

- NEWSLETTER -

# JUSTICE FOR NATURE

JANUARY - MARCH  
2021



FOREST FOR CHILDREN  
JUSTICE FOR NATURE

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## INTRODUCTION

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After a year of covid measures and enforced bans, our lives have bridged into 2021 with the expectation of a better tomorrow. However, despite the fact of many concerns about the continuation of our mission of the Forest Society to children, the first quarter developed in a unique way.

In the January to March newsletter, you will learn how the Green Patrol campaign to save the tiger in Sumatra went, how the Eye of the Bear monitoring program in Slovakia continued, or how the Eye of the Jaguar was launched in Costa Rica. Moreover, the latter event evolved into an incredible world collaboration at the highest level and focused our steps on expanding federal activities to Central America, where another Green Life reserve is being created, as well as an effort to launch the phenomenal idea of The Ocean School program, which is to open the first floating school on the sea in Costa Rica associated with the research, monitoring and expedition ship Adventure.

Whether or not this mission succeeds will be revealed in April, but at this point, the wheels of a major project are spinning. It is up to you whether we can realize this vision and give this world an extraordinary idea for forests and oceans.

Welcome aboard the great life story of all of us!

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# AN EXTRAORDINARY START TO COOPERATION AND FOREST VISION

Soon after our arrival in Costa Rica in January, we went on a business meeting with experts who have been monitoring jaguars for more than 12 years using trail cameras. Juan Carlos Cruz, Victor Montalvo and Kevin Lloyd accepted us very friendly, and it seemed like a great collaboration. Of course, our support for the monitoring program in the form of 60 trail cameras was positively received and we were just waiting for it to start.

Furthermore, our steps led through Cartago to the hills on the border with Tapanti National Park, where our colleague and guide Leonel showed us an extremely interesting plot of land for sale. I fell in love with that place at first sight, but there was no time to stay, we had to go on our first mission to the Pacific Ocean.





## WITH RANGERS AT CAÑO ISLAND

Our first trip to Costa Rica was to Caño Island, a protected marine area less than 15 miles west of Drake Bay in the Pacific Ocean. We were faced with life at a ranger station, daily patrol trips around the island, checking fishing boats and filming underwater while diving.

We did 10 dives here, 4 of which were truly wonderful with sharks, huge manta, sea turtles and flocks of fish. The biggest fling was meeting humpback whales and filming them using a drone.



It was on Caño Island that the idea of working together on the Marine Program Osa Peninsula arose, which one day opened the idea of purchasing an expedition ship. To our surprise, our sponsor Karel R. answered this vision in the affirmative, as well as the purchase of 72 hectares of rainforest at Tapanti National Park at 1,100 m above sea.

The dice were cast, and we had something to think about. Our dream ship was docked at Punta Arenas port...



# EYE OF JAGUAR

## NATIONAL PARK CORCOVADO

One day, rangers took us by guard boat to Corcovado National Park, where we checked into Sirena Ranger Station. We had a few days to film wild animals, forest and drone filming. Then the entire NAMA monitoring team arrived. Corcovada Forest was different than what we were used to. It was flat, full of ticks, and in the evening, we were being drained by mosquitoes.

However, nature was unique with huge trees on which Jenda Janoušek planted trail camera. We were literally sprinkled with tiny ticks, the wounds of which, after removal, were incredibly itchy after several days. We encountered toucans, tapirs, peccary and several species of monkeys, such as squawns, dylan and malps. On the coast, we were fascinated by flocks of pelican and macaw parrots feeding on almonds. We have been positioning other trail camera with a special monitoring team in the places they have identified for us. A total of 12 trail camera on the ground and 5 trail cameras on trees were planted here. Our expectations of the footage could begin, and the jaguar video drive was launched.





# EYE OF JAGUARA

## CAG GUANACASTE

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CAG Guanacaste is a unique combination of three national parks – Santa Rosa, Guanacaste and Rincon de la Vieja. These territories form several unique ecosystems, from the underwater zone, through mangrove forests, beaches with sea turtle beams, to dry tropical forests that pass into the mountain mist forest surrounding volcanic craters. Just magical.

However, it is not only nature that is worthy of admiration here. The main thing here is the system of protection, leadership and cooperation, which does not forget about education, working with communities or the guard service itself. The head of research, Mr. Roger Blanco, came to us from the very beginning with great willingness and we were able to launch another monitoring mission with Leonel and the NAMA Conservation team already known to us.



During the week, we again put-up trail camera here and had the opportunity to get to know the uniqueness of the local organization.

We were introduced to the PEB educational program, To Maria Marta and her program for the protection and restoration of mangrove forests, and her educational mission. Roger Blanco gave us a great lecture on the entire CAG Guanacaste functionality system, and we just looked incredulously that somewhere it was just going on. A very respected personality of the whole park is the American biologist Daniel Jansen, whose name is mentioned here in all cases. The only part of the protection that they do not have so clearly elaborated here is the protection of the marine zone of the national park, and that was our area of discussion.

Thanks to Leonel's excellent organization and the willingness of the Santa Rosa national park management, we took the PEB educational bus to Puntarenas's port one day to see the Adventure boat, which was for sale, and we had an appointment here with its owner Mr. Luciano. The first encounter with the ship was positive, its premises perfect, but the condition of the engine room very uncertain.





We also visited Papagayo Bay, where we looked at the possible future berth of „our“ ship and met Kevin, a nice guy who was supposed to introduce us to the future possible sponsor Rex Hamilton, whom we wanted to address for support for the ship, i.e., rather to repair it. We also became acquainted with several other projects and protected areas – we became acquainted with the work of forest firefighters, we visited a forest nursery or a volcano in the Rincon de la Vieja National Park.

Everything was well organized. The mascot of our expeditions was the donkey Charlie, who was a well-known figure here. Our returns to the property have been spiced up with the detection of tenants in the form of scorpion, tarantulas or snakes in showers. Every day was unique and unrepeatable. But the main experience was yet to come.



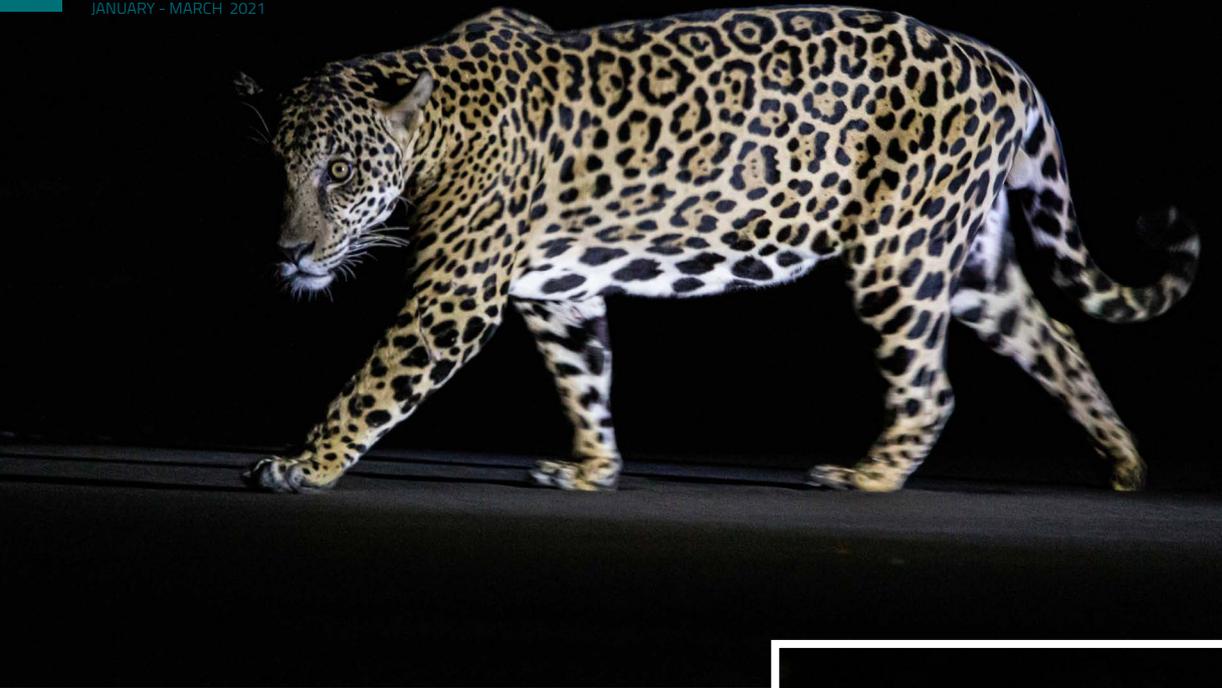
## ENCOUNTER OF JAGUAR

One day we set out for two days of monitoring and filming on the seaside in the Narancho area. We were accompanied by heat, dust, brutally bumpy car and lots of fun. Our expedition was headed to one of the coastal stations where we stayed.

The magic of the beach here amazed us, as did the magnificent views from the rocks to the ocean, the huge cacti, flocks of pelican, or the jaguar tracks on the beach that always led past the dead sea turtles that jaguars naturally feed on here. Despite the fact that they hunt here, on the contrary, they prevent peccary pigs or coyotes from digging up turtle eggs, so in the end it is such a strange symbiosis of turtles and jaguars.

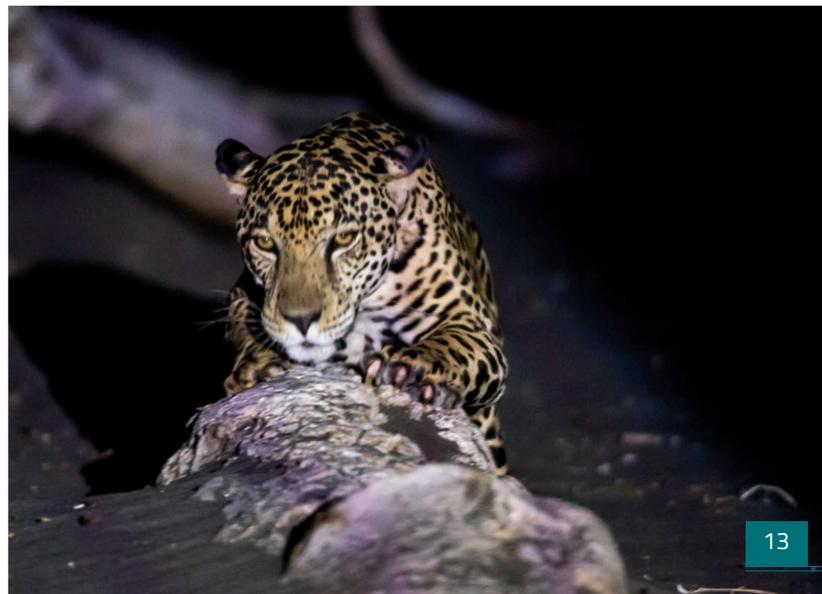
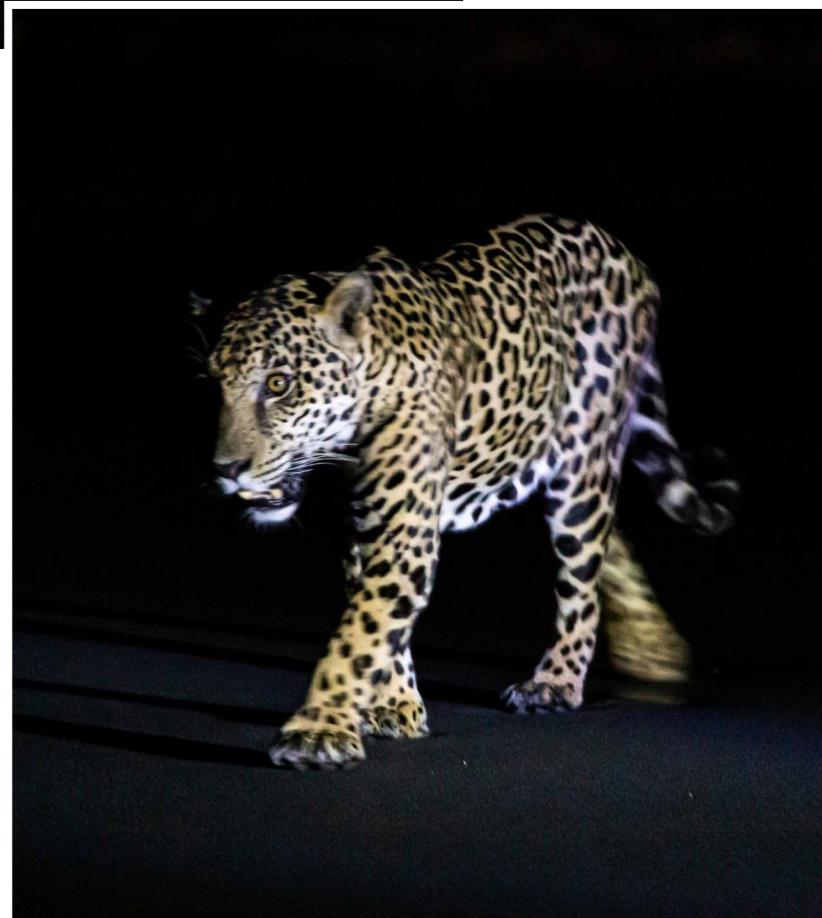


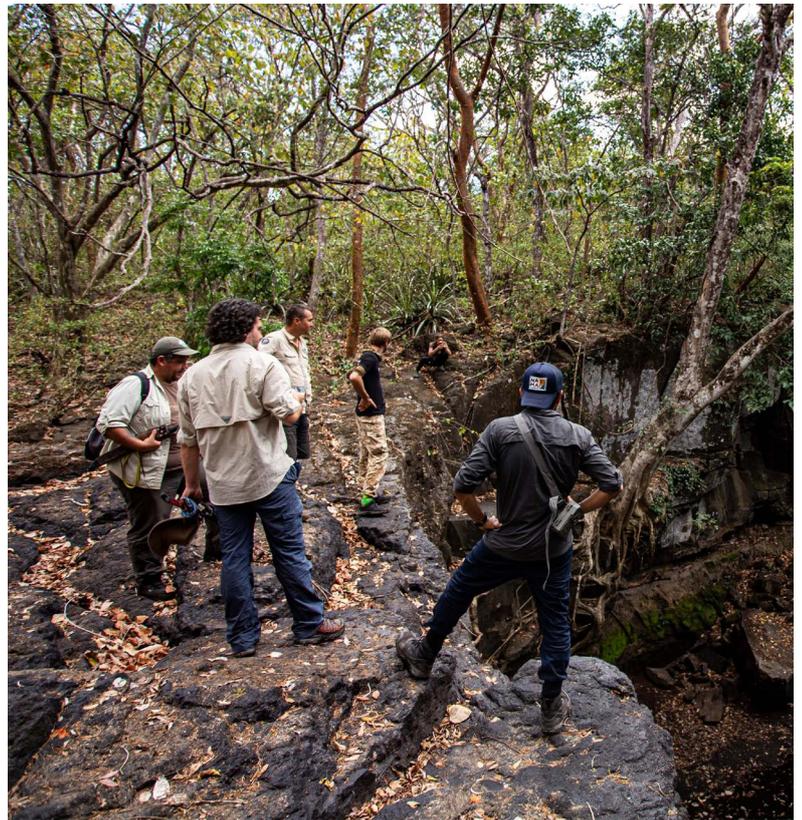




When it got dark, we were ready to hit the beach for turtles, but also for the chance to see a hunting jaguar. As much as we did not believe it at first, the big moment came. After 9:00, Kevin Lloyd came running in and said there was a jaguar on the beach. We quickly packed up our cameras and headed for the beach. We thought our chances were slim, but the opposite became true. The jaguar was sitting on the beach a few hundred meters away, his eyes shining against the light of the batteries. Then he disappeared into the mangroves.

We thought it was over, but again, we were wrong. While we were sitting on washed-up wood on the beach, the jaguar came back and walked past us completely without fear. We were completely surprised by his behavior, how he basically ignored us and went after his goal, that is, to find turtles. He walked past us like this about 4 times in a few hours and gave us the opportunity to photograph it and even film it thanks to the flashlights. We were closest to him about 10 meters away. That night, we felt like we were in paradise. After returning to the station, no one understood how beautiful photos we managed to take in the middle of the night on the beach on the shores of the Pacific Ocean.





During the week, we placed 13 trail cameras on the ground and 5 trail cameras on trees. We have been told that if there is a ship, they will work with us. Slowly but surely, a clear plan has begun to come to us that would exceed all our expectations and even existing sea protection programs in the context of education, monitoring and research in Costa Rica, or rather, across Central America.



## DECISION ABOUT SHIP ADVENTURE

On 16 and 17 March 2021 a planned check-up of ship Adventure with help of engineer from Modoc's ship from NGO Earthrace, who arrived with his girlfriend to help discover the faults and the actual condition of the ship.

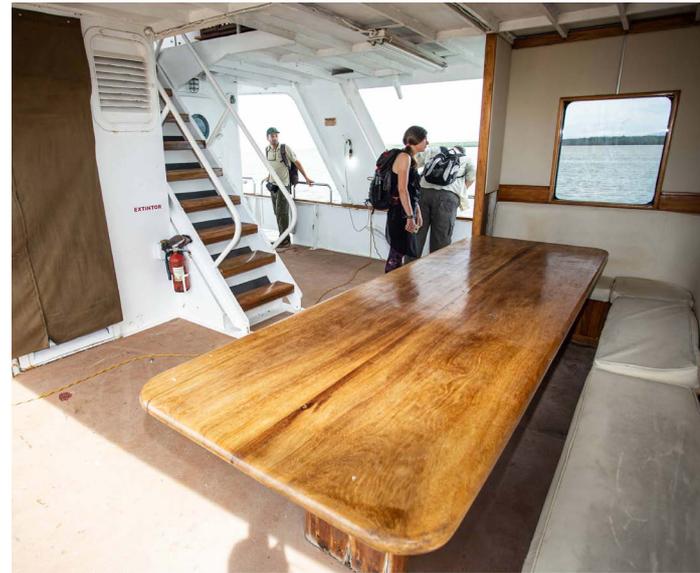
After two days of going through the ship and finding out the facts about its condition, we finally decided to take a chance, and if the thickness of the hull steel shell is tested satisfactorily, we will buy it. It was a big and responsible decision that the Forest Society could either bring to children a place in the sun as part of Costa Rica's conservation or a major financial problem.



The whole event was in a friendly spirit and we met other amazing people such as Natan and girlfriend Sharna. The next phase of negotiations with the owner took place again on 24 March in Puntarenas, where we agreed on the terms and conditions, and the entire transaction will be taken over by the legal department headed by lawyer Laura.

The next step is the so-called thickness test, the result of which will determine whether we buy the boat or cancel the whole thing. If purchased, there will be hull repair, coatings and then launching the ship on water and repairing the motor part, electricity distribution, steering, i.e. a complete repair leading to safe navigation. According to the agreement, this part of the repairs is already included in the ship's price of \$200,000, i.e. the association will not incur additional expenses, except for the thickness test itself and the ship's coatings.

Further repairs will then be up to us and will require approximately an additional \$80,000 for the ship to meet the requirements for educational, research and monitoring voyages. We have a big project ahead of us, which will be decided by the end of April.



## COLLECTION OF DATA FROM PHOTO TRAPS AT NP CORCOVADO AND ACG

In March, we continued to complete the first phase of trail camera data collection in all cooperating national parks, including the local Rancho Kemajo community, where we provided six trail cameras to the local community protecting peccary pigs from poachers.

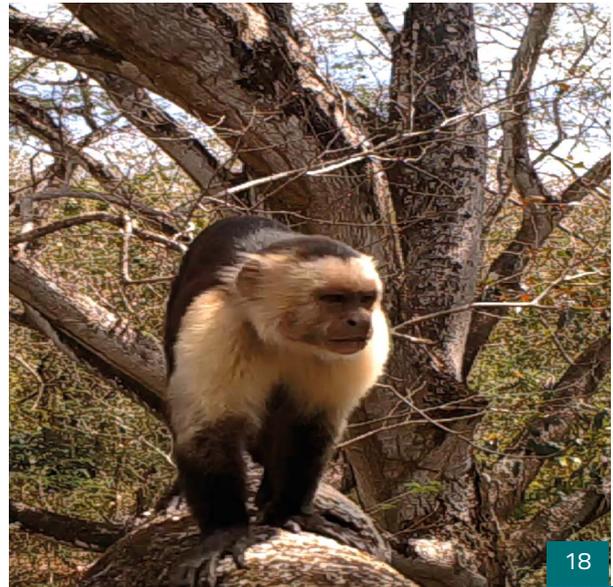
Our first results from Corcovado National Park were unique, although we did not get the quality shots of jaguars as we expected.

However, we had captured cougars, ocelots, tapirs and many other unique animals of the Costa Rica lowland rainforest ecosystem, including monkeys and birds in treetops.



Santa Rosa National Park, on the other hand, got us by the number of shots of jaguars and especially their number in coastal areas. Here, too, there were many interesting shots from the treetops, and we were able to say with satisfied that the first monthly phase of trail cameras monitoring really went well. In addition, we have established our interest in the management of Santa Rosa national park on possible coo





# 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF SANTA ROSA NATIONAL PARK

This big event took place on March 20, 2021 in Santa Rosa national park and we represented the Czech Republic not only as guests, but also as members of international cooperation on jaguar monitoring. The entire monitoring team met here, including the father of this activity, Eduardo Carrillo Jimenez Jimenez PhD. who confirmed interest in cooperating with our organization, which was a great honor for us.

On the occasion of this event, we handed over to the Santa Rosa National park management a large, framed photo of the jaguar taken by Zuzka during our last encounter with this beast on the beach in the middle of the night. Photography was a great success. At the same time, we met with the owner of the port in Papagayo Bay and gave him our proposal for cooperation and project vision. The whole event ended with a joint event with our scientific team, where we only confirmed the unique possibilities of cooperation. On 24 March 2021, the first phase of the Eye of the Jaguar project was officially completed, although monitoring under the leadership of the NAMÁ NGOs of course continues with our support in the form of 60 trail cameras.



# OUR BRANCH OF BOSQUE PARA LOS NIÑOS IN COSTA RICA

**Bosque para los Niños means Forest for Children in Spanish** and it is a new branch of our association in Costa Rica. On March 24, we met with a lawyer and signed charters aimed at establishing a branch of the Forest for Children association, which will legalize all our Green Life and Blue Life project activities in Costa Rica. The final creation with the approval of the authorities and the allocation of the number will take a maximum of one month, but we hope it will be sooner.





## GREEN LIFE COSTA RICA

In March 2021, we decided to create further Green Life project activities, this time in Costa Rica.

**On the border with Tapanti National Park in central Costa Rica, we buy 73 hectares of mountain mist forest from 84-year-old Mr José Robert, who is progressing his life's work of re-founding and rescuing a tropical valley at an altitude of 1100 m. The valley has two forest huts. In the future, a volunteer camp will be built here, and from July 2021 volunteer programs will be opened to the public, the content of which will be the construction of the centre, the monitoring program Eye of the Jaguar with the help of trail cameras, patrol activities and biodiversity research of the area.**



Preliminary three-week dates are listed for 3-23 July and 31 July to 20 August. Furthermore, research and educational programmes will take place here in co-operation with universities and schools.



All information can be found on **the website.**

# GREAT COOPERATION TO PROTECT THE OCEAN

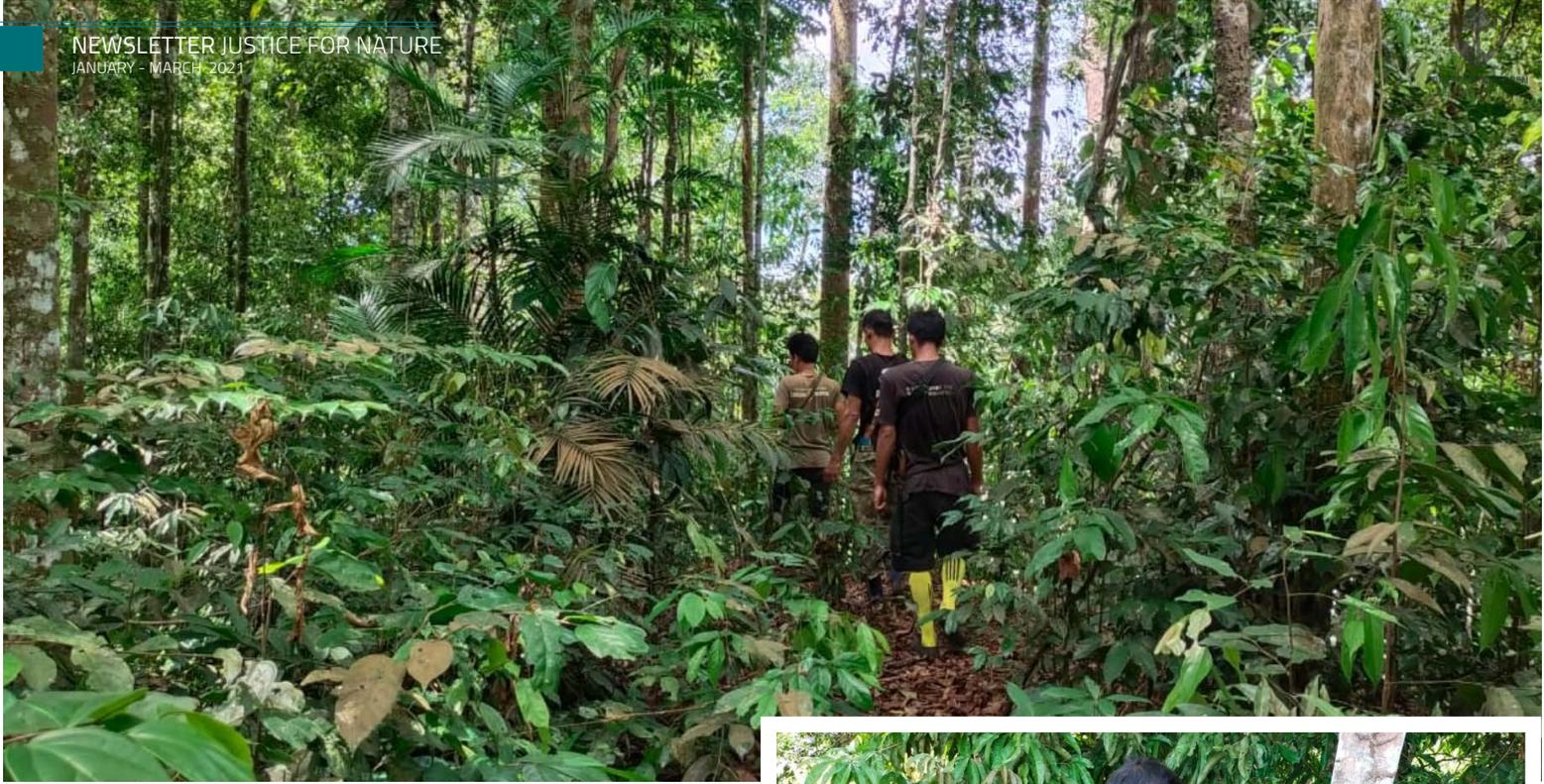
Our vision and, above all, the real funds and experience, that we bring to Costa Rica brought us to a unique meeting in San Jose, where representatives of the Forest for Children association Milan Jeglík and Zuzana Koloušková, deputy state Wildlife protection SINAC and head of the Association of Rangers for Central America Leonel Alon-



so Delgado Pereira, representatives of research and organization NAMÁ Juan Carlos Cruz and Victor Montalvo met at one table, former Director of Sea Shepherd for Central America and current Director of the For the Oceans Foundation Jorge Serendero and marine biologist Daniel Arauz - Naranjo, son of the most famous marine biologists in Costa Rica and perhaps even all of Central America. What better way to call this crew than dream team!

We unfortunately missed the director of research of the Santa Rosa National Park, Mr. Roger Blanco and Maria Marta, biologist and lecturer of marine education programs for children. At this meeting, we agreed to cooperate and send out the draft, which Zuzka sent to everyone present on April 1, 2021, and a final meeting should take place on April 19, which will sign the official cooperation of all participants in The Ocean School program. By then, it will be extremely clear whether the Adventure will be our project vessel or not.





## SUMATRAN NEWS

While the management of the Forest for Children association is located in Costa Rica to create, in cooperation with Leonen Alonso Delgado Pereira, a branch of the association called Bosque para los Niños and parallel projects Green Life Costa Rica and Blue Life Costa Rica, in Sumatra, Zbyněk Hrábek, the Indonesian organization Yayasan Hutan Untuk Anak, and the anti-poaching patrols Green Patrol and Blue Patrol continue long-standing projects of the same name in the rainforest of the Leuser ecosystem and in the Pulau Banyak archipelago in the Indian Ocean.



**So, what's the news going on there?**





One of the biggest project successes at present is the cessation of the tiger that killed cows in Bohorok district between November 2020 and January 2021, which also concerned the immediate surroundings of our neighborhood village of Batu Katak. He killed 15 cows, and no one believed that his bloody ride could be stopped other than tragically, that someone would kill him, poison him, or that he would be officially caught and relocated. Where? no one knew. All we knew was that we were going to fight to keep him out of the zoo. Zbyněk Hrábek and our entire Sumatran team worked tirelessly to prevent this from happening. In the case of capture, we proposed the use of a telemetry collar, and after the release of intensive monitoring of the tiger's movements. In the event that he leaves his natural habitat of the Gunung Leuser National Rainforest and its protection zones, including our Green Life Reserve, an alarm would be triggered and a subsequent departure leading to the tiger to scare him back.



We developed a realistically functional plan that needed strong financial start-up support, which we applied for as part of the IRF membership in the form of a grant from The Thin Green Line Foundation. However, we could not wait to see if anyone would notice our unique activity, because it was necessary to stop the tiger and save it at the same time.



Our team waited hundreds of hours in the field, nightly timid events, monitoring, rain, sleeplessness, as well as the potential risk of a direct confrontation with the king of the forest. The whole mission was accompanied by human misunderstanding, disbelief, questioning and mistrust, which took away our energy, but the hope of saving „our” tiger, on the contrary, recharged us. The beautiful, strong and unique predator was regularly on our reserve, and we didn't want to let him disappear from our area just because farmers can't take care of their cows, which are tied up in the national park's protection zone unattended, without anyone caring. The tiger just went there like it was a party. A trapping cage was placed, in vain. Then the second, again in vain. The tiger has shown he is no fool. However, there was a danger that the next cow would be his last, for we were afraid that people were able to poison the tiger. The intensity of green patrols increased, and we didn't know if our rangers could carry more weight. They managed. Zbyněk requested our federal support for the construction of 5-10 cow enclosures,

which gradually began to work, and it turned out that they worked.

Some predicted that the tiger would start hunting during the day if the cows were in the enclosures for the night, but this did not happen. Today we have the beginning of April and for 2.5 months there has been no killing of a cow by a tiger, which can be considered a real victory for Zbyněk Hrábek and our team, in fact all of us who support this unique way of protecting Sumatran tigers. You could say that this is the first major tiger rescue that has exceeded all possibilities, because few believed it. As they say, never say never! We were successful.





The Green Patrol team also continues to monitor the Eye of the Tiger and, of course, to care for the reserve, maintenance of campsites, cutting paths, and is now demolishing the old French cottage to gradually transfer suitable material for use in the reconstruction of the Čolese cottage, which will become a guard post. They will have the hard work of carrying heavy material in difficult terrain.

In the meantime, Zbyněk Hrábek also focused on the Blue Life project, where we were forced to repair all the cottages of a volunteer beach camp because they were eaten by termites during a year of inactivity.

There was basically a complete reconstruction, which we had to do from the project finances, as most blue life members were going through a crisis economic due to covid and we thought we'd let them breathe in and do it ourselves. An incredible job was done by our Blue Patrol team, who were given a clear task – to save the Blue Life camp. However, this great and costly task has been accomplished and our island project paradise is alive. In addition, we are still able to financially support our Indonesian colleague Rius in his successful children's education program at a time when schools are closed.

What has failed so far is to complete the international non-profit Forest for Children, because coronavirus measures are throwing us under the bus, just like the Indonesian government, which is changing laws that restrict the emergence and operation of international non-profits. We must wait. Our legal team is working on it!

On the other hand, cooperation with universities is finally starting to build up, which is good news and, above all, one of the very important ways to change social habits, especially in relation to wildlife.

Finally, proof that the whole tiger mission is working, because at the last monitoring before the trail cameras, our amazing male tiger has appeared to us, which became a menace to the surroundings, but we know that is different. As long as the tiger has enough feral pigs, sambar deer or muntjacs in the forest, until then it does not need to leave its safe territories and hunt cows. This is our great on-going mission to show the local people that poachers end up robbing them all, not just tigers, of their natural prey, thus opposing the approval of poaching.

Even though our project wings are stretching to other countries, Green Life and Blue Life in Sumatra will always be the top of our unique journey, which is supported by people precisely because it makes sense to everyone.

We can support our projects one-on-one or regularly. We thank you for any financial support.



## EYE OF A BEAR

The first three months of 2021 were refreshing for our field team in a way. We managed to get numerous interesting film footage, but it is equally important for systematic monitoring. The one in Kremnica mountains has been going on since 2018, and since then it has transformed into the activities that were most needed in the field at that moment, depending on the circumstances and needs. Despite the fact that our main task is audio-visual and genetic monitoring of large beasts, a kind of research and documentary activity at the same time, we have before us a number of other equally important tasks.

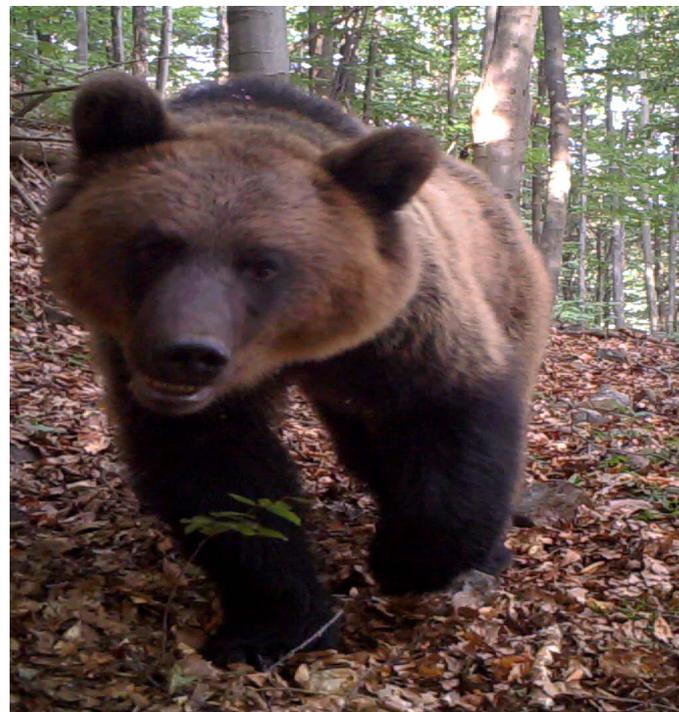
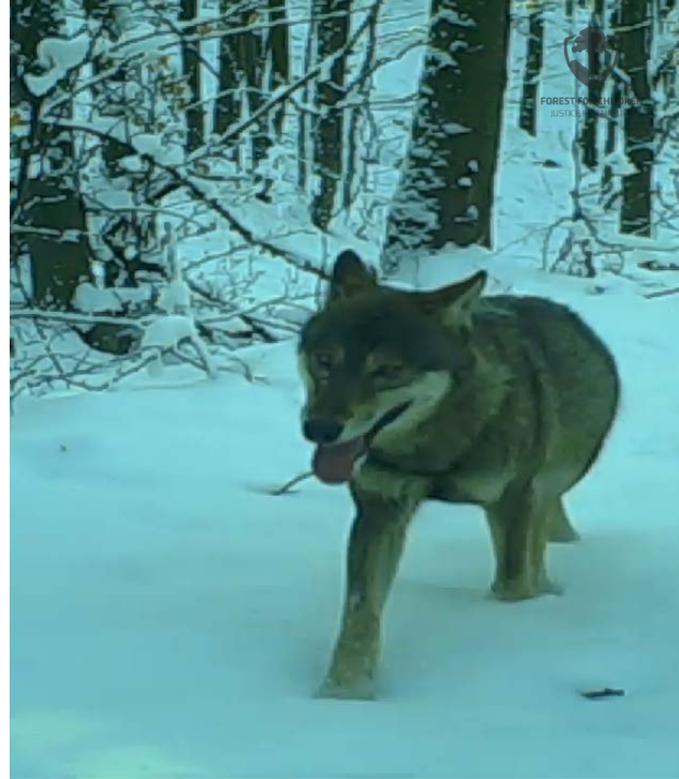
As in the previous few months, we continue to map and monitor individual migration barriers between Kremnica hills and the Štiavnice Hills. Monitoring of these sites in question is important in the matter of the planned construction of the field, the fate of which is still unclear. Of course, these data can also help prevent disruption of the migration routes of game. As we know, the most common causes of death of wildcats (*Felis silvestris*) include collision with a car. And from our own experience, we can already say that there is a migration of game between these two territories. We believe that trail cameras will bring us important data, which we will then be able to pass on to ŠOP SR employees. In the past, our images have also become an important part of the initiatives issued by the SR Nature Protection Board, and in addition they have appeared in opinions related to the construction of before mentioned fields.



At the beginning of March, our team, independently of the SR SAO, sent an investigation into the finding of an illegal snare. Just a few meters from the modernly furnished seating, the remains of dairy products were found.

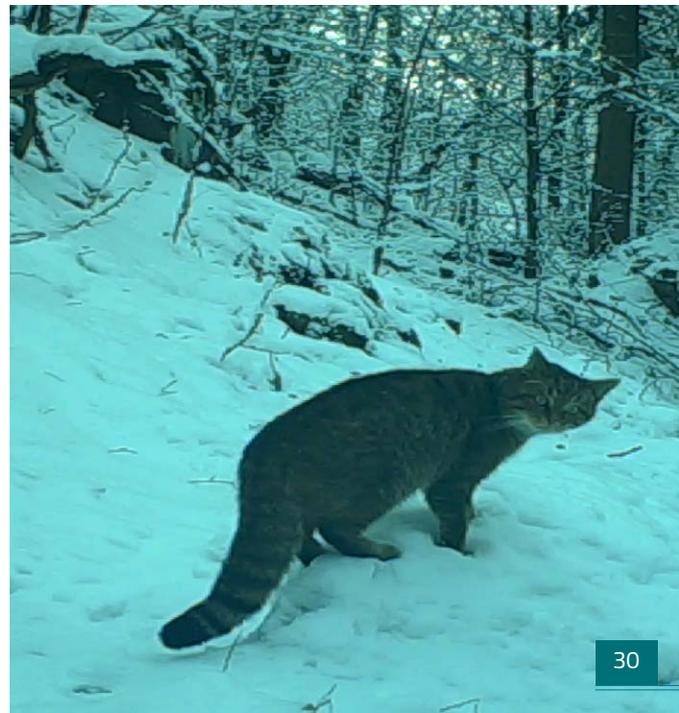
According to the latest information, this case is dealt with by the Slovak Hunting Chamber. At the turn of March and April, our team sends another complaint to investigate. This time it is the discovery of mandarins and an excessive number of beets in two different chases. Our team not only has field experience related to the installation of trail cameras, but gradually improves in the knowledge of the necessary legislation that it applies when writing such stimuli. We have dealt with a total of five individual cases where several laws and regulations have been violated, three of which we dealt with in cooperation with the SR SAP and their staff, and two of them were reported independently to the competent authorities on behalf of OZ Prales det'om.





Since the beginning of 2021, our team has been able to regularly obtain footage of all four monitored beasts – brown bears (*Ursus arctos*), wolves (*Canis lupus*), lynx and wildcats (*Felis silvestris*). We gradually process this data into tables and maps, gradually creating a general overview of their occurrence and migration in individual areas of the Kremnica Hills.

At the moment, our team has approximately 450 demonstrable evidence of the presence of large beasts.



At the end of March and April, three members of the field team completed the first part of a tree climbing course, which they can also use during other monitoring programs within the Eye of the Earth in the future. During this period, our team also spent several hours in the field with a new contact worker from the SR, Jaroslav Slašťan, with whom he placed two trail cameras in the field, and in the future, he will communicate with him about individual monitoring procedures and will gradually pass on the results of monitoring to him.





photo: Martin Valica

One of the biggest shifts in the whole eye of Bear is the completion of the documentary **film Eye of Bear by the film team from Perun Cinematic (directed by Peter Bursa, camera Jakub Mičuch)**, who over the past year participated in several of our field trips in order to make a comprehensive film, not only about our monitoring team as such, but also about negative experiences with hunters' activities, which often go beyond the limits of applicable laws and decrees.

**The film will have premiere on April 27, 2021 as part of the Ekotopfilm International Film Festival.** This year it takes place from 26 to 30 April online via the festival's Facebook profile, and is completely free of charge. Movies will be available to watch until May 2, but unfortunately only from Slovak IP addresses, so if you do not meet this, we recommend using a VPN.

## **Eye of the Bear (2021), SK,** directed by Petr Bursa and Jakub Mičuch

*„The documentary Eye of Bear reveals the hidden life of the Slovak wilderness. The ecosystem of the forest has its own balance, and it is disturbed by man. In the documentary, a team of young creators reveals the disproportionate practices of modern hunters. By feeding, they change the natural habits of the game, increase the risk of transmission of diseases and break the law. Large beasts introduce them to human food, so they literally invite them to human dwellings.*

*Monitoring of large beasts is carried out by the Association Prales det'om SK / Prales to children CZ with the help of the State Nature Protection of the Slovak Republic. In the documentary from Kremnica Hills, we learn more about the way of life of wild animals and follow their mysterious lives with the help of exclusive photos.“*

[The dicumentary here.](#)



photo: Martin Valica



Due to pandemic measures, volunteer programmes are being moved to the summer months, yet three volunteers from Slovakia took part in the last march tour with us. In mid-May, we will continue to monitor and map individual migration barriers, to monitor the surroundings of bentonite quarries and quarries with perlite and pucolan, and last but not least, to investigate activities in violation of the Nature Conservation Act and the Hunting Act.

We also partnered with Grizly.cz company, which provided our employees with healthy field snacks, but more about this in the following post:





## FIRST PARTNER FOR EYE OF BEAR

Our monitoring program Eye of the Bear in Slovakia has its first partner, and to match it nicely, it is the Czech online store GRIZLY. Cz.

Grizly.cz, who specializes in the sale of healthy foods and various seed and nut delicacies, decided to become a partner of our association, both by financially supporting the purchase of trail cameras and by donating snacks for our team and volunteers as part of the Eye of the Bear monitoring in Slovakia.

We are pleased that Grizly.cz, whose products are nutritious and tasty, has been added to our list of cooperating and supportive companies, and they are simply ideal snacks for demanding terrain and not only there.

You can find out more about Grizly.cz our cooperation on their bear blog here:





## TRAIL CAMERAS FOR THE EYE OF THE BEAR

The Eye of Bear in Slovakia was also supported by the Slovak [EFOTOPASCE.SK](http://EFOTOPASCE.SK) and [EFOTOPASTI.EU](http://EFOTOPASTI.EU), which gave our monitoring program 4 different trail cameras:

- Suntek HC 801A
- Welltar 7350 MMS/GSM
- Welltar 7310 PRO
- Welltar 7330 MCW 940nm



**EFOTOPASCE.SK**  
ŠPECIALISTI NA FOTOPASCE



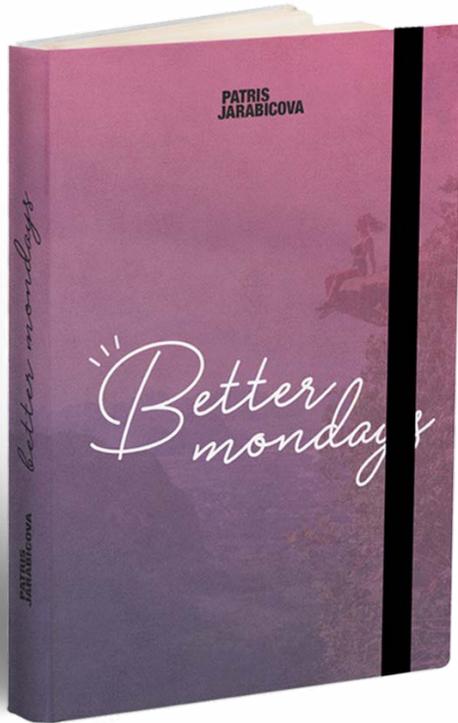
**EFOTOPASTI.EU**  
SPECIALISTI NA FOTOPASTI

They learned about our monitoring project Eye of the Earth through our long-term partner Fotopast.cz.

Trail cameras are an essential building block of our monitoring. They help us to further determine the population of large beasts in Slovakia in cooperation with the SAO SR. We also use the footage for the education of the public and youth, as well as evidence of the existence of beasts in areas with planned mining. The records of trail cameras and the residence signs of the beasts have a great influence on the decision to allow or reject mining in the area.

Join the Eye of the Earth monitoring project and support us with financial support for the purchase of trail cameras at one of our monitoring programmes such as The Eye of the Bear in Slovakia, The Eye of the Tiger in Sumatra, The Eye of the Jaguar in Costa Rica or the upcoming Eye of bear II programmes in Georgia, or the Eye of the Snow Leopard in Kyrgyzstan.

All the footage obtained will serve to create the world project Ethics of the Earth.



## BETTER MONDAYS

Another demonstration of beautiful support. This time from the traveller and promoter of healthy lifestyle and food **Patrícia Jarabíková**.

Patrícia volunteered at our Green Life Reserve in Sumatra in 2020, and when she became familiar with the situation with her own eyes, whether through poaching activities or the extent of palm plantations, she decided to try to help in the future.

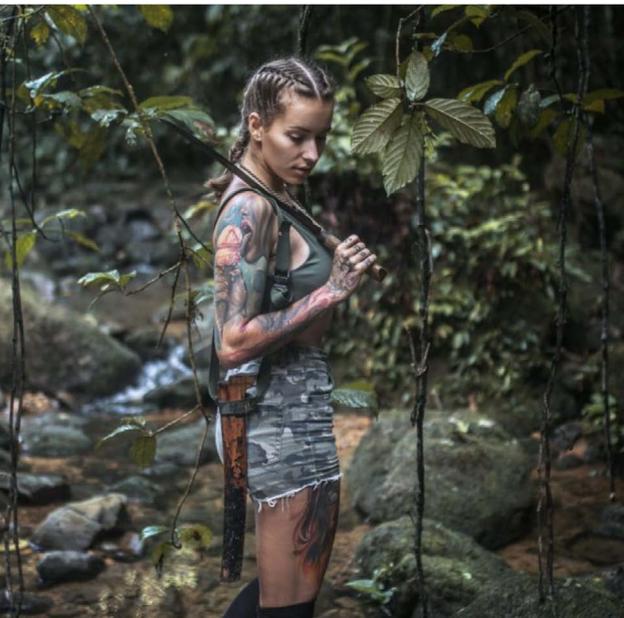
On her travels around the world, she created a beautiful and engaging notebook called Better Mondays, and from its sale she decided to donate 10% to our organization, especially the Green Life project in Sumatra.

**Patrícia had already managed to get €2,000 from the sale and it also involved her father in the challenge, who sent an additional €1,000 from his company.** This financial support will be used to build a second watch-tower at the Green Life Reserve in Sumatra.

If you would like to support Patrícia and thus our project, notebooks are still available here: [Better Mondays](#).

We would like to thank Patrícia, her father and her customers for their help and a beautiful example for others.

photo: Patrícia Jarabíková





## INVITATION TO THE 10<sup>TH</sup> GREEN LIFE PARTY

Even though it is now a difficult time to plan something and to be able to meet freely and peacefully at all, we dare to come up with a plan to organize our traditional **Green Life party**, which has been one of our inherent social activities for many years. We believe that in June the pandemic measures will be sufficiently loose, so we cordially invite you to the tenth Green Life party, which will take place in the Lhotka area in the Highlands (Lidmaň 1, 395 01).

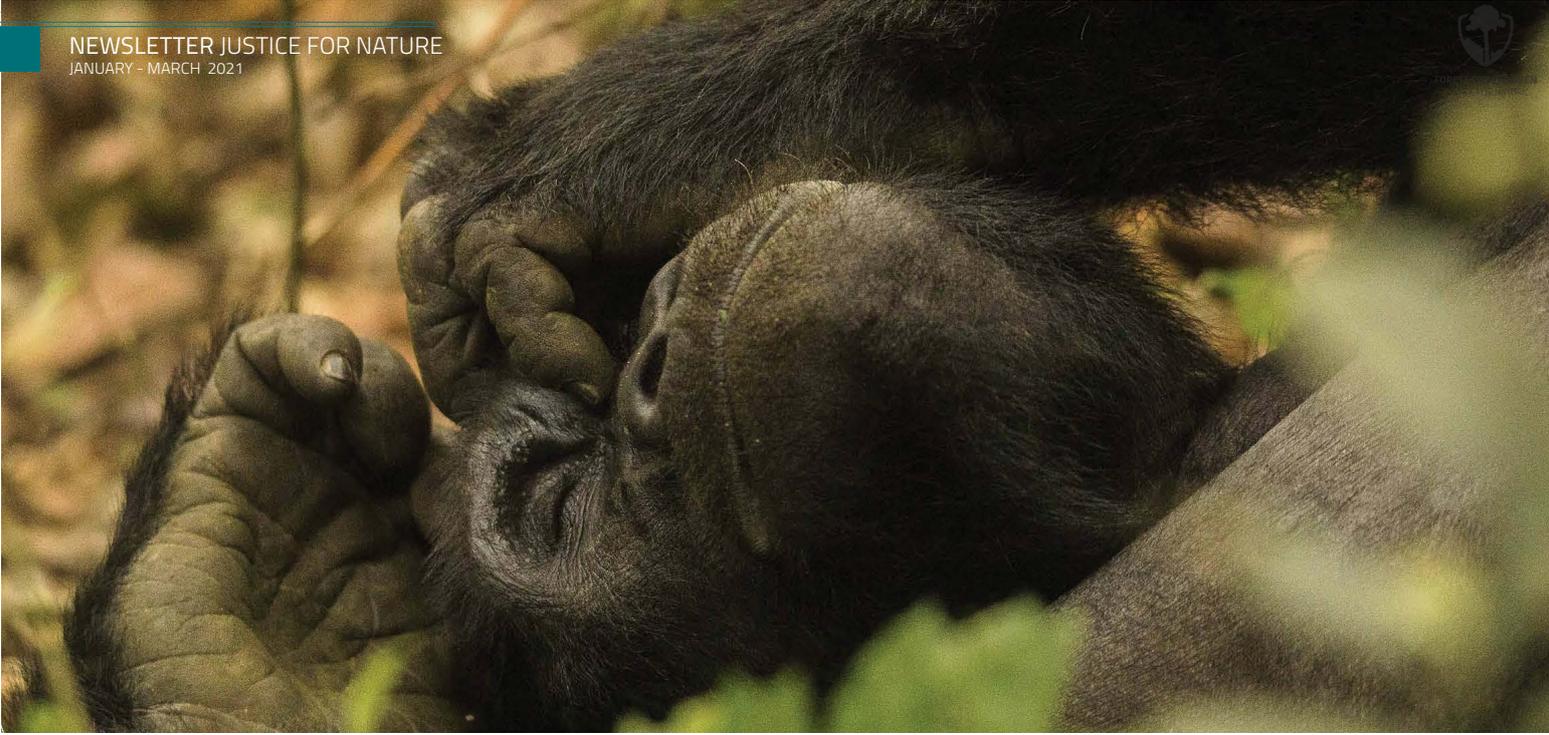
The program will again be rich, especially for lectures and sports activities, for which this area is made. Come and meet great people and, above all, come up with other ideas, soak up positive energy and the opportunity to participate in exceptional projects across the world.

Those interested in participating can apply by e-mail [info@pralesdetem.cz](mailto:info@pralesdetem.cz) . More information, including the program, can be found on our website [here](#).

Price for the whole weekend stay: **600 CZK** (accommodation and drink)

- the food is paid for by each participant himself and is provided on the premises through our long-time friends, members of the association and excellent chefs Veronika and Karel from Mikulov VeggieDick.





## EYE OF THE GORILLA - DR KONGO

During the months of January to March, a decision was to be made on how to deal with the partnership with CAF Congo on the Eye of the Gorilla project in DR Congo. This organization was represented by Jean Claude Ndakasi, whom we met at the 9th World Congress of IRF Rangers in Nepal in November 2019, and where he gained our trust. Already in September 2020, monitoring equipment, including 13 trail cameras, were moved from Ziwa Rhino Sanctuary from Uganda, from the completed Eye of Rhino monitoring program to neighbouring DR Congo. Gradually, other equipment such as rechargeable pencil batteries, GPS, metal protective boxes and locks, or SD cards were delivered there. For a total of about \$4000. Since November 2020, we have been informed that the monitoring is being launched in Tayna national park and we were tensely awaiting the first results, which were due to come just before the end of January. But we waited in vain. On the contrary, we began to get warnings from other rangers from DR Congo about the unfair practicality of our partner from CAF Congo. Jean Claude reacted very irritatingly and told us that it was the corrupt rangers who were trying to attack him and smear him in our eyes. After that, he presented us with only more and more excuses and demands for money. We warned him that further support could come only after the submission of positive results from gorilla monitoring and reports on the work of the guardians. There have been some unsuccessful monitoring attempts. However, we did not get very valuable wildlife shots until the end of February.

Obviously, we have been deceived and manipulated in the knowledge that the possibility of remote control of CAF Congo's activities is very complicated. So, we untied our cooperation with CAF Congo and requested in writing the transfer of trail cameras and entire accessories to the Kisimba Ikobo Primate Reserve, where we communicated with Alain Mitondo for a long time. Finally, at the end of March, we wrote a message on the Facebook page of the IRF Member Forum, where a great deal of scust was torn down, which was dealt with only at the main headquarters of individual continents. Our report highlighted the strange practices of JCN and CAF Congo, which are based on name and membership of the IRF. We also sent a report on the incident to IRF President Chriss Gillier of South Africa and the leadership of the African Guardians Association. The case is under investigation and we hope there will be a fair solution that will make it impossible for JCN to benefit from support and contributions from the IRF and The Thin Green Line Foundation. No one should abuse the trust of IRF members for their personal gain, and we stand by that. The whole problem will be resolved between April and May 2021.



## CONCLUSION

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While the Czech Republic closed in lockdown during the first three months of this year, we had the opportunity to create in Costa Rica, monitor jaguars and create a unique opportunity for Czech and Slovak volunteers to continue helping and cooperating on the protection of the world's nature.

The Eye of the Jaguar team monitored in Central America, the Eye of the Bear team worked diligently in Slovakia, and the monitoring team and the green patrol collected data from the life of wild animals as part of the Eye of the Tiger program in Sumatra. The only monitoring mission that fails to kick-start is the Eye of the Gorilla in DR Congo, showing us in the coming months whether it will even make sense to promote nature conservation in this country, despite the fact that there are such unique creatures as lowland gorillas. Perhaps it will work for the benefit of these rare and endangered apes. We'll see. It should be noted, however, that the first three months of 2021 were again exceptionally successful for the Forest for children Association.

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