

**Monitoring bobra v sezoni 2025/26 in sintezno poročilo
vzpostavitve in izvajanja monitoringa populacije bobra na območju
Slovenije v sezonah 2022/23, 2023/24 in 2025/26**

KRATEK POVZETEK



**Beaver Monitoring in the 2025/26 Season and Synthesis Report on
the Establishment and Implementation of Beaver Population
Monitoring in Slovenia in the 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2025/26
Seasons**

SUMMARY

Julij 2026

1 UVOD

Monitoring bobra je bil izveden z namenom spremljanja razširjenosti, velikosti populacije, stanja habitata in stanja ohranjenosti vrste v Sloveniji. V sezoni 2025/26 je bil zaključen prvi sistematični nacionalni monitoring bobra, ki je potekal v treh sezonah (2022/23, 2023/24 in 2025/26). Poročilo predstavlja prvi celoviti pregled razširjenosti, ocene velikosti populacije, stanja habitata ter stanja ohranjenosti bobra v Sloveniji, pripravljen na podlagi enotne metodologije. Poleg rezultatov monitoringa, poročilo vključuje tudi interpretacijo vseh zbranih podatkov, oceno velikosti populacije na območjih Natura 2000 in zunaj njih, oceno trendov, kjer to omogočajo razpoložljivi podatki, ter priporočila za nadaljnje izvajanje nacionalnega monitoringa vrste.

2 POPISNI PROTOKOL in SKLADNOST POPISA S PROTOKOLOM

Monitoring je temeljil na popisu znakov prisotnosti vrste vzdolž vodotokov in stoječih vodnih teles. Metodologija monitoringa je bila vzpostavljena v prvi sezoni monitoringa (2022/23), na podlagi izkušenj iz treh sezon pa dopolnjena in posodobljena. Podrobnejši opis metodologije, terenskega dela, prepoznavanja znakov prisotnosti, obdelave podatkov in analiz je predstavljen v *Priročniku za monitoring bobra v Sloveniji*.

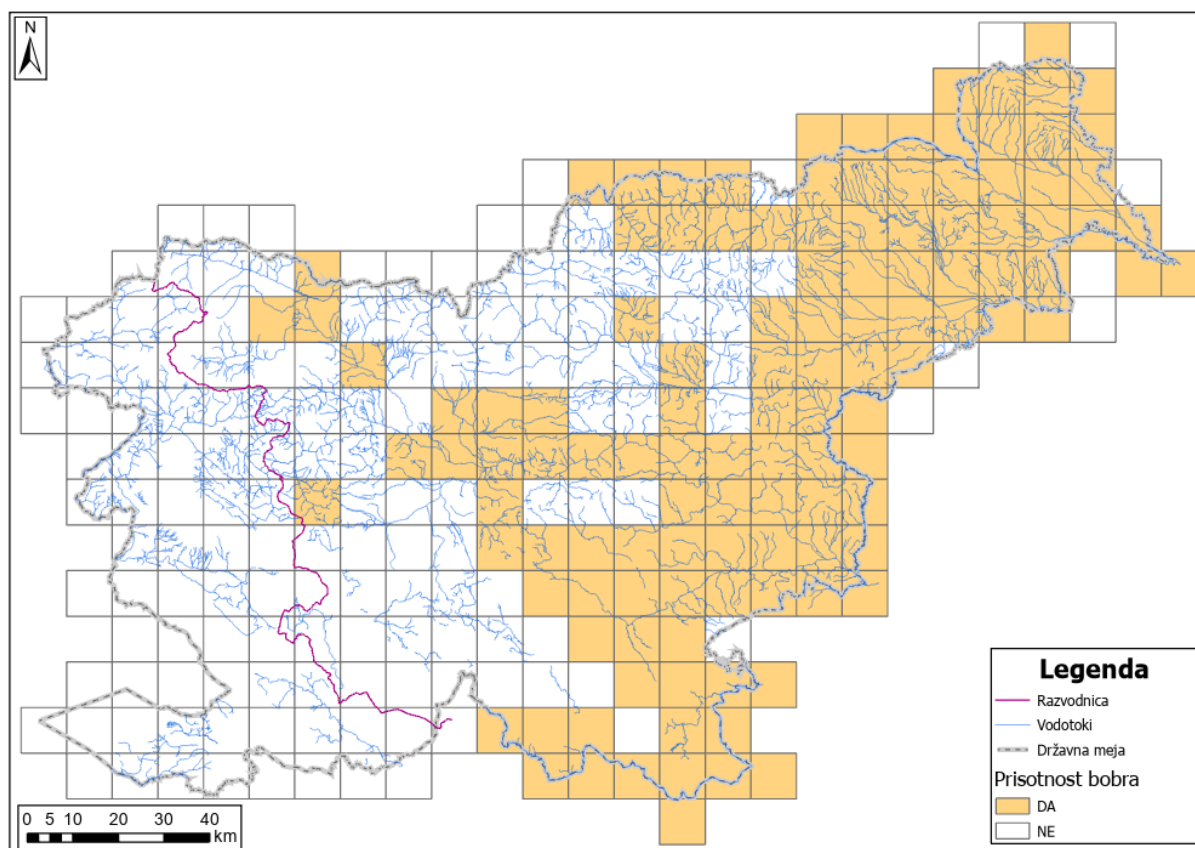
Terenski del monitoringa je bil v vseh treh sezonah (2022/23, 2023/24 in 2025/26) opravljen pretežno v zimskem obdobju, ko so znaki prisotnosti bobra najbolj vidni. Večina pregledov vodotokov je bila v vseh treh sezonah opravljena peš. Večje reke oziroma težje dostopni odseki (Sava, Krka, Kolpa, Savinja in Lahinja) so bili pregledani s čolnom oziroma kajakom. V treh sezonah monitoringa je bilo pregledanih 135 različnih odsekov vodotokov in 54 stoječih vodnih teles, na katerih je bilo skupaj zabeleženih 22.019 znakov prisotnosti bobra.

Terensko delo je bilo izvedeno skladno s popisnim protokolom. Z izvedbo tretje sezone je bil zaključen sistematični pregled območja razširjenosti bobra v Sloveniji po enotni metodologiji, kar omogoča neposredno primerljivost rezultatov med sezonami ter dolgoročno spremljanje populacije.

3 OBMOČJE RAZŠIRJENOSTI

Rezultati potrjujejo, da se bober po ponovni naravni naselitvi še naprej uspešno širi po Sloveniji. Za prikaz razširjenosti bobra v Sloveniji so bili uporabljeni vsi razpoložljivi podatki o prisotnosti vrste. Poleg podatkov, zbranih v okviru državnega monitoringa, so bili pri interpretaciji upoštevani tudi drugi preverjeni podatkovni viri, predvsem podatki Zavoda RS za varstvo narave (ZRSVN), Zavoda za gozdove Slovenije (ZGS), podatki aplikacije Bobrosled, podatki Kozjanskega parka ter drugi zanesljivo potrjeni podatki o prisotnosti bobra, zbrani v isti sezoni monitoringa.

Prisotnost bobra je bila potrjena v 121 UTM kvadrantih velikosti 10 × 10 km. Vrsta je razširjena predvsem v severovzhodnem, vzhodnem, jugovzhodnem in osrednjem delu države, medtem ko v zahodni Sloveniji ostaja njena razširjenost še vedno omejena. Do sedaj je bila prisotnost bobra potrjena izključno v donavskem povodju, medtem ko v jadranskem povodju vrste za zdaj še nismo zabeležili.



Slika 1: Karta prikazuje razširjenost bobra v Sloveniji na ravni UTM mreže 10 × 10 km. UTM kvadranti s potrjeno prisotnostjo bobra, so obarvani z oranžno barvo.

4 STANJE HABITATA

V okviru monitoringa je bila izvedena analiza dejanske rabe tal v 5- in 20-metrskem priobalnem pasu vodotokov. Analiza je pokazala izrazit trend zmanjševanja deleža obrežne lesne vegetacije med letoma 2016 in 2024. V 5-metrskem priobalnem pasu se je delež gozdov, dreves in grmičevja zmanjšal pri 86,6 % pregledanih vodotokov, v 20-metrskem pasu pa pri 92,1 % vodotokov.

Ker obrežna lesna vegetacija predstavlja enega ključnih habitatnih elementov za bobra, ugotovljeni trend kaže na postopno slabšanje kakovosti habitata. Čeprav se to zaradi časovnega zamika še ne odraža v populacijskem trendu, lahko dolgoročno vpliva na nadaljnje širjenje populacije in njeno stabilnost.

Rezultati kažejo, da se stanje enega ključnih habitatnih elementov za bobra na večini območij Natura 2000 ne razvija v smeri doseganja zastavljenih varstvenih ciljev.

5 VELIKOST POPULACIJE

V obdobju 2022-2026 je populacija bobra v Sloveniji štela med 1.389 in 2.381 osebkov. Na podlagi rezultatov monitoringa in ekstrapolacije na posamezna porečja ter območja Natura 2000 ocenjujemo, da se populacija bobra v Sloveniji še vedno povečuje. Vrsta je še vedno v fazi širjenja, zato je v naslednjih letih še mogoče pričakovati oblikovanje novih teritorijev. Populacijski trend je ocenjen kot pozitiven.

6 OCENA STANJA OHRANJENOSTI VRSTE

Na podlagi vseh razpoložljivih podatkov ocenjujemo, da je stanje ohranjenosti bobra v Sloveniji trenutno ugodno tako v celinski kot v alpski biogeografski regiji.

Kljub postopnemu slabšanju kakovosti habitata se populacija še vedno širi, kar je značilno za fazo ponovne kolonizacije po vrnitvi vrste v Slovenijo. Ohranjanje in obnova obrežne lesne vegetacije, zmanjševanje fragmentacije habitatov ter zagotavljanje prehodnosti vodotokov bodo ključni ukrepi za dolgoročno ohranjanje ugodnega stanja populacije.

SUMMARY

1 INTRODUCTION

The beaver monitoring was carried out to assess the species' distribution, population size, habitat condition and conservation status in Slovenia. The 2025/26 monitoring season marked the completion of the first systematic national beaver monitoring programme, conducted over three seasons (2022/23, 2023/24 and 2025/26). This report provides the first comprehensive overview of the distribution, estimated population size, habitat condition and conservation status of the Eurasian beaver in Slovenia based on a unified methodology. In addition to the monitoring results, the report includes an interpretation of all collected data, population estimates for Natura 2000 sites and areas outside the Natura 2000 network, an assessment of trends supported by available data, and recommendations for the future implementation of the national beaver monitoring programme.

2 SURVEY PROTOCOL AND COMPLIANCE

The monitoring programme was based on surveys of beaver field signs along watercourses and standing water bodies. The methodology was established during the first monitoring season (2022/23) and further refined based on experience gained over the three monitoring seasons. A detailed description of the methodology, field survey procedures, identification of beaver signs, data processing and analyses is provided in the *Manual for Beaver Monitoring in Slovenia*.

Field surveys were conducted predominantly during the winter months, when signs of beaver presence are most easily detected. Most watercourses were surveyed on foot, while larger rivers and less accessible sections (the Sava, Krka, Kolpa, Savinja and Lahinja rivers) were surveyed by boat or kayak. During the three monitoring seasons, 135 different river sections and 54 standing water bodies were surveyed, with a total of 22,019 records of beaver field signs collected.

Fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the survey protocol. Completion of the third monitoring season concluded the first systematic survey of the beaver's distribution across Slovenia using a standardized methodology, enabling direct comparison of results between monitoring periods and establishing a reliable basis for long-term population monitoring.

3 DISTRIBUTION

The results confirm that the Eurasian beaver continues to expand successfully throughout Slovenia following its natural recolonisation. All available verified records of beaver occurrence were used to determine the current distribution of the species. In addition to data collected through the national monitoring programme, the assessment incorporated verified records provided by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (ZRSVN), the Slovenia Forest Service (ZGS), the Bobrosled application, Kozjansko Park and other reliable records collected during the same monitoring season.

Beaver presence was confirmed in 121 UTM grid cells (10 × 10 km). The species is mainly distributed across the north-eastern, eastern, south-eastern and central parts of Slovenia, whereas its occurrence remains limited in the western part of the country. To date, the species has been recorded exclusively within the Danube River Basin, while no confirmed records exist from the Adriatic River Basin.

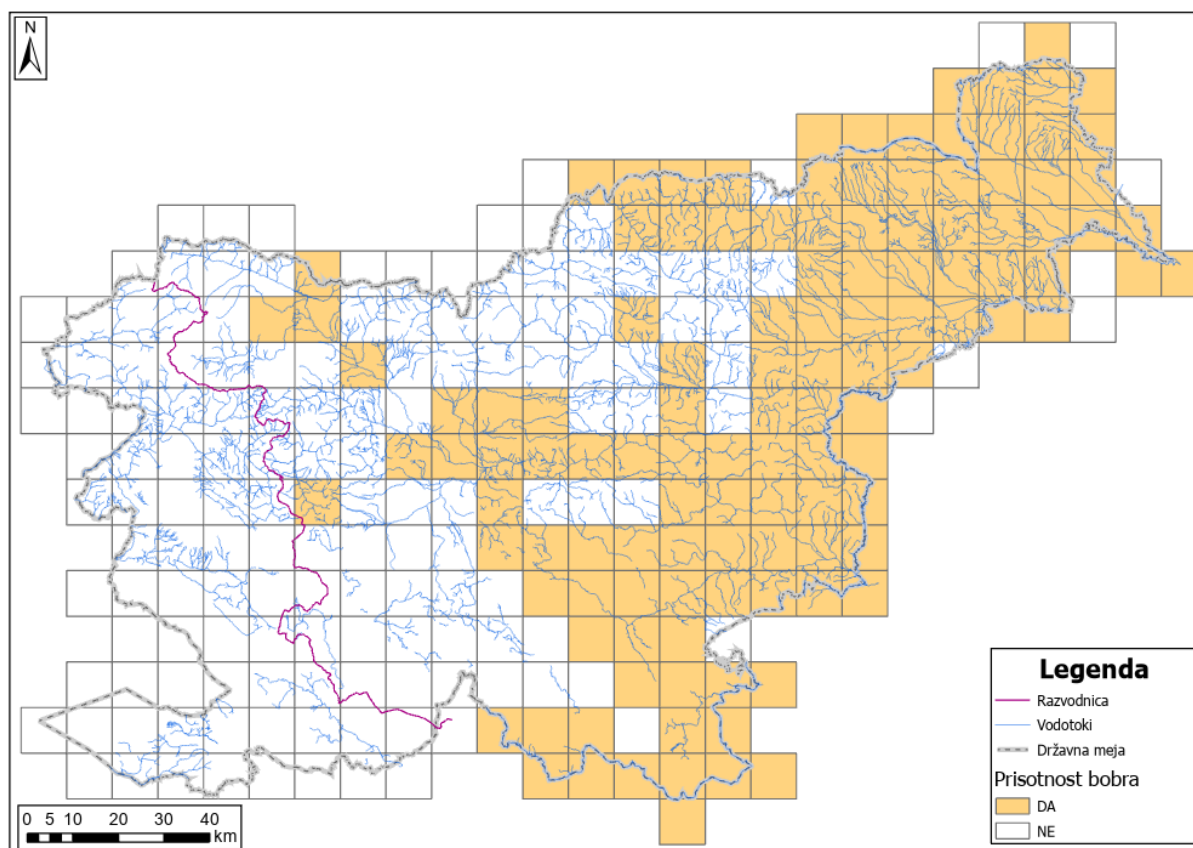


Figure 1. Distribution of the Eurasian beaver in Slovenia based on a 10 × 10 km UTM grid. Grid cells with confirmed beaver presence are shown in orange.

4 HABITAT CONDITION

The monitoring programme included an analysis of land use within 5 m and 20 m riparian buffer zones along watercourses. The analysis revealed a pronounced decline in riparian woody vegetation between 2016 and 2024. Within the 5 m buffer, the proportion of forests, trees and shrubs decreased along 86.6% of the surveyed watercourses, while within the 20 m buffer the decline was recorded along 92.1% of the surveyed watercourses.

As riparian woody vegetation represents one of the key habitat components for the Eurasian beaver, these findings indicate a gradual deterioration of habitat quality. Although this has not yet been reflected in the population trend due to a time lag, it may negatively affect the species' future expansion and long-term population stability. The results also indicate that the condition of this key habitat component is not developing towards achieving the conservation objectives at most Natura 2000 sites.

5 POPULATION SIZE

During the period 2022–2026, the beaver population in Slovenia was estimated at between 1,389 and 2,381 individuals. Based on monitoring results and extrapolation to individual river catchments and Natura 2000 sites, the population is continuing to increase. As the species is still undergoing range expansion, the establishment of new territories is expected in the coming years. The overall population trend is therefore assessed as positive.

6 CONSERVATION STATUS

Based on all available evidence, the conservation status of the Eurasian beaver in Slovenia is currently assessed as favourable, both in the alpine and continental region.

Despite the gradual deterioration of habitat quality, the population continues to expand, which is characteristic of the recolonisation phase following the species' return to Slovenia. The preservation and restoration of riparian woody vegetation, reduction of habitat fragmentation, and maintenance of river connectivity will be essential measures for ensuring the long-term favourable conservation status of the beaver population.