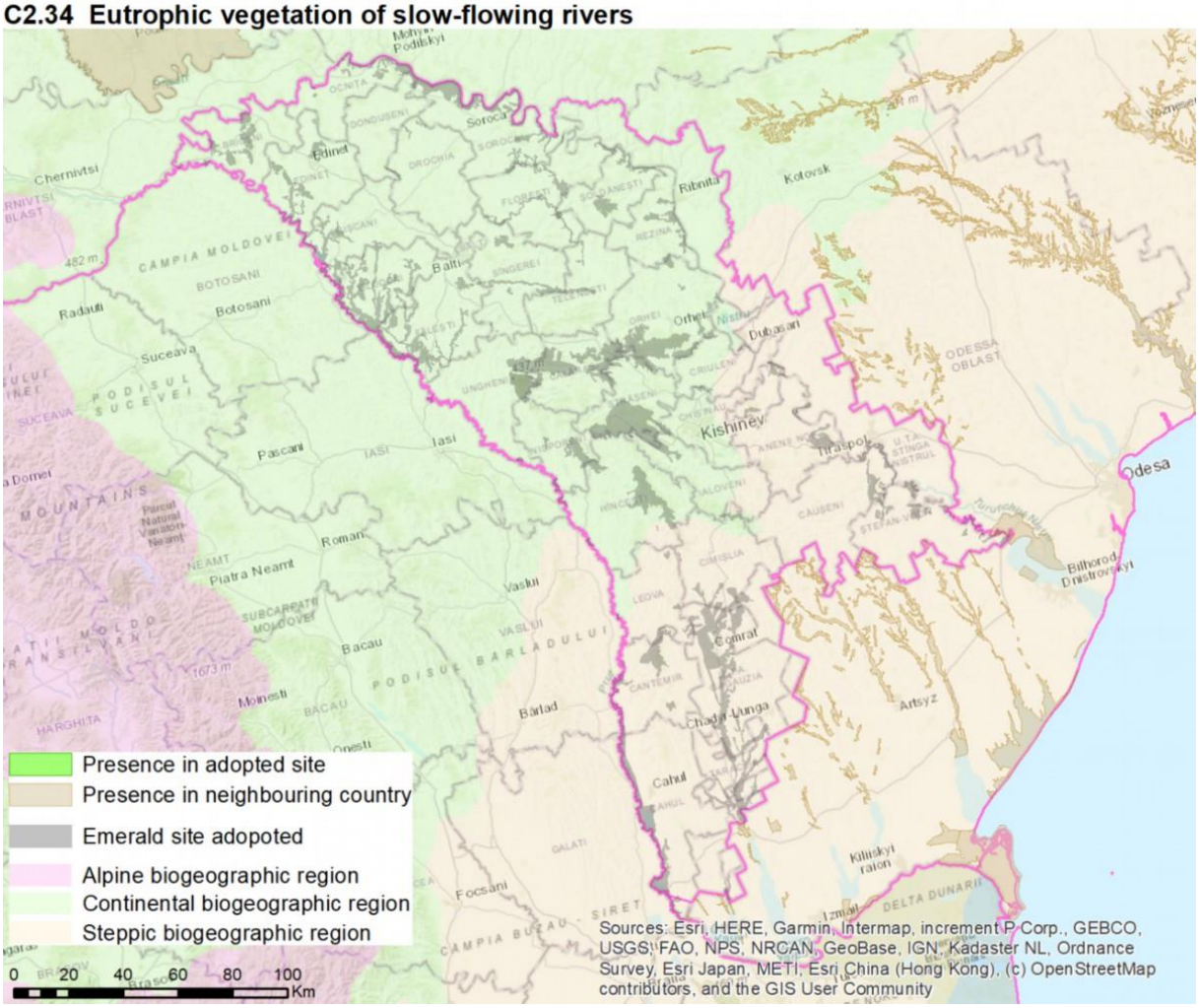
BGR	C2.33 Mesotrophic vegetation of slow-flowing rivers	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Dniester River basin; probably also in other parts of the BGR.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The Emerald sites in Ukraine along the Dniester River suggest the presence of this habitat in MD/CON. Site UA0000245, Podilskyi Dniester, is where the river represents the MD/UA border. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be maintained.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Dniester River basin; probably also in other parts of the BGR.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The sites in Ukraine along the Dniester River suggest the presence of this habitat in MD/STE. Site UA0000039 Lower Dniester National Nature Park is at the MD border. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be maintained.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

C2.33 Mesotrophic vegetation of slow-flowing rivers



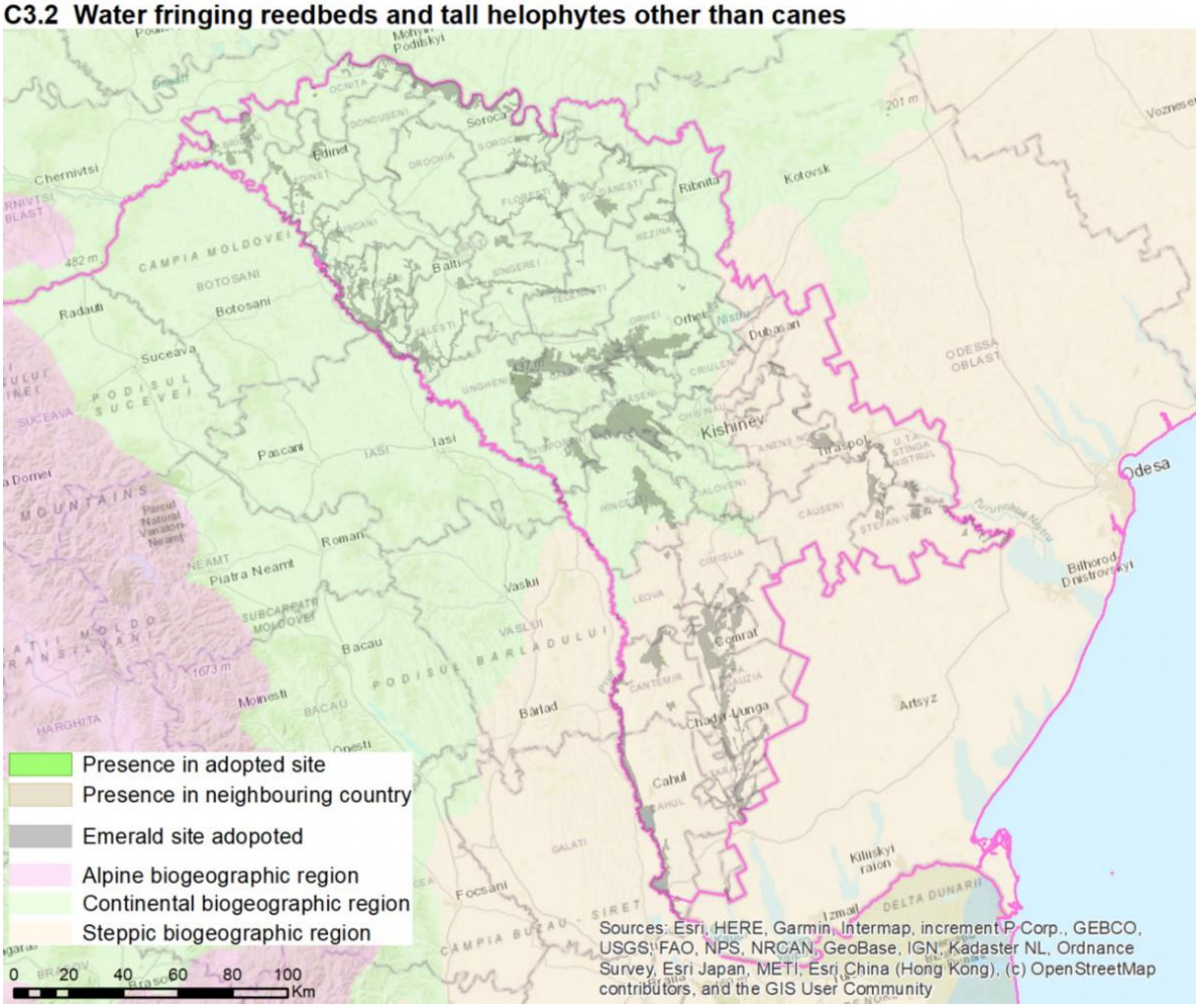
BGR	C2.34 Eutrophic vegetation of slow-flowing rivers	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, especially Prut and Dniester floodplains and tributaries.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): Because the habitat is present in Ukraine close to Moldova's border, it is possible to assume its occurrence in MD/CON. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be maintained.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Dniester and Prut basins.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): Because the habitat is present in Ukraine at the Dniester River on the Moldovan border, it is possible to assume its occurrence in MD/STE. The habitat is in the UA Emerald site: UA0000595 Kohylnyk at the MD-UA border. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be maintained.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

C2.34 Eutrophic vegetation of slow-flowing rivers



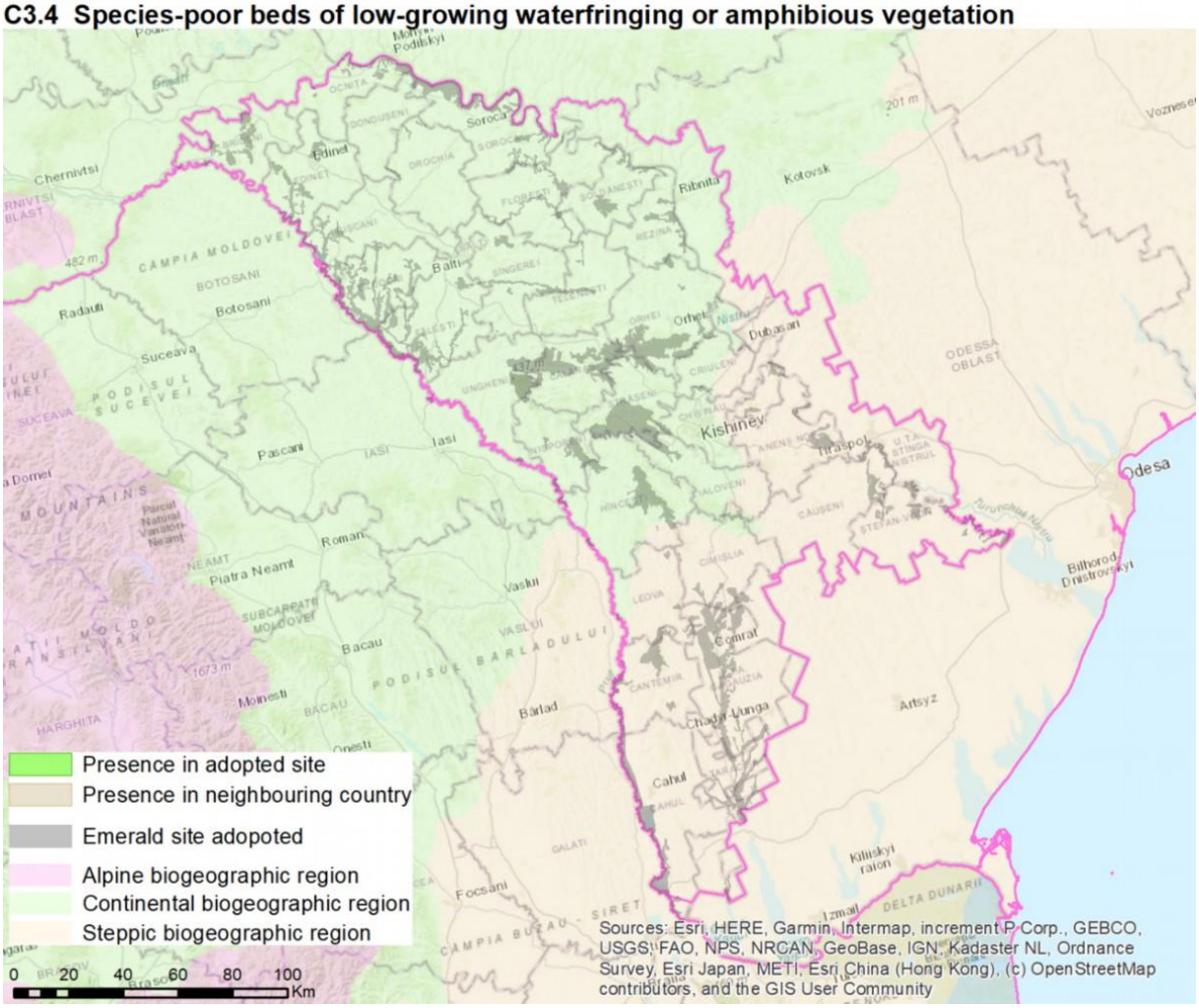
BGR	C3.2 Water fringing reedbeds and tall helophytes other than canes	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Whole MD/CON**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Due to the abundance of rivers, lakes, and wetland sites, the habitat should be quite common in MD/CON. It is protected in the Emerald site UA0000245 Podilskyi Dniester at the MD/UA border. Reported from the MD Ramsar site Unguri–Holoşniţa.
	Comments from local experts:	The habitat is present. Verification is needed to propose sites.
	References:	n/a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**Use existing knowledge to propose new sites. Consider addition to MD0000013 Nistru de Jos.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Due to the abundance of rivers, lakes, and wetland sites, this habitat should be quite common in MD/STE. In Moldova, this habitat is reported from the Ramsar site the lower Dniester (Nistru de Jos), which is the Emerald site MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos. Postolache (2021) reported this habitat from the lower reaches of the Sărata River and the wetlands near the village of Antonești (both in the region of Cantemir).
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat is very much degraded by dry years; it disappeared in Sarata, Prut, and Antonesti valley. Some sites exist and will be proposed.
	References:	n/a

C3.2 Water fringing reedbeds and tall helophytes other than canes



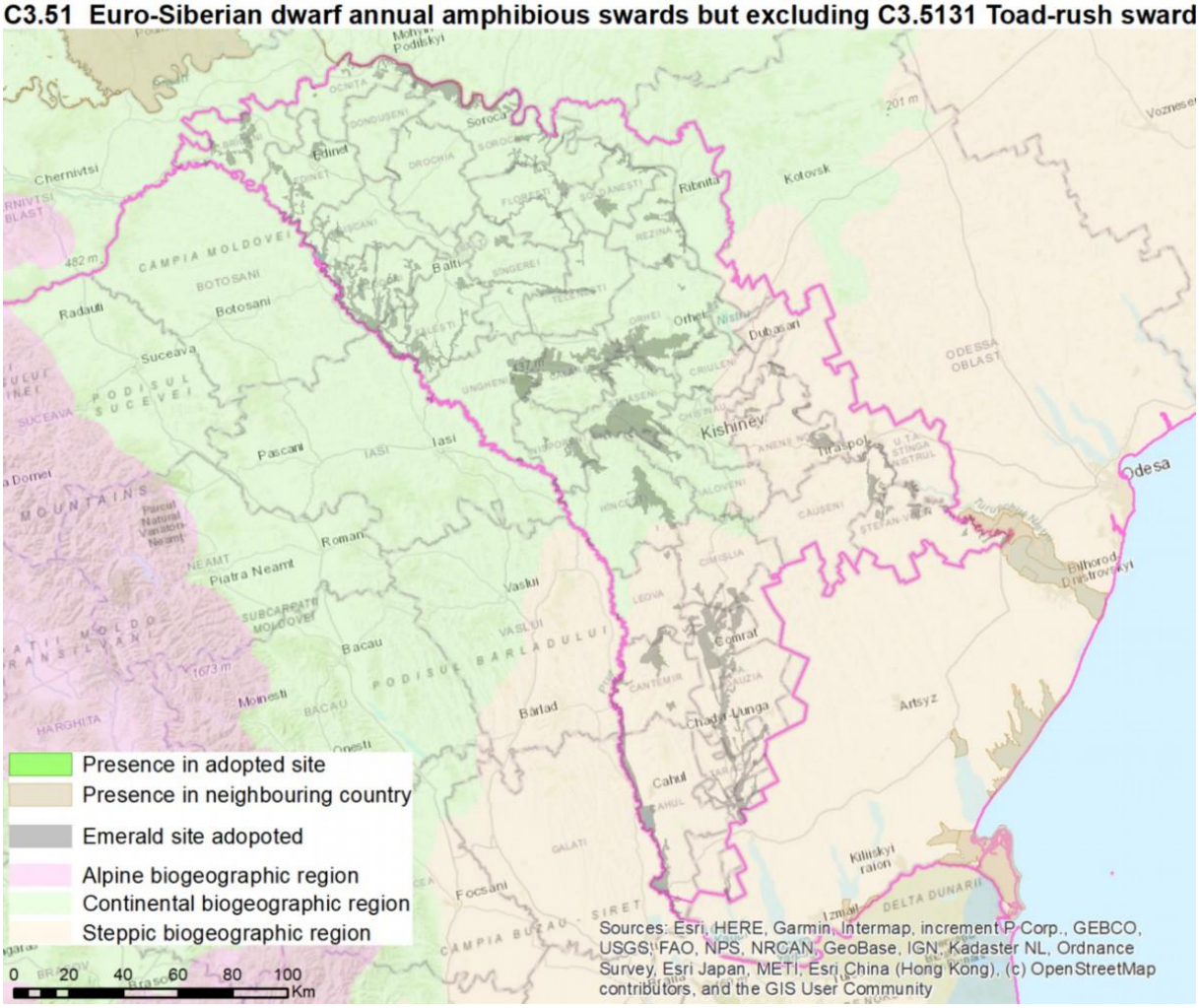
BGR	C3.4 Species-poor beds of low-growing water fringing or amphibious vegetation	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Despite the indication of local experts, habitat occurrence is still possible, and further survey is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	There is no site. EU4Environment (2024a): The occurrence of related habitat 3130 in the Natura 2000 site in Romania along the river Prut suggests an occurrence in MD/STE.
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat is not present in MD.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

C3.4 Species-poor beds of low-growing waterfringing or amphibious vegetation



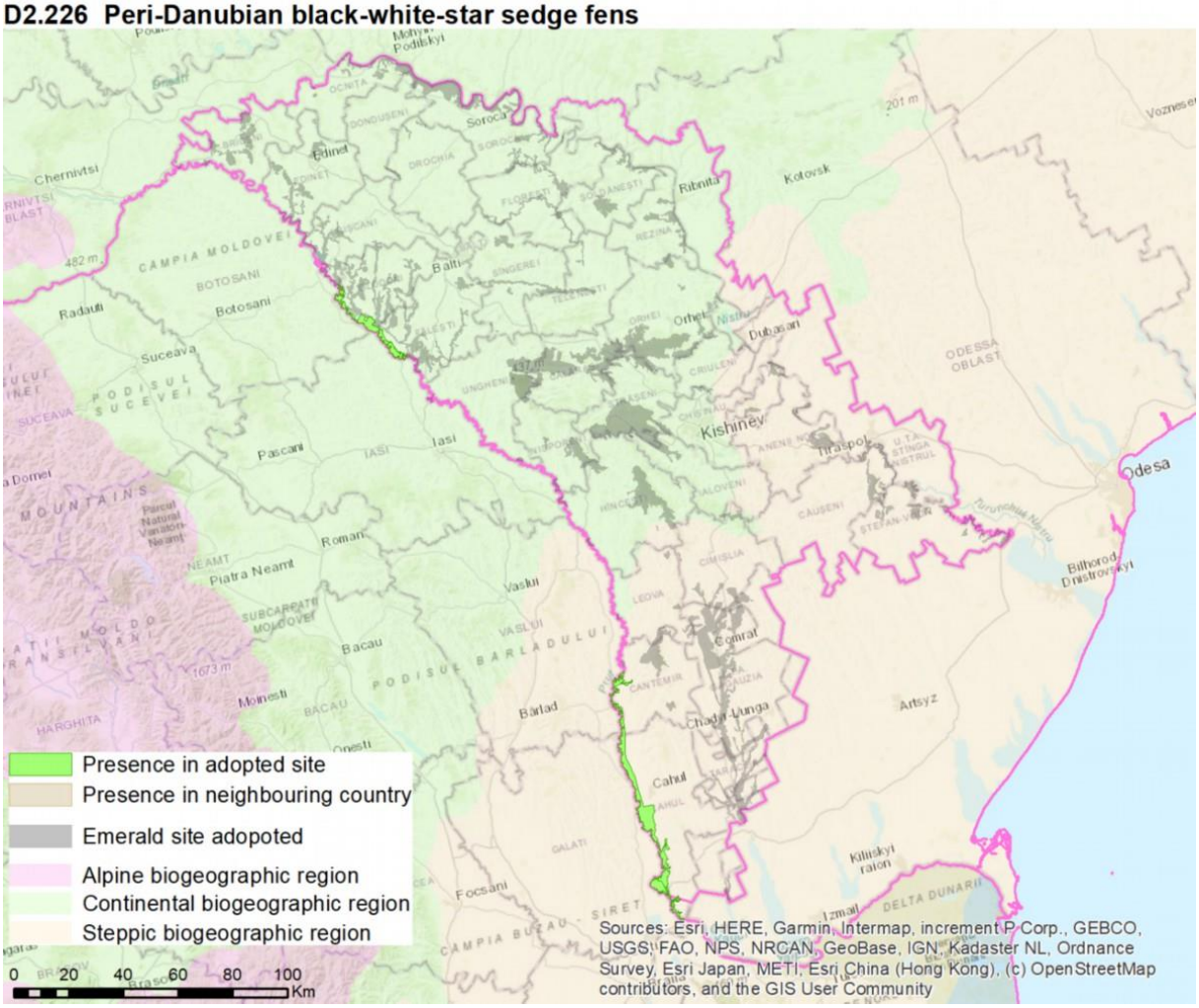
BGR	C3.51 Euro-Siberian dwarf annual amphibious swards but excluding C3.5131 Toad-rush swards	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Dniester River Basin and other sites in MD.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. The habitat is protected in the Emerald sites in the Dniester River in UA—close to the UA/MD border—sites UA0000039 Lower Dniester National Nature Park and UA0000141 Dnistrovskyi Lyman. Postolache (2022) reported plant communities belonging to this habitat from Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	No information about this habitat.
	References:	n/a

C3.51 Euro-Siberian dwarf annual amphibious swards but excluding C3.5131 Toad-rush sward



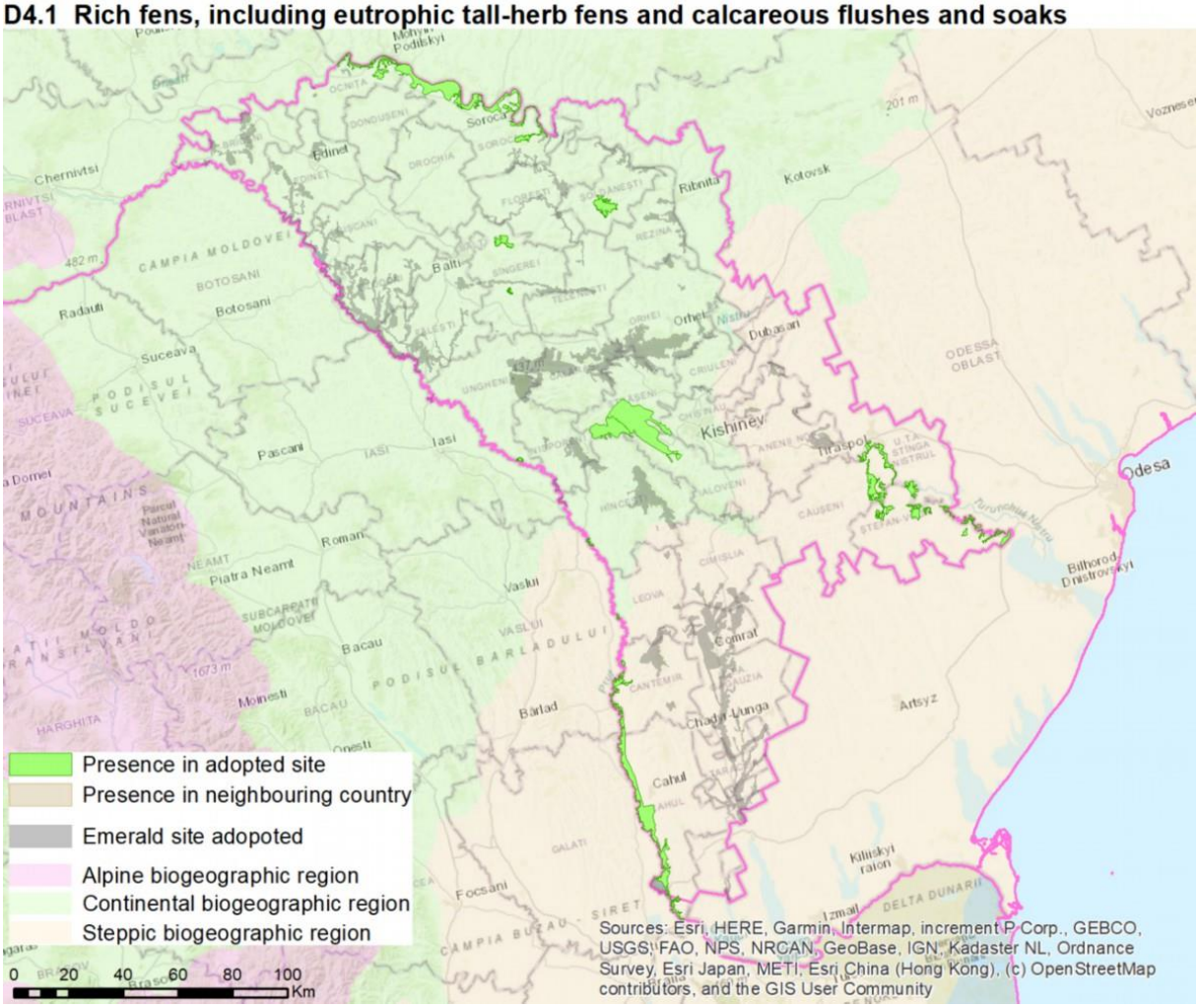
BGR	D2.226 Peri-Danubian black-white-star sedge fens	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**To consider request for exclusion from Reference List.**
	Comments from external experts:	1C site. EU4Environment (2024a): The occurrence of the habitat in the Emerald site at the Dniester River in Ukraine and the occurrence of related habitat 3130 in the Natura 2000 site along the river Prut in Romania suggest the occurrence of the habitat in MD/STE.
	Comments from local experts:	No information about existence in Moldova. Species composition does not correspond to MD habitats.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	2 (1B1C)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**To consider request for exclusion from Reference List.**
	Comments from external experts:	2 sites (1B1C). EU4Environment (2024a): 1B and 1C sites represent 2% to 17% of total habitat coverage.
	Comments from local experts:	No information about existence in Moldova. Species composition does not correspond to MD habitats.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

D2.226 Peri-Danubian black-white-star sedge fens



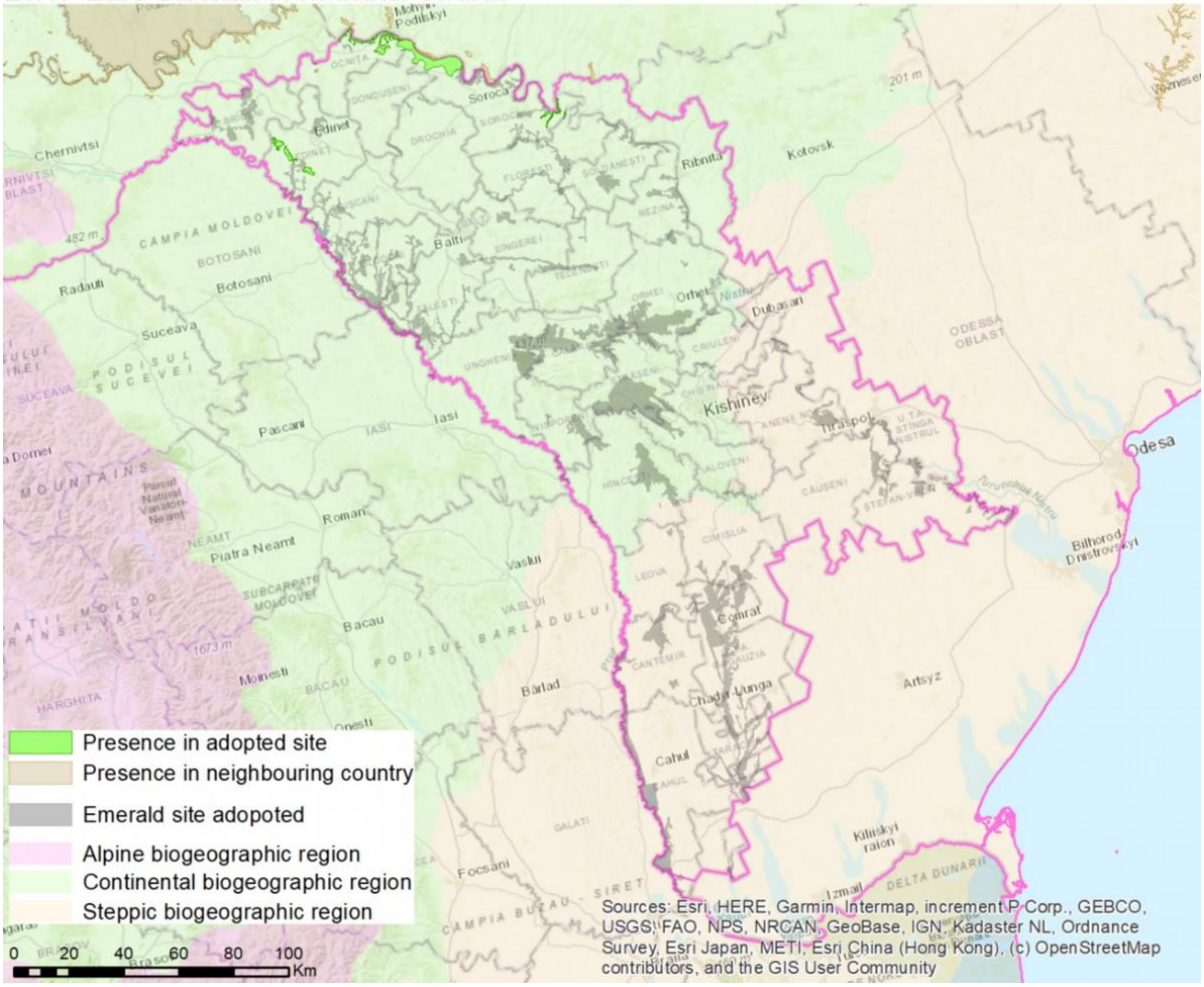
BGR	D4.1 Rich fens, including eutrophic tall-herb fens and calcareous flushes and soaks	
CON	Number of sites:	8 (B:1, C:7)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Use results from ongoing projects for decisions about further steps.**
	Comments from external experts:	8 sites (1B7C)
	Comments from local experts:	The LIFE RENATA project indicates absence of the habitat in MD. Will be checked further.
	References:	n/a
STE	Number of sites:	5 (B:1, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Use results from ongoing projects when completed for decisions about further steps.**
	Comments from external experts:	5 sites (1B4C)
	Comments from local experts:	LIFE RENATA project indicates absence of the habitat in MD. Will be checked further.
	References:	n/a

D4.1 Rich fens, including eutrophic tall-herb fens and calcareous flushes and soaks



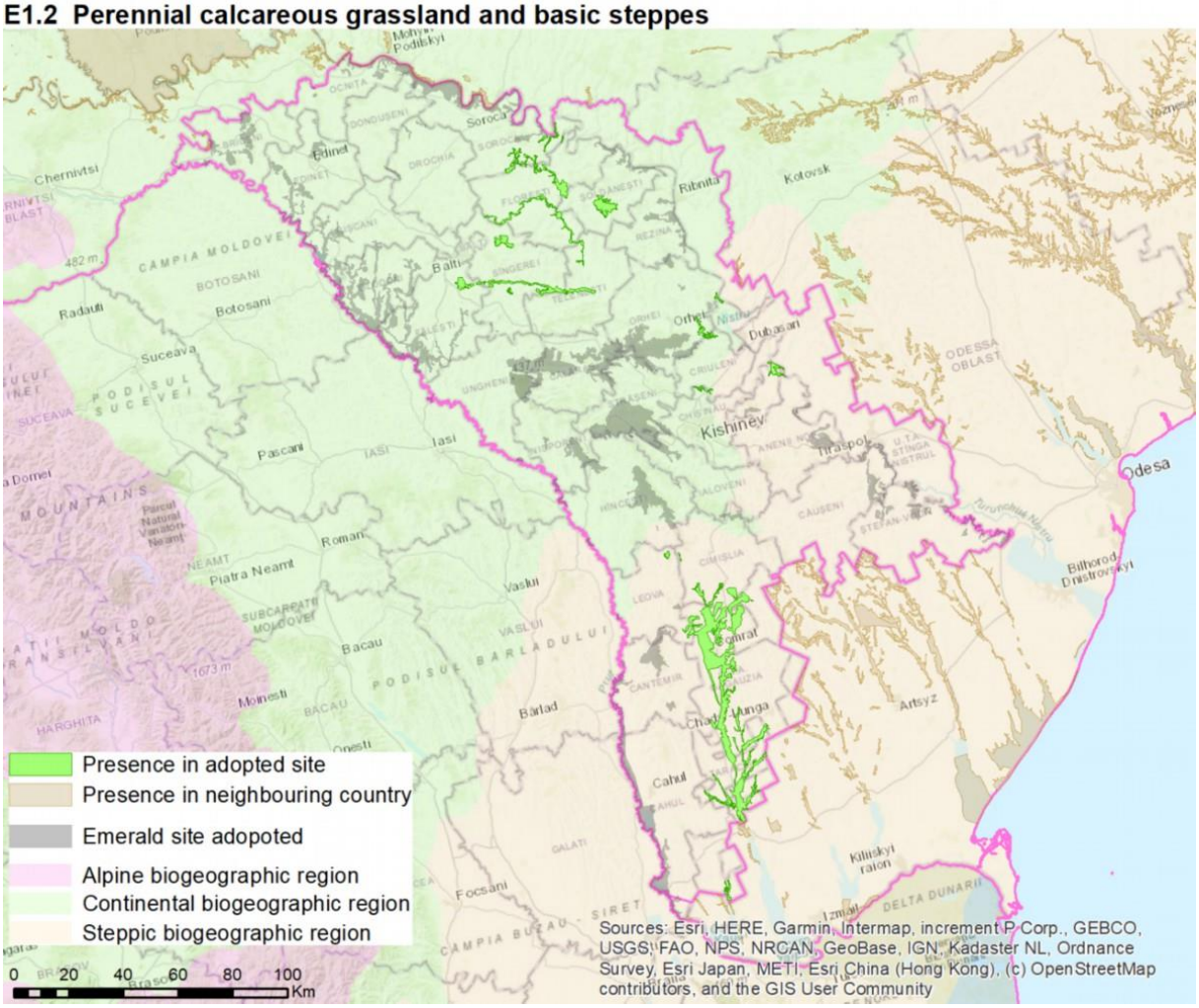
BGR	E1.11 Euro-Siberian rock debris swards	
CON	Number of sites:	5 (B:1, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Hilly region of the country, in the southern parts of the Prut and Dniester River basins.**
	Comments from external experts:	5 sites (1B, 4C). Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River, not far from Moldova and from the UA Ramsar site Liadova-Murafa on the Moldova/Romania border. MD Emerald sites in the northern Prut and the north and middle Dniester basins.
	Comments from local experts:	It is highly probable that the species is absent in MD/CON, but its presence will be further checked.
	Reference:	https://rsis.ramsar.org/

E1.11 Euro-Siberian rock debris swards



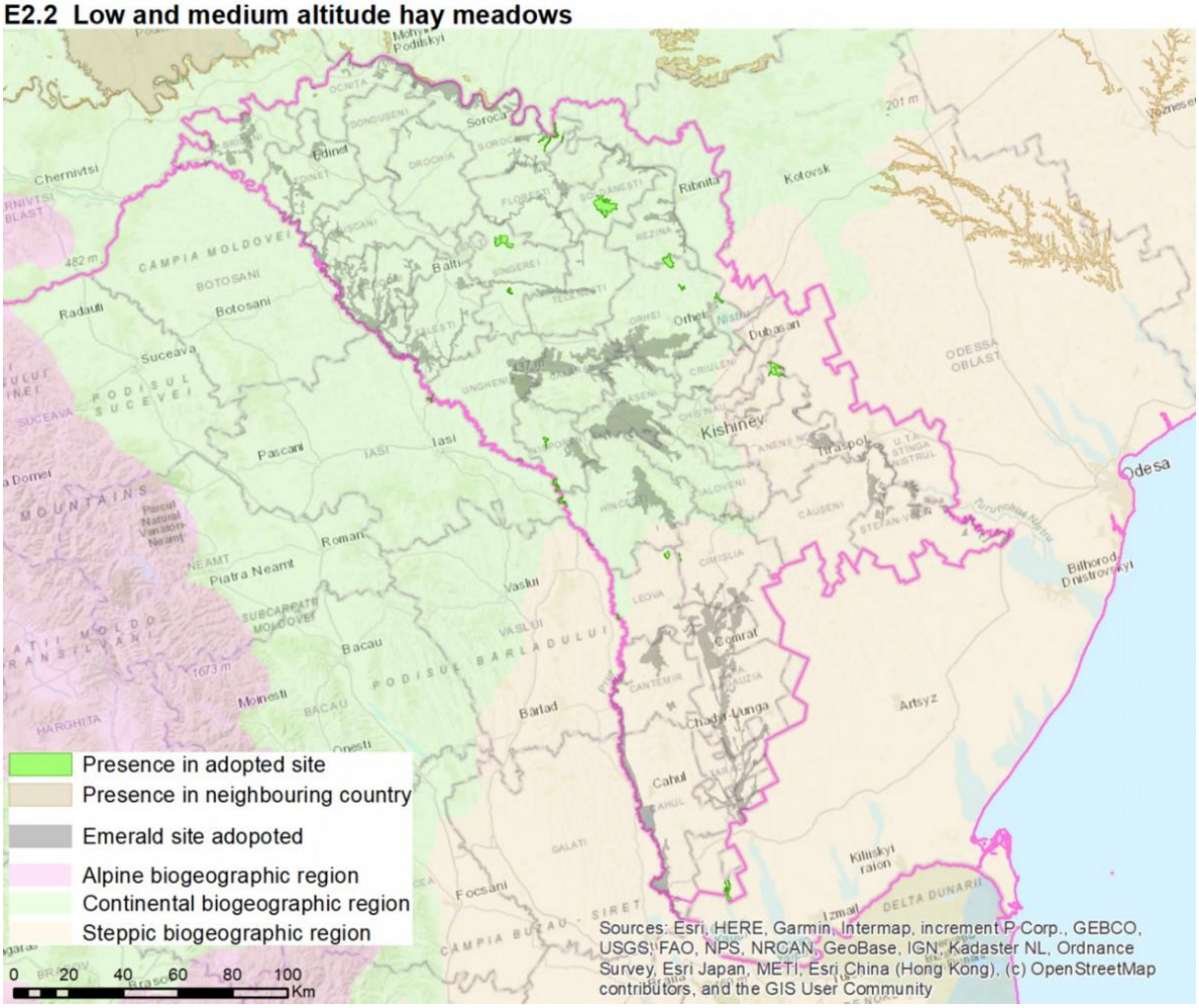
BGR	E1.2 Perennial calcareous grassland and basic steppes	
CON	Number of sites:	6 (B:2, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. Survey site MD0000005 Unguri-Holosnita. Select suitable sites specified by Šabanova (2012).**
	Comments from external experts:	6 sites (2B4C). The habitat is reported from the MD Ramsar site Unguri–Holoşniţa (Calarasovca-Stynca forest; Rudi-Arionesti forests). A detailed overview of the steppes of Moldova is provided by Šabanova (2012), and Andreev et al. (2007) reviewed steppes of the lower Dniester.
	Comments from local experts:	The recommendation could be kept; the presence will be checked in the steppic part of MD/CON.
	References:	https://rsis.ramsar.org/; Шабанова 2012

E1.2 Perennial calcareous grassland and basic steppes



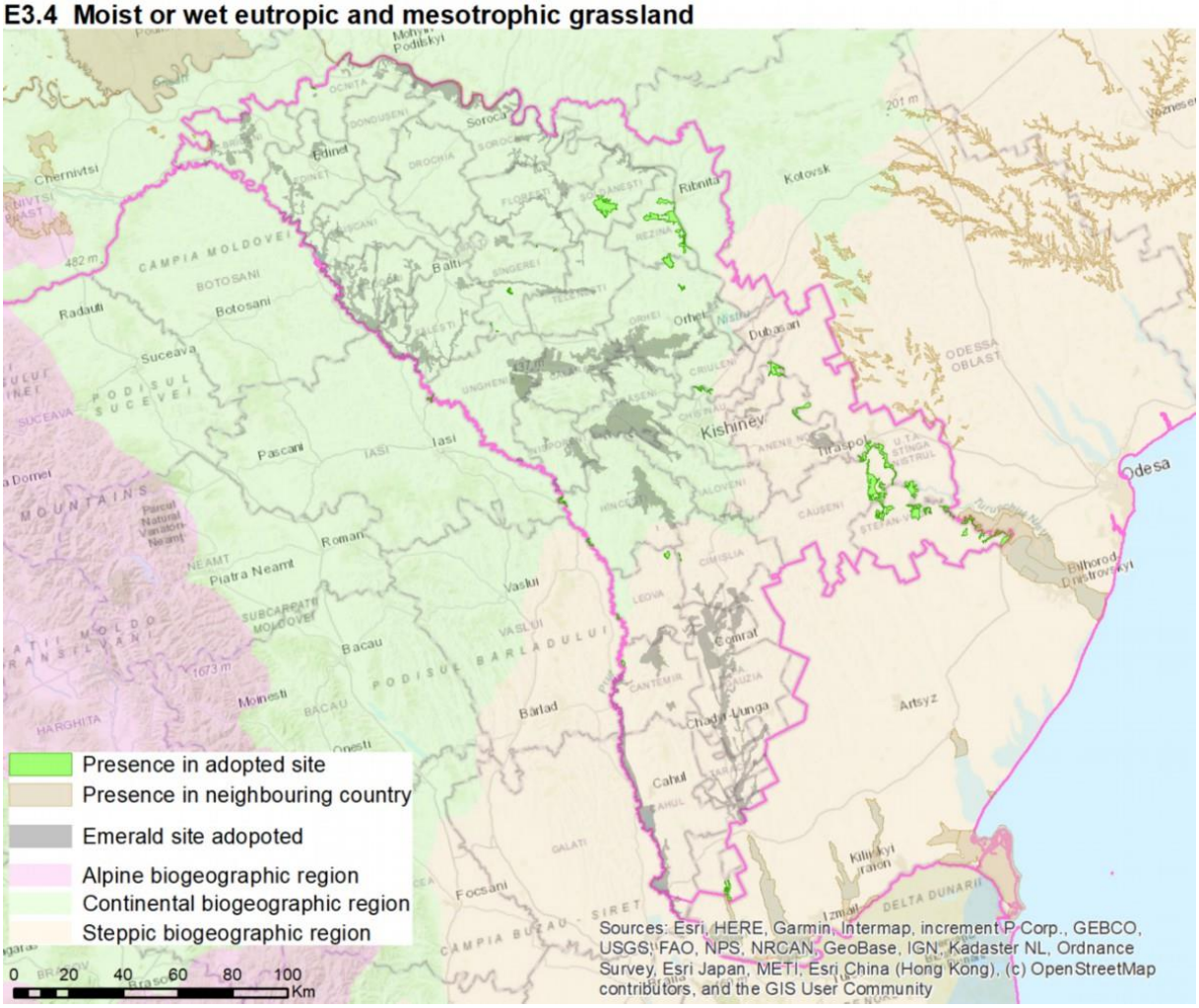
BGR	E2.2 Low and medium altitude hay meadows	
CON	Number of sites:	11 (B:5, C:6)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, particularly in the hilly part of the UA/CON.**
	Comments from external experts:	11 sites (5B, 6C). Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River, not far from MD.
	Comments from local experts:	Proposed recommendation to be kept.
	References:	n/a
STE	Number of sites:	5 (B:1, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, particularly in the hilly part of the UA/STE.**
	Comments from external experts:	5 sites (1B, 4C). No data on habitat distribution in other sites
	Comments from local experts:	It is difficult to find additional sites due to the environmental condition in STE.
	References:	n/a

E2.2 Low and medium altitude hay meadows



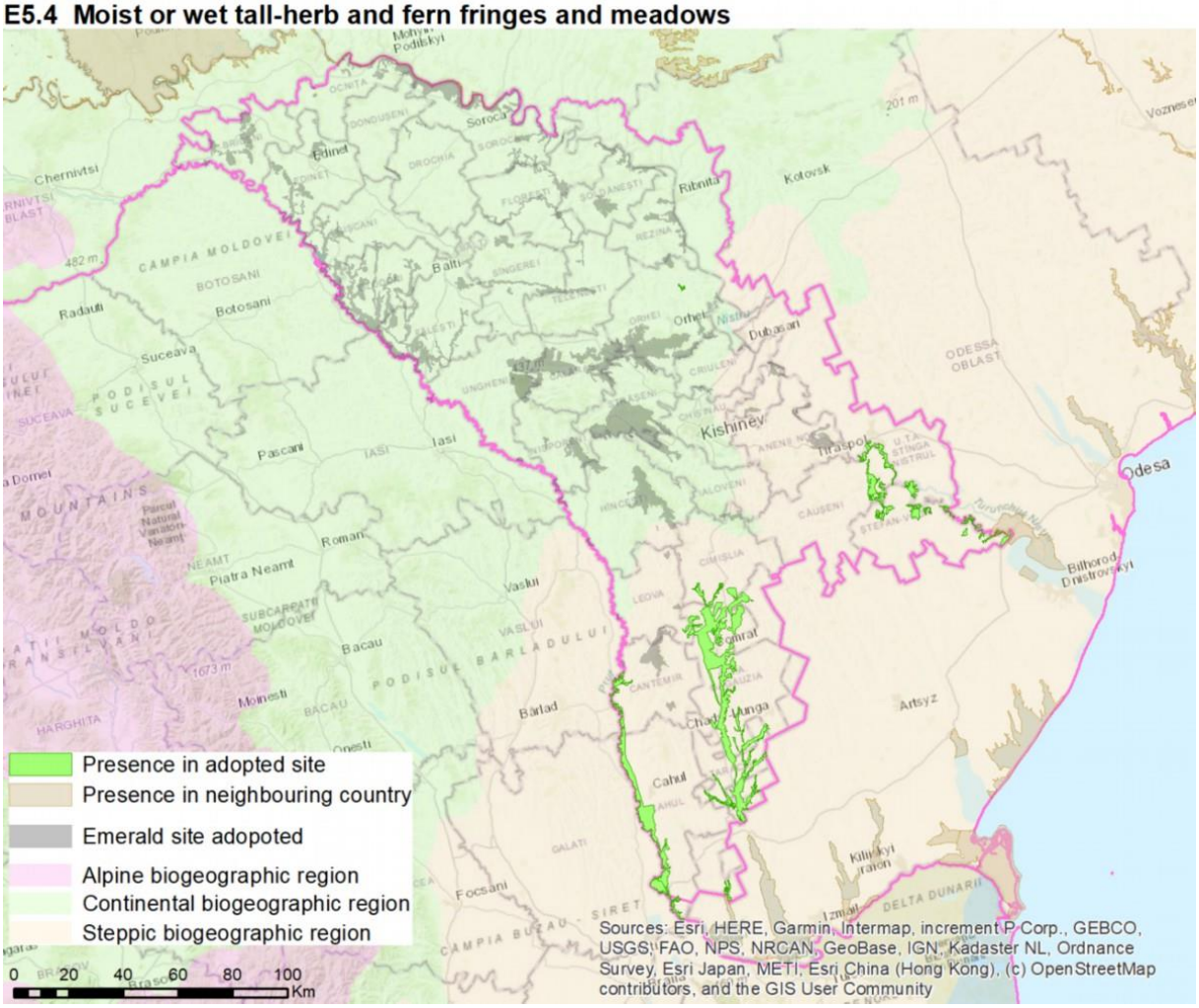
BGR	E3.4 Moist or wet eutropic and mesotrophic grassland	
CON	Number of sites:	11 (B:3, C:8)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further survey is needed, particularly in the Prut and Dniester valleys.**
	Comments from external experts:	11 sites (3B, 8C). EU4Environment (2024a): The Emerald site in Ukraine along the Dniester suggests the occurrence of habitat in this area in Moldova. Ungureanu et al. (2017) reported that habitat occurrence is generally for valleys of the Prut and Dniester Rivers and specified the Soroca district.
	Comments from local experts:	The habitat is present, but since 2017, there are several problems with wetlands. Check occurrence reported by Ungureanu.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a; Ungureanu et al. 2017

E3.4 Moist or wet eutropic and mesotrophic grassland



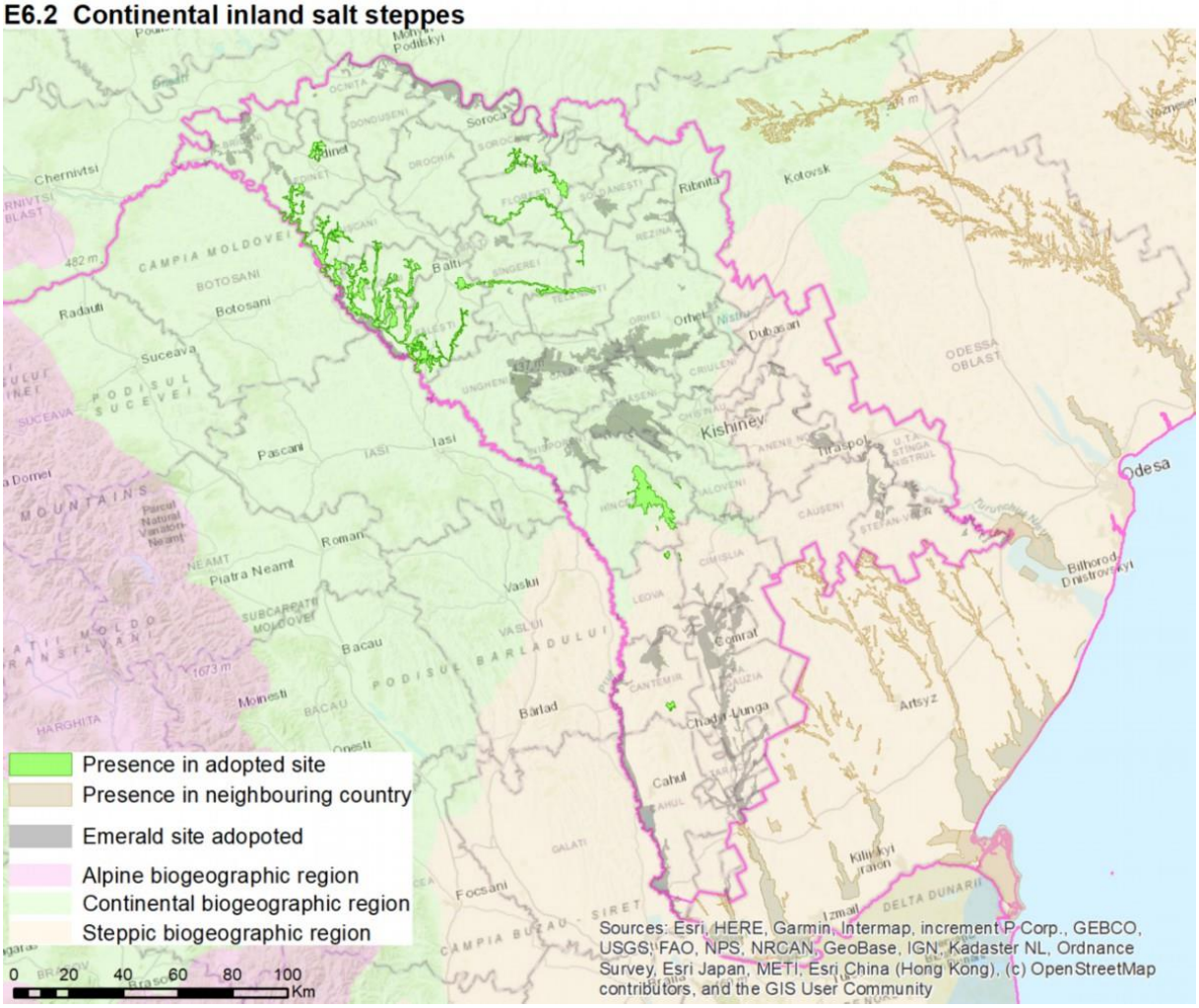
BGR	E5.4 Moist or wet tall-herb and fern fringes and meadows	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/CD CD submission of the GIS layer
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey site MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului as well as the Prut and Dniester basins and other parts of MD/CON with wetlands.**
	Comments from external experts:	1B site. EU4Environment (2024a): Bordering Natura 2000 sites in Romania (Prut River) and Emerald sites in Ukraine (Dniester River) suggest broader distribution of habitat in MD/CON.
	Comments from local experts:	Presence in the Emerald site MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului to be checked.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a

E5.4 Moist or wet tall-herb and fern fringes and meadows



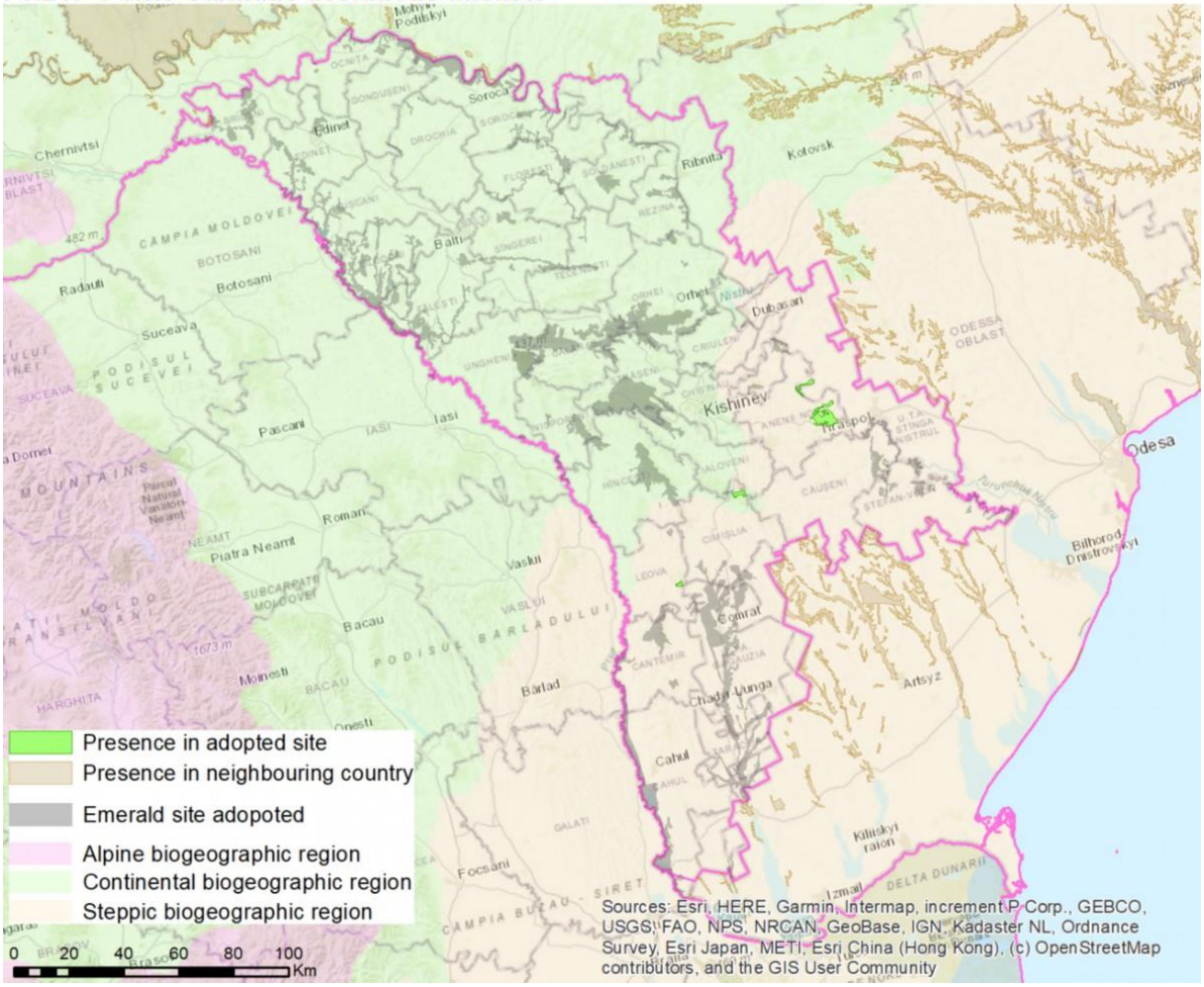
BGR	E6.2 Continental inland salt steppes	
STE	Number of sites:	3 (C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey the mentioned areas. Information about the distribution of this habitat is not sufficient. Further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	3C sites. EU4Environment (2024a): Habitat presence in bordering sites in Romania and Ukraine might suggest presence in Moldova. Postolache (2022) reported that plant communities belonging to this habitat are found in Moldova. Dry salted floodplain habitats are reported from the floodplains of Kogilnic, Yalpuh, Botna, and sometimes in the Răut River and lower Prut.
	Comments from local experts:	The proposed recommendation is correct.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

E6.2 Continental inland salt steppes



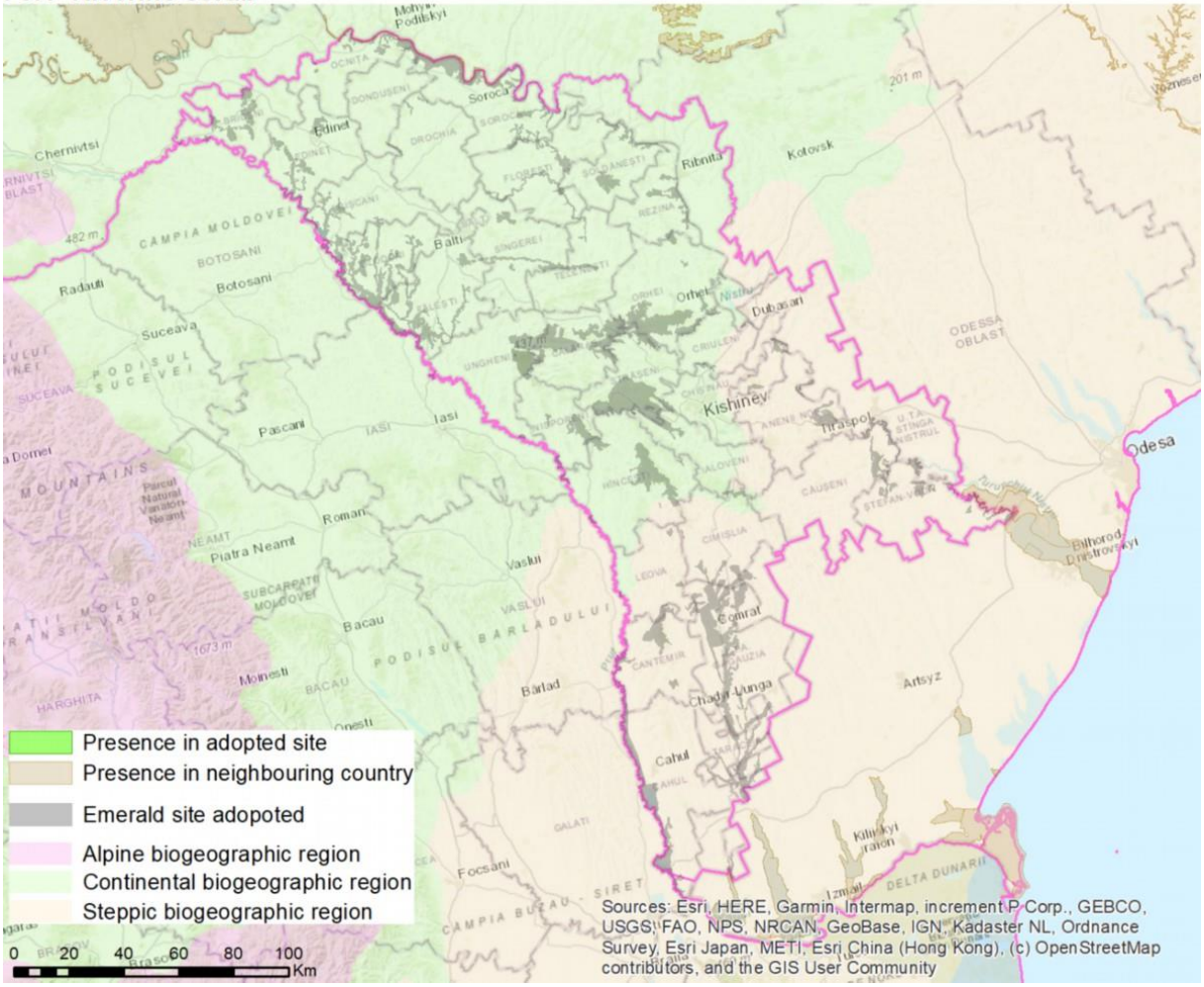
BGR	F3.247 Ponto-Sarmatic deciduous thickets	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (B:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed, especially the Dniester River valley.**
	Comments from external experts:	2B sites. Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River, not far from MD, as well as from several Emerald sites along the Dniester River in UA, including the site UA0000149 Liadova-Murafa at the UA/MD border.
	Comments from local experts:	The habitat occurs in MD/CON. Distribution to be checked.
	References:	n/a

F3.247 Ponto-Sarmatic deciduous thickets



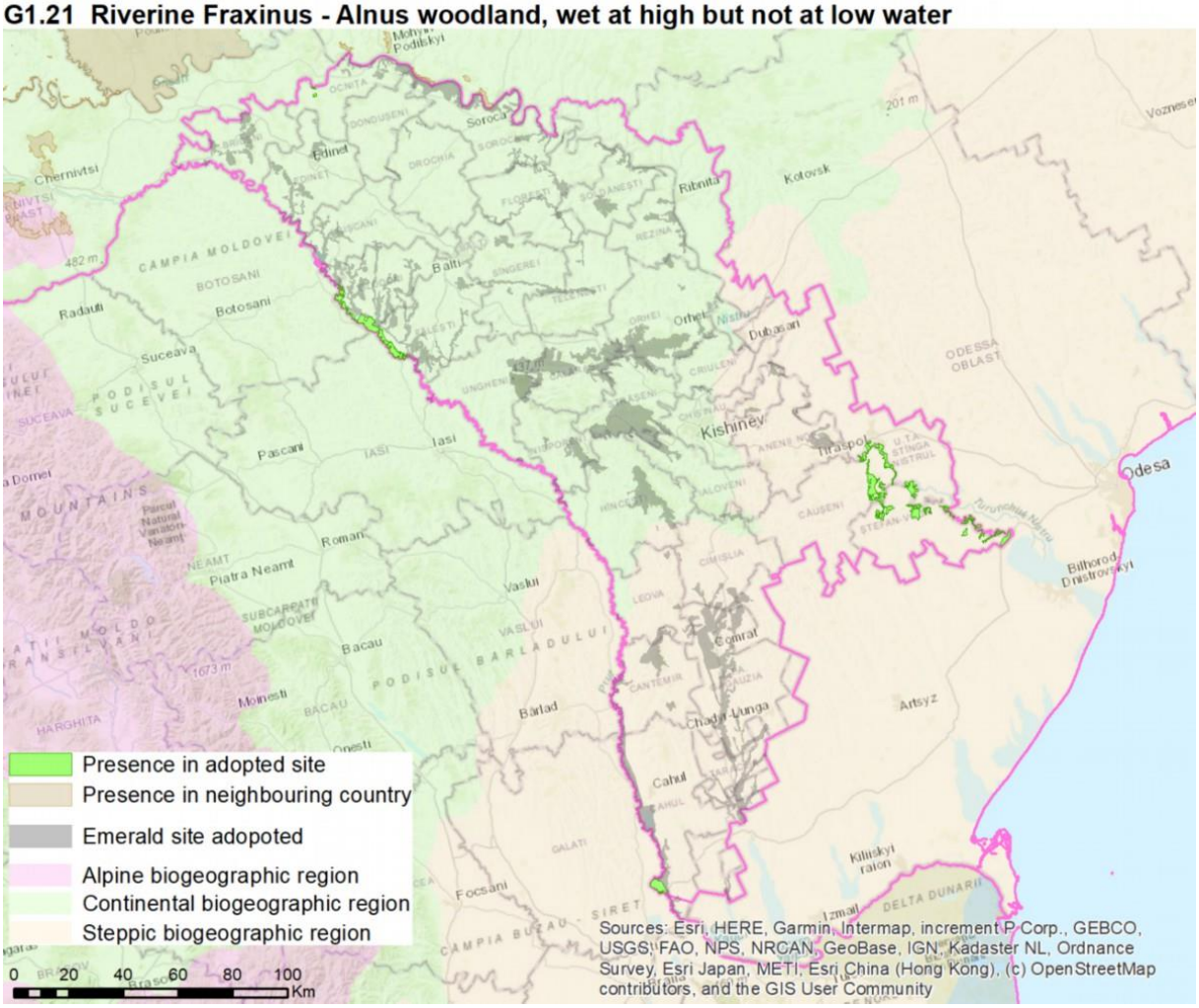
BGR	F9.1 Riverine scrub	
CON	Number of sites:	No site
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**Survey the site MD0000005 Unguri-Holosnita and other sites along the Dniester and Prut rivers and their tributaries.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The bordering Emerald sites in Ukraine suggest habitat occurrence in MD/CON. The habitat is reported from the Ramsar site Unguri–Holoşniţa (MD).
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat probably present in site MD0000005 Unguri-Holosnita; will be checked.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a; https://rsis.ramsar.org/
STE	Number of sites:	No site
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further survey is needed; sites in the floodplains of the Dniester and Prut rivers and their tributaries.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. EU4Environment (2024a): The bordering Emerald sites in Ukraine (UA0000039 Lower Dniester National Nature Park, UA0000141 Dnistrovskyi Lyman) suggest the occurrence of habitat in MD/STE.
	Comments from local experts:	Habitat occurs in MD/STE; distribution to be checked.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a

F9.1 Riverine scrub



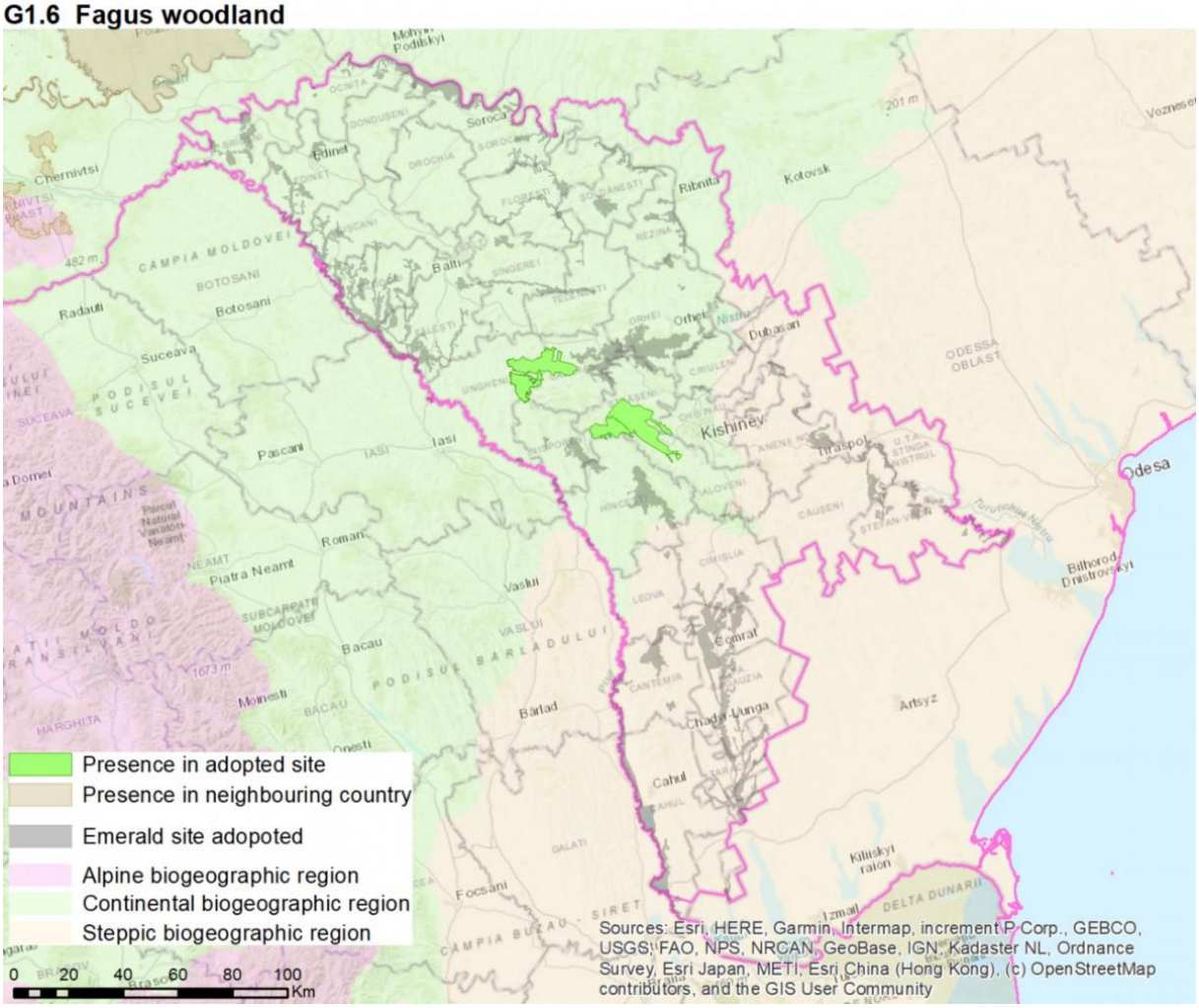
BGR	G1.21 Riverine Fraxinus - Alnus woodland, wet at high but not at low water	
CON	Number of sites:	3 (C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further survey is needed. Dniester and Prut River basins**
	Comments from external experts:	3C sites. EU4Environment (2024a): Only 5C sites for the whole country represent low coverage. Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River, not far from MD, as well as in Emerald site UA0000149 Liadova–Murafa at the MD/UA border.
	Comments from local experts:	Alder is a rare and specialized species (Moldova sits at the eastern and south-eastern edge of its natural European distribution); it is in the Red Book. Habitat occurrence to be checked.
	Reference:	EU4Environment 2024a
STE	Number of sites:	2 (C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Correct the database. Further research is required across the whole Dniester river basin.**
	Comments from external experts:	2C sites. The habitat is indicated from the Ramsar site lower Dniester (MD).
	Comments from local experts:	The occurrence in the Prut Emerald site is a mistake—the database is to be corrected. The habitat may occur in the Dniester floodplain.
	References:	n/a

G1.21 Riverine Fraxinus - Alnus woodland, wet at high but not at low water



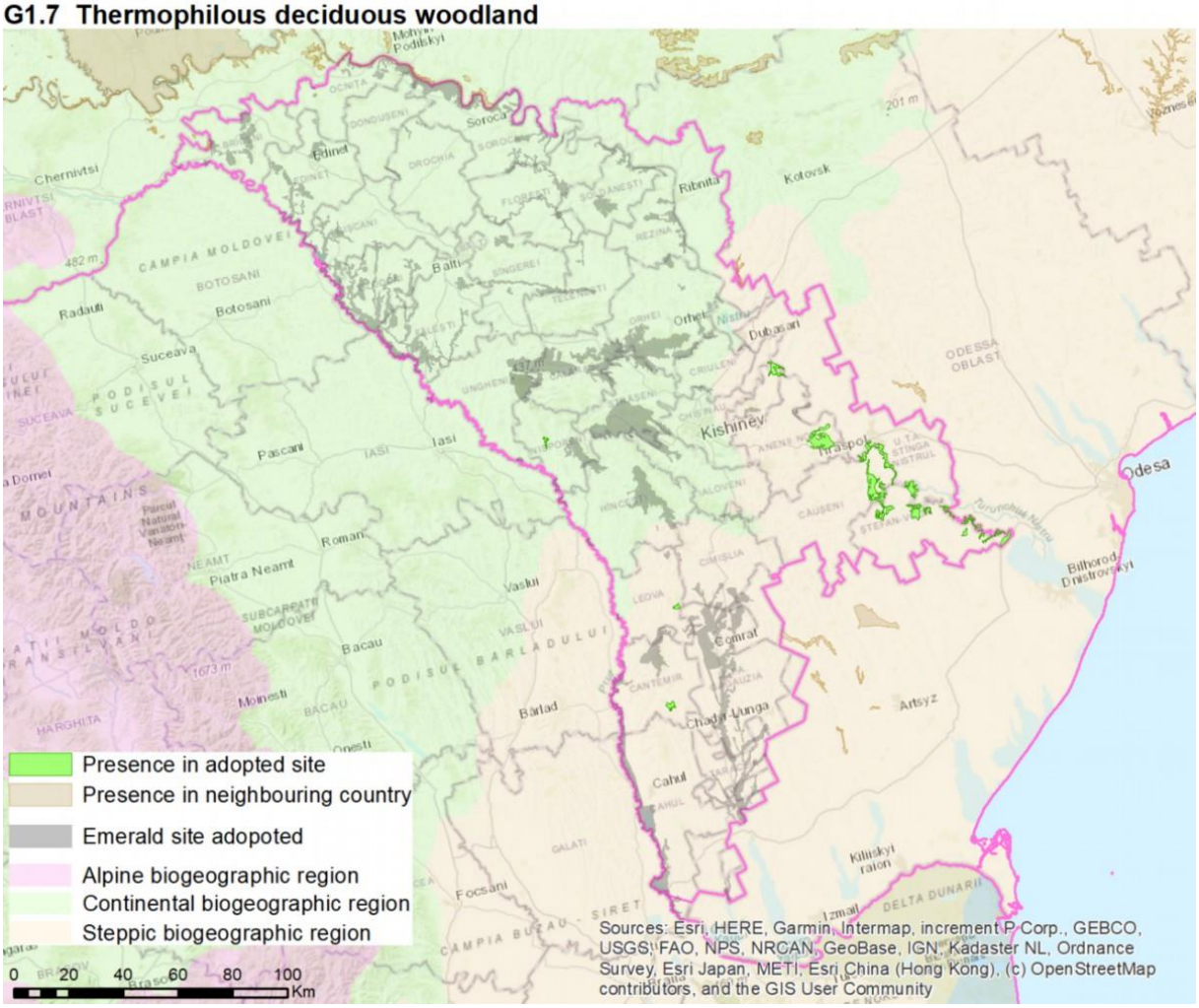
BGR	G1.6 Fagus woodland	
CON	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Based on results of the LIFE RENATA project to enlarge existing or propose new sites.**
	Comments from external experts:	4 sites (1B, 3C). Postolache 2021: For the in situ conservation of plant diversity, 8 state-protected natural areas were established (Plaiul Fagului, Codru, Căbăieşti–Parjolteni, Cazimir–Milești, Cabac, Bogus, Harjauca–Sipoteni, Sadova), which include 1,441.9 ha of beech forests. Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River, not far from MD.
	Comments from local experts:	All mentioned sites are included in the Emerald Network. Based on results of the LIFE RENATA project, boundaries of some sites will be modified; they should be enlarged to include this habitat.
	References:	n/a

G1.6 Fagus woodland



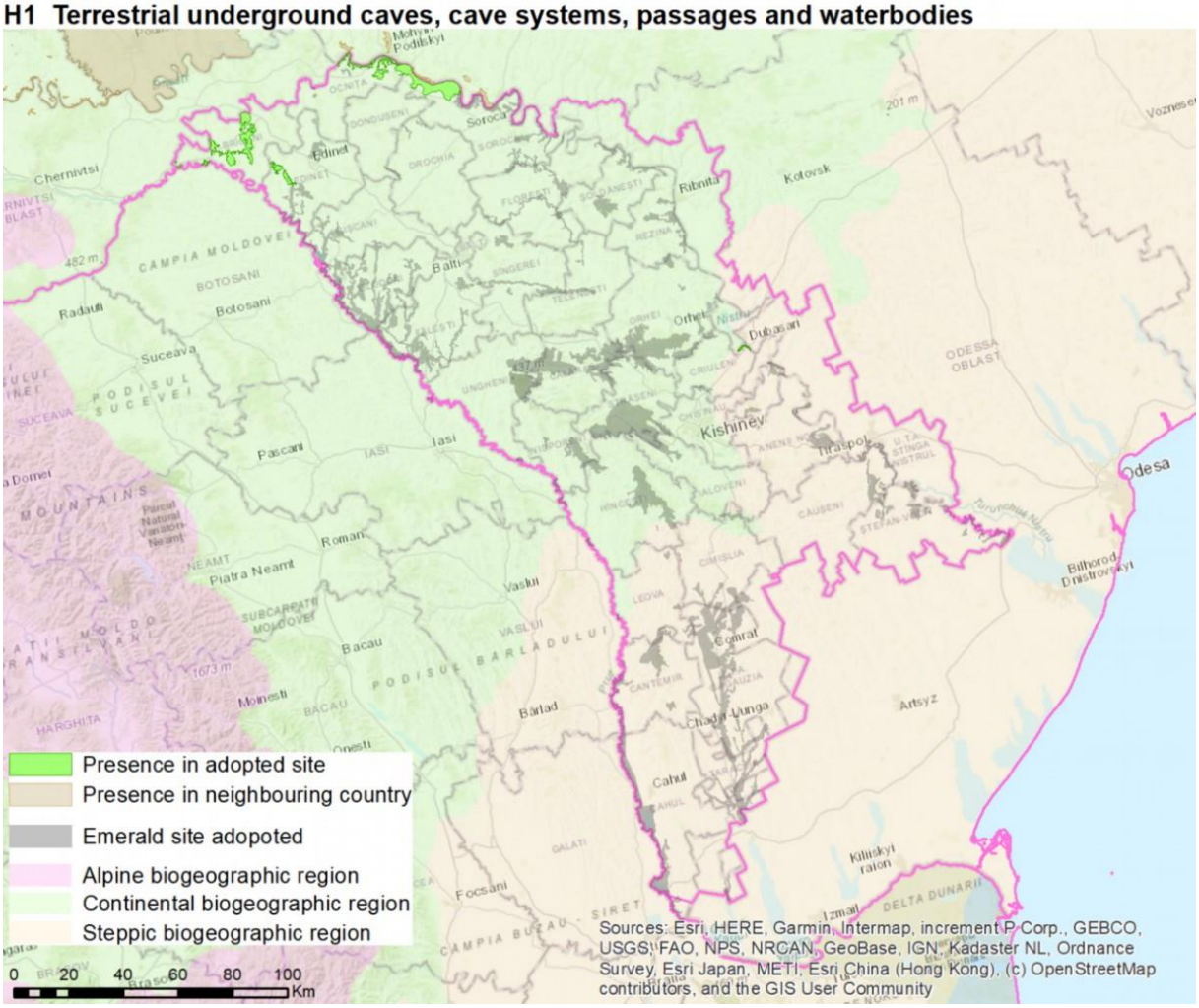
BGR	G1.7 Thermophilous deciduous woodland	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. For Quercus pubescens woods, see Florență (2015). Survey also other types of thermophilous forests, for example, in the Dniester valley.**
	Comments from external experts:	1B site. Listed for UA Ramsar sites Lower Smotrych River and Bakotska Bay on the Dniester River not far from MD. Florență (2015) published a map of Quercus pubescens woods in Moldova.
	Comments from local experts:	The occurrence and distribution to be checked.
	References:	Florență 2015

G1.7 Thermophilous deciduous woodland



BGR	H1 Terrestrial underground caves, cave systems, passages and waterbodies	
CON	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**The knowledge of caves is sufficient to select further sites.**
	Comments from external experts:	4 sites (1B, 3C). EU4Environment (2024a): 1B and 4C sites represent between 2% and 23% of the national total, suggesting more sites are available. The Emil Racoviță cave belongs to the biggest caves in the world.
	Comments from local experts:	It is possible to propose more sites, for example, in Orhei NP. The existing Emerald site MD0000040 Aria Naturala Protejata Trebujeni to be enlarged.
	References:	EU4Environment 2024a; https://www.moldovenii.md/md/section/333/content/10058

H1 Terrestrial underground caves, cave systems, passages and waterbodies

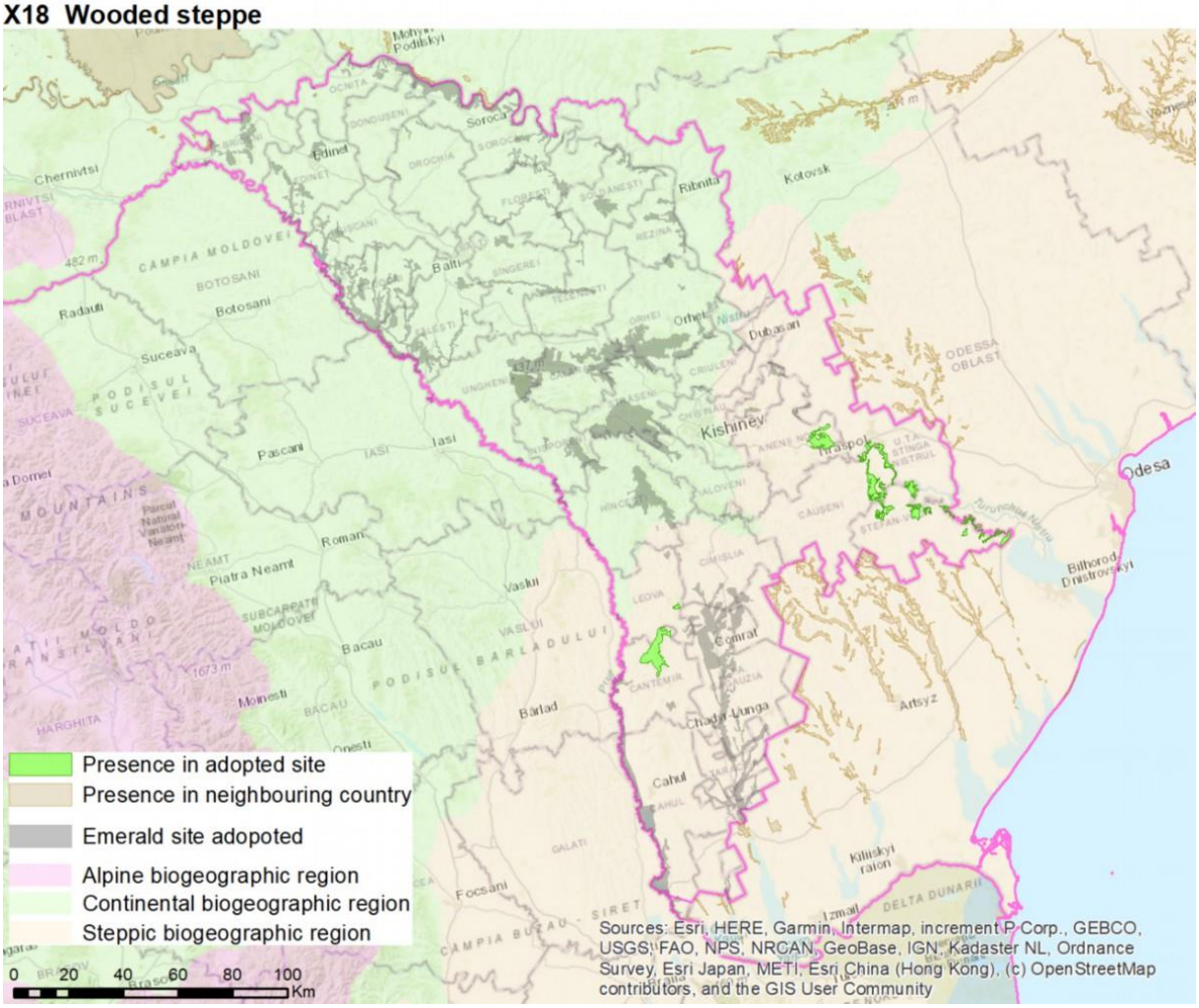


BGR	G1.A4 Ravine and slope woodland	
CON, STE	Number of sites:	17 (8B, 9C)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SUF in both CON and STE
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. If the knowledge is not improved, consider proposing SR in the next biogeographical seminar.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	The outcomes of the LIFE RENATA project indicate that there is not enough information about this habitat type and it should be studied.
	References:	n/a

BGR	X18 Wooded steppe	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. This is a complex of habitats; selection of sites could be led by information provided by Šabanova (Шабанова 2012).**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Detailed overview of the steppes of Moldova provided by Šabanova (2012).
	Comments from local experts:	These habitats need additional research; the habitat has peculiarities in MD.
	References:	Шабанова 2012
STE	Number of sites:	4 (C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD These habitats need additional research; the habitat has peculiarities in MD.
	Recommendation 2025:	**Further research is needed. This is a complex of habitats; selection of**

		sites could be led by information provided by Šabanova (2012) and Andreev et al. (2007).
	Comments from external experts:	4C sites. The habitat should occur in transition between steppe and thermophilous forest habitats (for example, G1.7) in the same regions where steppe vegetation occurs. Detailed overview of steppes of Moldova provided by Šabanova (2012); Andreev et al. (2007) reviewed steppes of the lower Dniester.
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	Шабанова 2012

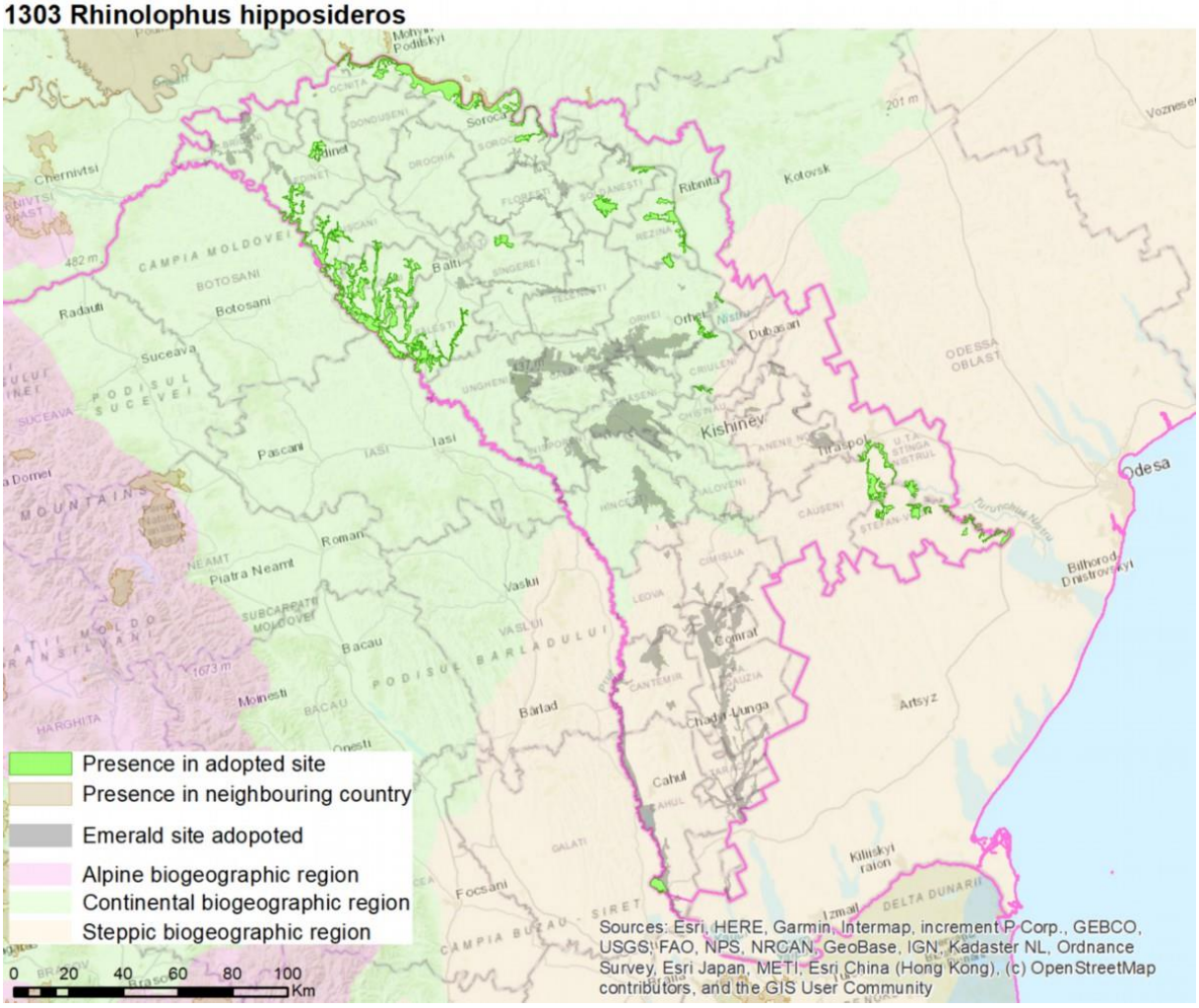
X18 Wooded steppe



Mammals

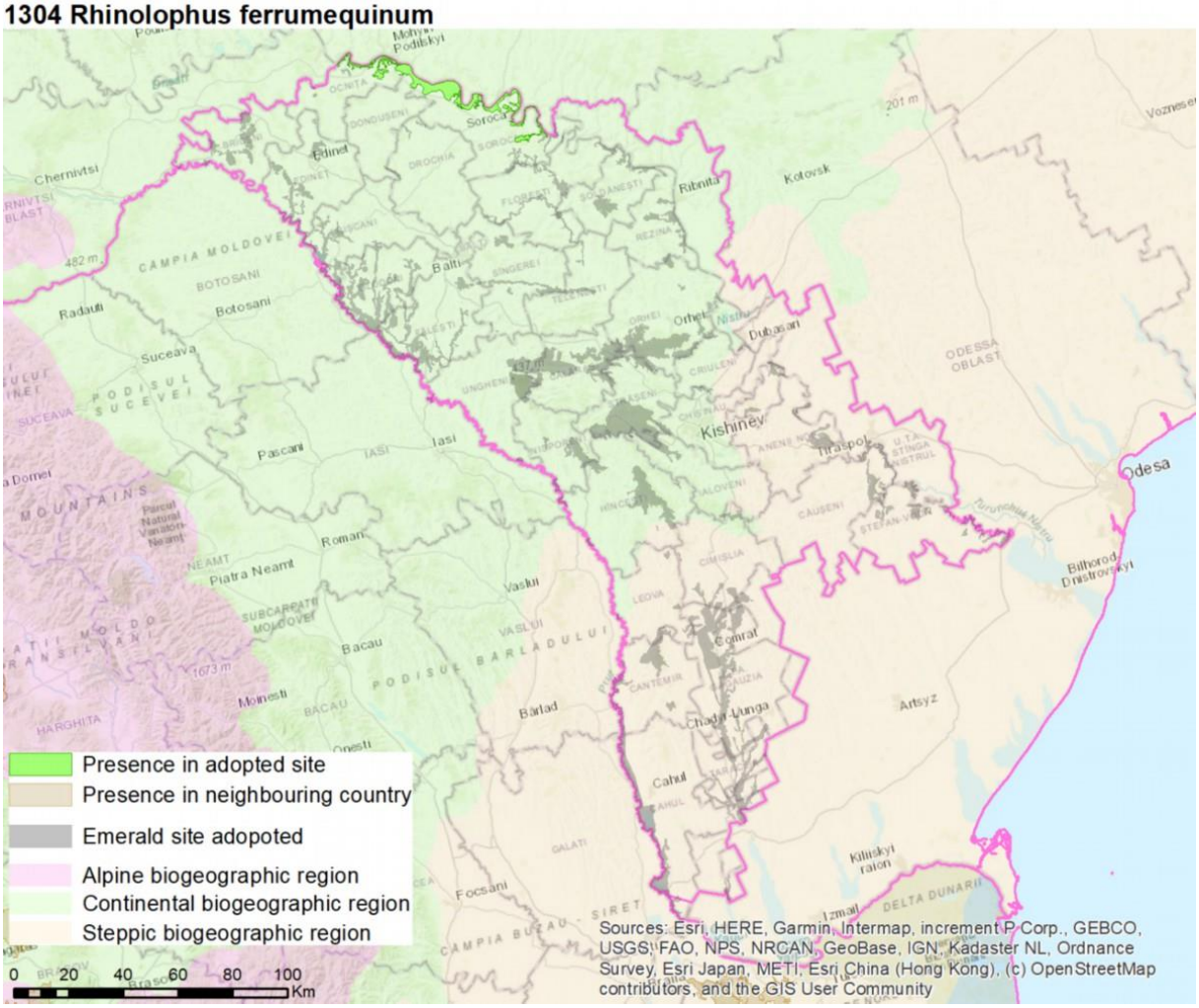
BGR	1303 *Rhinolophus hipposideros*	
STE	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD: one site
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului, MD0000001 Prutul de Jos, MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos, MD0000009 Codrii Tigheci.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed in 4 sites (1B, 3C sites). Geographically its coverage by sites is insufficient; therefore, one or two sites should be added. According to Toderaş et al. (2015), one in the central part in Budjac steppe (for example, section Vulcănești–Colibași) and a second in the northeastern part of the MD STE zone, where there are gaps (according to its distribution map by Toderaş et al. 2015).
	Comments from local experts:	It occurs in MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului, MD0000001 Prutul de Jos, MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos, MD0000009 Codrii Tigheci.
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; “Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova,” Wikipedia 2023; Toderaş et al. 2015

1303 Rhinolophus hipposideros



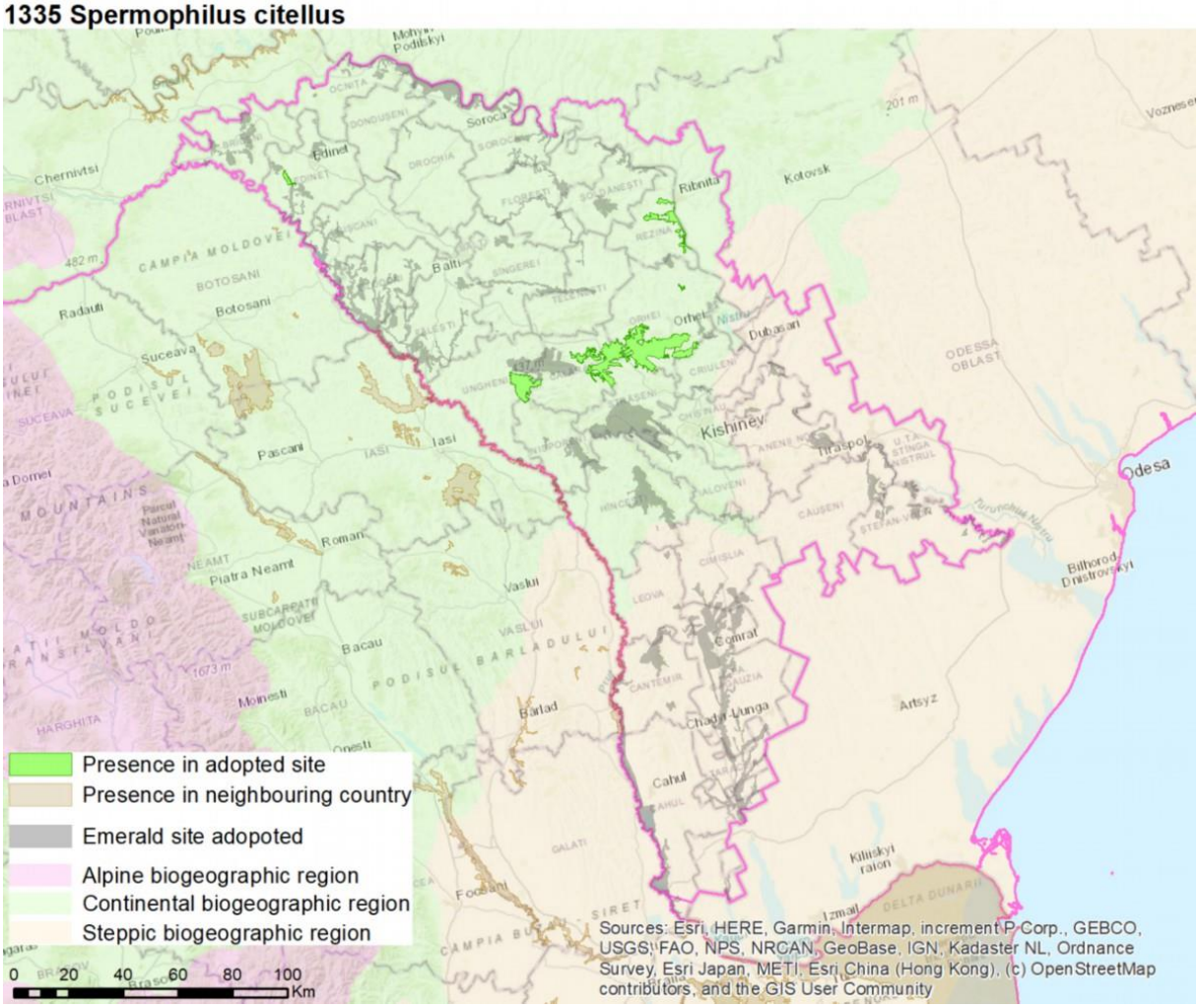
BGR	1304 *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (B:1, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**SR REF, delete the presence in two sites.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed in 2 sites with B and C populations. Old data: 1 male, observed in 1962 in a quarry of Bychok in the Grigoriopol district; new research of this site did not find any specimens in hibernation periods in 2013–2020. The only reliable record of this species in the Dniester region is from the vicinity of Soroky in Moldova: RF breeding colony (n = 14) was found in the cave La Beci near Koseuts (Vasiliev 1997; Zagorodniuk and Petruchenko 2000). Additional research is needed. Currently, only a small part of the population in the country (2–15%) is protected; population assessment is needed.
	Comments from local experts:	Delete from database; no permanent population exists in MD; conclusion: SR REF
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MAJ
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the reference list.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is not listed in any site. Species was recorded in the southeastern part of the Dniester region (Zagorodniuk and Petruchenko 2000) and Bâcioc (Anenii Noi).
	Comments from local experts:	Does not exist; conclusion: EXL REF
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023

1304 Rhinolophus ferrumequinum



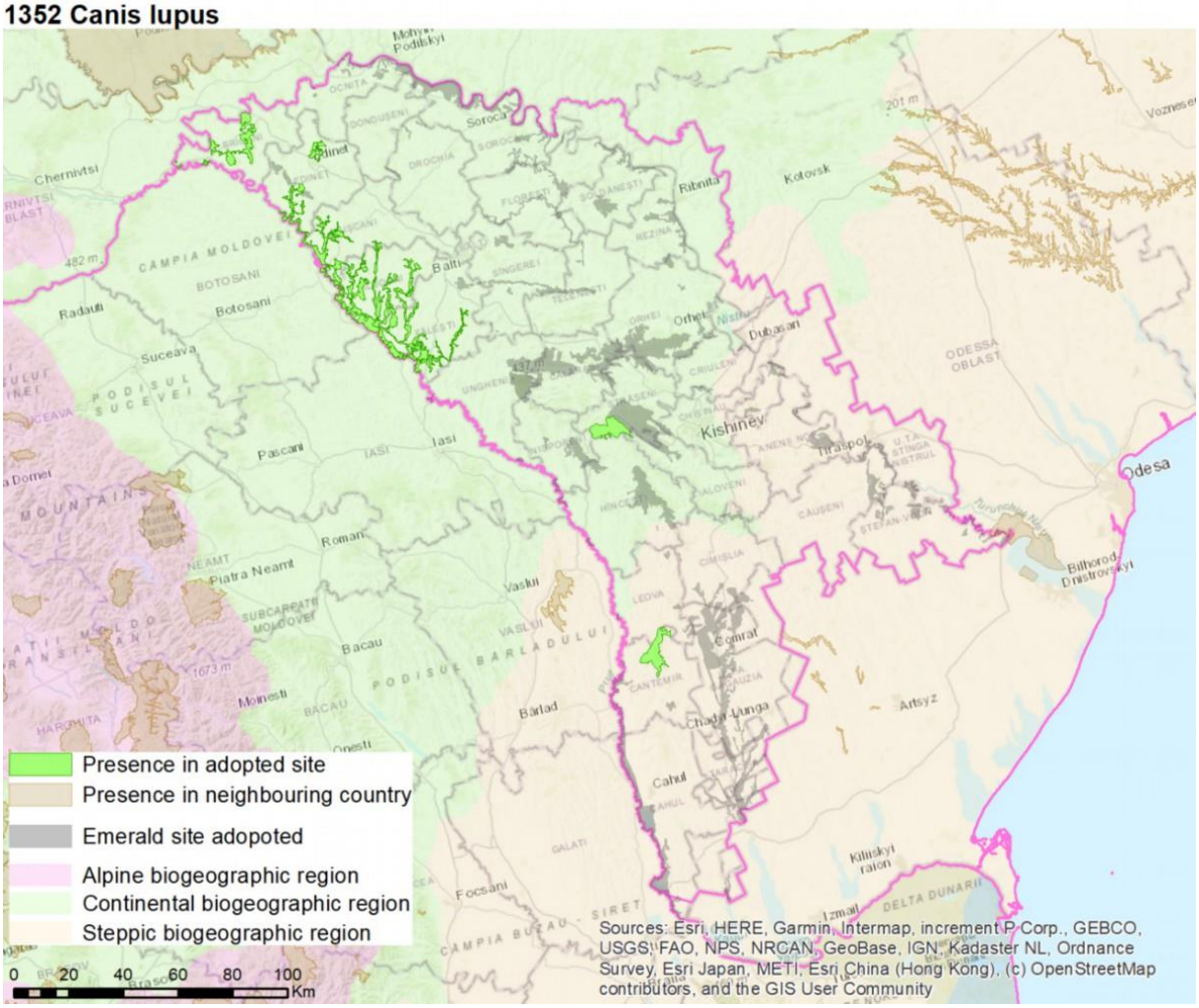
BGR	1335 *Spermophilus citellus*	
CON	Number of sites:	5 (B:2, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN 6 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Correct data; population exists only in MD0000007 Codrii Orheiului and MD0000014 Stincile Nistrene. Two new sites near the Dniester River need to be designated.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed only in 5 sites (2B, 3C sites). Geographically, coverage of its distribution by sites is insufficient. There are many gaps, and several other sites need to be added, for example, in the north part of the Dniester, Dniester basin, near Hrustovaia, and so on (according to its distribution map by Toderaş et al. 2015).
	Comments from local experts:	Population is disappearing; population exists only in MD0000007 Codrii Orheiului and MD0000014 Stincile Nistrene. Two new sites near the Dniester River need to be designated.
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023

1335 Spermophilus citellus



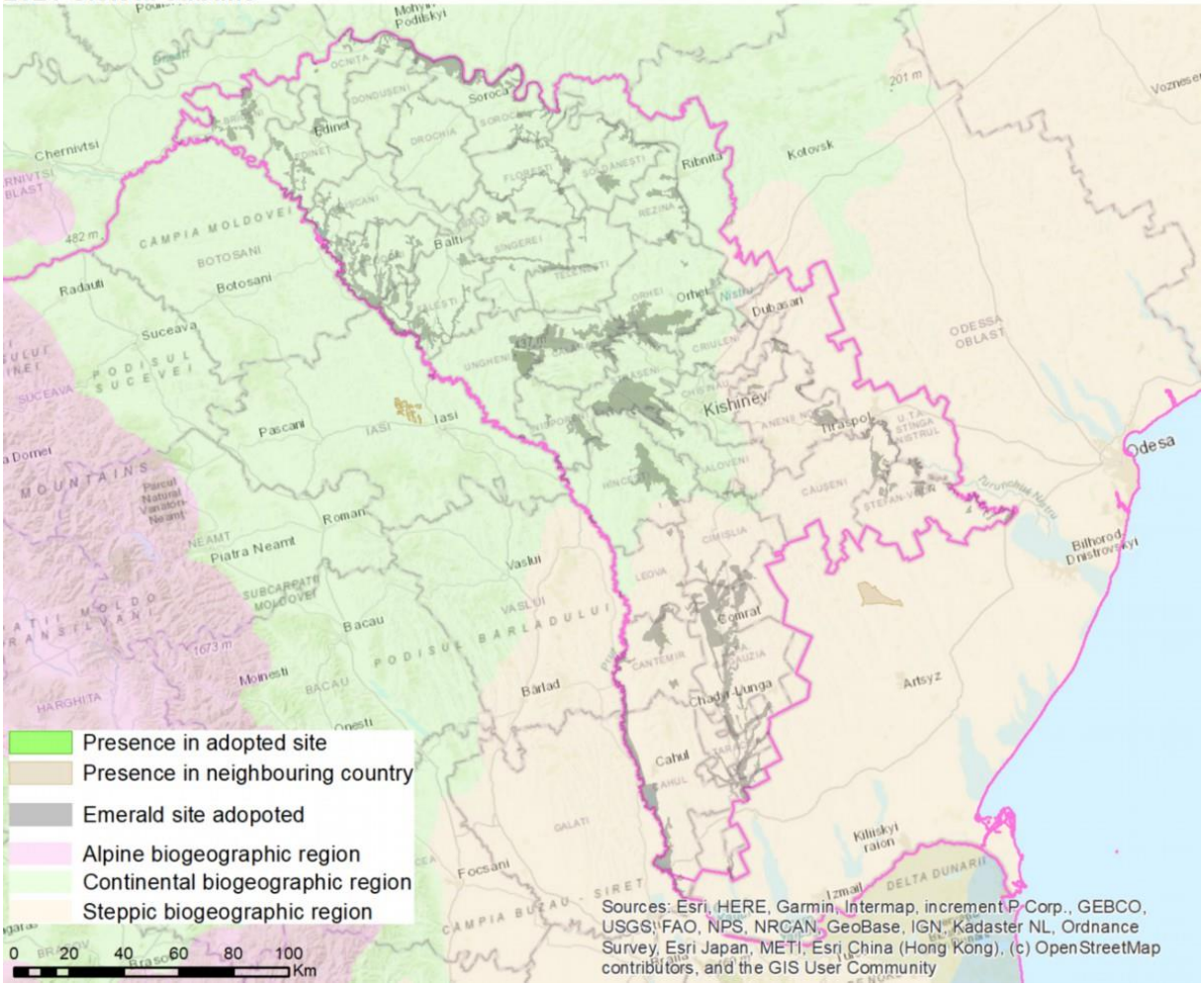
BGR	**1352 *Canis lupus***	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN 2 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites: MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos, MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos, MD0000001 Prutul de Jos. A new site needs to be designated outside the Emerald Network in the Flaminda Forest.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed only in 1 site with B populations. Geographically, its coverage by sites is insufficient. Two sites should be added (for example, some of them: Sadaclia, Zloți, near Ceadîr-Lunga on the border with Ukraine, and so on; Nistreanu 2014, other localities by Chirita et al. 2019).
	Comments from local experts:	Occurs in the lower Dniester (MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos) and in the lower Prut (MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos, MD0000001 Prutul de Jos, MD0000009 Codrii Tigheci). A new site needs to be designated outside the Emerald Network in the Flaminda Forest.
	References:	Chirita et al. 2019; Duca et al. 2015; Nistreanu et al. 2014; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023

1352 Canis lupus



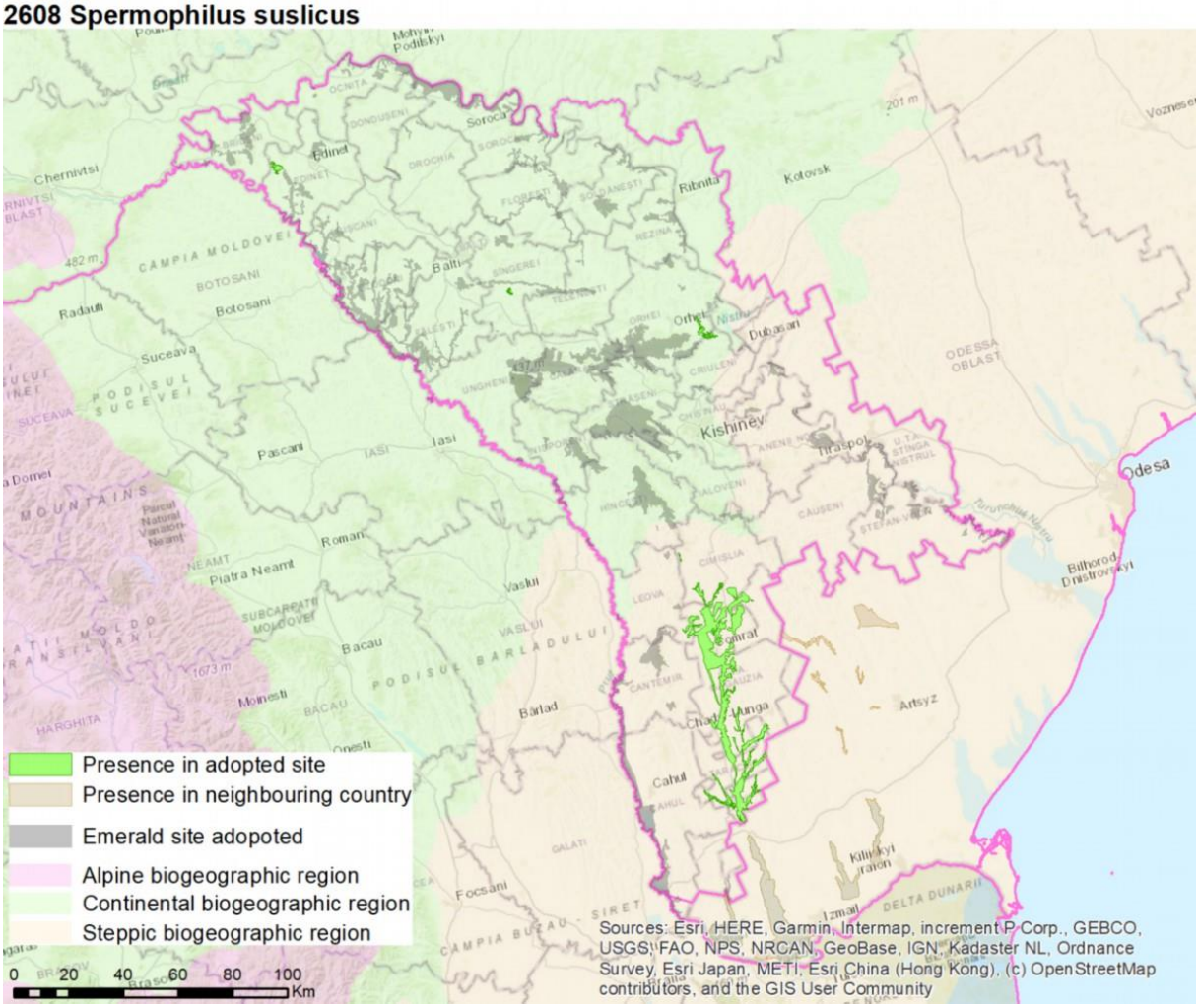
BGR	2021 *Sicista subtilis*	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the reference list.**
	Comments from external experts:	No site. Species was recorded from the locality Taruti steppe, Ukraine, on the border with Moldova (records from 1920 iNaturalist). Probably, the species also lives on the territory of Moldova. Research is needed (SR).
	Comments from local experts:	Species does not occur in MD; exclude from REF LIST
	References:	Cserkész et al. 2014; https://www.inaturalist.org/

2021 Sicista subtilis



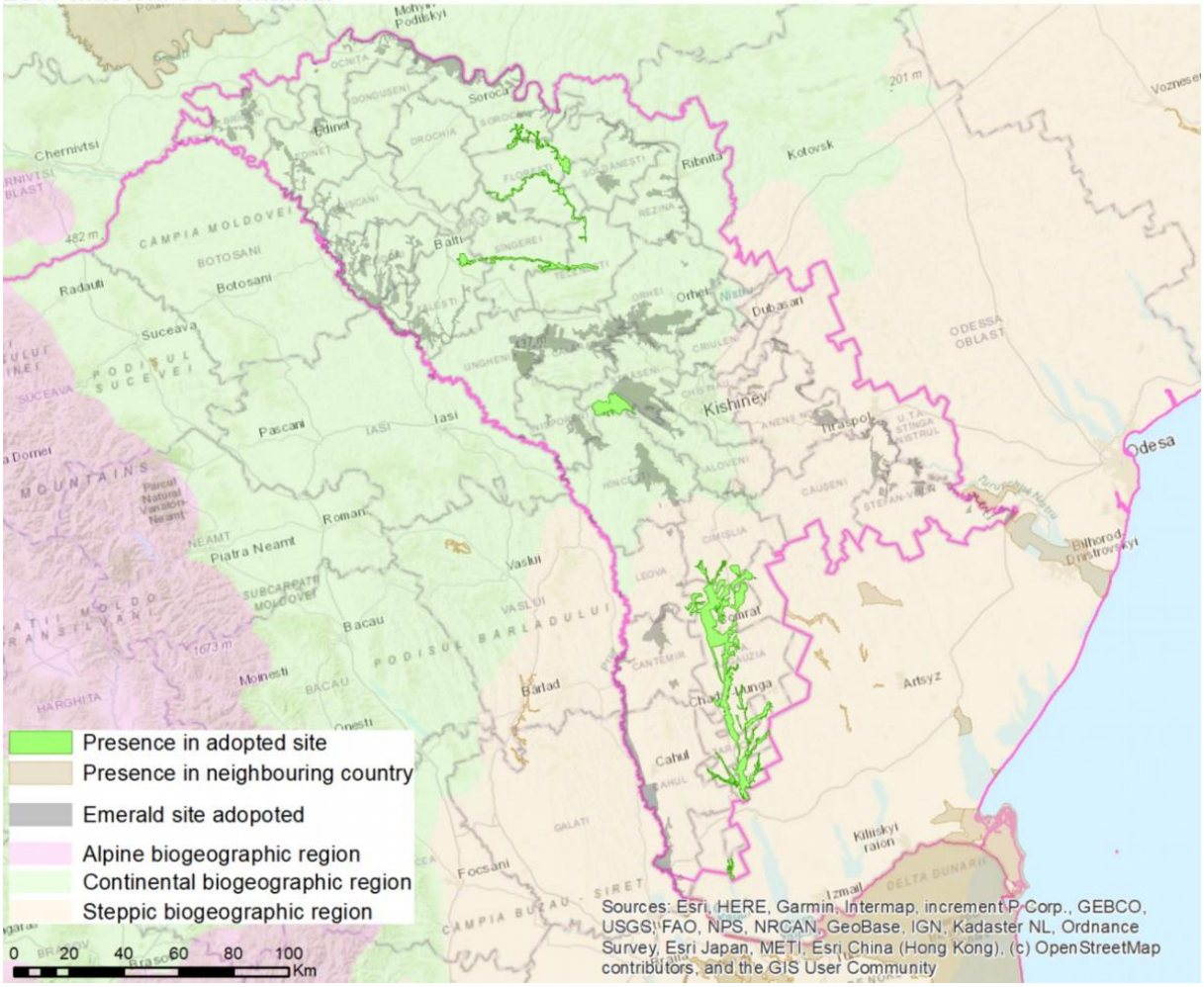
BGR	2608 *Spermophilus suslicus*	
CON	Number of sites:	3
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN 7 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites according to data from the LIFE RENATA project.**
	Comments from external experts:	Its geographic distribution is insufficiently covered by sites. Adding seven sites was the conclusion of the last seminar. Some gaps are near the Prut River, the vicinity of Ungheni, the central part of Moldova, and the southwestern part of the MD CON zone (according to its distribution map by Toderaş et al. 2015).
	Comments from local experts:	Add some sites according to data from the LIFE RENATA project.
	References:	Kovali 2020; Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023
STE	Number of sites:	2
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN 5 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites according to data from the LIFE RENATA project.**
	Comments from external experts:	Geographically, its coverage by sites is insufficient. Adding five sites was the conclusion of the last seminar. Some gaps in species occurrence are in Pridnestrovie (Nikolskoye, Yagorlyk Reserve, the vicinity of Tiraspol (military training ground, the vicinity of Novo-Savitskaya station, and the village of Malaeshty in the Slobodzeya district) according to its distribution map by Toderaş et al. 2015 and Kovali B. et al. 2020).
	Comments from local experts:	Add some sites according to data from the LIFE RENATA project.
	References:	Kovali 2020; Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023

2608 Spermophilus suslicus



BGR	2633 *Mustela eversmannii*	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (B:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN additional 2 sites/check the deletions.
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites; check occurrence in MD0000017 Stepa Baltiului, near the Prut River between Corpaci and Cuconestii. Delete from MD0000003 Plaiul Fagului.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed only in 2 sites with B populations. Geographically, its coverage by sites is insufficient. Adding two additional sites was the conclusion of the last seminar. Some gaps with species occurrence are near the Prut River between Corpaci and Cuconestii.
	Comments from local experts:	Delete from MD0000003 Plaiul Fagului; probably exists in MD0000017 Stepa Baltiului (needs to be checked).
	References:	Duca et al. 2015Duca et al. 2015; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023
STE	Number of sites:	2 (B:1, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN 3 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to sites Nature Reserve Iagorlyk, between Vulcănești and Cișmichioi. Create a new site in Sadaclia. Survey population in MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos.**
	Comments from external experts:	Species is listed only in 2 sites (1B, 1C sites). Geographically, its coverage by sites is insufficient. Adding three sites was the conclusion of the last seminar. Some gaps with species occurrence are, for example, Sadaclia (Nistreanu et al. 2014), Nature Reserve Iagorlyk, between Vulcănești and Cișmichioi (according to its distribution map by Toderaş et al. 2015 and Kovali B. et al. 2020).
	Comments from local experts:	A population assessment is needed. The population should be checked at site MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos and at one site outside the Emerald Network in Sadaclia.
	References:	Kovali 2020; Duca et al. 2015; Nistreanu et al. 2014; "Listă de mamifere din Republica Moldova," Wikipedia 2023

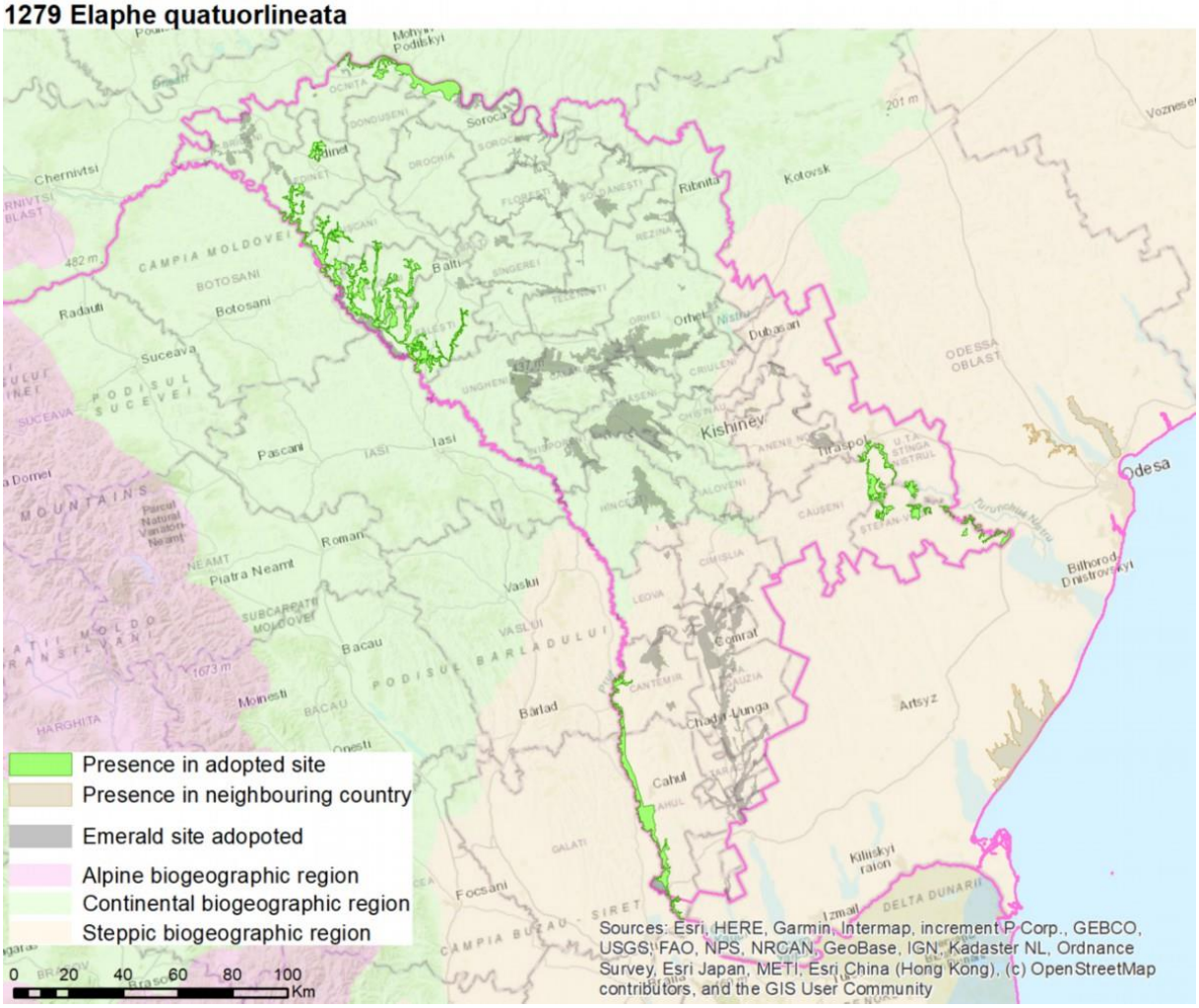
2633 Mustela eversmannii



Reptiles

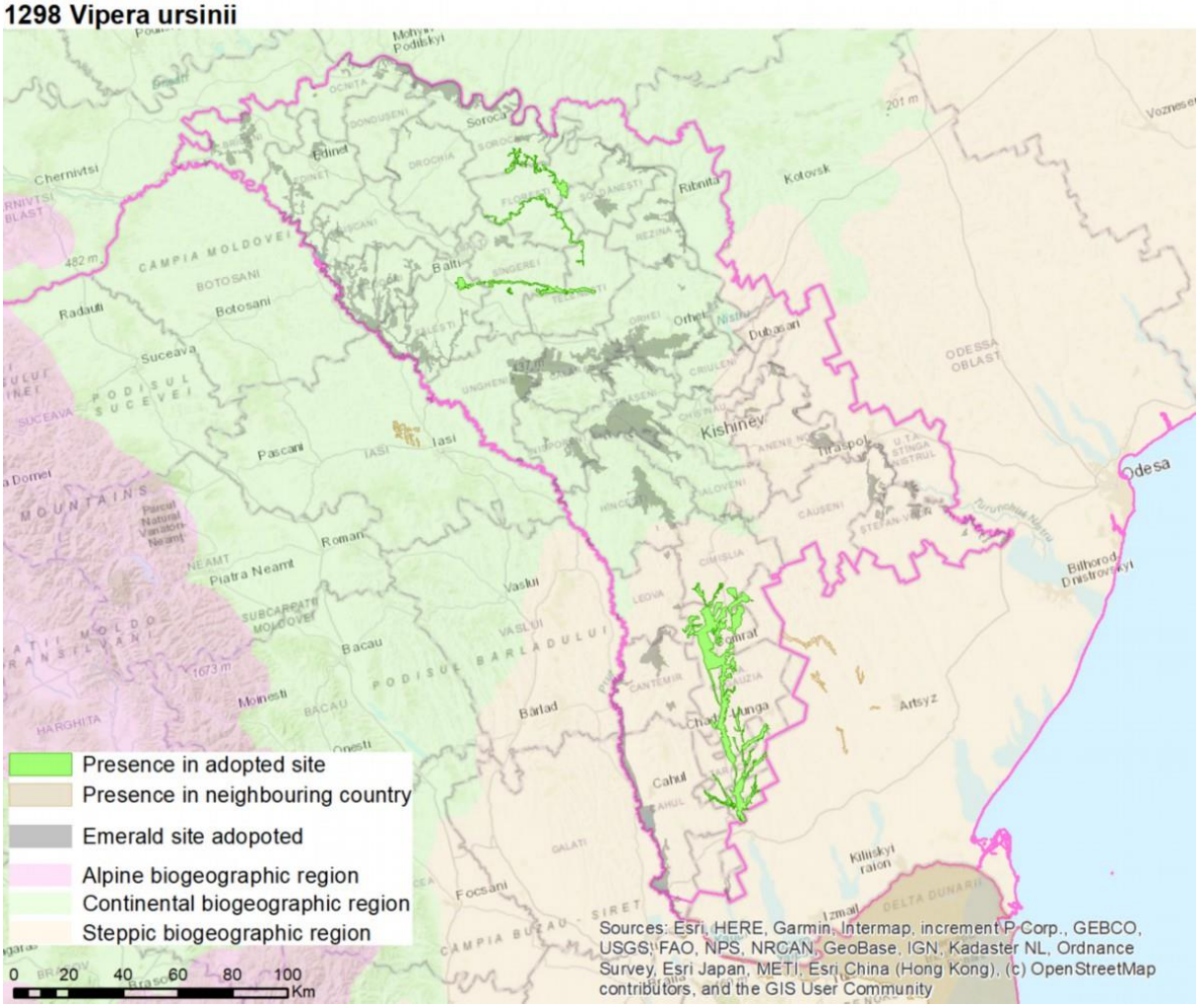
BGR	1279 *Elaphe quatuorlineata*	
STE	Number of sites:	2 (B:1, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Create a new site at Lake Sarata Nouă. Add to MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului.**
	Comments from external experts:	Taxonomy changes: Elaphe sauromates (ex. Elaphe quatuorlineata sauromates). In the 'Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic', the snake was noted in the Kamensky and Slobodzeya districts. Add to the adopted site (MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului).
	Comments from local experts:	New site at Lake Sarata Nouă. The site is proposed as a new Emerald site. An additional record is available from a locality near MD0000016 Stepa Bugeacului.
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; Kovali 2020

1279 Elaphe quatuorlineata



BGR	1298 *Vipera ursinii*	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Delete from existing site; change conclusion to SR REF.**
	Comments from external experts:	The subspecies currently persists in two regions of Romania. Previous records for this subspecies exist from Bulgaria and Moldova, but these are presumed extinct. According to the IUCN Red List, it may be extinct (Halpern and Bowles 2024).
	Comments from local experts:	Species was not recently found; delete from existing site; change conclusion to SR REF.
	Reference:	Halpern and Bowles 2024

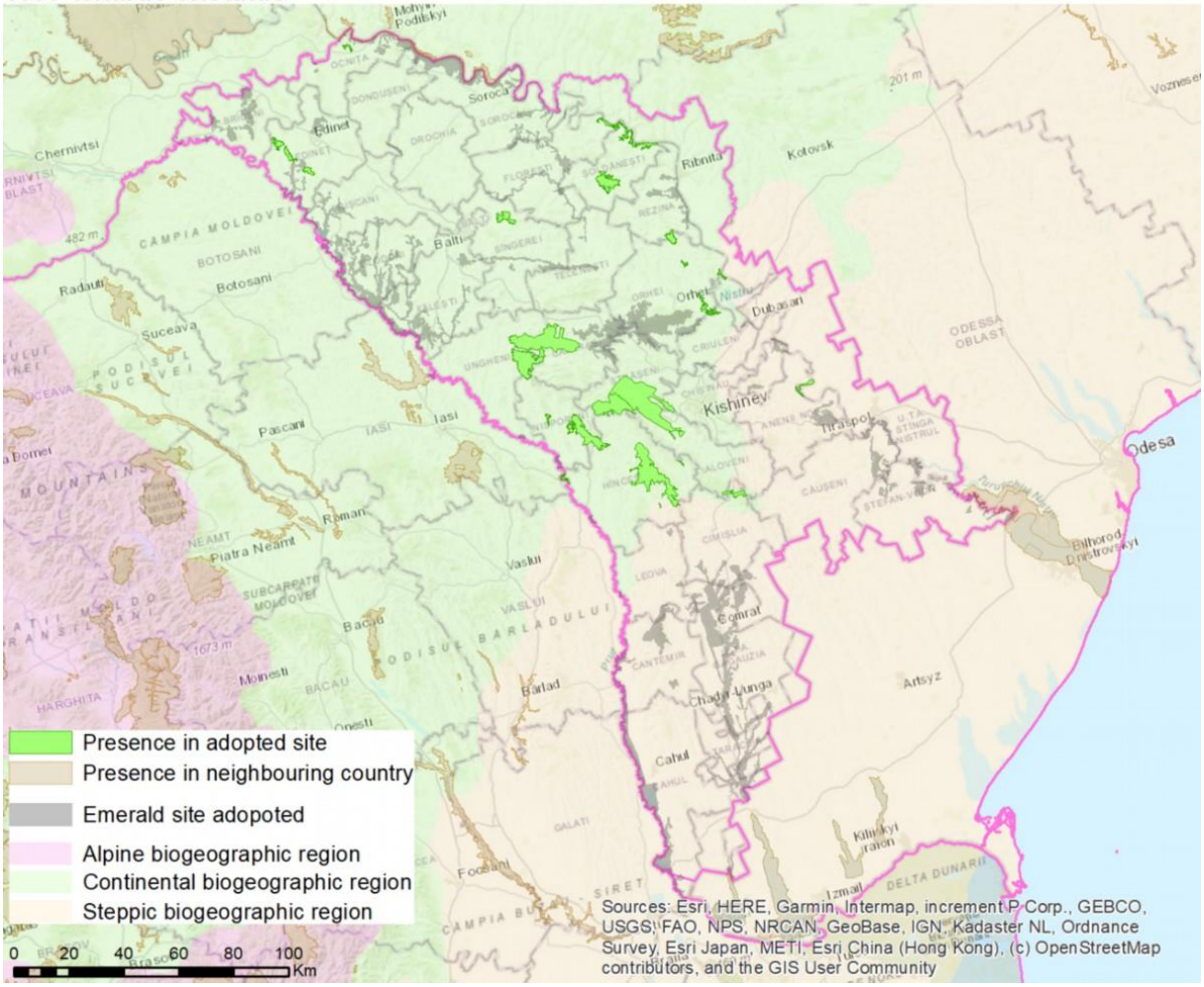
1298 Vipera ursinii



Amphibians

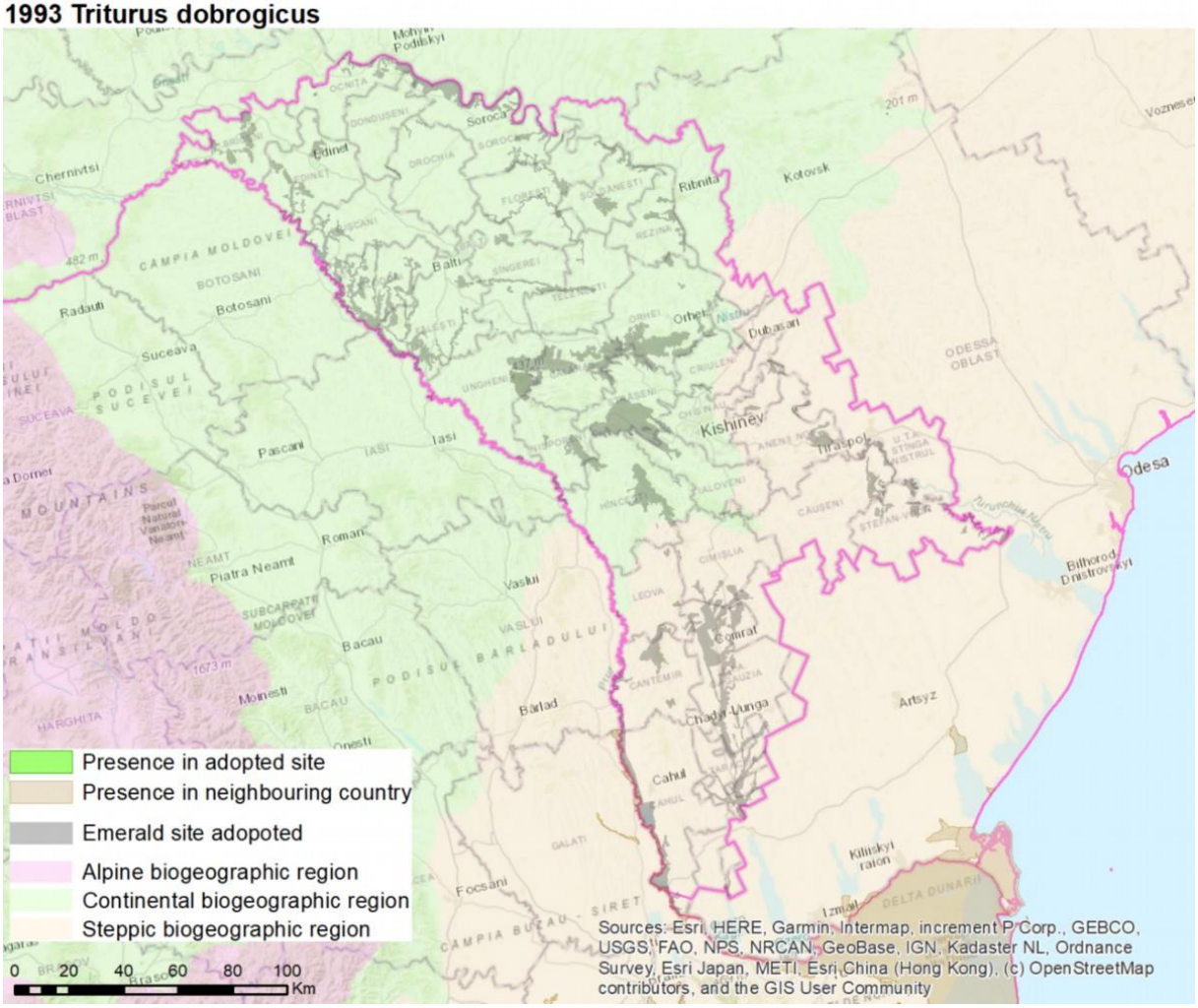
BGR	1166 *Triturus cristatus*	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites based on data from the LIFE RENATA project.**
	Comments from external experts:	Bendery 46.833 29.483 Etulia 45.533 28.450 Slobodzeya 46.717 29.683
	Comments from local experts:	Add sites based on data from the LIFE RENATA project.
	References:	Cozari et al. 2015, 233–490; Edgar and Bird 2006; Wielstra et al. 2014, 376–381
CON	Number of sites:	22 (B:7, C:15)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites based on data from the LIFE RENATA project.**
	Comments from external experts:	Gherșunovca (47.717, 29.167) Gruşca (48.133, 28.550) Gura Bîcului (46.933, 29.467) Ivanţa (47.283, 28.850) Chișinău 1 (47.019, 28.786) Chișinău 2 (47.017, 28.883) Colbasna (47.783, 29.217) Mălăiești (47.100, 29.600) Ocniţa (48.133, 28.633)
	Comments from local experts:	Add sites based on data from the LIFE RENATA project.
	References:	Cozari et al. 2015; Edgar and Bird 2006; Wielstra et al. 2014

1166 Triturus cristatus



BGR	1993 *Triturus dobrogicus*	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to reference list; species occurs at sites MD0000001 Prutul de Jos and MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos.**
	Comments from external experts:	
	Comments from local experts:	Add to REF list: sites MD0000001 Prutul de Jos and MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos.
	References:	Borkin et al. 1997; Edgar and Bird 2006; Litvinchuk and Borkin 1995

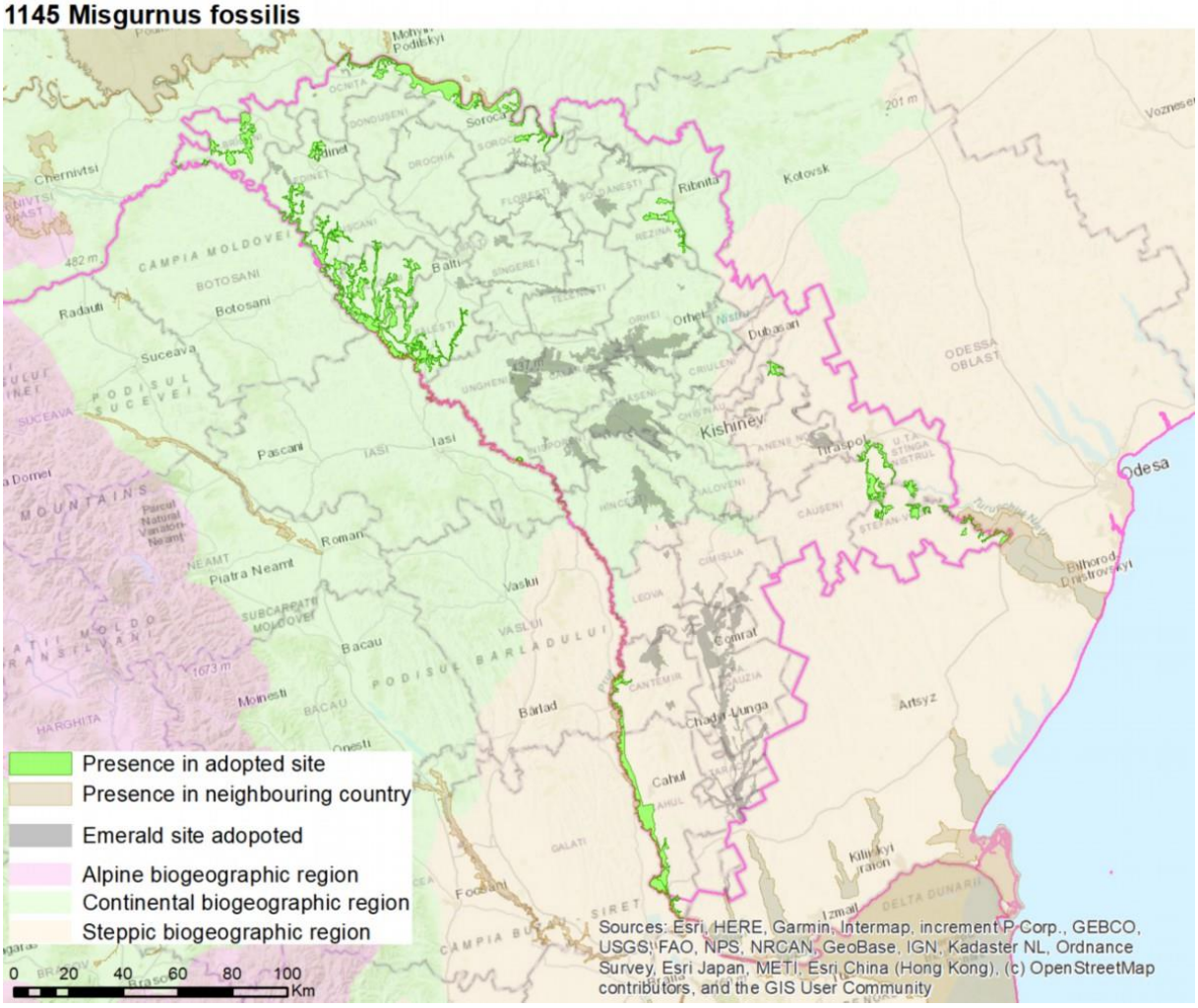
1993 Triturus dobrogicus



Fish

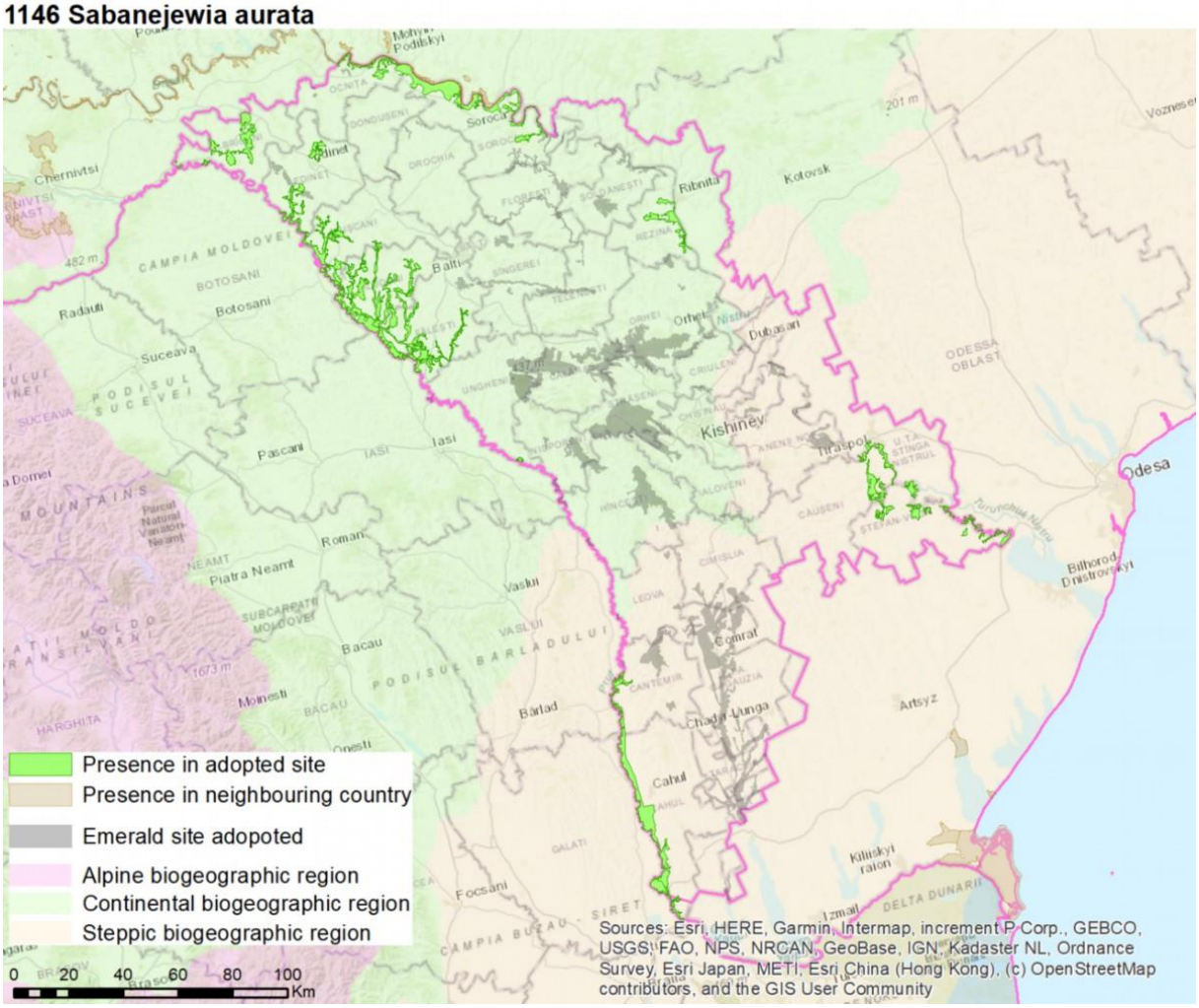
BGR	1145 *Misgurnus fossilis*	
STE	Number of sites:	4 (B:1, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD center
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites where the species is present: the lower Prut, the lower Dniester, and Lake Cahul.**
	Comments from external experts:	There is a lack of literature on occurrence.
	Comments from local experts:	The species is present in the lower Prut, the lower Dniester, and Lake Cahul.
	References:	n/a

1145 Misgurnus fossilis



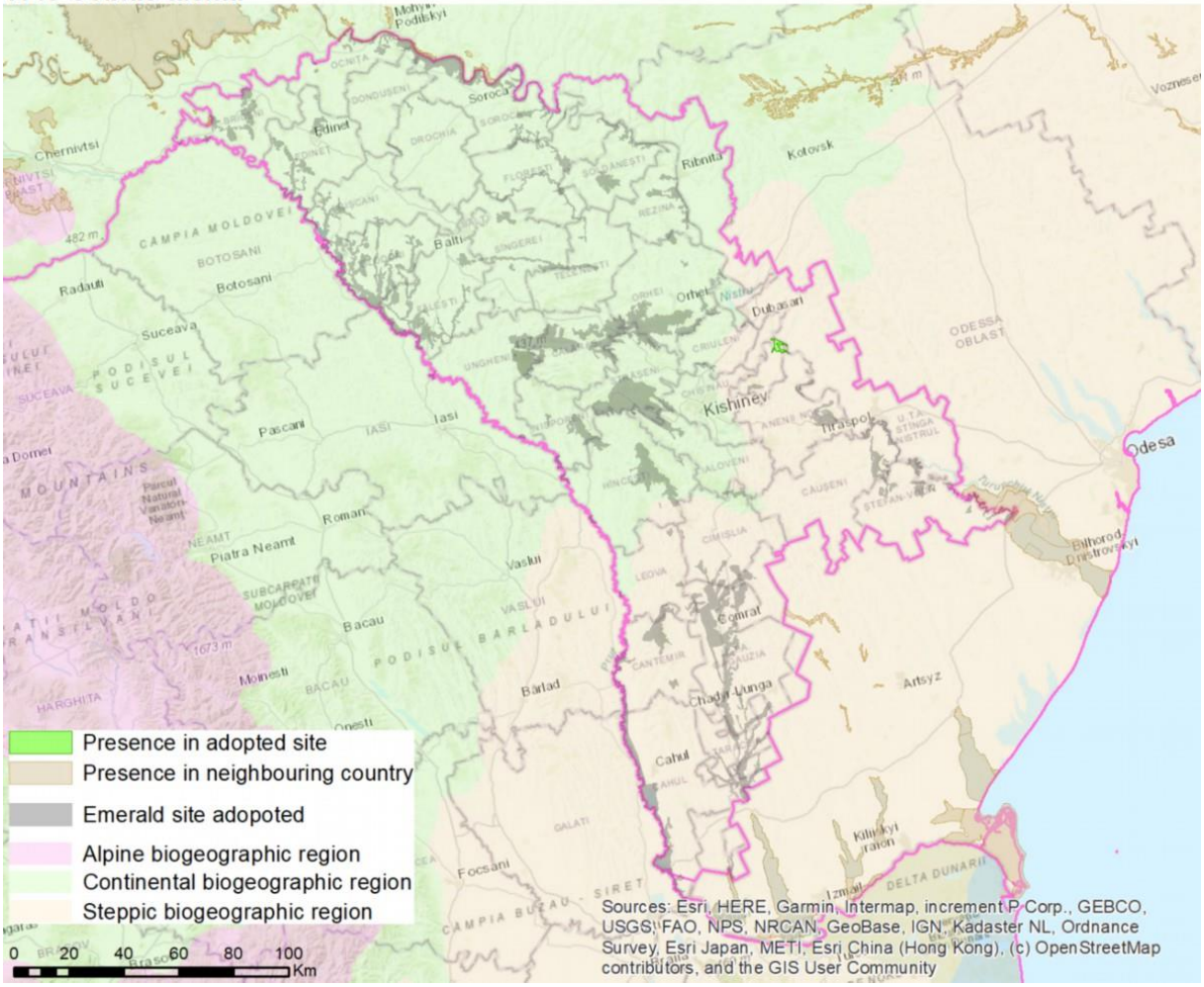
BGR	1146 *Sabanejewia aurata*	
STE	Number of sites:	3 (B:1, C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN center
	Recommendation 2025:	**Resolve the taxonomic problem. Add sites with occurrence of *S. bulgarica* in the lower Prut, *S. balkanica* in the lower and middle Prut, and *S. baltica* in the Dniester River. A population assessment is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	It is possible that some or all of Moldova's populations belong to *S. baltica*. Literature records are only from the Prut and Dniester Rivers; whether it occurs in the central part is questionable, and data are lacking.
	Comments from local experts:	Taxonomic problem. *S. bulgarica* occurs in the lower Prut, *S. balkanica* in the lower and middle Prut, and *S. baltica* in the Dniester River. The species does not occur in the center of the STE zone. A population assessment is needed.
	References:	Vasil'eva and Vasil'ev 2023

1146 Sabanejewia aurata



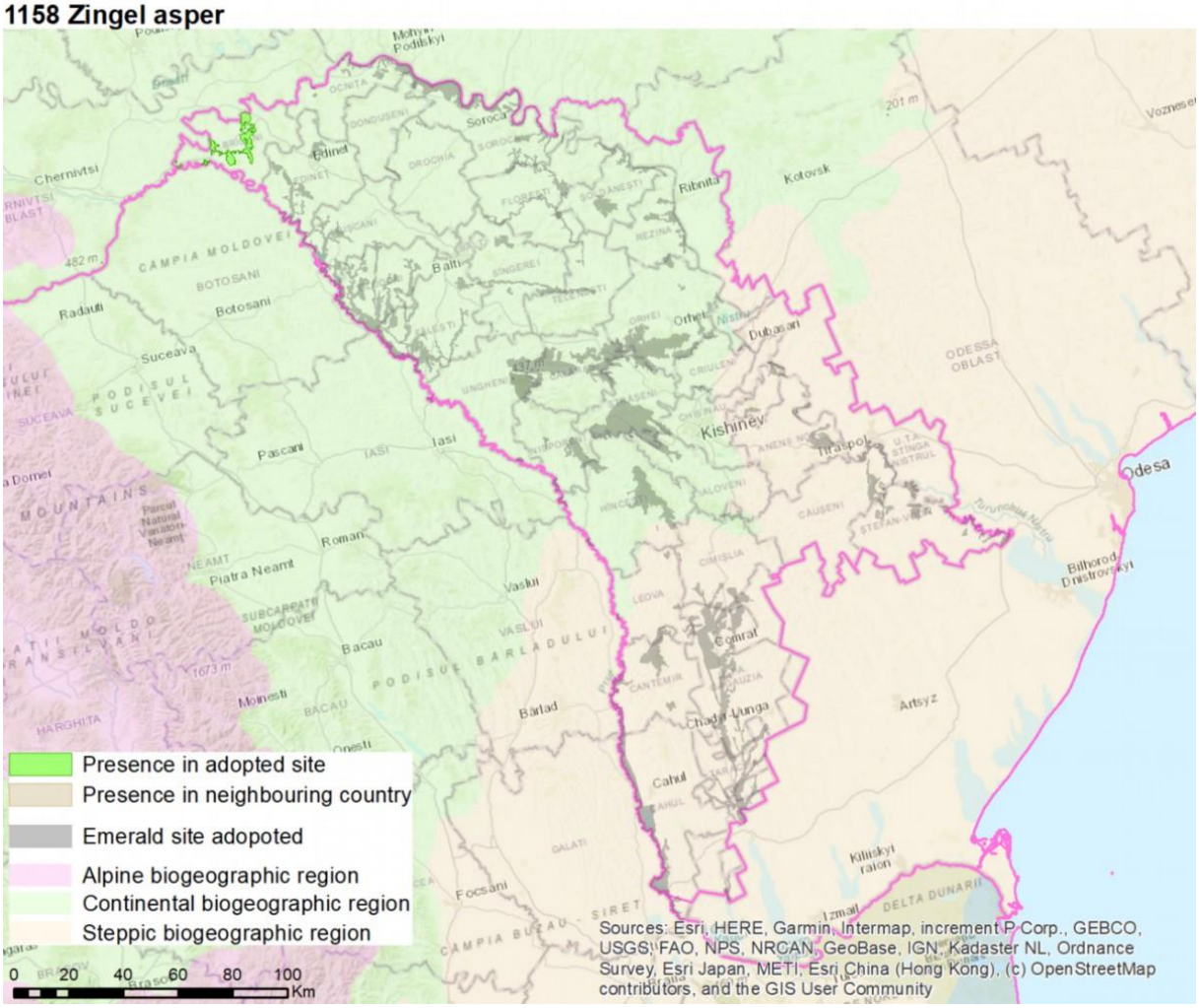
BGR	**1149 *Cobitis taenia***	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD 3 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites with documented occurrence of the species.**
	Comments from external experts:	Due to the occurrence in the Prut River, a possible occurrence in 1 adopted site (MD0000012 Lacurile Prutului de Jos) is to be confirmed.
	Comments from local experts:	Taxonomic problem due to hybridization. In Prut River more *C. elangatoides*; in Dnestesr, *C. tanaeitca*. *C taenia* abundance is low. In general, *Cobitis* is present in many locations
	References:	Bănărescu and Bănăduc 2007
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites with documented occurrence of the species.**
	Comments from external experts:	Occurrence in the Prut River (and Stânca-Costeşti reservoir). Add to the adopted site (MD0000011 Prutul de Mijloc).
	Comments from local experts:	In general, *Cobitis* is present in many locations. Complex of the species *C. taenia censulata*
	References:	Bănărescu and Bănăduc 2007; Bulat et al. 2016

1149 Cobitis taenia



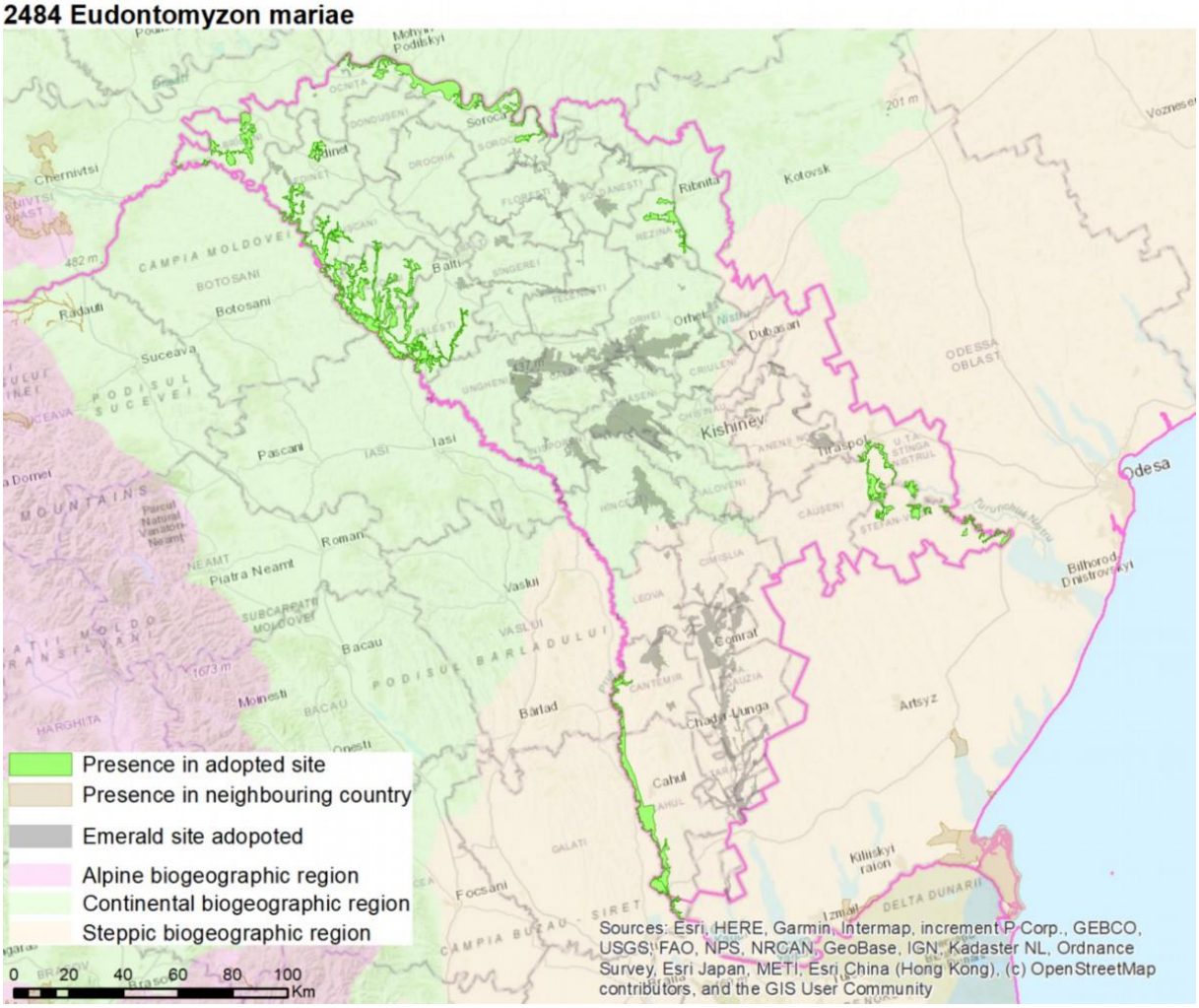
BGR	1158 *Zingel asper*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR: Check the record and evidence.
	Recommendation 2025:	**The species should be removed from the reference list, as it does not occur in MD.**
	Comments from external experts:	The last biogeographical seminar on fishes took place on June 18–19, 2019, where five species were considered IN MIN and two IN MOD. Based on recent developments and taxonomy changes, some species are recommended to be excluded, such as *Barbus meridionalis*, which needs to be replaced with *Barbus petenyi*. Additionally, it was stated that *Zingel asper* is not found on the territory of Moldova and must be excluded. The distribution of the species does not indicate that it may occur naturally in Moldova (GBIF).
	Comments from local experts:	Species does not exist in MD. Exclude from the REF list and delete from the database.
	References:	https://www.eu4environment.org/app/uploads/2024/06/Legal-and-Institutional-Framework-Assessment-Emerald-Species-and-Habitats.pdf; Global Biodiversity Information Facility

1158 Zingel asper



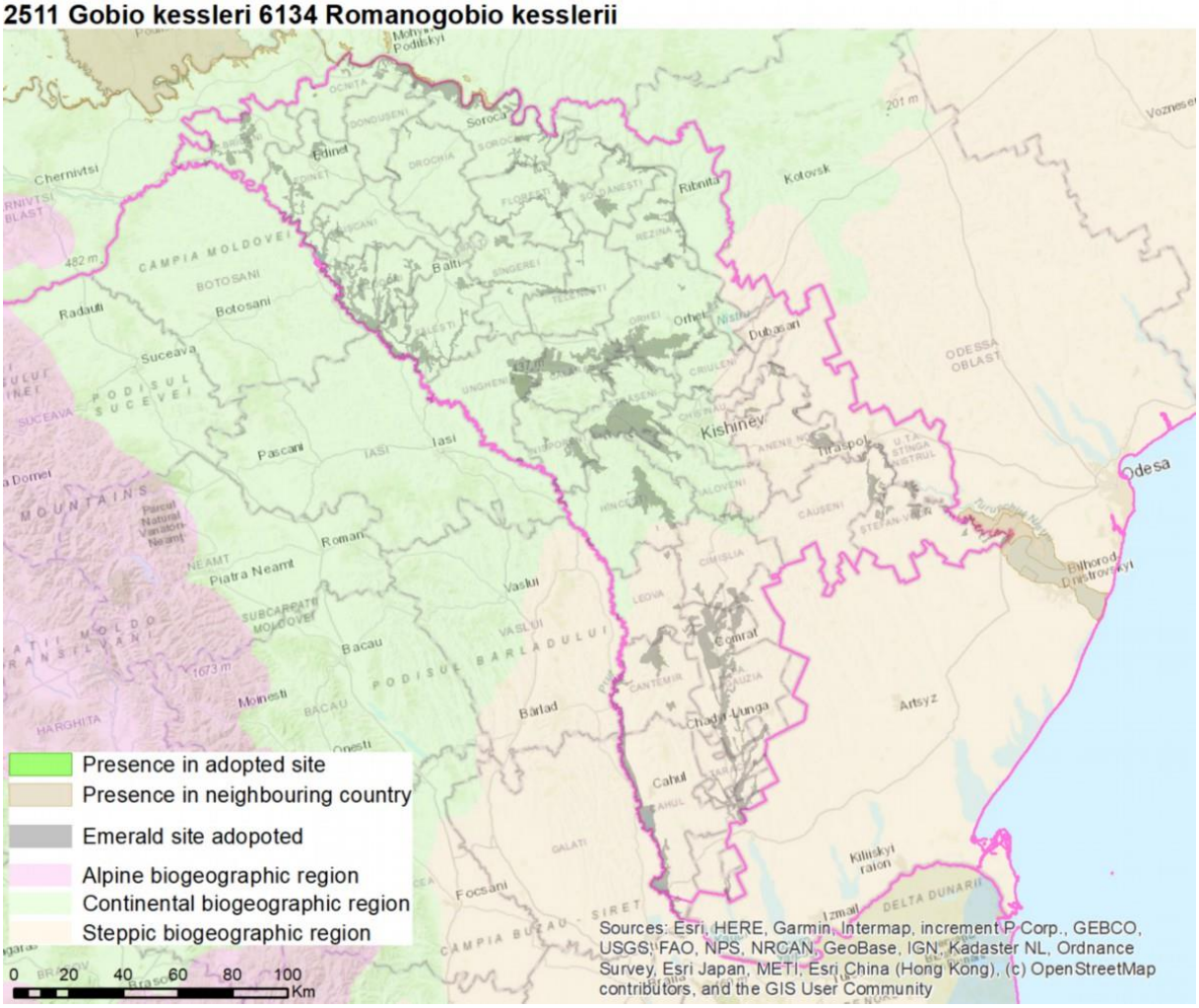
BGR	2484 *Eudontomyzon mariae*	
STE	Number of sites:	3 (C:3)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Additional research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	Rivers of the basins of the Baltic, Black, Azov, Adriatic, Aegean Seas; mountain tributaries of the upper part of it; and the lower reaches of the Dniester River. In the PMR, it is rarely found below the dam of the Dubossary hydroelectric power station.
	Comments from local experts:	Keep SR
	References:	Bulat et al. 2024; Kovali 2020; Levin and Holcik 2006; Duca et al. 2015;Duca et al. 2015

2484 Eudontomyzon mariae



BGR	**2511 *Gobio kessleri* 6134 *Romanogobio kesslerii***	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/CD central part
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add sites in the lower Dniester and lower Prut Rivers.**
	Comments from external experts:	Literature records are only from the Prut and Dniester Rivers; it is questionable whether it occurs in the central part, as data are lacking.
	Comments from local experts:	Present in the lower Dniester and lower Prut Rivers. Does not occur at other sites.
	References:	Bulat et al. 2024

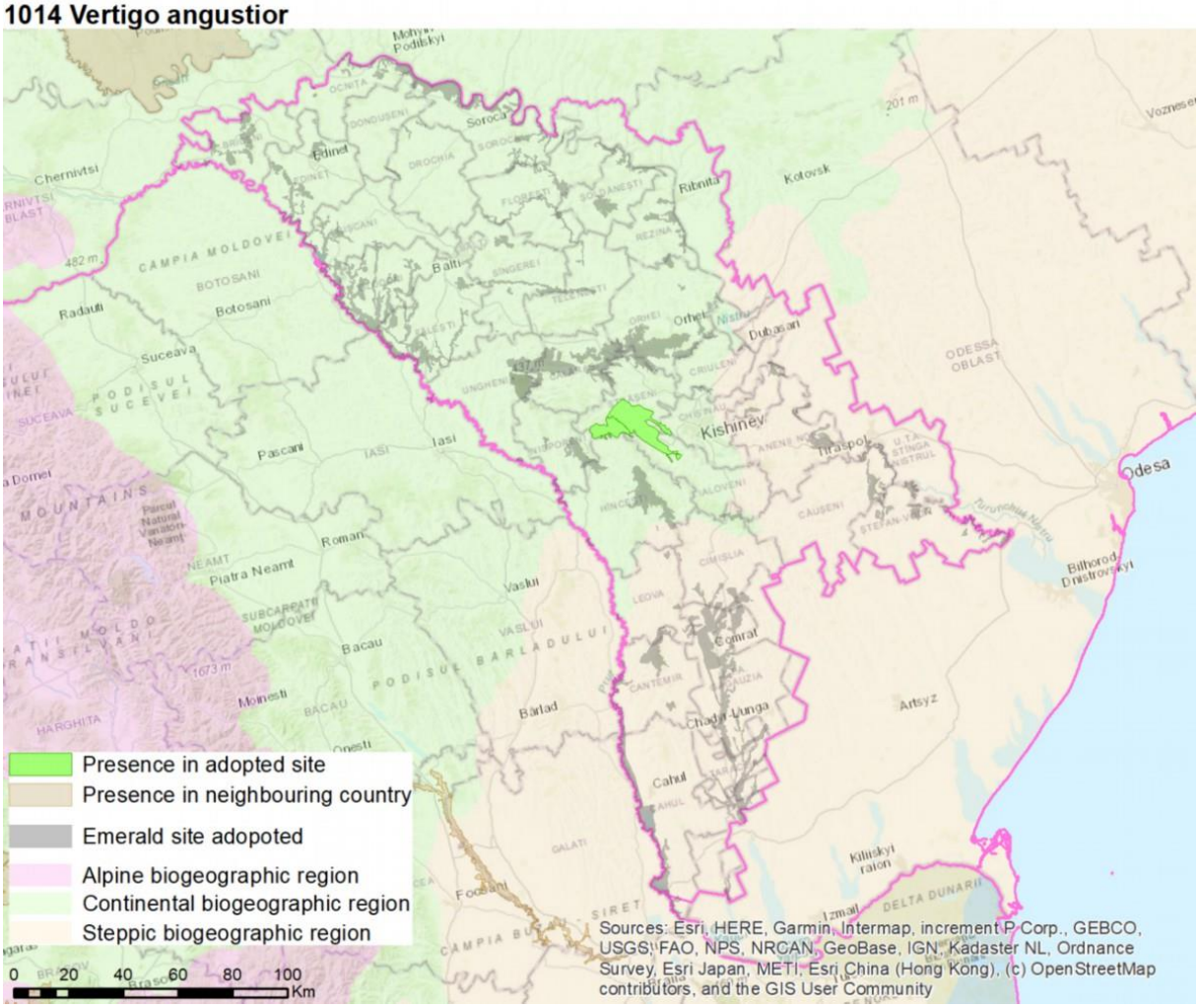
2511 Gobio kessleri 6134 Romanogobio kesslerii



Invertebrates

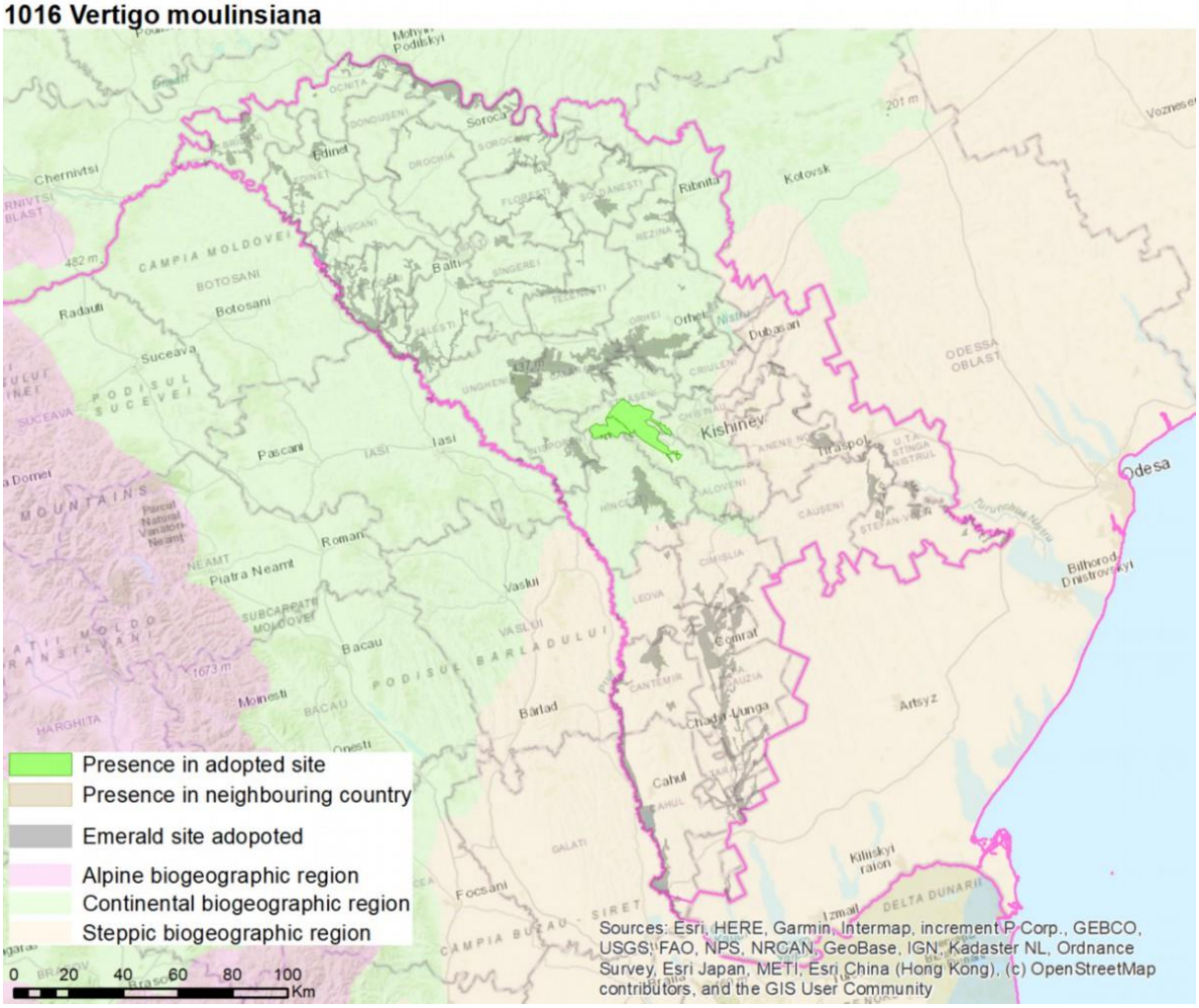
BGR	**1014 *Vertigo angustior***	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the REF list and from the database.**
	Comments from external experts:	The species is listed in Moldova's checklist without the location of its records. Additional research is needed.
	Comments from local experts:	Does not exist in MD because it is a species of wet meadows; exclude from the REF list and from the database.
	Reference:	Balashov et al. 2013

1014 Vertigo angustior



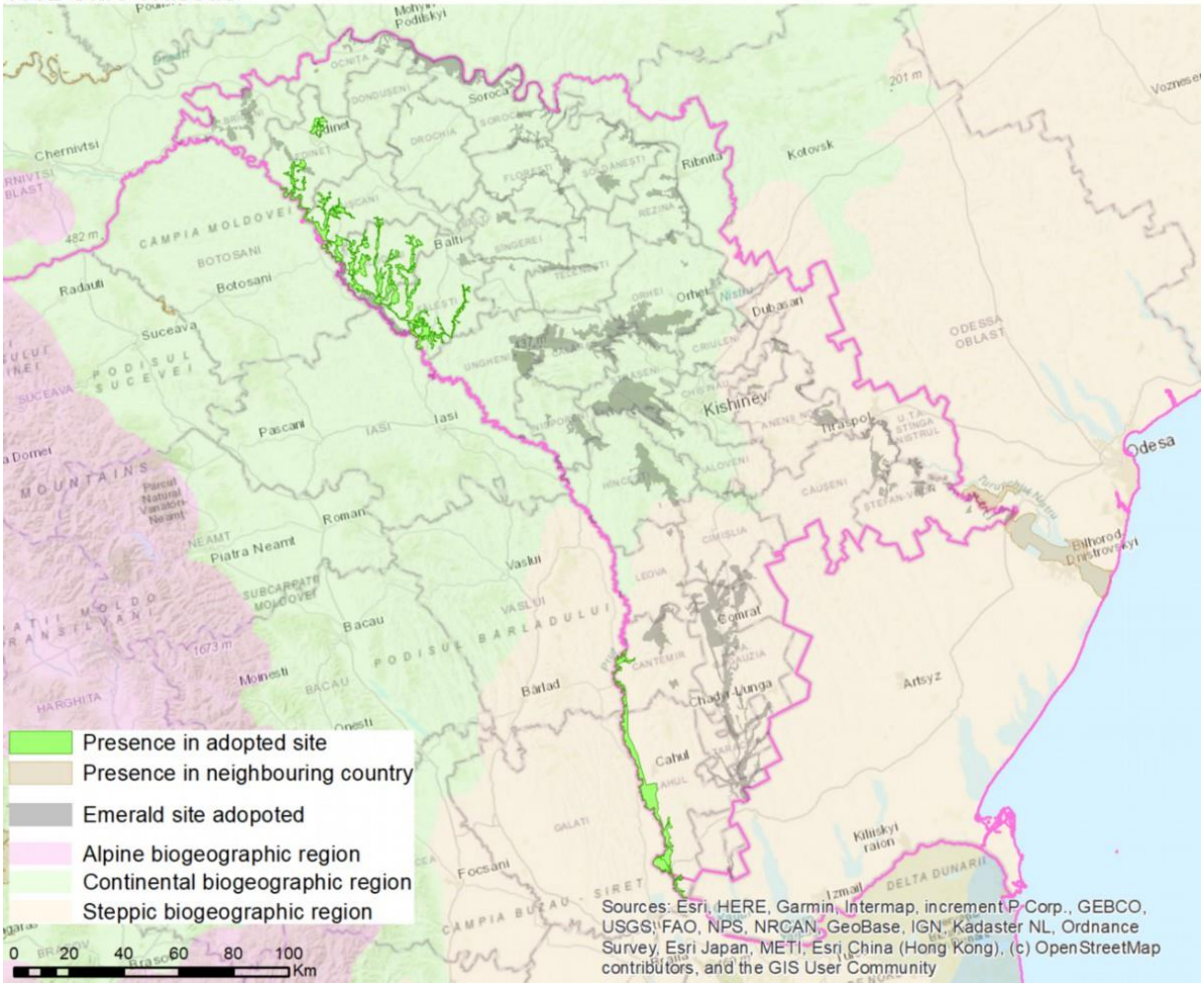
BGR	1016 *Vertigo moulinsiana*	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (C:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the REF list and from database.**
	Comments from external experts:	The known occurrence in Moldova is limited to a single location. Further research on the species is necessary.
	Comments from local experts:	Does not exist in MD because it is a species of wet meadows; exclude from the REF list and from the database.
	Reference:	Balashov et al. 2013

1016 Vertigo moulinsiana



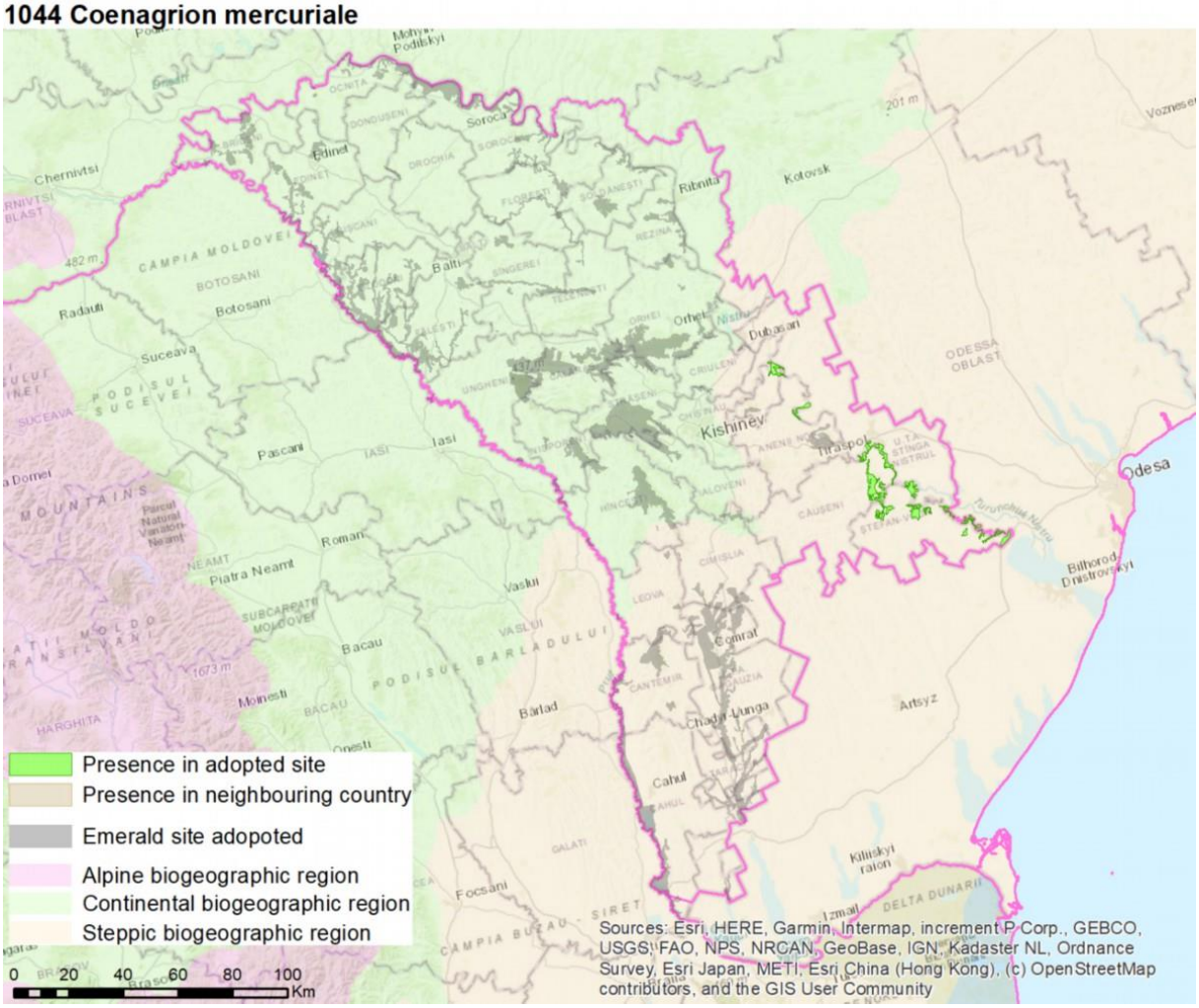
BGR	1032 *Unio crassus*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/IN MIN
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to the site(s) on the Prut River. Check for new information.**
	Comments from external experts:	The river clam has been identified at present only at a few locations on the Prut River: Prut Lower Meadow National Park and Siret's everglades in the Bucecea area, this species being characteristic of biotopes of slow-flowing and clean water. Unio crassus is threatened by a reduction in the number of populations (among species of aquatic invertebrates, it is one of the few that has low economic interest, being consumed by locals) and by a reduction in suitable biotopes through pollution or habitat destruction from excavation work for schematization of the course of the river. Conclusion remains.
	Comments from local experts:	New information is available; additional two sites on the Prut River.
	Reference:	Popescu and Ana 2009

1032 Unio crassus



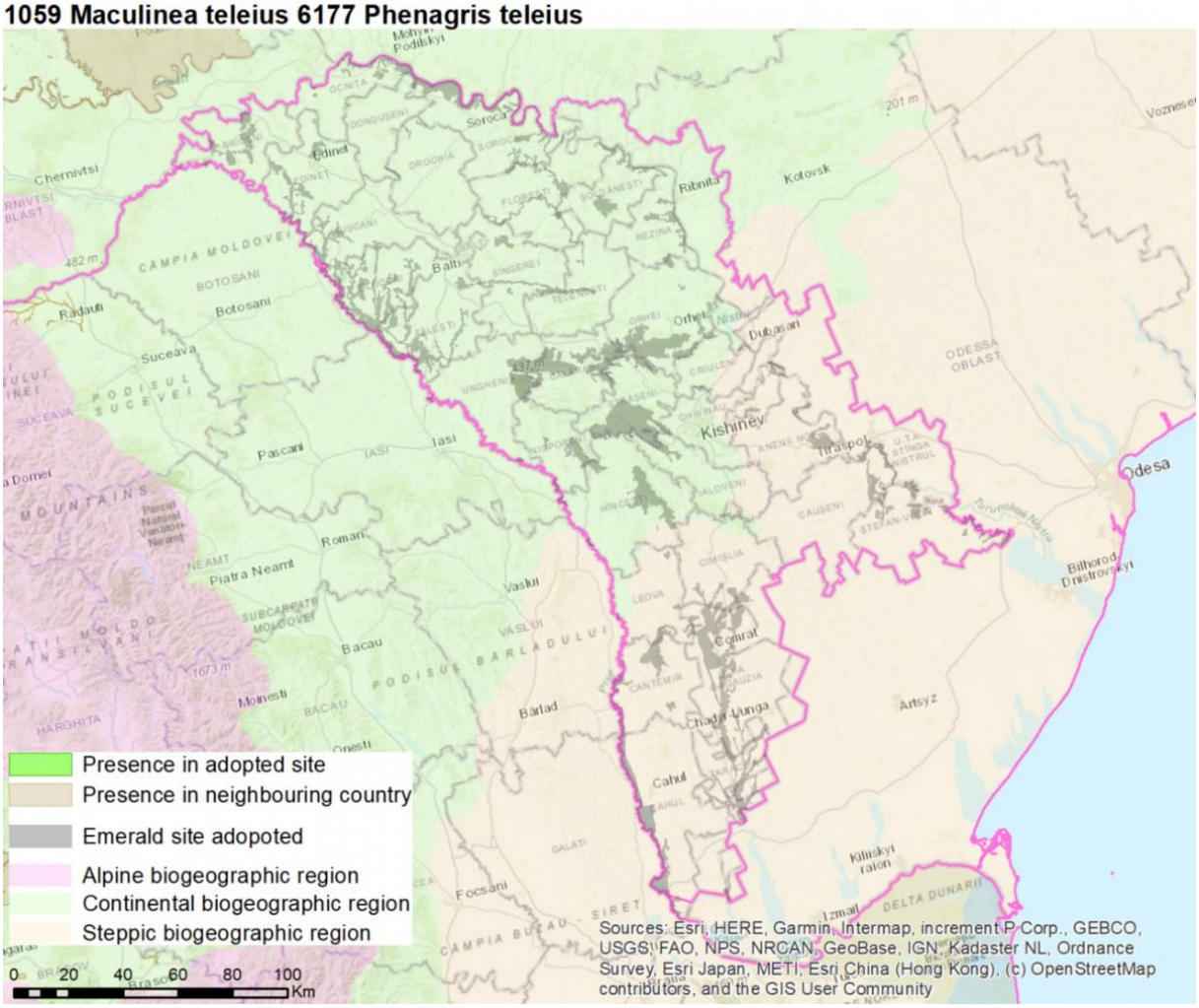
BGR	1044 *Coenagrion mercurial*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the REF list and delete from the database.**
	Comments from external experts:	This species was mentioned in several publications, but these records could not be used for mapping as nothing is known about their date and locality. The species was listed in the Red Book in 2001, but it is not listed in the current Red Book from 2015.
	Comments from local experts:	Species does not exist in MD. Exclude from the REF list and delete from the database (reference: Checklist of Moldova).
	Reference:	Dyatlova 2023

1044 Coenagrion mercuriale



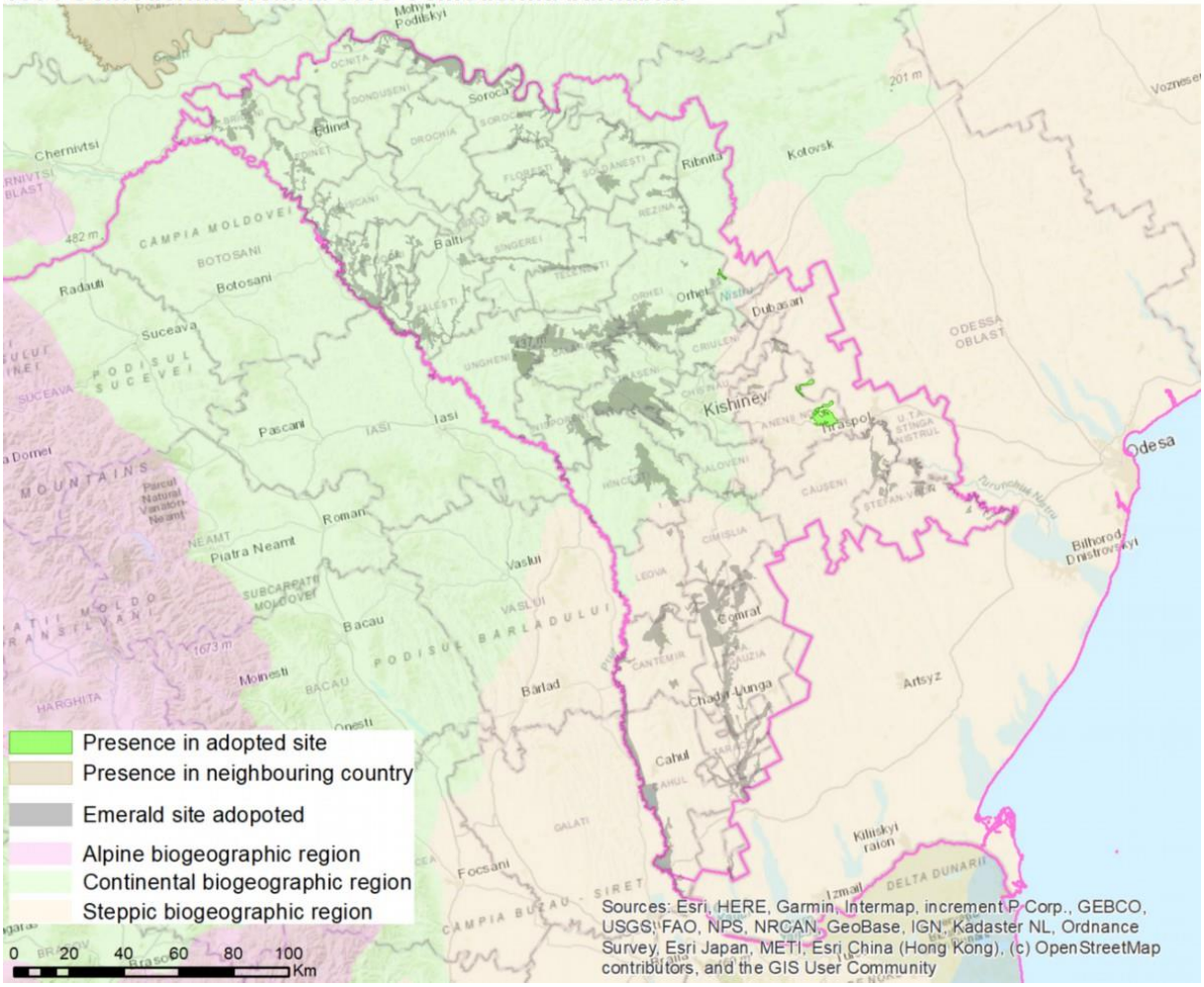
BGR	1059 *Maculinea teleius* 6177 *Phenagris teleius*	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	Additional research is needed.
	Recommendation 2025:	**Exclude from the REF list and delete from the database.**
	Comments from external experts:	The presence of the species was not confirmed.
	Comments from local experts:	Presence in MD was not confirmed. Exclude from the REF list.
	References:	n/a

1059 Maculinea teleius 6177 Phenagris teleius



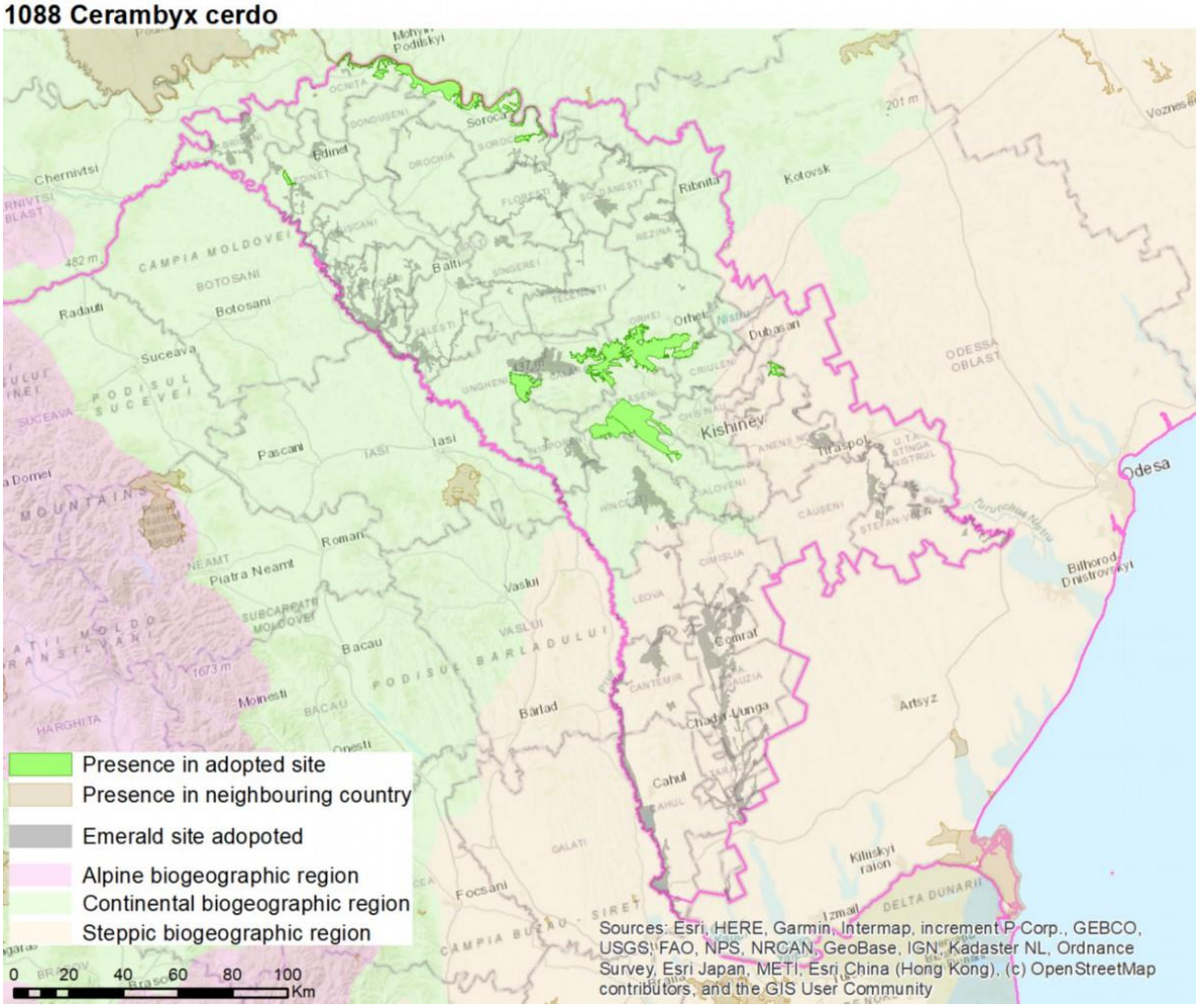
BGR	1084 *Osmoderma eremita* 5378 *Osmoderma barnabita*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Additional research is needed. Used species name and code: 5378 O. barnabita**
	Comments from external experts:	Not detected for more than 100 years. No site in the MD/CON. In Moldova, *O. eremita* was regarded as critically endangered (CR). We know only one specimen from Moldova, collected near Bender, in eastern Moldova, in 1917—located in the STE zone. In the eastern EU, only *O. barnabita* lives; this species is recommended for use. Although *O. eremita* has not been recorded from the MD CON zone, this region lies within its potential distribution area; therefore, its occurrence there remains possible. Additional research is needed (SR REF).
	Comments from local experts:	Keep SR REF
	Reference:	Ranius et al. 2005
STE	Number of sites:	2 (B:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD/CD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to site MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos, in the vicinity of Bender, Kuts Island.**
	Comments from external experts:	In Moldova, the species was recorded in the vicinity of Bender. In the PMR, it was discovered in 2018 in a ribbon floodplain forest near Nezavertailovka ('Kuts Island').
	Comments from local experts:	New locality in the lower Dniester region, site MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos
	References:	Kovali 2020; Мараре скул 2020; Duca et al. 2015; Ranius et al. 2005

1084 Osmoderma eremita 5378 Osmoderma barnabita



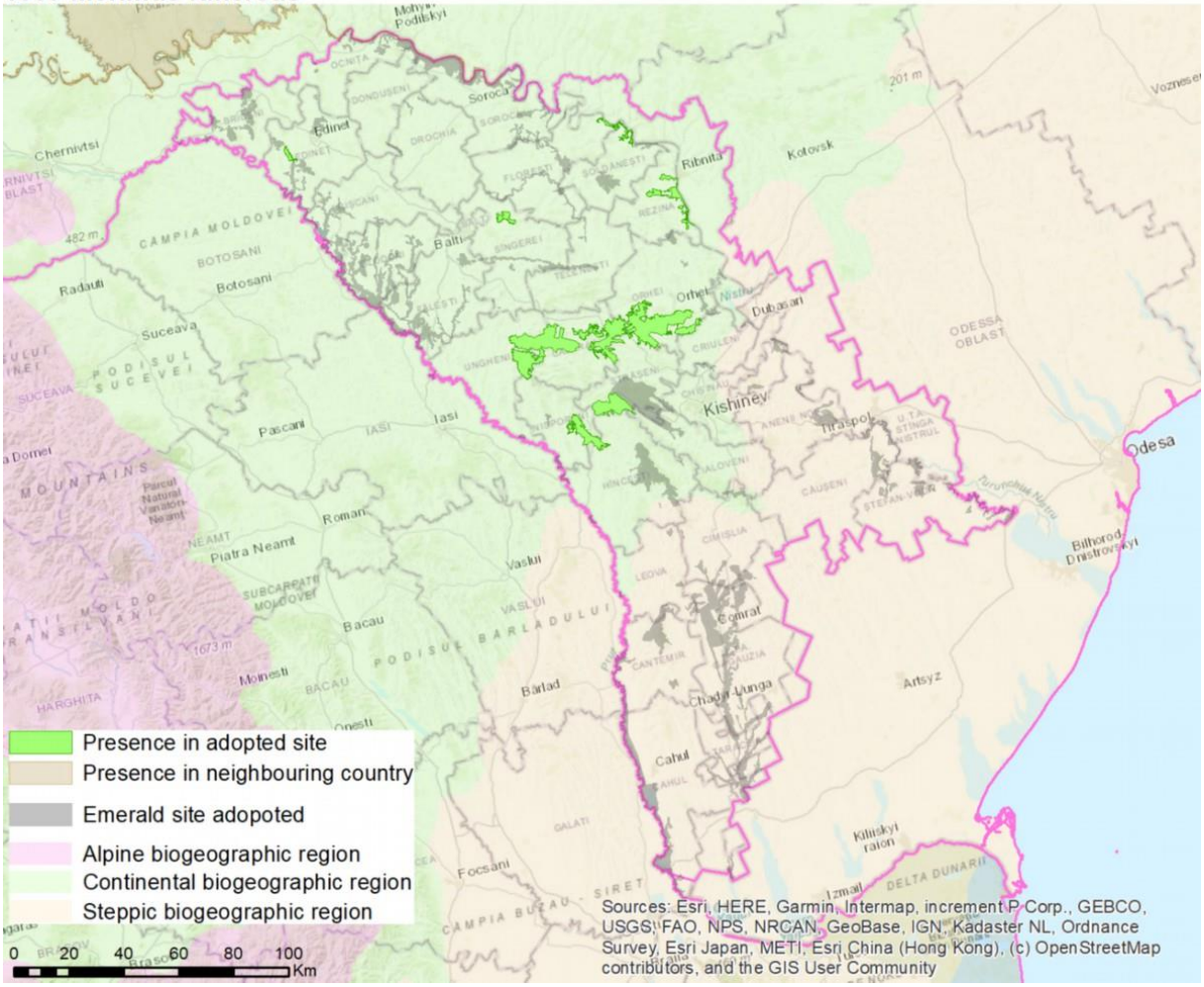
BGR	1088 *Cerambyx cerdo*	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	**SR REF; survey the Transnistria region, Kamensky and Rybnitsa regions.**
	Recommendation 2025:	Add to site(s), for example, in the Kamensky and Rybnitsa regions.
	Comments from external experts:	In the PMR, the species is found in areas with natural oak forests or oak plantations, including populated areas. It occurs relatively more frequently in the forests of the Kamensky and Rybnitsa regions.
	Comments from local experts:	Information is outdated; keep SR REF and check the Transnistria region.
	References:	Kovali 2020; Duca et al. 2015;

1088 Cerambyx cerdo



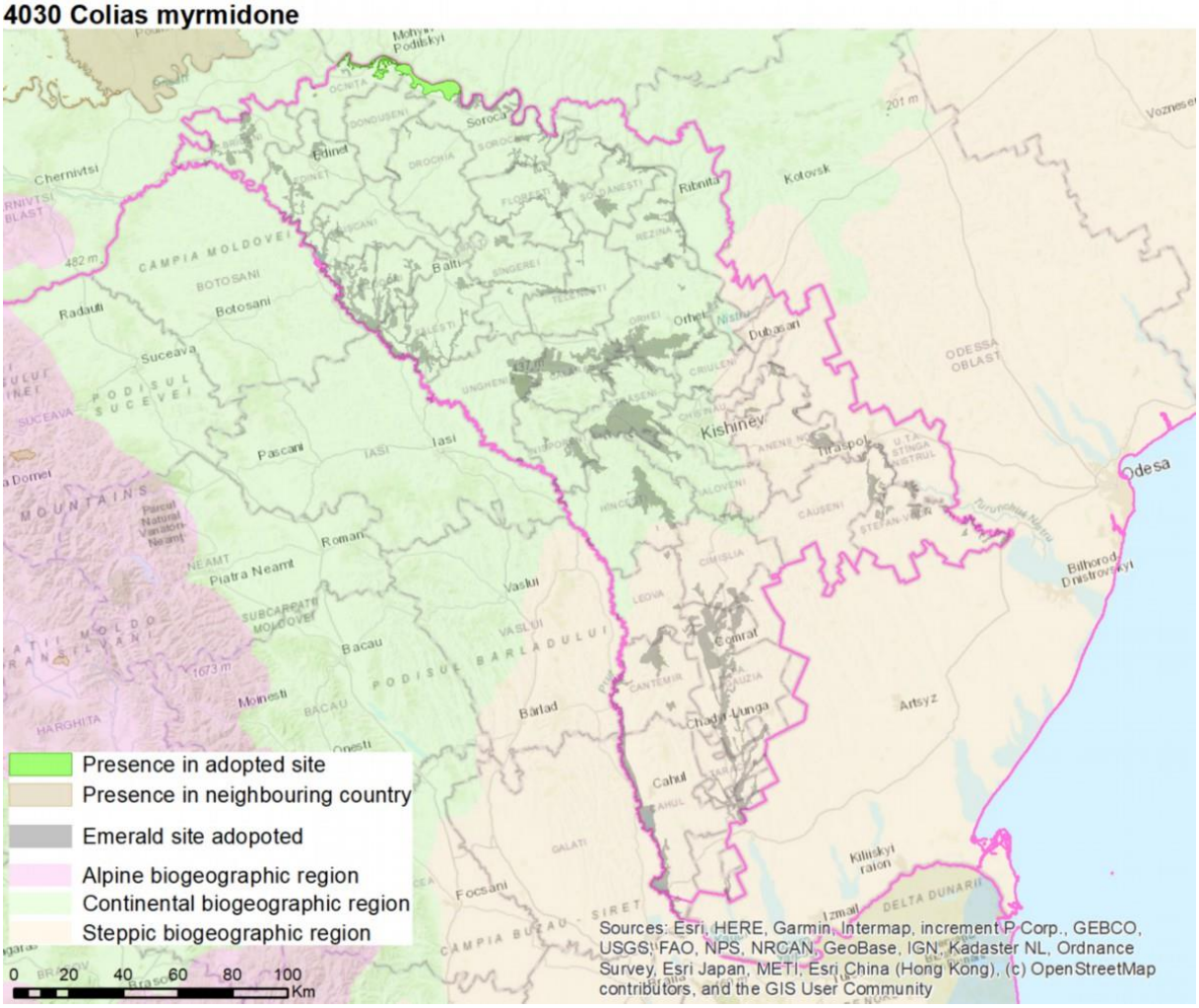
BGR	1089 *Morimus funereus*	
CON	Number of sites:	9 (B:4, C:5)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD 3 sites
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add to site(s)**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	3 new sites exist
	References:	n/a
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**SR REF; check Transnistria region**
	Comments from external experts:	Recorded in floodplain forests in the vicinity of Tiraspol
	Comments from local experts:	SR REF; check Transnistria region
	References:	Kovali 2020; Duca et al. 2015

1089 Morimus funereus



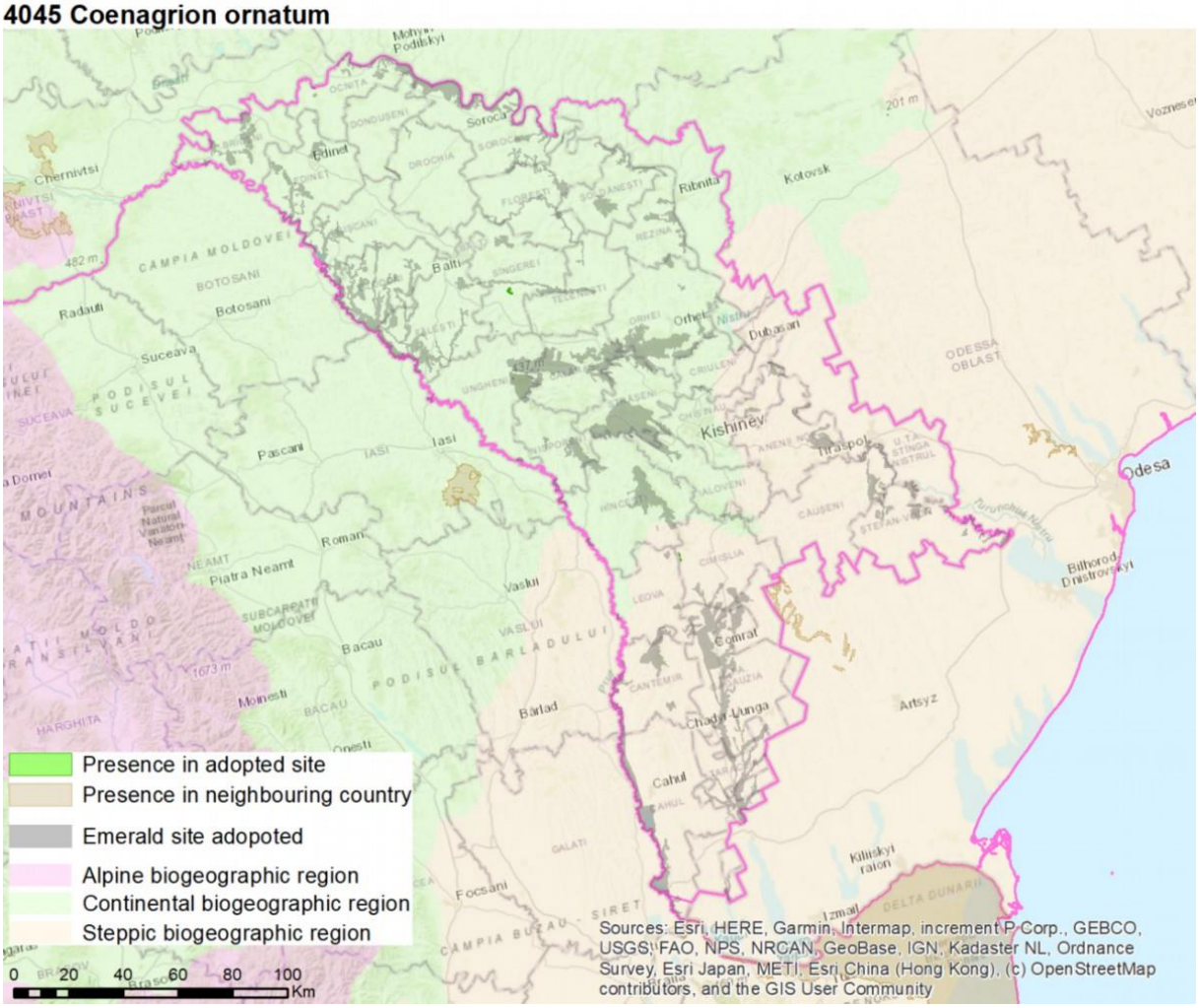
BGR	4030 *Colias myrmidone*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**The species probably does not occur in Moldova. Further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	*Colias myrmidone* is extinct in most European countries within its historic range, with only a few populations remaining in Poland, Slovakia, and Romania. In Romania, this butterfly inhabits traditional farming landscapes in Transylvania dominated by high nature value (HNV) grasslands. Are suitable habitats present in Moldova for this species? Moldova lies outside the species distribution range (Loos et al. 2001).
	Comments from local experts:	Keep SR
	Reference:	Loos et al. 2021

4030 Colias myrmidone



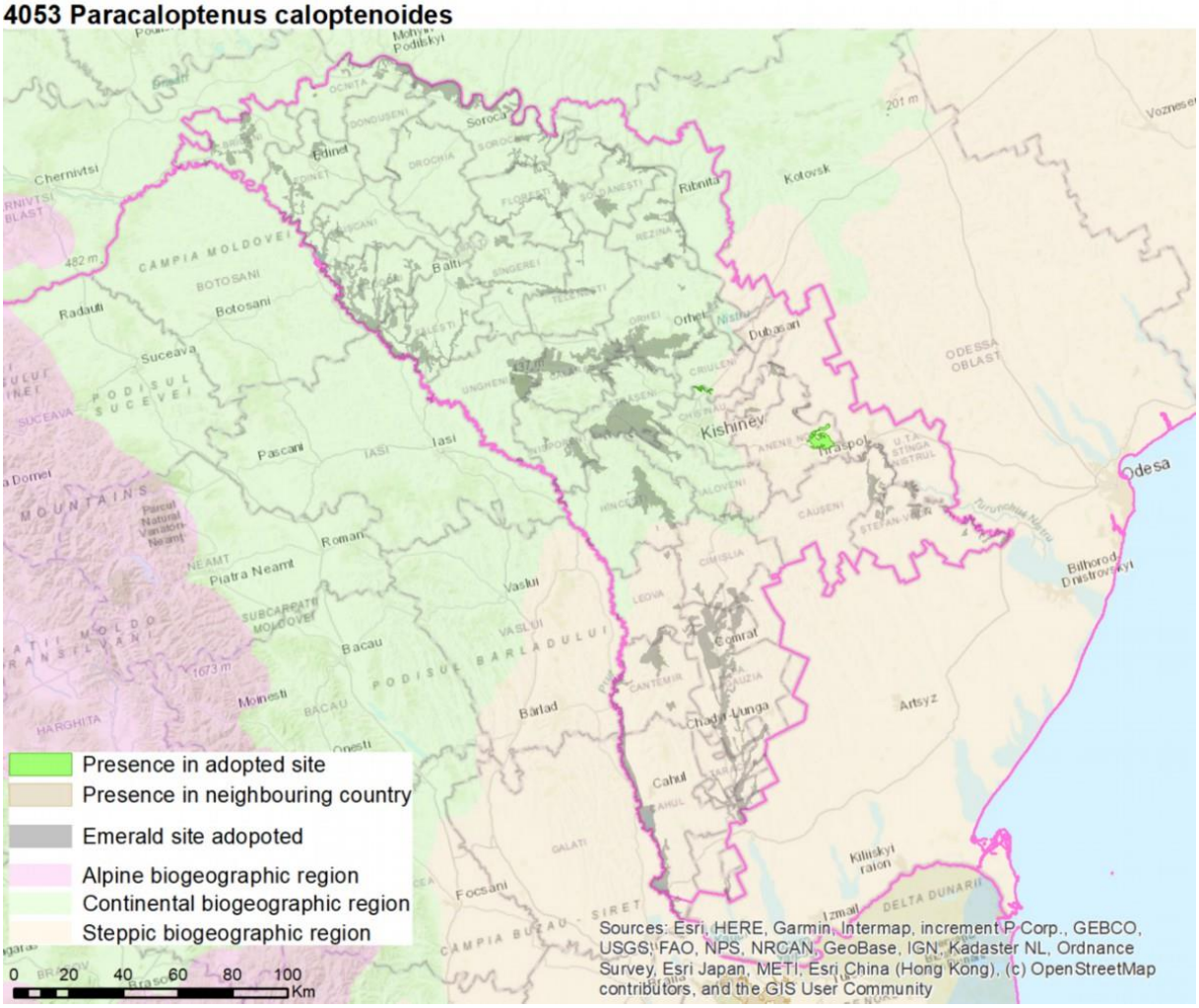
BGR	4045 Coenagrion *ornatum*	
STE	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Presence of the species: Lower Prut, one record from citizen science. Presence in the city of Cahul near the Prut River. Further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	The presence was detected at the locality 'Lower Prut', situated in the south-west of the Republic of Moldova near the border with Romania. There is also one record from citizen science (GBIF), close to the site MD0000019 Padurea Hincesti (46°42'00.000"N 28°30'00.000"E). The species is listed only in the 1C site. The localities presented for this species by Dyatlova (2010) are in the CON region but near the border with the STE zone. Additional research is needed.
	Comments from local experts:	New site in the city of Cahul near the Prut River. Keep SR
	References:	Dyatlova 2010; Galina and Oxana 2021; GBIF, accessed February 19, 2025, https://www.gbif.org/

4045 Coenagrion ornatum



BGR	4053 *Paracaloptenus caloptenoides*	
STE	Number of sites:	2 (B:2)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Check presence of the species in the central Moldavian Plateau. Further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	There is one record from the central Moldavian Plateau, but no other records.
	Comments from local experts:	Keep SR
	Reference:	Iorgu et al. 2008

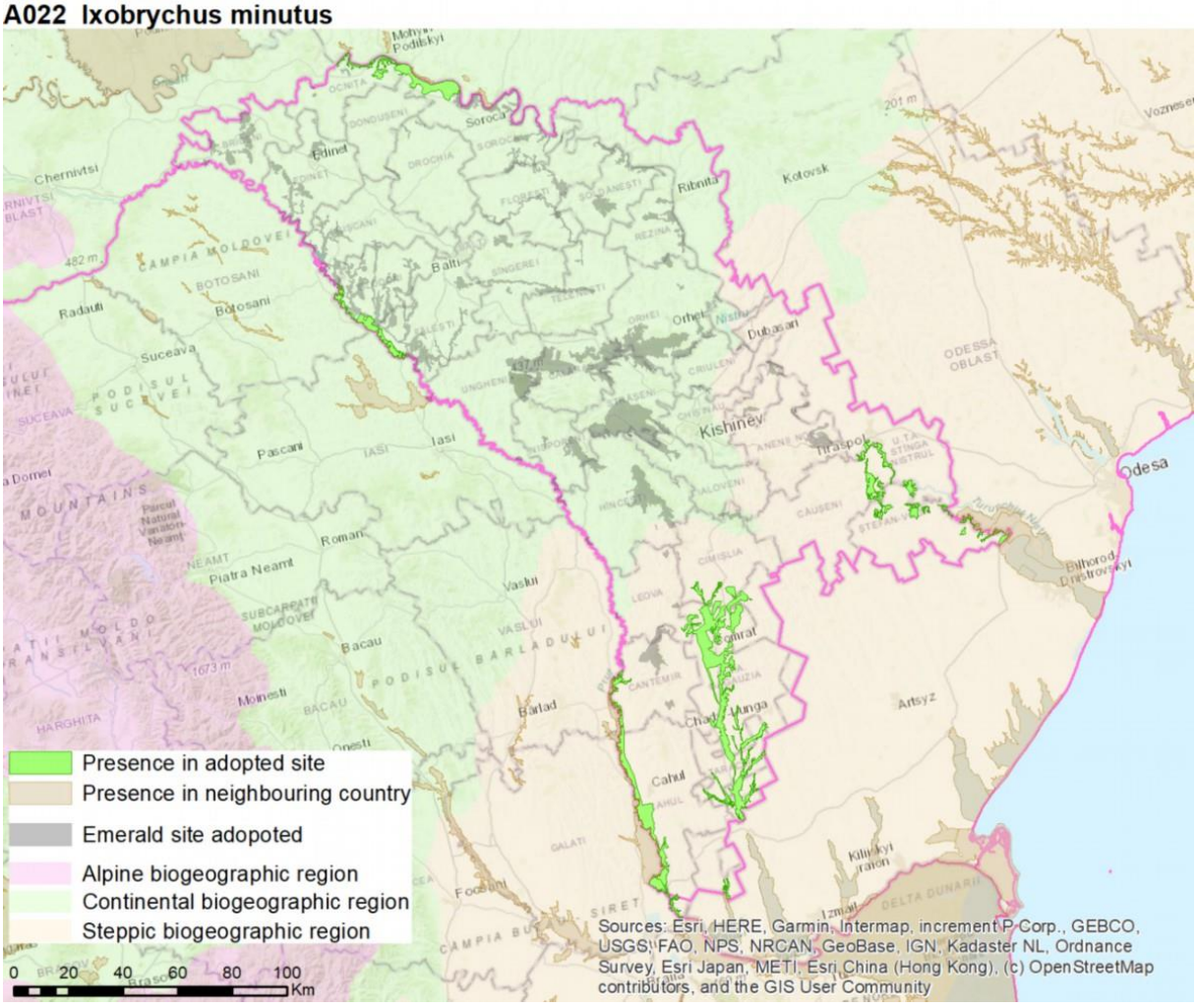
4053 Paracaloptenus caloptenoides



Birds

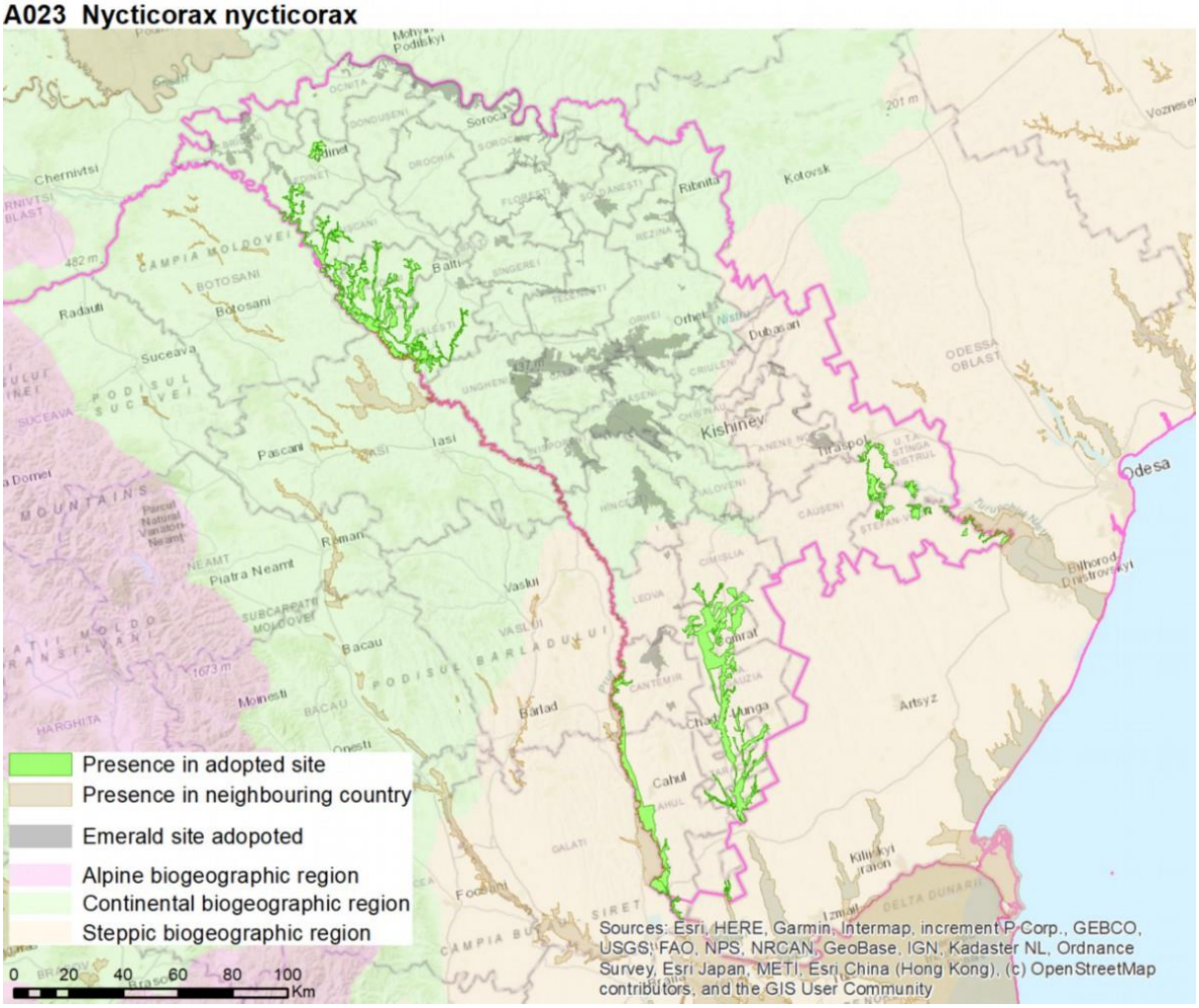
BGR	A022 *Ixobrychus minutus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	7 (B:2, C:5)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR Presence in the north
	Recommendation 2025:	**European Red List (ERL): (900–1,400 bp); Standard Data Form (SDF): r. The species is within the Continental Biogeographical Region on 2 sites and within steppic on 5 sites. According to EBBA2, the species is present throughout the country. According to databases, the species regularly occurs in suitable habitats in Moldova. There is a lack of sites for the species in the central part (Continental BR).**
	Comments from external experts:	SR is probably not resolved and should remain.
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A022 Ixobrychus minutus



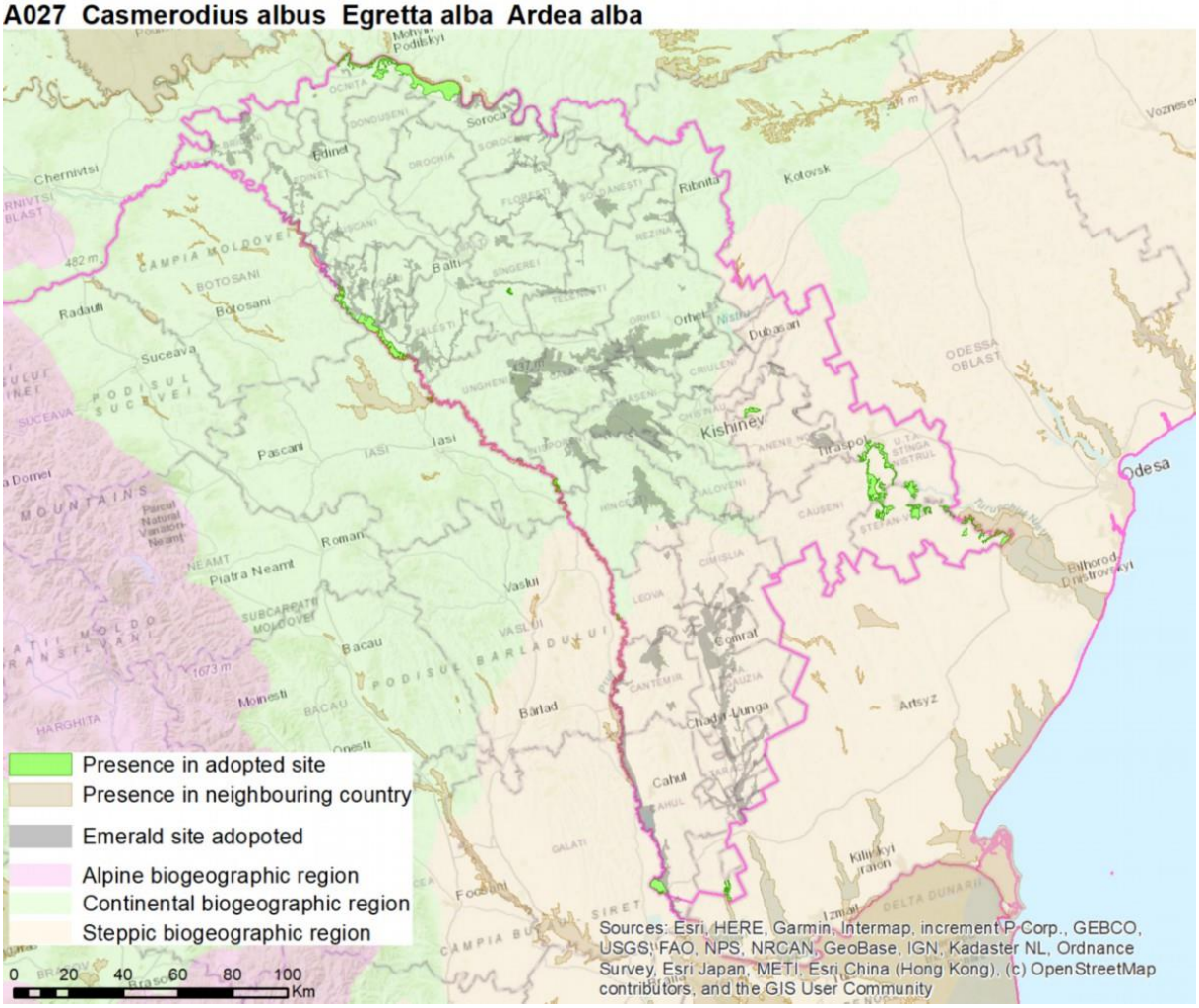
BGR	A023 *Nycticorax nycticorax*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	8 (A:3, B:3, C:2)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD one site (Gedigich)
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (700–1,500 bp); SDF: r = (286–527 p). Add new sites: Salas Lake (Padurea Hirboveti - MD0000018); Ghidighici Lake (Kishinev); Sipoteni Lake (approximately 1.5 km from Bahmut-Hirjauca to MD0000008)**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A023 Nycticorax nycticorax



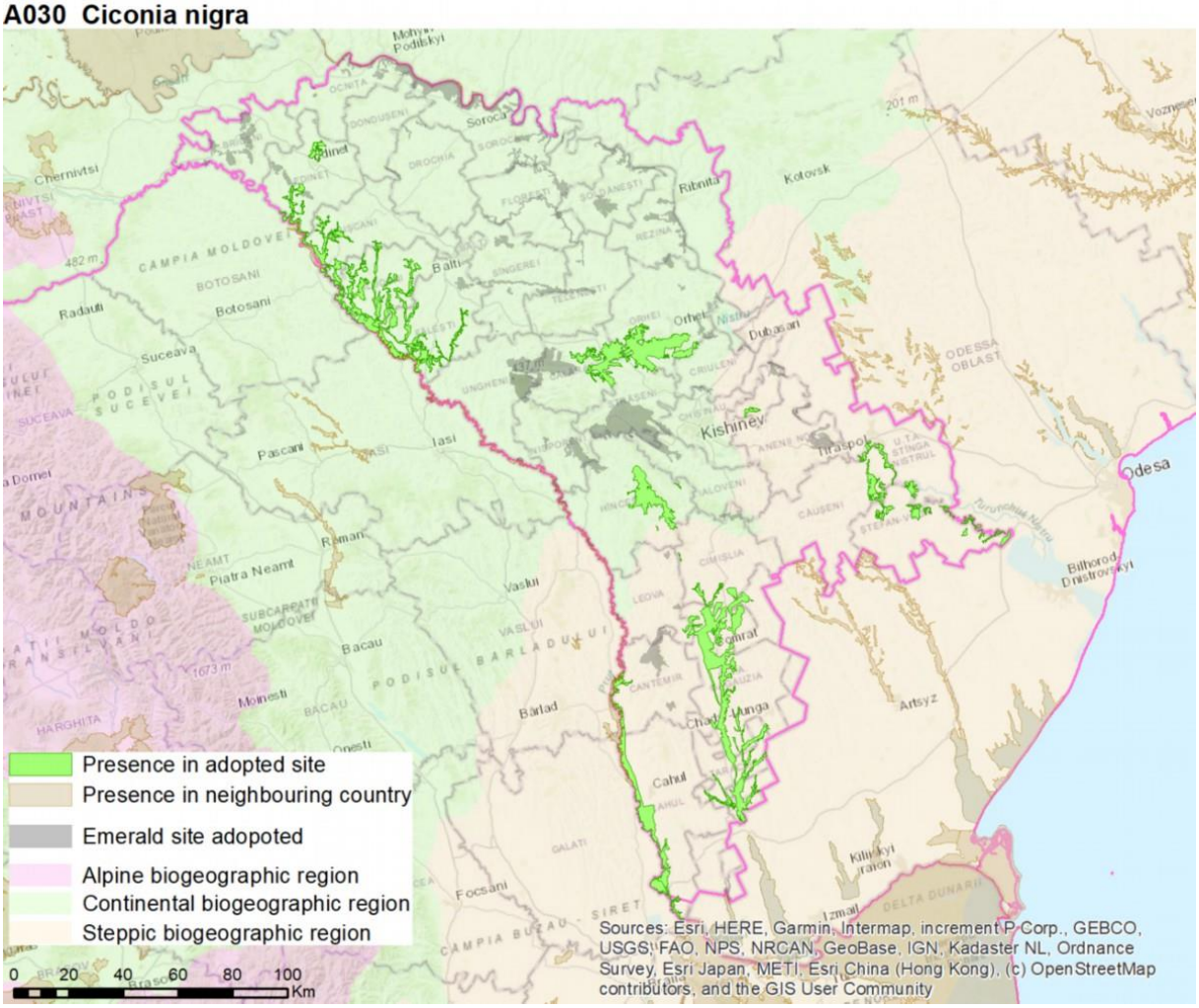
BGR	A027 *Casmerodius albus Egretta alba Ardea alba*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	10 (B:5, C:5)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD, one site in central Moldova
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (150–210 bp); SDF: r = (10–20 p), w = (70–120 i). According to EBBA2, the species is present throughout the country, but there are few sites for it in the central part. Add new sites: Ghidighici Lake (Kishinev); Salas Lake (Padurea Hirboveti - MD0000018); Iagorlîc Reserve?**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A027 Casmerodius albus Egretta alba Ardea alba



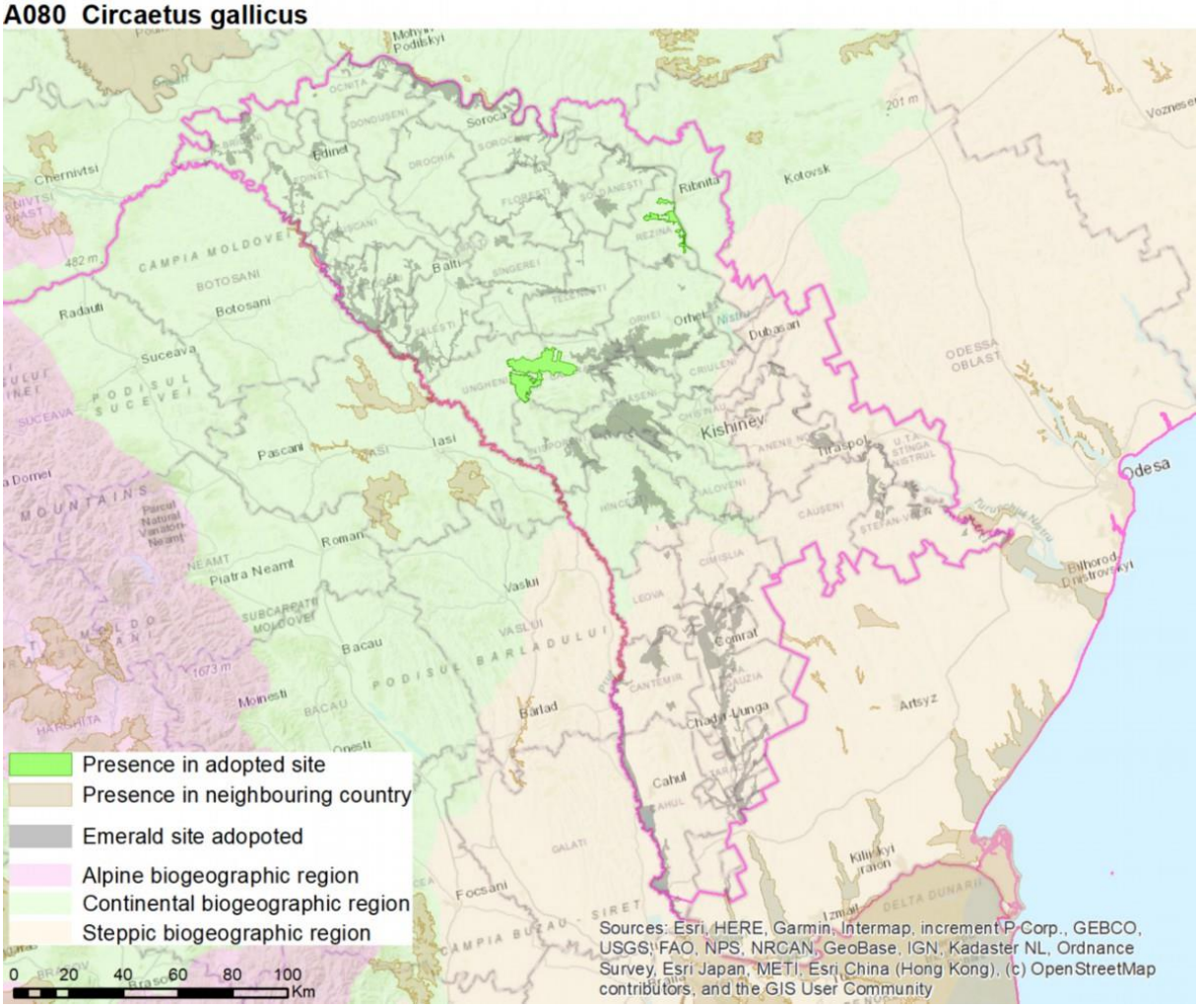
BGR	A030 *Ciconia nigra*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	10 (C:10)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR northeast
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (14–20 bp); SDF: r = (79–128 p) & (11–24 i). Add new sites (concentration): Cușmirca River near Climauti de Jos (MD0000021); Plaiul Fagului (MD0000003); Dancu-Prut (MD0000047); Platina Lake (Chișcăreni); Sipoteni Lake (1.5 km from Bahmut-Hirjauca - MD0000008); Langa River - Plop lakes; added to new proposed area MD0000062, Tețcani. Probably SUF?**
	Comments from external experts:	New proposed area MD0000062, Tețcani
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A030 Ciconia nigra



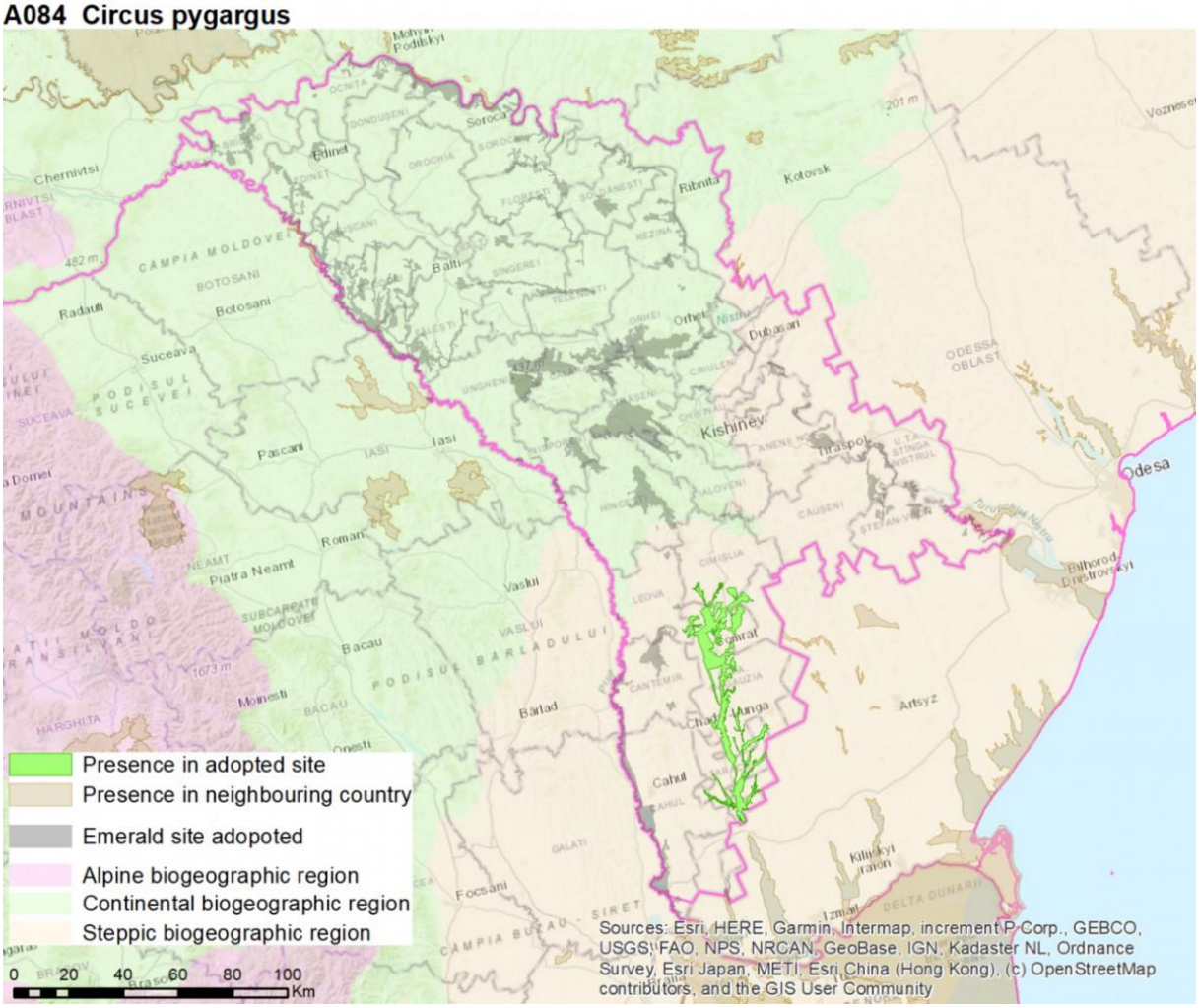
BGR	A080 *Circaetus gallicus*	
CON	Number of sites:	3 (B:2, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR Update distribution in the southern part
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (4–6 bp); SDF: w = (10–12 i). According to EBBA2, the species is designated as breeding in two 50-km squares in central MD. During migration, it is found in the valleys of the Nistru and Prut rivers. The designation of the wintering species in the SDF would probably be a mistake. (Migratory in Palearctic. Most migrants winter in tropical North Africa. Exceptional in winter in S Europe. Most leave Europe from mid-September to mid-October).**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A080 Circaetus gallicus



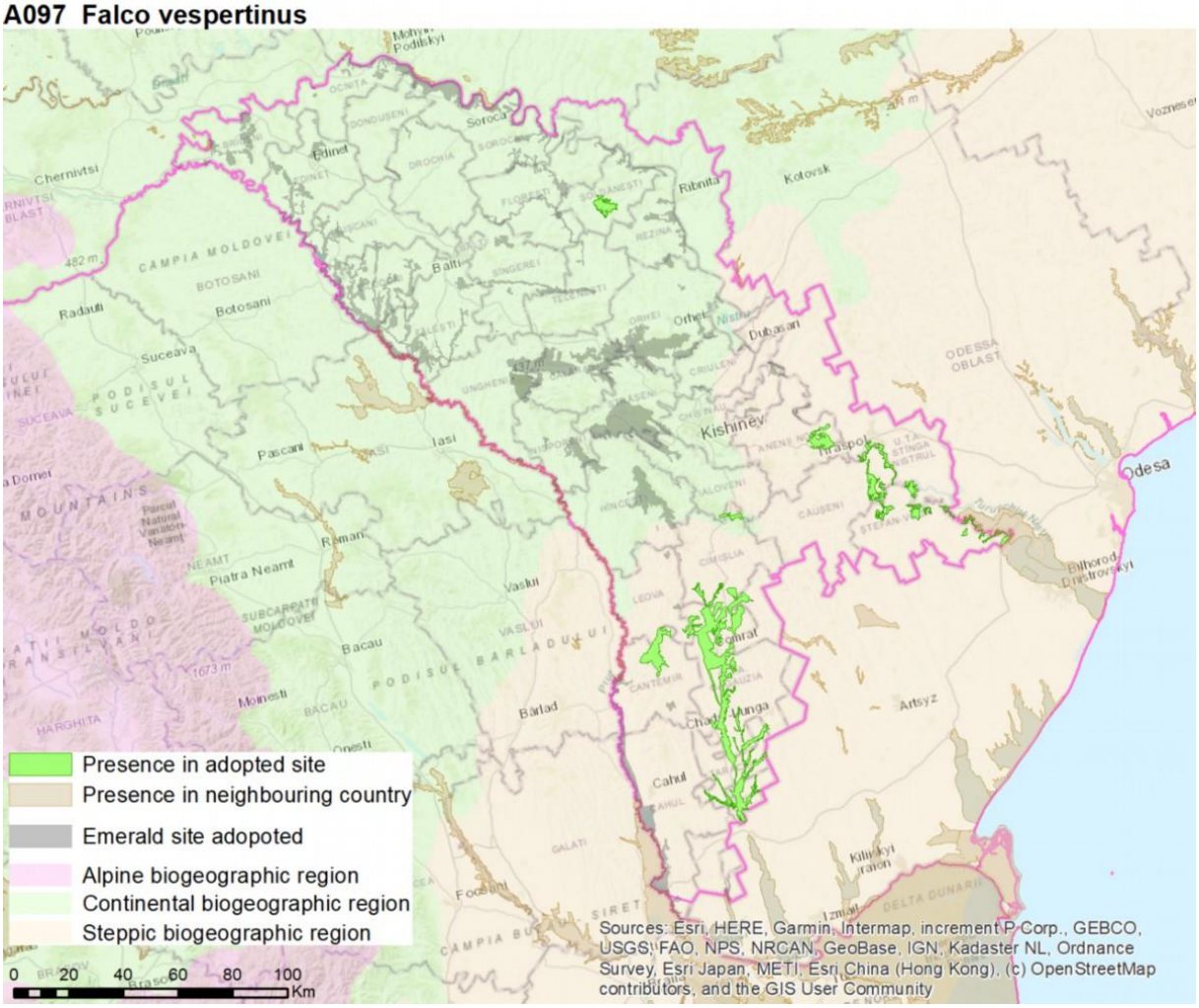
BGR	A084 *Circus pygargus*	
CON	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: <1 % EUR bp); SDF: w= (2–4 p). Species added to only 1 existing site. The databases contain records of the species at Lake Ucrainca-Chervone (S MD); Prutul de Jos (MD0000001)—Is this an irregular occurrence?**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A084 Circus pygargus



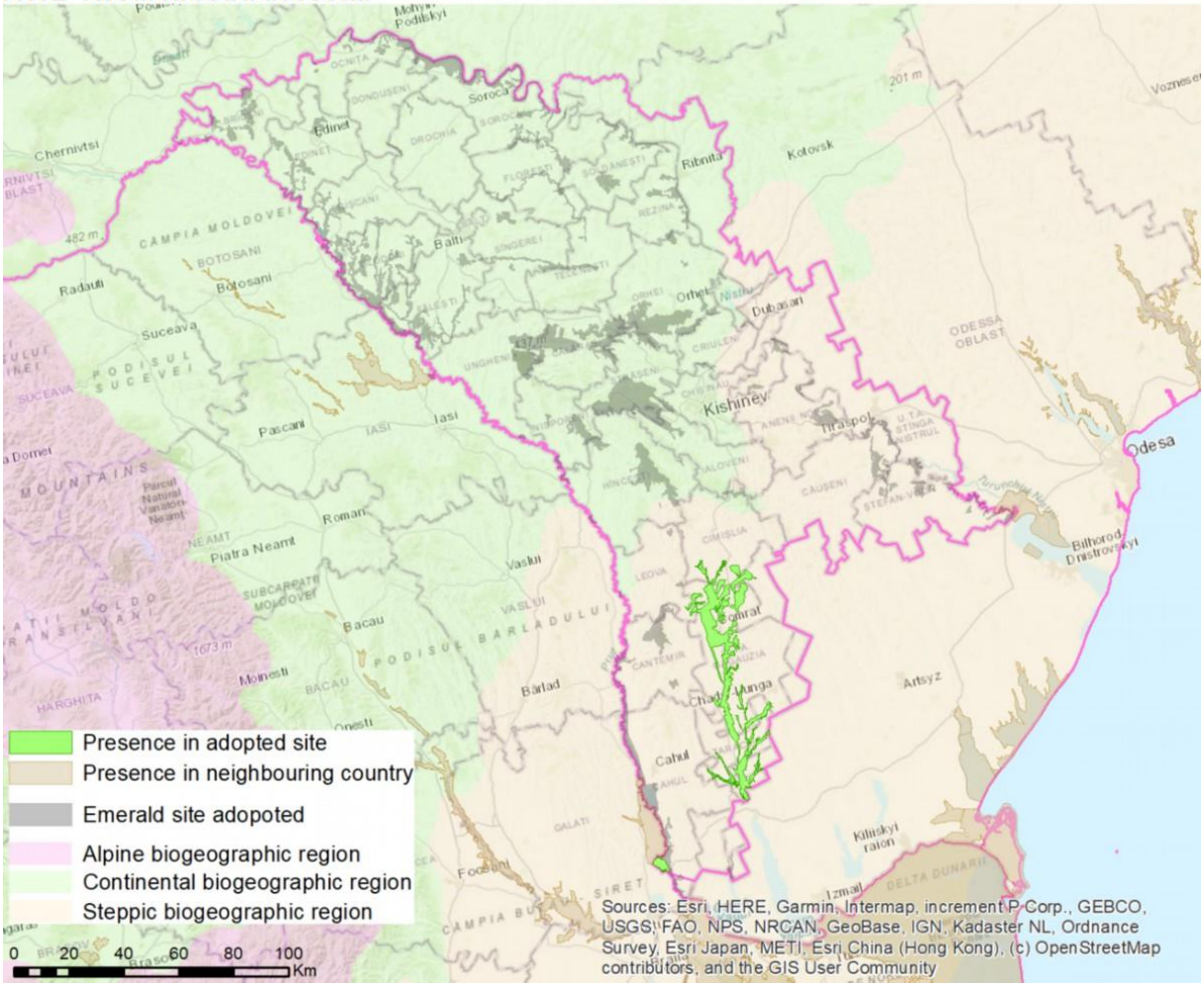
BGR	A097 *Falco vespertinus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	7 (A:1, B:3, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD south, southwest
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (120–310 bp); SDF: r = (10–40 p). According to BirdLife International et al. (2022), the Emerald Network captures only 8–13% of the breeding population. Especially the south would need to be covered more.**
	Comments from external experts:	Nests in the southern area and along the Nistru and Prut rivers (Duca et al. 2015). Razeni marsh (irregular occurrence)?
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A097 Falco vespertinus



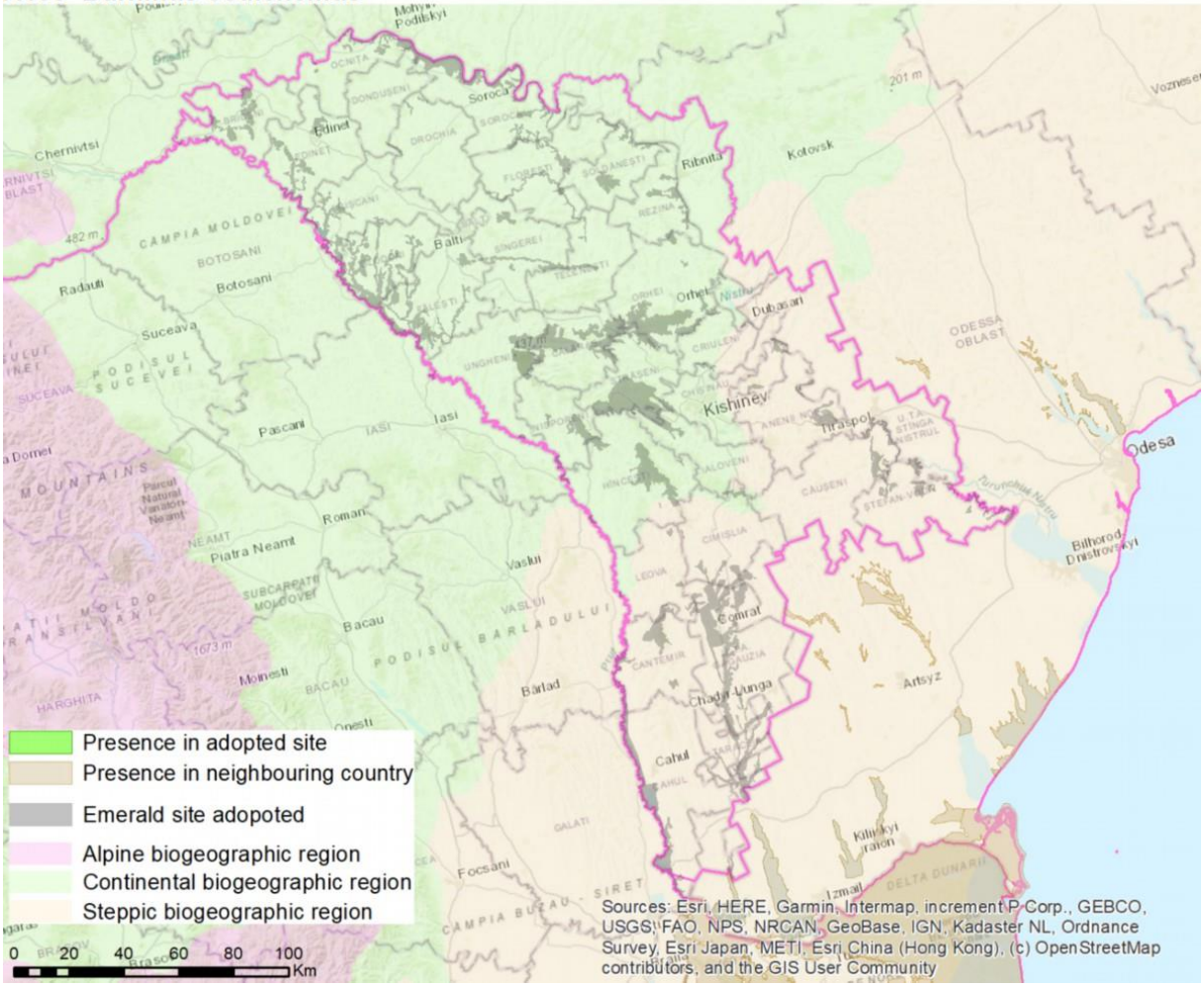
BGR	A132 *Recurvirostra avosetta*	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (B:2)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD south, southwest
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (120–310 bp); SDF: r = (10–40 p). According to BirdLife International et al. (2022), the Emerald Network captures only 8–13% of the breeding population. Especially the south would need to be covered more.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A132 Recurvirostra avosetta



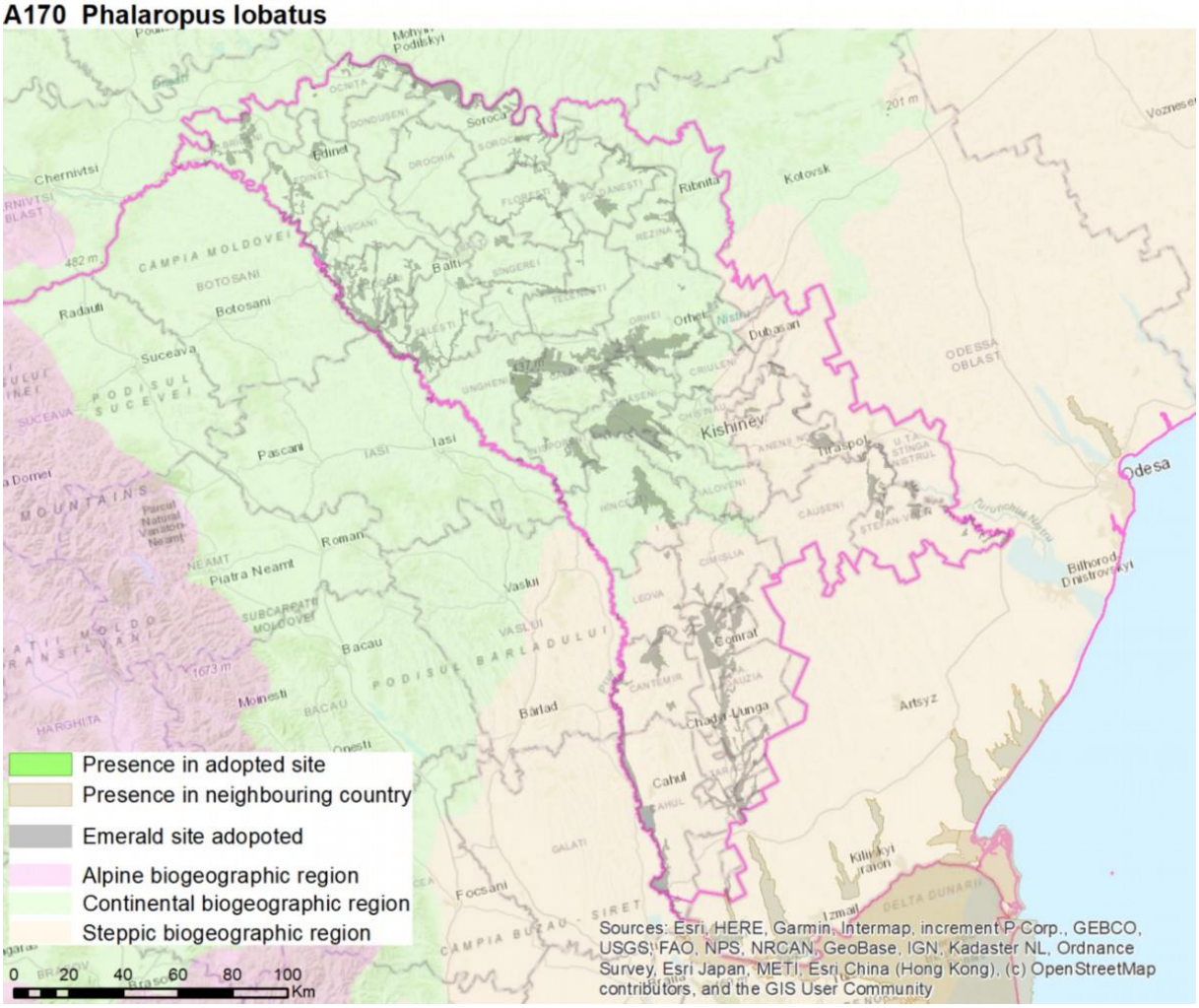
BGR	A133 *Burhinus oedicnemus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR Southern border
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: (-). Any update on the status (especially in the south)? If not, probably EXL REF**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A133 Burhinus oedicnemus



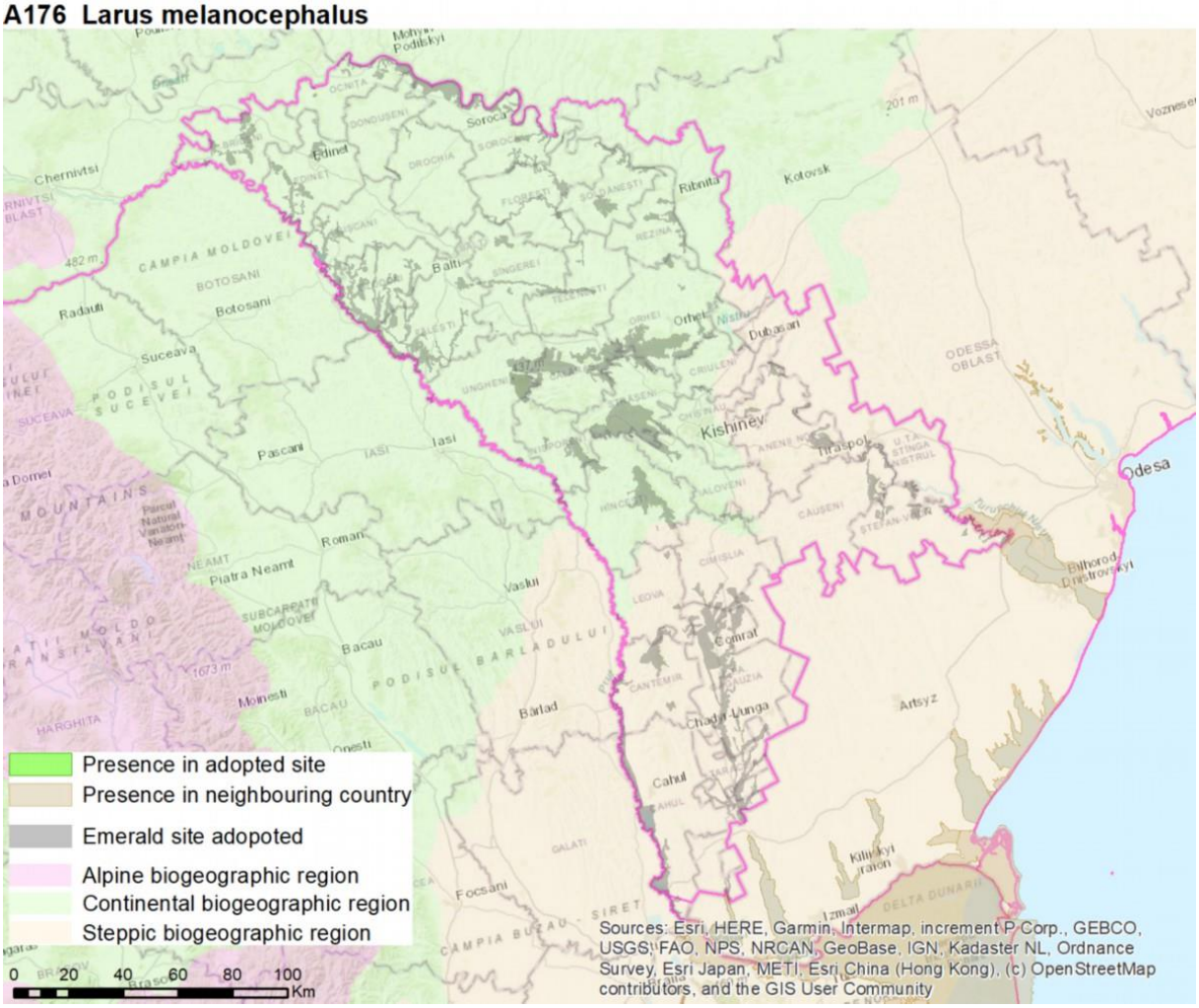
BGR	A170 *Phalaropus lobatus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR check regularity
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: (-). Any update on the status? Are Comrat lake - Stepa Bugeacului (MD0000016) and Prutul de Jos (MD0000001) irregular occurrences?**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A170 Phalaropus lobatus



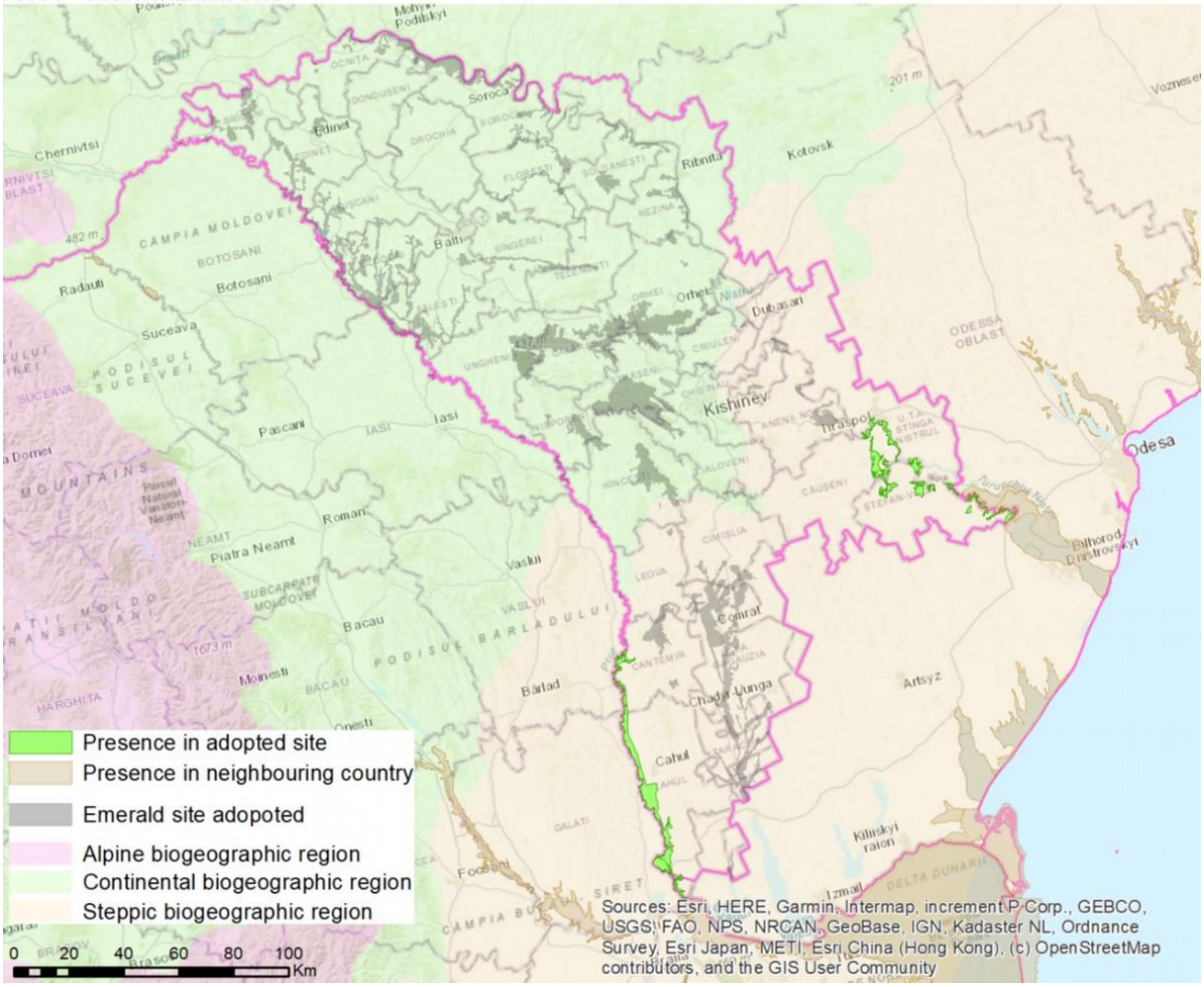
BGR	A176 *Larus melanocephalus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**More research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	No current data for Moldova in the databases
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A176 Larus melanocephalus



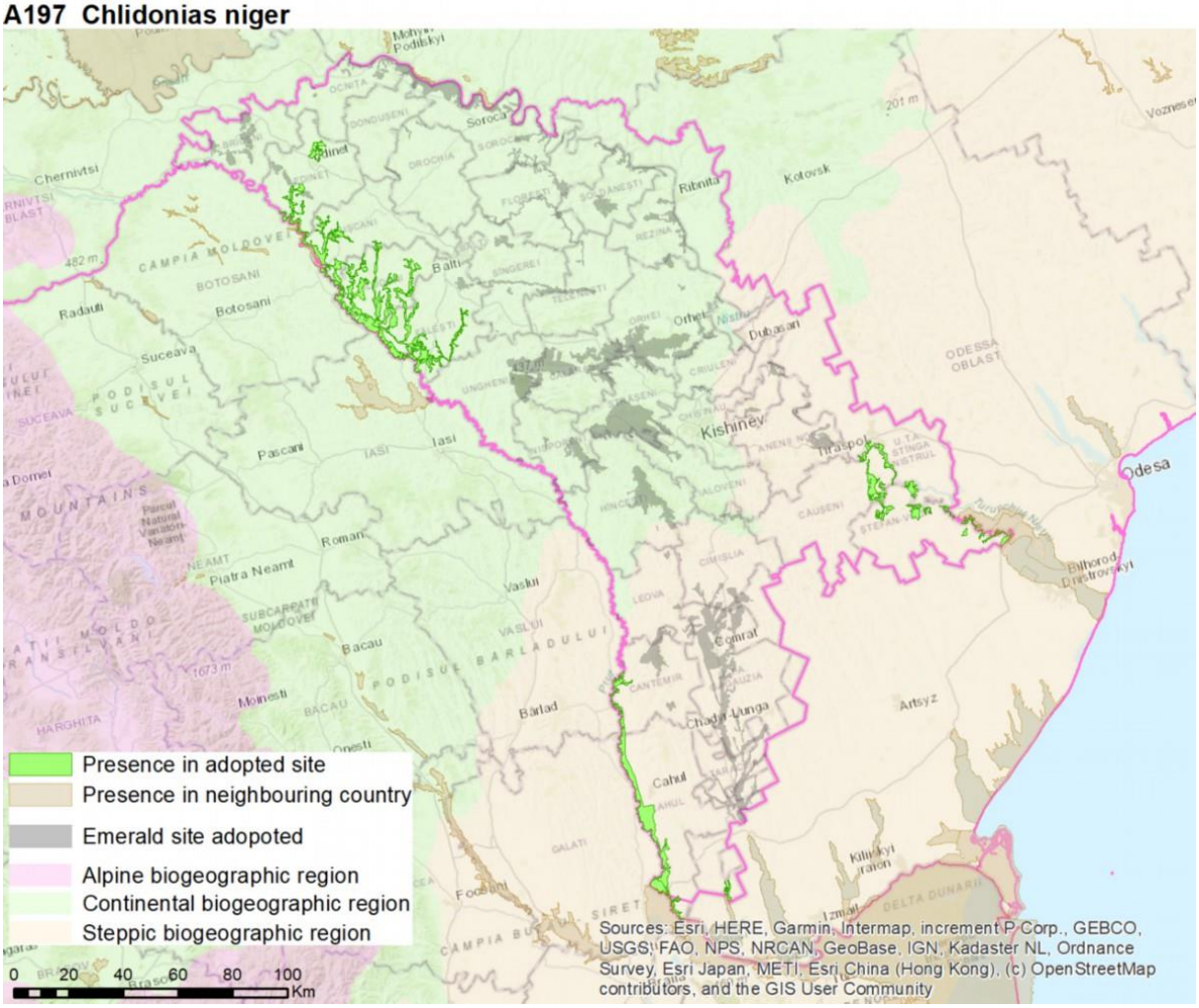
BGR	A195 *Sterna albifrons*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	3 (B:3)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR check status
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: r = (5–21 i). Does SR remain? Does it occur in other locations? Does it regularly occur at the sites? Rethink population assessment.**
	Comments from external experts:	No current data for Moldova in the databases.
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A195 Sterna albifrons



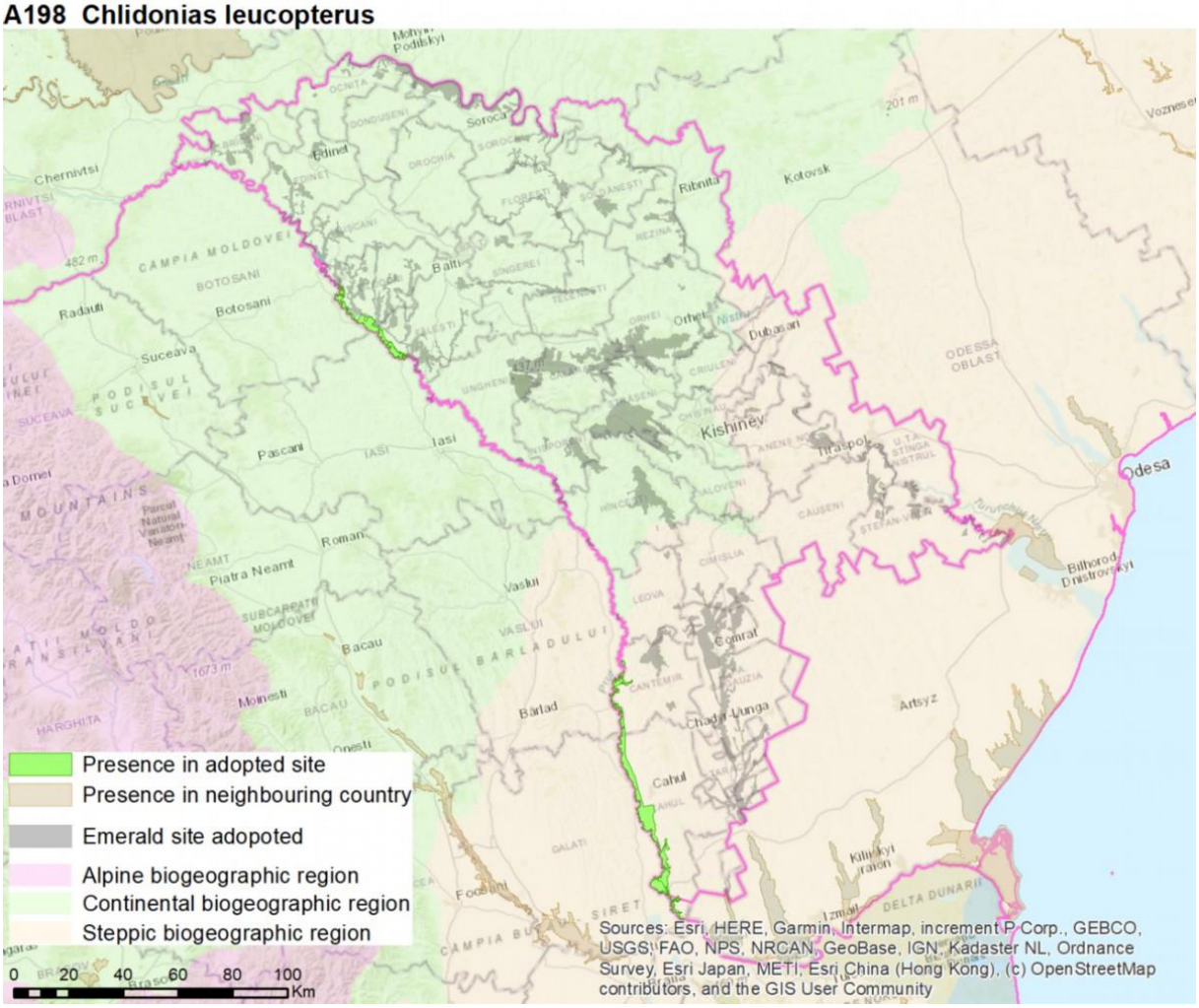
BGR	A197 *Chlidonias niger*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	6 (B:5, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MIN/IN MOD same site as for A027
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (100–200 bp); SDF: r = (63–108 p). Are there any data from Stincile Nistrene (MD0000014)? The species is recorded on the UA side of the Dniester River at the Emerald site.**
	Comments from external experts:	New proposed area MD0000062, Tețcani
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A197 Chlidonias niger



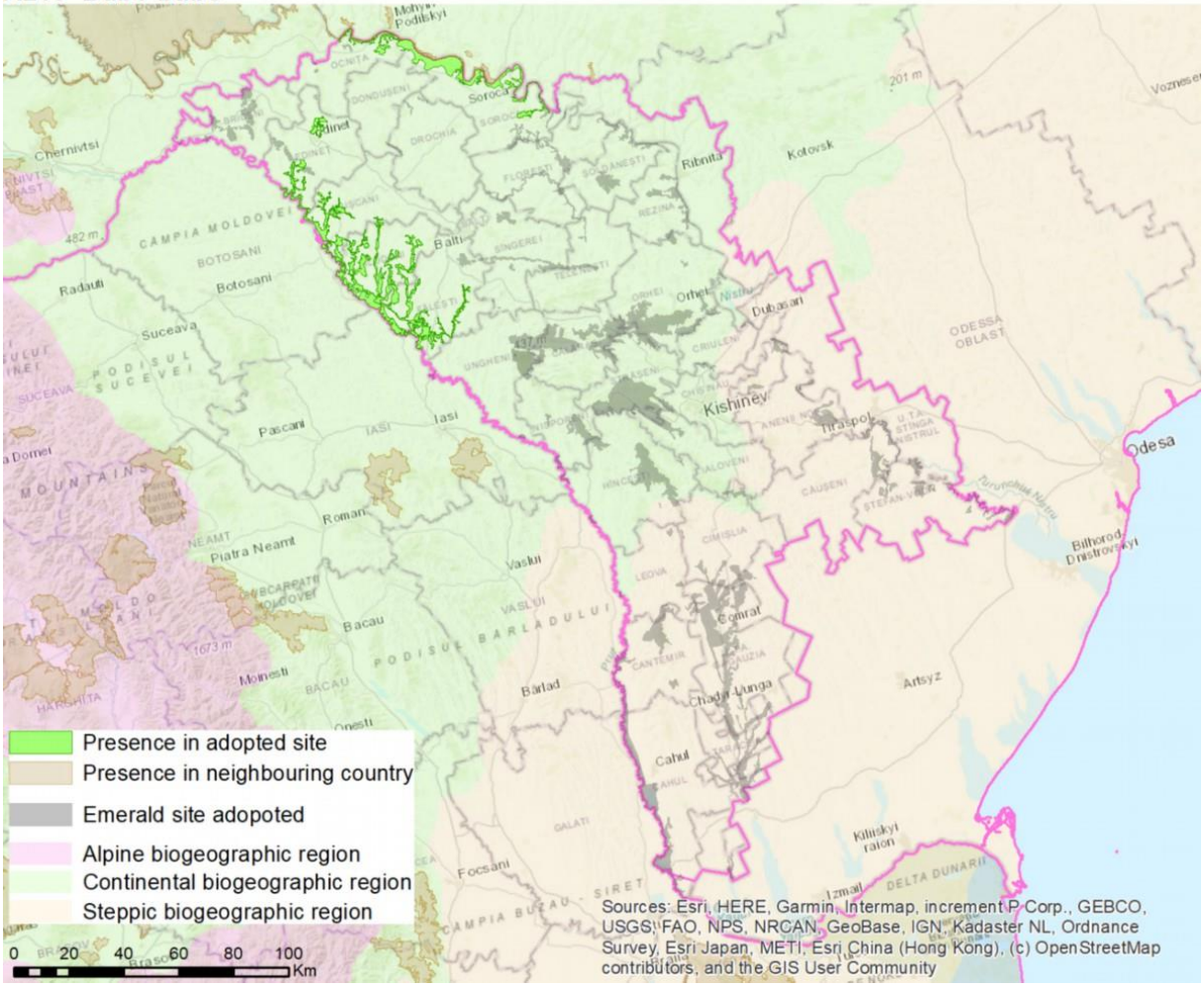
BGR	A198 *Chlidonias leucopterus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	4 (B:3, C:1,)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD same site as for A027
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (48–120 bp); SDF: r; IN MIN: Stepa Bugeacului (MD0000016)**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; Duca et al. 2015; observation.org

A198 Chlidonias leucopterus



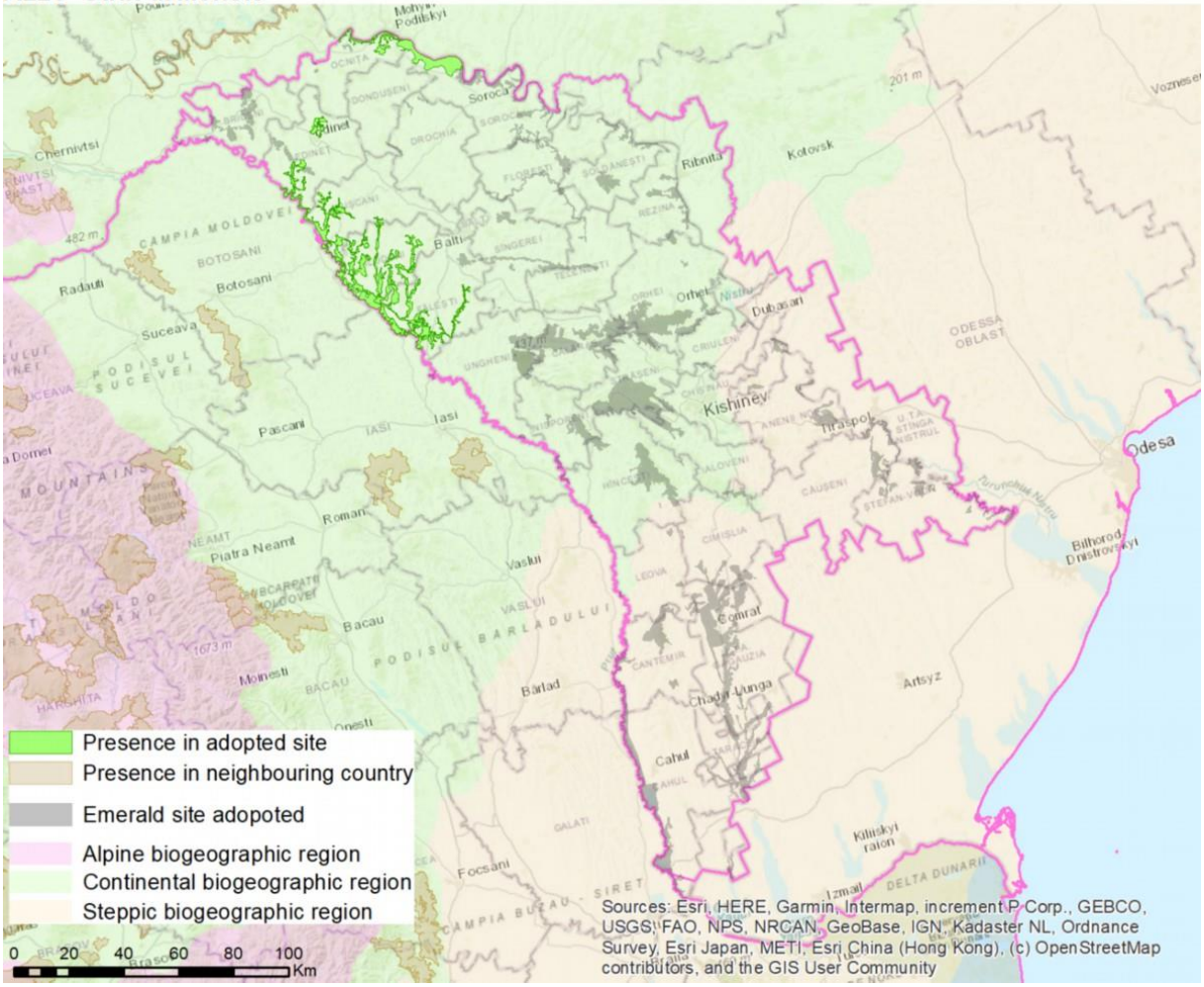
BGR	A215 *Bubo bubo*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	4 (C:4)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD/SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (6–8 bp); SDF: r = (0–1 p); p = (2–14 p). Are there any more recent data along the Raut River? - Zoloceni (MD0000049), Aria Naturala Protejata Trebujeni (MD0000040); IN MIN: Codrii Orheiului (MD0000007)**
	Comments from external experts:	In different types of habitats (cliffs, forests, valleys) on the Nistru, Prut, Raut, and Codrii Forest (Munteanu et al. 2015)
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A215 Bubo bubo



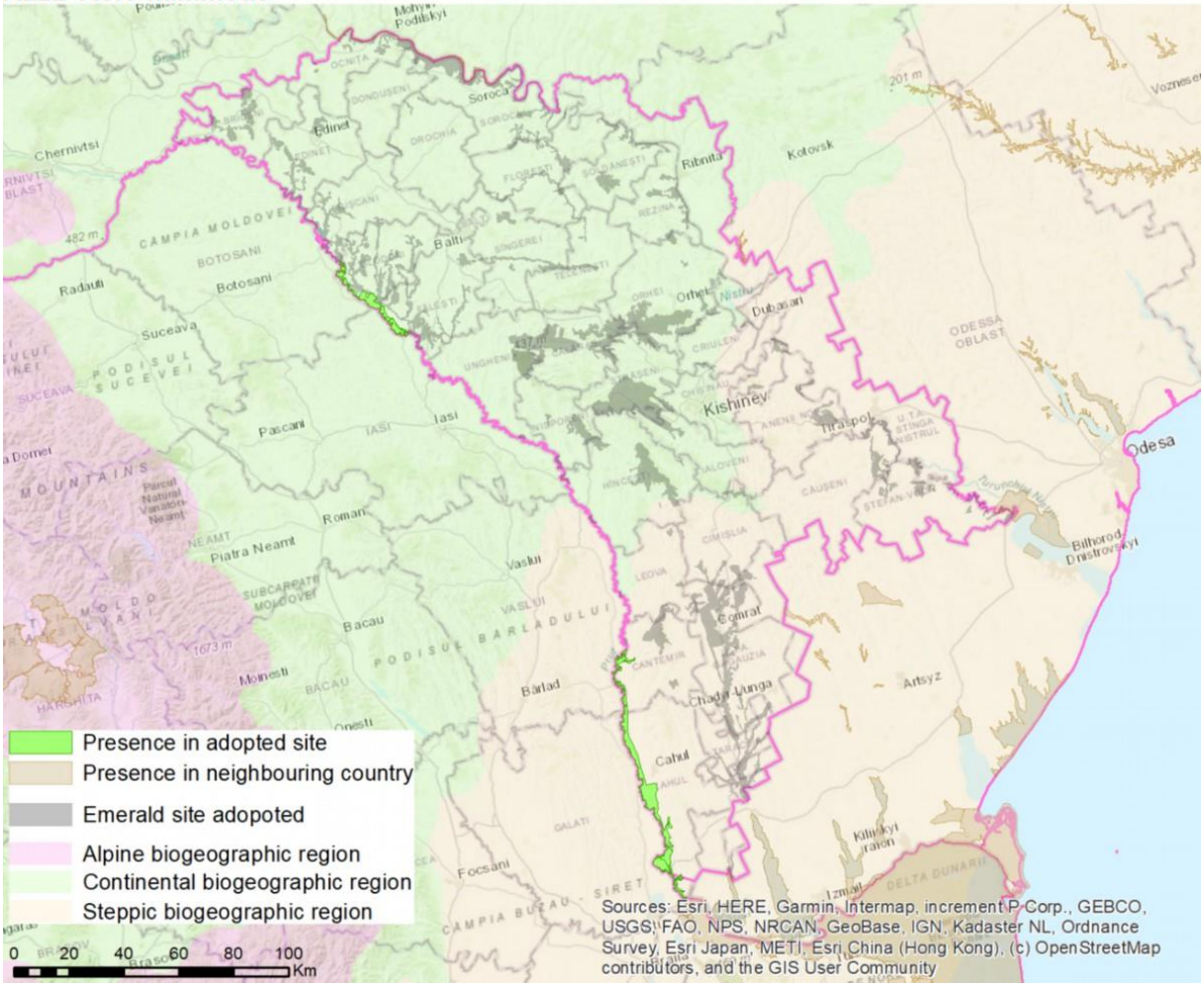
BGR	A220 *Strix uralensis*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	3 (B:2, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: c, w; Is the status cleared? Is coverage of the northwest part of Moldova sufficient?**
	Comments from external experts:	The Ural owl has a broader distribution to the east of the Carpathian Mountains, breeding both in the mountains and across a wider part of the Moldavian foothills than previously known. In addition, it seems that the Romanian population has spread over the eastern part of the country (Bolboacă et al. 2018). Overlap into Moldavia?
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; Bolboaca et al. 2018; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A220 Strix uralensis



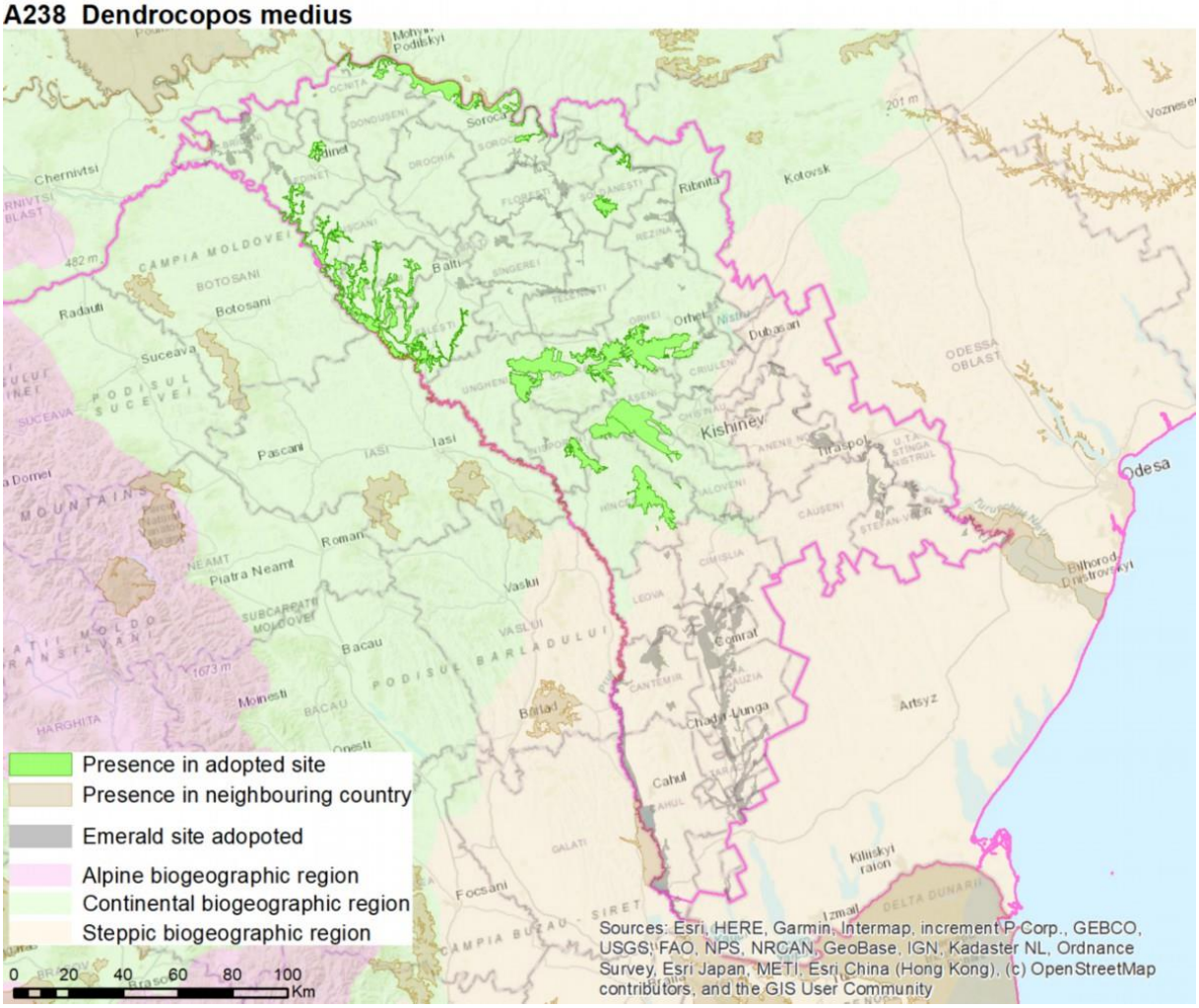
BGR	A222 *Asio flammeus*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	3 (B:1, C:2)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD, one site (same site as for Bubo Bubo)
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (1–3 bp); SDF: p = (4–8 i); w = (5–12 i). The site Prutul de Jos (MD0000001) - Beleu lake is marked as permanent for 4–8 i; is this also a breeding site? Then maybe the population status can be reassessed?**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; Duca et al. 2015; observation.org

A222 Asio flammeus



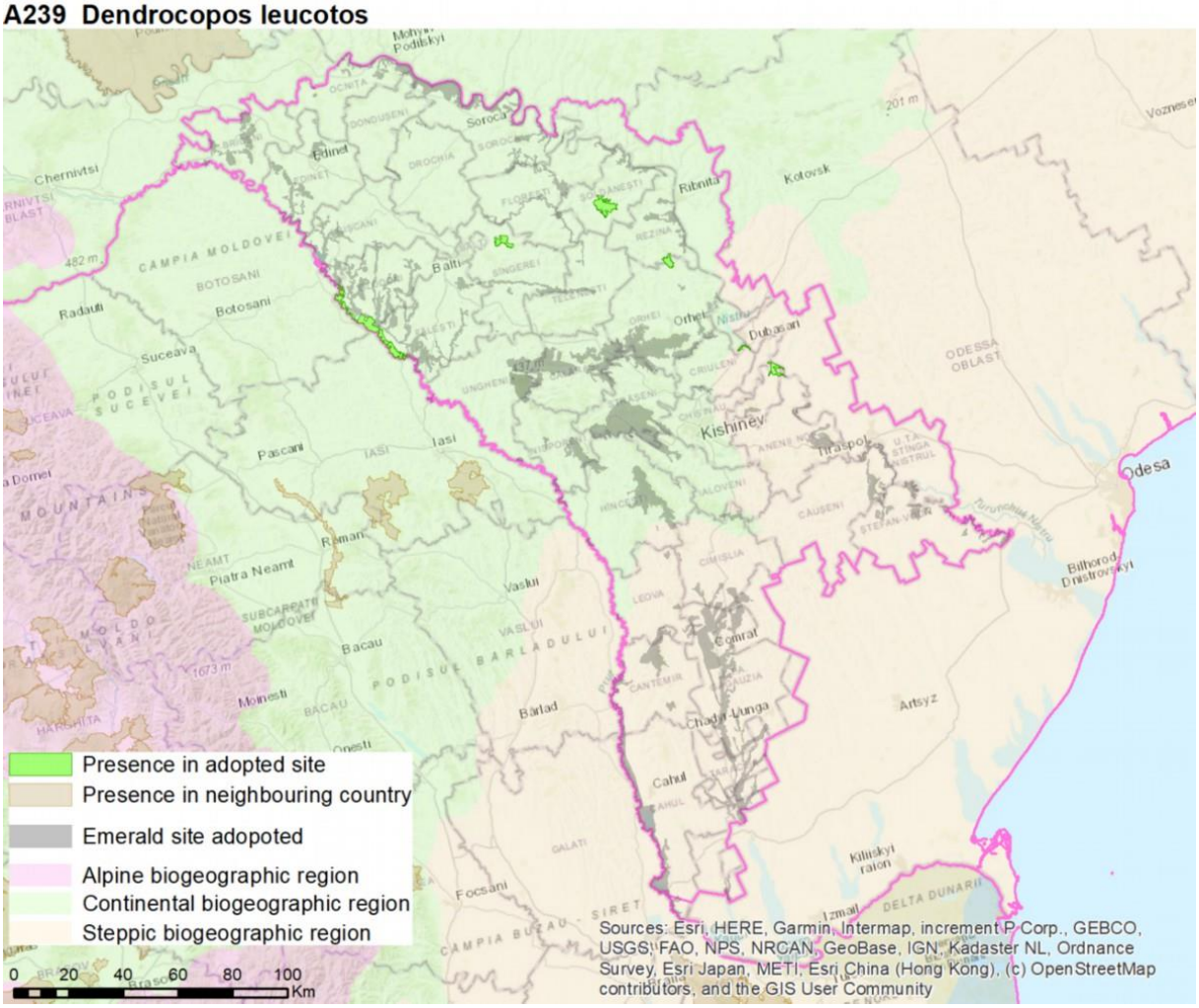
BGR	A238 *Dendrocopos medius*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	13 (A:2, B:8, C:3)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD central part
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (5,000–6,000 bp); SDF: r = (135–159 p); p = (398–520 p); Only about 10% of the breeding population is covered. IN MIN: Padurea Hirboveti (MD0000018); Padurea Molesti-Rezeni (MD0000026); 'Carbuna' Natural Reserve (MD0000022)**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; Duca et al. 2015; observation.org

A238 Dendrocopos medius



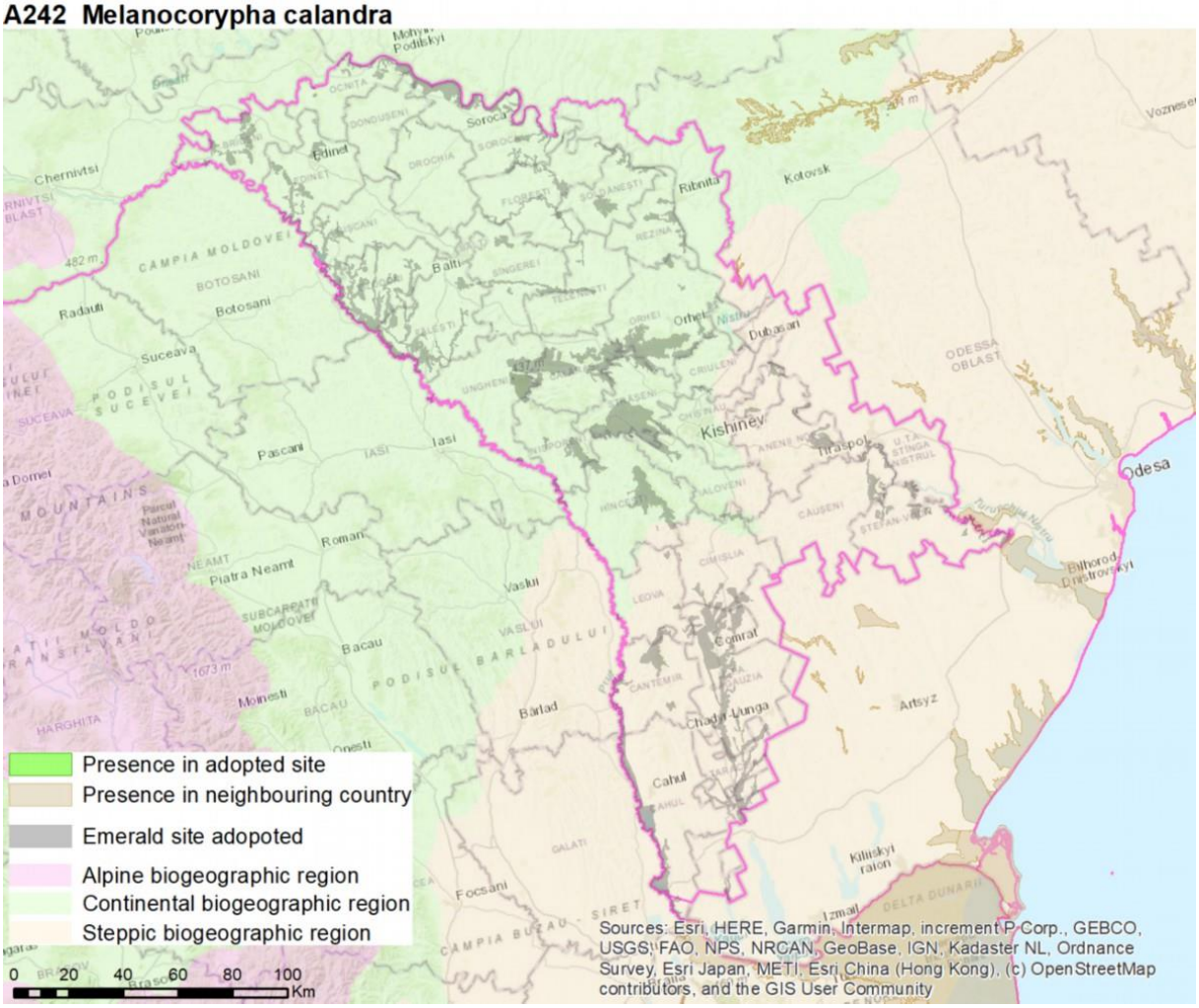
BGR	A239 *Dendrocopos leucotos*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	6 (B:2, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: r = (20–30 p); w. Added to new proposed area MD0000062, Tețcani. Sufficient?**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A239 Dendrocopos leucotos



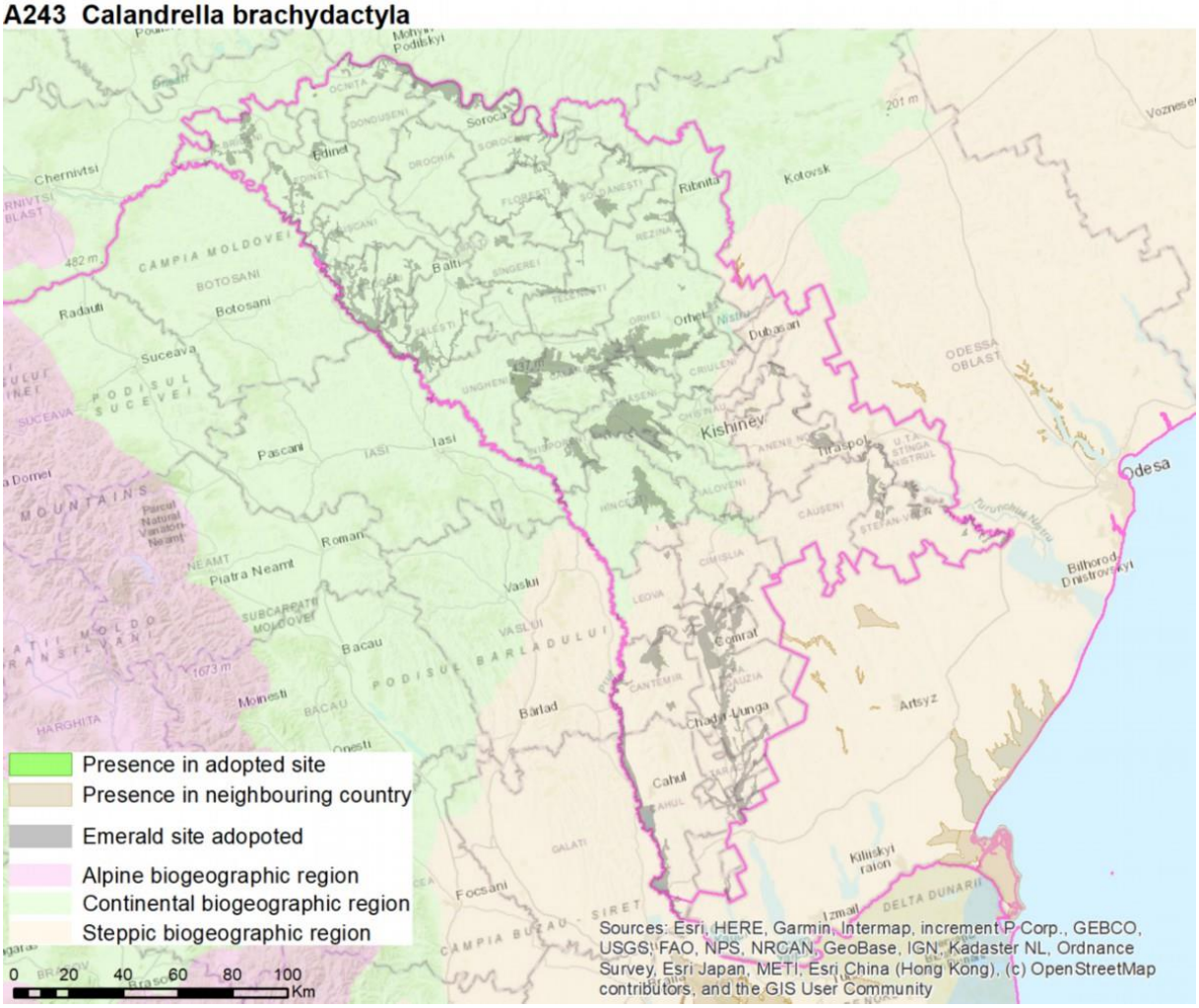
BGR	A242 *Melanocorypha calandra*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR south
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (0–2 bp); SDF: r = (); c = (). Any update on the species' occurrence in the south? If not, probably EXL REF**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; Duca et al. 2015; observation.org

A242 Melanocorypha calandra



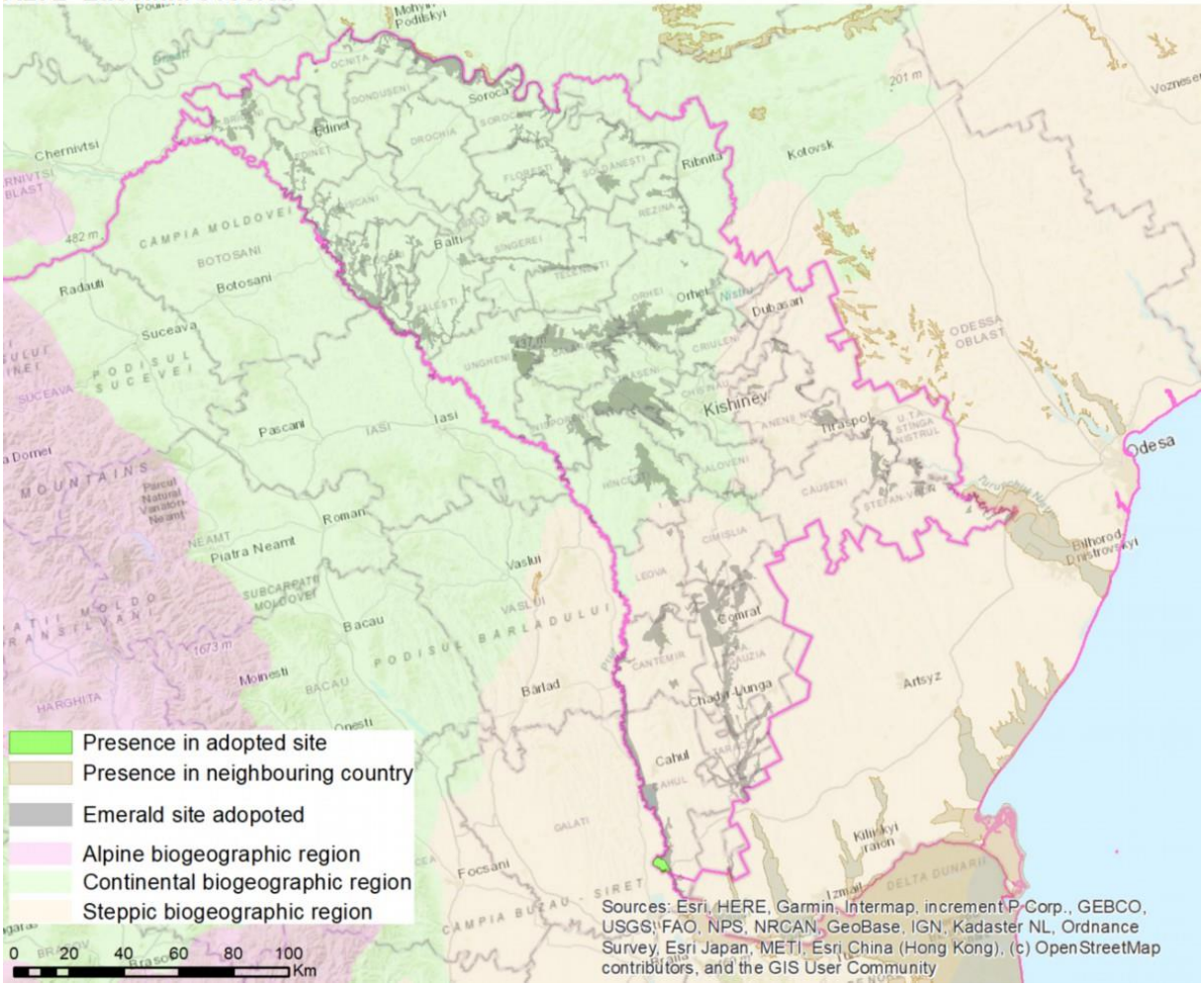
BGR	A243 *Calandrella brachydactyla*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MIN/SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (60–80 bp); SDF: r = (); c = (). What is the present situation in the south? EXL REF?**
	Comments from external experts:	The species has been observed at Plop's lakes—an irregular occurrence?
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A243 Calandrella brachydactyla



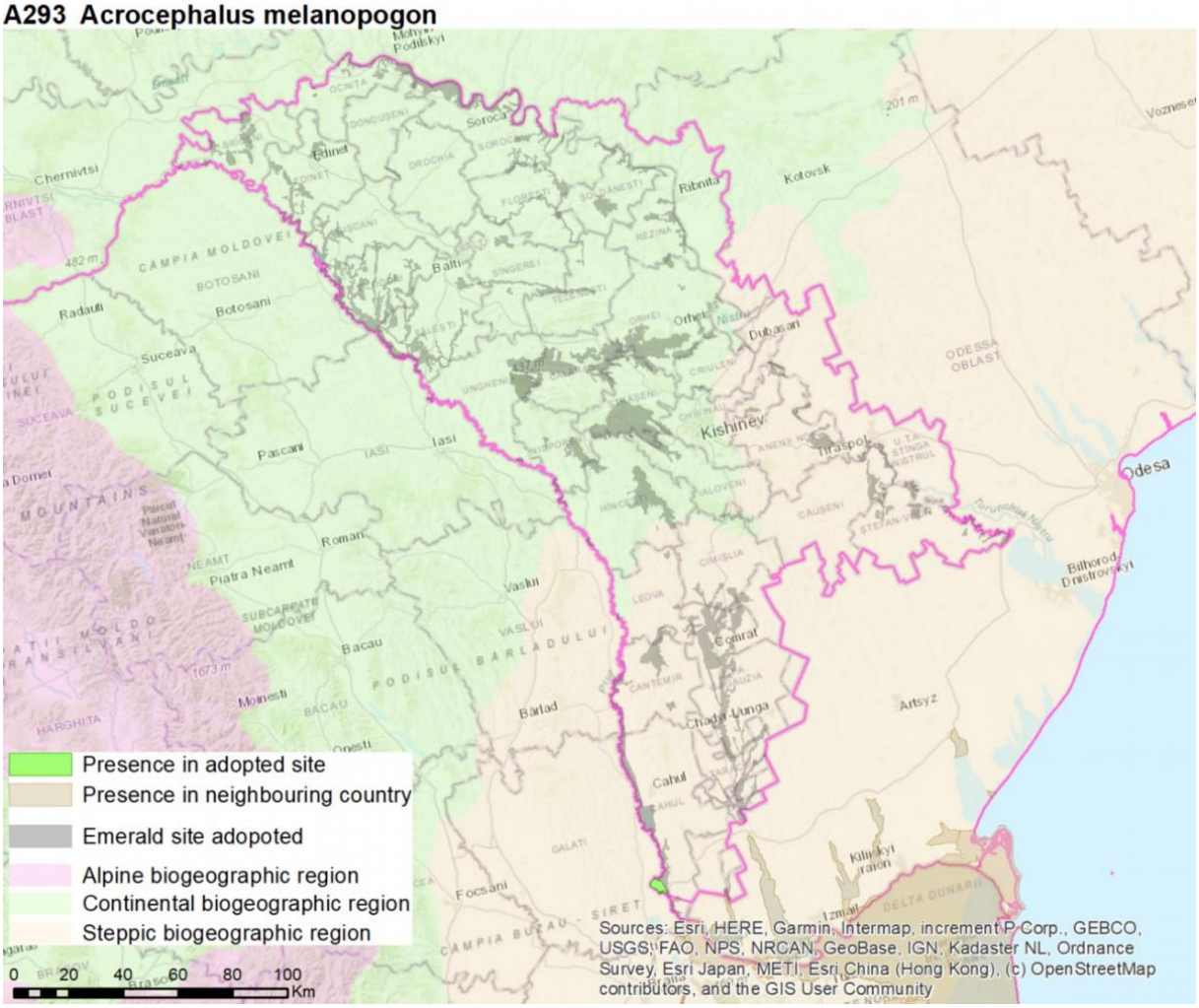
BGR	A272 *Luscinia svecica*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (6–12 bp); SDF: r. Is the species also recorded at Stepa Bugeacului (MD0000016)? If one breeding site remains, the population assessment in the SDF needs to be edited.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; Duca et al. 2015; observation.org

A272 Luscinia svecica



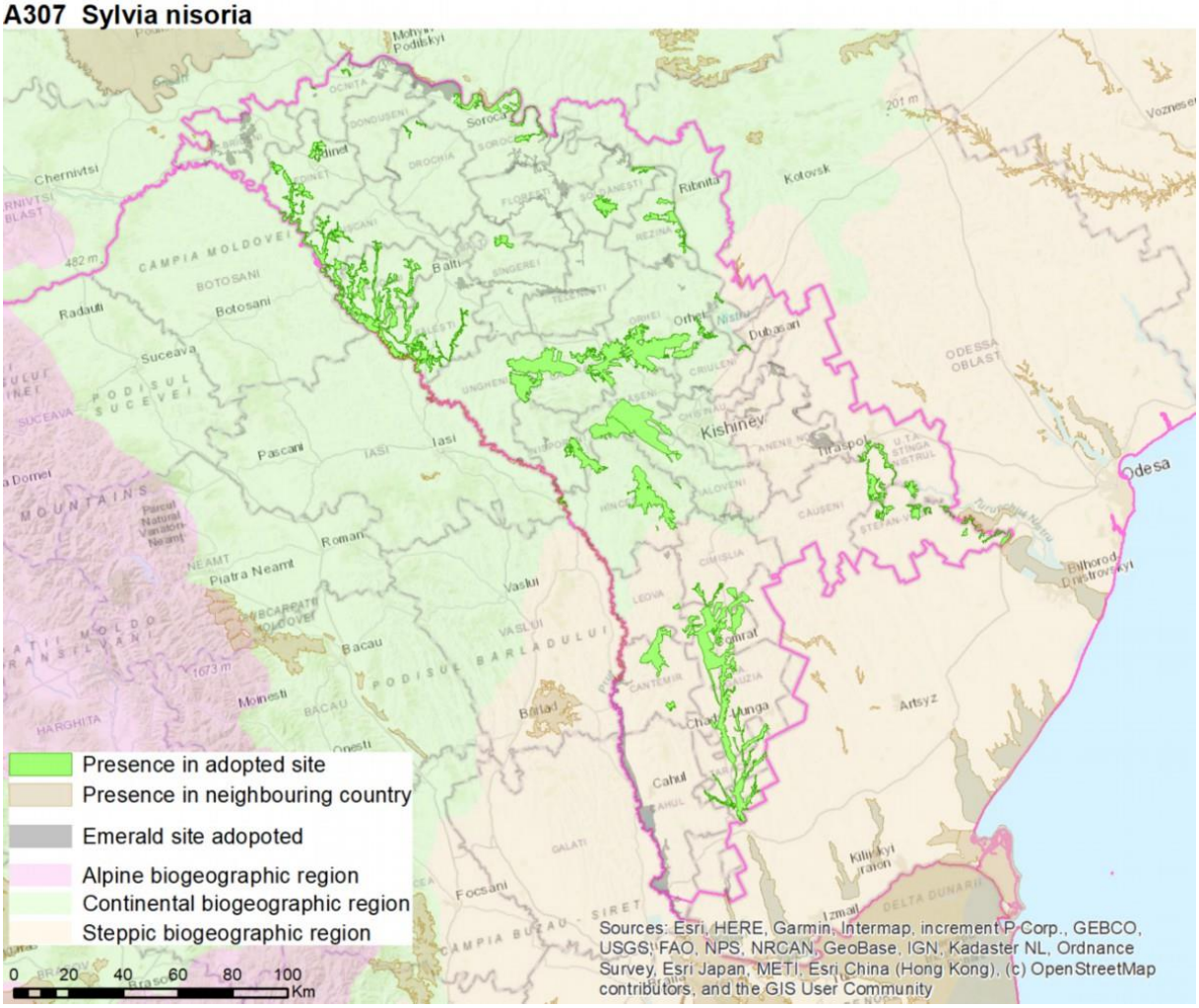
BGR	A293 *Acrocephalus melanopogon*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	1 (B:1)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (- bp); SDF: r. If there is only one breeding site, the population assessment in the SDF needs to be corrected.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A293 Acrocephalus melanopogon



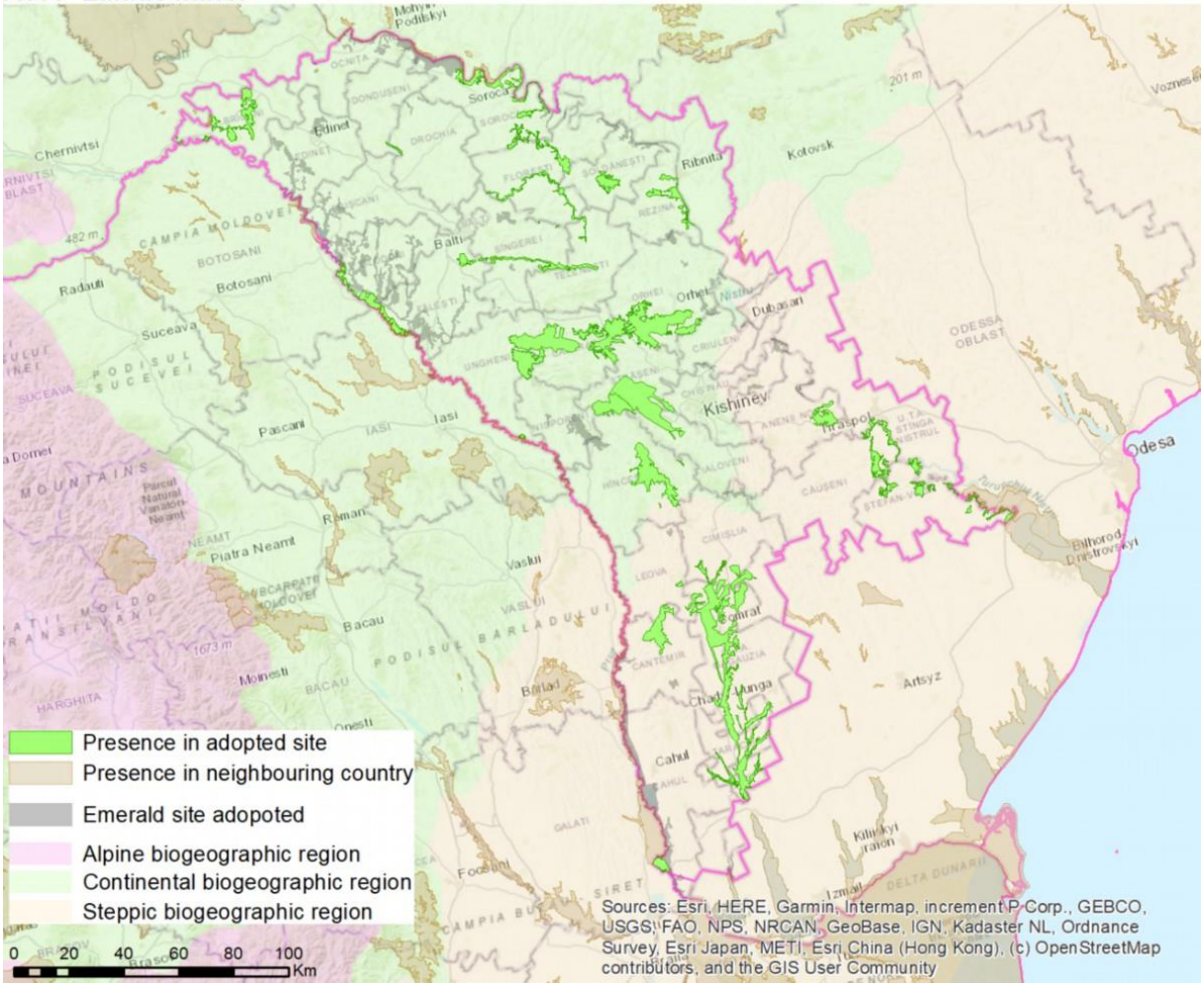
BGR	A307 *Sylvia nisoria*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	30 (A:5, B:16, C:9)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MIN/IN MOD/CD IN MOD: south; CD for some deletions and population assessment.
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (20,000–25,000 bp); SDF: r = (1,597–3,072 p) & (150–200 i); p = (1,048–2,062 p); w = (35–52 p); SUF? Harmonize population status (5A 16B 9C) >100% ??)**
	Comments from external experts:	But a few IBAs in the south are not sufficiently covered by Emerald, for example, Purcari–Etulia
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A307 Sylvia nisoria



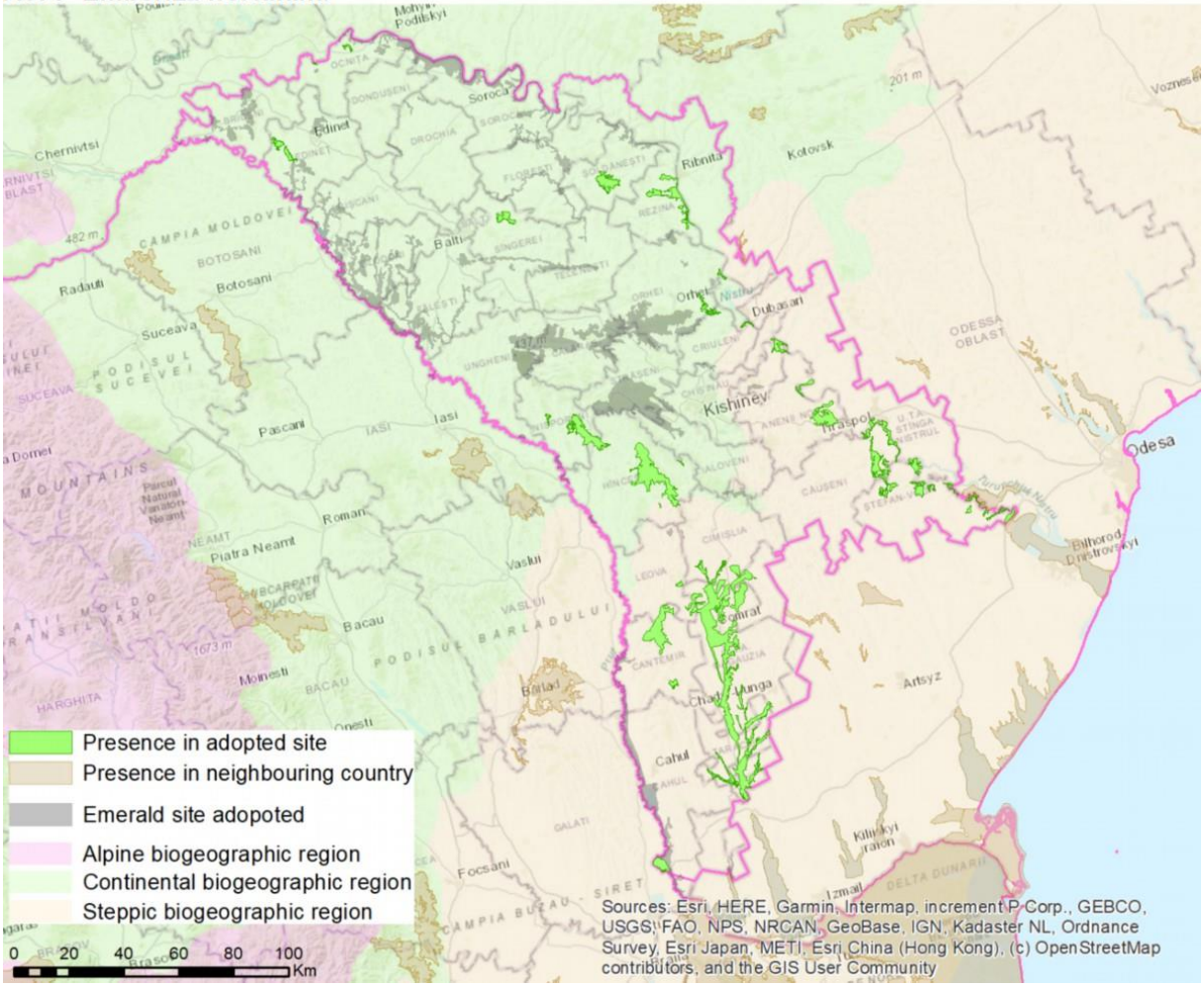
BGR	A339 *Lanius minor*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	21 (A:7, B:14)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD/CD IN MOD: South; CD: population
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (10,000–18,000 bp); SDF: r = (629–962 p); p = (6–18 p); Added to new proposed area MD0000062, Tețcani. Are the northern sites confirmed? (Or should the northern site be excluded as requested in 2018?); IBA Purcari - Emerald does not sufficiently cover Etulia in the south. Harmonize population status (7A 14B) >100%?).**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A339 Lanius minor



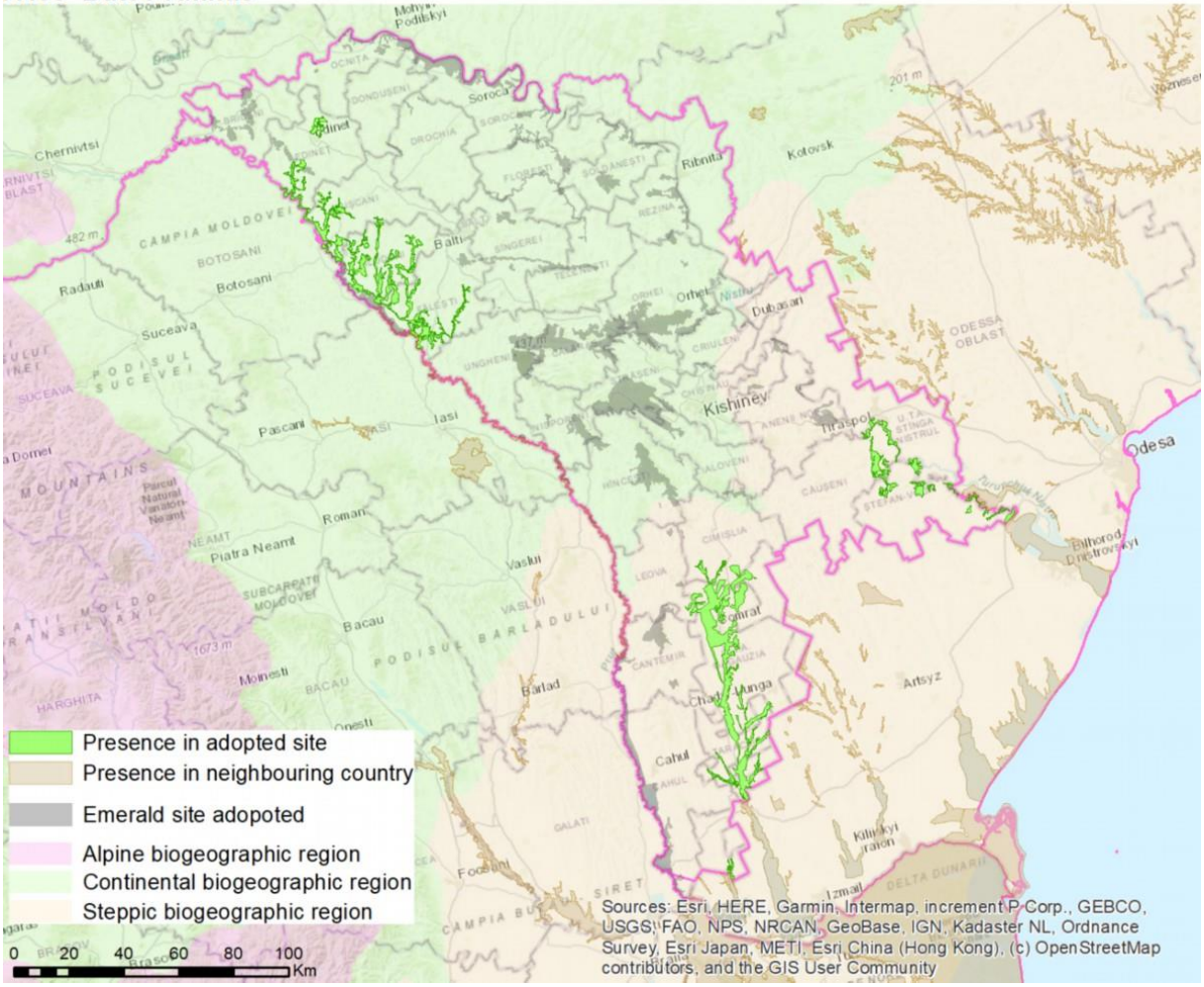
BGR	A379 *Emberiza hortulana*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	22 (B:12, C:10)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD south
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (2,300–4,000 bp); SDF: r = (825–1,167 p); p = (80–100 p). Probably SUF, but a few IBAs in the south are not sufficiently covered by Emerald, for example, Purcari–Etulia.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A379 Emberiza hortulana



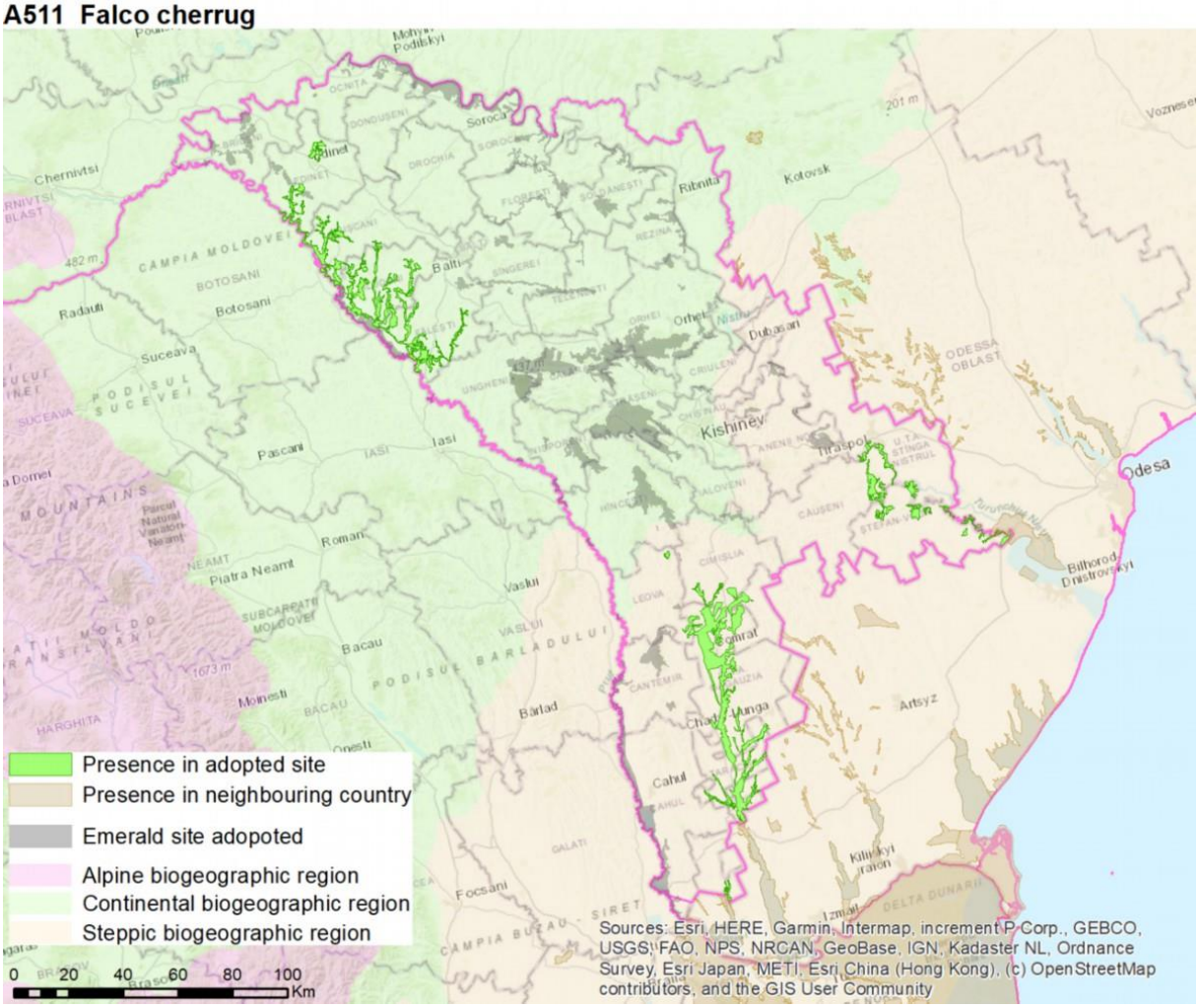
BGR	A403 *Buteo rufinus*	
CON	Number of sites:	4 (B:4)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	SR check newest observations
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (15–20 bp); SDF: r = (1–3 p); p = (6–10 p); IN MIN: Aria Naturala Protejata Trebujeni (MD0000040).**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A403 Buteo rufinus



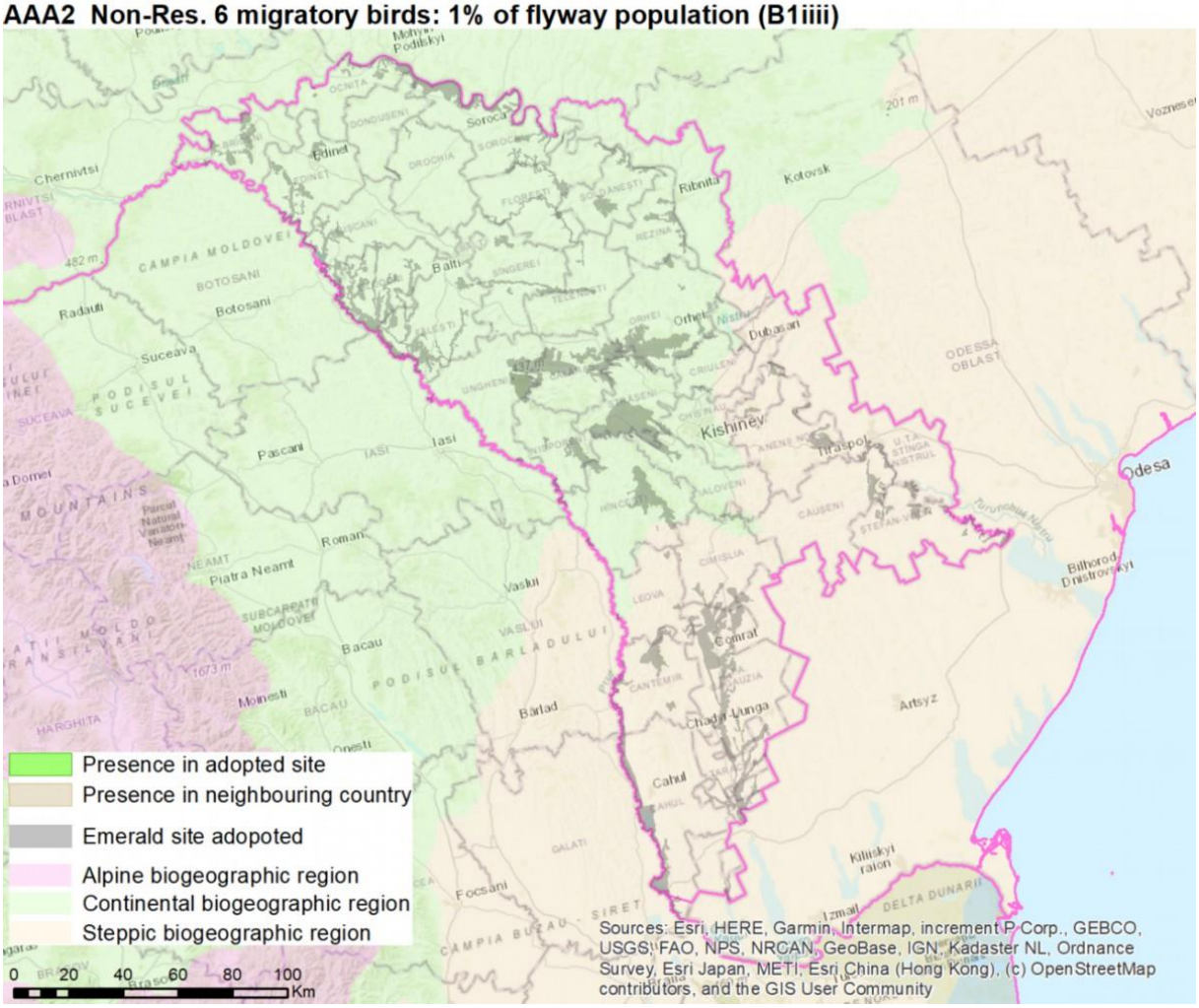
BGR	A511 *Falco cherrug*	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	5 (B:1, C:4)
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD south IBA
	Recommendation 2025:	**ERL: (3–6 bp); SDF: r = (6–9 p). Breeding distribution according to EBBA2 is in the southern parts of Moldova. IBAs in the south are not well covered by Emerald.**
	Comments from external experts:	n/a
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

A511 Falco cherrug



BGR	AAA2 Non-Res 6 migratory birds 1 perc of flyway population	
Not applicable	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2018 conclusion:	IN MOD IBA in the south
	Recommendation 2025:	**According to the data at https://datazone.birdlife.org/country/factsheet/moldova, none of the IBAs meet criterion B1i–iii. Has anything changed? Probably EXL REF.**
	Comments from external experts:	A few IBAs in the south are not sufficiently covered by Emerald, for example, Purcari–Etulia
	Comments from local experts:	n/a
	References:	BirdLife International 2022; eBird 2025; gbif.org; Keller et al. 2020; observation.org

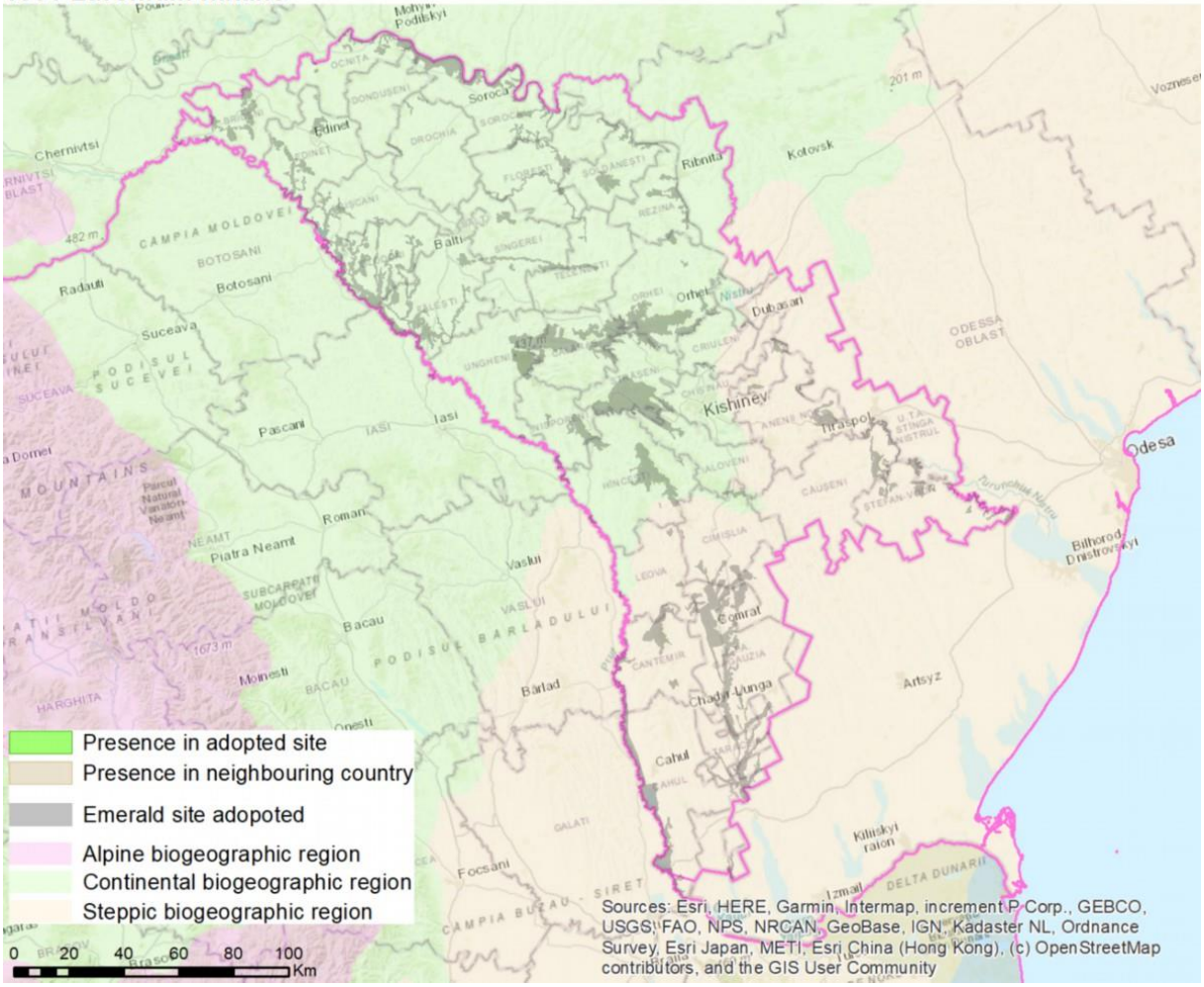
AAA2 Non-Res. 6 migratory birds: 1% of flyway population (B1iii)



Plants

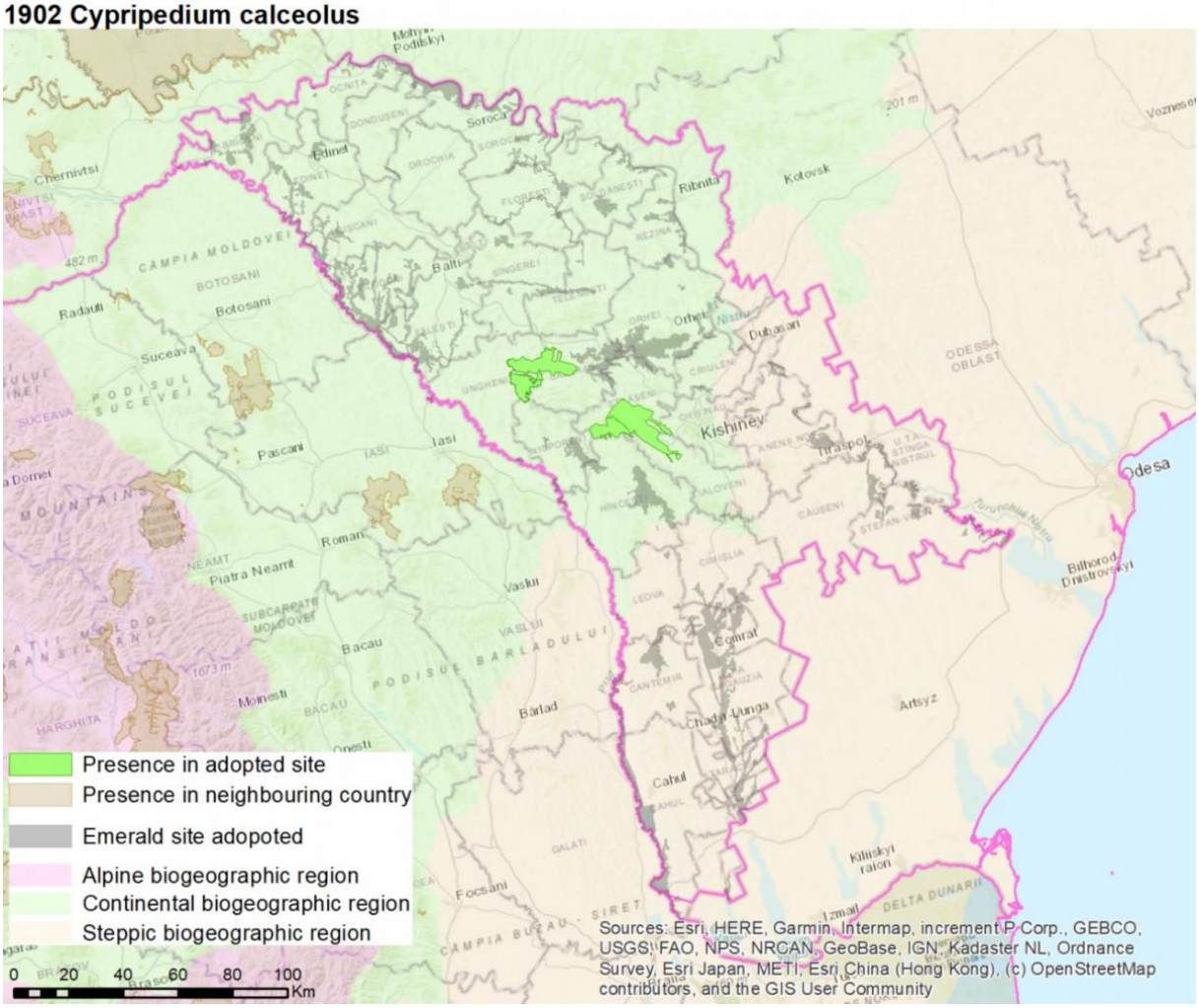
BGR	1831 *Luronium natans*	
CON	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR REF
	Recommendation 2025:	**Has not been reported in Moldova for decades; consider SR REF list.**
	Comments from external experts:	Its presence in Moldova was not confirmed more recently, and in the last decades, it has also not been reported from this territory. Ghendov (2014) considers that *Luronium natans* has never existed in the flora of Moldova and ought to be excluded from the lists of vascular plants. Also, the occurrence was never indicated for Ukraine; it is considered extinct in Romania.
	Comments from local experts:	Not occurring; to be excluded from the Reference list.
	References:	Ghendov 2012; Ghendov 2014, 16–20

1831 Luronium natans



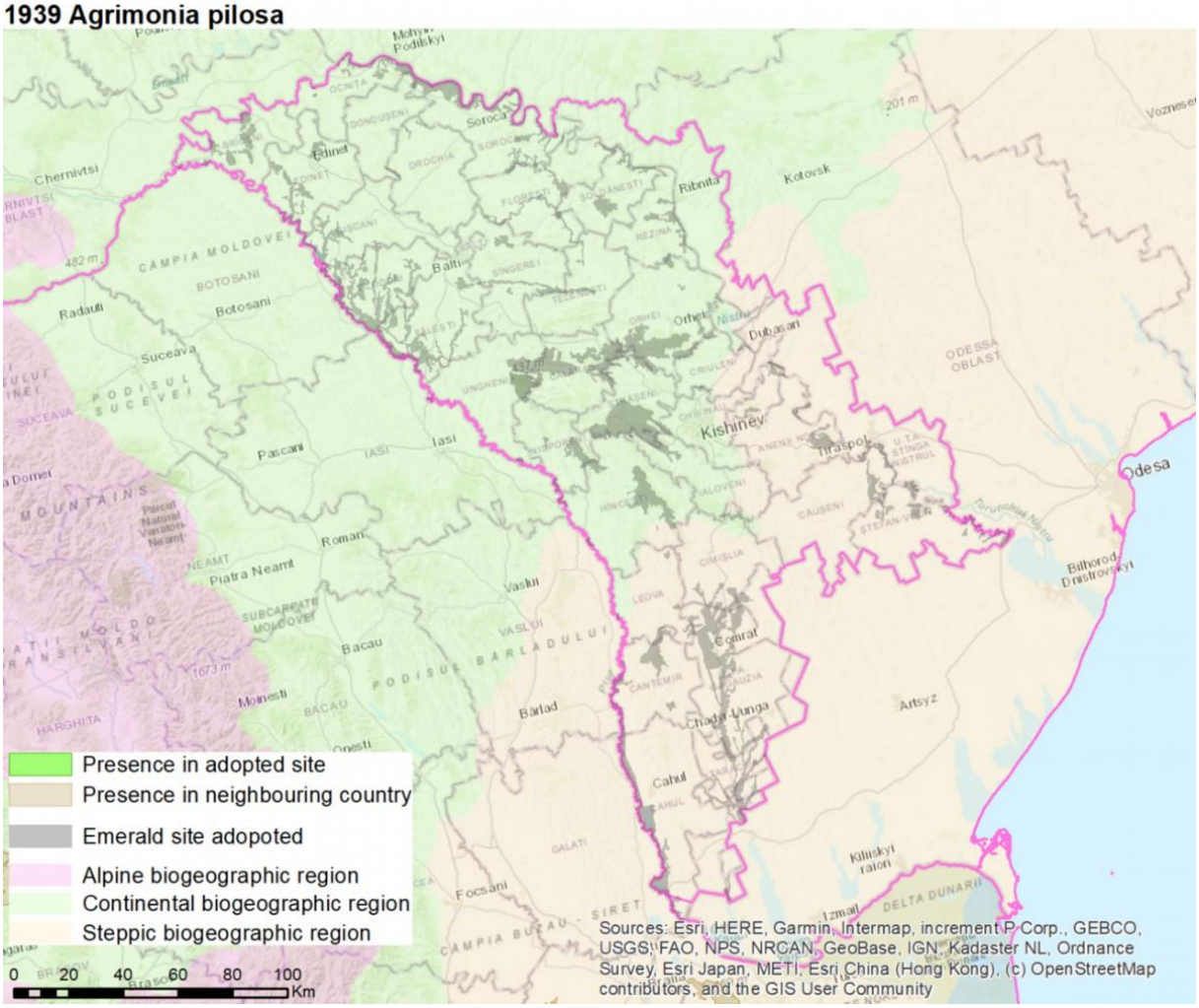
BGR	1902 *Cypripedium calceolus*	
CON	Number of sites:	4 (C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Add the species to site MD0000003 Plaiul Fagului, consider enlargement of site MD0000007 Codrii Orheiului, and review knowledge for other sites.**
	Comments from external experts:	According to historical data, the species was recorded in 1952, 1970, and 1977 in the Orhei district, but more recent investigations have not confirmed its presence in these locations. In 2021, the population was considered decreased in the 'Codrii' and 'Pădurea Domnească' reserves. Among others, it is probably present in MD0000007 Codrii Orheiului.
	Comments from local experts:	Species is rare; it is monitored. Occurrence in the site MD0000003 Plaiul Fagului; found also in the site Codrii Orheiului (MD0000007) but outside the reserve. Report from Padurea Domnească is a mistake.
	References:	Begu 2018, 12–17; Elena et al. 2019, 416–421; Postolache 2021

1902 Cypripedium calceolus



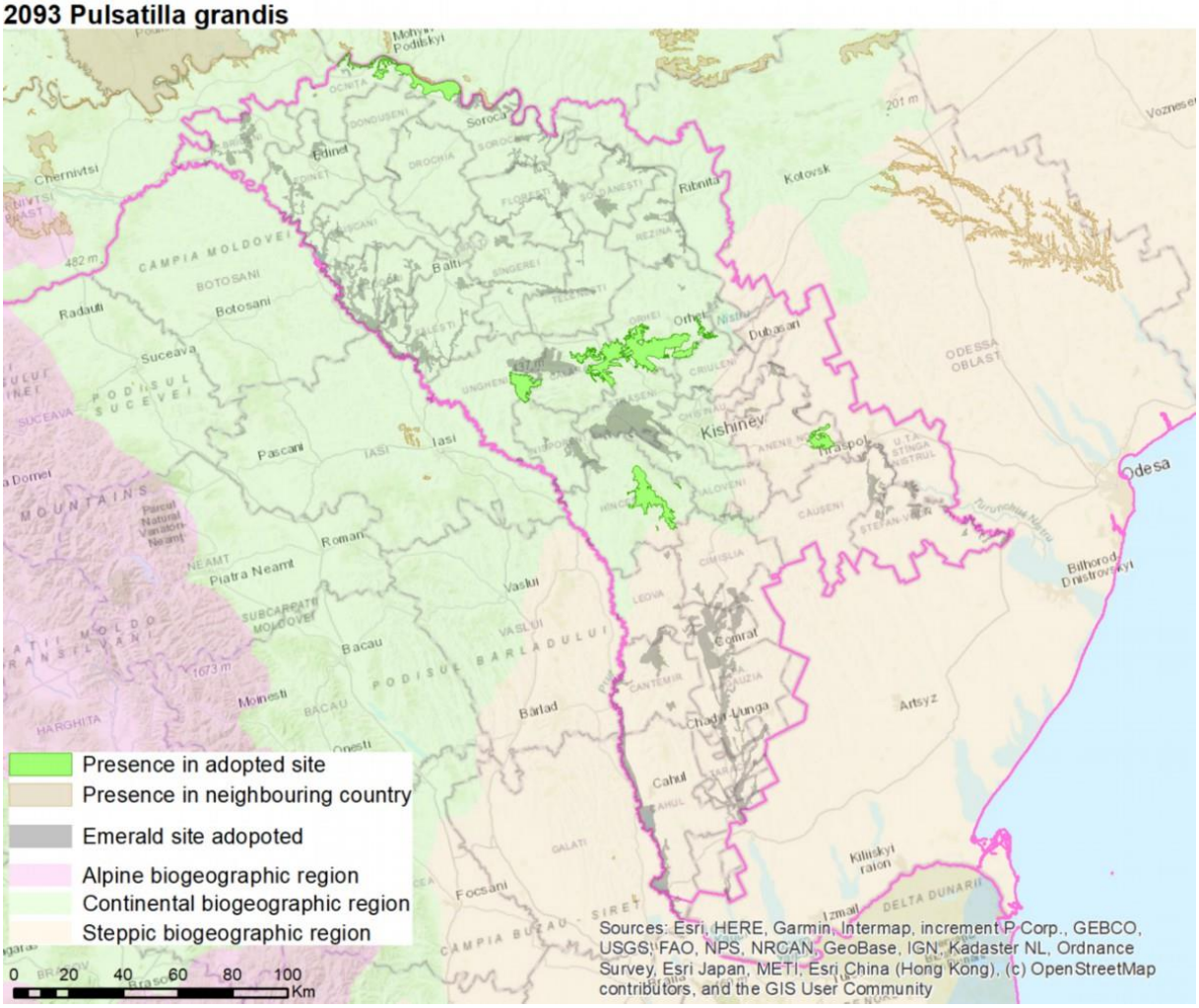
BGR	1939 *Agrimonia pilosa*	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Species not occurring in Moldova, probably to be excluded from the Reference list.**
	Comments from external experts:	The distribution area does not include the territory between the Prut and Dniester Rivers. Gheideman and Negru reported it for the studied area. However, recent floristic research has not confirmed the species' presence within the studied territory.
	Comments from local experts:	The species does not occur in Moldova.
	Reference:	Elena 2017

1939 Agrimonia pilosa



BGR	**2093 *Pulsatilla grandis***	
STE	Number of sites:	2 (B:1, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	To be added to existing site MD0000013 Nistrul de Jos, but further sites are probably needed.
	Comments from external experts:	**The species' presence was confirmed in Nistrul de Jos MD0000013, SR 'Iagorlîc', and southern Opillya.**
	Comments from local experts:	Species grows in the site MD0000040 Aria Naturala Protejata Trebujeni (where it is already protected and included in the database). The indication of region 'Opillya' is a mistake.
	References:	Dmytrash-Vatseba and Shumska 2017, 22–22; Ghendov and Izverscaia 2017, 26; Ungureanu et al. 2016, 288–290

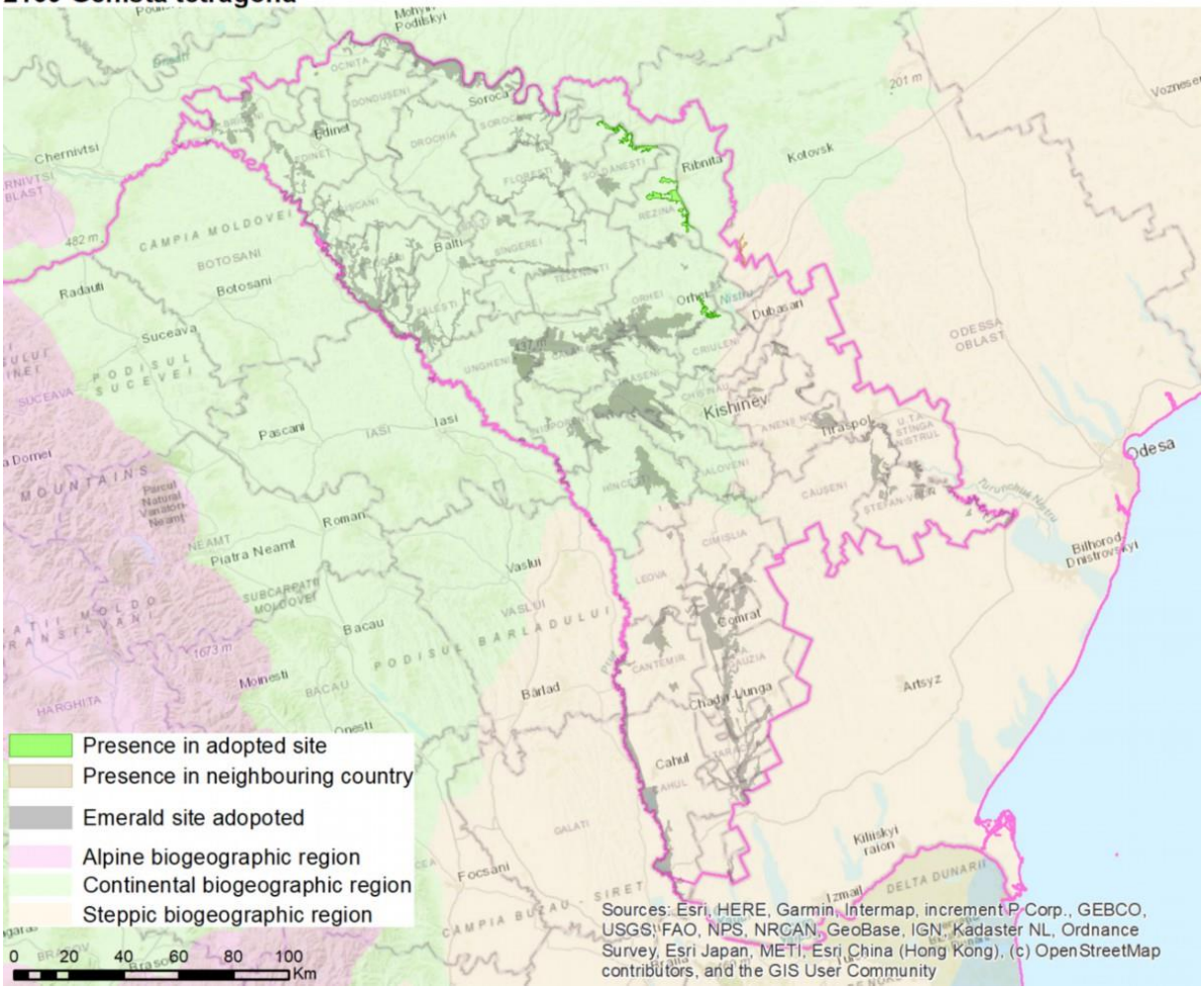
2093 Pulsatilla grandis



BGR	2139 *Genista tetragona*	
CON	Number of sites:	3 (C:2, B:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**It could be added to MD0000036 Aria Naturala Protejata Telita, MD0000014 Stincile Nistrene, or nearby sites in the Soroca district. The survey of sites indicated by local experts (below) to be done, as well as occurrence in districts of Camenca, Rîbnița, Dubăsari, Grigoriopol and Orhei.**
	Comments from external experts:	In the districts of Camenca, Rîbnița, Dubăsari, Grigoriopol, Orhei, and Soroca district, it grows on rocky limestone slopes of the main banks of the Dniester River in its middle course and its tributaries—Reut, Molokish, and Yagorlyk: In the vicinity of the city of Rybnitsa and the villages of Rashkov, Belochi, Kolosovo, Khyrzheu, Bolshoy Molokish, Stroentsy, Kharaba, Plopi, Goyan, Doibany, Tashlyk, Saretsey, Maly Molokish, Pykalovo, and Shmalena (Administrative-Territorial Units of the Left Bank of the Dniester); in the villages of Trebujeni, Furceni, and Morovaia in the Orhei district; and in the 'Yagorlyk' SR (village of Goyany, Dubossary district), located in Left Bank Transnistria, where a large population is found in the 'Litvino' tract on limestone rocky slopes descending to the Yagorlyk backwater.
	Comments from local experts:	The species could occur in sites MD0000014 Stincile Nistrene and MD0000036 Aria Naturala Protejata Telita, but the occurrence in these sites needs to be confirmed.
	References:	Изверская and Гендов 2024, 108–113; Stoyanov 2014
STE	Number of sites:	1 (C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**It could be added to sites MD0000050 Dubasarii Vechi and MD0000051 Aflorimentul Goian, if the occurrence is confirmed. Occurrence in further sites to be checked.**

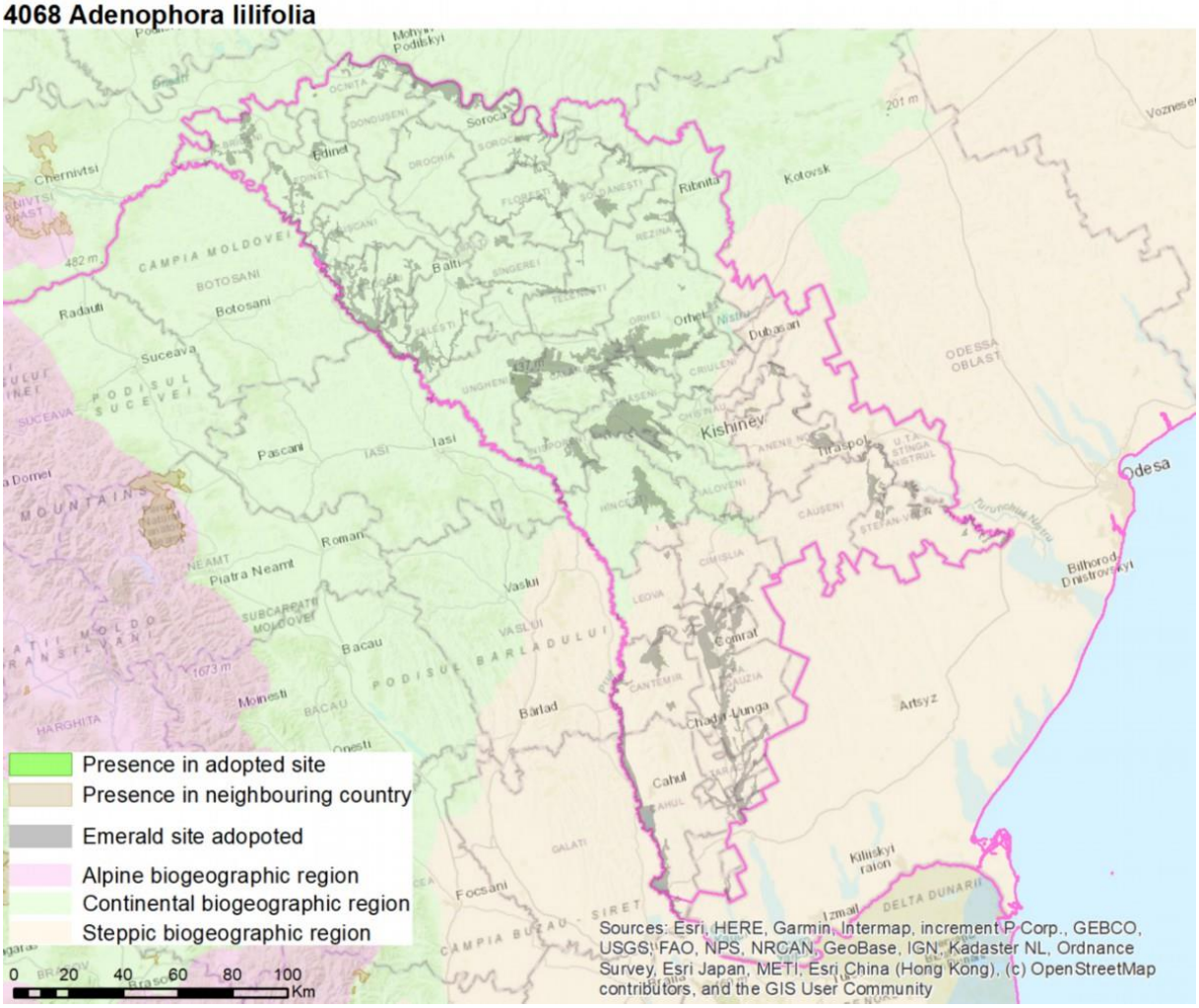
	Comments from external experts:	In Moldova and Transnistria, Genista grows on limestone slopes along the middle Dniester and its tributaries (Reut, Molokish, Yagorlyk). It is found in Camenca, Rîbnița, Dubăsari, Grigoriopol, Orhei, and Soroca districts near Rybnitsa and multiple villages. In Orhei district (Trebujeni, Furceni, Morovaia), it appears at 30–65 m elevation in petrophytic vegetation. A significant population exists in the 'Yagorlyk' SR (Goyany, Dubossary), particularly in the 'Litvino' tract. Two local populations were surveyed (Ungureanu et al. 2016).
	Comments from local experts:	The species could occur in sites MD0000051 Aflorimentul Goian and MD0000050 Dubasarii Vechi; the occurrence needs to be confirmed. It is not present in site MD0000049 Zoloceni.
	Reference:	Ungureanu et al. 2016

2139 Genista tetragona



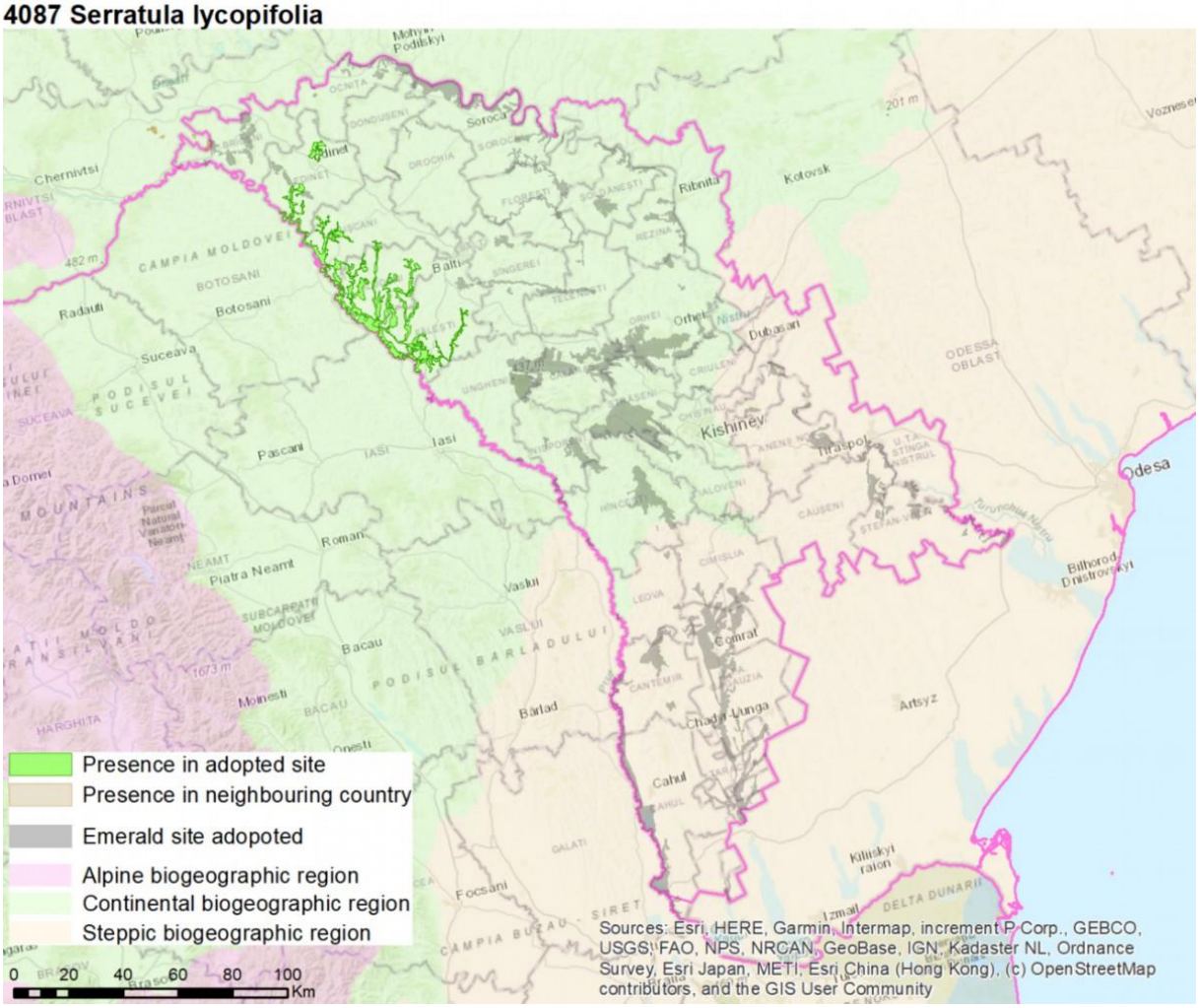
BGR	**4068 *Adenophora lilifolia***	
STE	Number of sites:	0
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	SR
	Recommendation 2025:	**Possibly the species to be excluded from the Reference list.**
	Comments from external experts:	It is uncertain whether *A. liliifolia* currently grows in the steppe regions of Moldova, as specific details about its distribution in the country are not available and Moldova is not within its geographical range.
	Comments from local experts:	Information on occurrence in Moldova is a mistake.
	References:	Vaculná et al. 2021

4068 Adenophora lilifolia



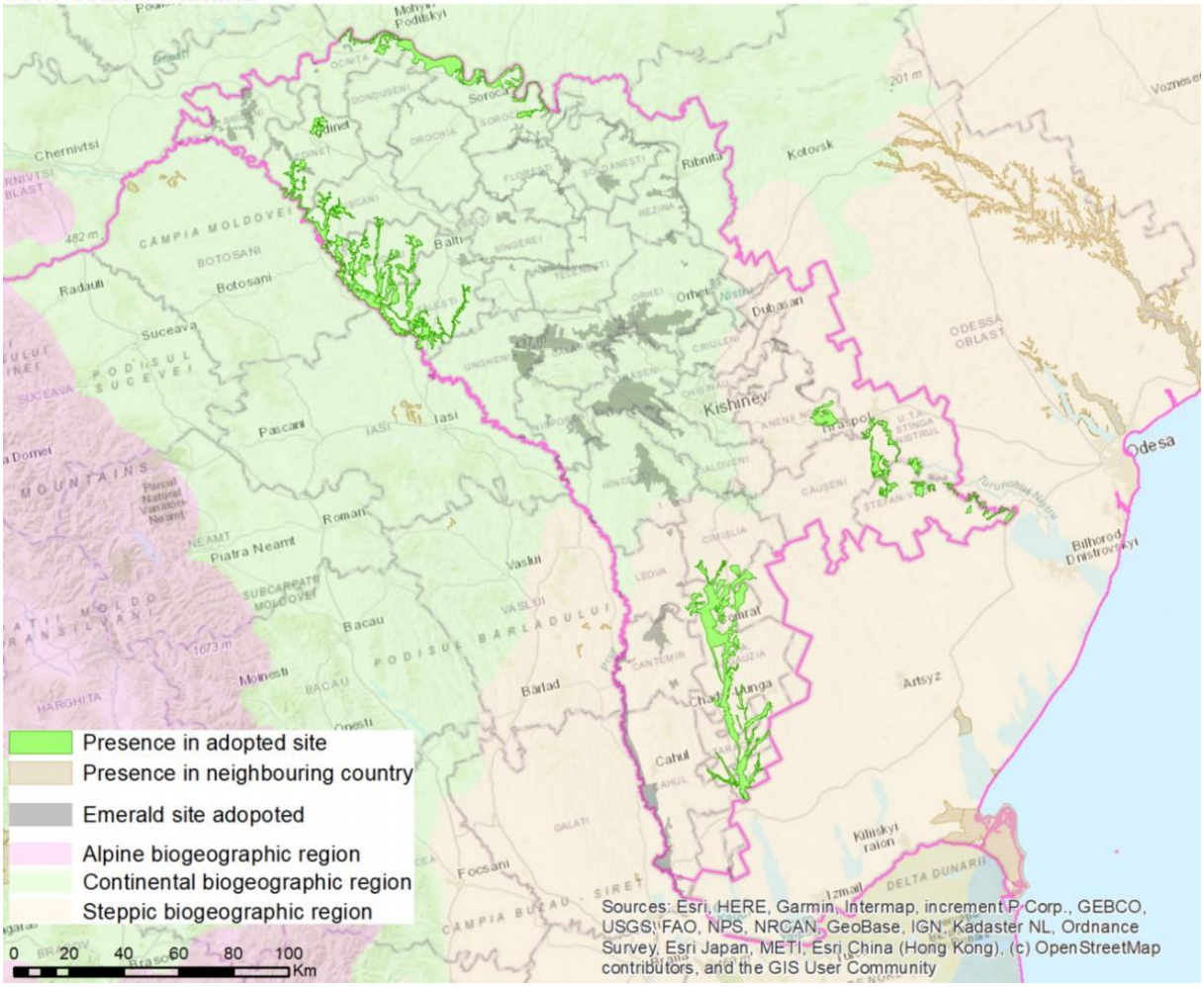
BGR	4087 *Serratula lycopifolia*	
CON	Number of sites:	2 (B:1, C:1)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Species to be added to sites MD0000027 La Castel and MD0000030 Fetesti, but further research is needed.**
	Comments from external experts:	In local flora, it grows only around Gordinesti village (Edinet), on the steppe rocky slopes of the Landscape Reserve 'La Castel'.
	Comments from local experts:	Species occurs in sites MD0000027 La Castel and MD0000030 Fetesti.
	References:	Duca et al. 2015; Ioniţă and Elena. 2015, 26

4087 Serratula lycopifolia



BGR	4091 *Crambe tataria*	
CON	Number of sites:	4 (C:4)
	BGR seminar 2019 conclusion:	IN MOD
	Recommendation 2025:	**Possible presence in MD0000053 Sculeni-Prut and MD0000047 Dancu-Prut. Further research is needed. The site MD0000047 Dancu-Prut is in the Steppic biogeographical region. In case the species' presence is confirmed, it should be added to the Reference list for MD/STE.**
	Comments from external experts:	In Moldova, it occurs sporadically, except in the northeastern and southern parts.
	Comments from local experts:	Species does not occur in site MD0000017 Stepa Baltiului. Possible occurrence in sites MD0000047 Dancu-Prut and MD0000053 Sculeni-Prut needs to be checked.
	References:	Chirilă et al. 2022; Dumitrița Chirilă 2022; Izverscaia and Ciubotaru 2021

4091 Crambe tataria



4. Activities required for further improvement of the national Emerald Network

Based on the analysis of the assessed species and habitats, the following recommendations emerged:

- The total area of the Emerald sites now accounts for about 8 percent of Moldova's territory. This coverage is considered insufficient to ensure the conservation of Emerald species and habitats, and its increase in the next years is expected. A gradual increase of the area of Emerald sites is also foreseen in the Action Plan in EU4Environment (2024b).
- Knowledge of Emerald species and habitats, including their distribution, local population sizes, and habitat areas, is insufficient. Therefore, we propose improving knowledge of species and habitats and their distribution, both by mobilizing the knowledge of Moldovan scientists and other experts and by conducting systematically planned fieldwork to map the distribution of relevant species and habitats and address existing knowledge gaps.
- To improve current knowledge, the habitat catalogue and manuals for mapping and monitoring species and habitats should be developed and used.
- Generally, in Moldova, invertebrates are studied much less than vertebrates and unevenly, particularly in the coverage level of taxonomic groups (lack of records on *Mollusca*, *Orthoptera*, *Coleoptera*, *Lepidoptera*, *Odonata*, and so on).
- Two species, *Cucujus cinnaberinus* for the STE region and *Nymphalis vaualbum*, are not listed in the reference list at present, but they are listed in the Red Book of the Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic (Kovali 2020) with their occurrence locations. Additional research is needed.
- Another problematic species is *Osmoderma eremita/O. barnabita*. There are only two records from the STE zone: one historical from 1917 (recorded *O. eremita*) and a current one from 2018 (ribbon floodplain forest in the vicinity of Nezavertailovka "Kuts Island"). The species is not recorded from the MD CON zone, but this region lies within its distribution, so it may occur there. Additional research is needed.
- The Floating Aldrovanda vesiculosa communities (STE) habitat is not linked to any site and should be considered for inclusion. It has been reported in the Cogâlnic River meadows near several Emerald sites (EU4Environment 2024a) and the lower Nistru River (Lozan et al. 2017). Further assessment is needed.
- For some terrestrial vertebrates and plants, there are doubts about the occurrence of a permanent population in the country; therefore, further research is needed. For example, previous records for *Vipera ursinii* exist from Moldova; however, these are presumed extinct. *Sicista subtilis* was recorded from the locality Taruti steppe, Ukraine, on the border with Moldova, and it is assumed to also live in the STE region of Moldova.
- Monitoring of all Emerald habitats and species is desirable. Based on the results of long-term monitoring, it is possible to determine Emerald species' population sizes, changes over time, and trends, to which conservation management measures can then be linked.

Additional recommendations emerged from discussions with national authorities and experts during the workshop held in Chișinău on October 16, 2025:

- Several projects focused on Emerald species and habitats are currently under way, including the LIFE RENATA project and the NEW RED BOOK. The national Emerald Network database should be updated based on the results of these ongoing projects and used to support potential proposals for new sites or to modify the boundaries of existing ones. The findings should also serve to correct mistakes and inaccuracies in site delineation.
- The LIFE RENATA project identified new habitats in Moldova; these findings should be discussed with the Ministry, and the habitats included in the national list. Mapping of habitats in existing Emerald sites is also needed.
- The habitat manual could support this mapping effort; therefore, a national habitat manual needs to be developed that includes links to international classification systems and reflects the specific characteristics of habitats in Moldova.
- Consider splitting the sites Prutul de Mijloc (MD0000011) and Stepa Bugeacululi (MD0000016).

- Consider adding several IBAs from the southern part of the country to the Emerald Network.
- According to their field records, local experts recommend adding *Triturus dobrogicus* to the reference list.
- During the implementation of the LIFE RENATA project it was found that the distribution of habitat G1.A4 Ravine and slope woodland is insufficiently known and should be studied and mapped.

The main purpose of this document is to serve as a tool to help prepare Moldova for the next round of the biogeographical seminar and to support the further development of the Emerald Network. The timing for the next database submission was not specified during the self-evaluation workshop held in Chișinău on October 16, 2025. However, we encourage the Ministry of Environment of the Republic of Moldova to allocate the necessary resources to prepare and officially submit an updated database to the Bern Secretariat. This action is crucial for advancing the future development of the Emerald Network.

4. Activități necesare pentru îmbunătățirea continuă a Rețelei Emerald la nivel național

În baza analizei speciilor și habitatelor evaluate, au fost formulate următoarele recomandări:

- Suprafața totală a siturilor incluse în Rețeaua Emerald constituie, în prezent, aproximativ 8% din teritoriul Republicii Moldova. Această acoperire este considerată insuficientă pentru a asigura conservarea speciilor și habitatelor de interes pentru Rețeaua Emerald, fiind preconizată o extindere a suprafeței în următorii ani. Mărirea treptată a suprafeței siturilor din Rețaua Emerald este, de asemenea, prevăzută în Planul de acțiune „EU4Environment" (2024b).
- Informațiile privind speciile și habitatele din Rețeaua Emerald, inclusiv distribuția lor, dimensiunea populațiilor locale și suprafețele de habitat, sunt insuficiente. Prin urmare, se propune îmbunătățirea bazei de cunoștințe privind speciile și habitatele, precum și distribuția acestora, atât prin mobilizarea expertizei oamenilor de știință din Moldova și a altor experți din domeniu, cât și prin desfășurarea unor activități de teren, planificate sistematic, pentru a cartografia distribuția speciilor și habitatelor relevante și pentru a remedia lacunele existente.
- Elaborarea și utilizarea unui Catalog al habitatelor, manuale pentru cartografierea și monitorizarea speciilor și habitatelor sunt acțiuni necesare pentru îmbunătățirea cunoștințelor actuale.
- În general, în Moldova, nevertebratele sunt studiate mult mai puțin decât vertebratele și în mod foarte neuniform, ceea ce se reflectă, în special, în gradul de acoperire al grupurilor taxonomice (lipsa înregistrărilor pentru *Mollusca*, *Orthoptera*, *Coleoptera*, *Lepidoptera*, *Odonata* etc.).
- Două specii, *Cucujus cinnaberinus* (pentru regiunea STE) și *Nymphalis vaualbum*, nu sunt incluse în prezent în lista de referință, dar sunt incluse în Cartea Roșie a Republicii Moldovenești Nistrene (Kovali, 2020), împreună cu localitățile/locurile de semnalare, astfel fiind necesare cercetări suplimentare.
- O altă specie problematică este *Osmoderma barnabita* (sensu lato). Există doar două înregistrări din zona STE: una istorică, din 1917 (raportată ca *O. eremita*), și una recentă, din 2018 (pădure de luncă în vecinătatea localității Nezavertailovca, Insula Cuța). Specia nu este înregistrată în zona MD CON; totuși, această regiune se află în aria sa de distribuție, ceea ce face posibilă prezența sa aici. Sunt necesare cercetări suplimentare.
- Habitatul comunităților plutitoare de *Aldrovanda vesiculosa* din zona STE nu este asociat cu niciun sit și ar trebui luat în considerare pentru includere. A fost semnalat în lunca râului Cogâlnic, în apropierea mai multor situri din Rețeaua Emerald (EU4Environment 2024a), precum și în cursul inferior al râului Nistru (Lozan et al., 2017). Este necesară o evaluare suplimentară.
- În cazul unor vertebrate terestre și specii de plante, existența unor populații permanente în țară rămâne incertă; prin urmare, sunt necesare cercetări suplimentare. De exemplu, deși există înregistrări anterioare ale speciei *Vipera ursinii* în Moldova, aceasta este considerată dispărută. Specia *Sicista subtilis* a fost documentată în stepa de lână localitatea Taruti (Ucraina) la granița cu Republica Moldova, și se presupune că ar putea fi prezentă și în regiunea STE din Republica Moldova.
- Se recomandă monitorizarea tuturor habitatelor și speciilor din Rețeaua Emerald. Pe baza rezultatelor monitorizării pe termen lung, este posibil să se determine dimensiunea populațiilor speciilor Emerald, schimbările în timp și tendințele, la care pot fi apoi corelate măsurile de management pentru conservare.

Recomandări suplimentare au reieșit din discuțiile cu autoritățile naționale și cu experții din domeniu în cadrul atelierului organizat la Chișinău la 16 octombrie 2025:

- În prezent, sunt în curs de desfășurare mai multe proiecte axate pe speciile și habitatele din Rețeaua Emerald, printre care proiectul LIFE RENATA și ediția nouă a Cărții Roșii a Republicii Moldova. Baza de date națională a Rețelei Emerald ar trebui actualizată în baza rezultatelor acestor proiecte în curs și utilizată pentru a sprijini eventuale propuneri de noi situri sau pentru revizuirea limitelor celor existente. Concluziile ar trebui să servească și la corectarea erorilor și inexactităților în delimitarea siturilor.

- În cadrul Proiectului LIFE RENATA au fost identificate noi habitate valoroase pentru Republica Moldova; aceste constatări ar trebui discutate cu Ministerul Mediului, iar datele despre aceste habitate a fi incluse în lista națională. De asemenea, este necesară cartografierea habitatelor existente în siturile Rețelei Emerald.
- Manualul privind habitatele ar putea sprijini acest efort de cartografiere; prin urmare, este necesară elaborarea unui manual național al habitatelor, care să includă corelări cu sistemele internaționale de clasificare și să reflecte caracteristicile specifice habitatelor din Moldova.
- Se recomandă luarea în considerare a divizării siturilor Prutul de Mijloc (MD0000011) și Stepa Bugeacului (MD0000016).
- Se recomandă includerea în Rețeaua Emerald a mai multor arii de importanță avifaunistcă (IBA) din zona de sud a țării.
- În baza datelor din teren, experții locali recomandă includerea speciei *Triturus dobrogicus* în lista de referință.
- În cadrul activităților proiectului LIFE RENATA s-a constatat că distribuția habitatului G1.A4 - Păduri mixte de pantă și vâlcele este insuficient cunoscută și ar trebui studiată și cartografiată la nivel național.

Scopul principal al acestui document este de a servi drept instrument pentru pregătirea Republicii Moldova în vederea următoarei runde a seminarului biogeografic și pentru sprijinirea dezvoltării ulterioare a Rețelei Emerald. Termenul pentru următoarea transmitere a bazei de date nu a fost specificat în cadrul atelierului de autoevaluare, organizat la Chișinău, la 16 octombrie 2025. Totuși, încurajăm Ministerul Mediului din Republica Moldova să aloce resursele necesare pentru pregătirea și transmiterea oficială a bazei de date actualizate către Secretariatul Convenției de la Berna. Această acțiune este esențială pentru sprijinirea dezvoltării viitoare a Rețelei Emerald.

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