



# January 2021

## Field report



# Main activities summary

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

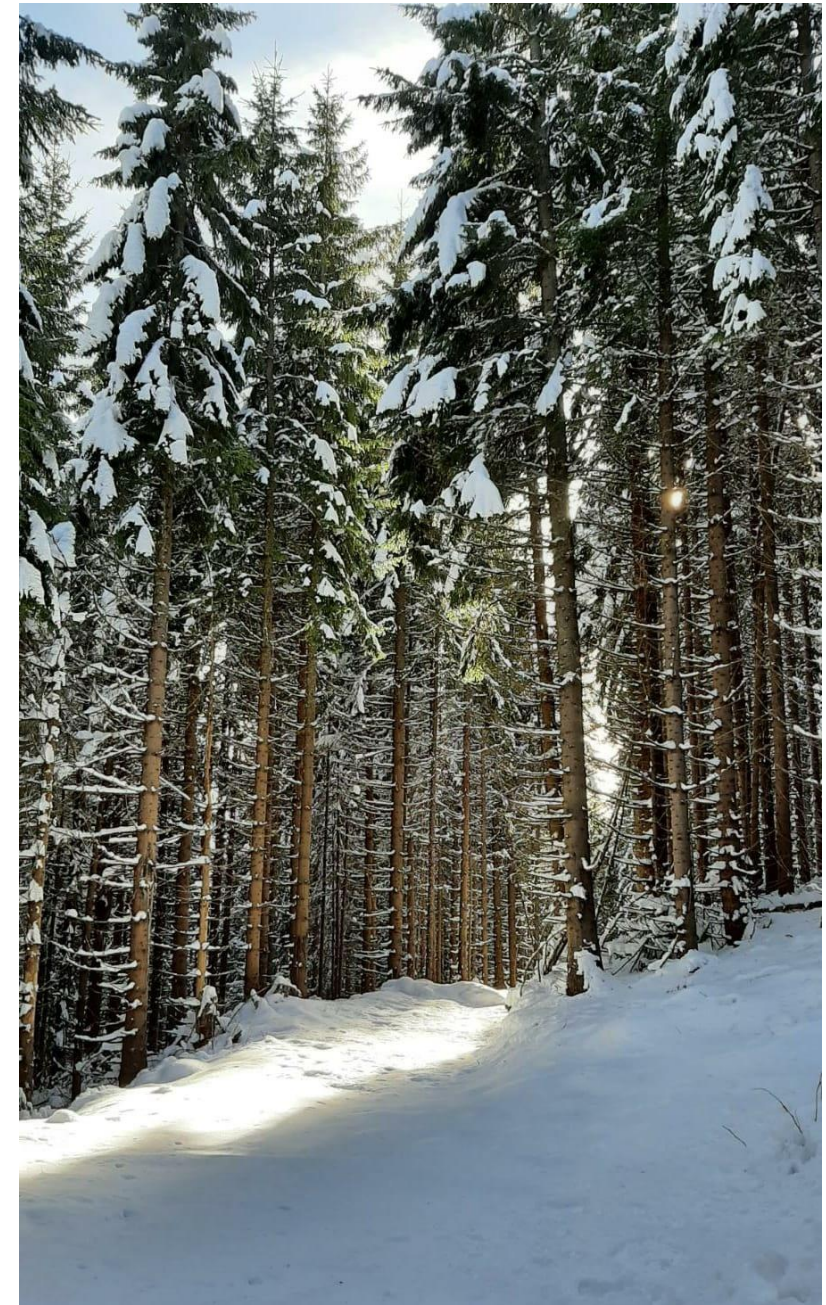


# 01

Forest conservation and  
management



- Only 17.9 km of the 154.5 km in the baseline survey of the riparian areas along the following river valleys and tributaries: upper Dâmbovița, Râul Târgului, Valea Doamnei, Valea Vâlsanului and Vidraru lake, were found to be in a good state of conservation. For the remainder, we will need to implement a large-scale habitat restoration programme.
- The identification of alien plant species along two mountain drainages has resulted in establishing a plan of activities, surfaces and personnel needed to eliminate the invasive plants.
- We were able to purchase an additional 5 ha of land for restoration and consequent full protection.









02

Ecological restoration



- Winter is the best season to review what went well and what we can improve, for a higher production of saplings, and also for planning.
- We have 9 tree nurseries and 2 green houses, across a total of 0.76 hectares. For 2021, the forecast is that 8,505 hours of work will be needed for all the activities.
- All the saplings and seeds are being protected by a thick layer of snow.
- If you want to join our efforts in providing justice and fairness for the Carpathians, donate [here](#).



03

Wildlife conservation



1/19/2021

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## Wildlife monitoring

- In Nucșoara, the work on the 3rd release enclosure for the bison is advancing. It isn't easy to build it during winter, but our team is doing a great job. 70% of the electrical fence has been installed.
- The latest 6 bison brought to the acclimatisation enclosures in Dâmbovița Valley and Lerești are adapting well. They explore the area as far as the snow cover permits, but always come back to the feeding points.



## Wildlife monitoring

- We have checked our camera traps and captured lynx images on 11 of the cameras.
- We continued mapping wolf and lynx tracks and collected 10 scat samples from wolf species.





## Wildlife management:

- Due to the warm winter, very few bears went into hibernation, but are still roaming around. Due to the vast beech nut crop last autumn, they still find good food, but this resource will soon be gone.
- Where we find bear tracks closer to villages, our rapid intervention teams patrol regularly to prevent eventual conflicts.
- We also try to control the number of wild boar in the vicinity of villages to avoid destruction of meadows.





A frog out in January – a scary sign of climate change



04

Conservation Enterprise  
Programme



- We are in the advanced stage of launching a FOOD HUB for local producers in our project area. This programme aims especially to help people with marketing and distribution who have very difficult access to the market.
- Also, we are analysing the possibility of developing “Local Gastronomic Points” in the communities neighbouring our protected forests – another opportunity for locals to develop a legal framework for producing their tasty products and being able to extend their client base.
- We took the next steps in our new business consultancy programme: we have started on-line discussions with the first entrepreneurs.
- A protected area has a higher degree of acceptance if its economical value for local communities can be proven in an eco-friendly manner. We have created the first examples of organic development, creation of jobs and sustainable livelihood for the villagers near Făgăraș Mountains and will continue to create more.



# COBOR

## Biodiversity Farm

- Feeding, watering, and daily routines all go according to plan.
- Tinkerbell, the farm's Lipizzaner gave birth to a beautiful little colt. He has the perfect environment in which to grow healthy and happy.
- For the time being they stay in our large stable, but as the weather improves they will move onto the pasture.



- We have 139 head of cattle and more calves to come. The veterinarian came for their periodical check-up and treatment.
- The steps towards obtaining the mobile abbatoir are proceeding well and soon we will be able to offer high quality organic beef products.
- The Carpatin shepherd dogs are well. For some females it is the mating season, so we are hoping to breed a new generation of fearless dogs to donate to the farmers around the Făgăraș Mountains.



# Wildlife hides

## Are you ready for new adventures?

It's not too late to surprise your partner with a unique gift for Valentine's Day! We offer you a night of accommodation at the Bunea Wildlife Hide in an all-inclusive package! In addition to local natural dishes, you will enjoy wildlife watching and tracking activities, guided hikes through ancient forests, as well as the unique experience of spending the night in a comfortable hide.

## Are you still undecided regarding your trip dates?

We understand your concern, which is why we are offering to change dates for free during the season (1 May – 1 November), depending on availability. Come with your family and benefit from a very special price!

Discounts offered when purchasing a voucher:

- ✓ 15% for groups of 2-4 people
- ✓ 20% for groups of 5-6 people
- ✓ 40% for children under 12 years

E-mail us at: [reservation@travelcarpathia.com](mailto:reservation@travelcarpathia.com)



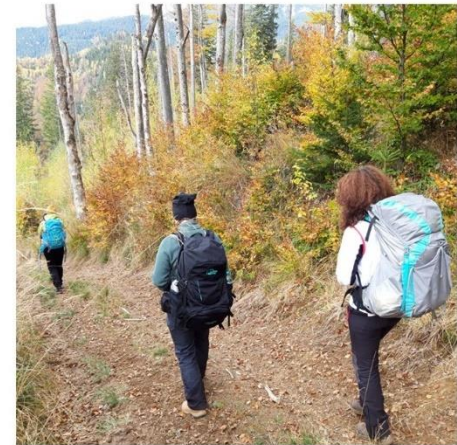
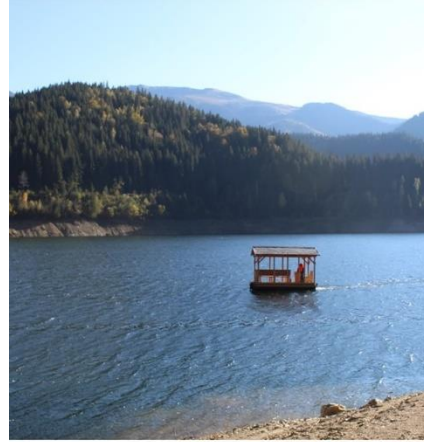
# Wildlife hides

Do you want to disconnect from the hustle and bustle of the city? Escape with us, enjoy some fresh air, comfort and safety. Go to <https://travelcarpathia.com/ro/bunea-wilderness-cabin/> to find out what experiences we have prepared for you!

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!**

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



# 05

Communication &  
community outreach



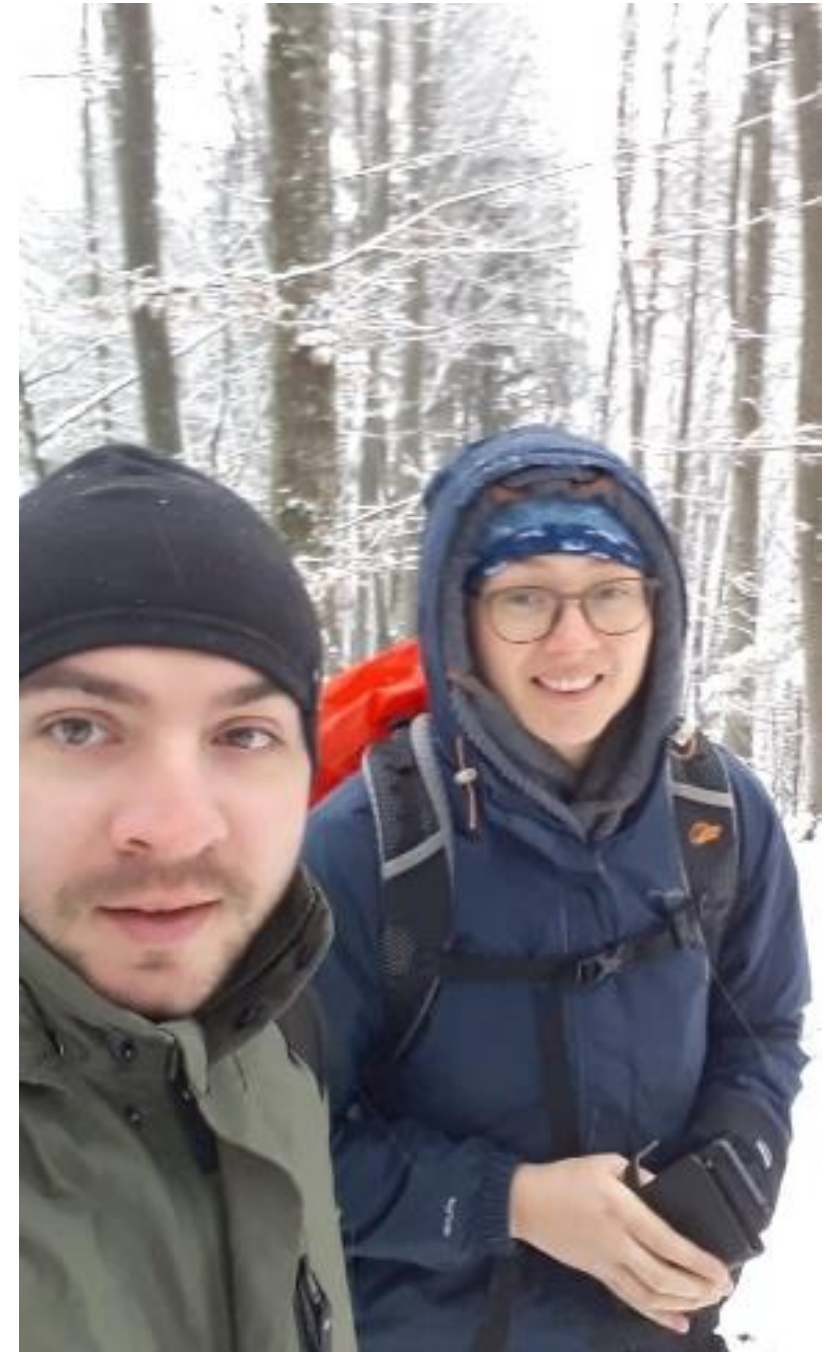
- 400 packages with essential food and vitamins were distributed in January throughout 15 communities at the foothills of the Făgăraș Mountains: Lerești, Pojorâta, Câmpulung, Voinești, Sboghițești, Nucșoara, Slatina, Gruiu, Rucăr, Sătic, Dâmbovicioara, Podu Dâmboviței, Ciocanu, Cetățeni, Stoenеști. In addition, included in the packages for children were stationery items and, where necessary, some IT equipment for them to be able to continue the [on-line schooling programme started last summer](#).
- [Thank you, Tășuleasa Social](#) Association, Alin Ușeriu, [Casa Buna](#) Association and [Romstal România](#), for making this possible.



- As we do each winter, we have continued to assign fire wood from our neighbouring forests to some of the poorer local communities.



- Catherine and Sam are helping the wildlife monitoring team as volunteers when they have a spare moment from their usual work.
- We hope to be able to resume our volunteering programme this spring. We have lots of activities we need help with, but due to the pandemic we obviously have been restricted in what we could offer.



A big THANK YOU to the corporate sponsors who supported us in 2020!



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Garduri bune, vecini buni!

B&B COLLECTION



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FARMACIA TEI



Wild horses

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



**FOUNDATION  
CONSERVATION  
CARPATHIA**

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