

CARPATHIA

European Wilderness Reserve

A partridge with brown and black mottled plumage stands on a dark, rocky ledge. The background is a soft-focus forest with green foliage and a clear blue sky. The text 'MARCH & APRIL 2018' and 'FIELD REPORT' is overlaid in white at the bottom right.

MARCH & APRIL 2018
FIELD REPORT

Summary of main activities:

- **Wildlife: Monitoring & conflict management**
- **Ecological restoration: major spring replanting**
- **Activities in the Natura 2000 sites:**
 - **Leaota and Raul Targului – Argesel – Rausor**
- **Communication & community outreach**
- **Conservation enterprises: Cobor & wildlife hides**

Wildlife Conservation – activities



- Winter sample collection of hairs or scats: Wolf 140 specimen, lynx 34 specimen
 - Lynx monitoring with camera traps and winter snow tracking finished in March
 - Preparation of samples for DNA analysis in the CARPATHIA lab and shipment of processed samples to the DNA laboratory in Slovenia
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- Evaluation of damage produced by wild boar in the fields surrounding Rucar
 - Activities for damage prevention through wild boar
 - Anti poaching patrols

Wildlife Conservation – team, sample maps, DNA lab





Wolf scat



Wild boar damage



Wild boar



Roebuck



Roe deer



Bear



Lynx on camera trap

ECOLOGICAL RECONSTRUCTION SPRING 2018

The background image shows a steep, eroded hillside with sparse vegetation. The top of the hill is covered in dry, yellowish-brown grass and scattered small trees. The lower part of the hill is more densely vegetated with green shrubs and small trees. A person wearing a green jacket and light-colored pants is standing at the bottom of the hill, providing a sense of scale. The overall scene suggests a natural area undergoing ecological reconstruction.

Objective: 40 ha replanting in Valea Vâlsanului, 12 ha in Leaota and 60 ha in Valea Dâmboviței; total of 450,000 beech, fir, spruce, and sycamore saplings planted

- we used a mixture of saplings from our own tree nurseries, bought some from other nurseries, and took some from natural regeneration;
- 4,5 km of electric fence installed on Valea Vâlsanului, to prevent intrusion of livestock from nearby meadows;
- 150 seasonal workers hired from local communities;
- 30,000 seeds of fir, spruce, and sycamore sown in tree nurseries;

Replanting sites



Tree nurseries



Greenhouse



ACTIVITIES IN LEAOTA MOUNTAIN

- Field work:
 - Early flower inventory
 - Collecting additional data on bird species





LIVERLEAF (*HEPATICA TRANSSILVANICA*)



COMMON SNOWDROP (*GALANTHUS NIVALIS*)



FUMEWORT (*CORYDALIS SOLIDA*)



SPURGE LAUREL (*DAPHNE MEZEREUM*)



BUTTERBUR (*PETASITES HYBRIDUS*)

LEAOTA MOUNTAIN



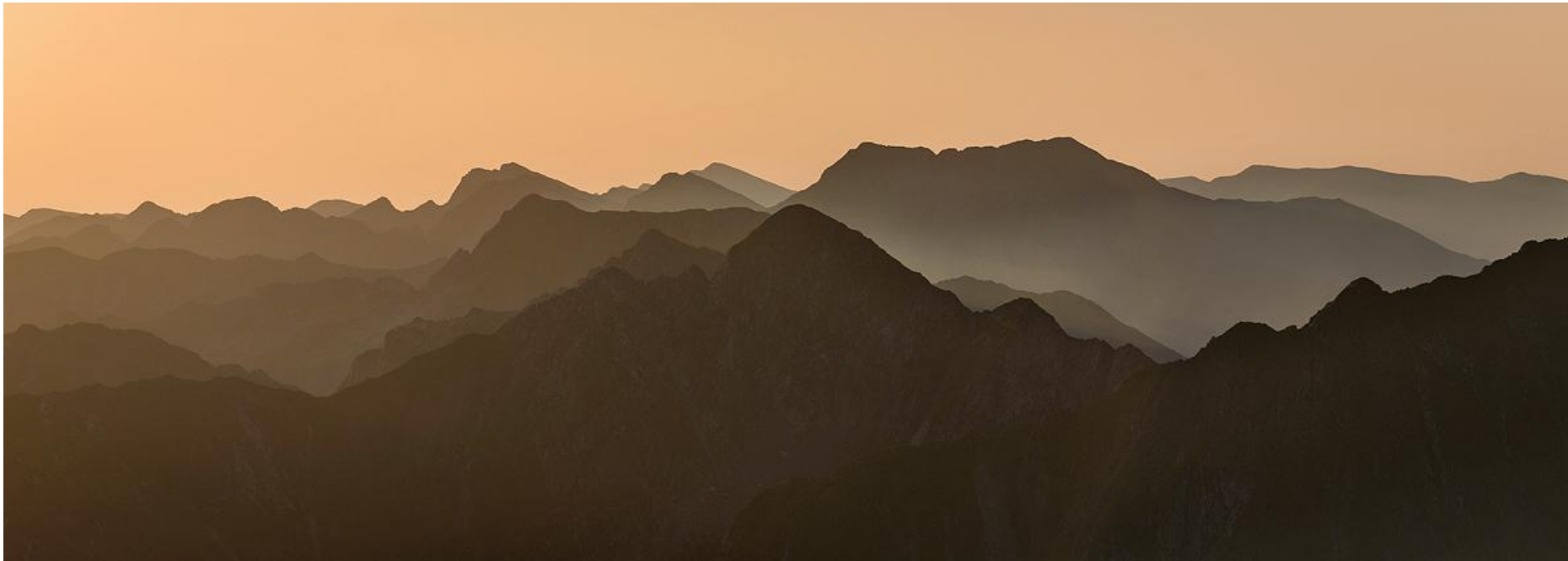
RÂUL TÂRGULUI – ARGEȘEL – RÂUȘOR Natura 2000 site

- Fish and amphibian species inventory
- Report on socio-economic study of the Natura 2000 site population



FAGARAS MOUNTAINS

- Together with the Romanian Academy of Science, FCC organises an international conference about the Fagaras Mountains on December 10th/11th, 2018
- Panel discussions, local culture in the Fagaras Mountains, tourism fair, exhibitions
- Details: <http://www.ibiol.ro/ibb/index.htm>
- Register: fagaras@ibiol.ro



CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES

- Conservation enterprises are businesses, which support conservation, develop local communities, and raise funds for the protected area;
- On invitation of the Brasov County Council, we presented our eco-tourism offers at the International Tourism Fair (ITB) in Berlin



CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES

- Inauguration of Richita wildlife hide as an attraction for visitors staying in the local guesthouses. Guests can spend a few hours hiking and then watch deer, bears, wild boar or forest birds from the hide.



CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES – COBOR FARM

- Inauguration of the bird watching hide

- Passionate bird watchers will fall in love with the great diversity of bird species in Transylvania and the beautiful landscape



CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES – COBOR FARM



MANAGEMENT:

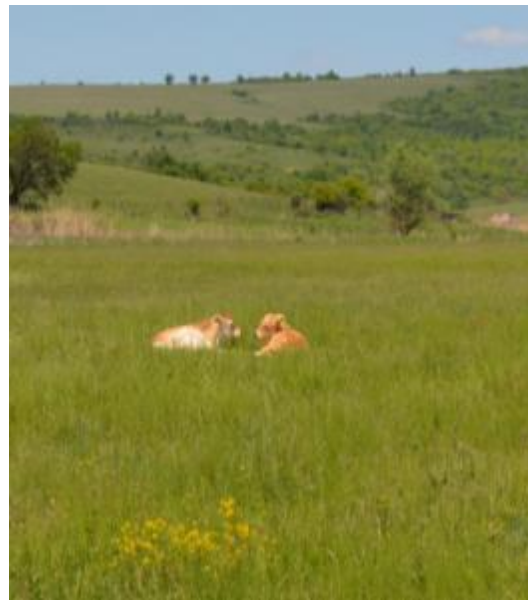
- Planting green fences with local species: Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), dog rose (*Rosa canina*), dogwood (*Cornus sanguinea*), dewberry (*Rubus caesius*).
- Planting the garden and the greenhouse with potatoes, onions, cucumbers, beans, green peas, courgette, tomatoes, salad, carrots, celery, peppers, and many herbs.
- Maintenance of horse pasture

CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES – COBOR FARM



MANAGEMENT:

- Reintroducing the Hungarian Grey Cattle to Cobor as the traditional, autochthonous species of Transylvania







- Finishing the interior work of our guesthouses. A big thank you to architect Jan Hülsemann and interior designer Adela Chivarean for their excellent jobs!



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Attending the premiere of “Untamed Romania”, a 90 minute cinema movie about the beauty of Romania
- FCC is proud to have been part of this project



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Media event in Bucharest, presenting the results of our conservation project and our vision: Fagaras Mountains National Park



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Auction of Experiences: FCC participated for the second year to this event in Fagaras promoting our initiative and to helping to raise funds for community projects.
- Our Cobar Biodiversity Farm donated a guided evening at our bird hide, a farm tour and a dinner for two for the auction.



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- RTC, a Bucharest based company, has joined our campaign and donated the replanting of one hectare.
- 40 employees spent a day with the FCC team and became ambassadors of a future Fagaras National Park.



JOIN US IN...

- Creating the largest forested National Park in Europe
- Annual restoration of 100 ha ecosystem on illegal clear-cuts
- Protecting wildlife on 2 hunting concessions with a total of 24,000 ha
- Sustainable development of local communities
- Environmental education projects

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Photo credits:

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