



Field Report

February 2024





February 20th, 2024

Main activities summary

1. Forest conservation and management
2. Ecological restoration
3. Wildlife conservation
4. Conservation enterprise programme
- 05 Communication & community outreach



01

Forest conservation and
management



- Our rangers remain the unsung heroes of our conservation efforts - we are pleased to report a month completely free from any illegal logging activities.



This February raises the question, when do seasons start...





02

Ecological reconstruction



We are getting ready, but we haven't set a start date yet

- Experience from previous years has shown us that the weather in March and April can be unpredictable. You never know if you'll be able to plant when you want to.
- We do have big plans for this spring. We'll be replanting on the following sites: Dobroneagu, Valea Lungă, Groapele, and Basa. Additionally, we'll finish the work at Tămaș and Comisu in the Dâmboviței Valley.
- Flaviu Răuță, our colleague responsible for growing seedlings in the Foundation's nurseries, is preparing 70,000 seedlings of spruce, sorb tree, sycamore, and Silver fir to be planted this spring. They are prepared and adapted to the mountain conditions. We still have a few thousand in the nurseries, but they are not yet big enough, which is why we have had to buy a further 180,000 beech and spruce seedlings.



03

Wildlife conservation



Wildlife monitoring

We don't yet have the grace of lynxes, but our mobility has certainly improved with the new lynx monitoring study. After retrieving most of the image cards, the most exciting part of the work starts: identifying each individual lynx.



Each to their own

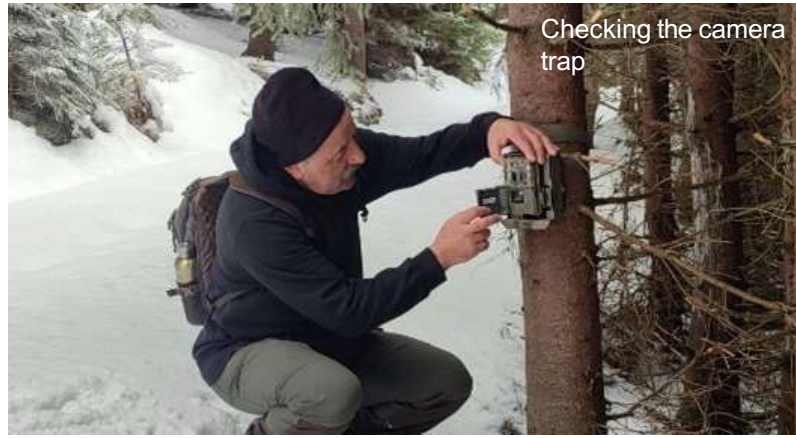
The cameras specifically installed for monitoring red deer also needed some attention during the past month - and they never fail to deliver great images of this majestic species.

In February we reached 20 cameras on Rucăr, Izvoare, Stoenești, Râul Târgului, Bârsă, Piatra Craiului and Șercăița.



Bisons, beavers and... some wolves on a walk

- The bison in the Nucșoara enclosure still require extra food, so we've been working to provide it for them. Additionally, near this enclosure, a camera trap captured footage of a pack of seven wolves. It's fascinating to observe the interaction between these species.
- To monitor the stress levels of bison during different periods, we collected faeces samples from 30 individuals that will be analysed for their cortisol levels.



Shh, the beavers are resting

Beavers are still not very active in February.

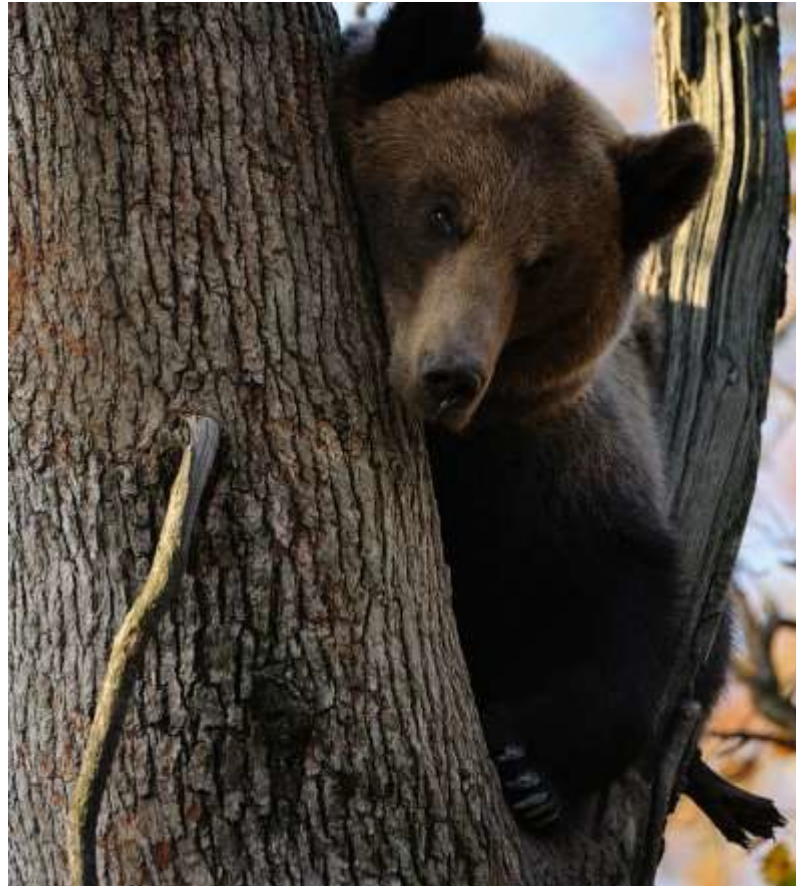
We're currently preparing documentation for the upcoming beaver trapping and relocation campaign this spring.



Beaver lodge

When it's too warm, it's hard to sleep and hunger keeps bothering you

The warm weather has awakened the bears. We've been vigilant, making sure the electric fences are operational in sensitive areas. We acquired a thermal imaging drone for wildlife conflict prevention and electric fencing, thanks [to a donation from Ursus](#).



Sequences from the Făgăraș Mountains



Long-tailed tit (*Aegithalos caudatus*)



Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*)



Bison (*Bison bonasus*)



Roe deer (*Capreolus capreolus*)



Eurasian wren (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)



The white-throated dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*)

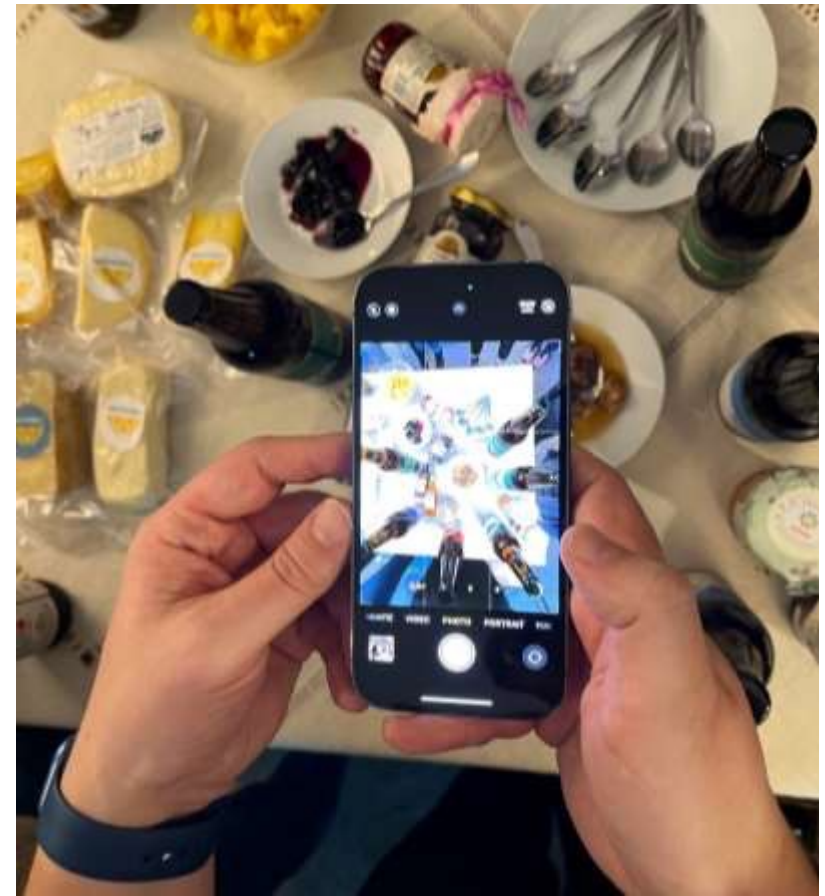
04

Conservation Enterprise Programme



On 22nd February, the community of entrepreneurs in Roadele Munților Food Hub learned about social media and product photography in a workshop by Alex Damian, photographer and content creator.

Our team visited herbal tea producer Manufactura Papne in a work experience exchange.



Roadele Munților

This you already know: Roadele Munților Food Hub products can be ordered online at <https://roadelemuntilor.ro>.

Thanks to the generous support of [ING Bank](#), we will be able to deliver the Fruits of the Mountains with our new refrigerated bus!

Thank you ING Bank for the much needed support!



Cobor Biodiversity Farm

- Seven calves were born in February within our herd of Transylvanian Grey cattle.
- Spring is a busy time: fields need to be cleaned and prepared.
- Do you know that we can organise team-building and other events on the farm? We can cater for team-building events for up to 30 people.
- For reservations: [0770 963 238](tel:0770963238)



Travel Carpathia

- We are working to digitise many of our processes and will soon launch a new website. [Please bear with us for another few weeks](#) until this is launched.
- We had three meetings of the Guide Academy, and one of them was where we like to be, on the mountain. Travel Carpathia Guide Academy is a unique field training programme designed to produce ecotourism guides in Romania.



05

Communication &
communities



Education

We only saw our colleagues from the education team in the pictures they sent us because there are so many activities ongoing in the project area.

One notable event was the 'Rangers for Rangers' training, a two-day session where our rangers learned to improve their work with the children. Special thanks to the S.M.U.R.D. Foundation for the first aid course, and to Kristin Biebl and Mario Schmid, education specialists from the Bavarian Forest National Park.



Rangers for rangers



Rangers for rangers



Camp for children of employees



Junior Rangers activities

Un eveniment:



FĂGĂRAȘ FEST

26 - 28 iulie
sat **Sebeșu de Sus**
com. Racovița, Sibiu,
Valea Moașei



MUNTELE VIBREAZĂ ÎN RITMUL TĂU

TURURI GHIDATE ÎN NATURĂ | FILM ÎN AER LIBER | MUZICĂ ȘI DANS ÎN IARBĂ
DJ SETS - DAN AMARIEI | ACTIVITĂȚI PENTRU COPII | GUST LOCAL



**LUPII LUI CALANCEA ȘI
SURORILE OSOIANU**

Suținut de:



Parteneri:

Comuna
RACOVIȚA



Voluntariat
Brașov

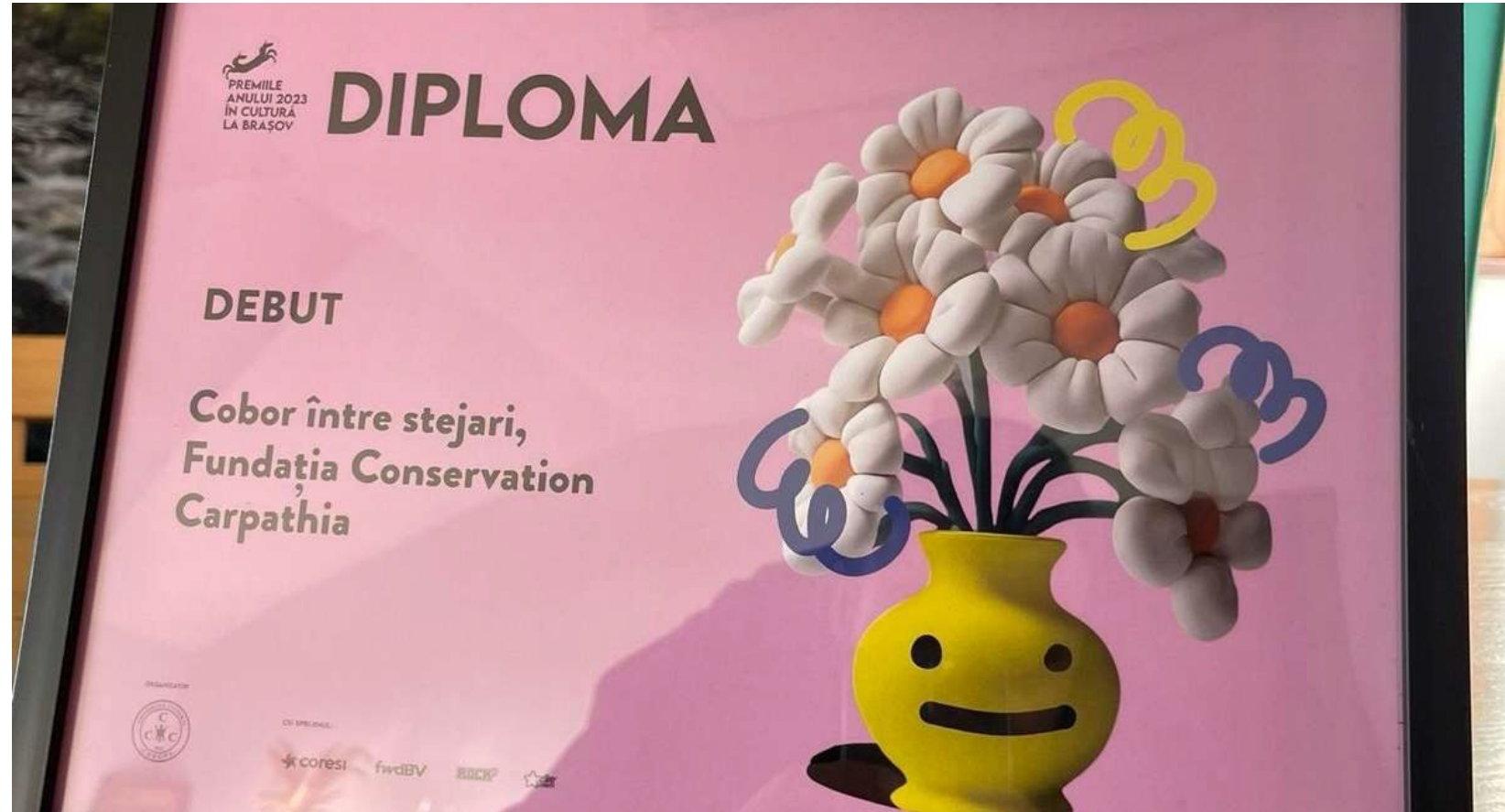


Proiect finanțat de Uniunea Europeană prin intermediul Fondului Regional în cadrul Programului Operațional Regional 2014-2020, subprogramul 1.1. Dezvoltarea infrastructurii și îmbunătățirea accesibilității. Proiectul este finanțat de către Comisia Europeană prin intermediul Fondului Regional în cadrul Programului Operațional Regional 2014-2020, subprogramul 1.1. Dezvoltarea infrastructurii și îmbunătățirea accesibilității. Proiectul este finanțat de către Comisia Europeană prin intermediul Fondului Regional în cadrul Programului Operațional Regional 2014-2020, subprogramul 1.1. Dezvoltarea infrastructurii și îmbunătățirea accesibilității.

Awards

The festival 'Cobor between Oaks' was awarded the trophy for Debut at the Gala Awards of the Year in Culture Braşov 2023.

We enjoyed the attention – and have already launched the [next edition](#).



Media work

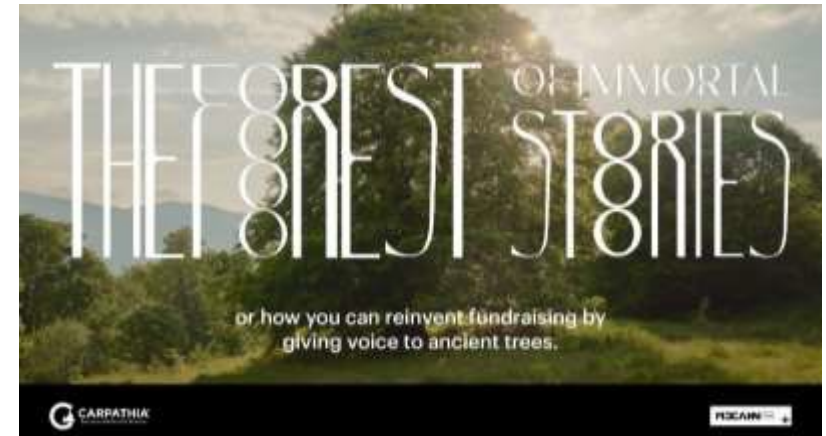
Media interest is still strong. This month ARTE France was filming bison and our lynx monitoring work.

The Irish Film Production Company Crossing The Line has finalised Wild Transylvania (already broadcast in several countries) - a must watch for wildlife enthusiasts.



Communities

- We continue to run schools and kindergarten programmes, as well as distribute food in Nucșoara and Lerești, in collaboration with our friends from the Casa Bună Association.
- The school table tennis project is already showing progress. Some of the children who could barely manage a paddle back in October are now part of a club where they're learning the sport at an advanced level.
- [The Forest of Immortal Stories](#) takes root. You can become a part of it by adopting a centuries-old beech tree.



Results

27,434 ha

of forest under permanent protection and safeguarded for future generations

80,000 ha

protected for wildlife, with no sport or trophy hunting

1,991 ha

bought and restored (clear-cuts, alpine pastures, spruce monocultures)

4,142,254

trees planted in clear-cuts, riparian galleries and restoration areas of spruce monocultures

250

locals who make a living from the CARPATHIA project

2,200

students and teachers involved in environmental education projects

30+

local producers are part of the Roadele Munților Food Hub





Join us in:

- • Creating Europe's largest forested wilderness National Park.
- • Annual restoration of the original ecosystem of over 100 ha of clear-cuts.
- • Protecting wildlife across a total of 80,000 ha.
- • Sustainable development of local communities.
- • Environmental education projects.



PHOTO CREDITS: Călin Șerban, Liviu Ungureanu, Ionuț Crețu, Thea Codreanu, Barbara Promberger, Christoph Promberger, Claudiu Postelnicu, Claudiu Țoanță, Georgiana Andrei, Cornelia Doerr, Daniel Bârloiu, Ruben Iosif, Zsolt Miholcea, Laviniu Terciu, Adrian Aldea, Dan Dinu, Ioana Duică, Victoria Donos, Andrei Iosivoiu, Silvia Blaj-Istudor

Cover: Dan Dinu

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