



May  
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



# 01

## Forest conservation and management





# Activities

- In spite of the Covid-19 pandemic, we have been moving ahead with most of our field activities. Field work is carried out in remote areas, so our rangers are safe and can continue their tasks.
- In the meantime, life returns to the office for those activities which require a desk.
- The notary public opened again and we were able to purchase 285 ha of land for full protection.

Here are some video clips from the areas we protect: [nature video](#).















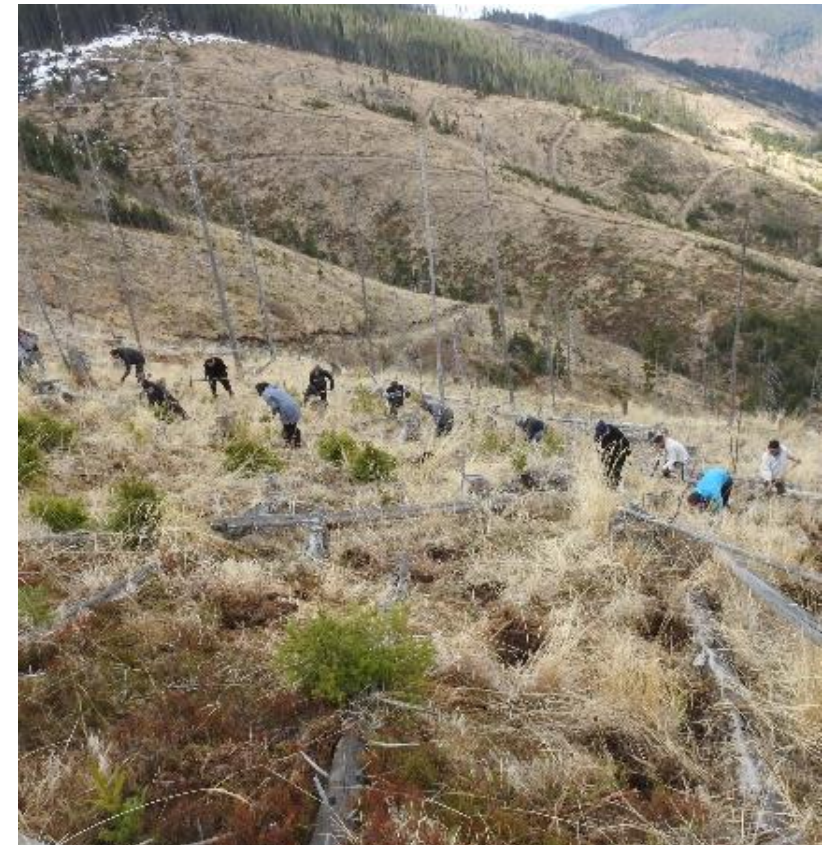
02

Ecological restoration



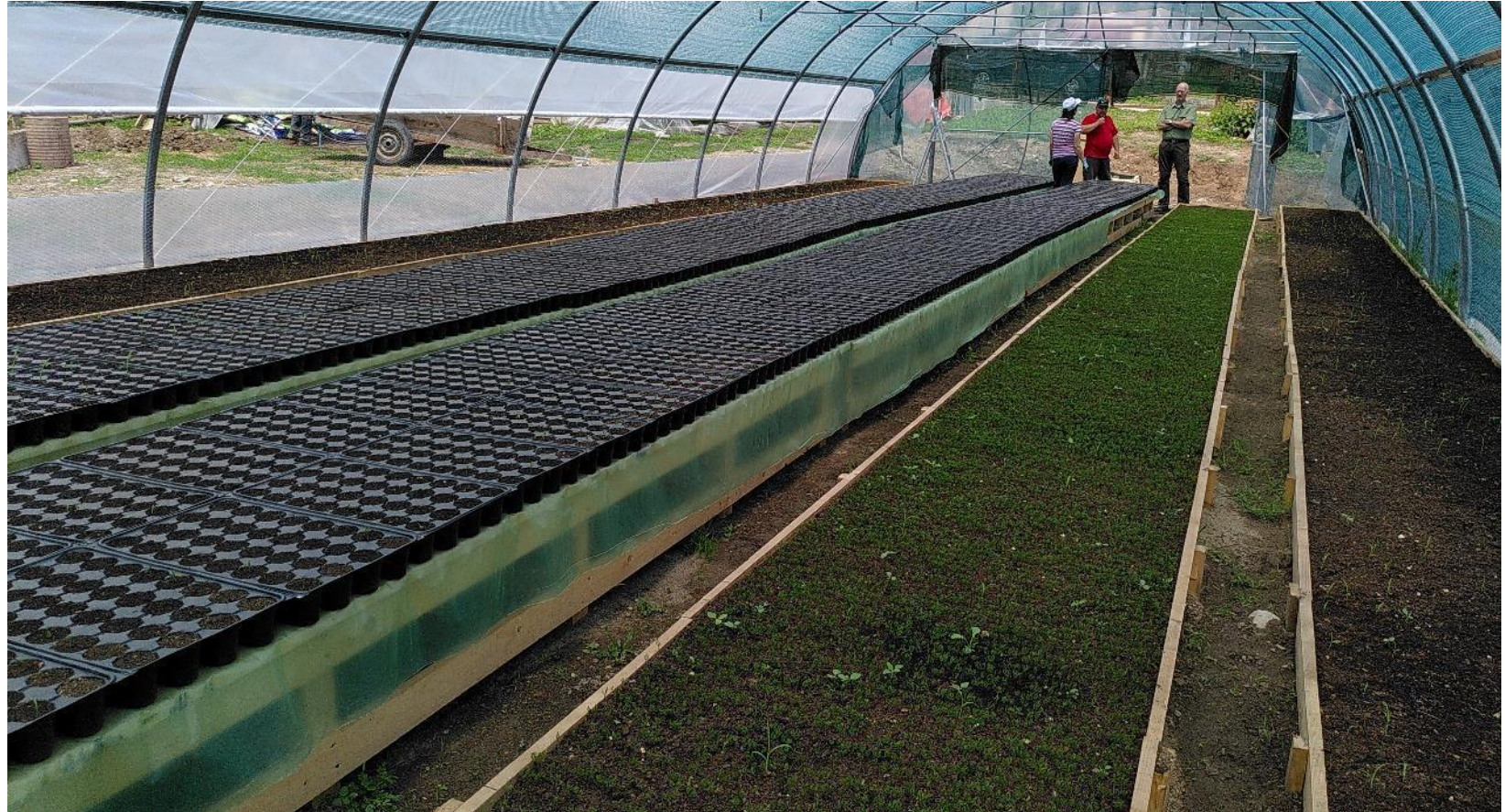


- 79 hectares of clear-cuts have been repaired! Due to the special requirements enforced during the pandemic, planting during spring 2020 was not easy, but we are happy with the result! 316,000 saplings will grow into new forests in the Făgăraș Mountains.
- The planted areas are on the border of alpine pastures and hundreds of sheep and cows are grazed in the immediate vicinity. We needed to build a temporary fence to prevent grazing on our areas, which would destroy all our efforts. The fence will be kept for about five years, until the trees are strong enough to withstand the livestock.





- We have finished the new greenhouse and now have much greater capacity for growing the much-needed saplings for the restoration work.
- Over 20,000 seeds of dwarf pine have germinated and are growing fast for replanting in order to become a new generation of alpine shrubland.









# 03

Wildlife conservation





## Wildlife monitoring

- We have finished the wolf DNA sampling with very good results: 254 samples collected. We are preparing for the red deer DNA sampling season that will start in June.
- Our wildlife rapid intervention teams have a tighter patrolling schedule, as the bears and wild boars started descending more frequently into populated areas.
- We work actively on the prevention of damage caused by wildlife and to prevent poaching activity in the areas under our custody.

Lockdown has had its advantages: we had time to review our camera trap videos. Here are some examples:

- [Fox puppies](#)
- [Mixed wildlife](#)





## Wildlife management:

- Eight bison were released into the wild in May. Our team is actively monitoring the herd and so far, they have adapted well to the remote areas of the Fagaras Mountains.
- Details & video [here](#).
- We are preparing the second bison reintroduction site.





## Wildlife management:

- We continued to plant willow saplings along the mountain rivers, to enhance the habitat for beaver reintroduction.















04

Cobor Biodiversity Farm





- All horses are doing well: feeding, grooming, vaccination, shoeing, etc. We have rotated the pastures: the one they stayed in during the winter is closed now and being left to recover. We apply a pasture management philosophy to all our properties in Cobor, so we can maintain a high degree of biodiversity.
- With the new-born calves in May, we have now reached a total of 121 Grey Hungarian cattle. The herd was rather agitated during the mating season, but is now more settled down.
- All the puppies from our Carpathian Shepherd dogs breeding programme have found new owners. Unfortunately we lost a litter of puppies that were stillborn, but luckily we were able to save the mother.





- The work in the garden continues with the planting of tomatoes, okra and potatoes. The “From farm to Table” programme continued and we delivered more local products in the cities nearby.
- Meet Jess, our amazing farm volunteer and Luna, our mare responsible for trimming the grass in the yards ;- ) and for beautiful horse cart tours around the farm.





- During isolation, two families rented out our cottages in order to enjoy the freedom and remoteness of the village. The kids fell in love with our local “pool”. Especially after a bike tour in the mud or visits around the farm.





- We can once again welcome visitors from Austria, Bulgaria, Czechia, Cyprus, Croatia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Norway, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland, and of course Romania.
- Have a look here <https://cobar-farm.ro/> and book your vacation at: [reservations@cobar-farm.ro](mailto:reservations@cobar-farm.ro).



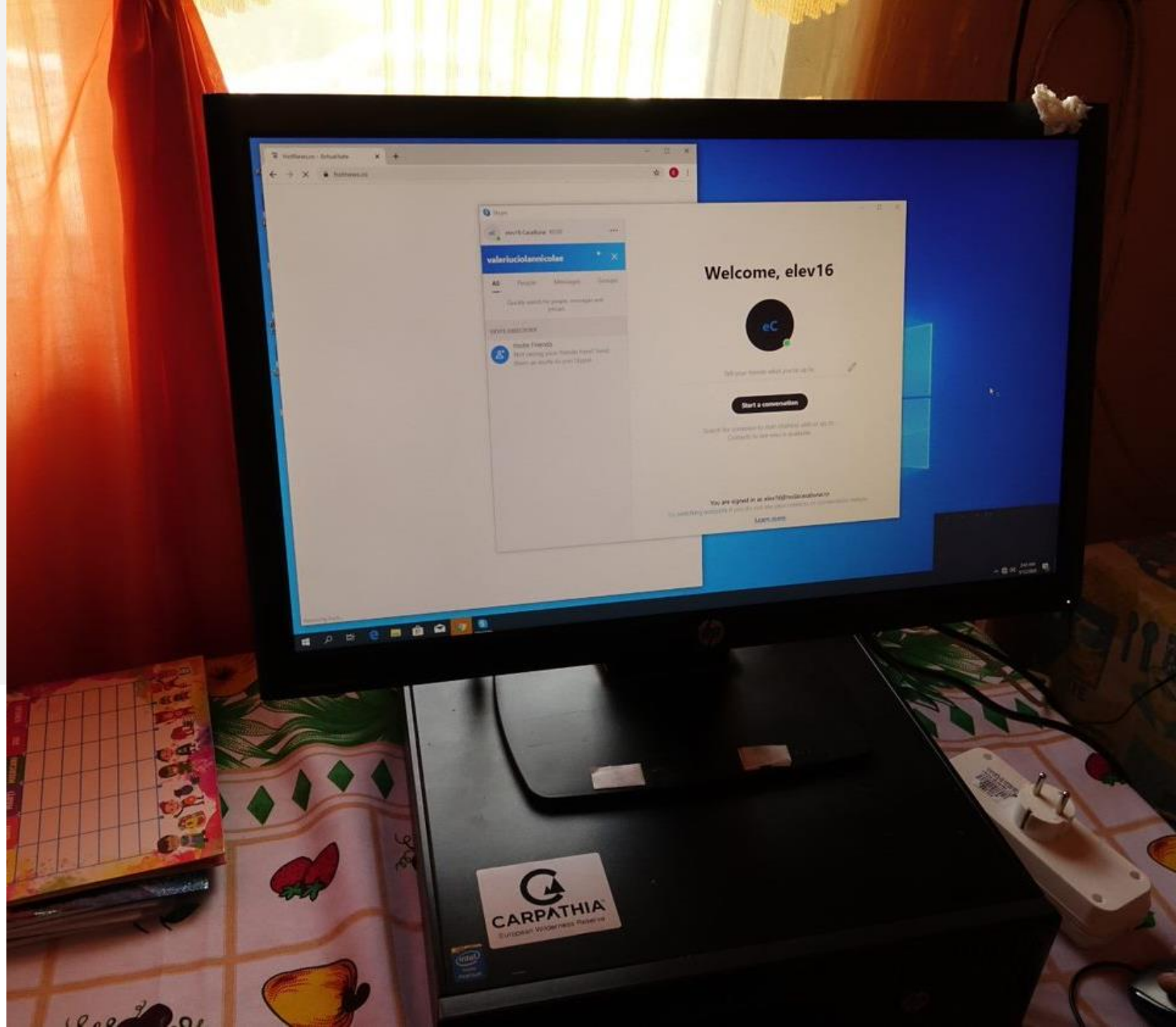






# 05

Communication &  
community outreach





- For eight weeks, the Foundation donated over 4,600 packages of essential food and hygiene products in the Southeastern Făgăraș Mountains, within the [Food for Elders programme](#).
- This campaign would not have been possible without the help of 56 different donors. A total of €108,346 was donated for the Elders, out of which €86,000 remained in the community, as we bought products from local producers, ensuring that the money was injected into the local economy. This supports jobs and creates sources of income for small farmers during these difficult times.
- We would like to thank all those who supported the aid programme and brought a smile to the faces of the elderly in need!





- We have extended the community support in the Southeastern Făgăraș Mountains with a beautiful [campaign for the children](#) in our project area.
- We decided to partner with the volunteers from Casa Bună Association and implement in our villages what they have been doing for some time. Thus, we are supporting the continuation of home education of children in the Făgăraș Mountains.
- In May 60 students received computers, internet access and were able to access the state on-line teaching classes, and they also received help with their study from volunteers.





- The work on our Environmental Education Centre continues. The humidity level was high during the last three weeks, so we have decided to wait with the interior wall painting and furnishing.
- The centre is designed to accommodate volunteers and students of all ages from Romania and abroad that will participate in nature-based educational activities, to understand and learn applied conservation.
- We work with ProPark – the Foundation for Protected Areas for the education programmes and we look forward to starting the activity.





# CARPATHIA Careers

- We have several published vacant positions in CARPATHIA:
  - ✓ [GIS expert](#)
  - Shortly we will be seeking:
    - ✓ Senior bison technician;
    - ✓ Junior bison technician;
    - ✓ Junior assistant for project coordination;
    - ✓ Secretary;
    - ✓ Senior assistant.
- 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](mailto:jobs@carpathia.org)





# Travel Carpathia – experience the largest rewilding project in Eastern Europe

Travel Carpathia brings the FCC conservation projects to life through ecotourism.

Whether you wish to experience Carpathian wildlife by staying at our eco-friendly wilderness hides or see the charismatic Grey Cattle at our Biodiversity Farm in Cobor 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 clear-cuts.
- Protecting wildlife over a total of 65,000 ha.
- Sustainable development of local communities.
- Environmental education projects.



**FOUNDATION  
CONSERVATION  
CARPATHIA**

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