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The extraordinary life of the Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* - case study of one female tagged with a GPS/GSM logger

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The Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* is a species which colonizes new areas in Central Europe; in the last 20 years, its population size in southern Poland has expanded to up to 3,000 breeding pairs.



Mateusz Ledwoń and our gull with GPS/GSM transmitter

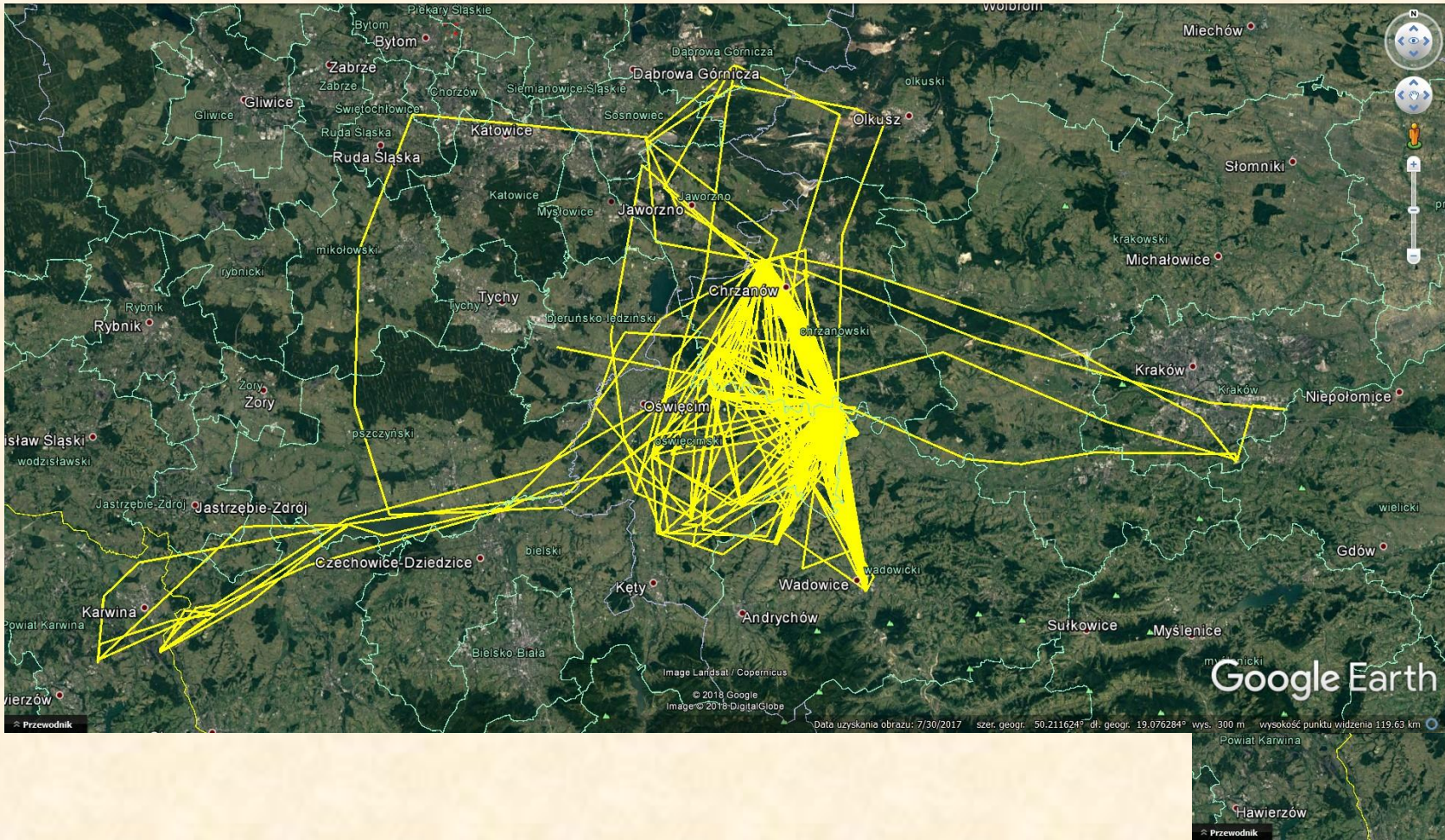
We investigated one adult female tagged with a GPS/GSM-transmitter in April 2016 in a breeding colony in southern Poland.

GPS/GSM-transmitter has been provided by Ecotone – Telemetry

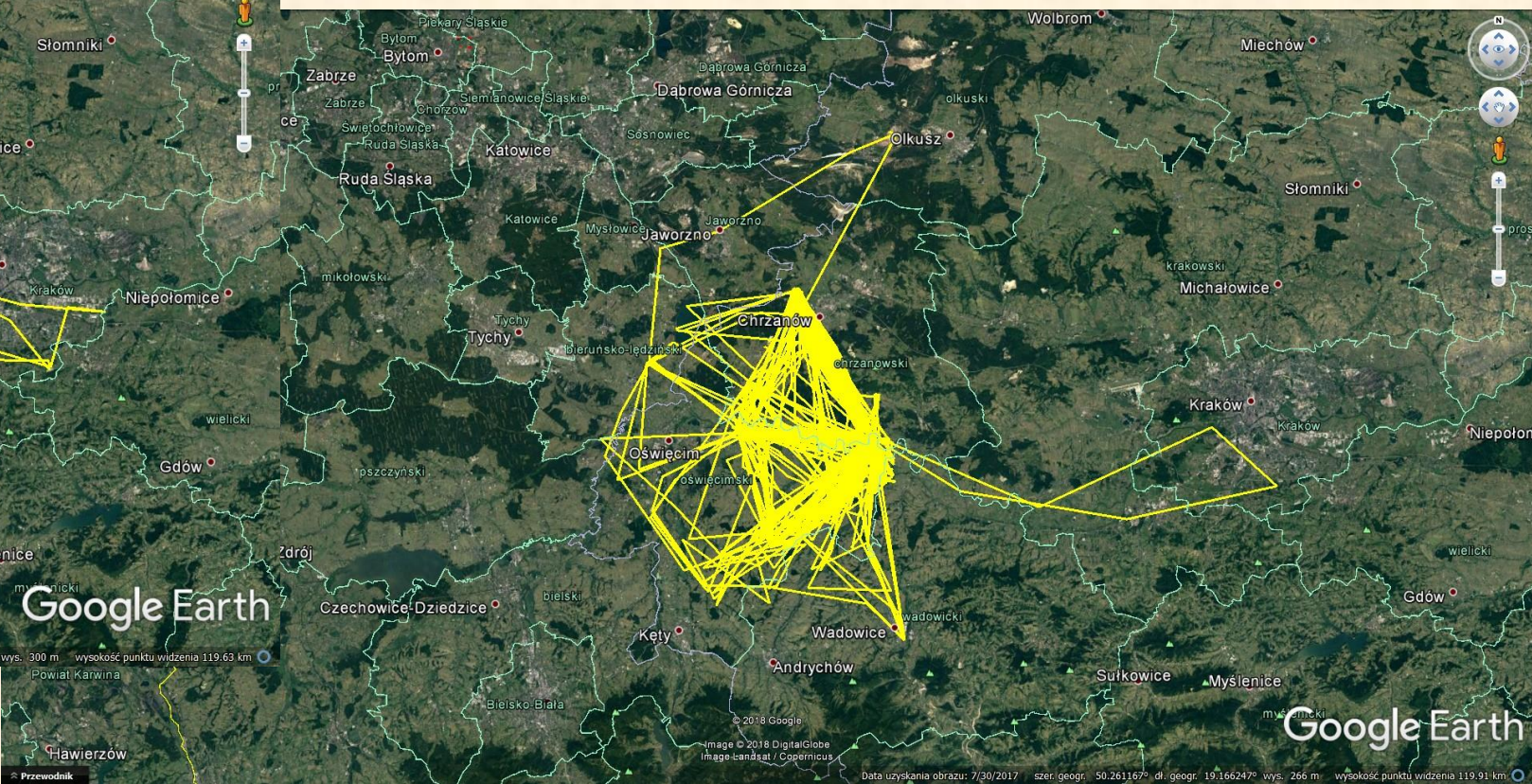


RESULTS:

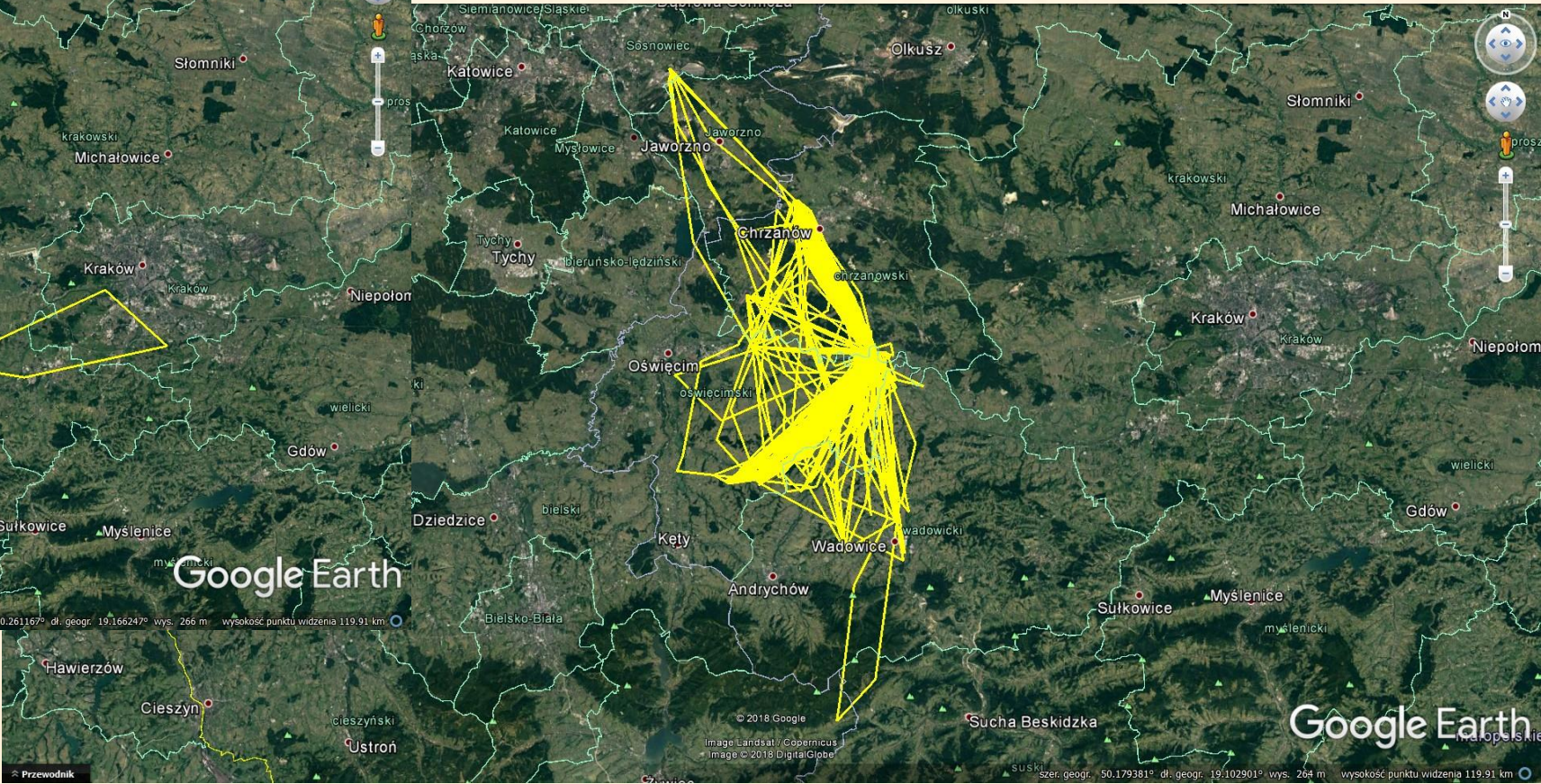
April-June 2016



April-June 2017



April-June 2018

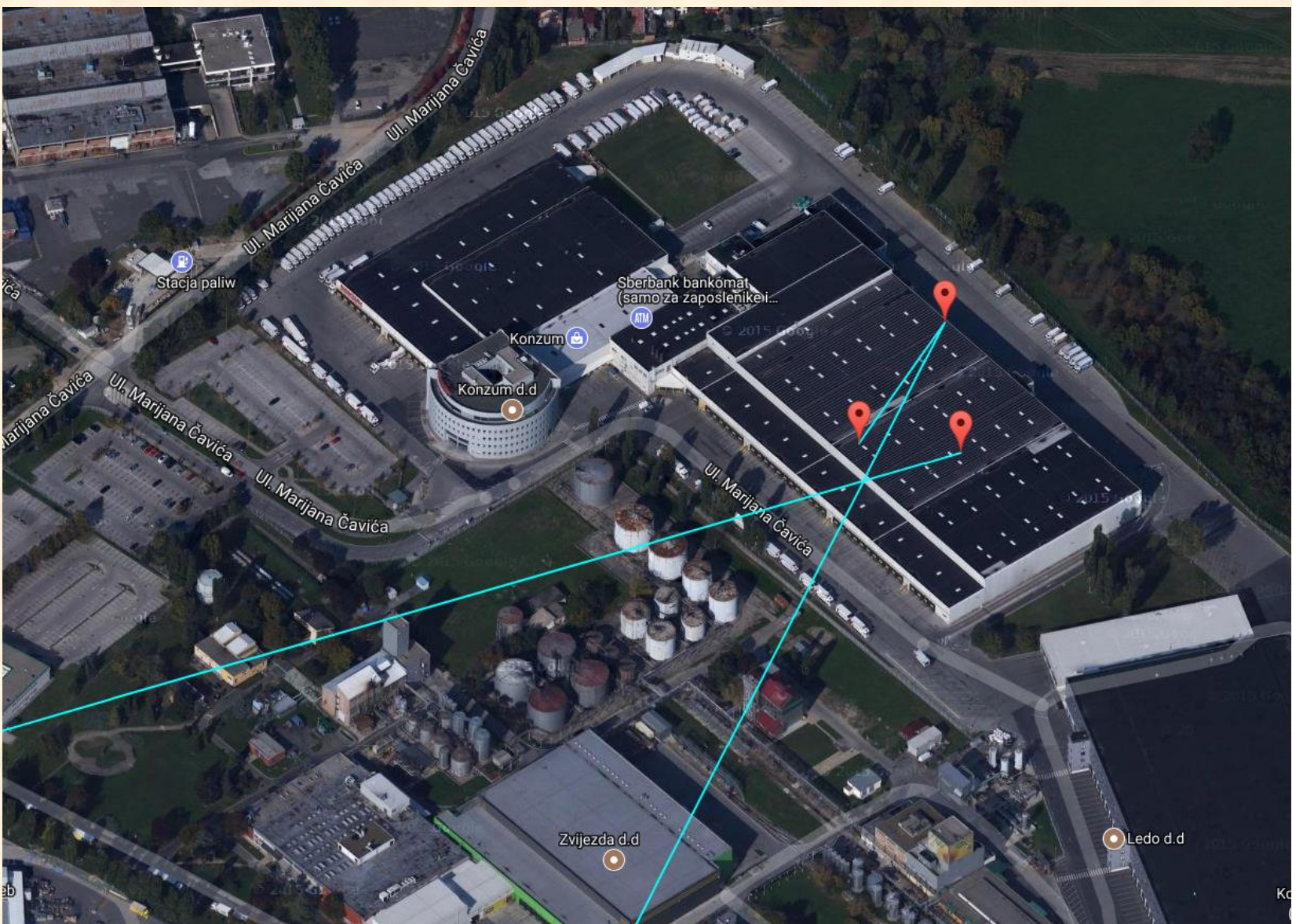
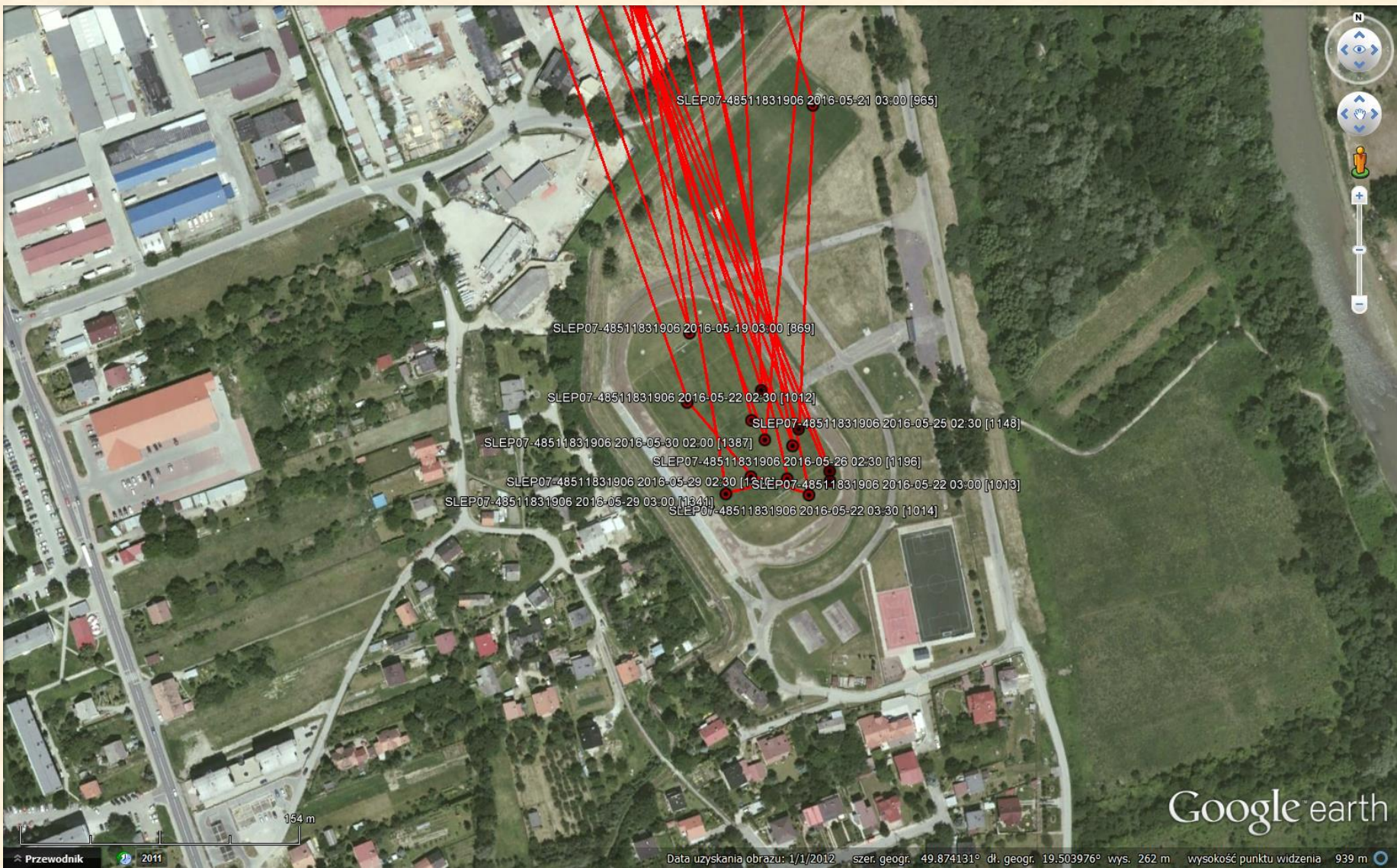


The general pattern of movements in breeding season in three subsequent years was the same. Chrzanów rubbish-dump was visited in these years in the same intensity, but another rubbish-dump in Oświęcim mostly in 2017

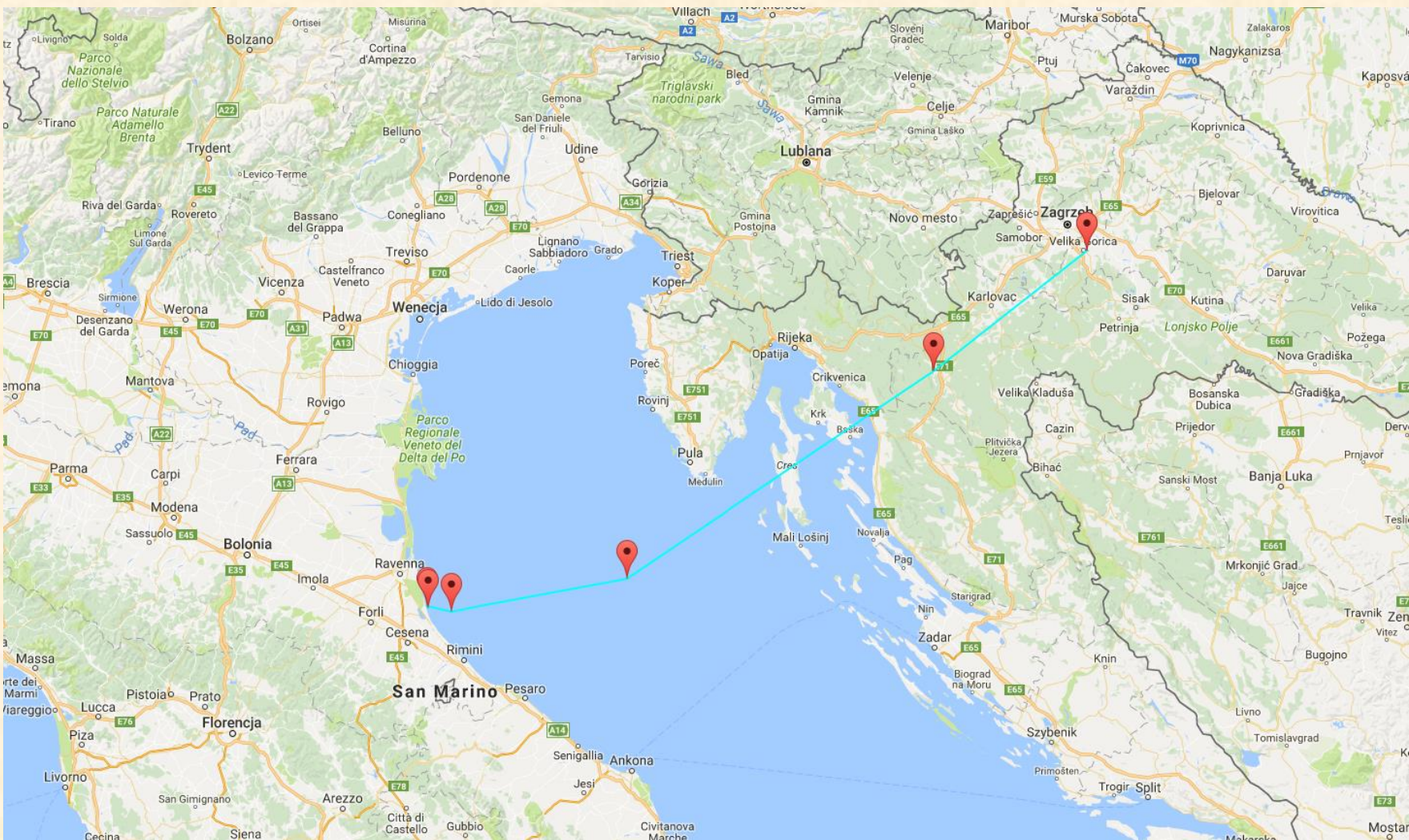


During the breeding season, this bird usually foraged also on carp ponds.

Gull was also frequently observed on a football field at night, where she probably fed on earthworms. Such as behaviour was not reported before.



Gull spent most of the winter in Croatia (Southern Europe), about 700 km from the breeding colony. There, she fed on rubbish dumps, rested on the roof of a supermarket during the day, and spent the nights at the nearest lake.



The highest speed recorded between two points on wintering grounds was about 55 km per hour (34mph) 165 km in 3 hours.