



# Saker in Southern Siberia: reintroduction, nestboxing and effect of COVID-19

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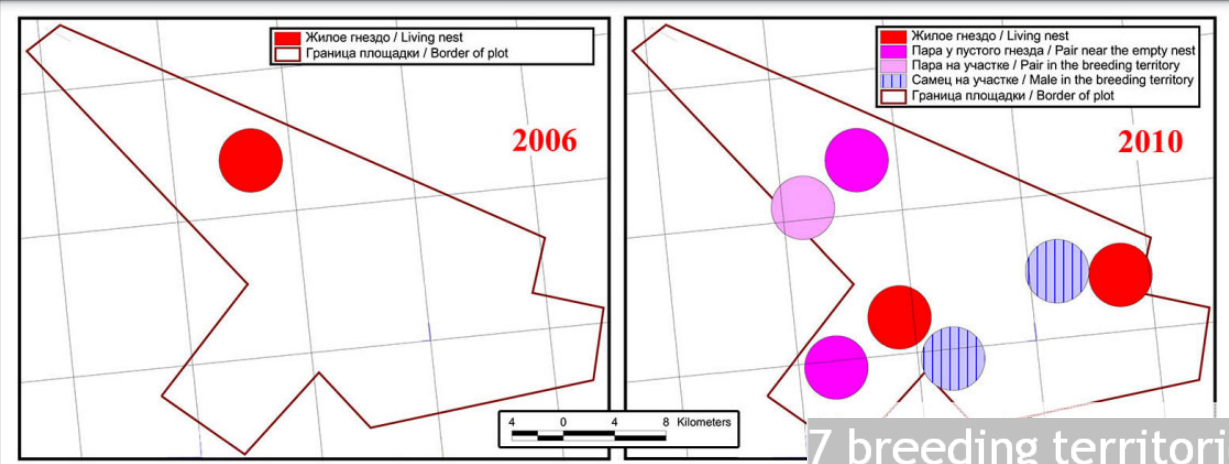
**RRRCN**

# RRRCN

- ▶ Since 2017 we are running the Saker Falcon reintroduction project dedicated to maintaining a wild population of dark “Altaicus” morph of Saker Falcon
- ▶ We are using a foster-parent adoption method when a captive-bred nestling of 25 days old is introduced into a foster family of wild sakers with their own nestlings.
- ▶ A lot of work has been done and it is still ongoing to attract sakers for breeding.

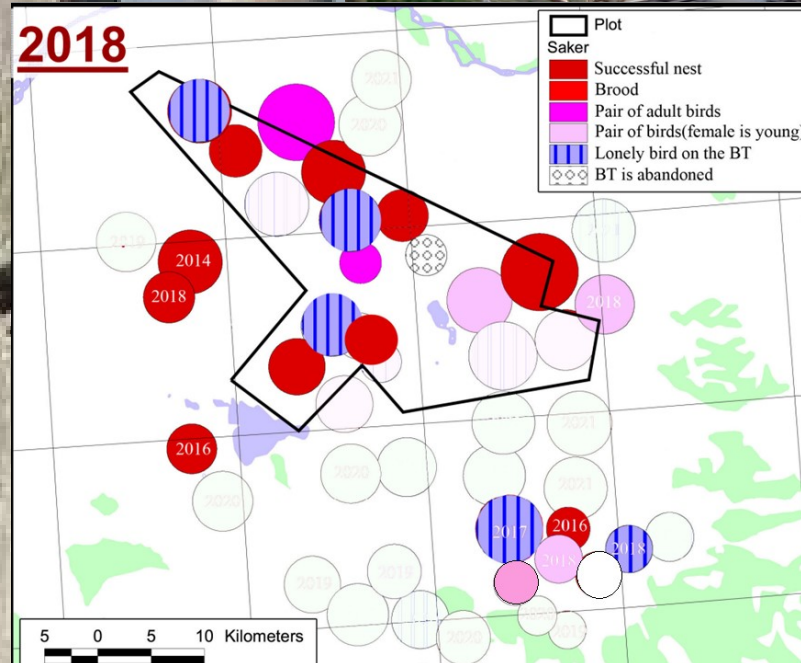
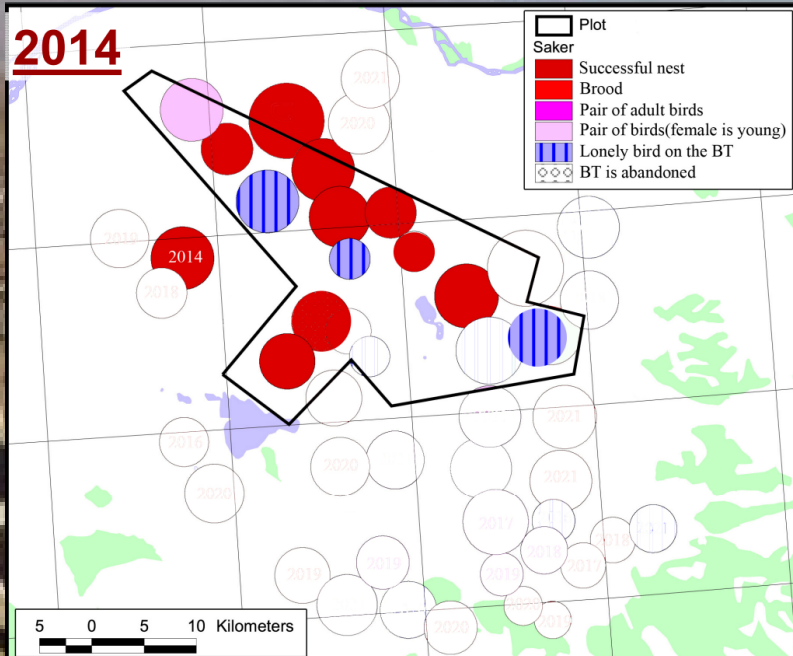


# Platforming and nestboxing



2006-2011: +134 platforms  
+ 8 pairs of Saker

# Platforming and nestboxing



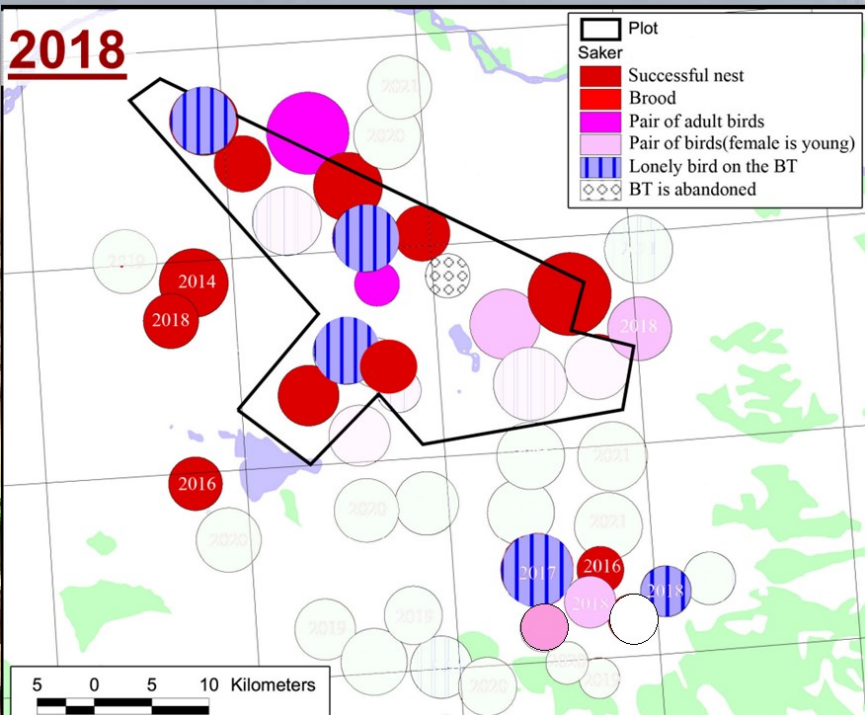
13+ breeding territories

12+9 breeding territories

2.2 pairs per 100 km<sup>2</sup>  
12-14 pairs in the core



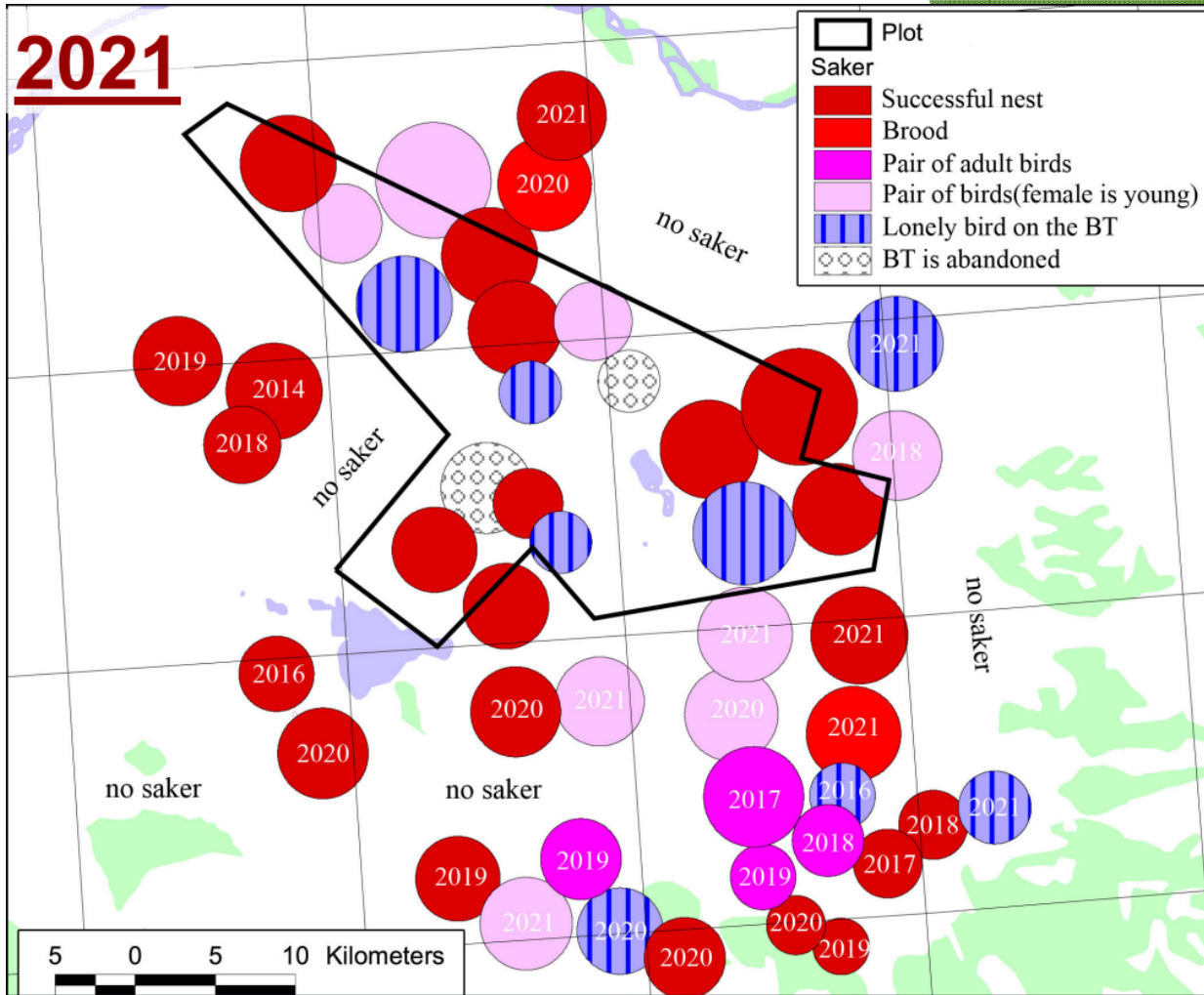
# Platforming and nestboxing



12+9 breeding territories

10+19 breeding territories

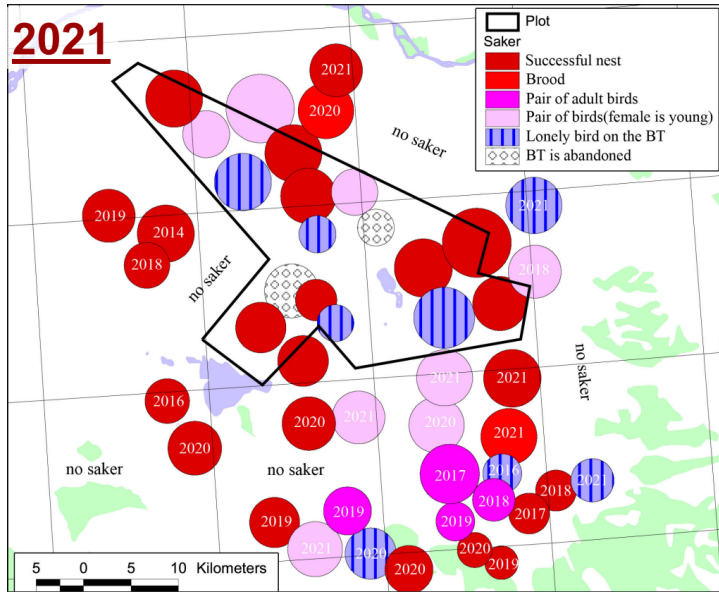
2018-2022: +144 nestboxes



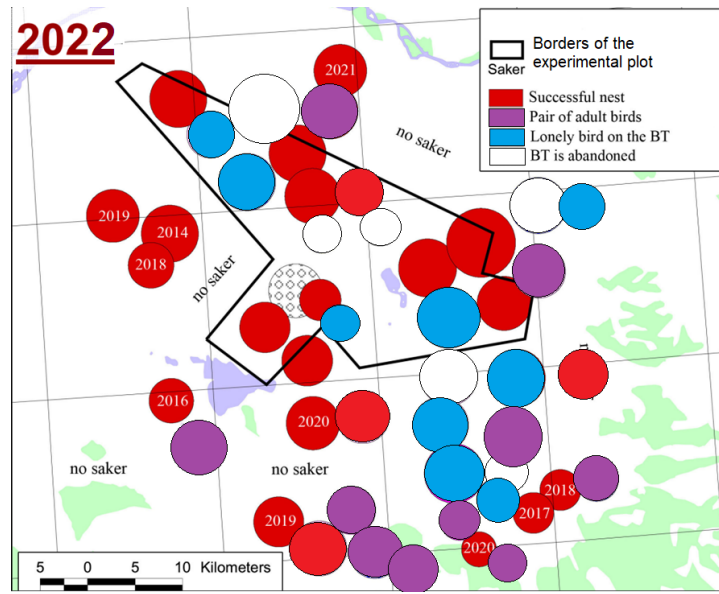
## The “COVID effect”

- Trapping is the very serious threat for Saker
- Population can still recover itself

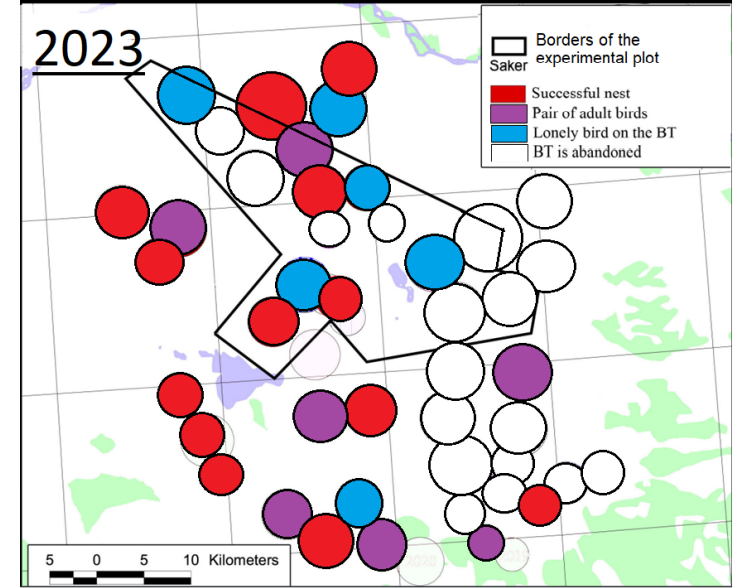
47 (15 core +32 periphery) breeding territories



47 breeding territories



44 breeding territories



26 breeding territories

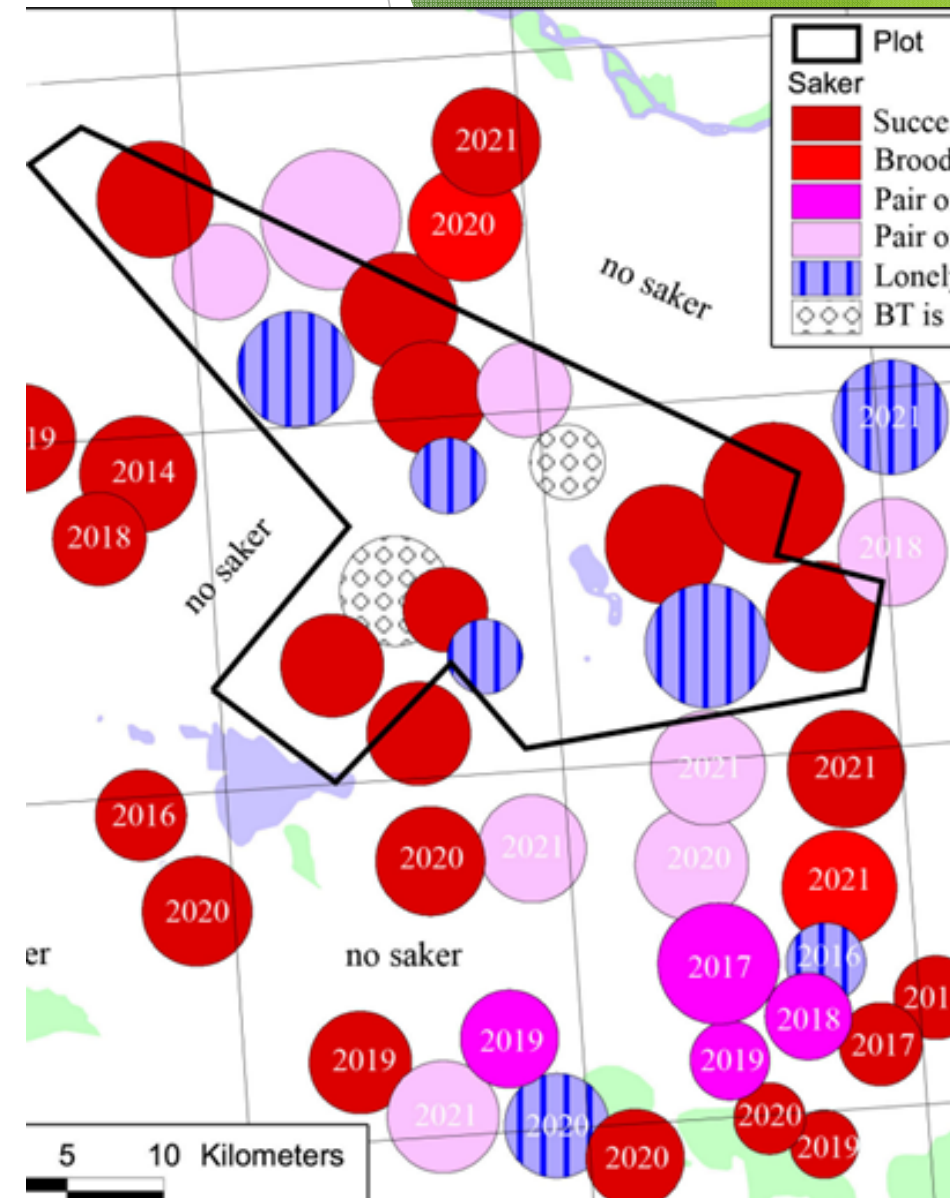
The growth disappeared together with quarantine...

900 km<sup>2</sup>

## Changes in the number of Sakers inhabited our study area

	occupied territories	breeding pairs
2014	14	11
2018	21	17
2020	29	24
2021	47	38
2022	44	35
2023	26	21

In the surrounding area the density of saker is about 5 times lower





# Reintroduction project

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
10	19	20	9	9	14	0



Total 81 adopted nestlings

46 pairs were enrolled  
in the project as foster  
parents with  
**153** native nestlings

# Reproductive success



	breeding pairs	unsuccessful pairs	%
2014	11	1	9
2018	17	2	12
2020	24	0	0
2021	38	1	3
2022	35	1	3
2023	21	7	33



## Supplemental prey providing

- Prey is provided every 3-4 days
- to each nestling in a brood, not only for adopted ones.
- Hamsters / rats (brown) / chicken (1-2 days old)

# Effect of supplemental prey providing in 2023

Period	Total	died	No of broods
Eggs laid	Min 54	Min 8	20
Nestlings before supplementary feeding	Min 45	Min 8	15
Supplementary feeding was started (39 nestlings alive)			
Nestlings from unfed broods	10 3.3 ch/nest	2	3
Nestlings from fed broods	27 2.7 ch/nest	0	10
Fledglings	35		13



# A side-effect of providing supplemental prey



2023

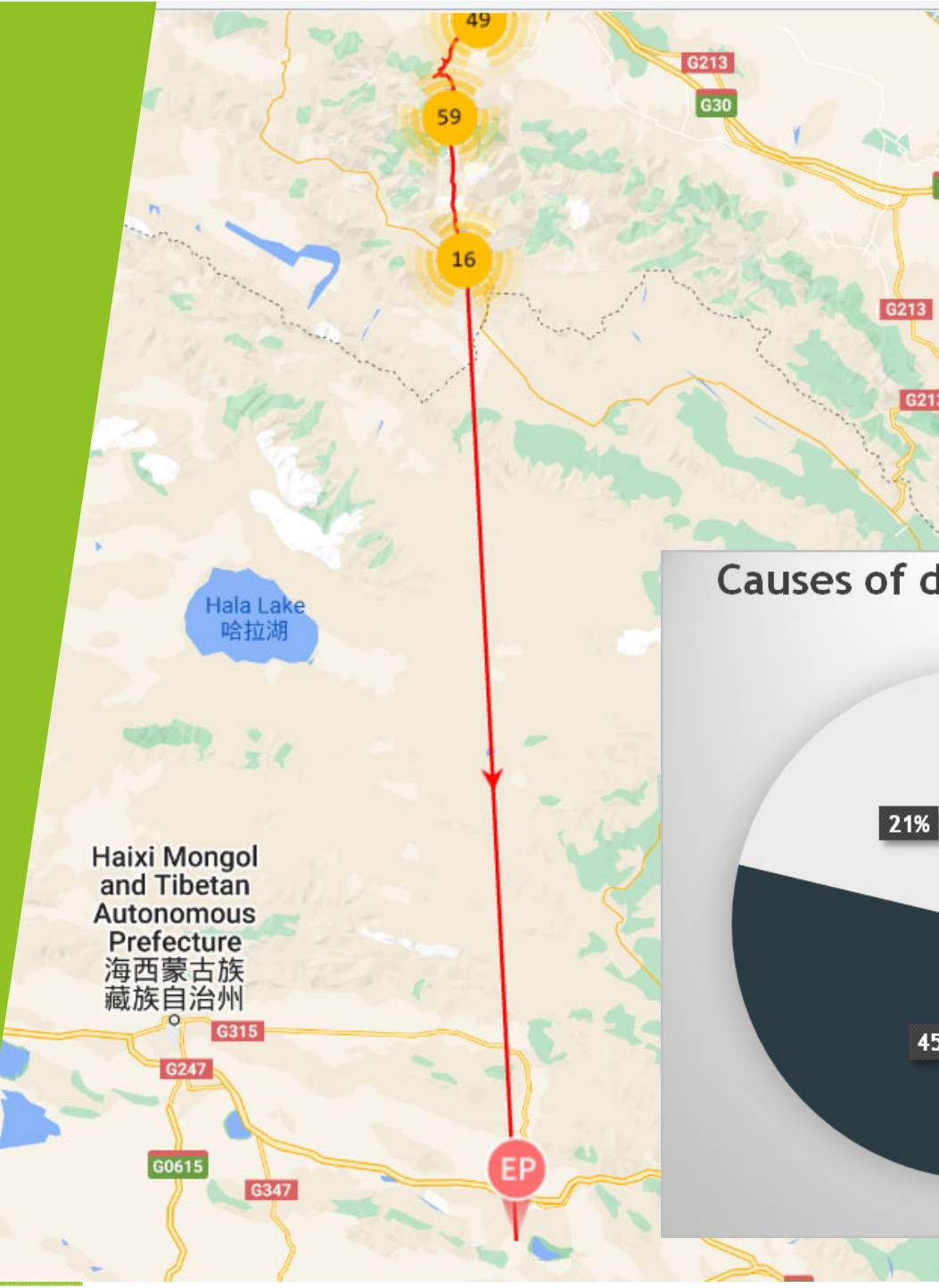


# Total number of fledglings per year

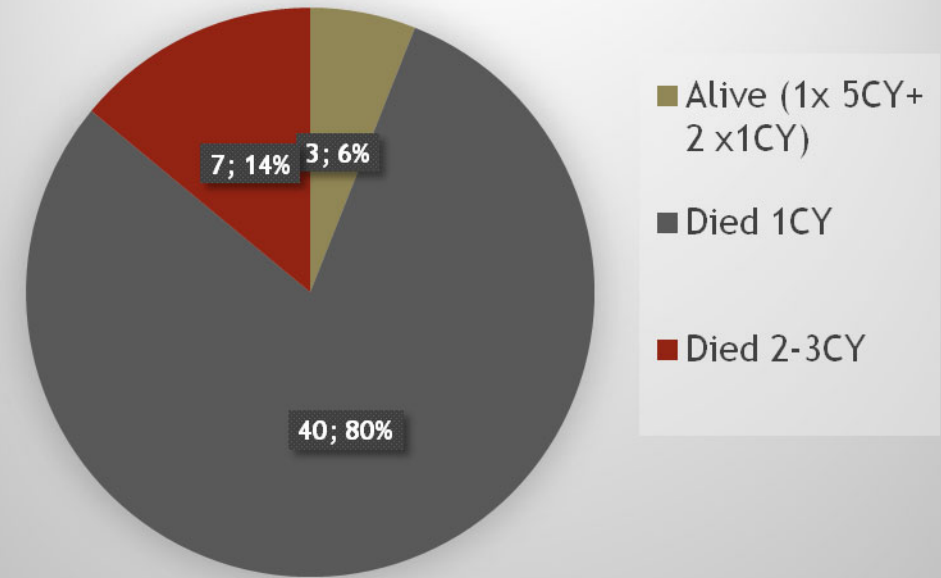
	N of native nestlings	N of successful pairs	Fledg per pair	N of adopted fledglings
2014	37	9	4.1	0
2017	22	6*	3.7	8
2018	30	9	3.3	18
2019	29	8	3.6	17
2020	40	12	3.3	9
2021	65	20	3.3	8
2022	58	21	2.8	14
2023	35	13	2.7	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>316</b>			<b>74</b>



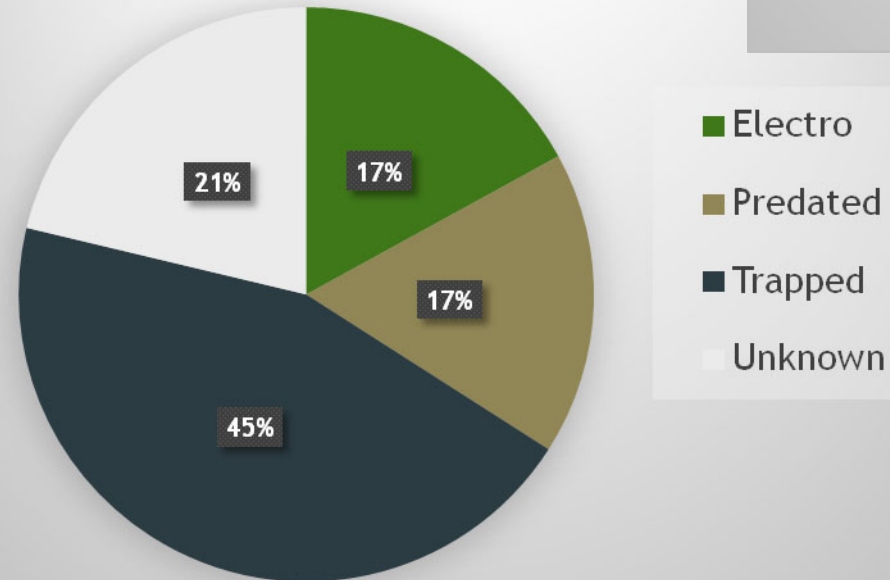
# Threats



A fate of Sakers after dispersal  
n=50



Causes of death of our Sakers  
n=37





# D-217



Was born in 2019  
Breeds since 2021




# CA-22

Was born in 2021

Bred in 2022

Was killed by an eagle owl



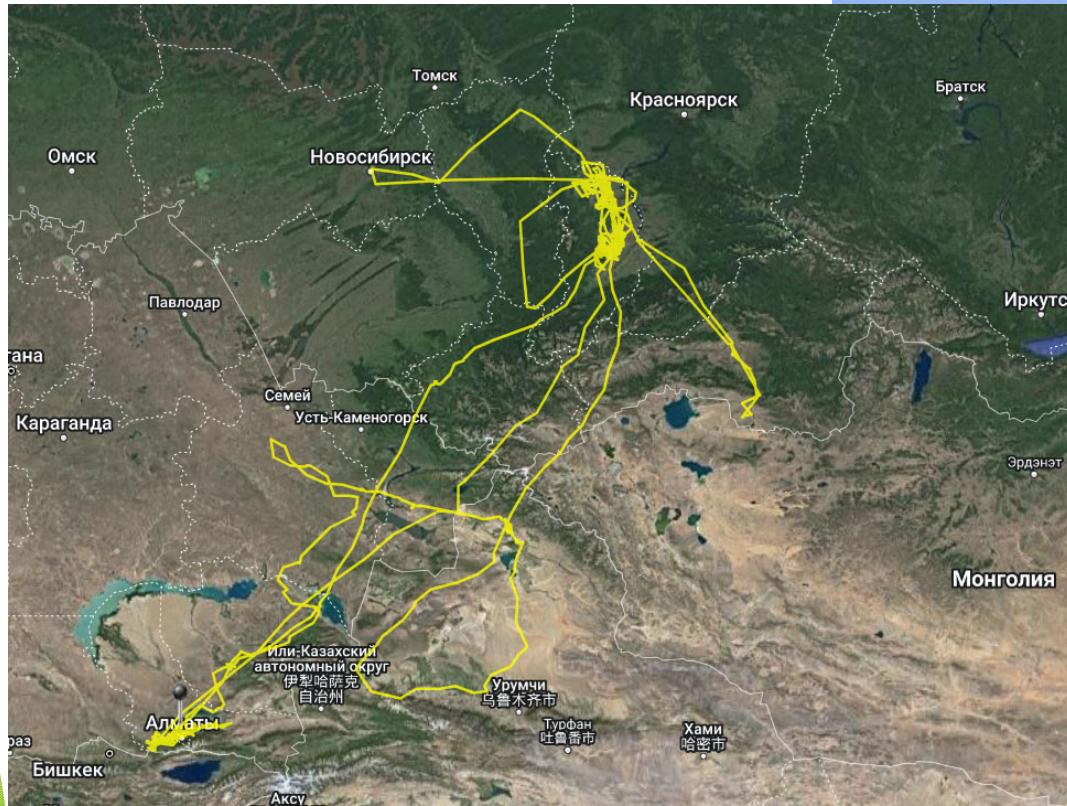


Batya(2016), Sora(2016),  
Uchsiin(2017), Asya(2020)  
and Argus(2021)

All died on their first spring migration

# Charmander

Was born in Moscow in 2020  
Died on Nov 29 of 2021 in Almaty



Tuva → Almaty → Khahasia → Almaty



Life-saving tattoo

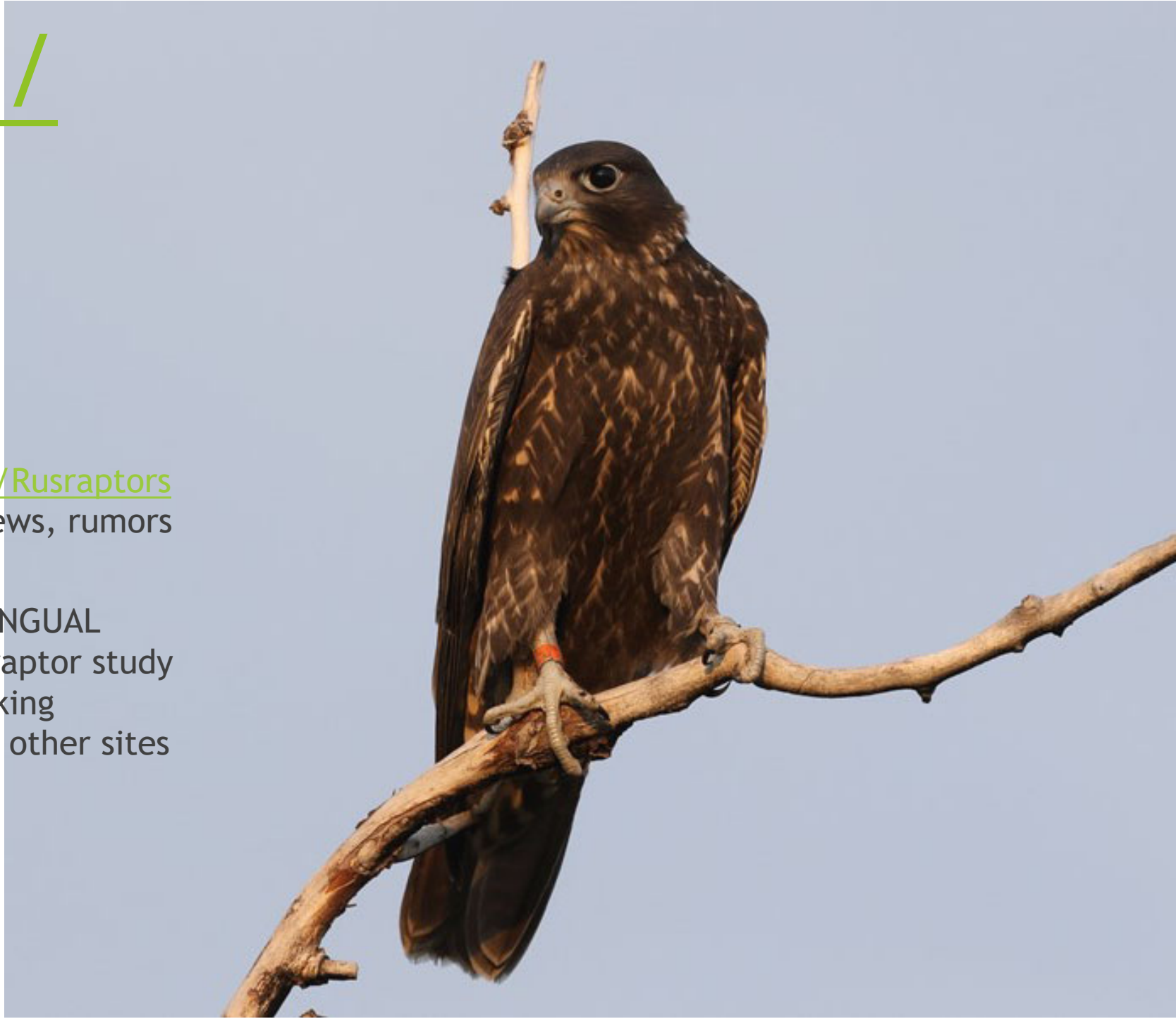




How can we stop trapping to save them?



- ▶ <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Rusraptors> - RRRCN group in the FB - braking news, rumors and stupid question
- ▶ [http://rrrcn.ru/en/journal\\_rc](http://rrrcn.ru/en/journal_rc) - BILINGUAL journal (RUS/ENG) with articles on raptor study and conservation from Russian-speaking territories mostly, but also from the other sites of the world.
- ▶ [equ001@gmail.com](mailto:equ001@gmail.com)



Ready for your questions!







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картинки”**

