



# December 2020

## Field report







# Main activities summary

- 01 Forest conservation and management
- 02 Ecological restoration
- 03 Wildlife conservation
- 04 Conservation enterprise
- 05 Communication & community outreach





01

## Forest conservation and management





December is always a quieter month than the rest. Apart from patrolling to prevent any illegal cutting of trees, we spend the time handling paperwork and planning for the next year's activities.



Looking back, in 2020 we bought 1,137 ha of forest:

- 426 ha are old clear-cuts in the Făgăraș Mountains and we will ensure they will be reforested again
- 711 ha are forests to be placed under conservation and alpine meadows to be restored and implemented with a balanced grazing management









02

Ecological restoration



- We rest... The seeds are either deposited in the seed banks or already planted. The saplings up in the mountain are covered with a good blanket of snow. Sweet, quiet hibernation, after an intense year of activity in our tree nurseries and green houses...
- 2020 meant tough conditions for the seasonal workers, volunteers and rangers and, despite the pandemic, we managed to plant 375,000 saplings on 87 ha of old clear-cuts. A new forest is brought back to life, with the donations of many organisations and people.
- If you want to join our efforts in providing justice and fairness for the Carpathians, please donate [here](#).





# 03

Wildlife conservation





## Wildlife monitoring

- The first **bison calf** born in the wild in Făgăraș is doing well.
- More bison have completed the initial group in Dâmbovița Valley: five additional bison have been brought to the enclosure in Bunea. Our team worked hard to properly accommodate them.
- We finished the new quarantine and acclimatisation enclosure in Lerești, the second release site, and brought the first bison to the area. More will follow throughout the winter for release in spring.
- In Nucșoara, we started plans for the third release enclosure, which we will build throughout the winter.
- For us, 2020 is the YEAR OF THE BISON!

More information [here](#).







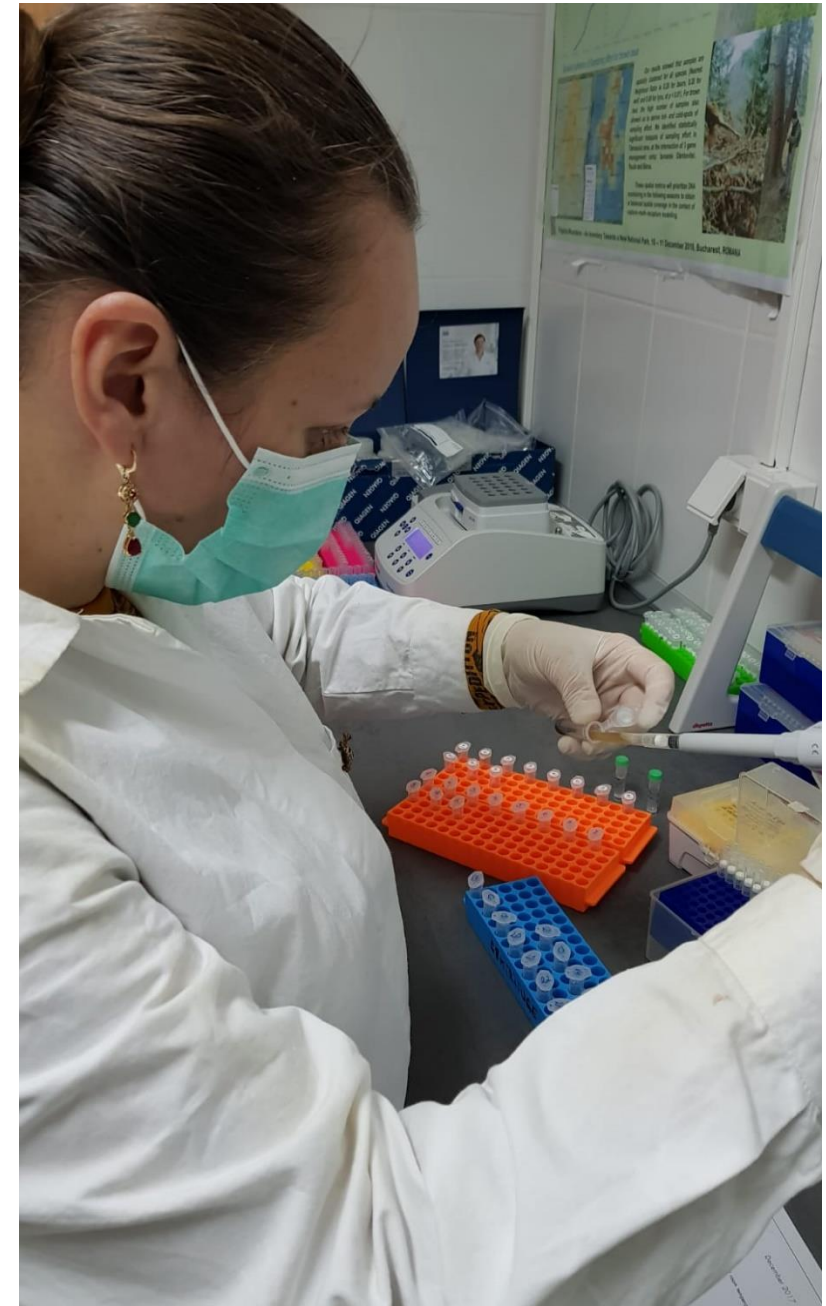






## Wildlife monitoring

- The rangers are busy checking the lynx camera traps installed to monitor this species during the winter season.
- At the same time, our lab biologist is busy preparing the DNA samples for the red deer study.





## Wildlife management:

- In certain hotspots we install monitoring cameras to check on poachers or other illegal activities. However, the only “poacher” we caught on camera is a four legged one – a solitary wolf.
- Our rapid intervention teams have provided consultation about bear attacks and problems even beyond our project area.





## Wildlife management:

- A year ago we had tremendous problems with bears and boars in parts of our wildlife management concessions, but this year everything is much quieter. Without doubt this is partially due to the rich beech mast this year, but it also shows the success of the intensive work of our wildlife intervention teams.
- We continue patrolling every day to prevent wildlife from getting too close to the villages, with positive results.











04

Conservation Enterprise  
Programme





# COBOR

## biodiversity farm

- The horses got their periodical “spa” treatment.
- We received funding for a mobile abattoir, which will help us to produce high quality organic meat without having to drive the cattle to slaughterhouses, where conditions are often appalling.
- At the farm, we are happy no-one had to be laid off in this difficult year and we hope for better times for travelling and more guests in 2021!

Come to Transylvania! [Come to Cobor!](#)





- All nine Carpatin puppies raised at our farm have been donated to four farmers in our project area, to grow and learn how to guard their livestock against carnivores.





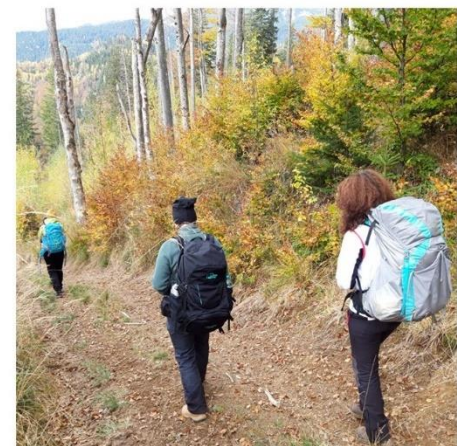
# Wildlife hides

All the funds from [Travel CARPATHIA](#) help the local farmers we buy products from and our forest conservation project!

**For 2021 choose to be a visitor in support of a cause!**

Check out our [ecotourism programme](#) and drop us an email at [reservation@travelcarpathia.com](mailto:reservation@travelcarpathia.com).

**Travel Carpathia –  
experience the largest rewilding project in Eastern Europe!**





# 05

Communication &  
community outreach





- [The School of Earth](#) is a unique school, where the main teacher is Nature, always willing to receive the children, offering captivating gifts and great experiences.
- We were honoured to be the partners of this interesting educational project and to share with the students unique moments of the life of wild animals captured on our camera traps.

### [Video](#)

- Next year we aim to discover more wildlife secrets together, following the tracks of wild animals and discovering, step by step, the beauty of the forests we protect in the Făgăraș Mountains.





- At Richita cabin, our environmental education centre comes to life: bears, bison, lynx and other species together with beautiful forests will enhance the walls of this zero carbon footprint building, with the help of the talented local artist, Valentina Ciolan.
- We have started working on the educational programmes and hope to propose offers for the schools in the region in early summer.





- We are delighted that CARPATHIA won the grand prize for NGO within the national “Gala for a Clean Environment”.
- Reconfirming our good work in this way gives our team the confidence and pride needed to go forward. We are a pioneer conservation project in Romania and it is not always an easy task...





- We are CARPATHIA! A team of 95 people dedicated to conservation!
- We were happy to meet together before Christmas, even if it was online, to chat about 2020 and to have a glass of wine together, and we wish for a much more balanced 2021!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**









# Join us in:

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



**FOUNDATION  
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CARPATHIA**

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