

# ASSESSING POACHING ACTS ON GOLDEN JACKAL (*CANIS AUREUS*) IN FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA THROUGH THE MONITORING AND SURVEILLANCE REGIONAL NETWORK INFOFAUNAFVG

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## GOLDEN JACKAL RECOVERY ACTIVITIES IN FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA REGION

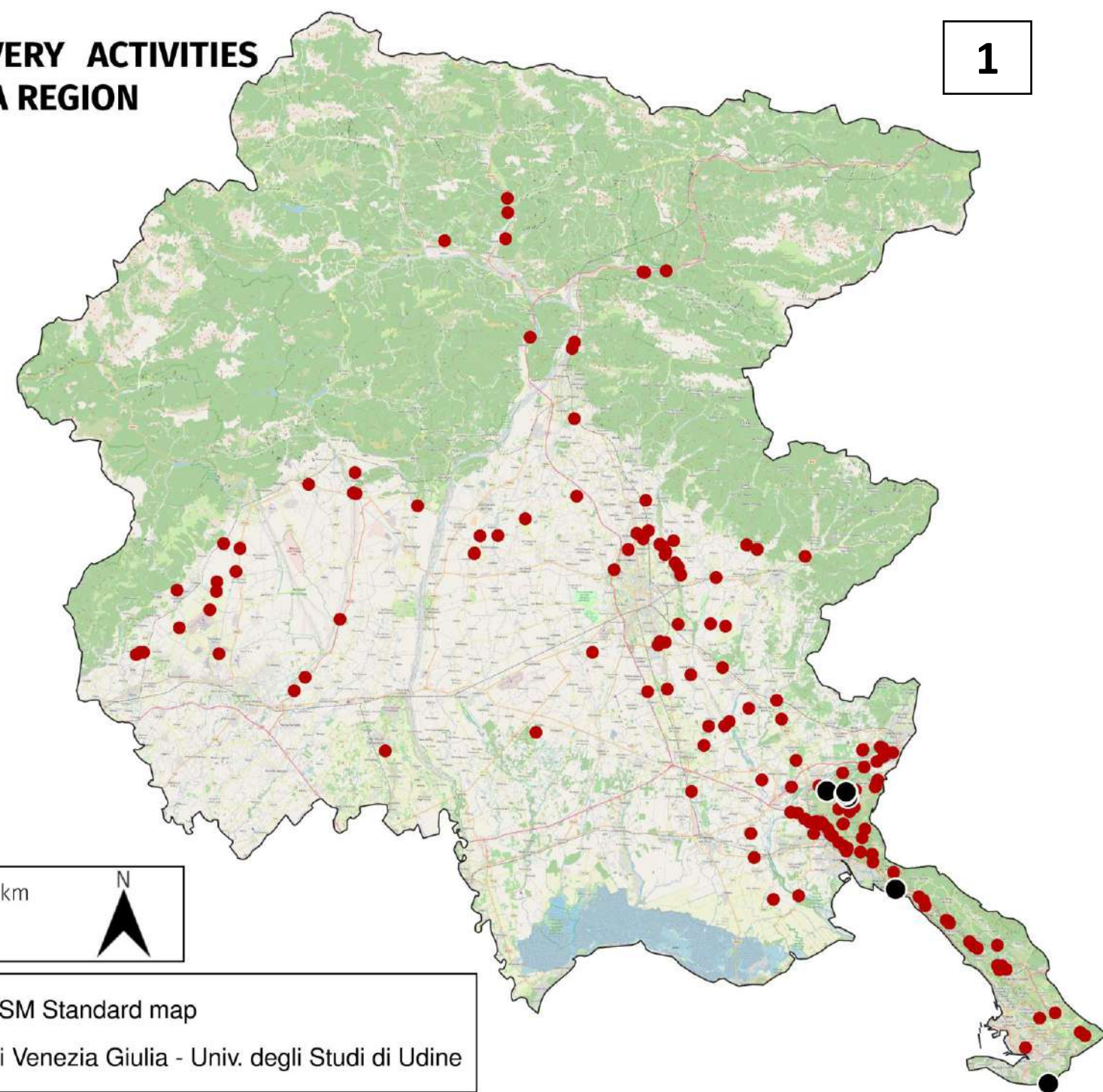
**1**

Golden Jackal [181]  
● Poached [7]  
● Retrieved [174]



0 20 40 km

Map data from OpenStreetMap - OSM Standard map  
InfoFaunaFVG 2018: Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia - Univ. degli Studi di Udine



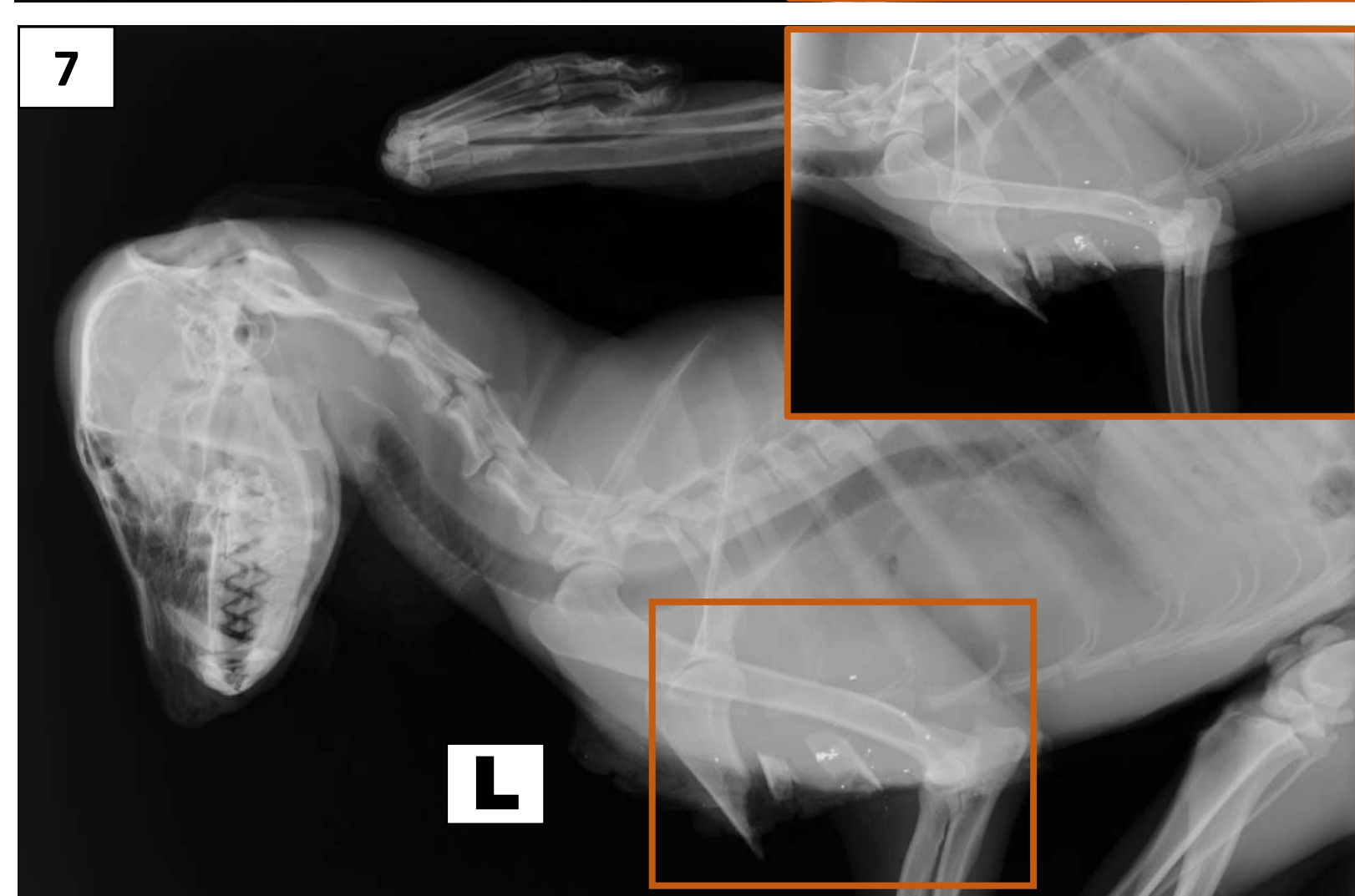
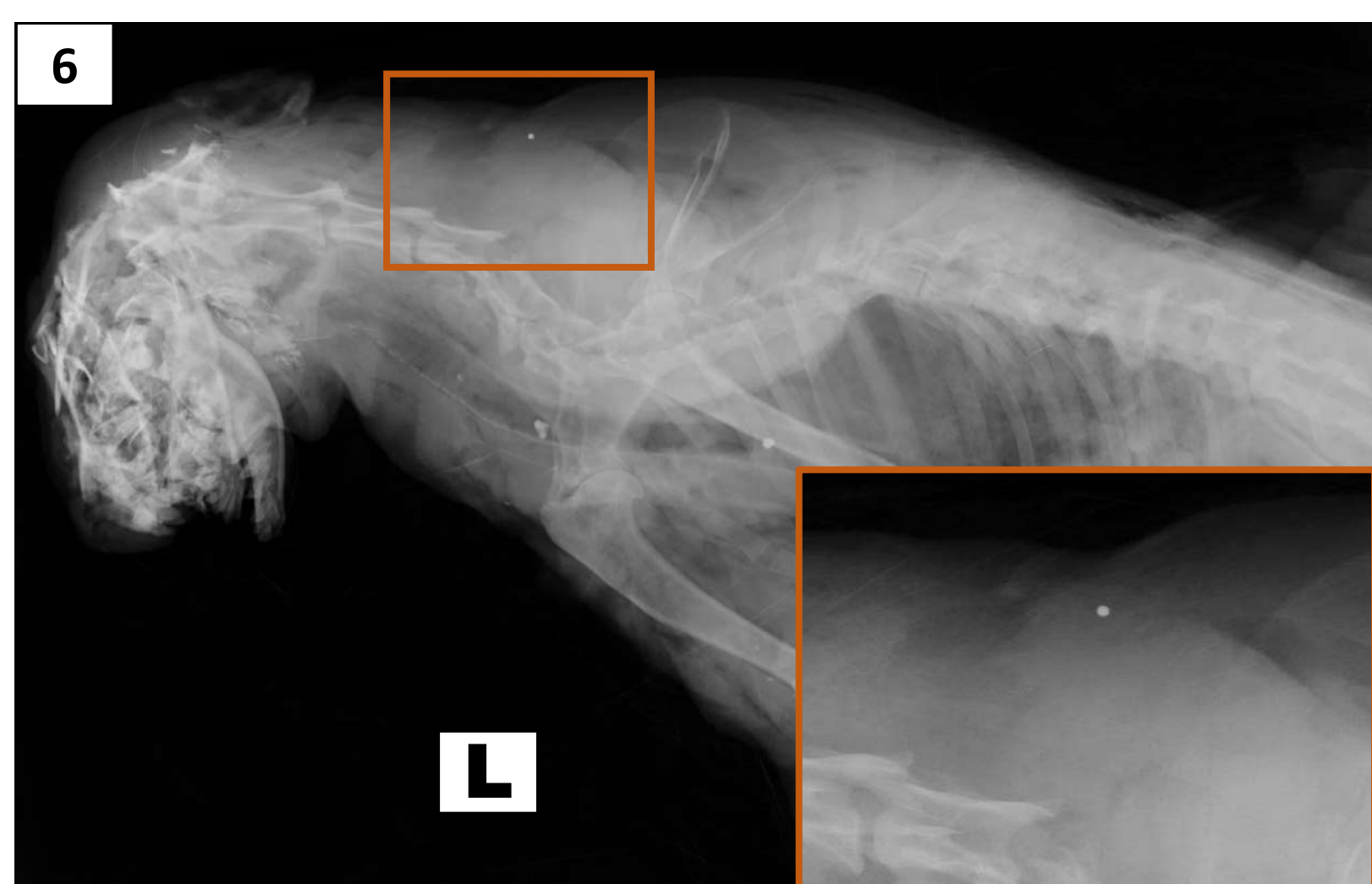
## INTRODUCTION

- Poaching represents one of the major critical issues for biodiversity conservation and protection of species, including the golden jackal (*Canis aureus*), listed in Annex V of the Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC.
- In the Friuli Venezia Giulia Region, the Regional Forestry Service's Wildlife Recovery Service, along with other relevant entities, **rescues injured, debilitated wild animals, or those in need of care.** Additionally, all reported animal **cadavers are collected.**
- To support this service, the University of Udine's Department of Agricultural, Food, Environmental and Animal Sciences (DI4A), in partnership with regional authorities, established **an innovative wildlife monitoring and surveillance regional network** called InfoFaunaFVG.
- InfoFaunaFVG is a Progressive Web Application (PWA) that features a WebDatabase and a WebGIS system **(1).**

## MATERIALS METHODS AND RESULTS

- Between 2019 and 2023, the Regional Forestry Service's Wildlife Recovery Service, among other entities, found **181 golden jackals** (12 alive, 169 deceased) in the region **(2).**
- Data on these animals, including sex, age, and circumstances of intervention, were recorded in the InfoFaunaFVG database.
- 69 of these were **radiographically examined** to detect any metallic foreign bodies **(3).**
- 103 carcasses underwent *post-mortem* evaluations through **necropsy** to determine the cause of death and of other injuries **(4).**
- In cases of suspected poisoning, **toxicological examinations** were also conducted on sampled matrices (stomach content **(5)**, liver)

As a **result** of these investigations, 7 cases were attributed to poaching acts: 5 to poisoning, and 2 to firearm shots **(6 e 7)**. All the poisoned jackals were found in the same location and in the same year.



## CONCLUSIONS

- Poaching through **poisoning** in Friuli Venezia Giulia seems to occur only on a local scale, though it could be underestimated.
- The analysis of data collected in the InfoFaunaFVG database and the collaboration among research entities have enabled the **effective tracing** and examination of potential poaching cases.
- One jackal that tested positive in toxicological analysis led to the discovery of three other poisoned animals. Poisoned baits were found and removed from the carcasses' recovery sites thanks to the **prompt intervention** of the Regional Forestry Service.
- **Post-mortem evaluations** (necropsy and radiography) are essential for detecting potential poaching incidents.
- Collaboration between entities is crucial for **mitigating conservation threats** to this species.

## REFERENCES

- Tomè, P., Pesaro, S., Orioles, M. et al. InfoFaunaFVG: a novel progressive web application for wildlife surveillance. *Eur J Wildl Res* 69, 38 (2023).
- Pesaro et al., 2018 Thanatological investigation of first poisoning cases in golden jackal (*Canis aureus moreoticus*) in North East Italy. 2nd International Jackal Symposium Marathon Bay, Attiki Greece, 31 Oct-2 Nov 2018.