



Field Report

FOR COMMUNITIES
FOR NATURE

carpathia.org

March 2024

Main activities summary

1. Forest conservation and management
2. Ecological restoration
3. Wildlife conservation
4. Conservation Enterprise Programme
5. Communication and community outreach

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1. Forest conservation and management

Forests

The forest is coming back to life. We are extra vigilant when it comes to potential dangers.

🌲 The forest guard patrols are on duty.

🌲 Our rangers interrupted a theft attempt. The authorities have taken over.



New protected forests

Field acquisition for protection and conservation continues. We have added 134.5 hectares of forest to the land we are already protecting. All of these forests and alpine grasslands will be donated to the Romanian people once the Făgăraș Mountains have become a National Park with international standards.



International event for rangers



Our colleague Laviniu, ranger within our Carpathia Forest Service, took part in a meeting of the Romanian Rangers Association.

About the event:

- 👤 30 participants from 12 countries, nine of them Romanian. They have discussed themes like rewilding and human-wildlife conflict management
- 👤 Our colleague explained how we manage the impact of human-wildlife conflicts upon local communities



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2. Ecological restoration

Preparing to plant saplings in six work areas

- ✓ We have prepared six areas to plant new saplings: Dobroneagu, Groapele, Valea Lungă and Basa are around Nucșoara village; Tămaș and Comisu are in Dâmbovița Valley – Rucăr.
- ✓ The cold is good for young trees. We have placed around 197,000 saplings in natural coolers – meaning the soil below the saplings is mixed with snow and ice to postpone their sprouting.



3. Wildlife conservation

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Monitoring and protection



With the weather getting warmer, the animals become more active. We continue with our current projects and stay vigilant about possible human-wildlife conflicts.



Ongoing studies



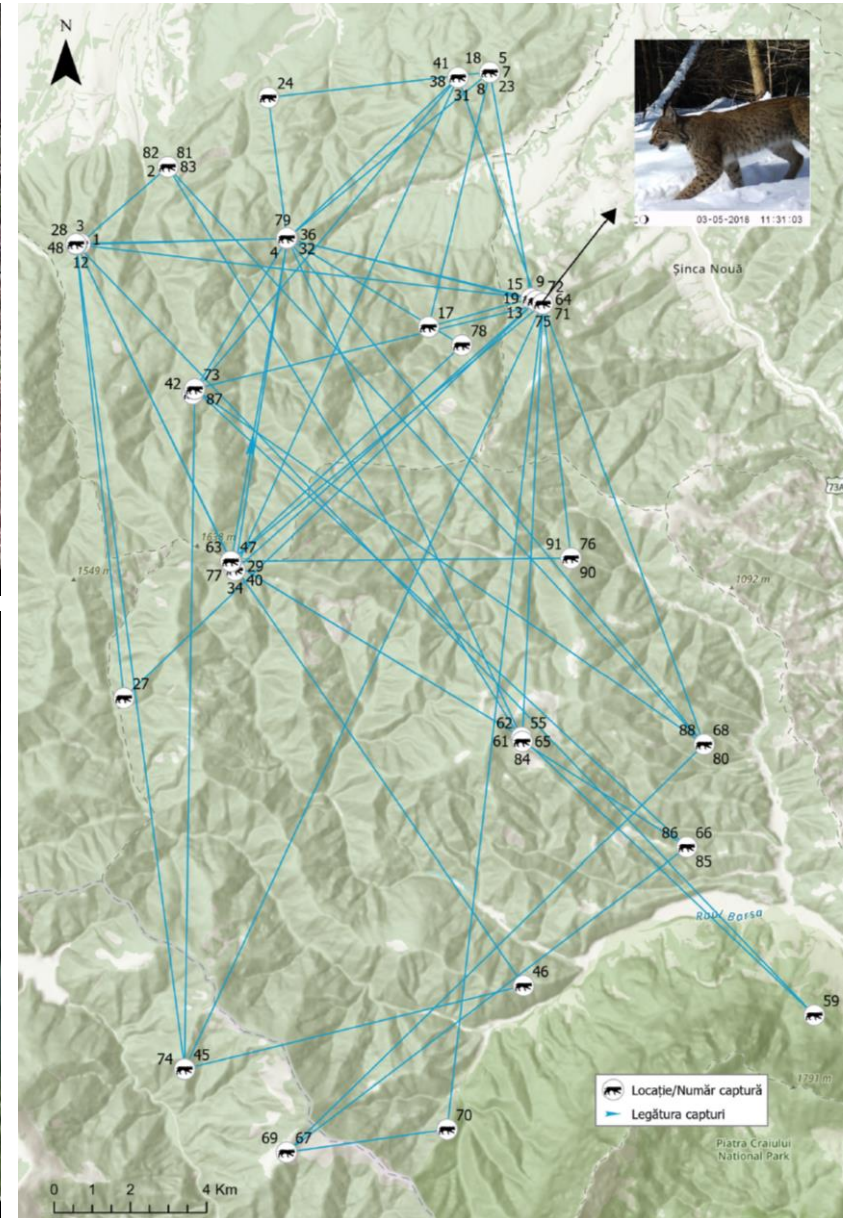
We have made the final checks involving our lynx monitoring cameras, before bringing them back. Next is the result analysis phase.



Our ungulates study enters its ninth month. We have checked the cameras within areas where access is highly difficult. Fortunately, the batteries are functional. Our study continues for three more months, until the cameras have been in the forest a full year.



Lynx – intermediate data



- ✓ Throughout the mapped territory the number of individuals decreased from 23 to 18 in five years.
- ✓ Among the observed specimens, 16 lynx were constant throughout the years.
- ✓ We have extended the camera recording period until 4th April.

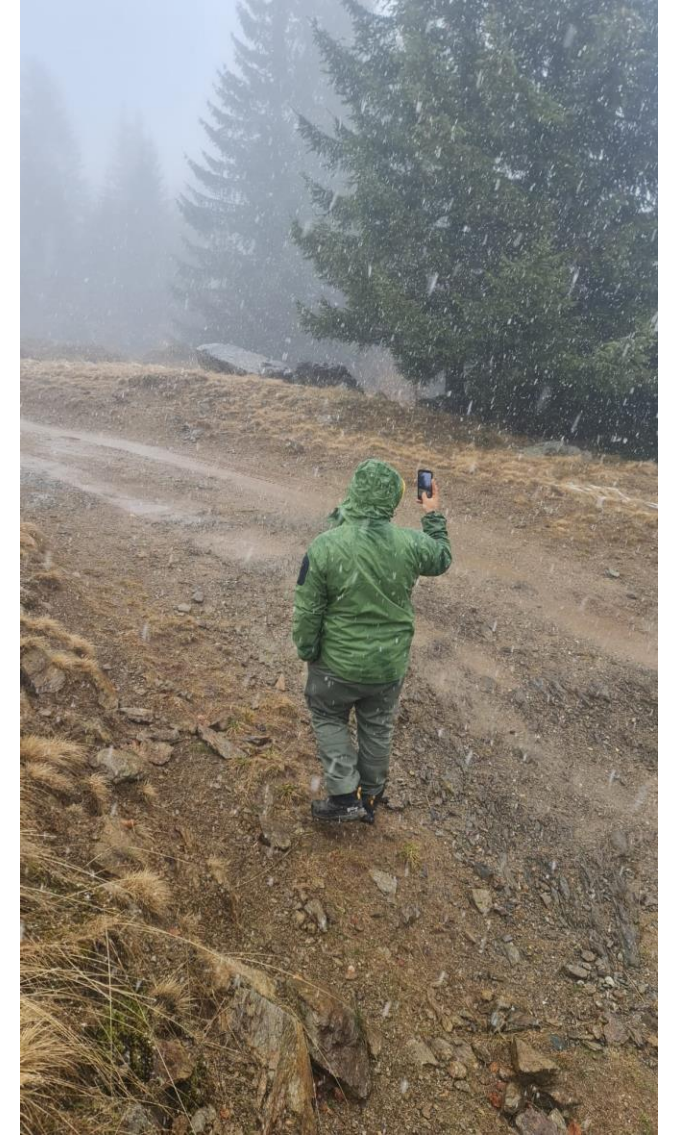
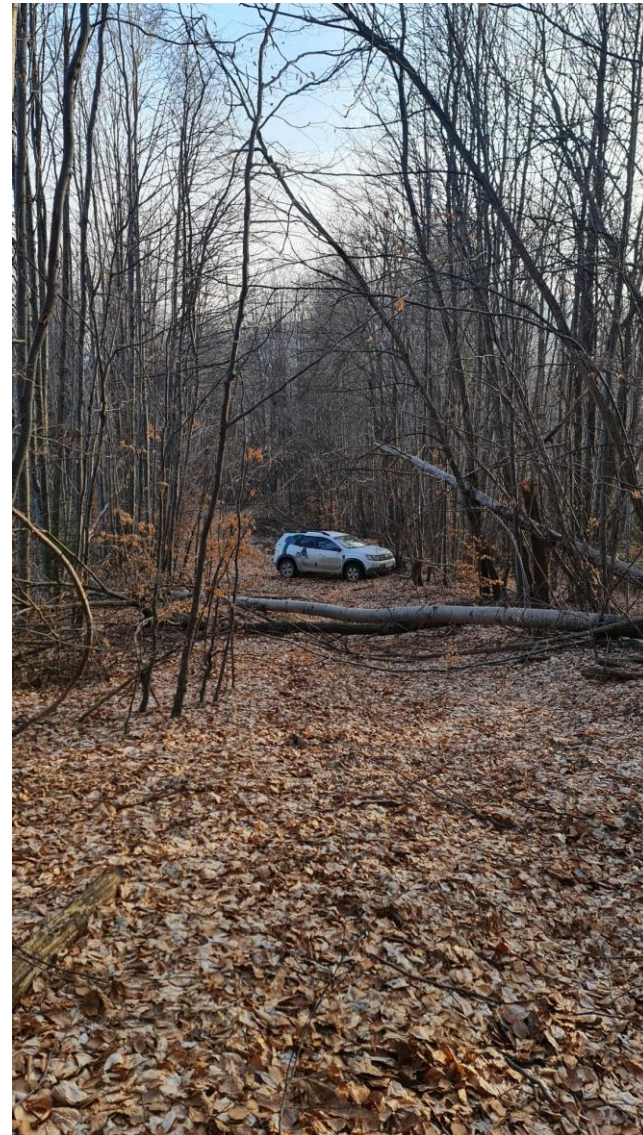
Red deer and chamois

After constant checks of the cameras, we are glad to report no problems.



Fauna protection

- We check the electrical fences and make sure they are functional.
- Rangers are constantly involved in poaching prevention activities.

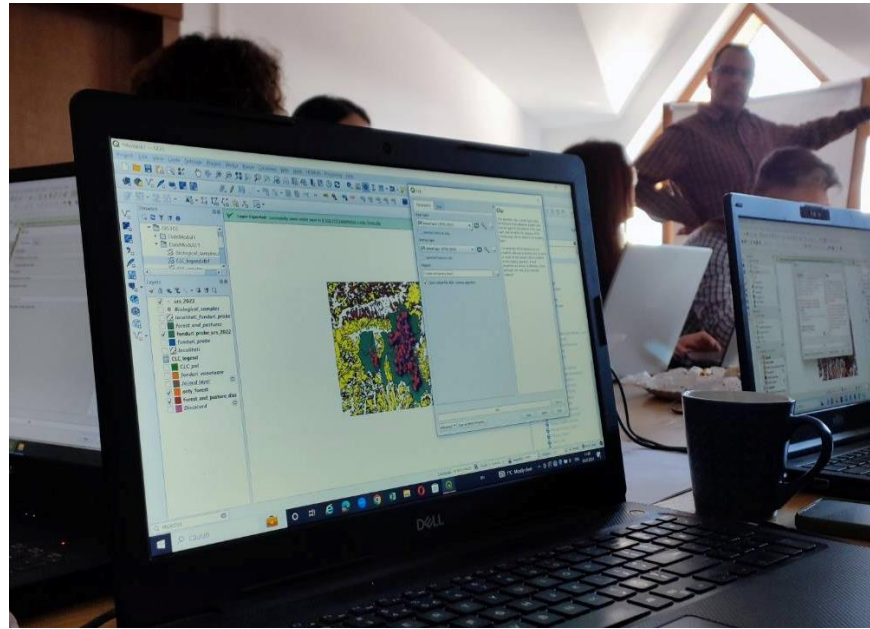




Together we learn and grow

Costin, our colleague from the wildlife monitoring department, has attended a conservation project management course in Frankfurt. We welcomed back a very excited coworker. He shared what he learned with the team and explained how to apply this knowledge in our everyday work.





European bison reintroduction

- ✓ From our observations it seemed that a male bison from one of the Lerești herds might have a problem with eye parasites.
- ✓ After close examination by our veterinary specialist the disease was not confirmed. Most likely, the lesion was just an injury from an accidental hit.
- ✓ We collected 30 more samples for our study on cortisol levels in European bison.





Beaver reintroduction

- ✓ Our beaver team caught the first four beavers in spring for relocation to the south side of the Făgăraș Mountains.
- ✓ We are monitoring the beavers relocated in the past seasons. They are doing well.







Bison impact study

We wanted to know if **bison** affect the forest restoration. The first results from the bison acclimatisation enclosure in Bunea came in.

- ✓ They help forest regeneration in old clear-cut areas. Through grazing, they reduce the underbrush that replaces the trees after felling. This allows beech and spruce to regenerate faster, skipping the grassy vegetation phase.
- ✓ They accelerate mixed forest comeback in spruce monocultures. With their faeces, bison spread the seeds of various trees and thus increase the recovery of mixed forests.
- ✓ Bison do not interfere with the natural development of established mixed forests and pastures.



A close-up photograph of a horse's eye, showing the dark iris and the surrounding brown fur. The horse's mane is visible at the top. The text is overlaid on the image.

4. Conservation Enterprise Programme

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Travel Carpathia Guiding Academy



In brief, during March:

- ✓ Two online training sessions with the mammal monitoring and reintroduction teams.
- ✓ Field workshops taught us about sapling nurseries, reforestation actions, fauna monitoring and interpreting wildlife traces.
- ✓ We searched for bison using radiotelemetry. And actually found them!





We started the trainings with Lukasz Dlugowski, a trainer and tour leader from the Białowieża Forest in Poland.

Now we have a much better grasp of topics like:

- ✓ Preparing for a tour
- ✓ The values of guiding and how they overlap with Foundation Conservation Carpathia's values
- ✓ Translating wildlife behaviour into relevant information for people
- ✓ Interpreting wildlife tracks
- ✓ Appropriate behaviour when encountering a wild animal



News from Cobor Farm



27 calves were born in March.



We cleared and maintained the pastures, preparing them for the warmer seasons.



Spring decorated the farm for the Catholic Easter celebration.



We celebrated Catholic Easter

Every spring day feels intense at the Cobor Farm! All the physical work, nature in full bloom, the landscape in constant change and the holidays are reflected in the emotions of our guests.



Our guests decorated Easter eggs.



Everybody enjoyed the magic of Easter!



Equus Sylvania



- ✓ Equus Sylvania, located in Șinca Nouă and one of Eastern Europe's leading trail riding facilities, is a new member of the Travel Carpathia family. With this, we can enlarge our offers for horse enthusiasts, families, and wilderness hikers at the foot of the Făgăraș Mountains.
- ✓ We have started to prepare the horses for the summer season! Our summer tours go from easy walks for beginners all the way to 200 km round-trips starting from Șinca Nouă and reaching Viscri, for experienced riders.

- ✓ Our international guides are ready to take you out to experience nature from horse-back.
- ✓ Equus Silvania has undergone major renovation and our guests can experience nine beautifully renovated guestrooms and apartments.

More details can be found on our [website](#).



All is well, but where shall we eat?



A new local gastro point opened in the village of Stoenești, 15 km east of Câmpulung, with the support of our Conservation Enterprise team: Tanti Maria house.



Another local gastro point which opened in March is CAEZU guesthouse in Nucșoara commune.



At Pilvax restaurant, in the center of Brașov, you can now find our Carpathia beer!



Enjoy the 'zacuscă'!



In the [Roadele Munților shop](#) this zacuscă trio called 'Zacuscar' is waiting to be enjoyed or gifted.



Your eyes see clearly: the Zacuscar is available in two versions.

Roadele Munților is a food hub that brings products made by small traditional producers from the villages in Făgăraș Mountains on your table. Aside from zacuscă, there are more local products in the online shop: from sauces and syrups to dehydrated mushrooms and pasta made with local ingredients. [Ordering](#) them is as easy as saying "yum"!



5.

Communication and community outreach

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Acknowledgement and plans

March is overflowing with news. Some of the things that kept us busy are:

🌲 'The Forest of Immortal Stories' project took the Silver award at the COMMA gala – Communication Awards.

🌲 We organised a workshop around the same project at the international conference Interpret Europe that took place in Koper, Slovenia.



Concurs de instalații artistice. Artiștii sunt invitați să vină cu un manifest artistic vizual pentru promovarea și conservarea Munților Făgăraș

23 Martie 2024 08:54



Fundația Conservation Carpathia lansează concursul „Manifest pentru Munții Făgăraș”, o competiție de instalații artistice temporare inspirate de natură, Munții Făgăraș și oamenii acestora. Proiectul va fi expus în cadrul

Fundația Conservation Carpathia dotează echipa canină Salvamont Argeș cu dispozitive GPS

Fundația Conservation Carpathia întărește parteneriatul cu Salvamont Argeș ce are ca scop sporirea siguranței turiștilor în zona Munților Făgăraș prin dotarea diviziei canine cu zgărzi GPS și module de monitorizare. Noile echipamente vor fi utilizate în misiunile de salvare a persoanelor surprinse de avalanșe și în alte operațiuni de căutare pe munte. Dispozitivele sunt deja utilizate în cadrul „Stagiului Național de Formare și Reconfirmare al Unităților Canine Salvamont”, eveniment care se desfășoară în această perioadă la Cabana Capra, în masivul Făgăraș, județul Argeș.

Trei zgărzi GPS și un modul de monitorizare au ajuns la divizia canină a Salvamont Argeș, echipament oferit prin Fondul



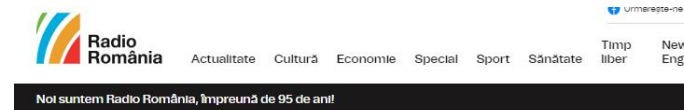
noile echipamente vor eficientiza misiunile de salvare a victimelor în caz de avalanșă și nu numai. Vorbim despre echipamente de ultimă generație, care vor contribui la scurtarea timpului în care câinii și colegii mei ajung la victime. În plus, cu ajutorul lor se acoperă o

Festivalul „Cobor între Stejari” revine pe 22-23 iunie, în satul Cobor, Brașov

„Cobor între Stejari”, festivalul dedicat stejarelor din jurul satului Cobor, invită iubitorii de natură și experiențe inedite la cea de-a doua ediție. Evenimentul organizat de Fundația Conservation Carpathia cu sprijinul Alpha Bank va avea loc în minivacanța de Rusalii, pe 22-23 iunie, la Ferma de Biodiversitate Cobor.

Distribuie

166 afișări



Gala Muntelui se desfășoară, în premieră, la Brașov

Vor fi acordate mai multe premii celor care s-au remarcat prin acțiuni merituotoase, la înălțime.



- ✓ Mountain Gala awarded us for promoting alpine areas.
- ✓ Local and national media reported about our donation of GPS collars for the rescue dogs of the Salvamont mountain rescue team in Argeș county.
- ✓ The second edition of the “Cobor Între Stejari” festival has been announced. What are your plans for the 22nd and 23rd of June?
- ✓ We launched the art installation contest “Manifesto for the Făgăraș Mountains.” The winner will be displayed at Făgăraș Fest.



A full calendar



The ancient beech trees of Nucșoara, in a miniature version for the international workshop in Slovenia.



Please tell all the artists, architects and designers you know! Deadline: 30th of April.



'Nature in the classroom' received energising reactions from children. The caravan is on its way!



Please join us in:

- Creating the largest forested National Park in Europe
- Annual restoration of 100 ha ecosystem over illegal clear-cuts
- Protecting wildlife over five hunting concessions with a total of 75,000 ha
- Sustainable development of local communities
- Environmental education projects