



February 2021

Field report



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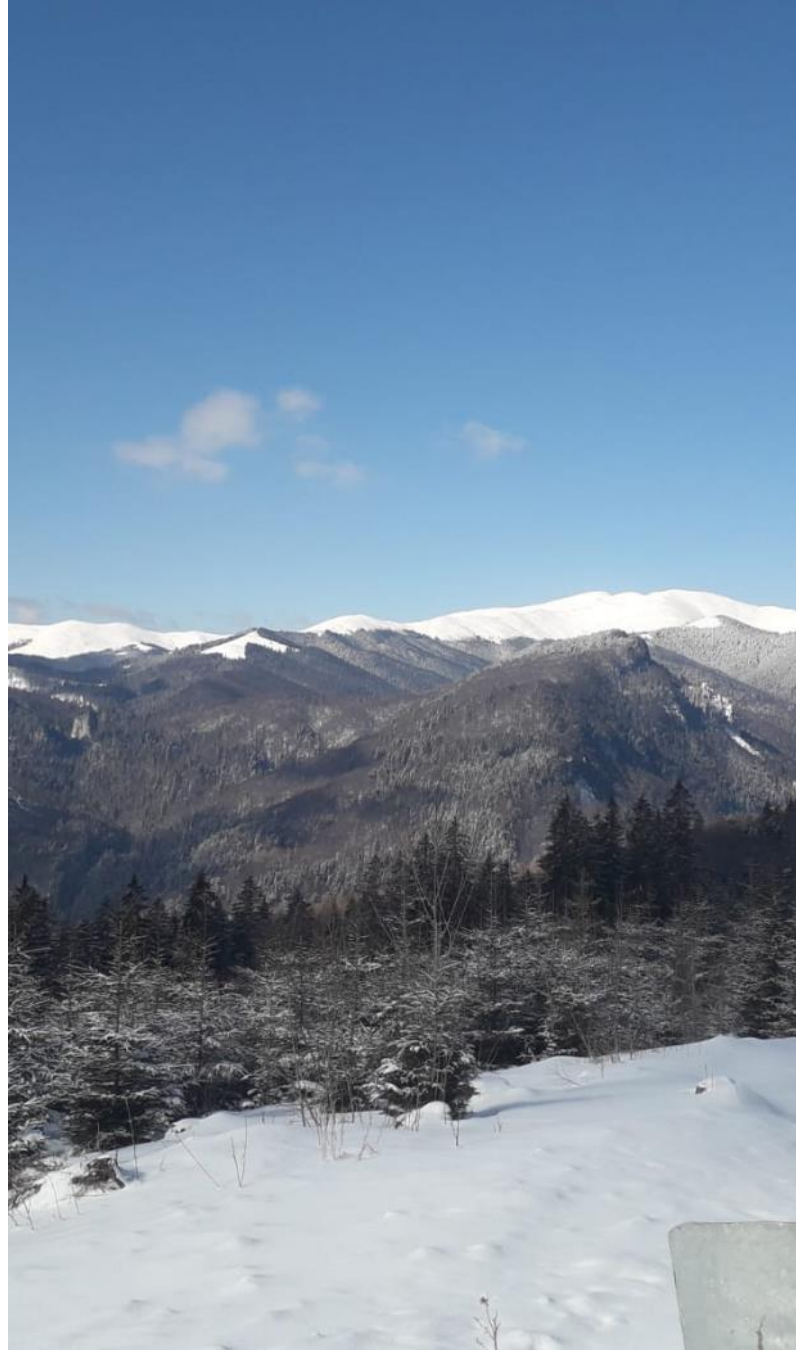


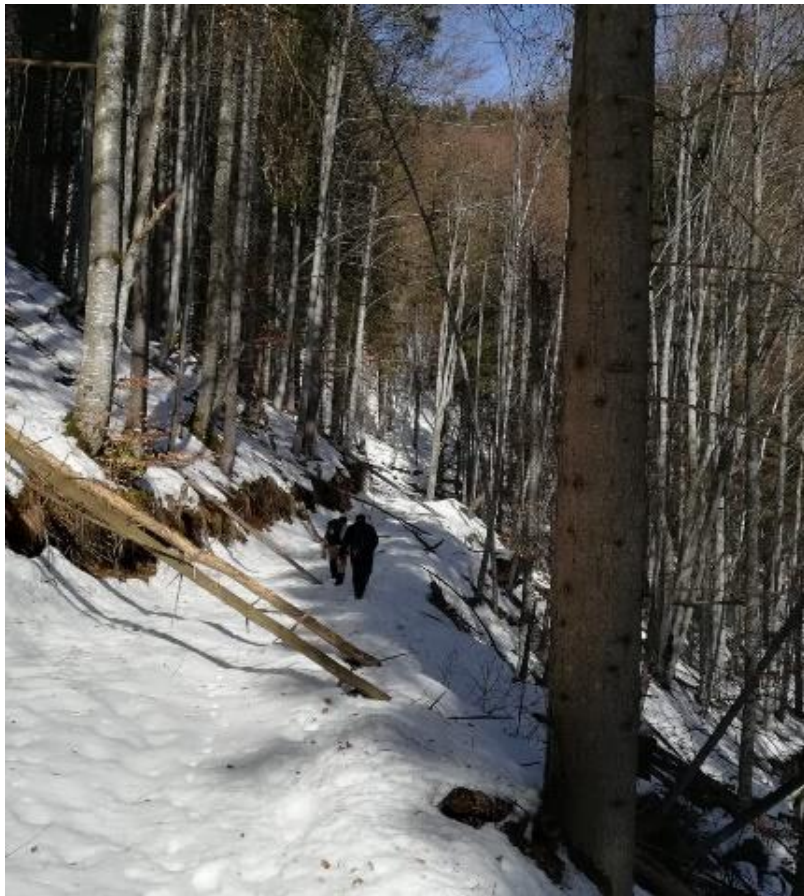
01

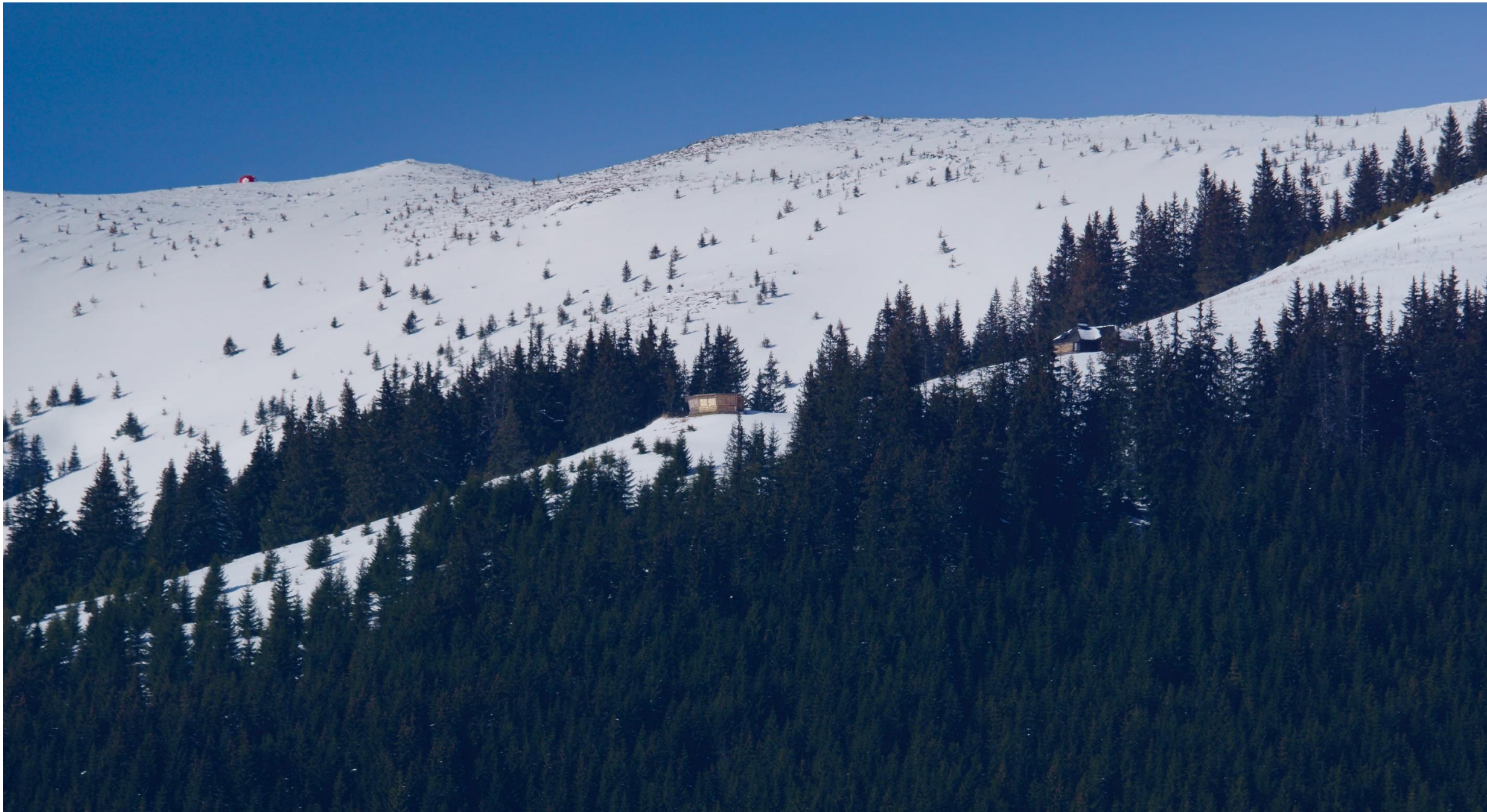
Forest conservation and management



- February is usually a quiet time of year, with snow is at its maximum and everything else hibernating while awaiting the return of spring. Rangers are patrolling and everyone is preparing for the field season.
- We are working to finalise the management plan of the Natura 2000 site we are custodians of.
- We have finished the plans for all the reforestation work we aim to achieve this year. It will be another difficult year, due to the pandemic, but the forest has waited long enough since the massive clear-cuts of 10-12 years ago. We will proceed carefully, with smaller teams than usual.







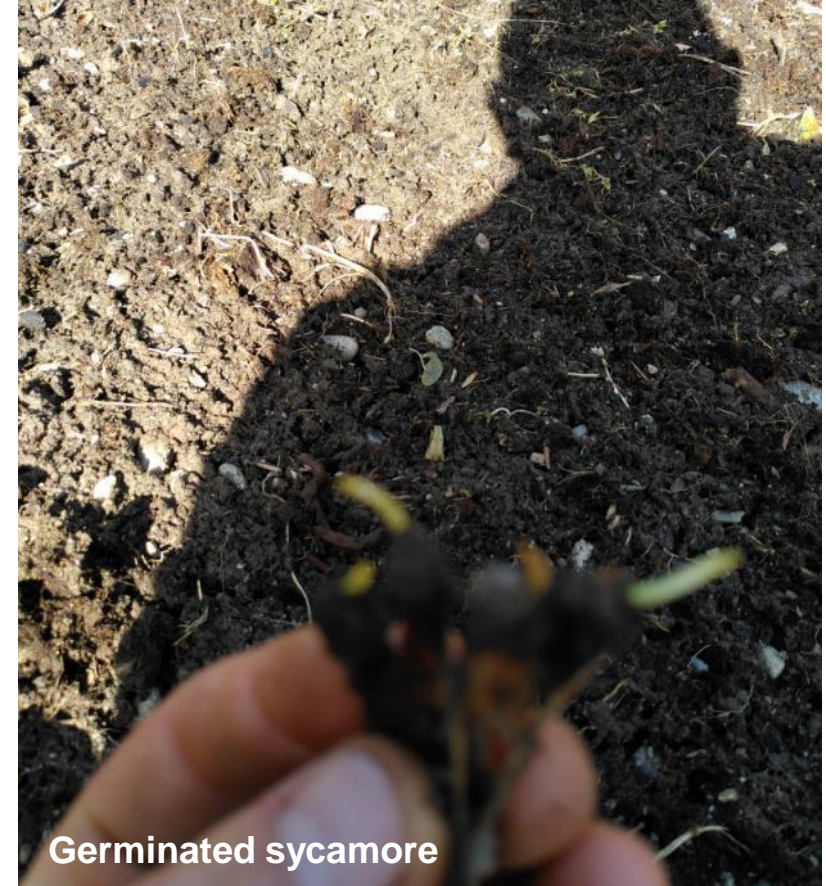


02

Ecological restoration



- We enjoyed a few days of spring whilst the snow covering the tree nurseries was gone. Not for long though, as the snow soon came back. But enough to report rodent attacks on some of the seeds we have planted, over about 30 square metres.
- If you want to join our efforts in providing justice and fairness for the Carpathians, please donate [here](#).



03

Wildlife conservation



Wildlife monitoring

- We continuously check the 40 camera traps installed and receive impressive images of the wildlife other countries have lost. Do you know that feeling of loving your job? ;-)
- A lot of bears are still out and didn't hibernate at all this winter. We also got great photos of wolves and lynx.
- We were pleased to discover a beaver lodge and signs of beaver activity in our project area and we are now monitoring it.
- We make plans for bird monitoring: the Golden eagle is the first on our list, but due to the current weather conditions we will be lucky to start in March, in lower altitude areas, as the avalanche risk is high.





- In Nucșoara, the work finishing the fence on the 3rd quarantine enclosure for the bison and the electric fence of the acclimatization enclosure is on-going. The warm weather helped a lot, but in terms of climate change it is not an encouraging sign to have such high temperatures in February.
- So far we have 19 bison, of which eight are already roaming free.
- It seems that one of these bison, who had just newly arrived from Sweden, had to first check out where he had arrived. ☺
- All the newcomers from UK, Sweden and Romania are adapting well to their new home.

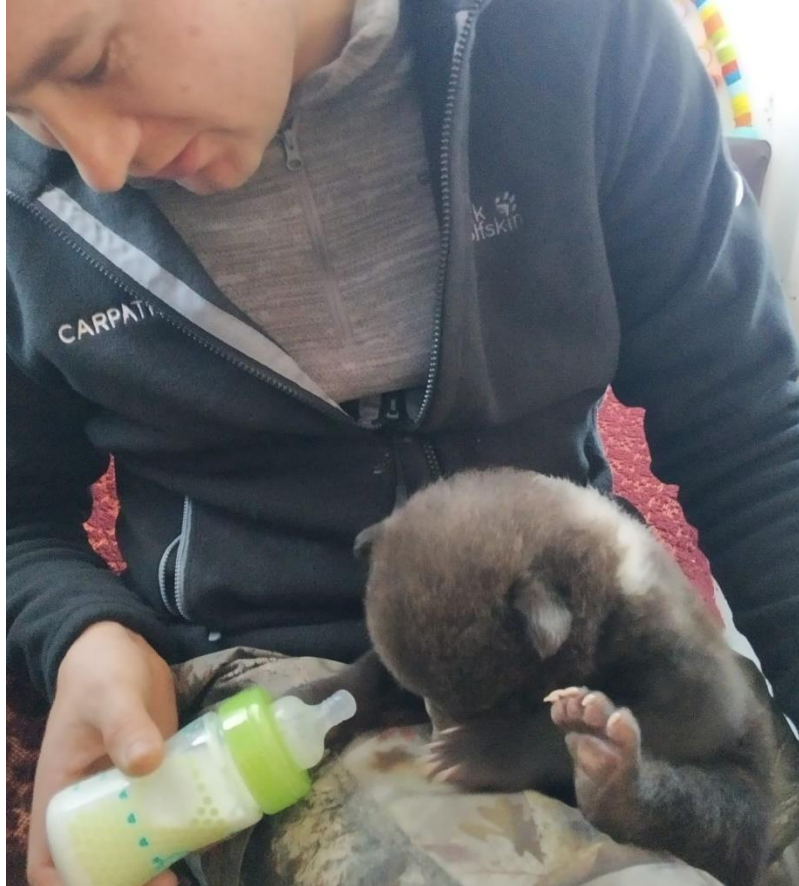


- Winter temperatures have increased significantly over the last decade and one of the consequences is that most bears don't hibernate anymore. However, since they don't find much food in the forests, they are increasingly showing up around the villages.
- Unfortunately we have discovered that slaughterhouse leftovers, which are given to dogs in the villages, also attract bears, causing them to hang around the houses.
- Our rapid intervention teams are present to resolve such conflicts, but we need the cooperation of the local farmers to prevent the unnecessary attraction of bears.



- The efficiency of the wildlife intervention team proved its usefulness and competence while recently saving a 3-4 week old bear cub.
- They were informed by some workers, who were clearing fallen trees in a wind-blown area, that an orphan bear cub was in the area – the mother had its winter den under some fallen trees and obviously ran off when disturbed by the chain-saws. With the help of the local vet we nursed the baby bear to start with and then brought it to our colleagues from [Bear Again Rehabilitation Centre for Orphan bears](#).

Read the entire story [HERE](#).



Wildlife management:

- After investigating damage reports, we delivered six sheep and a cow from our own “compensation herd” to two local farmers in Rucar, who had lost animals during recent bear attacks.







04

Conservation Enterprise
Programme



COBOR

Biodiversity Farm

- Total sudden changes, of weather: snow and -18°C , sunny with $+18^{\circ}\text{C}$ with only two, maybe three days in between. February proves what we have already noticed for several years now: climate change is happening.
- Two Carpatin shepherd females are pregnant. Interested livestock breeders around the Făgăraș Mountains can benefit from receiving these puppies free of charge.
- The cows are well and the herd now stands at 141 head, as the calving season has started. One of the calves needed bottle-feeding in our barn for a few days because it had problems with the sudden onset of cold weather.



- The sunny days remind us that spring will come soon. We are sure the horses in our livery are looking forward to running around the green landscape.
- In the meantime, all the group is doing well, enjoying good quality hay, alfalfa and oat treats.
- We have named the little Lipizzaner colt who was born in January “Bandit”. He is joyful and curious about the world surrounding him!



- The mobile abattoir has arrived. We still have to complete a few more formalities before going live, but we are already anticipating succulent T-bone steaks and a tasty, aromatic beef and potato goulash with cumin.
- What is your favourite beef dish you would like to be served at Cobor? We are planning to open the season for Catholic Easter and look forward to receiving guests soon.
- Come to Transylvania and fall in love with [Cobor](#)!



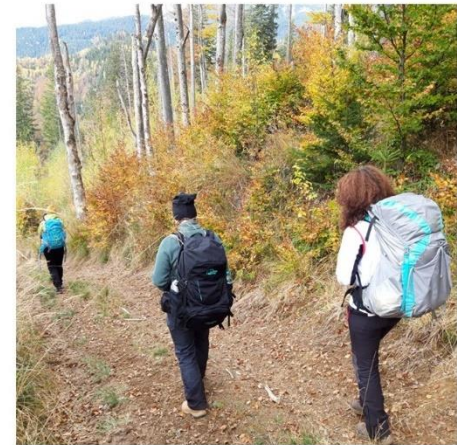
Wildlife hides

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

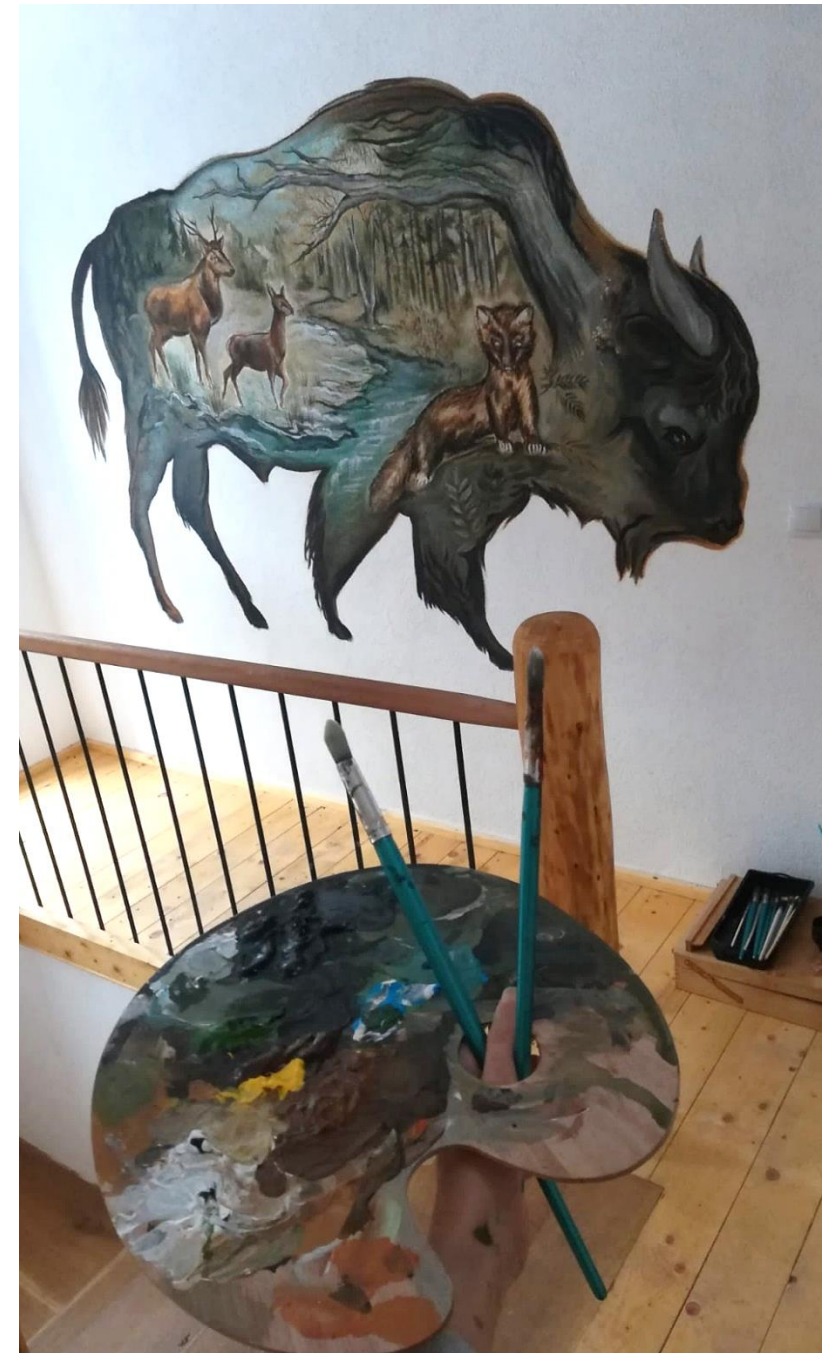
Communication & community outreach



- The “Local Gastronomic Points” project being developed in the communities neighbouring our protected forests has kicked off with a first meeting. This project will represent another opportunity for local residents in Dâmbovicioara and Rucăr to develop a legal framework for producing their tasty products and being able to extend their client base.



- The environmental education centre is almost ready to receive guests.
- We will open it this summer.





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
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CARPATHIA**

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