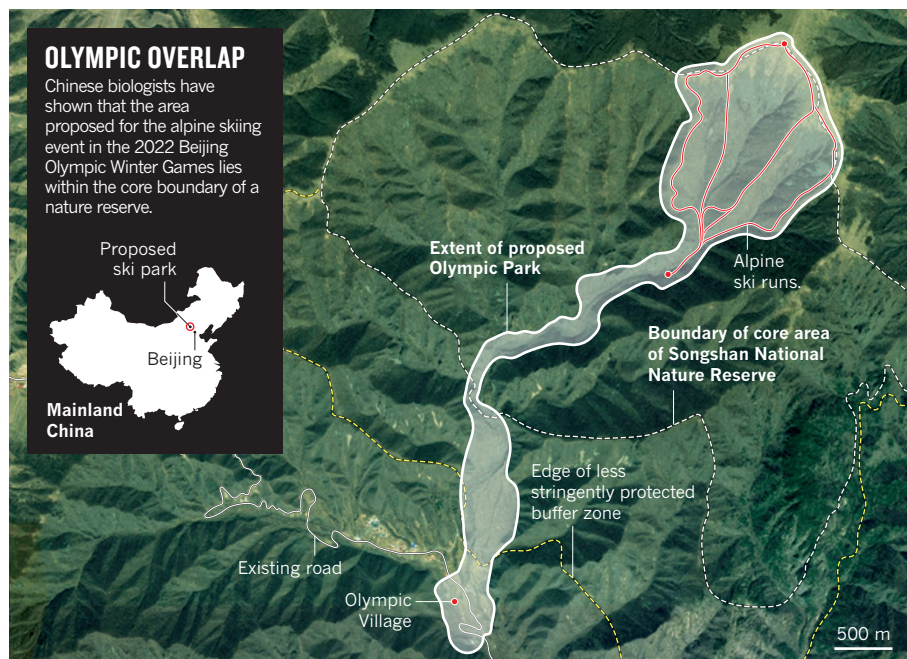


SOURCE: WANG XI/SONGSHAN NATL NATURE RESERVE/IOC



environmental sustainability and conservation seems to be backing away from its promises. In May, for example, China's environment ministry released a notice, signed by ten government agencies, that stated that any development at odds with a reserve's function is "strictly forbidden". Gu and Xi both worry that failure of the strict policies in Beijing would send a broader signal to local governments. If Beijing violates Songshan's reserve, "it will be easier for local governments to give construction projects higher priority than conservation issues", says Gu, whose Weibo posts on the subject are no longer accessible. "The real impact", he says, would be "the breaking of Chinese laws and policies on nature reserves".

Xi says that a better site for the alpine skiing event would be Zhangjiakou, a city in neighbouring Hebei province, which will also host some Winter Olympic events. Zhangjiakou has mountains that are already developed and would suffer no environmental loss, he says. ■

**CLARIFICATION**

The News story 'Stanene makes its debut' (*Nature* **524**, 18; 2015) should have made it clear that the stanene was made by experimentalists at Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

nature-reserve boundaries must submit an application that includes public comment, an ecological assessment and four other documents. Xi and Ji say that they can find no evidence that this happened.

Lei Gu, a postdoctoral researcher in evolution

and conservation biology at Peking University in Beijing, says that Songshan is not that important in terms of biodiversity. The bigger problem, he says, is that a government that has been increasingly issuing statements and regulations that emphasize its commitment to