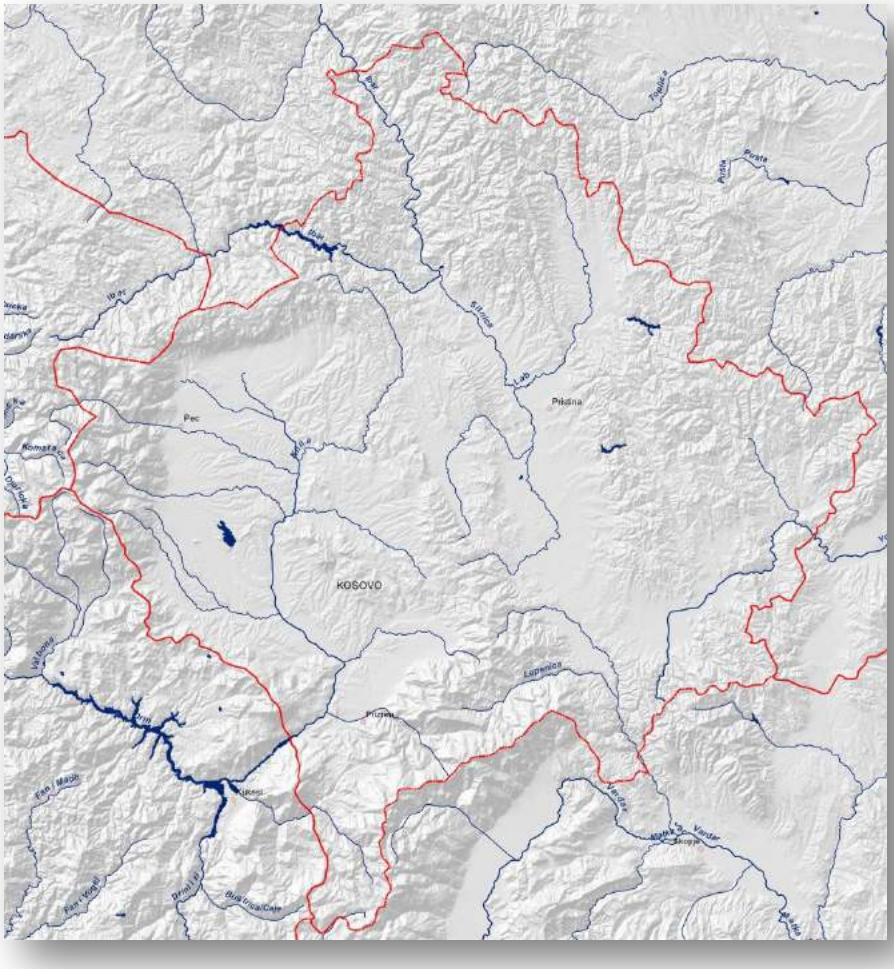
Outstanding Balkan River landscapes – a basis for wise development decisions

Kosovo

Table of Contents:



1. Hydromorphological intactness of rivers

There are four classes characterising the different levels of hydromorphological intactness: Class 1 shows in blue colour near-natural conditions). Class 2-3 is characterised by slightly to moderately modified status, indicated in light green. Class 4 for river stretches which are extensively altered are orange and class 5 (red) indicates stretches with severely modifications in particular impoundments. Lakes and rivers outside of the project areas are visualised in dark blue.

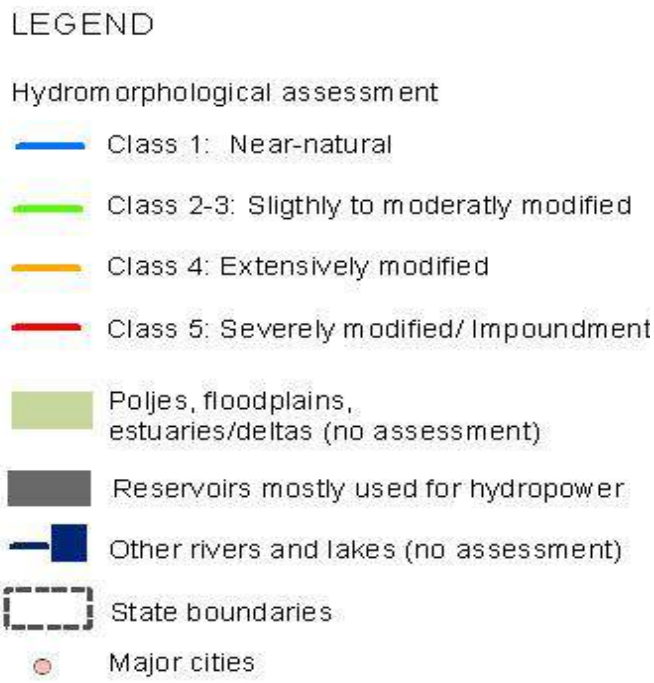


Fig. 1: Legend for the hydromorphological assessment map on next page

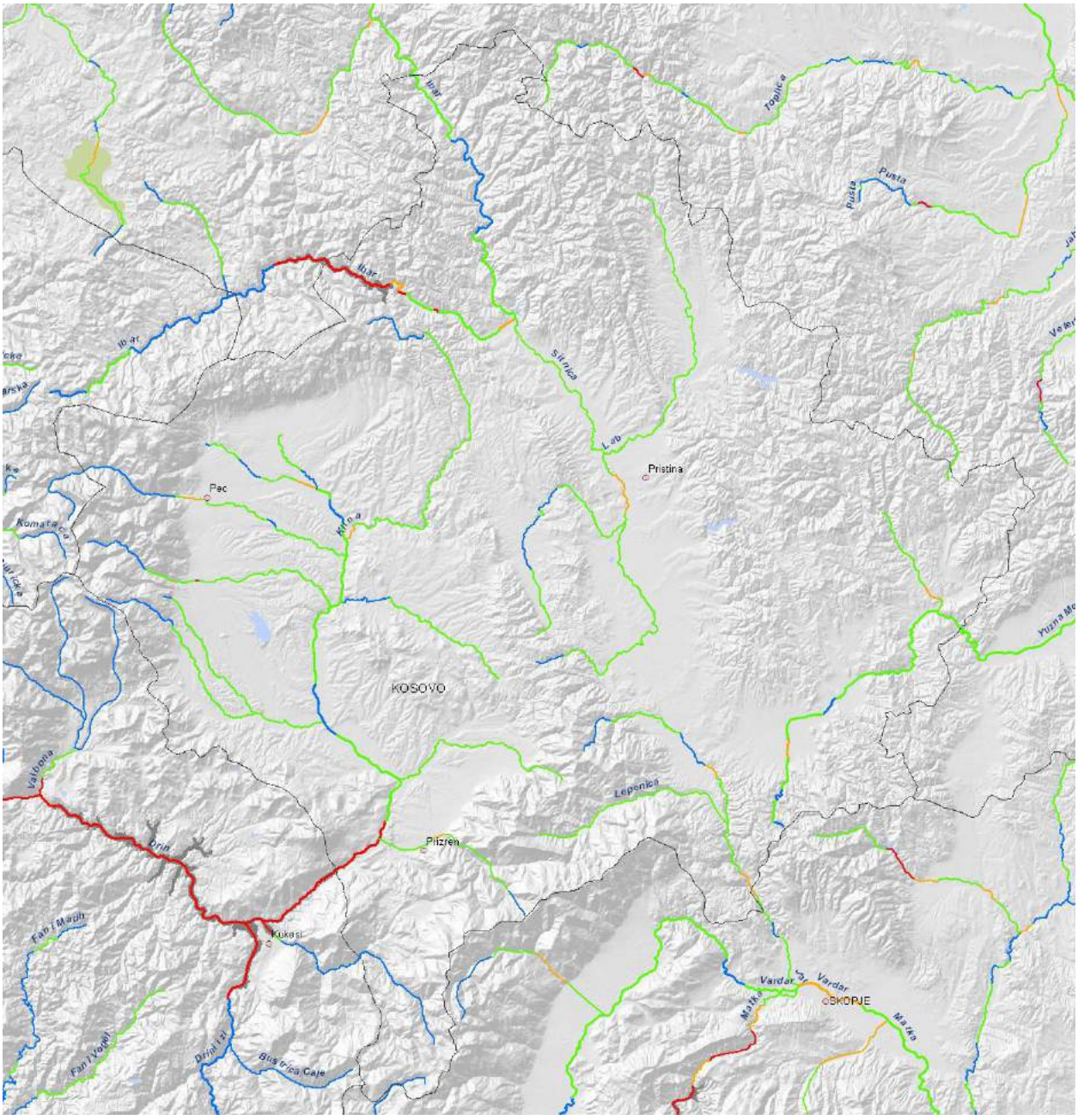


Fig. 2: Hydromorphological assessment for Kosovo.

Rivers in the Kosovo are mostly but relatively moderately used, meaning aside of two impounded hydropower cascades on Ibar and Drin the rivers provide good to moderate hydromorphological conditions (class 2-3). Highlights are some breakthrough valleys and headwaters. Rivers like Beli Drim are intensively used for extraction of gravel and sand.

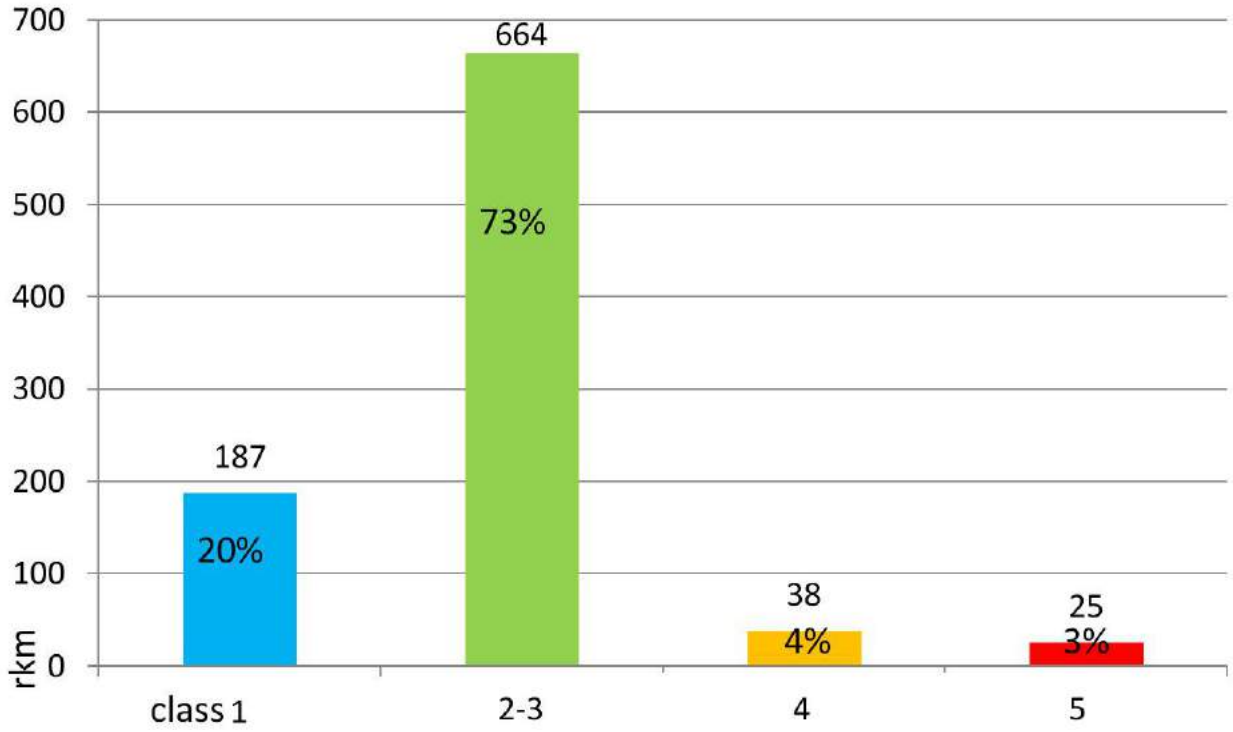


Fig. 3: Hydromorphological assessment in rkm and percentage for Kosovo.

2. Protected areas, karst poljes, estuaries/deltas and important floodplains

The inventory of protected areas contains in particular Natura2000 for EU Member States (EC 2010) and Croatia (State Institute for Nature protection Croatia 2010), national parks, biosphere reserves, nature reserves, EMERALD network areas (as far as available) and Important Bird Areas as well as Ramsar sites for other countries.

Major important floodplains were used continuously, meaning for the large rivers such as Danube, Drava and Sava they are subdivided in upper, middle and lower parts. In addition the map includes all assessed karst poljes, estuaries/deltas as well as other wetlands.

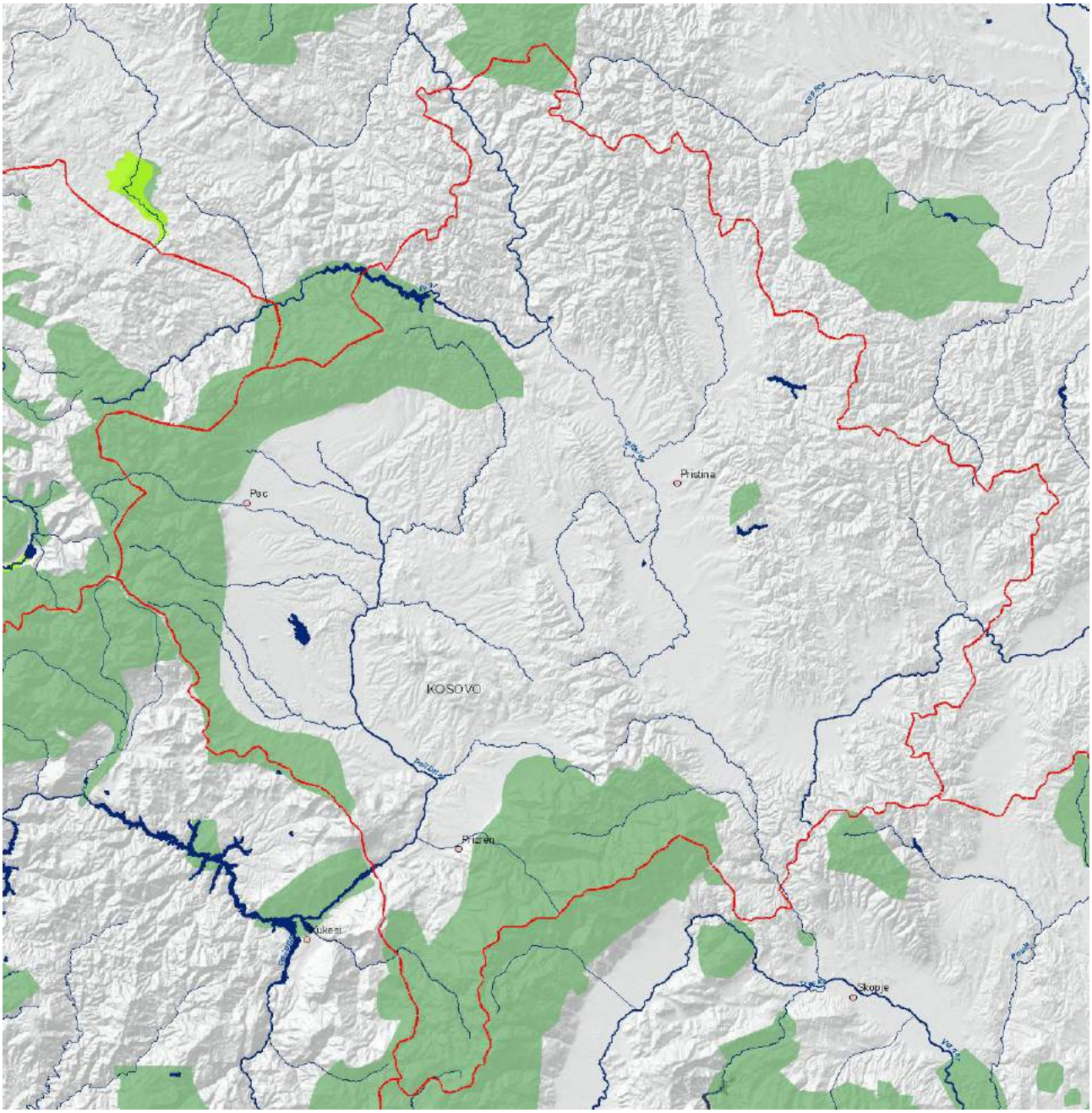


Fig. 4: Protected areas (incl. planned and proposed areas) in dark green (light green are poljes and large floodplain areas)

3. Conservation value of rivers

The conservation value is assessed in three levels: Very high conservation value (in blue), high conservation value (in dark green) and low conservation value (in light green). Karst poljes, major floodplains as well as deltas and estuaries with very high conservation value are visualized in dark blue-green and high conservation value in light green and low in light turquoise. Karst poljes and deltas are from particular interest for nature protection, therefore nearly all fall in the first two conservation classes.

	Hydro-morphological assessment class	**Conservation value** (assessment as result of overlay of hydromorphological assessment + protected areas + floodplains)
Class 1	Near-natural	**Very high**
Class 2-3	Slightly to moderately modified	**High** (river stretches crossing important floodplains/poljes/estuaries/deltas **or** overlapping with protected areas **or** both belonging to the "Very high" conservation value stretches)
Class 4	Extensively modified	**Low, but important for longitudinal continuum** (river stretches crossing important floodplains/poljes/estuaries/deltas **or** overlapping with protected areas **or** both belonging to the "High" conservation value stretches)
Class 5 Impoundments	Severely modified	**Not assessed**

Fig. 5: Definition of conservation value

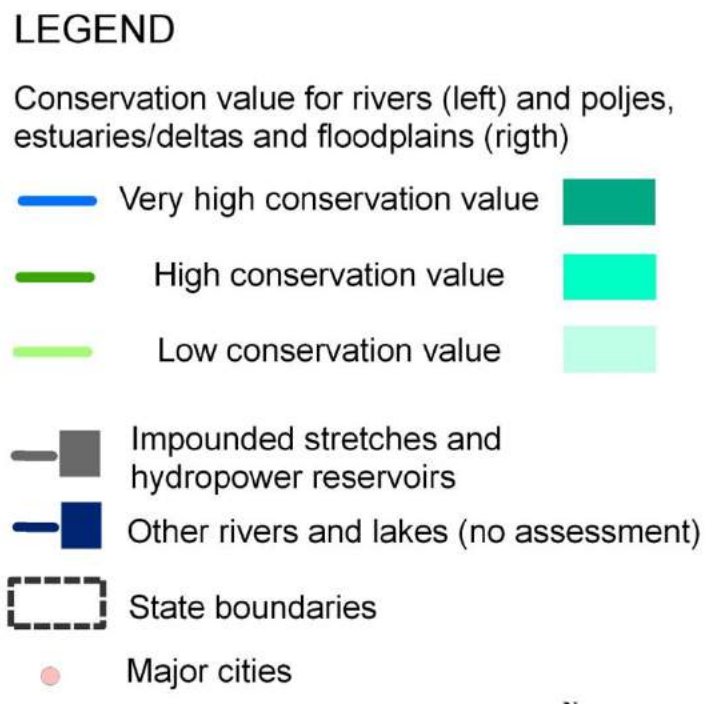


Fig. 6: Legend for the map on conservation value on next page

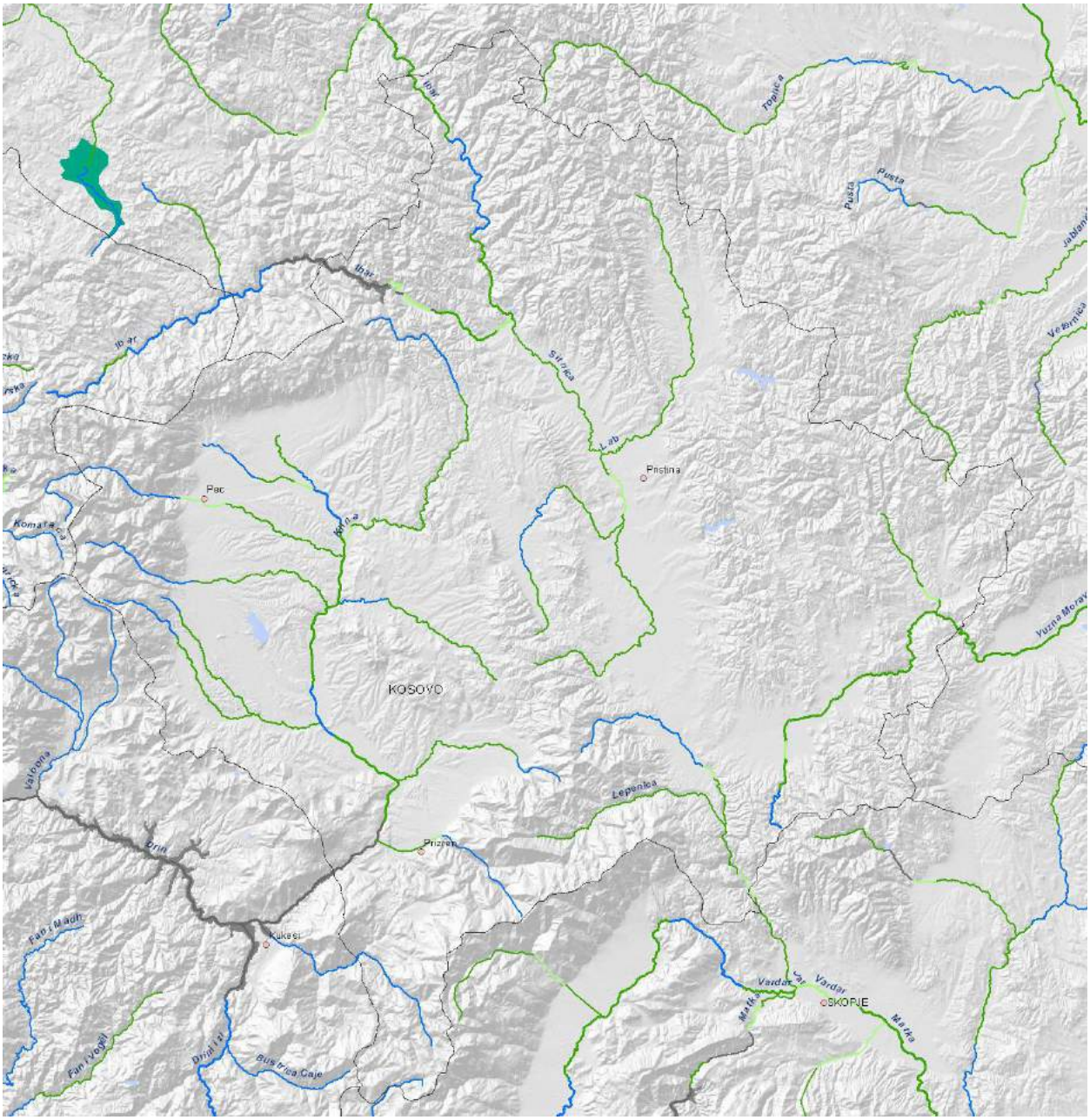


Fig. 7: Conservation value for Kosovo.

Very high conservation values were reached in the Kosovo for some breakthrough stretches and headwaters. Again like for BA and RS the protected area network is not completed in line with European standards.

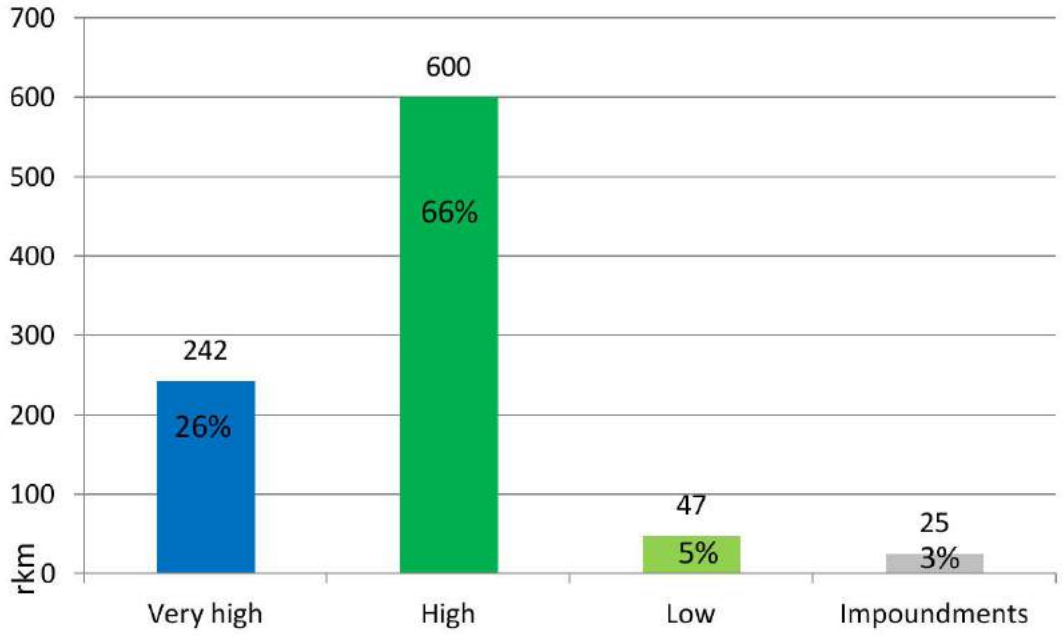


Fig. 8: Conservation value in rkm for Kosovo.

4. Hydropower plants

Hydropower plants were recorded firstly along the “status type” into “existing/operating”, “under implementation” and “planned”. Further dams are classified in three size classes: 1-10 MW, 10-50 MW, and > 50 MW.

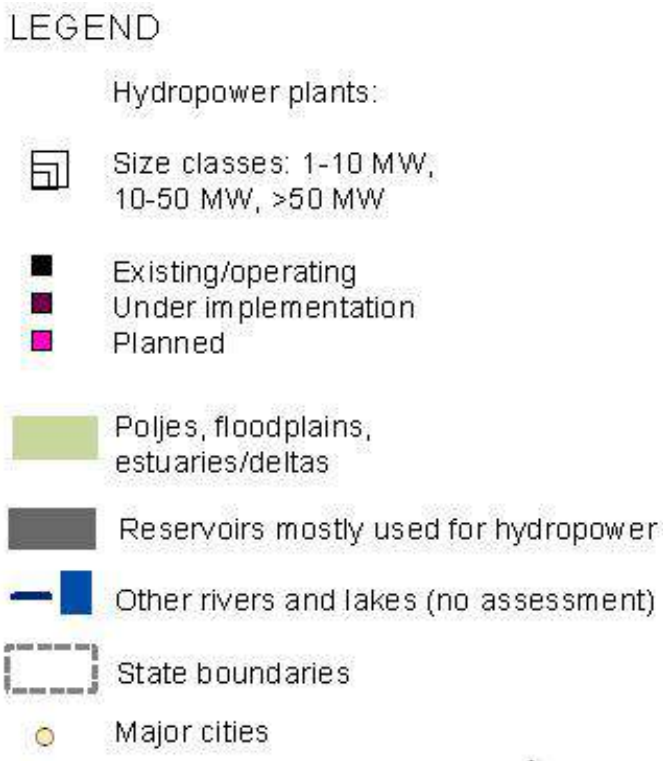


Fig. 9: Legend for the dam map on next page

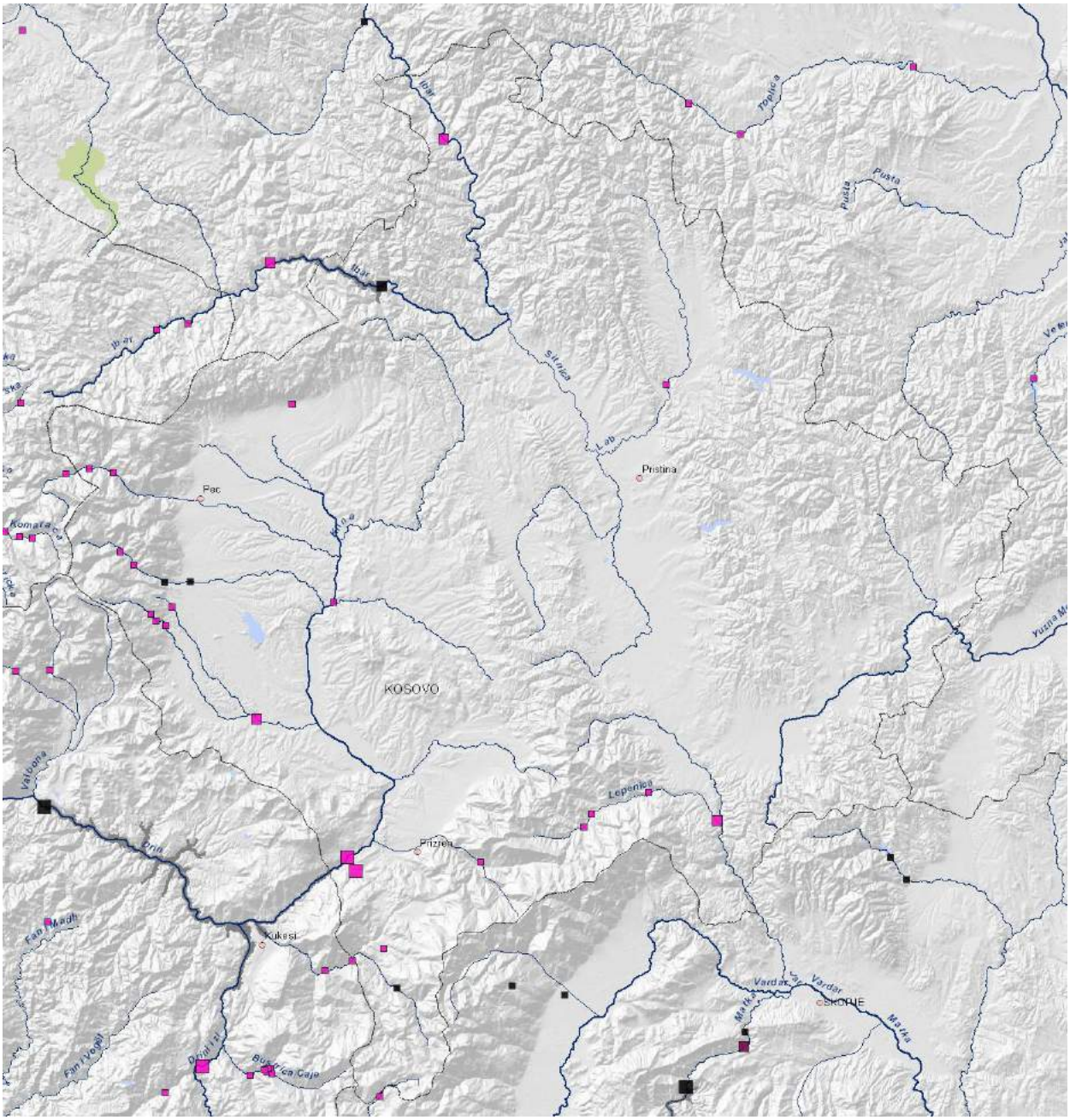


Fig. 10: Hydropower plants for Kosovo.

Only one large HPP is located on Ibar, several small ones are planned.

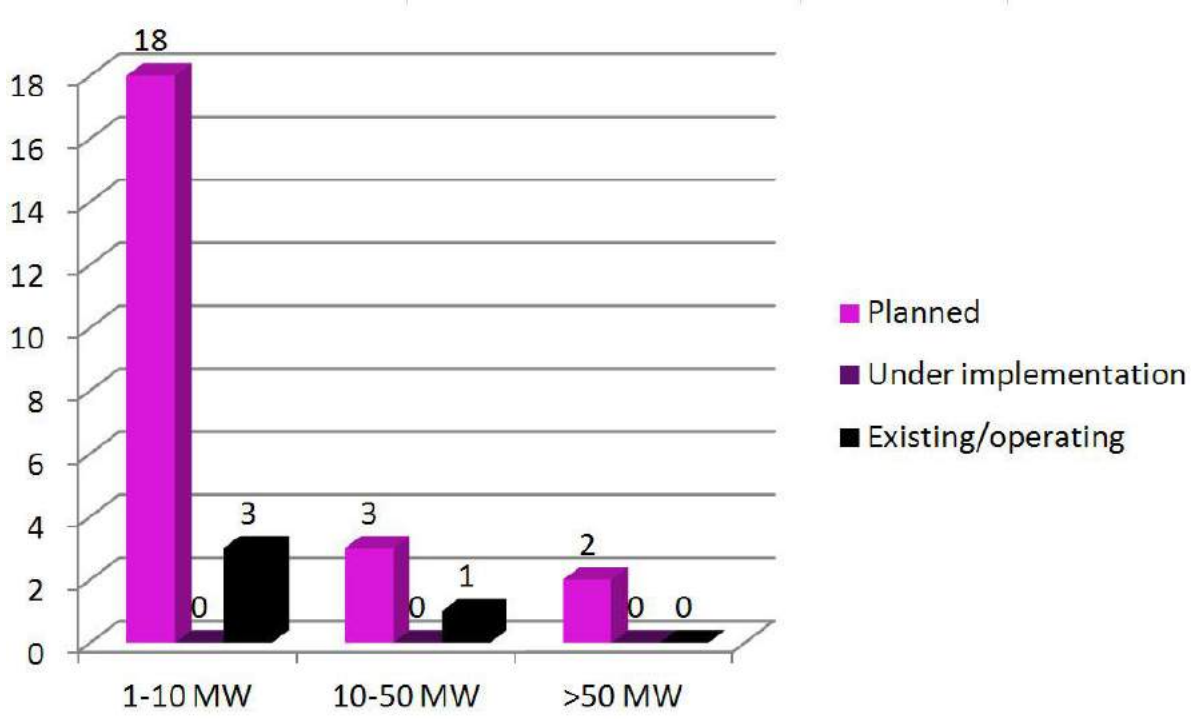


Fig. 11: Distribution of hydropower plants for Kosovo.

5. Affected river stretches with conservation value by hydropower

This chapter combines the information of the "Conservation Value" with the planned hydropower plants.

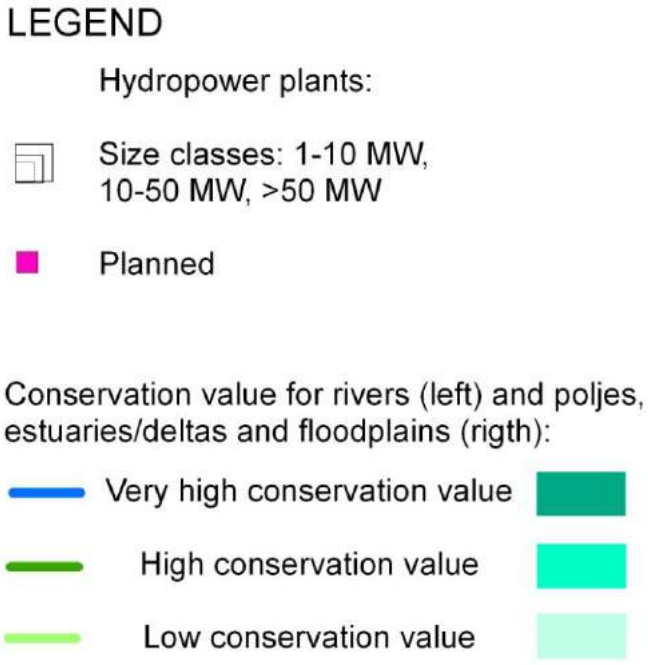


Fig. 12: Legend for the "conflict map" on next page

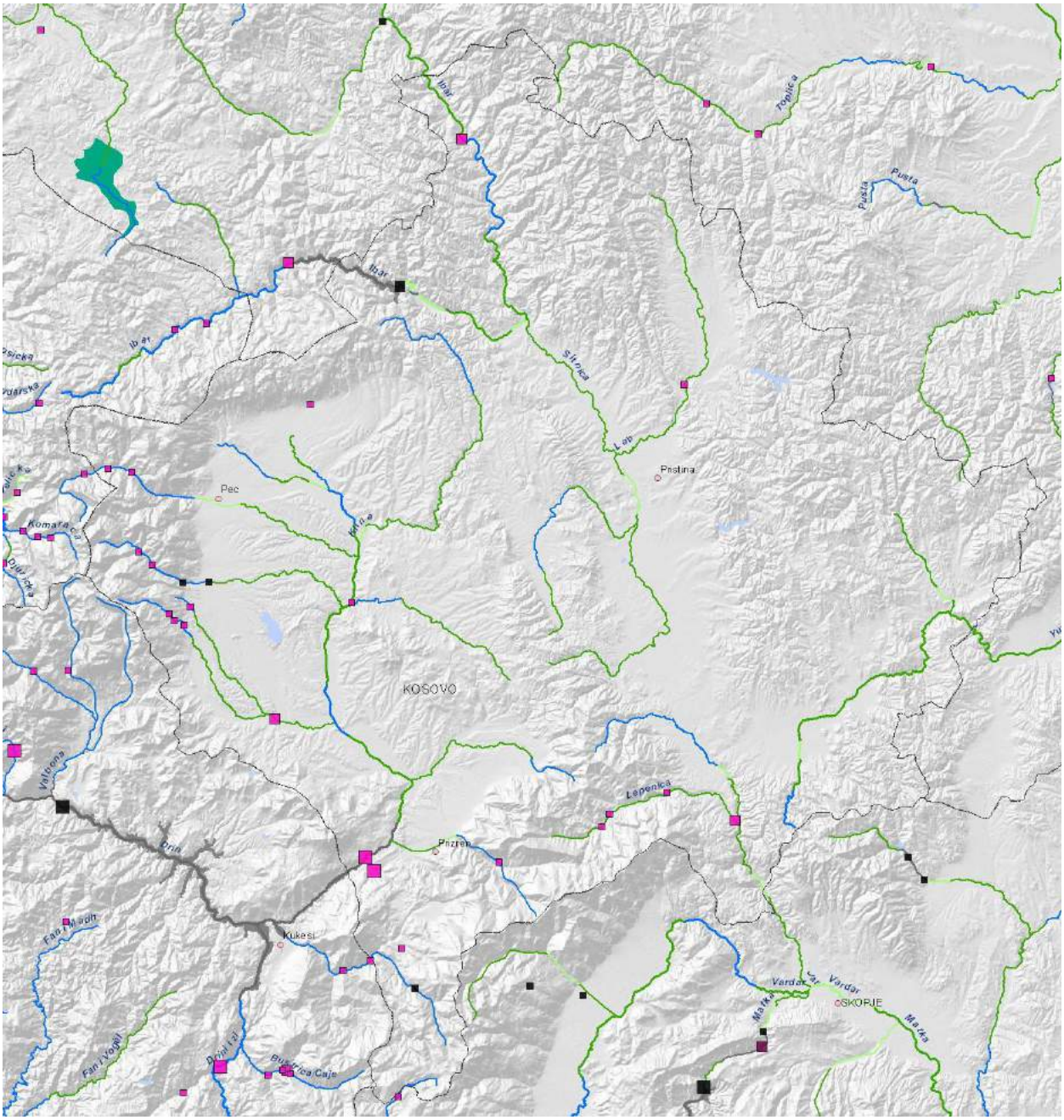


Fig. 13: Affected very high and high conservation stretches by planned hydropower plants for Kosovo.

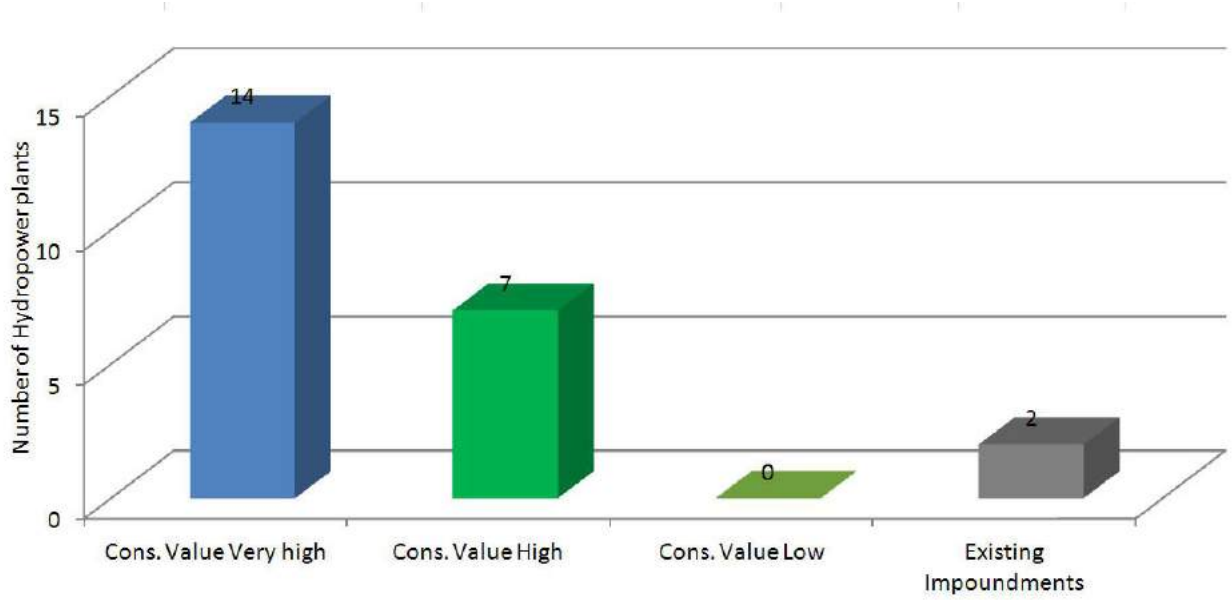


Fig. 14: Number of planned hydropower plants that would affect very high, high and low conservation stretches for Kosovo.

6. List of planned Hydropower dams

ID_HP	Rivers Poljes	Name Location HPP	Installed MW	Affected River Jewels
RKS_HP_1041	Lumebardhi i Prizreni	Recan	1-10	RKS_RJ_295
RKS_HP_1043	Erenik	Mal	1-10	RKS_RJ_296
RKS_HP_1044	Erenik	Erenik	1-10	RKS_RJ_296
RKS_HP_1045	Erenik	Jasiq	1-10	RKS_RJ_296
RKS_HP_1046	Lepenc	Brezovica	1-10	
RKS_HP_1047	Lepenc	Shterpce	1-10	
RKS_HP_1051	Drini i bardhe	Mirusha	1-10	RKS_RJ_303
RKS_HP_1052	Lumebardhi i Peja	Kuqishta	1-10	RKS_RJ_301
RKS_HP_1053	Lumebardhi i Peja	Drelaj	1-10	RKS_RJ_301
RKS_HP_1054	Lumebardhi i Peja	Shtupeq	1-10	RKS_RJ_301
RKS_HP_1055	Lumebardhi i Decani	Bellaje	1-10	RKS_RJ_299
RKS_HP_1659	Lepenica	Kacanik	10-50	
RKS_HP_1660	Ibar	Ibar Kosovo	10-50	RKS_RWJ_287
RKS_HP_1661	Erenik	Gjakova cascade	10-50	
RKS_HP_1057	Lumebardhi i Llocani	Llocan	1-10	RKS_RJ_298
RKS_HP_1065	Lepenc	Lepenci	1-10	
RKS_HP_1058	Plave	Dragash	1-10	RKS_RJ_672
RKS_HP_1059	Drin tributary	Orcush	1-10	AL_RJ_285; RKS_RJ_672
RKS_HP_450	Drin tributary	Zhur 1	> 50	
RKS_HP_734	Lumebardhi i Decani	Koznjer	1-10	RKS_RJ_299
RKS_HP_754	Drin tributary	Zhur 2	> 50	

Picture cover: Mustafa Bela on Google Panoramia (bridge over Beli Drin tributary)

Prepared by FLUVIUS, Vienna 2010-2014