

CARPATHIA

European Wilderness Reserve

**MAY & JUNE 2018
FIELD REPORT**

Summary of main activities:

- Wildlife: Monitoring, conflict management and anti-poaching patrols
- Ecological restoration and forest management
- Activities in the Natura 2000 sites:
 - Leaota and Raul Targului – Argesel - Rausor
- Conservation enterprises: Cobor Biodiversity Farm & Wildlife Hides
- Communication & Community outreach

Wildlife Conservation – activities

- Otter monitoring with camera traps
- Monitoring of repellent success against wild boar on private meadows close to Rucăr
- Checking sheepfolds and collecting data about livestock owners and shepherds in respect to animal numbers, employees, breed and number of dogs etc.
- Fighting illegal grazing in the Tamaş area in cooperation with the Mountain Gendarmerie and Piatra Craiului National Park rangers.
- Assessment and compensation of wildlife damage, especially of wild boar on private meadows;



Otter



Fire salamander



Three-toed Woodpecker



Bear



Chamois



Bird nest in a dead tree



Owl

ECOLOGICAL RECONSTRUCTION & FOREST MANAGEMENT

- Our replanting activities are actively supported by Romanian authorities and corporations
- Installation of a 4 km fence in the upper Valea Dobroneagu restoration site against livestock grazing (local shepherds got used to grazing their livestock on the clear-cuts for several years now)
- Collection of elm seeds for tree nurseries
- Work in the greenhouse and in the tree nurseries
- Peeling trees against bark beetles



Replanting sites

- Arges county Gendarmerie, Forest Guard Service and Environmental Protection Agency helped us with replanting on Dobroneagu Valley, the largest clear-cut site bought by FCC so far (106 ha); 40 ha were replanted this spring



Replanting sites

- MedLife continues its promise to create a new forest on 10 ha as a gift for all babies born in their clinics. In total, we have replanted 6 ha and we have 4 ha to plant in autumn.



Replanting sites



Tree nurseries, greenhouse, seeds



Elm seed collection



Elm seed collection

Bark peeling of wind blown spruce



LEAOTA Natura 2000 site

- Field work:

- Study the status of alder corridors and *Myricaria germanica* habitats along the rivers
- Positive conclusion on three Leaota valleys: Habitats are recovering naturally
- Alder is regenerating well since the purchase of the forests and the stop of forest exploitation





Rhododendron myrtifolium



Spruce forest with characteristic species
(*Hieracium transylvanicum*)



Pinguicula vulgaris (Common butterwort)

RÂUL TÂRGULUI – ARGEȘEL – RÂUȘOR Natura 2000 site

- Evaluation of the conservation status of fish species



CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES – COBOR FARM

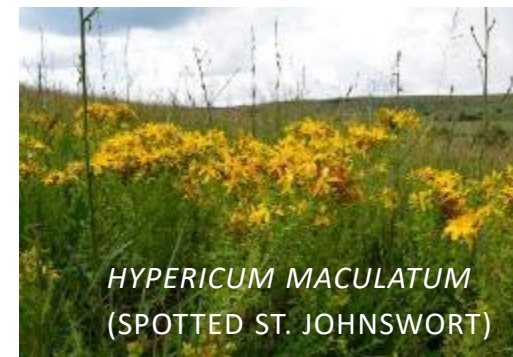
- Meadows management: vegetation survey on larger plots (100 m²), surrounding the 1x1m plots from last year



YELLOW SWEET CLOVER
(*MELILOTUS OFFICINALIS*)



BLUE FINGERS
(*VERONICA ORCHIDEA*)



HYPERICUM MACULATUM
(SPOTTED ST. JOHNSWORT)



PRUNELLA LACINIATA
(CUT-LEAVED SELFHEAL)

CONSERVATION ENTERPRISES – COBOR FARM

EVENTS

- ***Bike & Brunch***: 40 km ride, in partnership with Colinele Transilvaniei Association
- ***CARPATHIA teambuilding***: All colleagues from the CARPATHIA area and the central office staff have spent a day at the farm to experience this project and get to know each other better
- 1st of June – ***Kid's day*** at the farm & medicinal plants workshop, a relaxing day for our visitors to reconnect with nature, pick tasty herbs for tea and enjoy a brunch with good, local products
- ***Flavours & Sounds of Transylvania***, in partnership with My Transylvania Association: brunch, local music and farm tour



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- For the second year we involve the community in our ecological restoration project in the Fagaras Mountains: People can replant simply riding a bike ☺ and acting as Ambassadors for different projects, competing in the most important charitable event dedicated to bikers in Romania
- 41 bikers chose our project and 950 Euro were raised for replanting



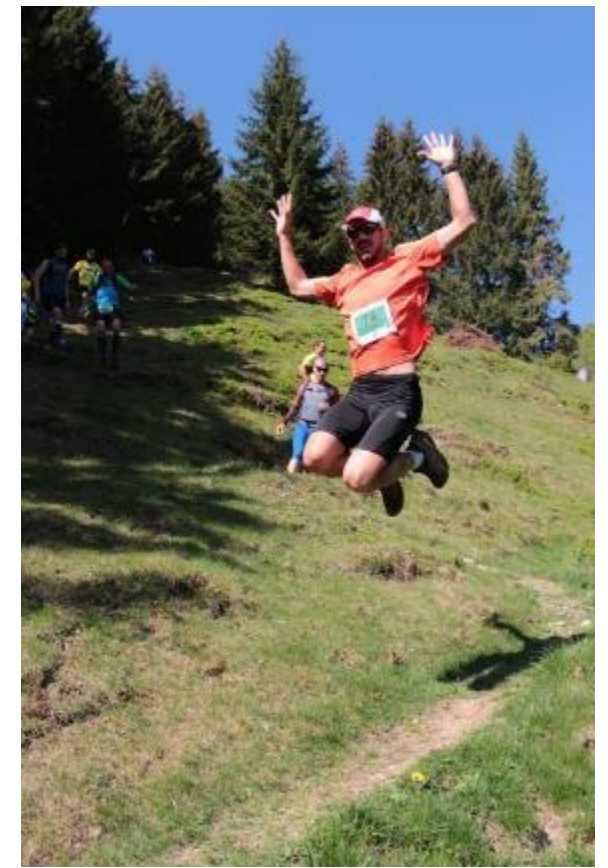
COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- High-school students from Fagaras and Pitesti visit CARPATHIA, accompanied by our rangers or local guides: Tree nurseries, Thematic trail “Forest History”, and the Restoration sites



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- EcoMarathon: FCC participant and partner in this local event dedicated to people who appreciate and care for the environment
- 1,700 marathon runners and thousands of spectators participated



COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- Carpathian Marathon: as custodians of Leaota Natura 2000 site we were partner in an important national marathon;
- 1,500 marathon runners, 2,000 visitors



Photos from the project area



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:

Ionut Cretu, Codrut Voinescu, Dan Dinu, Costica Simion, Barbara & Christoph Promberger, Oliviu Pop, Bogdan Sulica, Angela Pop, Florin Tiuca, Corina Fodor, DHL Carpathian Marathon