

Venticinque anni di progetto Grifone in Abruzzo: 1993-2018

*Raggruppamento Carabinieri Biodiversità
Reparto Biodiversità Castel di Sangro*

utb.casteldisangro@forestale.carabinieri.it

Essential contributions to the project

Agreement between the Spanish Government and the Forest Service



As well as... many, many others!

The reintroduction in Abruzzo



PERCHÈ?
WHY?

Thew reintroduction in Abruzzo

Rationally there would have been several good reasons to do it... or not to do it at all!

- Uncertainty about the presence of a previous self-sustaining population (last records in XVI century)
- Priority of the reintroduction vs. limited funding available for the conservation of threatened wildlife demanding huge support
- Unknown extinction drivers and subsequent inability to remove them...

The reintroduction in Abruzzo

Whatever the theory...



We have to deal with vultures now!

The reintroduction in Abruzzo

But how to deal with that?

1993-2007:

Releasing vultures, (*heavily*)
feeding them, monitoring
reproduction

From 2008:

How to go further?

FROM REINTRODUCTION TO MANAGEMENT!

The management of griffon vultures

1- What do we know about this population?

2- Do they find enough food in the wild?

3- Is supplementary feeding playing a significant role in supporting this population?

4- Are there threats undermining its conservation, and what?

And...

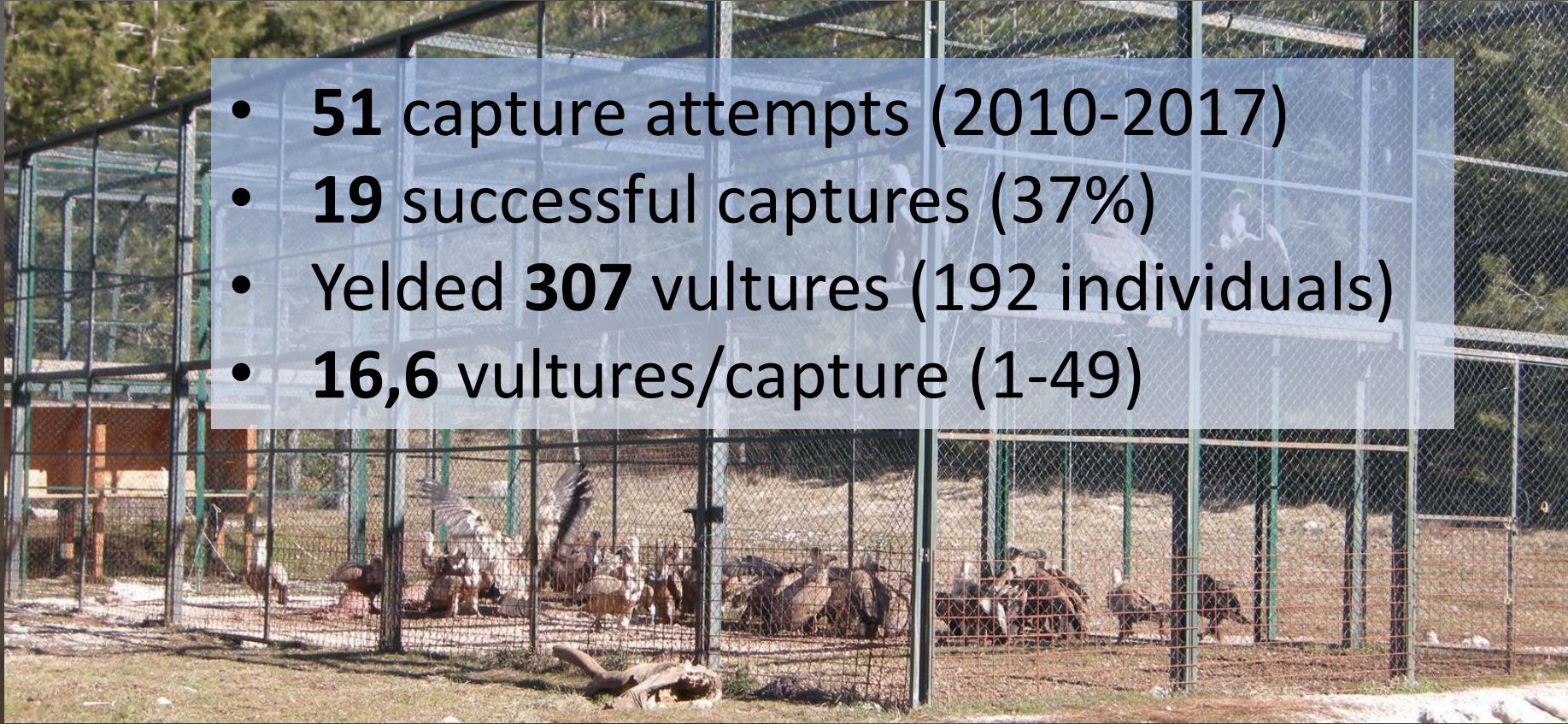
The management of griffon vultures

Does it was a successful
reintroduction?

What do we know about this population?

Capturing (and marking) griffon vultures

- **51** capture attempts (2010-2017)
- **19** successful captures (37%)
- Yelded **307** vultures (192 individuals)
- **16,6** vultures/capture (1-49)



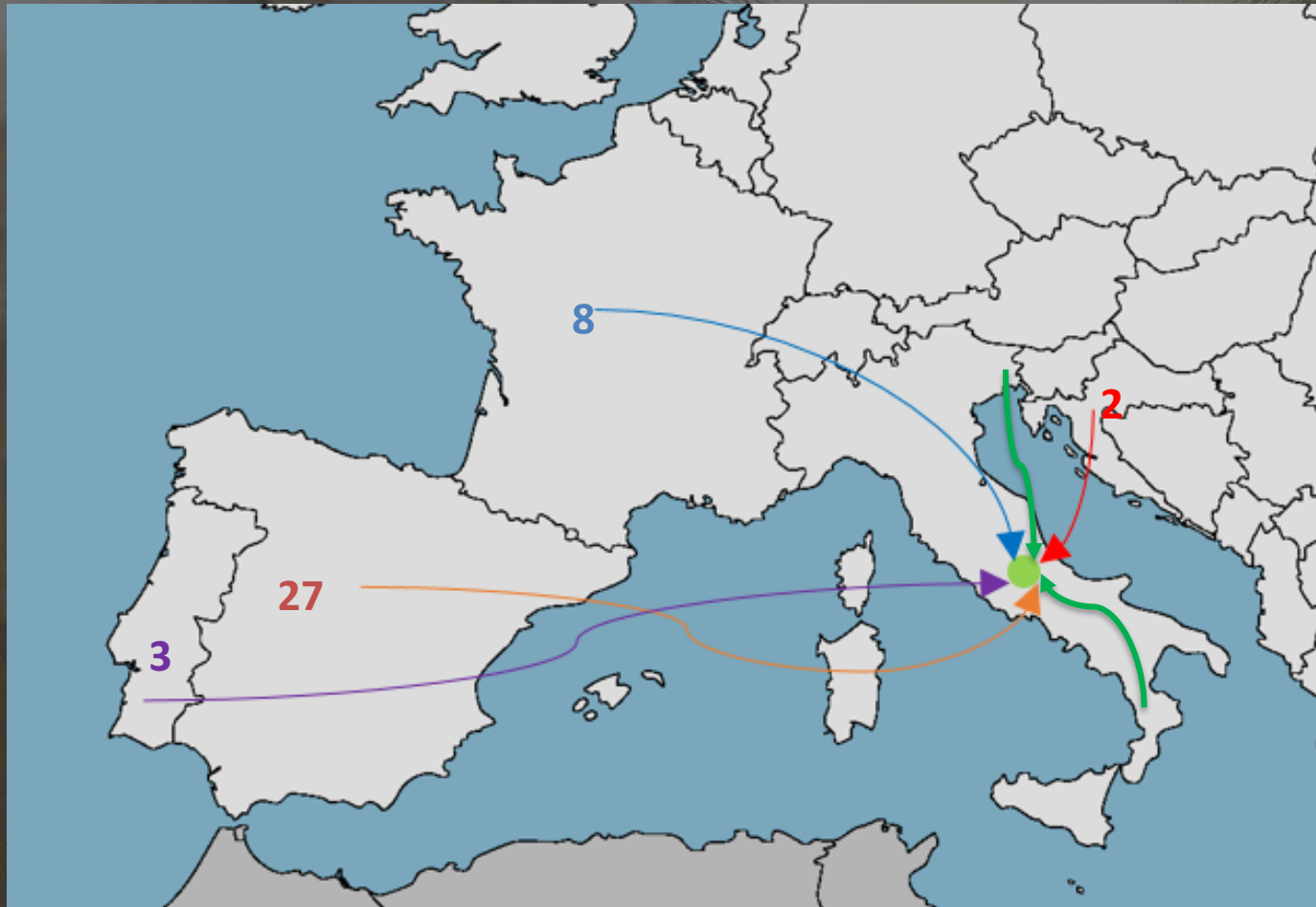
To what extent they spread and from where they come from



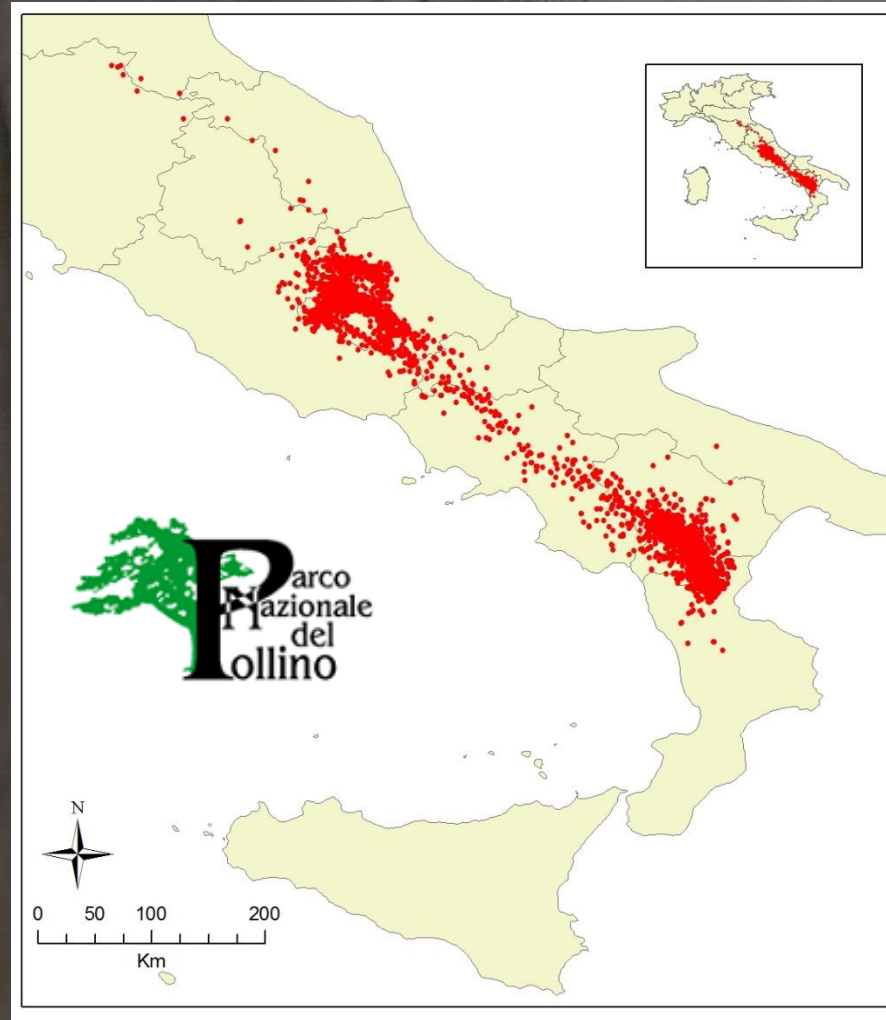
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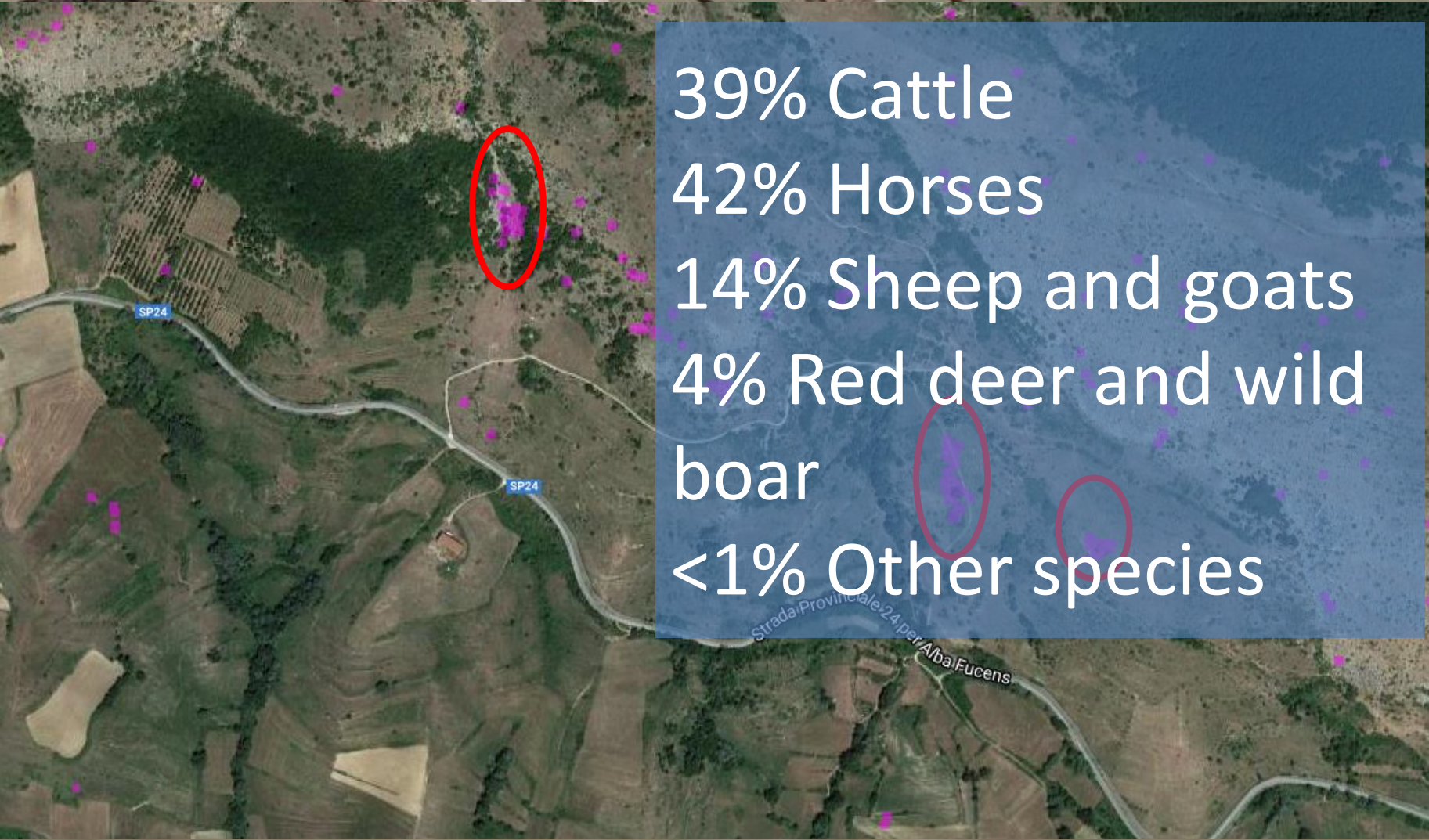
To what extent they spread and from where
they come from



To what extent they spread and from where they come from: its a matter of scale



Is there enough food in the wild?



39% Cattle
42% Horses
14% Sheep and goats
4% Red deer and wild boar
<1% Other species

Is there enough food in the wild?



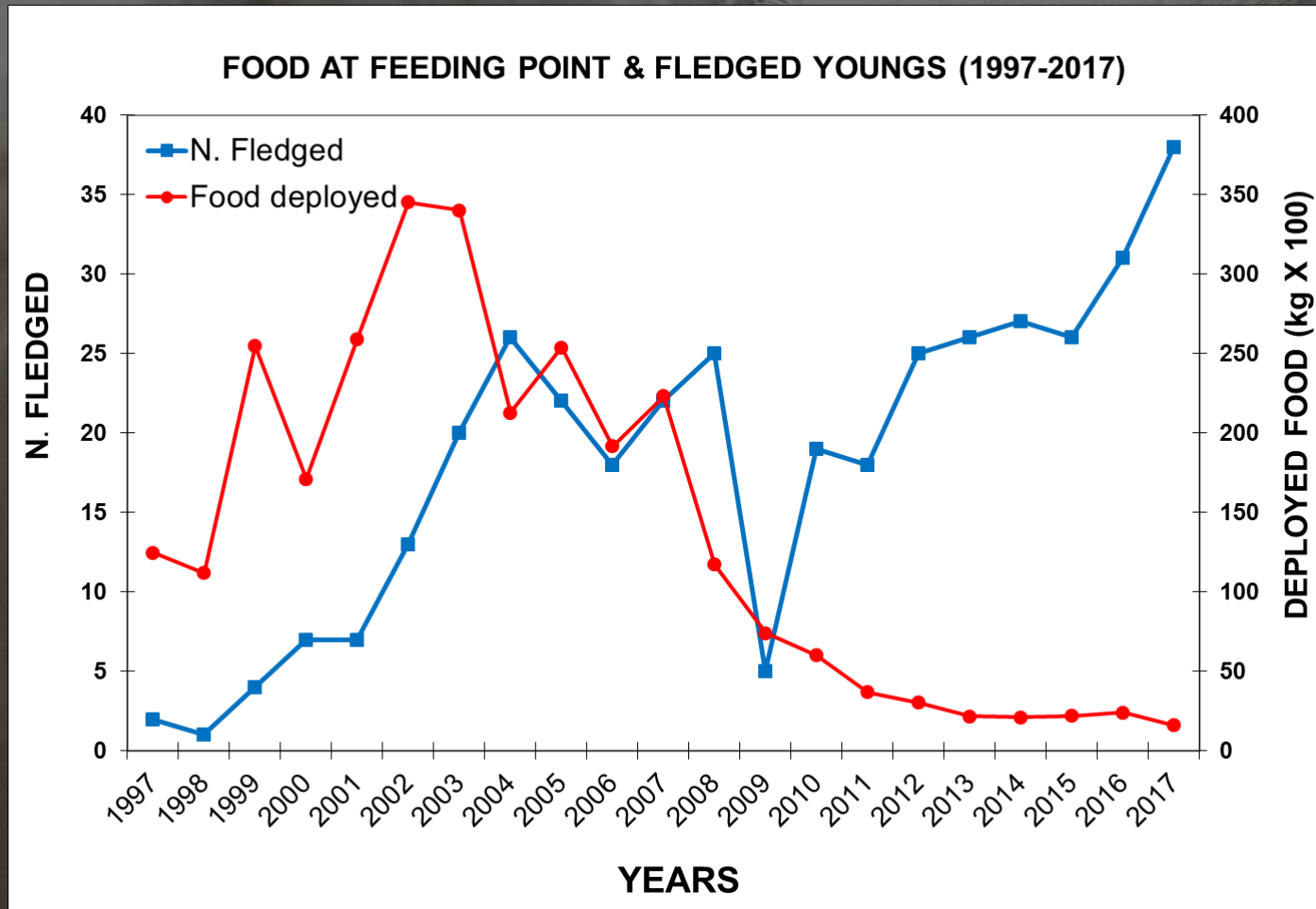
- How often do they feed out of the feeding point?
 - Foraging rate predictive models
- Where do they find carcasses?
 - What risks they face while moving around?

Is there enough food in the wild?

- It could be difficult to estimate actual food intake!



What is the role of supplementary feeding?

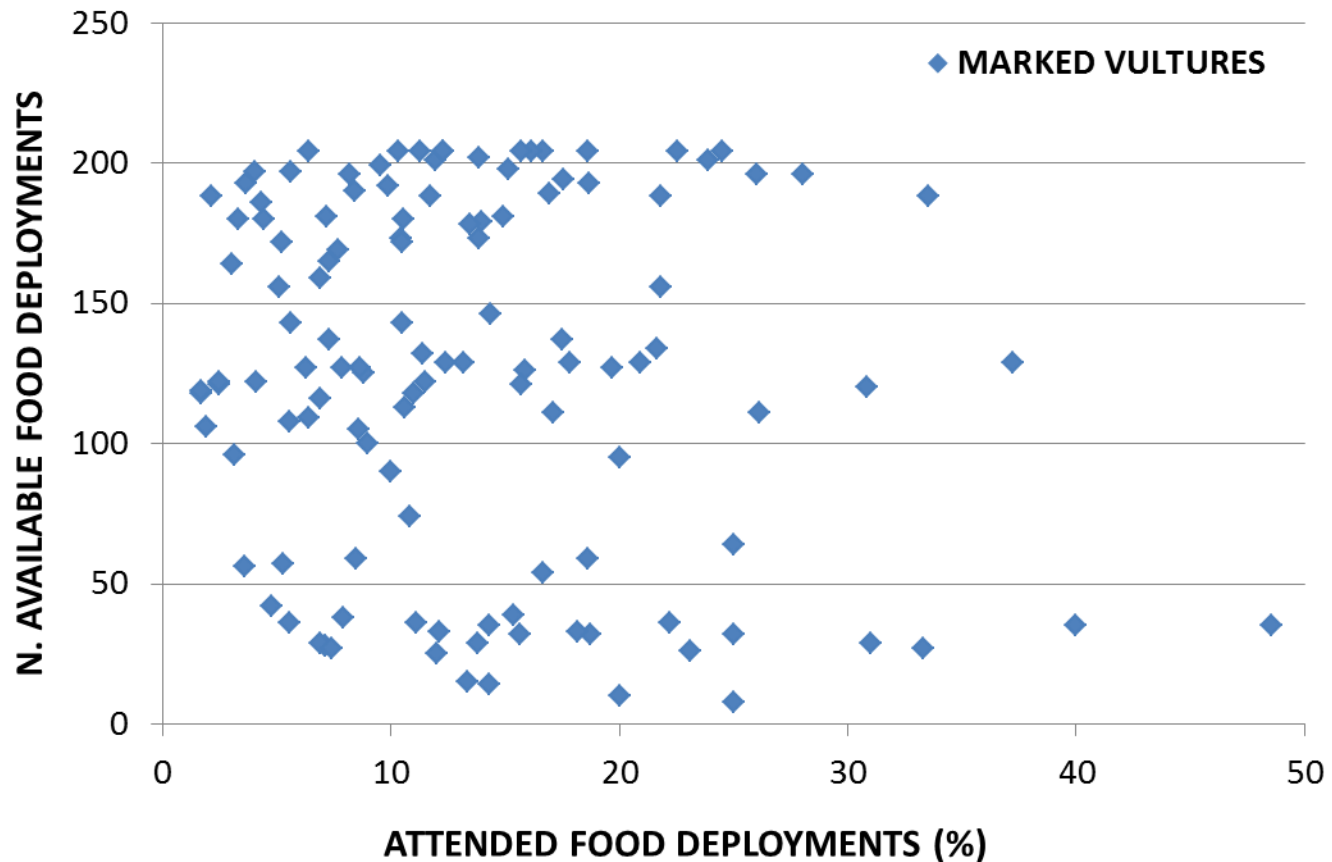


What is the role of supplementary feeding?

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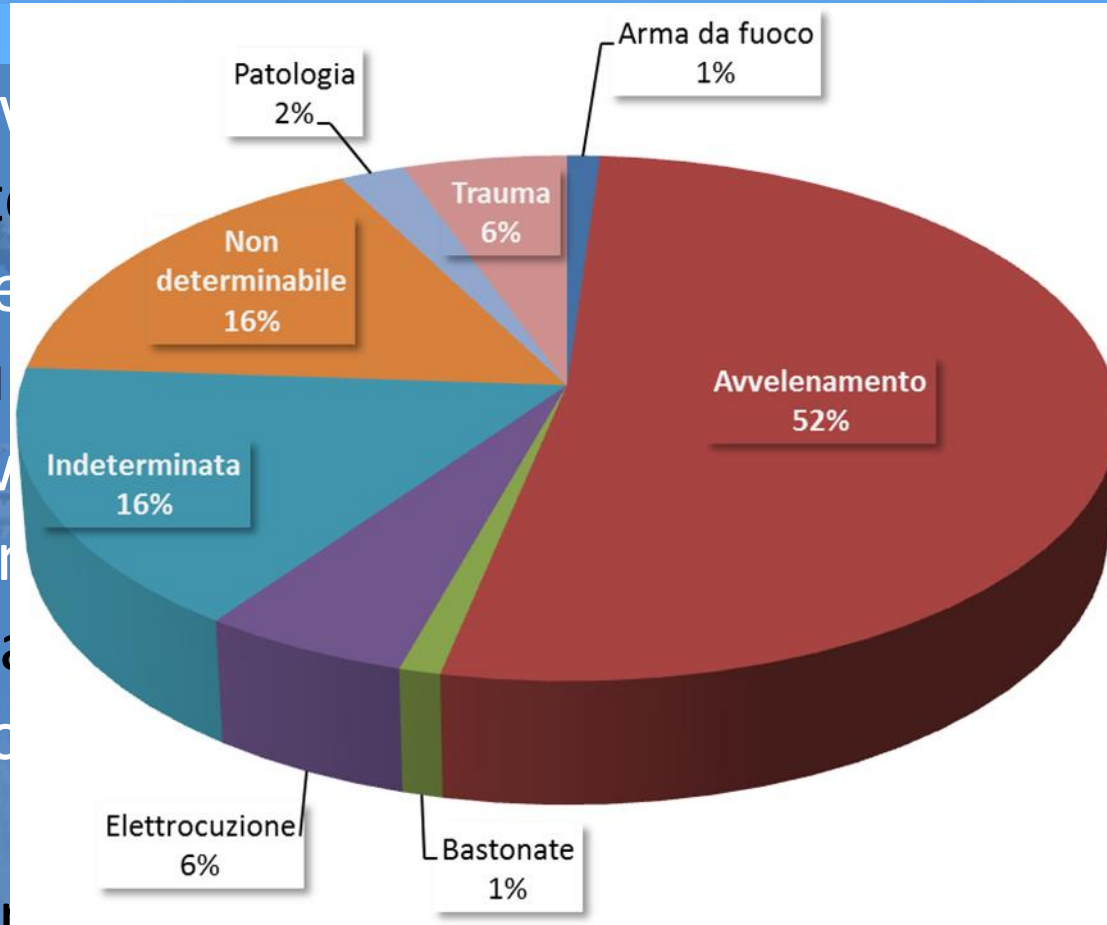
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KEEP GUARD

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Does it was a successful reintroduction?

Constantly growing
Susceptibility to
Relative independence
Trend of «naturalization»
Continuous flow of
populations (and
Very high human
Unknown effects
(NSAIDs)
Lack of a national wide action plan



THANK YOU! GRAZIE !



ISPRA



ISTITUTO ABRUZZESE AREE PROTETTE



Parco Naturale Regionale Sirente Velino
Qui proteggiamo Natura e Cultura