



Field Report

June 2024

FOR NATURE'S COMMUNITIES

carpathia.org

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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Forest conservation and management

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We have successfully been testing drones to help us monitor what is happening on the ground. Especially on sloping terrain at high altitudes, where accessibility is difficult, this is very useful to understand changes happening in the forest.

The data, processed with the help of Artificial Intelligence and filtered by the experience and knowledge of our rangers, will help us make faster and better decisions for forest restoration in the Făgăraș Mountains.

Thanks to our partners at Zentiva for their financial support with this project!



Groapele area, southern Făgăraș Mountains, is included in the drone monitoring programme



© Liviu Ungureanu

A biodiversity sanctuary

The forests of the Făgăraș Mountains are characterised by a rich biodiversity. When on patrol, our rangers come across many wild animals, like this bear accompanied by her cub.



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Ecological restoration

Replanting sites



Who can see the alder sapling in the photo?

Because of the risk of being overgrown, some saplings need to be **uncovered**. That's what our colleagues Marius and Ionuț have been doing in the 'children's forest', an area planted with the help of children from Arefu commune in the Cumpăna Mare valley, southern Făgăraș Mountains.



Our rangers installed two information boards in the Vidraru area, southern Făgăraș Mountains. Shepherds of a passing flock lent a helping hand. Thank you!





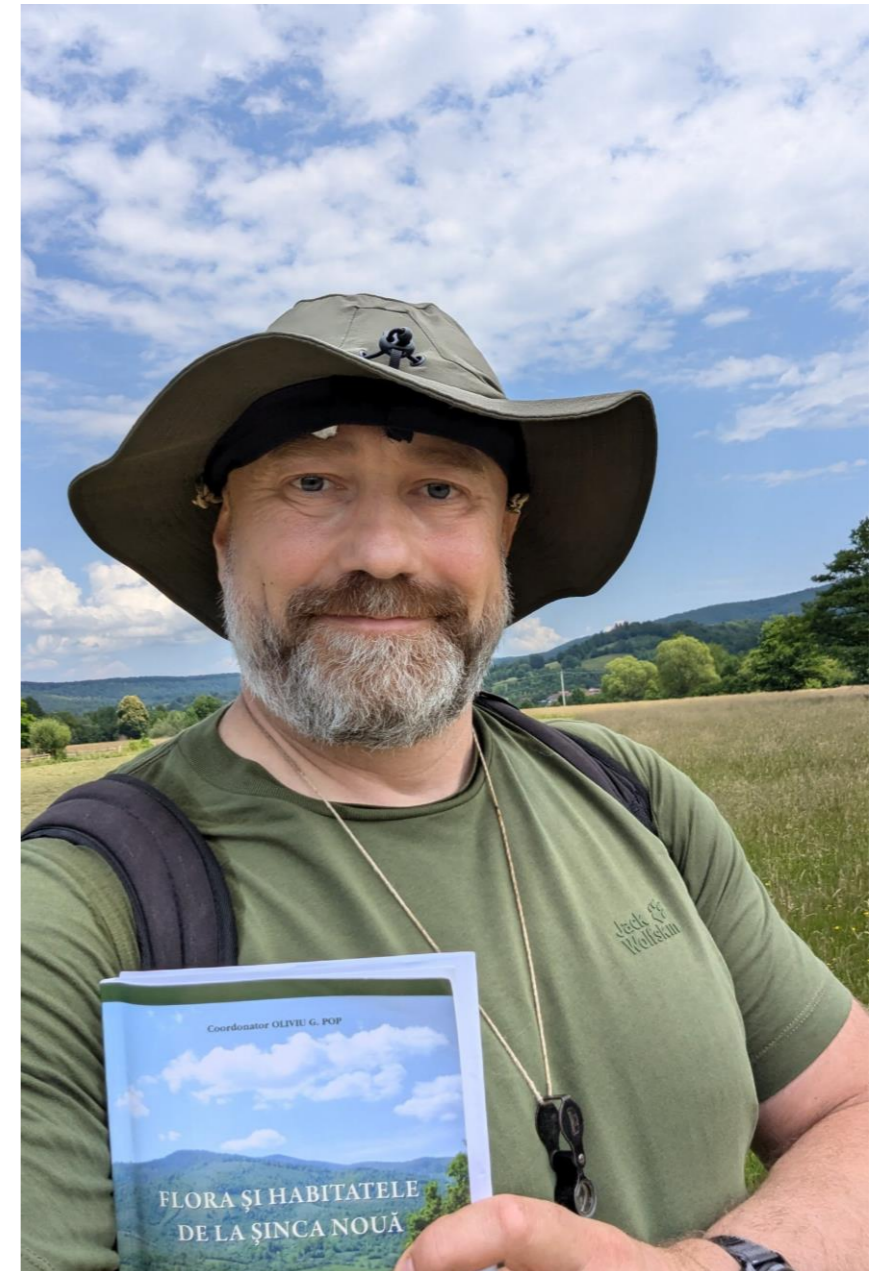
Over 70 species of wild orchids grow in Romania. Our botanist colleague, Oliviu Pop, has identified some of the most spectacular in the field, such as this mysterious *Epipactis palustris*.

© Oliviu Pop





© Oliviu Pop



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Wildlife conservation

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Beavers

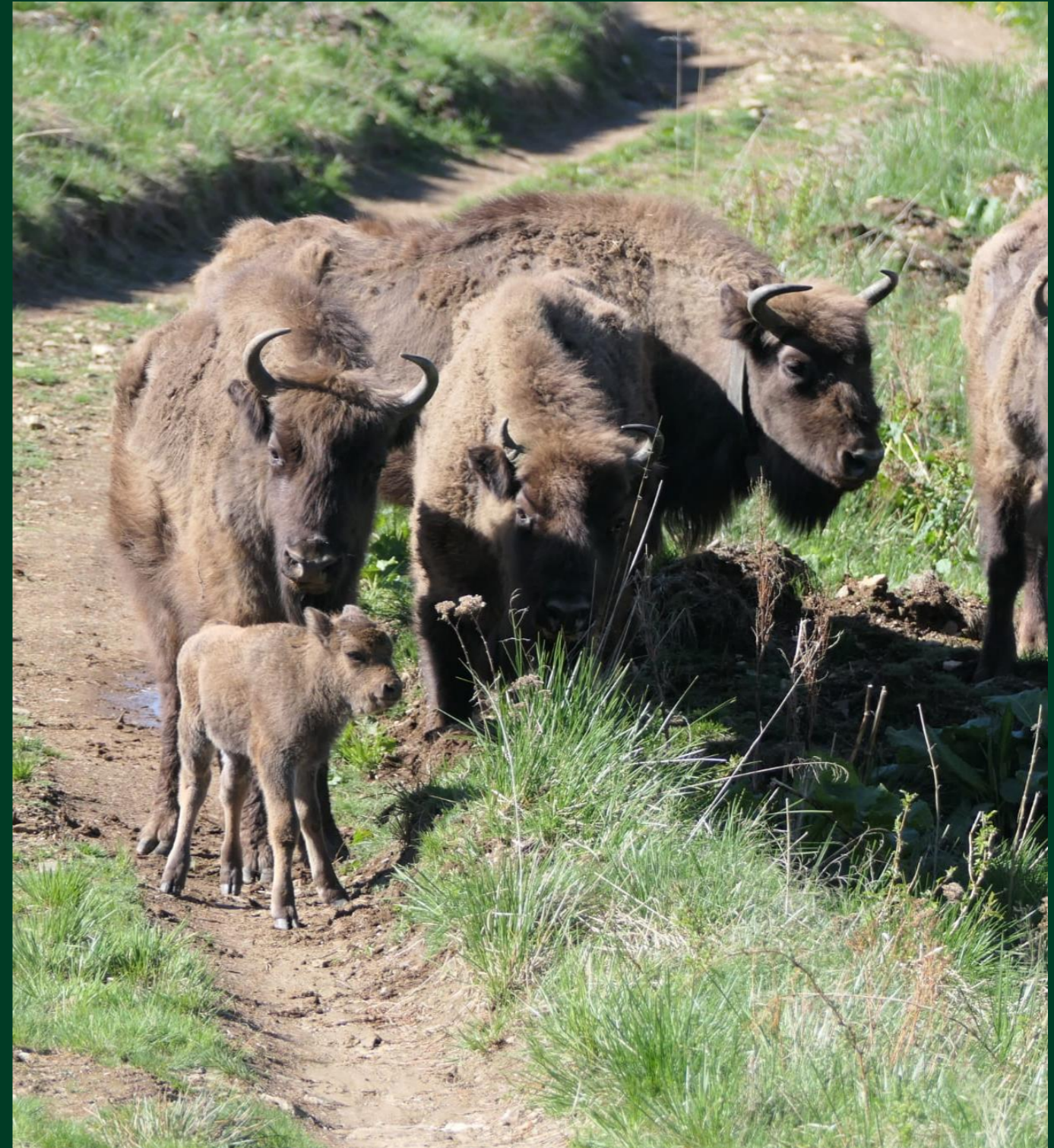


We track biodiversity in beaver reintroduction areas. We took 100 water samples and took them to the lab for analysis.



A new bison calf

We are proud of the first calf born this year in the Lerești group of bison.





Passionate volunteers



© Robert Bulgaru

Jared is one of the volunteers accompanying us during this period. He has been involved in installing wildlife cameras and studying bison reintroduction impact on vegetation.



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Conservation Enterprise Programme

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Cobor Biodiversity Farm

In June, the story of the farm was the subject of a TV report. The national TV channel TVR+ caught us in action for the Agro Strategia TV show. The video is available online on [our Facebook page](#).





From June, the Cobor Biodiversity Farm is a [certified Velo Popas \(a stop for cyclists\)](#). If you choose to enjoy the scenery from the saddle of your bike, you'll find a good lunch here (give us a call in the morning on 0770 963 238 so we can prepare properly), a tool kit for routine interventions or maintenance and shelter for your two-wheeler.





FERMĂ
COBOR
BIODIVERSITATE



Sâmbătă, 22 iunie

10:00 - 11:30
Turul satului Cobor

11:00 - 15:30
Tur ghidat la stejarii seculari
din Ticușu

16:45 - 12:45
Tur botanic și entomologic
(de insecte)

12:00 - 14:30
Turul Fermei de biodiversitate Cobor

15:45 - 16:45
Tur botanic și entomologic
(de insecte)

17:00 - 18:30
Turul satului Cobor

19:00
Concert Ana Coman

20:00
Concert
Moonlight Breakfast

21:30
Proiecție de film
„Stejarul și locuitorii săi”

Duminică, 23 iunie

10:00 - 11:30
Turul satului Cobor

11:00 - 15:30
Tur ghidat la stejarii seculari din Ticușu

11:45 - 12:45
Tur botanic și entomologic (de insecte)

12:00 - 14:30
Turul Fermei de biodiversitate Cobor

15:45 - 16:45
Tur botanic și entomologic (de insecte)

17:00 - 18:30
Turul satului Cobor

19:00
Hanu' cu Bragă

19:30
Concert Taraf de Callu și Viorela

21:30
Proiecție de film „Arhitecții Naturii”

Tur ghidat pe bicicletă*
Măști țigăre cu amprentare și
artizanat local

Pe
tot
parcursul
festivalului

Expoziție de fotografie
Vădeți scrișii și stărușii de la
fermă
Cantării albine de la producătorii
locali
Activități pentru familii și copii
*cost separat



Cobor
râu
Stejarii

Roadele Munților



Tanti Maria's team was present at the 'Cobor between the Oaks' festival at the Cobor Biodiversity Farm, where they delighted the participants with freshly cooked traditional dishes.



At the Cobor Biodiversity Farm, the Pardon Brewery from Lerești refreshed the guests of the 'Cobor between the Oaks' festival with the flavourful CARPATHIA craft beer.

Roadele Munților is a Food Hub through which products made by traditional producers from the Făgăraș Mountains reach a wide audience.

You can taste them at any of our eco-tourism destinations, order them from our [online shop](#), or experience them at our various events.



Welcome to Poiana Fermecată

At **Poiana Fermecată** you can find sauces, jams, syrups, zacuscă (vegetable spread made with roasted red peppers), fruit juice, made responsibly, from local ingredients.



A family business based in Bughea de Sus, in the south of the Făgăraș Mountains, Poiana Fermecată preserves the traditional taste of preserves, just like grandmothers used to make them.

Alongside the classic recipes, such as green walnut jam or cherry jam, Poiana Fermecată also surprises you with niche recipes such as dandelion jam.



Bunea Wildlife Observatory

Surrounded by forests, far away from civilisation and overlooking Lake Pecineagu, Bunea observatory is located on the southernmost flank of the Făgăraş Mountains. Here you can enjoy a **wildlife watching experience** that will allow you to enter the wilderness of the Carpathian Mountains from the safety of the cabin. At sunset and sunrise, wildlife such as bears, lynx, wolves, deer, boar or bison (the latter reintroduced by our Foundation to the southeastern Făgăraş Mountains) might show up on Bunea meadow.

The observatory can accommodate up to six people in three bedrooms, one with a double bed and two with bunk beds. Guests who come here enjoy an all-inclusive package: full-board accommodation, transportation, specialised guide, organic food and drinks. For more details or to book go to <https://travelcarpathia.com/>.



© Jack Wolfskin





© Travel Carpathia



© Daniel Mârlea



© Daniel Mârlea



‘Journeys With Purpose’ is a British travel agency that offers responsible tourism experiences in areas of stunning nature, under the guidance of renowned environmental conservation specialists. Those who choose to travel this way appreciate and support biodiversity protection projects.

We were honoured to host once again a group of Journeys With Purpose guests and show them around the remarkable wild nature of the Făgăraş Mountains.



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FOR NATURE

Communication and community outreach

Nature's architects

We supported the second edition of the [Lynx Film Festival](#) in Braşov and premiered **'Nature's Architects'**, a documentary in four episodes about the reintroduction of beaver and bison in the forests of the Făgăraş Mountains.

After the movie, our colleagues Adrian and Liviu, specialists in these species, answered questions from the audience.

Thank you Dan Dinu, very well done! We look forward to next year's edition.



Carpathia Bike Tour

150 participants enjoyed a relaxed bike tour through the traditional villages of Transylvania: Homorod, Dacia, Ticuș, Jibert, Viscri.

For lunch we feasted on goulash made with Transylvanian Grey cattle meat at the Cobor Biodiversity Farm. A stop at the King Charles' House in Viscri completed the picture of a successful event.

Thanks to all participants, see you next year!



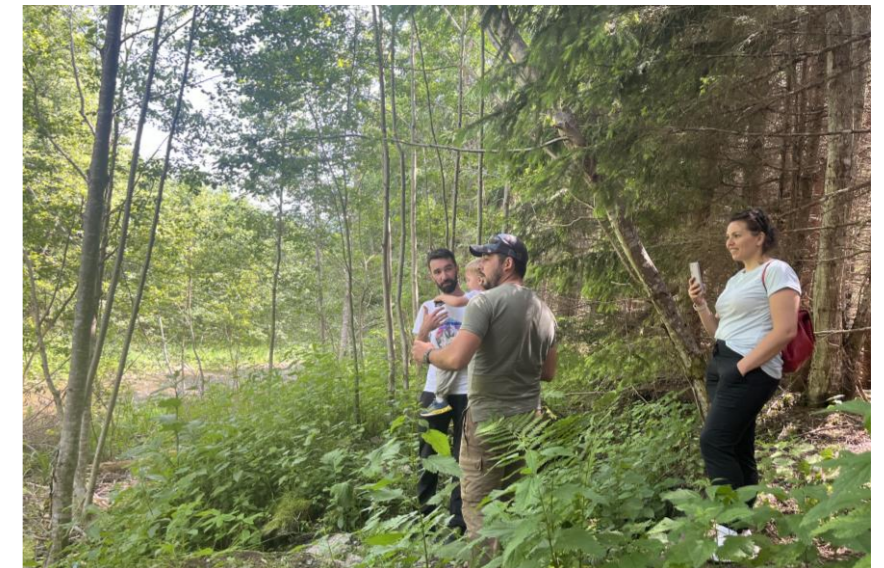
Făgăraș Fest is coming! The artists, the beech trees and the springs are calling us between **July 26 and 28** in Sebeșu de Sus, in the Moașei Valley, Racovița commune.

If you want to stay in a tent, you should know that we are setting up a camping area near the festival. All details are available in the [event link](#).



The travel blog lipa-lipa.ro urges all visitors to 'Travel and love', a message we resonate with deeply!

That's why we were so happy that Simona and Alex, its authors, became ambassadors for the Făgăraș Mountains. We thank them and we are waiting for them to explore all the hidden destinations in the area with their little boy.





© Claudiu Postelnicu



© Claudiu Postelnicu

When theory is combined with field visits, we know that a workshop is guaranteed to be a success.

On 13th June, Mihai Zotta, conservation director of Foundation Conservation Carpathia, talked to students from the Carol I Pedagogical College in Câmpulung about the situation of forests in the Făgăraș Mountains and the impact of forest restoration works.



© Claudiu Postelnicu



© Claudiu Postelnicu



They played table tennis with class and won a three-day camp at the Richita Centre for Nature Activities and Exploration. Some would say the little athletes explored nature through play and movement. We think they had a great time too!



Table tennis League champions, children from Rucăr, Nucșoara, Valea Mare

Results

**4,142,254 trees
planted in clear-cuts,
riverbanks and
restoration areas of
spruce monocultures**



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

353 locals

are involved in CARPATHIA project's activities, receiving a fair pay

2,200

students and teachers involved in environmental education projects

>30

local producers are part of the Roadele Munților Food Hub







FOUNDATION
CONSERVATION CARPATHIA

Calea Feldioarei 27A, Brasov,
Romania

info@carpathia.org

How can you help?

Get in touch and let's discuss ways that you can get involved, as an individual and/or as a company.

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or access [Donations – Carpathia](#)