



## November 2019

#### Field report



# Main activities summary

- 01 Forest conservation and management
- 02 Ecological restoration
- 03 Wildlife conservation
- 04 Cobor Biodiversity Farm
- 05 Communication & community outreach



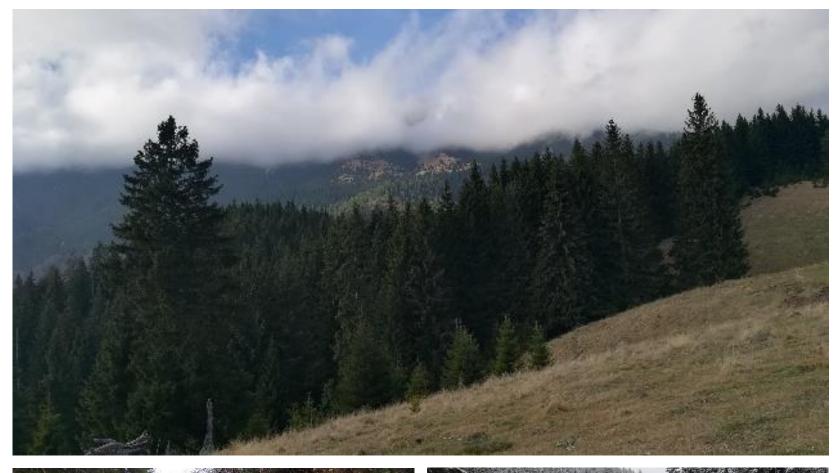
Forest conservation and management



#### **Activities**

- 26 ha of additional forest secured for full protection.
- Fire wood is being assigned to the local communities from our neighbouring forests.
- Mapping the riparian areas where measures will be taken (species richness, invasive species).















Ecological restoration

- End of autumn planting campaign:
   We have planted 43,800 saplings.
- A report was prepared for the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Waters, with clear-cut areas and surfaces which have been restored so far.
- We have planted fir seeds in our tree nurseries.
- We have collected and prepared humus from the forest to use it in our tree nurseries and green house.
- Spruce monoculture conversion work introduces species such as beech, fir, sycamore or elm into these artificial forests to regain lost biodiversity.
- You can join our ecological restoration campaign, donate or adopt clear-cut parcels at: <a href="https://www.carpathia.org/donate/">https://www.carpathia.org/donate/</a>





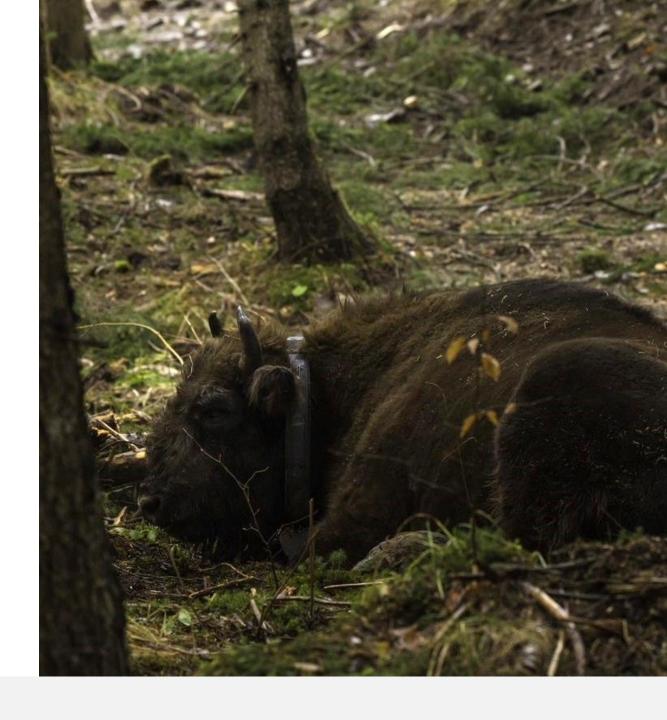


Wildlife conservation



### Activities

- After 200 years, the <u>Făgăraş Mountains are again HOME</u> to <u>European bison!</u>
- We have translocated the first four bison into an acclimatisation enclosure, and we plan to bring in another seven before the end of the year. The heard will be released into the wild next spring.



- Further camera traps installed for lynx monitoring: 18 locations have had positive results so far, and we are working on the 2018-2019 report that will estimate the abundance and density of lynx in a basic exploratory model.
- Rangers patrolling to prevent poaching and illegal fishing.







#### **Camera trap images**



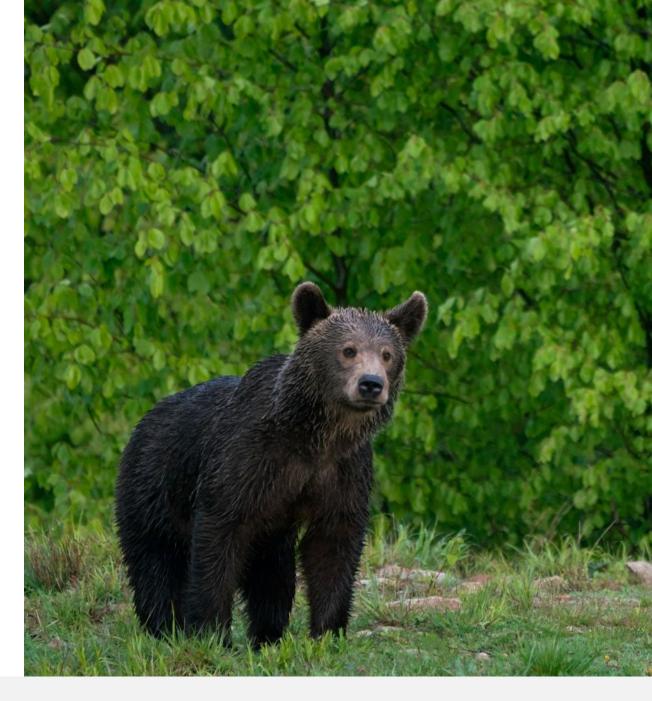








- Management measures: We have received authorisation from the Ministry of Environment to relocate another problem bear that causes livestock damage and is a threat to local people.
- Conflicts have been at an unusually high level during autumn 2019: although the wildlife rapid intervention team continues its efforts to keep wild boar and bears away from the villages and despite responding to more than 100 interventions since June, problems still exist.
- A request was submitted, along with the local authorities, to the regional authorities to allow faster relocation of problem bears that are present in the communities; currently, a bear needs to cause at least two damages before legal measures can be taken (relocation to a remote forest or elimination).





Cobor Biodiversity Farm



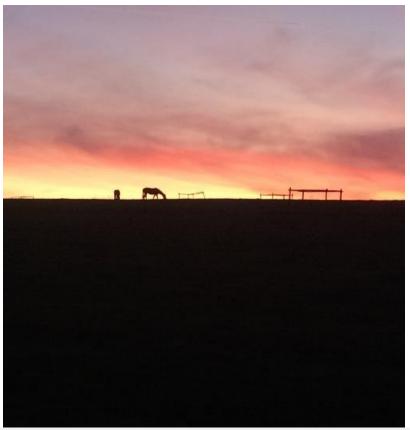
### **Activities**

- Autumn cleaning of pastures.
- Repair of the fences which surround the 20 ha of horse pastures. If you are interested in finding a good place for your horse, visit Cobor or check our <u>horse accommodation/</u> rehabilitation centre offer.
- We have checked the oak saplings planted during last spring. We have a success rate of 30%, so in spring we will replace the dry saplings with new ones.









- We have 103 Hungarian Grey cattle and the heard is growing with some beautiful, fluffy calves, properly "dressed" for winter.
- The Carpathian Shepherd Dog breeding programme is going well and we will expand the dog kennels into a more spacious facility before the next pups are born in the spring.





 Cobor Biodiversity Farm has received, for the second time in a row, the award for "Promoter of the natural environment" at the Făgăraş Community Gala.



- Spend your <u>Christmas</u> or <u>New Year</u> holidays at Cobor!
- We look forward to welcoming you to our Transylvanian <u>biodiversity farm!</u>







04 Cobor Biodiversity Farm

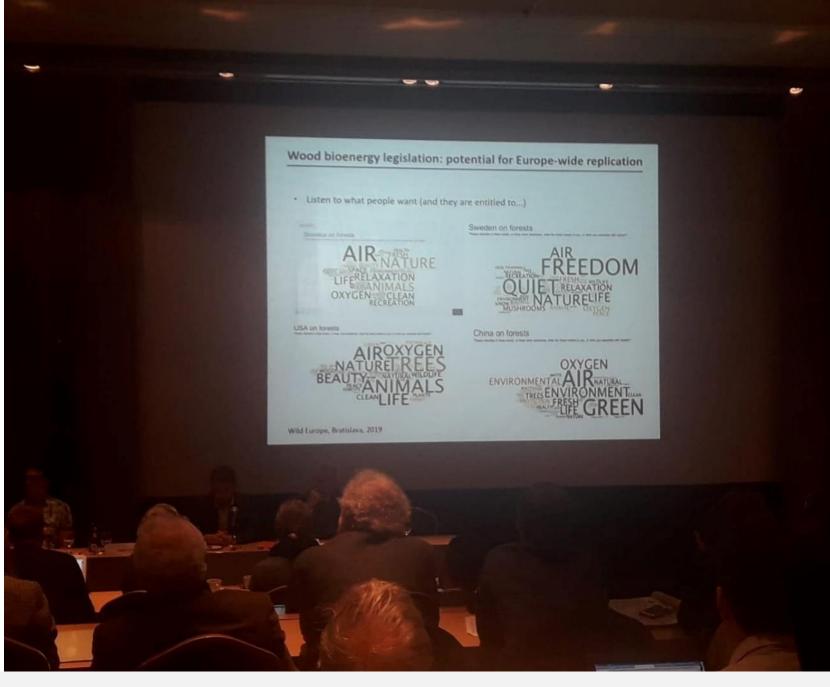
Communication & community outreach



- We have signed a new LIFE contract with the European Commission, which will cover activities until summer 2024.
- The project LIFE CARPATHIA will allow us to further develop the five pillars of activities: forest conservation, restoration of degraded habitats, wildlife conservation and management, communication & community outreach and development of conservation enterprises.



- FCC participated in the Conference on Wilderness and Old-Growth Forest in Europe, Bratislava, Slovakia.
- FCC directors Barbara and Christoph Promberger gave a presentation on the CARPATHIA project during the Gala Dinner.
- Visit of the Forestry Guard in Ploiesti together with the Ministry of Environment, Waters and Forests.
   The delegation visited a replanted old clear-cut site on Valea Vâlsanului (southern Făgăraş Mountains), the largest ecological reconstruction site (106 ha) we restored during 2018-2019 and planted 328.750 saplings.



Conference on Large Carnivore
 Monitoring and Conservation in the
 Carpathians, organised by WWF
 Romania, was held together with the
 10th Meeting of the Carpathian
 Convention Working Group on
 Biodiversity. This gave us the
 opportunity to share our experience
 of large carnivore monitoring with
 other NGOs and specialists.



- Our autumn volunteers' help with planting on Valea Vâlsanului (southern Făgăraş Mountains) was much appreciated:
- ✓ Together with volunteers organised by Nico de Transylvania (international DJ and cultural entrepreneur) and with a team of locals coordinated by our chief ranger, we have planted 15,000 saplings in a heavily degraded area, within Nico's project Forests without frontiers.
- ✓ Together with volunteers coordinated by the Romanian environmental NGO Agent Green we have planted 7,300 saplings.





- Our two wildlife volunteers, Maria and Bogdan, are doing a great job helping our field team with camera trap monitoring and also with interpreting the collected data.
- We are designing a volunteering programme that will be available on www.carpathia.org before the end of January. If you are looking for a green experience, you can soon join our project!





## December is the last month to grant sponsorship for FY2019 and claim the related fiscal benefit.

- Reforestation, bringing back missing wild species, eco-tourism, legal protection of valuable forests in Făgăraş Mountains – this is what your sponsorship could support, at no additional cost to your company.
- It is in your power to contribute to preserve the Romanian wilderness!
- Please contact us for further details at info@carpathia.org.

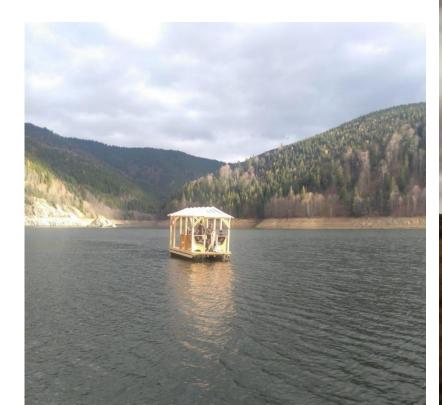
We thank all our sponsors for their contributions!



## Travel CARPATHIA – ask about our ecotourism offers at <a href="mailto:info@carpathia.org">info@carpathia.org</a>

Book a wildlife experience at one of our wildlife cabins and your trip will contribute to forest conservation.

Next year, our trips will include the traverse of Pecineagu Lake on our new electrical raft.





#### 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 throughout a total of 65,000 ha.
- Sustainable development of local communities.
- Environmental education projects.



FOUNDATION CONSERVATION CARPATHIA

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**PHOTO CREDITS:** Georgiana & Mihai Caţan, Ionut Cretu, Orsolya Csakany, Dan Dinu, Valeriu Ganci, Ruben Iosif, Daniel Mîrlea, Răzvan Rohan, Calin Serban, Elena Serban, Constantin Simion, Mihai Sin, Marius Ursaciuc, Liviu Ungureanu.