

Management Zones in a National Park

General Approach & Examples From the EU Countries

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This Project is funded by the European Union



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Geographical Coverage

General approach: IUCN

Examples from the EU:

Austria

Czech Republic

Germany

Poland

Non EU country example:

Georgia



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Necessary Background

Definition of conservation objective(s):

1) 'Wilderness' area (protection of natural processes)

1) Biodiversity conservation (often incl. traditional use)

or

3) Combination



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IUCN Protected Area Categories

Category II – national park:

*large natural or near natural areas set aside to protect large-scale ecological processes (**at least at ¾ of the area!**), along with the complement of species and ecosystems characteristic of the area, which also provide a foundation for environmentally and culturally compatible spiritual, scientific, educational, recreational and visitor opportunities.*



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Source of Information



Protected Area Governance and Management

Editors: Graeme L. Worboys, Michael Lockwood, Ashish Kothari, Sue Feary and Ian Pulsford



BIO-PAMA



Guidelines for Applying Protected Area Management Categories

Edited by Nigel Dudley

Including IUCN WCPA Best Practice Guidance on Recognising Protected Areas and Assigning Management Categories and Governance Types by Sue Stolton, Peter Shadie and Nigel Dudley



Developing capacity for a protected planet

Best Practice Protected Area Guidelines Series No. 21



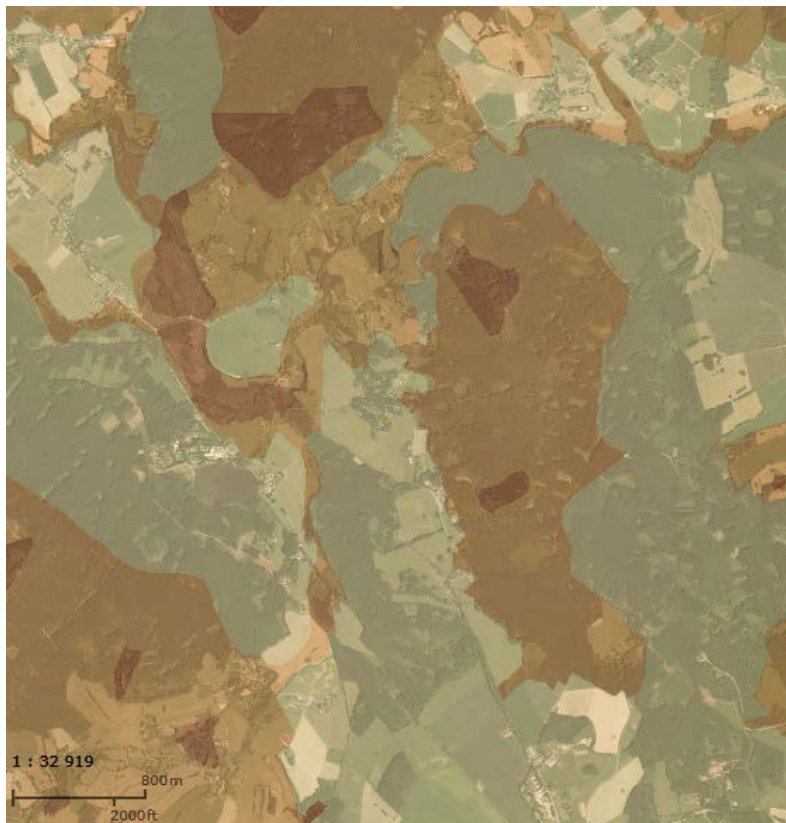
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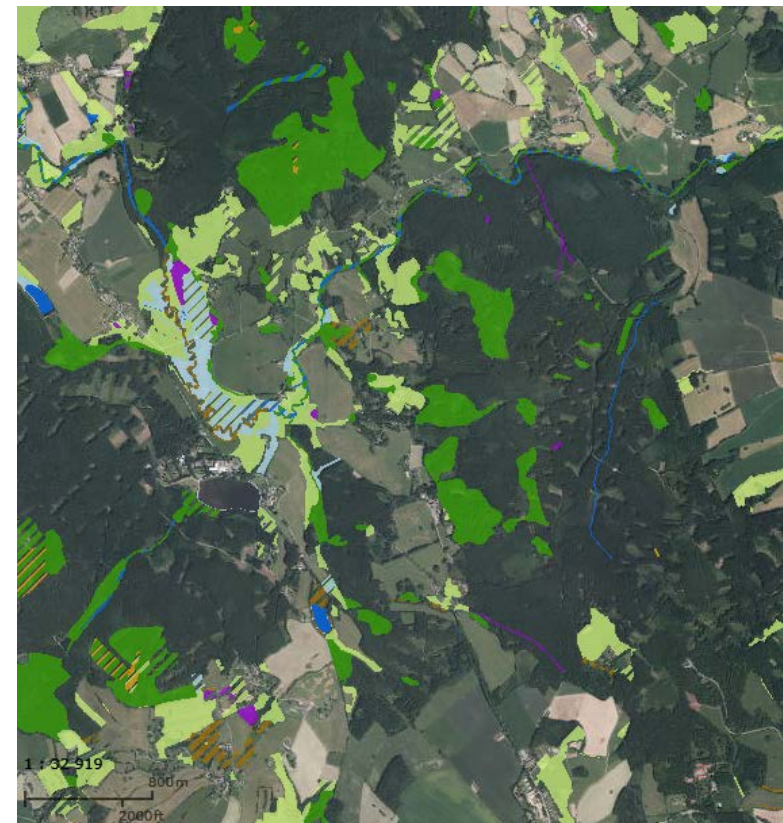
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Zonation? The IUCN Approach

management zones



X zones of 'naturalness'



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Zonation – the Aim

- to address threats and seek to minimise their negative effects
- spatial differentiation of the area with specific management objectives, e.g.:
 - **core zone** (human activities are disallowed excl. necessary management or occasional sociocultural uses)
 - **buffer zone** (often a multiple-use zone where management allows for different levels of resource)
 - **recreation or tourism zone** (where visitor management is key)



Zonation As a Tool

- zones shall be legally based: act, degree, etc.
- necessary to consider national conditions
(e.g., to use spatial planning for enforcement)
- think about regular update (usually needed)



Zonation - Delineation

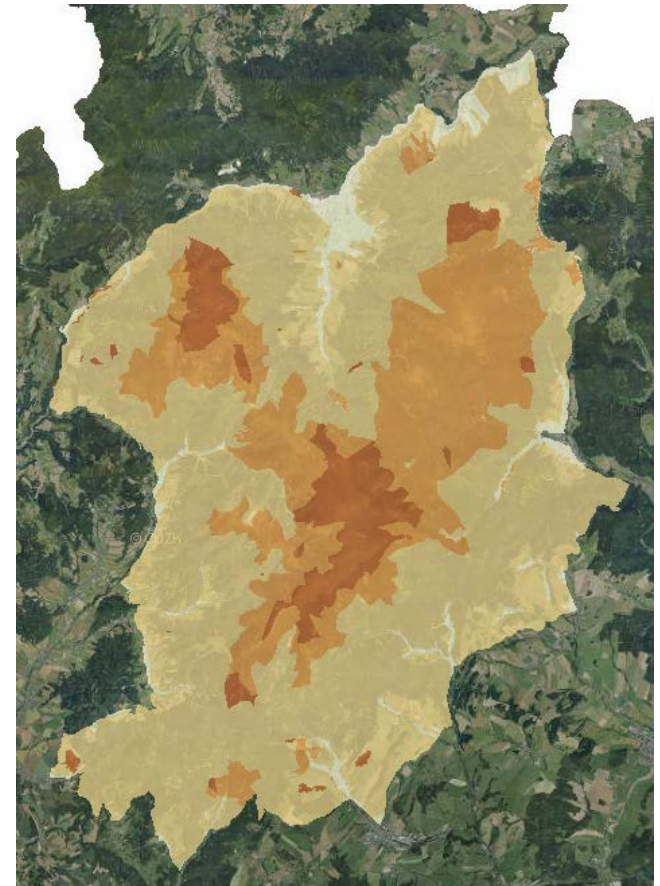
- zones clearly defined and recognizable in the field (roads, etc.)



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Zonation - Delineation

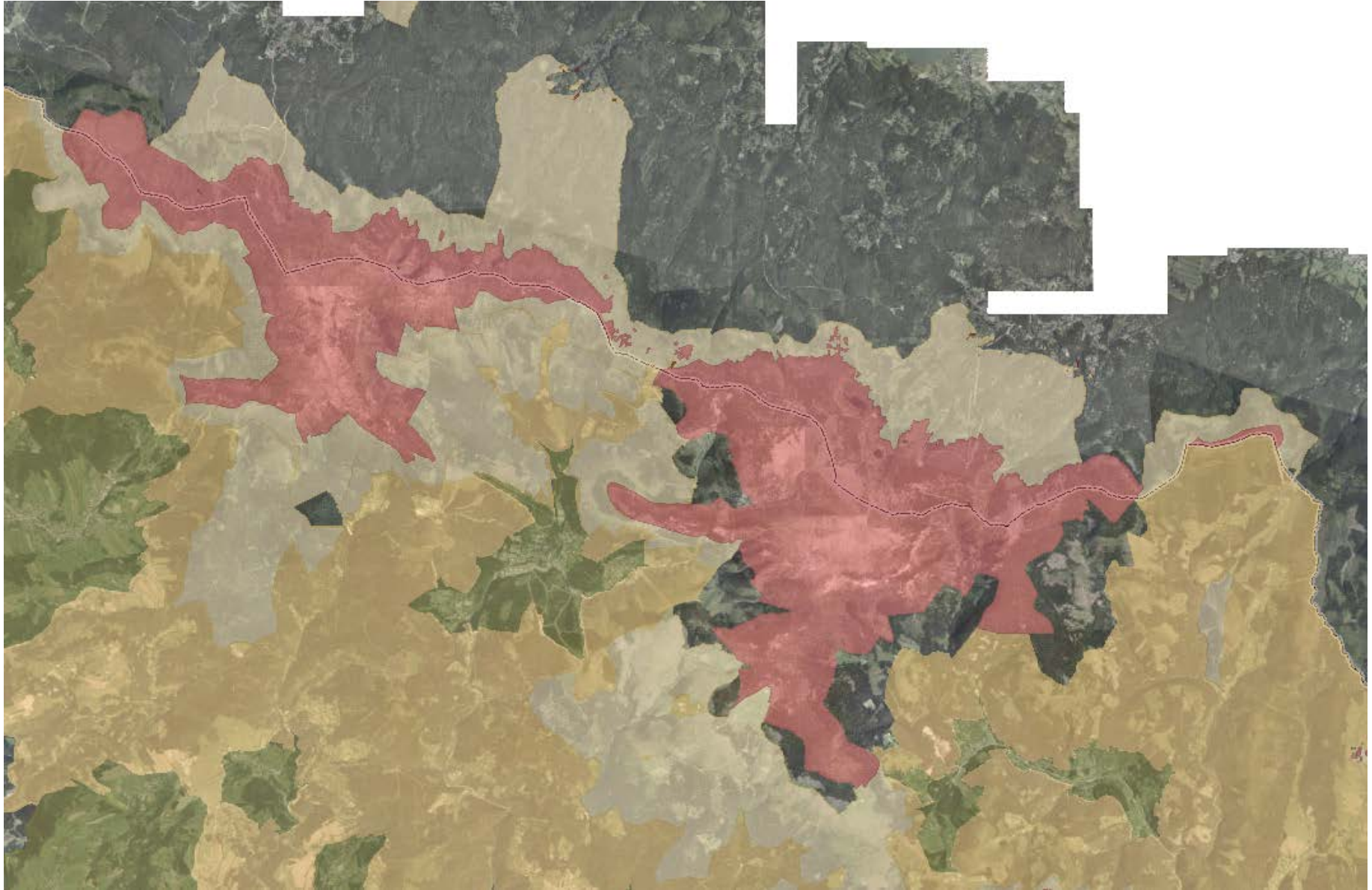
- Spatial consolidation is inevitable



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Zonation – Crossborder Cooperation



Example: Czech Republic

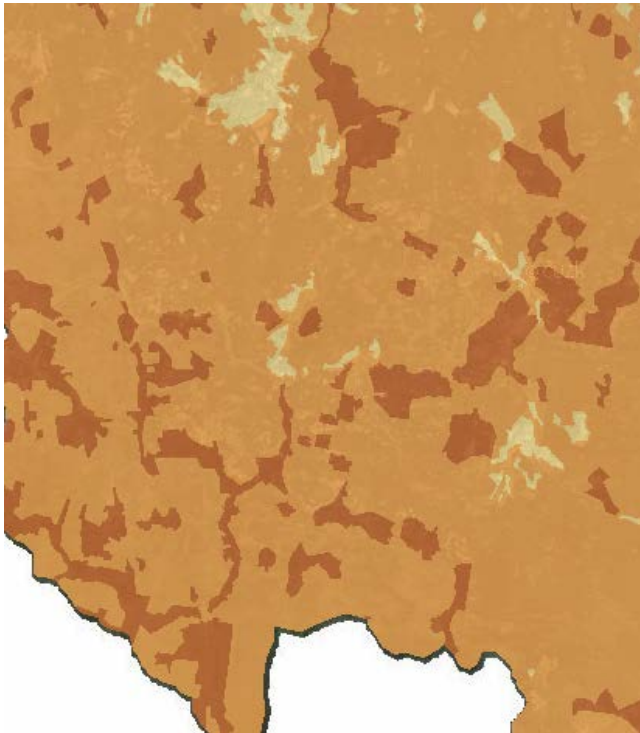
- zones defined as a level of representativeness
= no clear link to management
- usually 3 zones + buffer zone
 - 1th zone: natural
 - 2nd zone: near natural zone
 - 3th zone: modified and used (sustainable development)
- unsatisfactory → amendment of the law



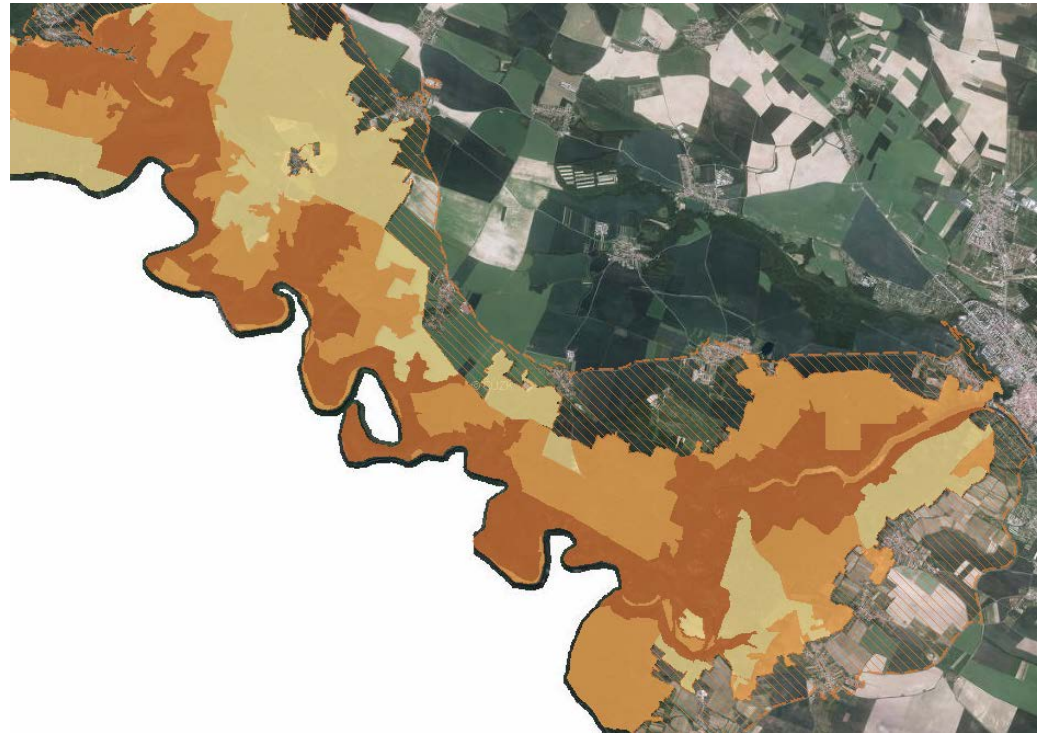
Example: Czech Republic

- Each zone has a list of legally based conditions/bans (no significant difference between 2nd and 3rd zone)

Šumava NP



Podyjí NP

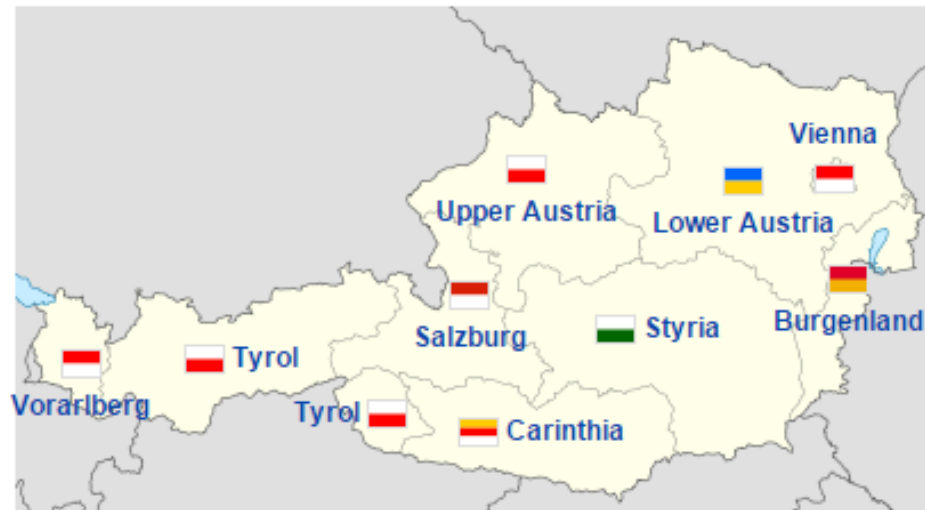


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Example: Austria

- Federal state composed of nine „landers“
9 approaches – 9 nature conservation laws
- Example: Upper Austria



Example: Austria

- 2 zones

1th zone: natural

2nd zone: „buffer“

- for each zone list of prohibited activities
- exception possible only if overriding public interest
(under criteria listed in the law)



Example: Germany

- also federal state, but one framework law
- usually 3-4 zones (NP = IUCN category II)
 - 1th zone: core
 - 2nd zone: transitional
 - 3th zone: management or „outside“ or „buffer“
 - 4th zone: recreational
- List of prohibited activities, exceptions permitted by the authority under their consideration



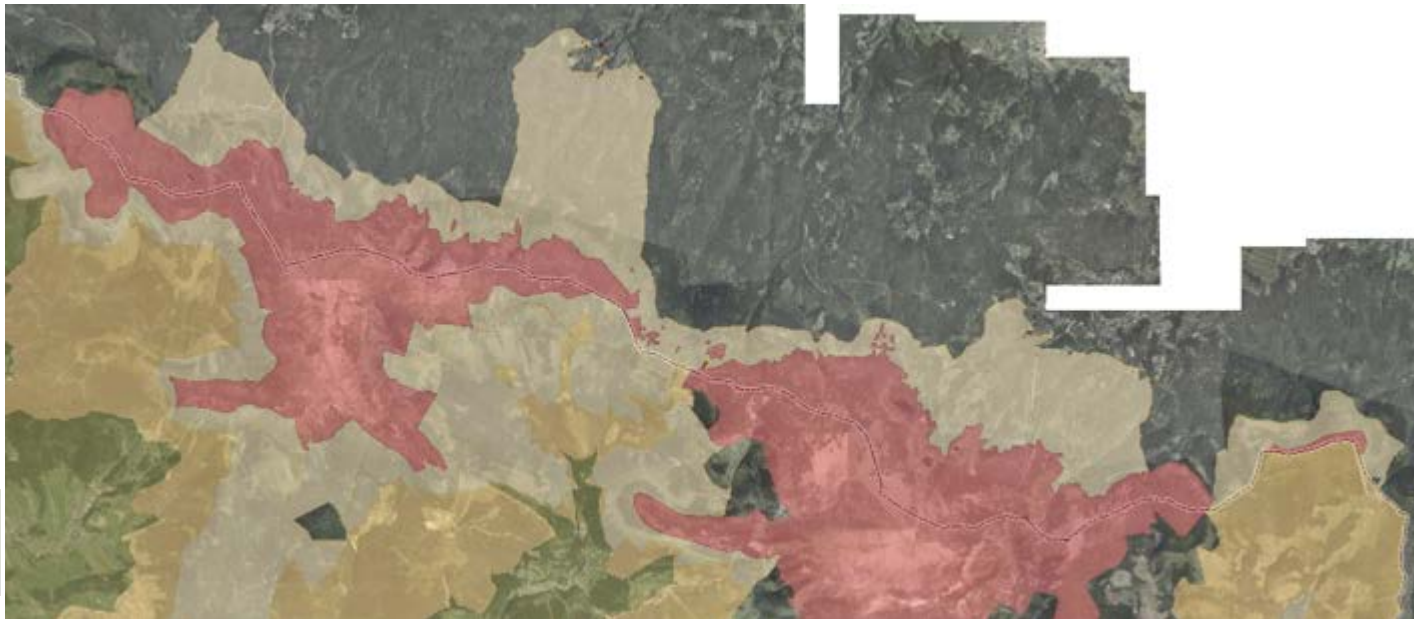
Example: Poland

- 2 zones + buffer zone

1th zone: natural

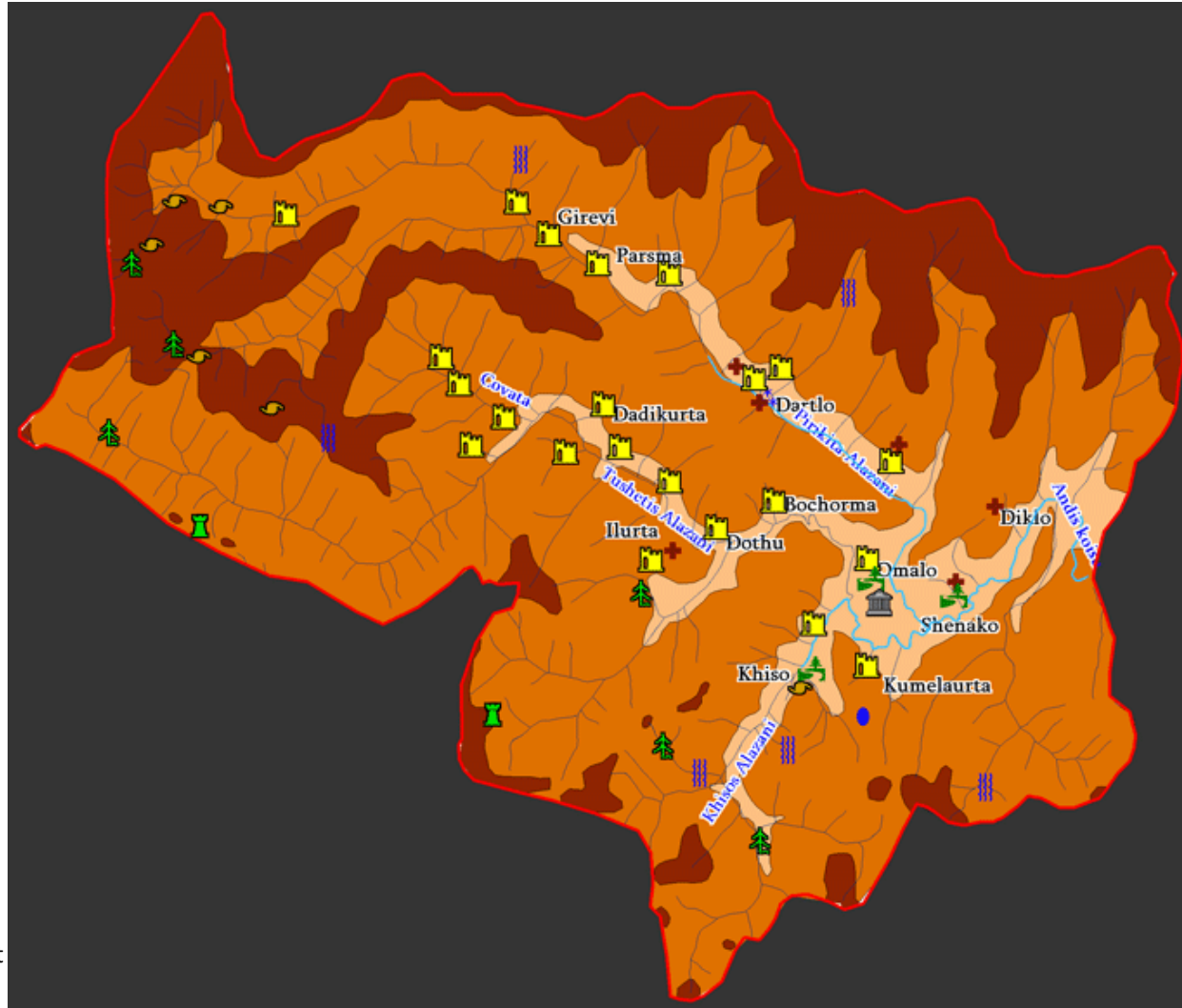
2nd zone: management or „outside“ zone

- long list of forbidden activities, very strict



Example: Georgia

- protected area categories instead of zones



Lessons Learnt

- the smaller number of zones, the better
- spatial consolidation is inevitable
- regular revision and update needed
- list of prohibited activities – always incomplete!
– better to list only permitted activities?



Proposed Management Zones

„The selection (identification) of zones and their delimitations was based first of all on:

- the state of nature*
- the occurrence of rare and endangered species and habitats and*
- the state of naturalness“*

This is an example of zonation based on a state of nature, but not on management needs.



Questions?



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