November 2018

Field report

www.carpathia.org
Main activities summary

01  Forest conservation and management
02  Ecological restoration
03  Wildlife conservation
04  Cobor Biodiversity Farm
05  Communication & community outreach
Forest conservation and management:
Patrolling to prevent illegal activities
Scientific research
Activities

- Râul Târgului – Argeșel – Râușor Natura 2000 site: Ongoing work on the report about large carnivores and forest habitats.
- Field studies in Leaota recorded signs of climate warming: Five species in blossom (*Campanula* sp., *Bellis perennnis*, *Verbascum* sp., *Galinsoga* sp., *Tussilago farfara*).
- The National Agency for Natural Protected Areas officially announced to take over custodianship of Leaota and Râul Târgului – Argeșel – Râușor Natura 2000 sites from FCC, without having any field personnel. This comes as part of the Governmental decision to take over all custodianship from the NGOs. We are waiting for a decision regarding the on-going management plan of Râul Târgului – Argeșel – Râușor Natura 2000 site.
01 Forest management
Leaota Forest Conservation

- Work in the Wildland zone: In the frame of a EU financed environmental forestry programme, we convert spruce monocultures into natural forests
- Thinning in the buffer zone of our beech forests to produce firewood for disadvantaged members of the local communities
Ecological restoration
Activities

• Preparing tree nurseries and seeding mountain ash and sycamore.
• We have covered the seeded tree nurseries with leaves and spruce branches to protect seeds from cold temperatures
• In 2018, CARPATHIA has replanted 120 ha of clear-cuts. Our target was at least 100 ha/year.
• All activities involve seasonal workers hired from the local communities
Wildlife conservation
Activities

- Assessment and compensation of wildlife damage, especially of wild boar on private meadows
- Anti poaching patrols
- Continue the DNA sampling for bears to determine population numbers
- Preparing the plan for DNA sampling campaign for lynx and wolf
- Installing camera traps to photograph lynx: Fur patterns can be used to identify individuals
Wolf tracks

Lynx scat

Bear tracks

Butterfly at 1600 m altitude
04
Cobor Biodiversity Farm
Activities

• The Hungarian Grey cattle heard is prepared for winter
• The calves are doing well and several cows are pregnant
• Our project of reintroducing the Carpatin guarding dog will start soon: 6 puppies will be given out to local shepherds in spring – friendly with human but protective against carnivores. These dogs are the original breeds and don’t pose threats to people as the often used mongrels do.
Communication & community outreach
Activities

• Training about topics such as “ecological footprint” for our CARPATHIA team: Applied philosophy for our new employees – a programme delivered by ProPark Foundation for Protected Areas

• Mr. Hans Erich Tischler, German consul in Sibiu visited our head quarters and expressed his interest to support our forest conservation initiative

• Media training for parts of the CARPATHIA team by Amalia Enache, the main speaker of Romanian evening news: As our project grows, it gets more media visibility.

• FCC and Cobor Biodiversity Farm were nominated at the Ecotic Gala for a clean environment as the best Romanian NGO and the greenest commercial company.
Join us in:

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