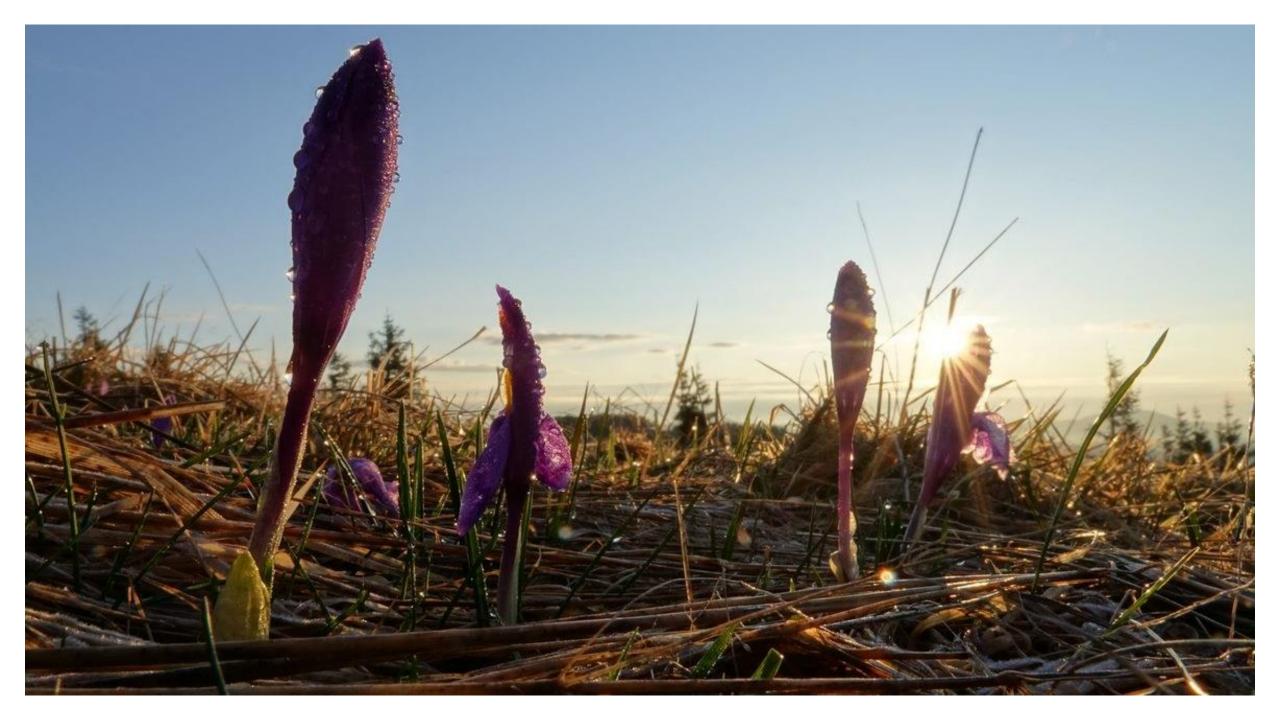




April 2020

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

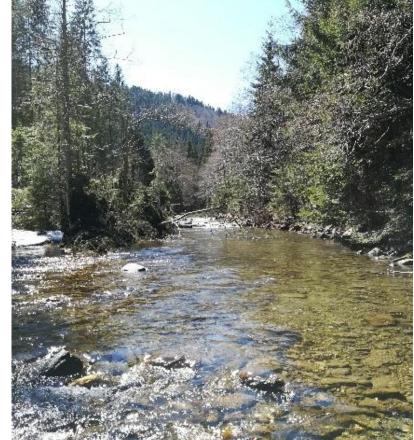


- We have analysed closely the environment of our natural old growth forests which can be strictly protected and included in the National Catalogue of virgin and semi-virgin forests: 1,100 ha may qualify for this category.
- This means that the forest will not only be protected by our work, but also legally protected in perpetuity by the Romanian law.
- We are moving ahead with all the activities we can implement during the Covid-19 pandemic. Luckily, field work is carried out in remote areas, so our rangers are safe and can continue their tasks.









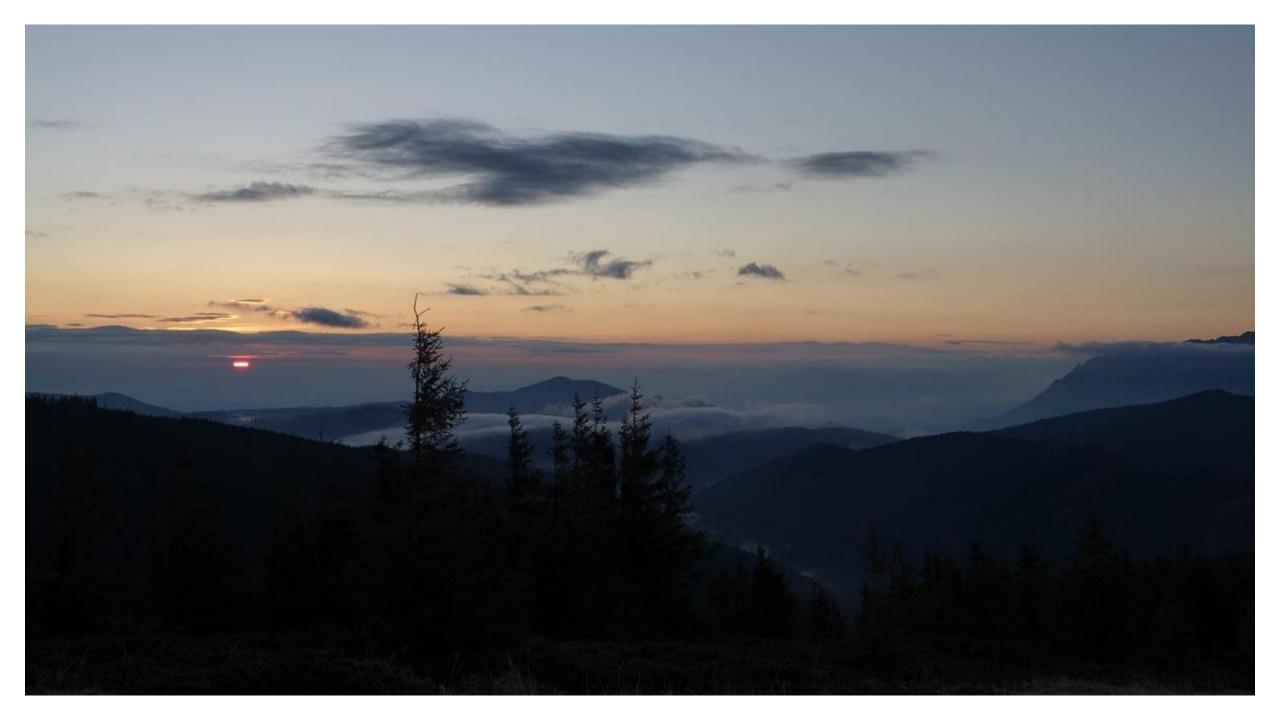




Activities

- Due to the lockdown, we were not able to sign any additional purchase contracts at the notary public.
 However, many contracts are in preparation and we can sign these as soon as the lockdown is over.
- The presence of FCC rangers, patrolling an area of over 65,000 hectares, has positively influenced the decrease of illegal logging in the neighboring forests as well.







Ecological restoration

- We were busy clearing the roads for access to this spring's replanting sites.
- We have <u>started planting</u> by using smaller teams of seasonal employees. We even had a group of young people from a nearby town who were out of work from the hospitality industry, due to Covid-19, come to work with us. They did a good job!





02 Ecological restoration

- We moved the one-year-old fir seedlings from the green house into one of our seven tree nurseries. They will stay there for at least 3 years, until they are tall enough to fill the gaps after the clear-felling 8-15 years ago.
- As the need for saplings is growing, we have decided to build an additional green house.
- We have collected and prepared humus from the forest to use in our green house.
- Where the saplings were big enough, we have taken them from the tree nurseries and transported them to the restoration sites.
- Upon request, we have submitted to the Forestry Guard our restoration plans for the next five years.



Wildlife conservation





Wildlife monitoring

- Sampling wolf scats and urine, for DNA analysis. So far, we have collected 244 samples.
- With the mating season underway, several rangers have begun participating in monitoring the capercaillie.

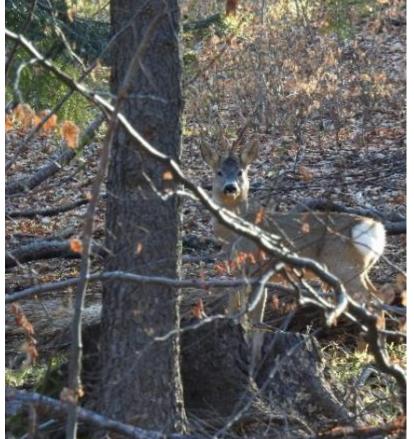




Wildlife management:

- We bought 40 electric fences and will equip more local farmers to prevent wildlife conflicts.
- We continued to plant willows along the mountain rivers, to enhance the habitat for beaver reintroduction.
- The bison we expect them to be released into the wild in May!





















Cobor Biodiversity Farm

- The "From farm to table" Easter programme helped us to provide income for our employees and for our neighbours whilst the tourism industry is on hold.
- We filled baskets with fresh vegetables from our organic garden, tasty cheeses and fresh eggs from the small local producers in the village; jams, syrup and tea from the natural flora of our meadows in Cobor and other goodies from the farm pantry and sold them to customers in Făgăraş and Braşov cities.

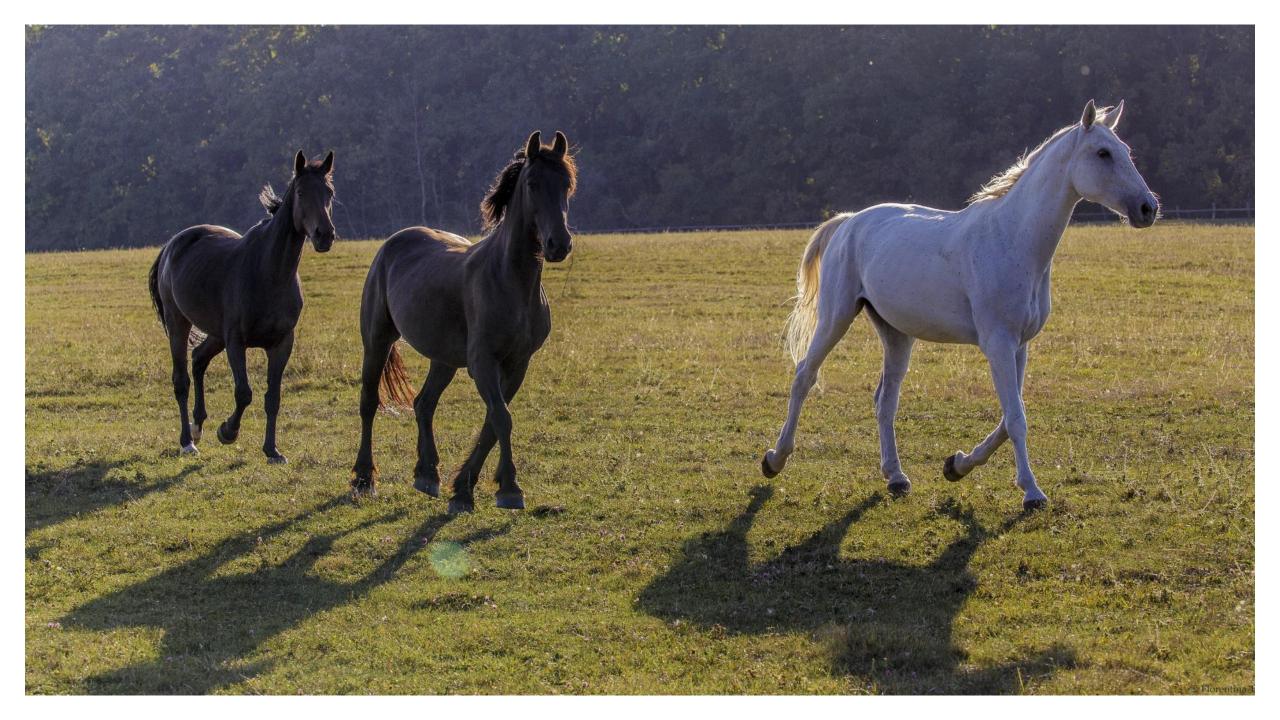


- Spring activities: we planted 80 local fruit trees on our farm, to ensure we keep the autochthonous flavours and tastes in the village and to provide shade for the horse pastures. And treats, of course! For them and for you. Does anyone care for some apple pie? #cometoCobor
- We continued our plans to restore the oak wood pastures in the area, which are quickly disappearing from European landscapes. This spring we planted another 35 saplings.
- We have built a little pond for our new feathered farm members: ducklings.
- The last nine Carpathian Shepherd puppies from our breeding programme are growing rapidly.



- More and more Grey Hungarian cattle newborns! Soon all our farm animals will enjoy fresh green grass. That's good, as our hay stock has dwindled.
- Although the beauty salons are closed due to Covid-19, our horse SPA <u>centre</u> is open 24/7. Here is Aladin enjoying his sun bathing session!



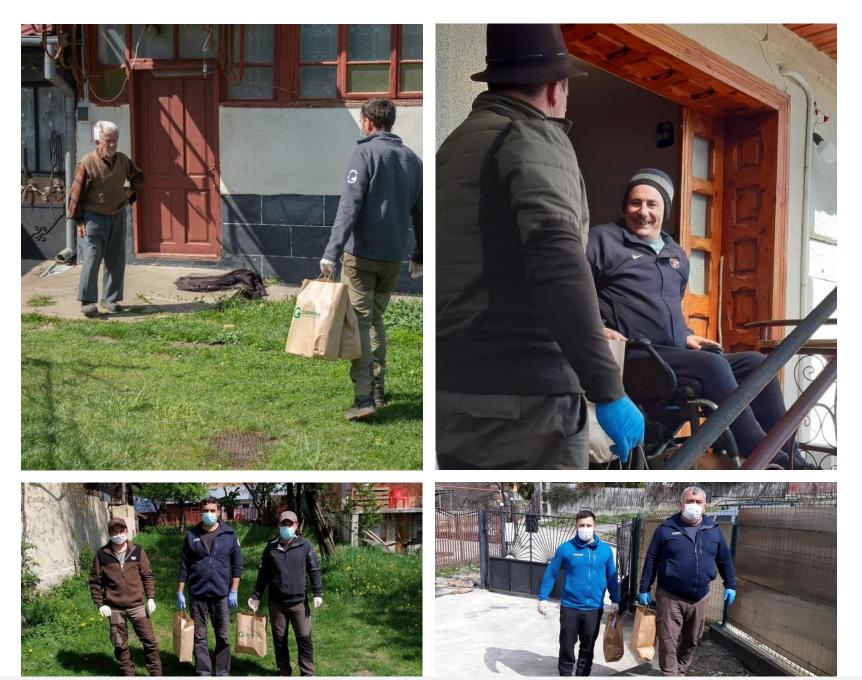


Communication & community outreach



Food for Elders programme

- Within the context of the Covid-19 pandemic, Foundation Conservation Carpathia came to the support of ten communities in which we are active (Făgăraş and Leaota Mountains).
- Due to the amazing support we have received from over 56 individual donors, we were able to cover all April deliveries and we have enough funds to continue for three more weeks in May. In total, eight weeks of support with 500-600 packages/week (food and hygiene products) donated to the local elderly.
- We are proud to have inspired our colleagues from Frankfurt Zoological Society that have initiated a similar programme for indigenous peoples in the Amazon region of Peru: a weekly basket of local products. Good ideas travel the world!
- Thank you all: donors, employees and <u>volunteers</u>!

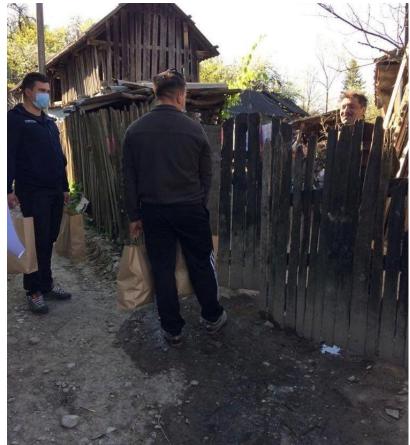


Food for Elders













If you are employed in Romania, you can redirect last year's taxes to CARPATHIA!

• This year, 2% become 3.5%

- If you received an income salary in Romania in 2019, you now can redirect 3.5% of your income tax to support our cause to protect nature and wildlife.
 Fill in the <u>230 Form</u> available in Romanian and send it to ANAF (the National Agency for Fiscal Administration), no later than 30 June 2020.
- If you prefer, please send the filled in Form to our office no later than June 25th and we will send it on your behalf to ANAF. Contact us if you need assistance filling in the form.

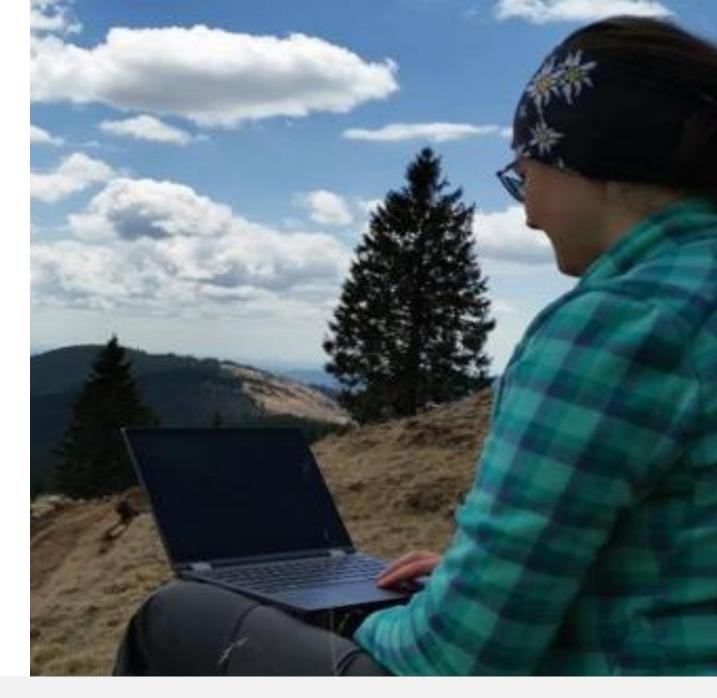


CARPATHIA Careers

- We have several published vacant positions in CARPATHIA:
- ✓ Conservation Enterprise Manager
- √ <u>GIS expert</u>
- Shortly we will be seeking:
- \checkmark Accountant
- \checkmark Senior bison technician;
- \checkmark Junior bison technician;
- \checkmark Junior assistant for project coordination.

If you have expertise in the field and you are passionate about conservation, join our team.

Send a covering letter and CV to jobs@carpathia.org.



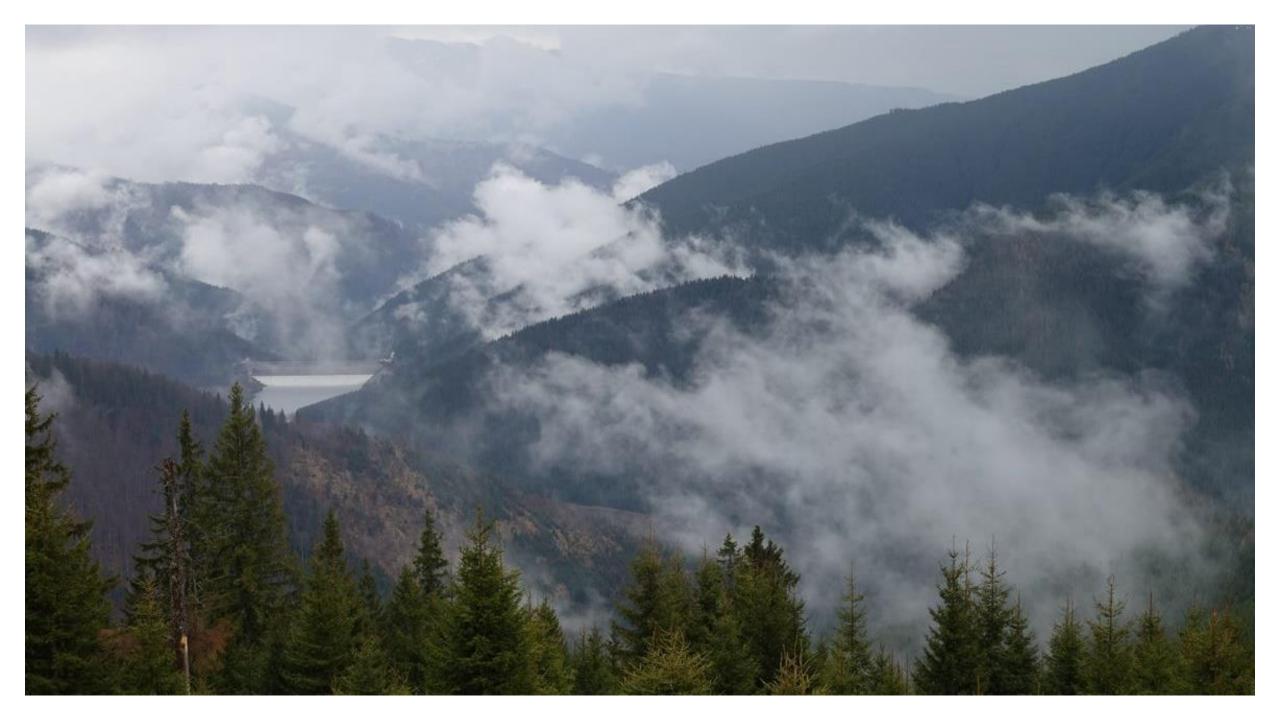
Travel Carpathia – experience the largest rewilding project in Eastern Europe

<u>Travel Carpathia</u> brings the FCC conservation projects to life through ecotourism.

Whether you wish to experience Carpathian wildlife by staying at our <u>eco-friendly wilderness hides</u> or see the charismatic Grey Cattle at our <u>Biodiversity Farm in Cobor</u> or go on a wilderness adventure or follow a tailor-made itinerary, there is a once-in-a-lifetime experience waiting for you.

We look forward to welcoming you to Carpathia!





Join us in:

- Creating the largest forested National Park in Europe.
- Annual restoration of the original ecosystem over 100 ha of illegal clear-cuts.
- Protecting wildlife over a total of 65,000 ha.
- Sustainable development of local communities.
- Environmental education projects.



FOUNDATION CONSERVATION CARPATHIA

Calea Feldioarei 27A, Brasov – Romania info@carpathia.org

PHOTO CREDITS: Daniel Birloiu, Georgiana Catan, Mihai Cosmin, Marius Cotîrleţ, Ionuţ Creţu, Orsolya Csakany, Valeriu Ganci, Alexandru Oprei, Barbara & Christoph Promberger, Răzvan Rohan, Constantin Simion, Călin Șerban, Elena Serban, Ana Maria Tivlic, Claudiu Țoanță, Liviu Ungureanu.