

The revival of wolves and other large predators and its impact on farmers and their livelihood in rural regions of Europe

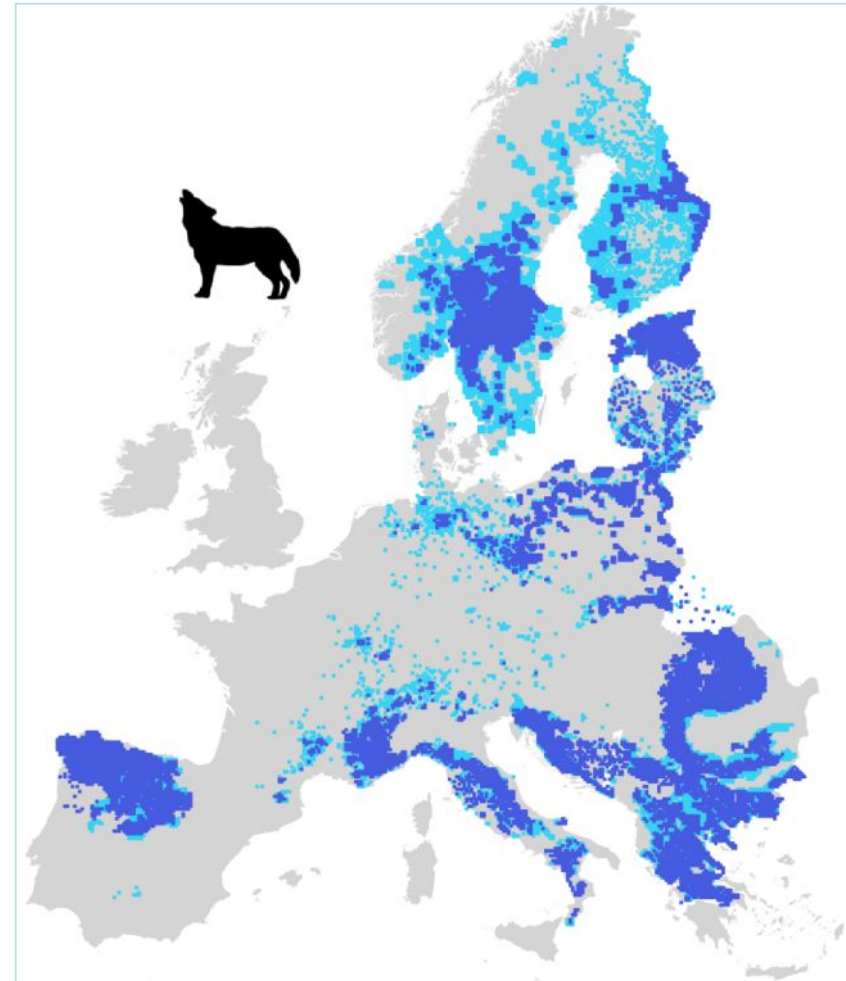
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Structure of the Presentation

- 1. Status of large carnivores**
- 2. Impacts on livestock**
- 3. Livestock protection**
- 4. Conflicts and integrated policies**

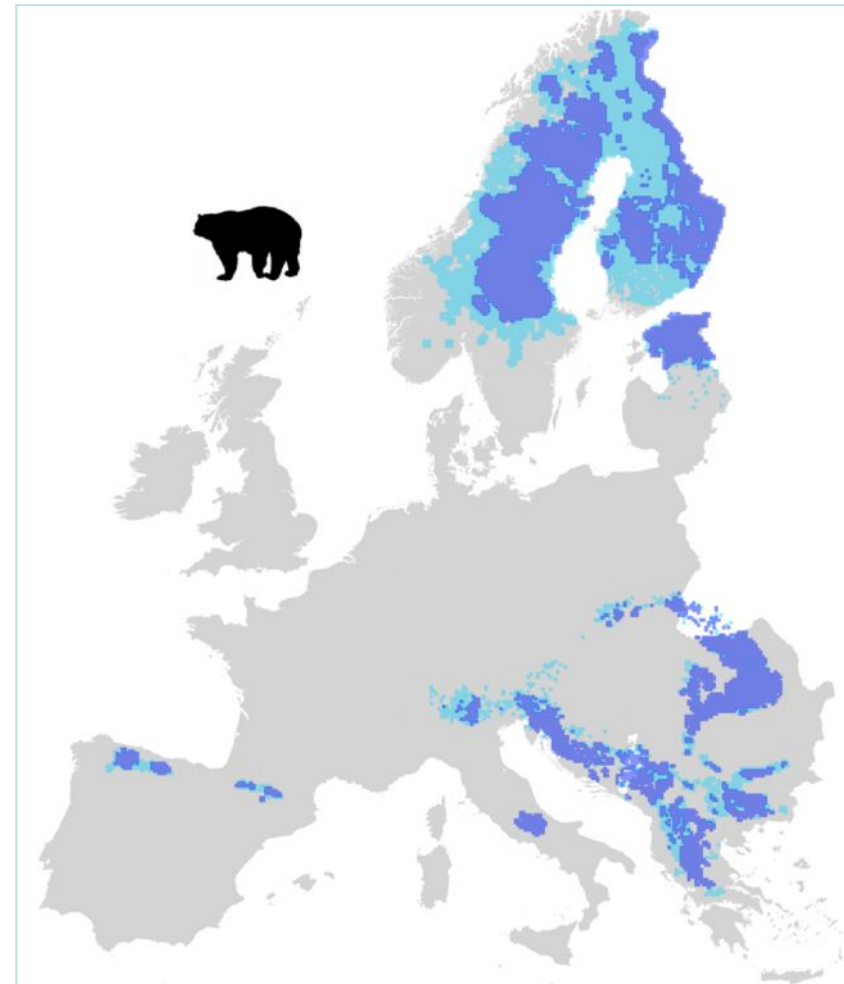
Wolf distribution 2012-2016

- c. 17,000 in Europe
- c. 13 -14,000 in EU
- 9 populations
- Vulnerable – Least Concern



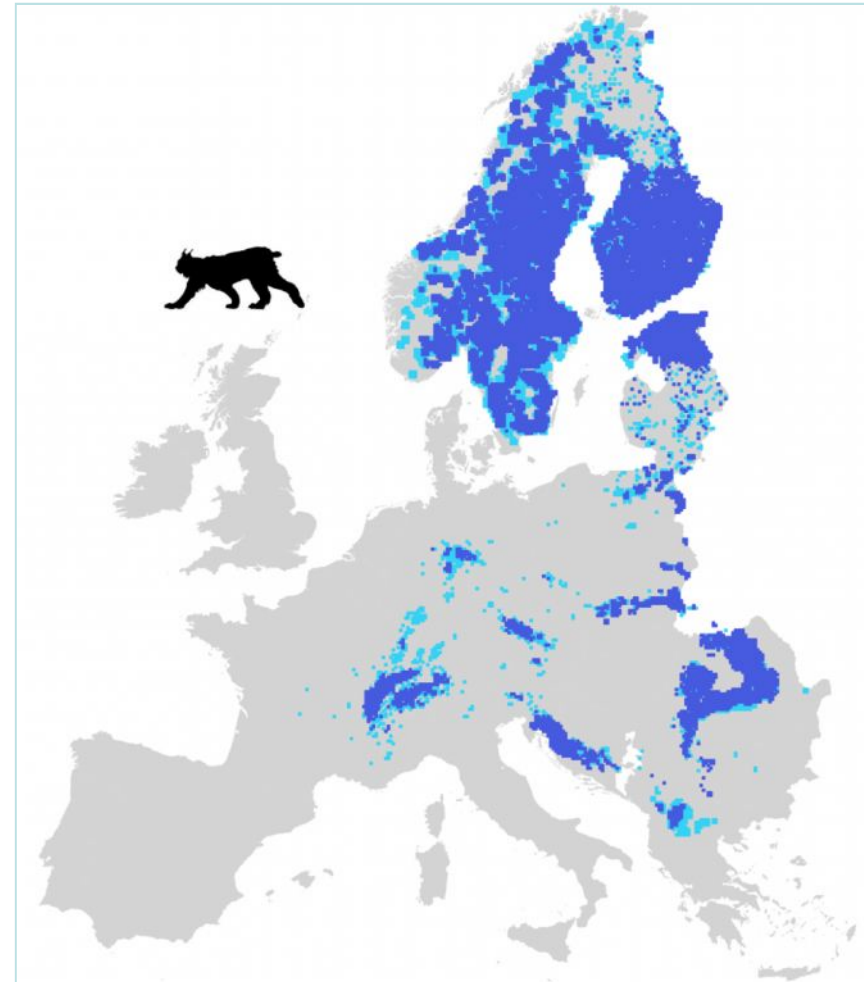
Bear distribution 2012-2016

- c. 17 –18,000 in Europe
- c. 15 – 16,000 in EU
- 10 populations
- Critically Endangered to Least Concern



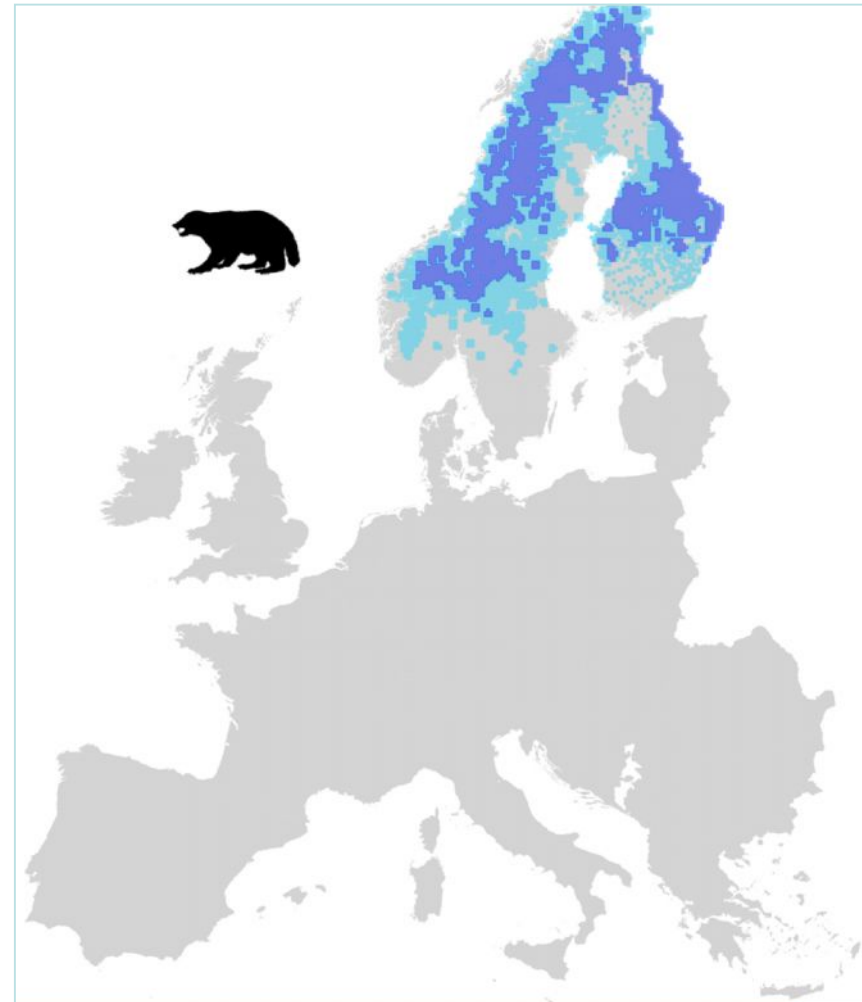
Eurasian lynx distribution 2012-2016

- c. 8 - 9,000 in Europe
- c. 7 – 8,000 in EU
- 11 populations
- Critically Endangered to Least Concern



Wolverine distribution 2012-2016

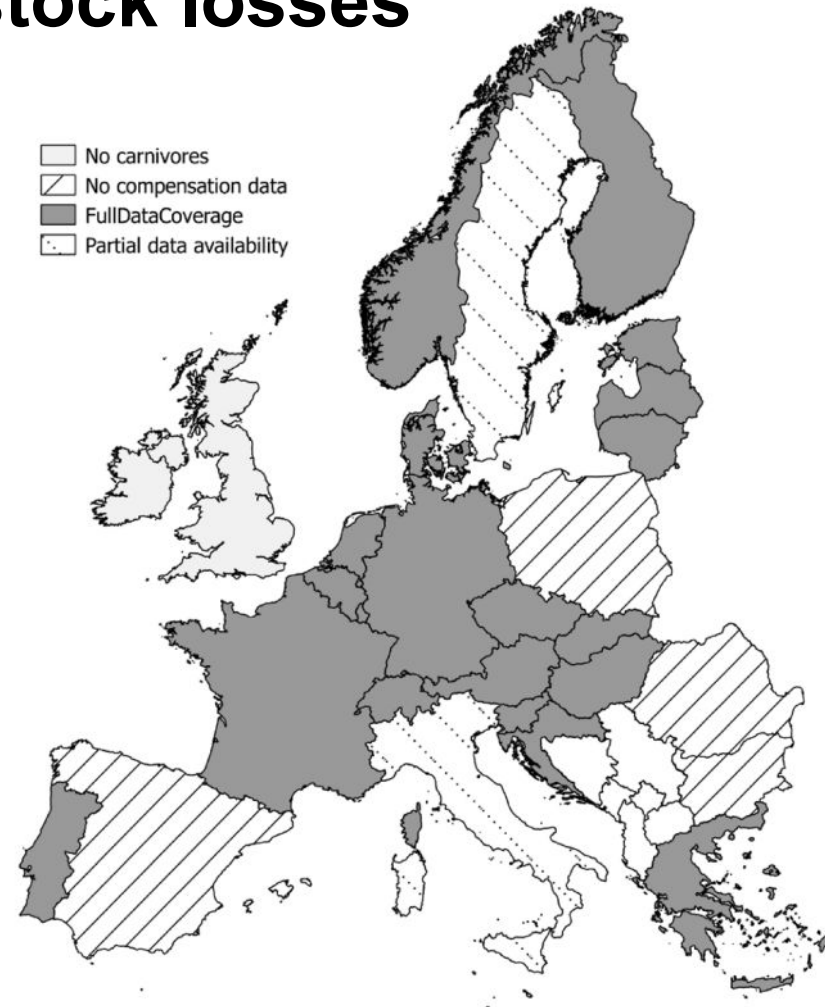
- c. 1,000 – 1,250 in Europe
- c. 600 – 800 in EU
- 2 populations
- Endangered & Vulnerable



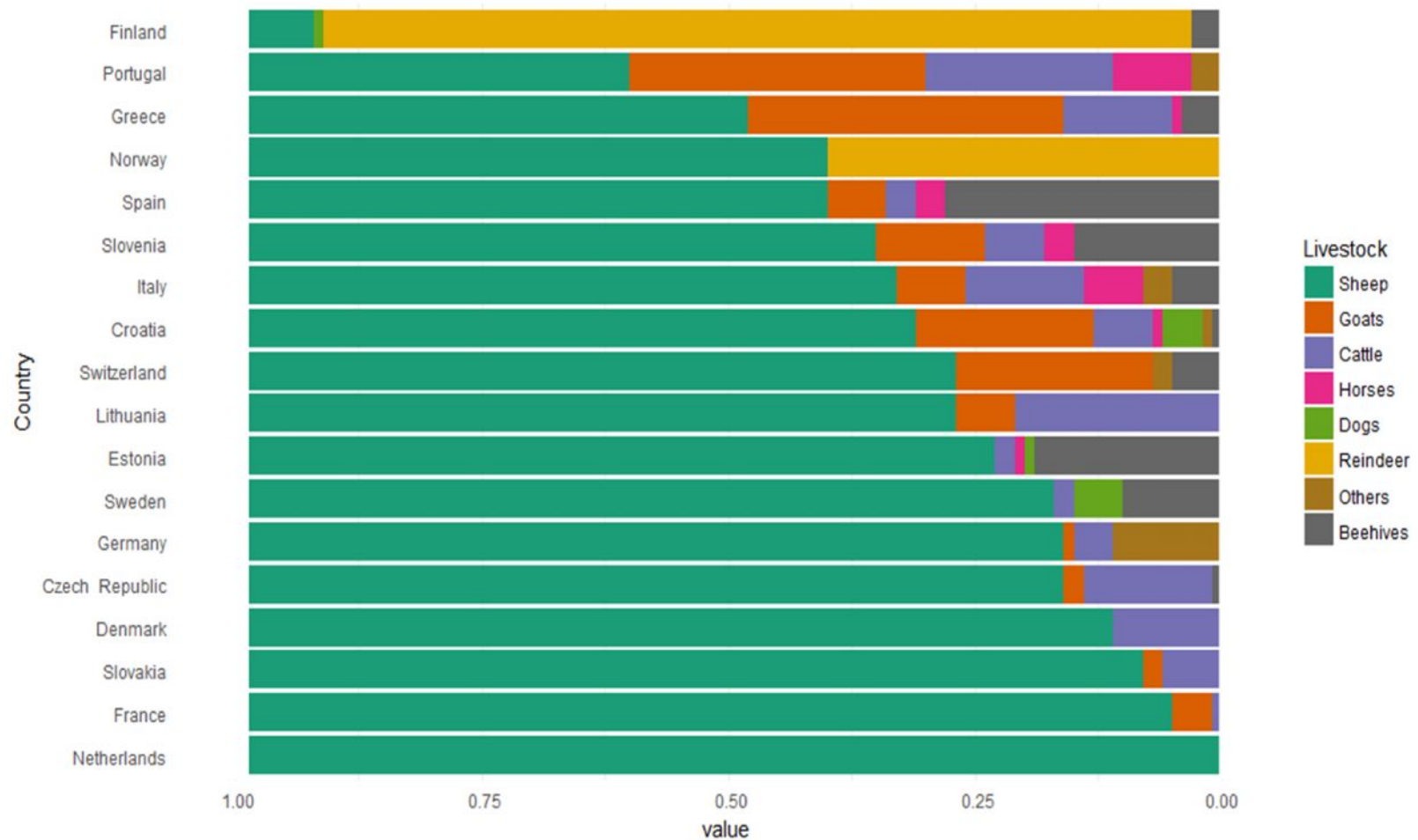
Very variable data quality

- Spain
- Romania
- Bulgaria
- Poland
- Austria

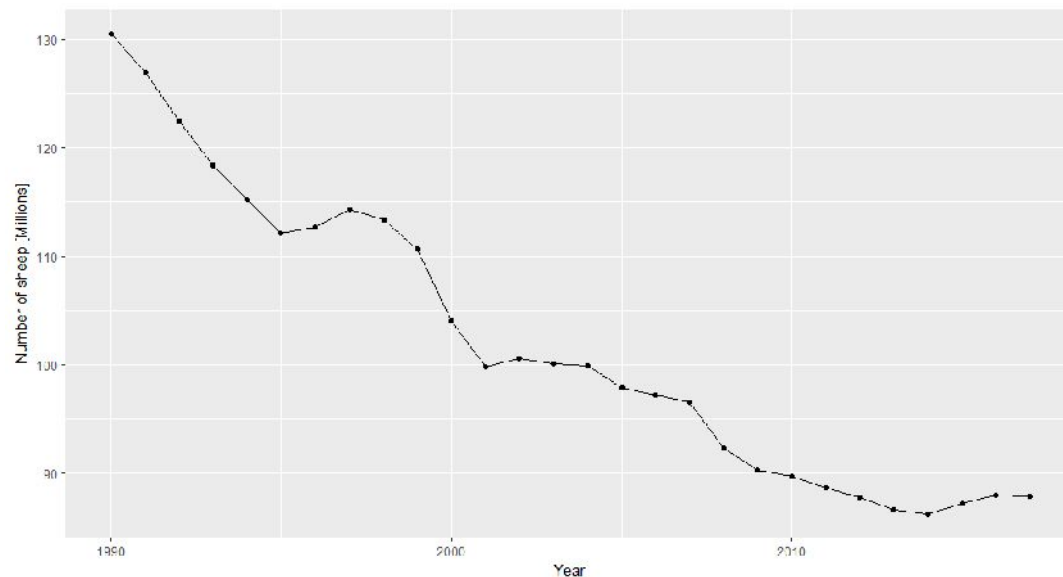
- Italy
- Sweden



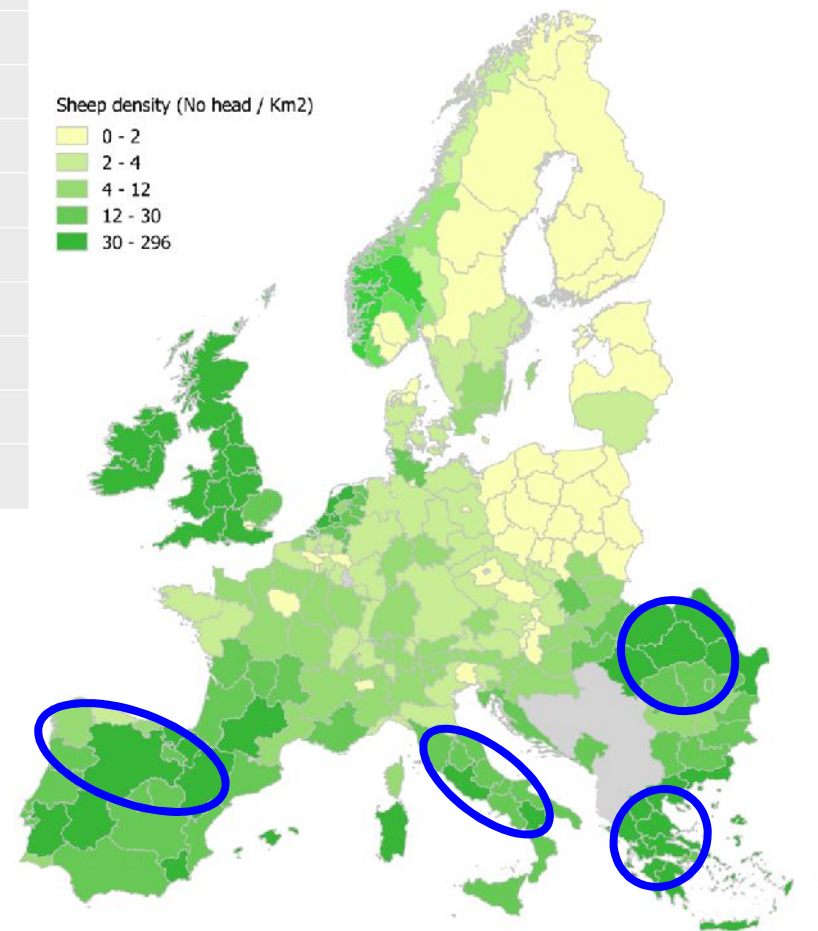
Type of livestock impacted



Sheep distribution and density in Europe



87 million in Europe
58 million on mainland EU



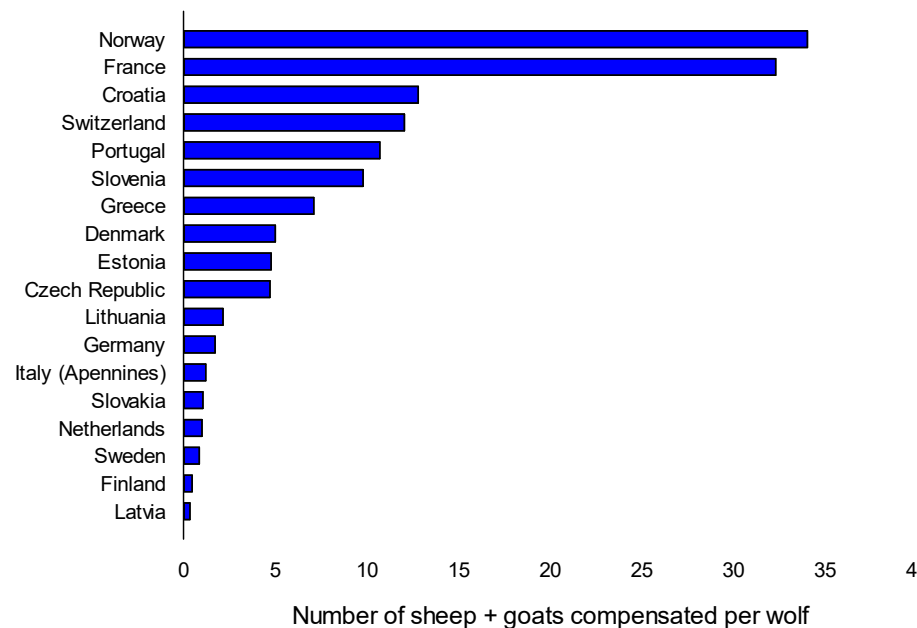
Losses of sheep to large carnivores (2012-2016)

- Average of 21,000 sheep compensated / killed p.a. in EU sample*
- 92% due to wolves
- 75% of total in FR, PT, GR, HR, IT
- <0.05% of sheep population of mainland EU
- Average of 39,000 sheep killed p.a. if we include NO and CH
- 56% due to wolves (because of high losses due to lynx and wolverine in NO)

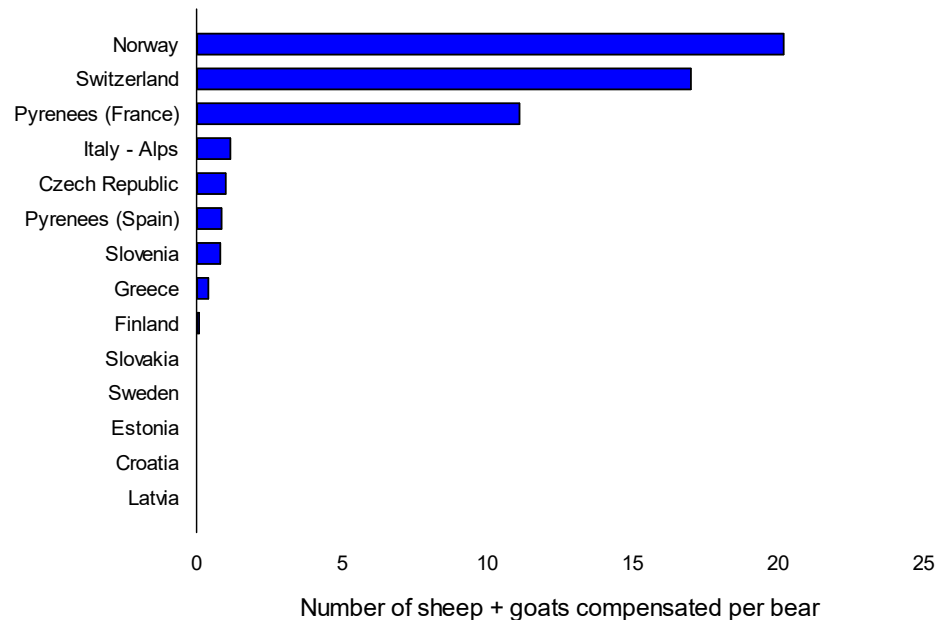
* Excluding Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Spain, Austria

Massive variation in losses per carnivore

Wolves

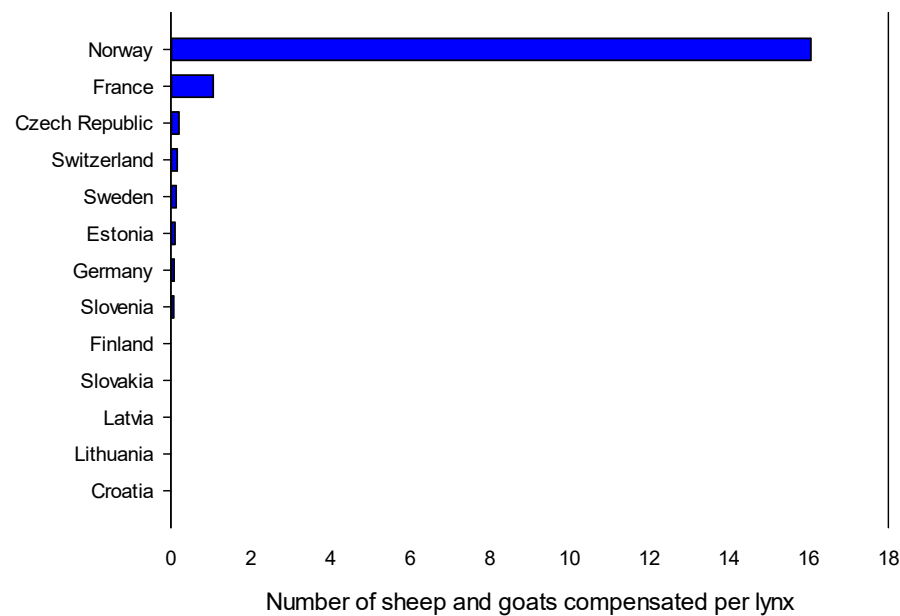


Bears



Massive variation in losses per carnivore

Eurasian lynx



Semi-domestic reindeer

35 – 60,000 compensated per year

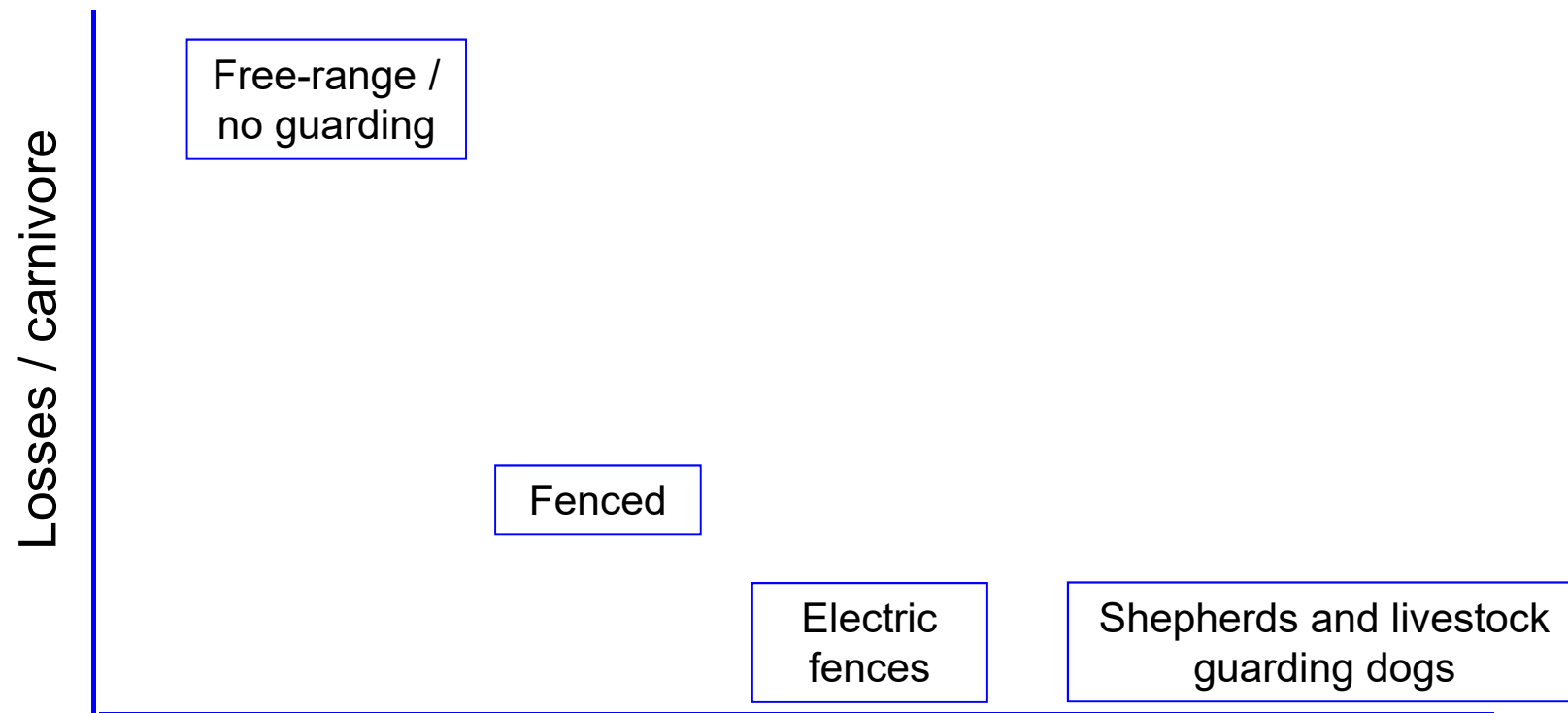
Impact of climate and herd density

Few protection options

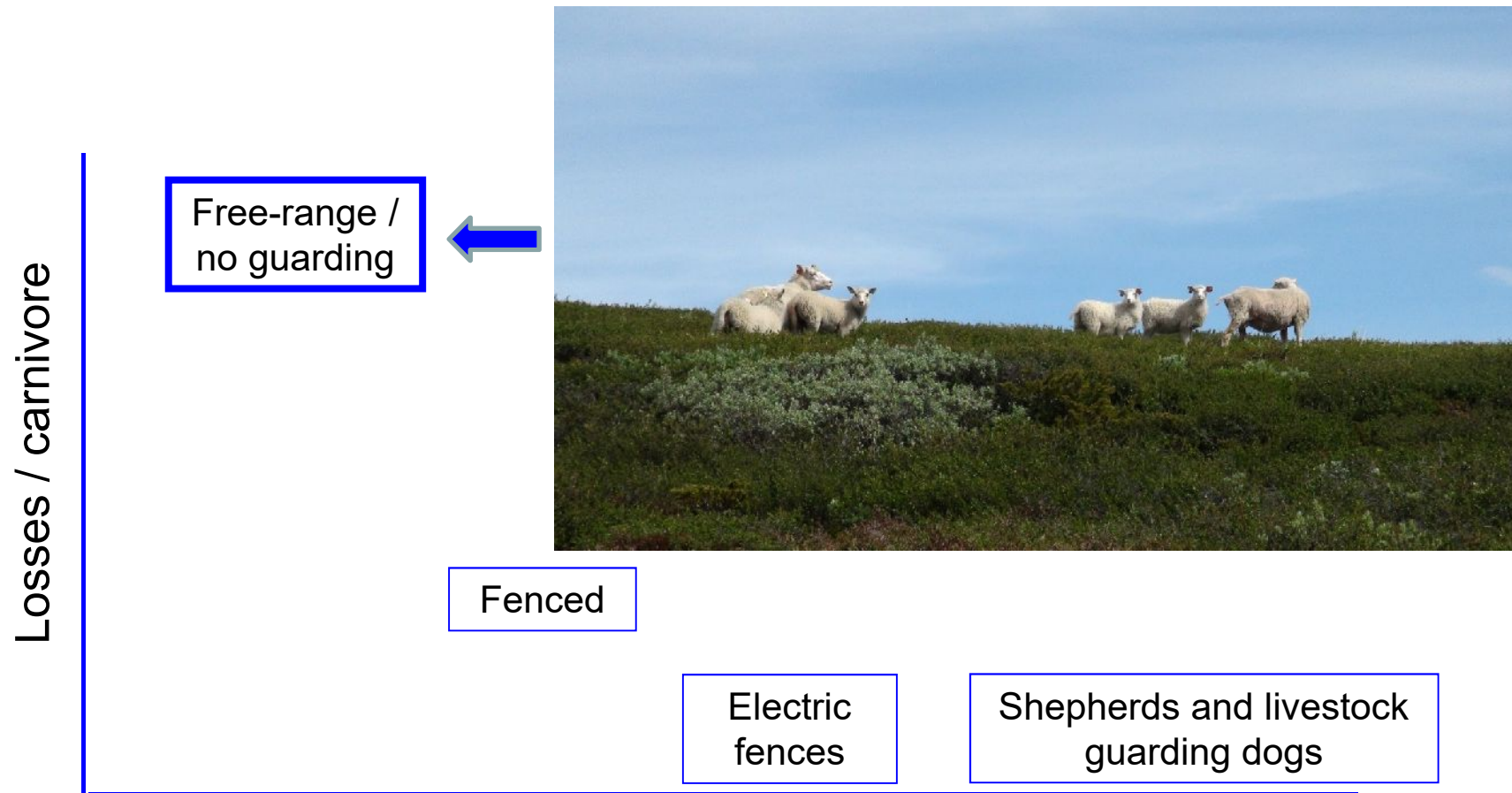
Limit herd size, control carnivores and compensate



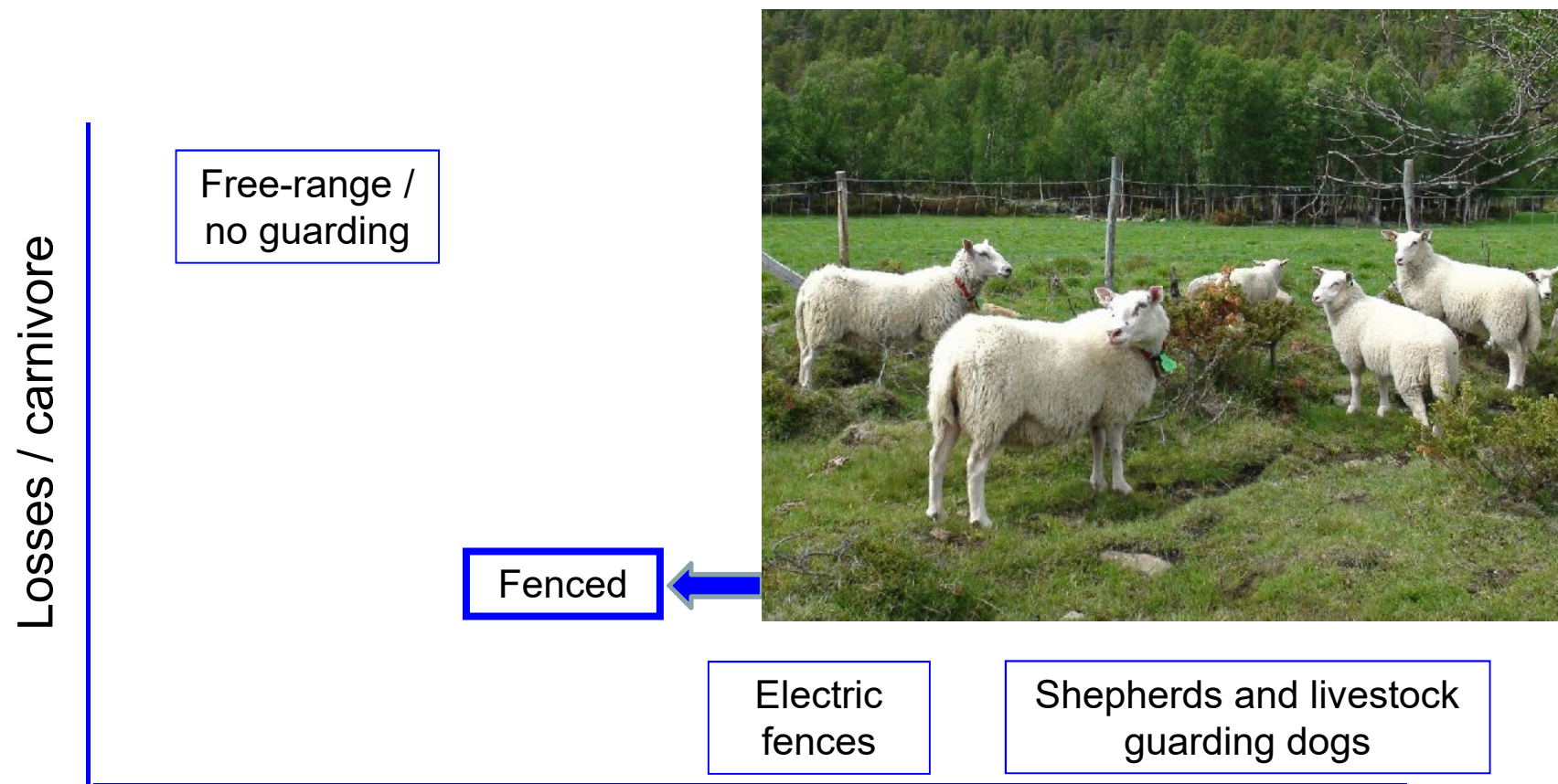
Impact of animal husbandry system



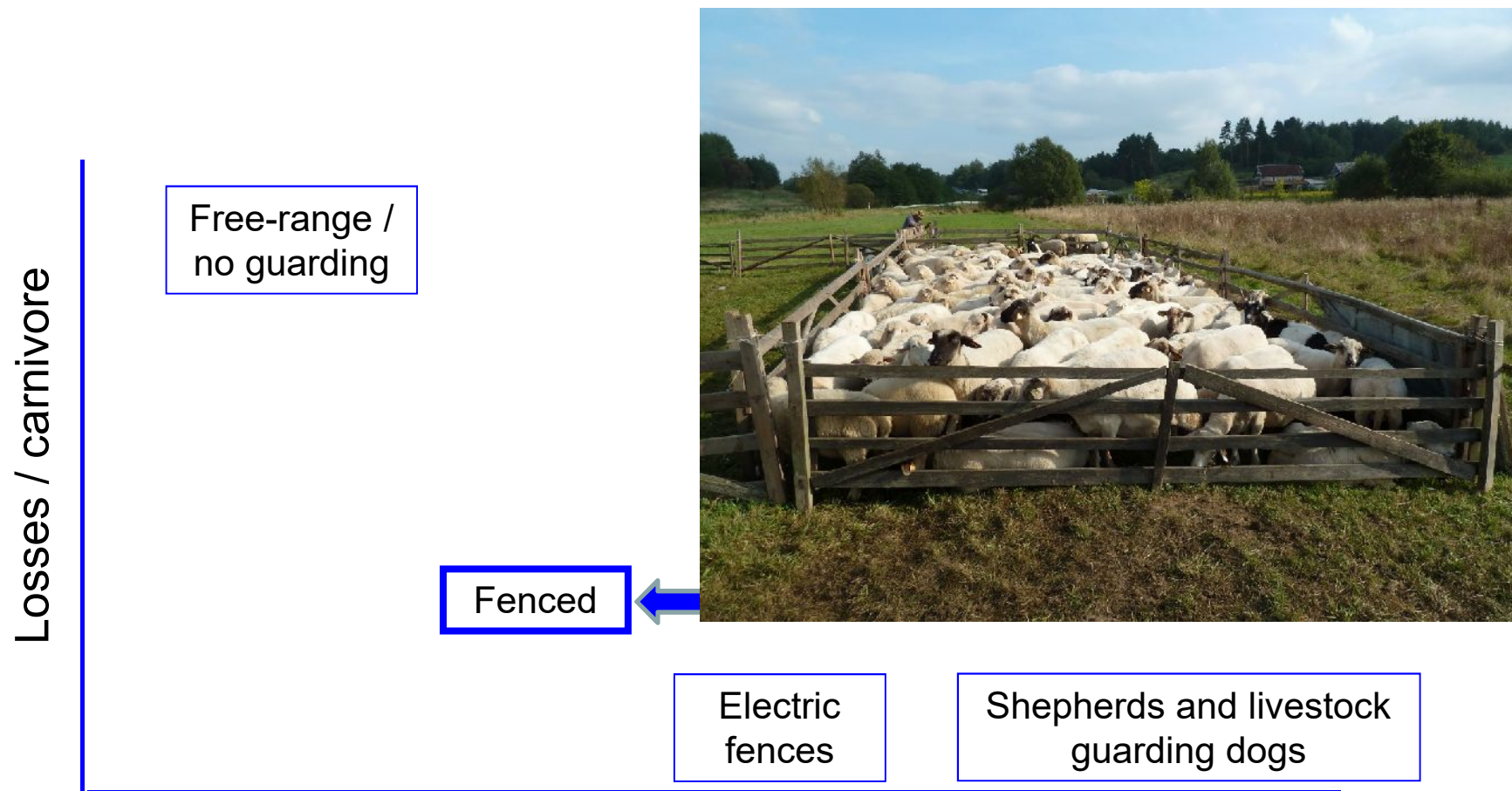
Impact of animal husbandry system



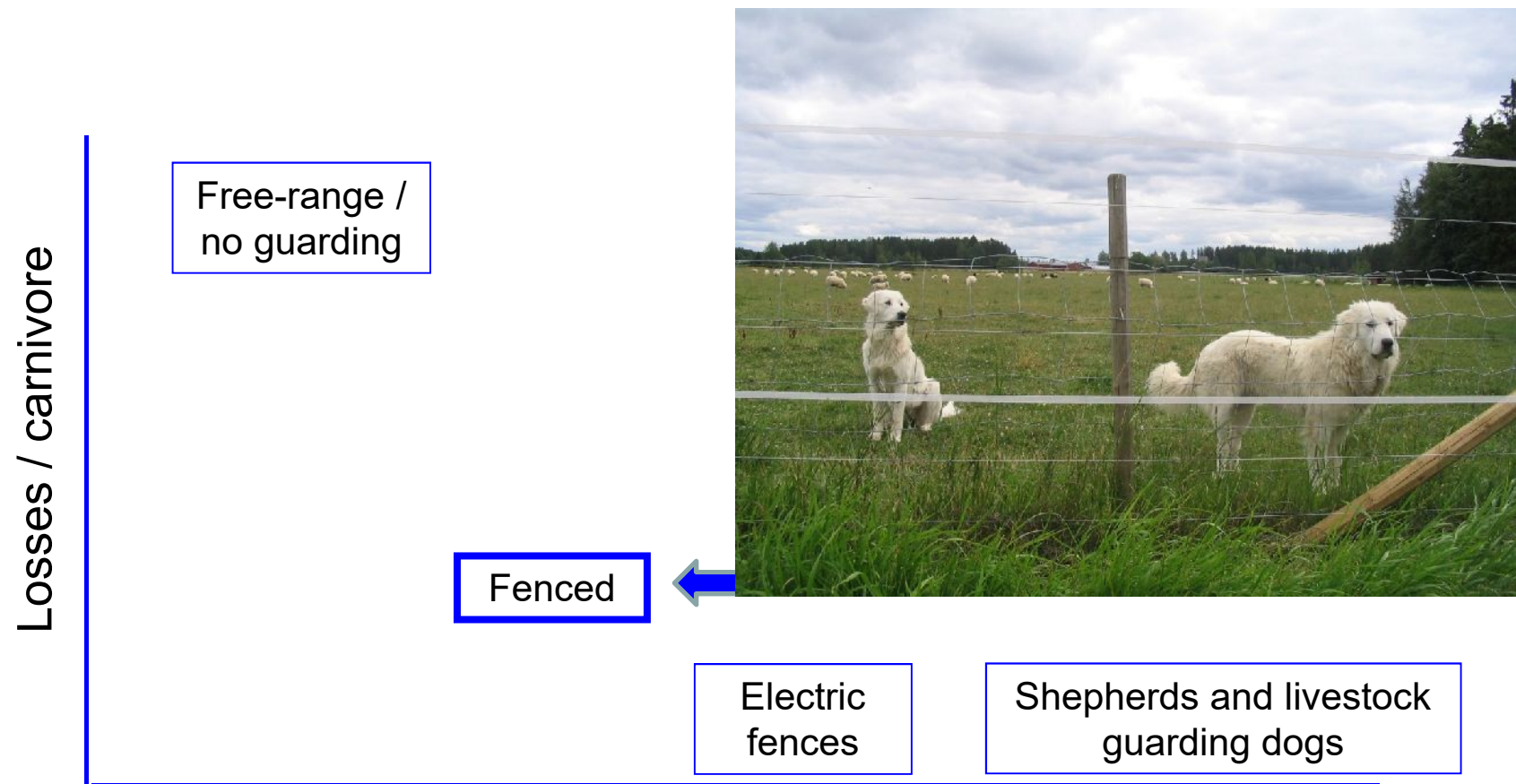
Impact of animal husbandry system



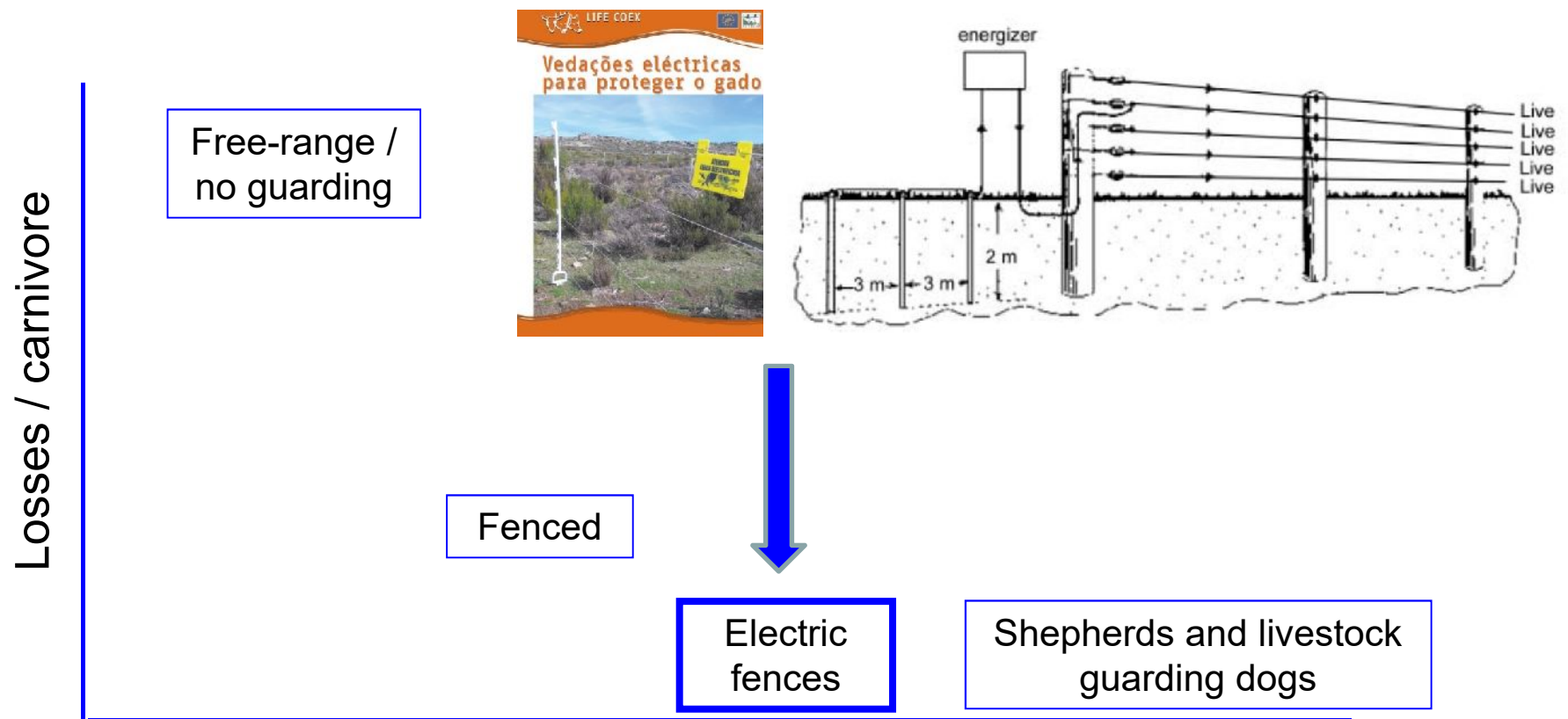
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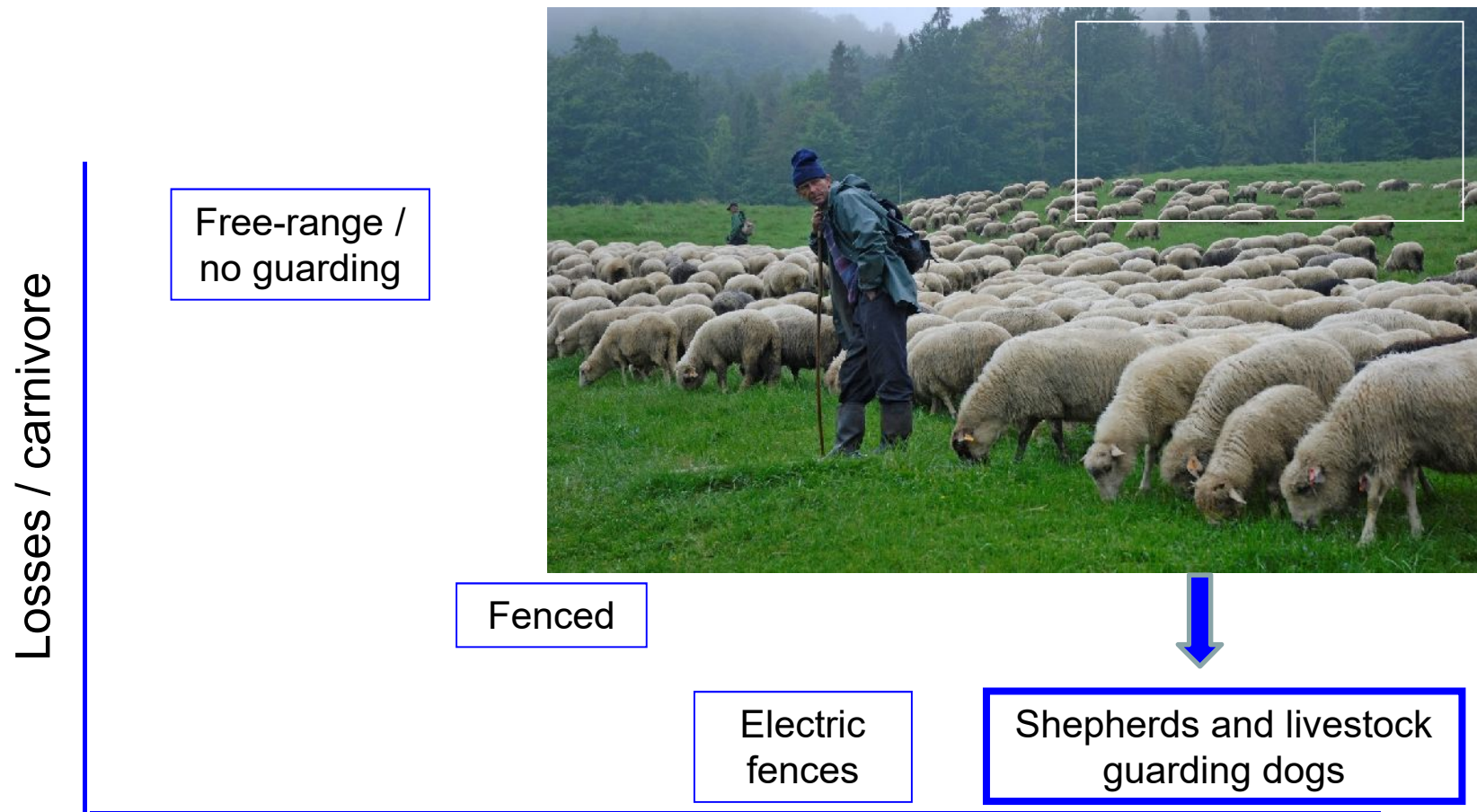
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Impact of animal husbandry system

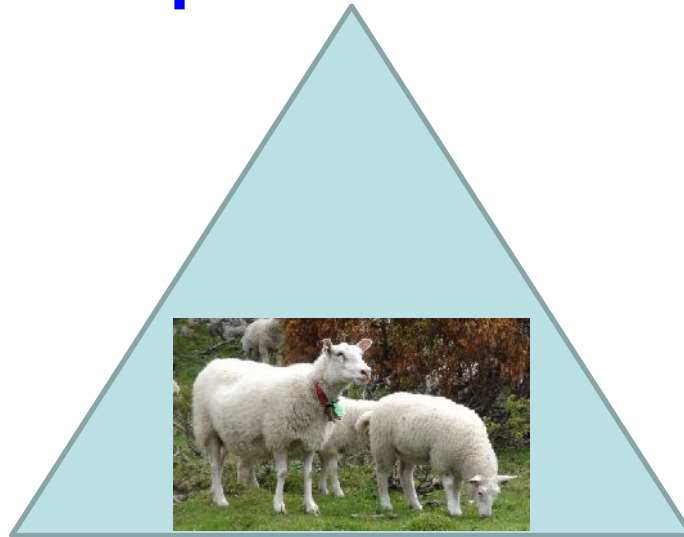


Understanding conflicts

- Dead livestock are an “**impact**”.
- “**Conflicts**” are played out between different humans (i.e. different stakeholders / publics / sectors of society).
- The conflicts around large carnivores go far beyond dead livestock and are only poorly related to impact.
- Conflicts are linked to the wider issues that threaten rural life.
 - Rural – urban migration
 - Globalisation and modernity
 - Agricultural and rural policies

Integrated solutions

**Livestock
protection**



**Economic
compensation**

Lethal control

**Overall agricultural policy
Environmental policies
High Nature Value farming**

- Rural policies
 - Tourism
 - Transport
 - Education
- Communication
 - Energy
 - Politics

Further information

- European Commission's Large Carnivore pages
- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/carnivores/index_en.htm
- Best Practice / Stakeholder dialogue

