

April 2021

Field report



Main activities summary

- 01 Forest conservation and management
- 02 Ecological restoration
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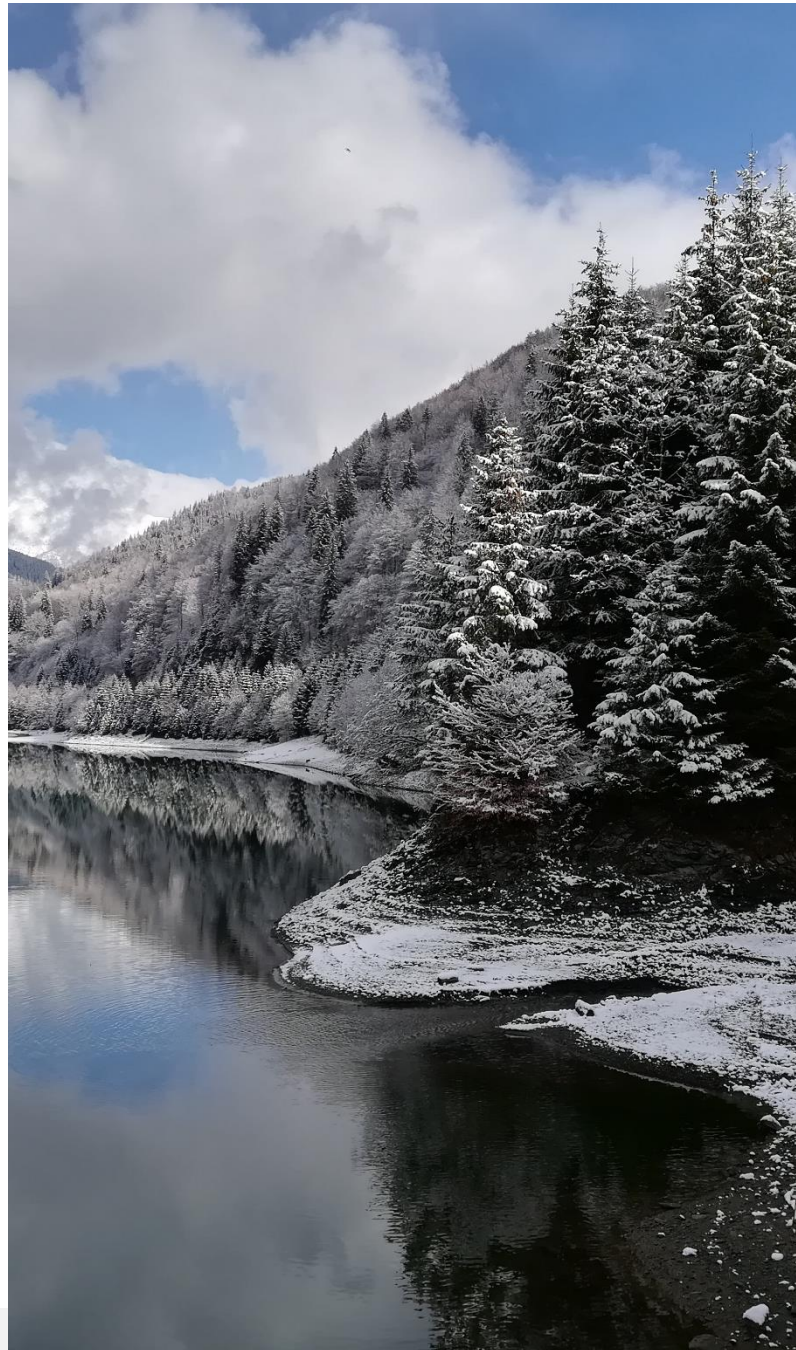


01

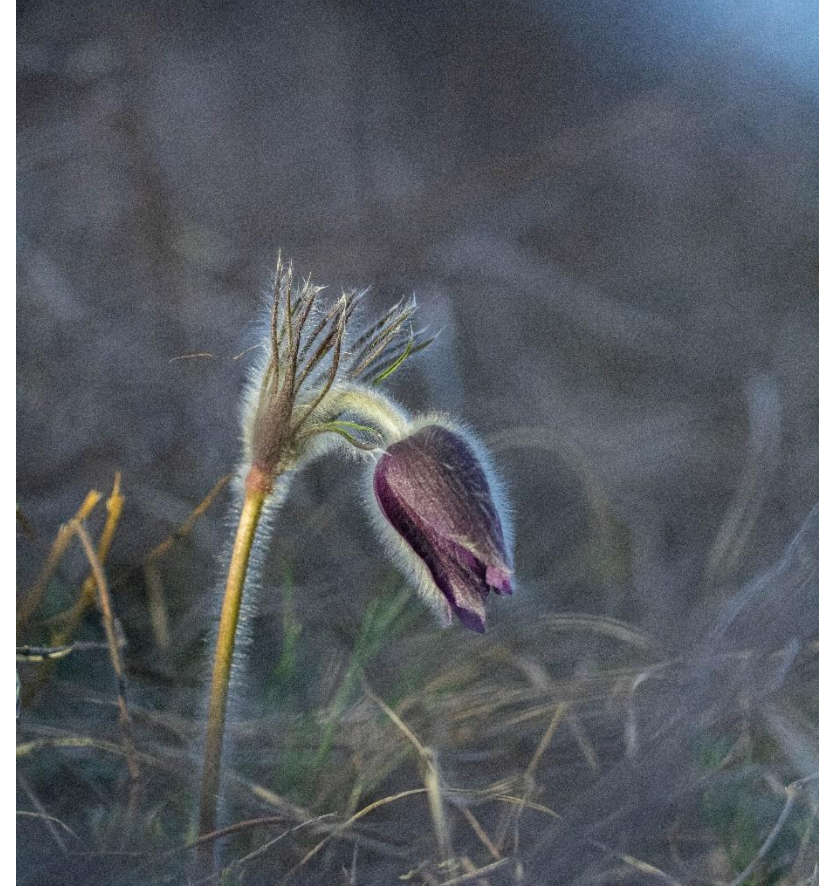
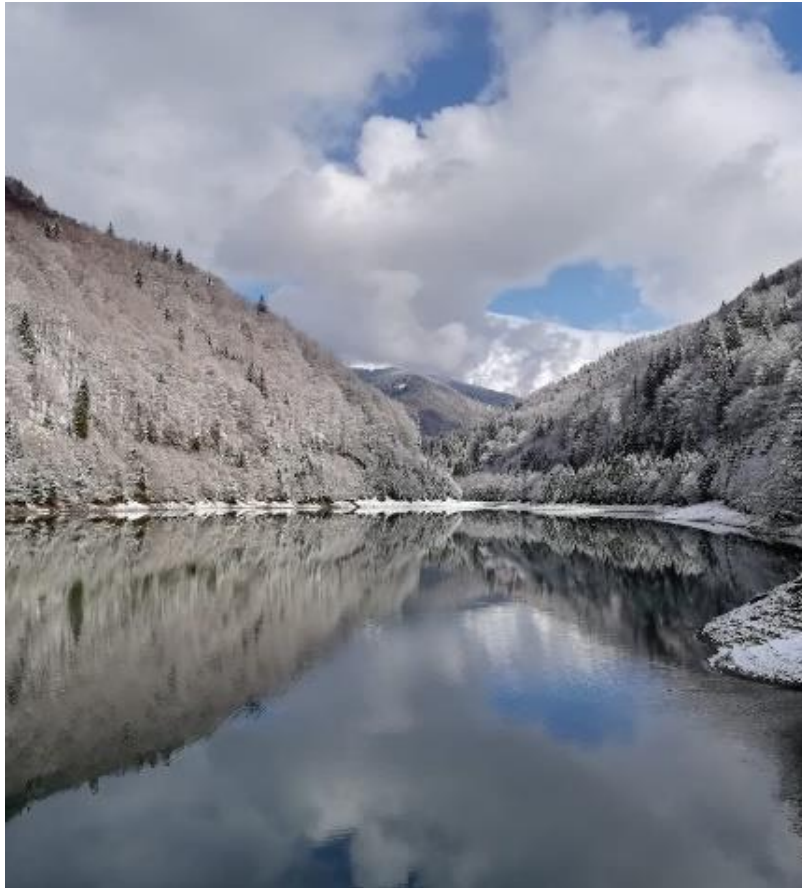
Forest conservation and management



- April surprised us three times with heavy snow, but during the warm weather intervals we advanced our conservation work.
- We were able to purchase an additional 143 ha of land for full protection.
- Last year's devastating storm left behind a lot of fallen trees. We are now starting to clear the access roads.



Images from the project area







02

Ecological restoration



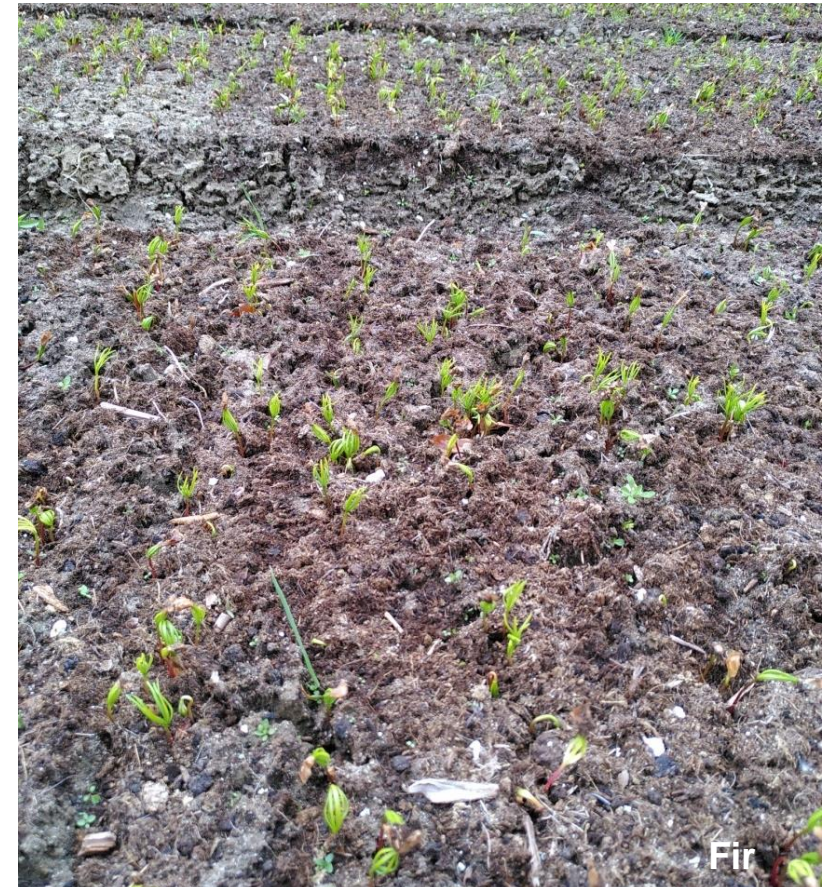
- Spring brings a lot of activities to our green houses and tree nurseries.
- We have extended an existing tree nursery, as we need more space to grow the saplings for the degraded areas.
- The fields have been cleared up and beautiful new plant species from the seeded plots unveiled from their protective cover. All this with permanent and seasonal help from locals involved in preparing for a new season of ecological restoration.



- The weather was good for alder planting along the rivers. More than 2,000 planted trees will establish new riparian habitats.
- But the late snow delayed our replanting of clear-cuts at high altitudes. We had a hard time opening up the trails and clearing the snow to even gain access to the area.
- The temporary deposits closer to the planting areas are full of saplings and despite very harsh conditions we have started “building” new forests in the Făgăraș Mountains!



Images of our tree nurseries





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Wildlife conservation



Wildlife monitoring:

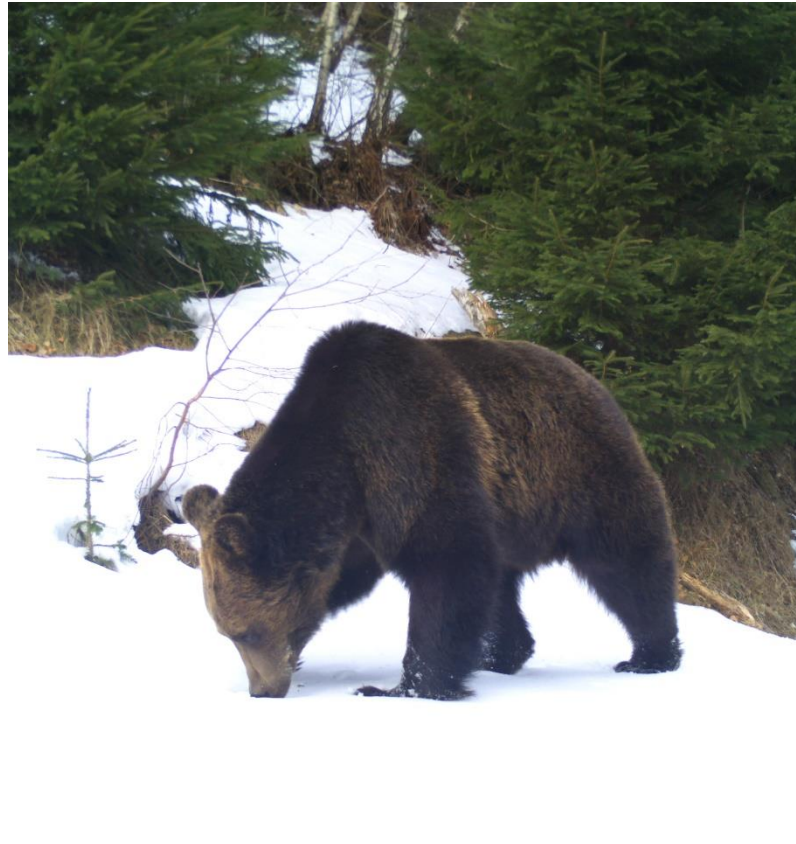
- During our interim monitoring, 15 out of the 19 camera trap locations captured lynx. We are looking forward to interpreting the data to keep track of some individuals already known to us.
- We started to collect hair and scat samples of bears around artificial feeding sites to learn more about the use of these locations.

Wildlife reintroduction:

- A total of 17 bison are now in our acclimatisation enclosures in Bunea and Lerești, waiting to be released into the wild once the vegetation is fully back.
- Our beaver team has been busy all month evaluating the status of the beaver population on the north side of the Făgăraș Mountains, from where we will source the first beavers this summer.



Camera trap images



Wildlife monitoring:

- Our specialists started monitoring changes in the diversity and abundance of terrestrial arthropods.
- Another team was out, enduring bad weather conditions, monitoring golden eagles, as well as marmots and capercaillie.



Wildlife conflicts:

- After a quiet winter, wild boar and bears are starting to come closer to the villages again.
- As custodians of four wildlife management units (65,000 ha) our rapid intervention team is back in full operation to keep damages to a minimum.





04

Conservation Enterprise
Programme

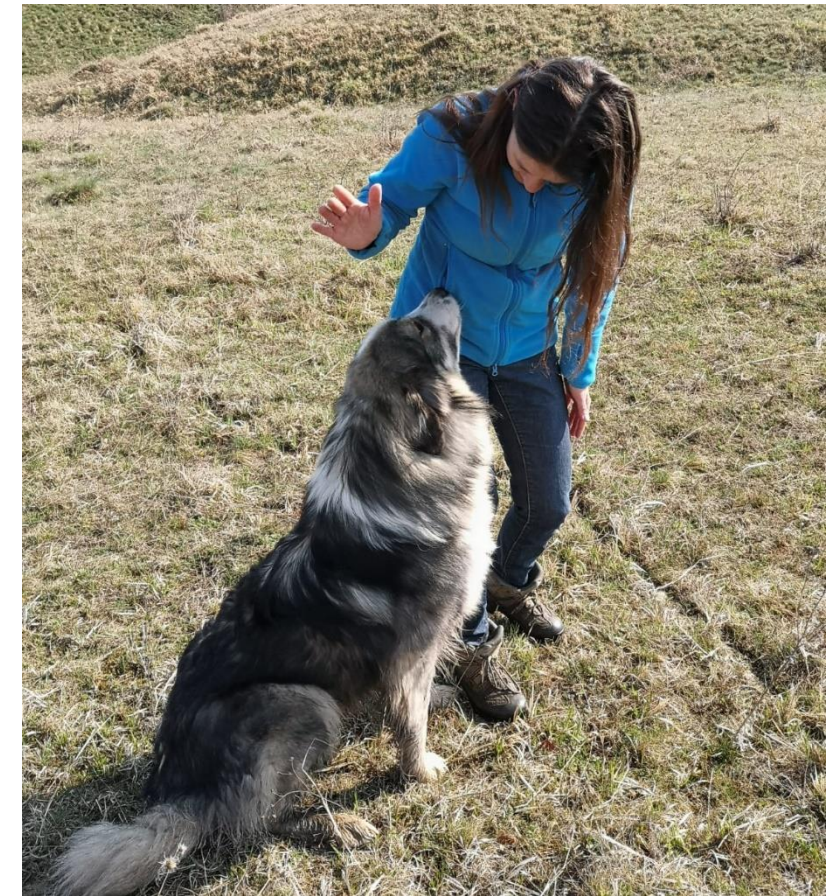


COBOR Biodiversity Farm

- The tourist season has started! It's great to receive visitors again! Come to [Cobor](#)!
- Easter was a good moment of relaxation, as the rest of the month was so busy with all the work around the farm: the garden is seeded with all kind of vegetables and the fields have been cleared up.
- The horses can finally roam the meadows again and enjoy the fresh green grass.



- Spring-time is birthing time: we have two pregnant female Carpatin dogs and can't wait to spoil the puppies before they are given to interested livestock breeders around the Făgăraș Mountains.
- The Transylvanian Grey Cattle herd has reached over 160 head – the females use their strong instincts to take care of the large kindergarten, not giving away any chances to the bear and her cubs who visit occasionally.



- Imagine waking up to this view - and many other breath-taking sights!

Go to [Travel CARPATHIA](#) to find out what experiences we have prepared for you!



05

Communication &
community outreach



- We are proud to be one of the most important environmental projects in Europe, to be part of the Endangered Landscapes Programme (ELP) family.
- HERE we are, in images and words, with dedicated people and full engines running to protect one of the last true wilderness areas in Europe!



- The environmental education centre at Richita Cabin, in the Dambovița Valley, is getting ready for inauguration this summer.
- In June it will host its first group – nature photographers coordinated by Dan Dinu, participants in the CARPATHIA photo camp, a 4-days workshop with Rewilding as its theme.
- Check out the [photos in the contest](#) – the jury will decide who are the participants and the public can also vote.



- The training Educators for Nature, organised by ProPark Foundation for protected areas was completed by 13 highly motivated teachers from our project area (Rucăr, Lerești, Valea Mare Pravăț, Nucșoara).
- Education is the most important pillar in all human activities.



Volunteers

- We are happy to welcome Harriet into the wildlife monitoring team. She was selected from a large pool of candidates and will spend 12 weeks in our project, alongside our team.





Făgăraș Mountains become home for bison!

www.carpathia.org



- Successful species reintroduction, according to specialists, requires about 100 specimens to thrive and breed freely in the wild without human intervention.
- Since May 2020, the first eight bison have been roaming freely as part of our Conservation Carpathia project.

Donate

before the end of May so that Făgăraș Mountains become home to another 20 bison this 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 across 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: Simona Bordea, Ionut Cretu, Orsolya Csakany, Dan Dinu, Marius Druga, Gabriel Dudu, Ruben Iosif, Mihai Mitu, Madalin Mocanu, Călin Șerban, Oliviu Pop, Constantin Simion, Claudiu Toanta, Liviu Ungureanu.