

22 OCTOBER 2018, DG ENVIRONMENT, BRUSSELS

Purpose of the Toolkit

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PURPOSE OF THE TOOLKIT

- The instructional toolkit is intended to serve as a practical guide to existing Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping approaches, as well as a manual for how to develop the most effective Wildlife Sensitivity Map(s) for use by the EU Member States.
- It will comprehensively evaluate all existing global Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping tools.
- It will provide clear guidance on how such tools should be used and embedded within existing planning and consenting processes.
- It will outline the factors to consider in developing new systems and provide step-by-step instruction on how this should be undertaken.



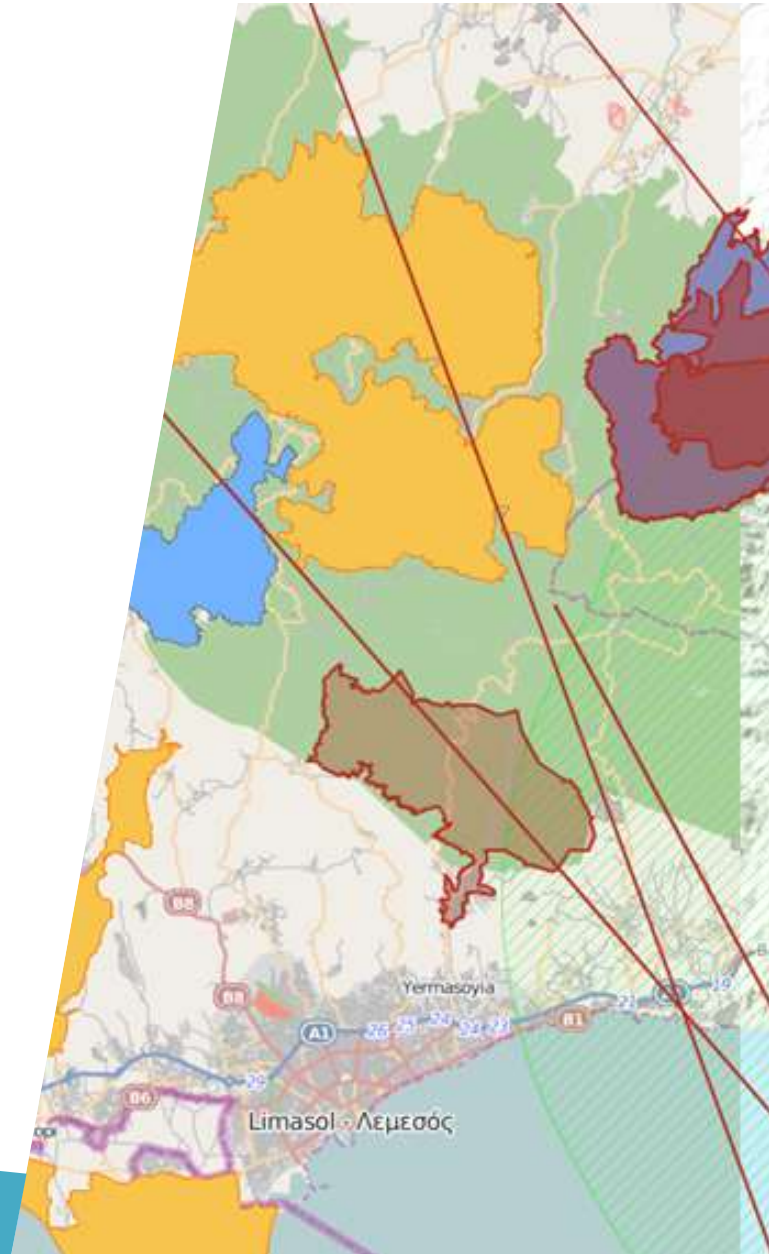
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- ✎ The toolkit will be a dynamic, interactive document that can be disseminated online.



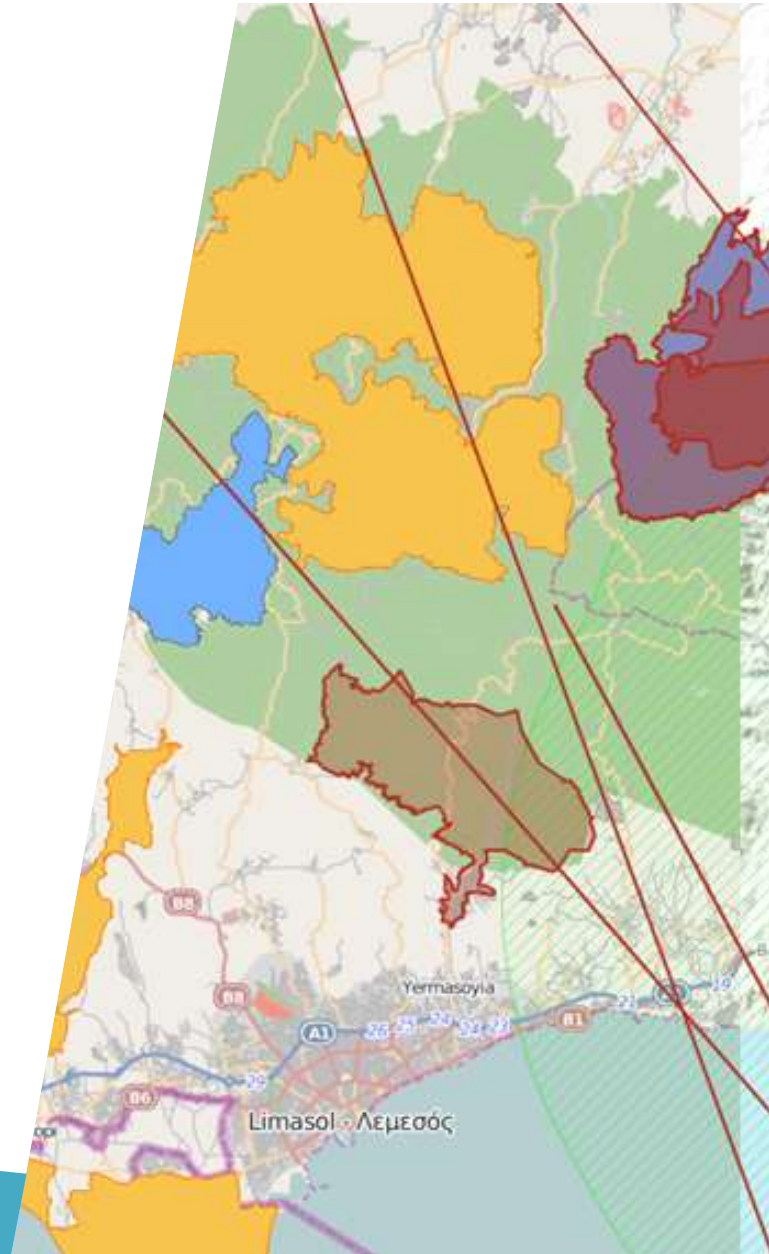
CONTENT STRUCTURE

- Introduction and objectives
- Review of existing Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping approaches
- Evaluation of the most suitable approaches in the context of the EU Birds and Habitats Directives and current renewable energy targets
- A decision tree for determining the appropriateness of mapping approaches in relation to various parameters (e.g. target taxa, renewable energy sector, regional scale, planning requirements, data quality and availability)
- Best practices checklist



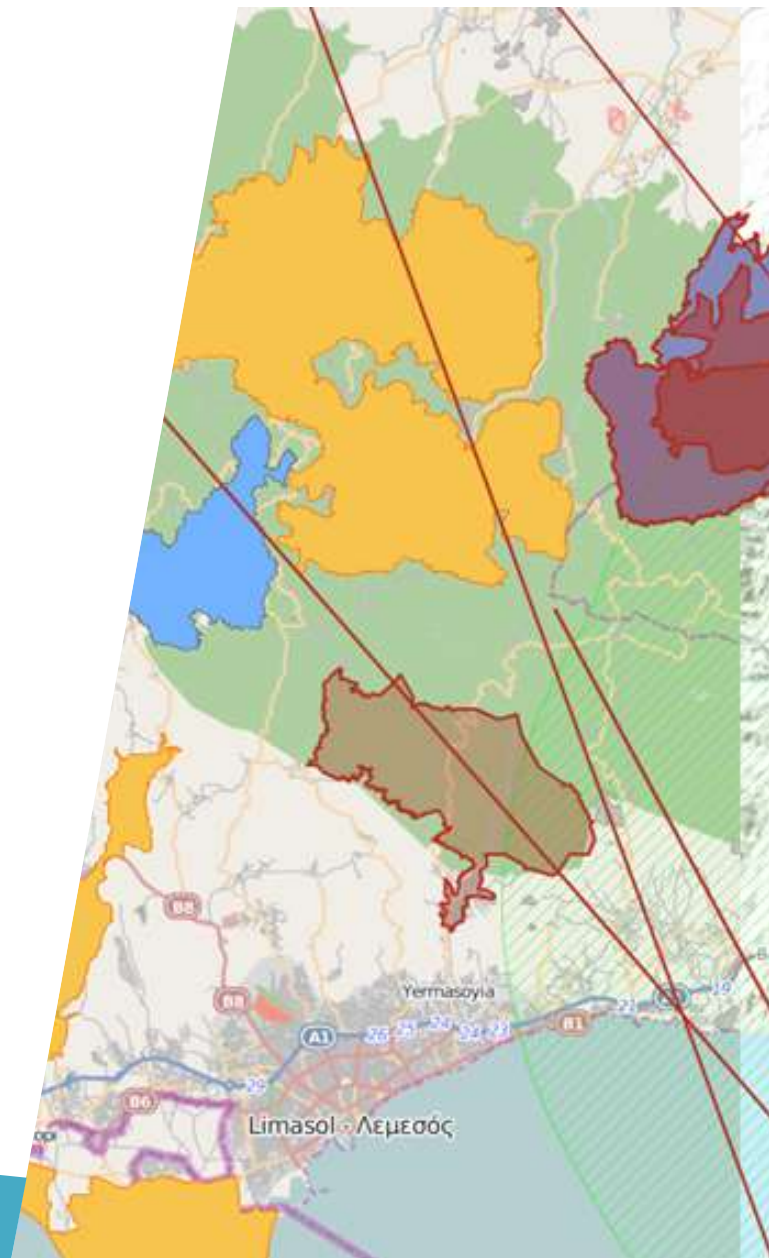
CONTENT STRUCTURE

- Guidance on the most appropriate formats, granularity of data, target species/habitats
- Technical examination of available spatial datasets with review of existing national and regional repositories of biodiversity data (with discussion on additional data sources and recommendations on data update cycles)
- Technical examination of algorithms for generating sensitivity values
- Technical examination of GIS applications and mapping tool formats



CONTENT STRUCTURE

- Summary
- Recommendations
- Links to useful resources
- References



WORKSHOP INPUT TO THE TOOLKIT

- The workshop provides an opportunity to ensure that the recommendations outlined in the toolkit are compatible with the needs and expectations of key user groups. The afternoon session will generate the feedback to achieve this.
- In particular, we are keen to have discussions on the following topics:
 - 1. How should Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping be integrated into national planning and consenting processes?**
 - 2. What kind of Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping tool, or series of tools, are most appropriate?**
 - 3. What datasets are required to create robust sensitivity maps?**



1. How should Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping be integrated into national planning and consenting processes?

- Member States have different planning and consenting procedures, operating at different spatial scales (municipality, region or country) and with different requirements. How should Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping be configured to ensure that it becomes a routine part of the planning and consenting process?
- How should different stakeholder opinions be taken into account during the development of mapping approaches?



2. What kind of Wildlife Sensitivity Mapping tool, or series of tools, are most appropriate?

- Is it better to develop a single EU-wide tool or require each Member State to develop its own tools in line with common standards?
- Are there existing spatial decision support tools into which sensitivity mapping could be integrated?
- Do different taxa (birds, bats, sea mammals etc.) require different mapping approaches?
- Do different renewable sectors (wind: onshore/offshore, solar, ocean energy) require different mapping approaches?



3. What datasets are required to create robust Wildlife Sensitivity Maps?

- What existing data sources are available?
- What, if any, additional data sources are required?
- Who should collate, manage and curate the data?
- How frequently should the data be updated?
- How should sensitive records be managed?

