

- NEWSLETTER -

JUSTICE FOR NATURE

JANUARY-MARCH
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PRALES D'ÉTÉ
JUSTICE FOR NATURE

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INTRODUCTION

The beginning of 2022 was once again very progressive, and we could actively send it in Costa Rica on our ongoing project Green Life II. While Sumatran projects were stumbling more and more with budgets thanks to absence of volunteering programs and collapse of public support, on the other hand Costa Rican projects was heading for successful days.

Volunteer programs in reservation were taking turns with very useful help for national parks, monitoring continued with new trail cameras with great results, and we made a realistic plan for new project Blue Life II in Costa Rica and Pacific Ocean. Awareness of our activities were spreading fast and interest in cooperation that we did not have to wait for long. On the contrary Slovakian monitoring program, after successful season 2021, got a little bit stuck on non-renewed contracts on cooperation for Operation Migration with ŠOP SR and MŽP SR, which focused more on reform of national parks and events on Ukraine.

It could be said that 2022 started very successfully and wildly at the same time, as the on-going social crisis grew into an economic and security crisis, which in general is never good news for nature conservation.

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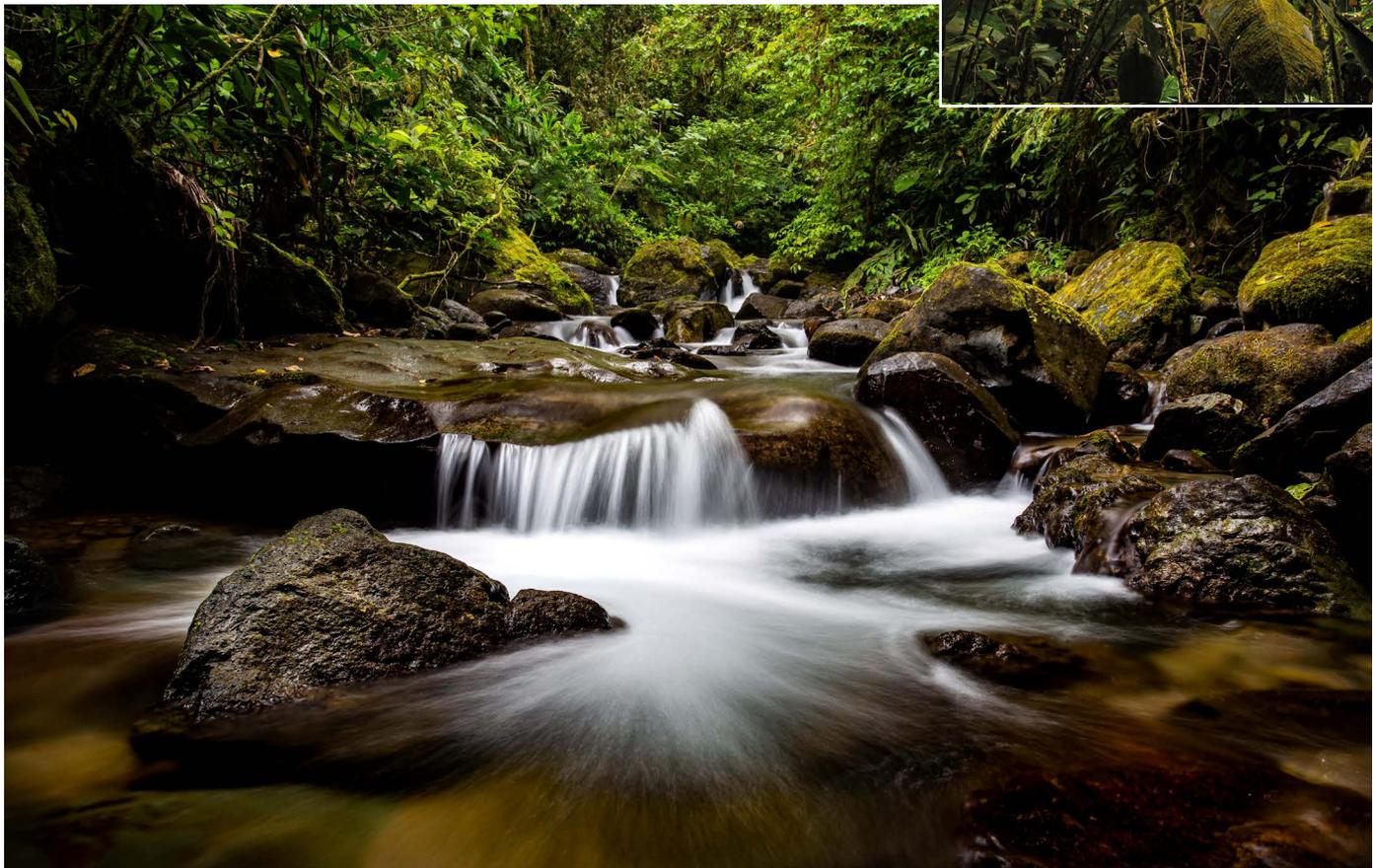
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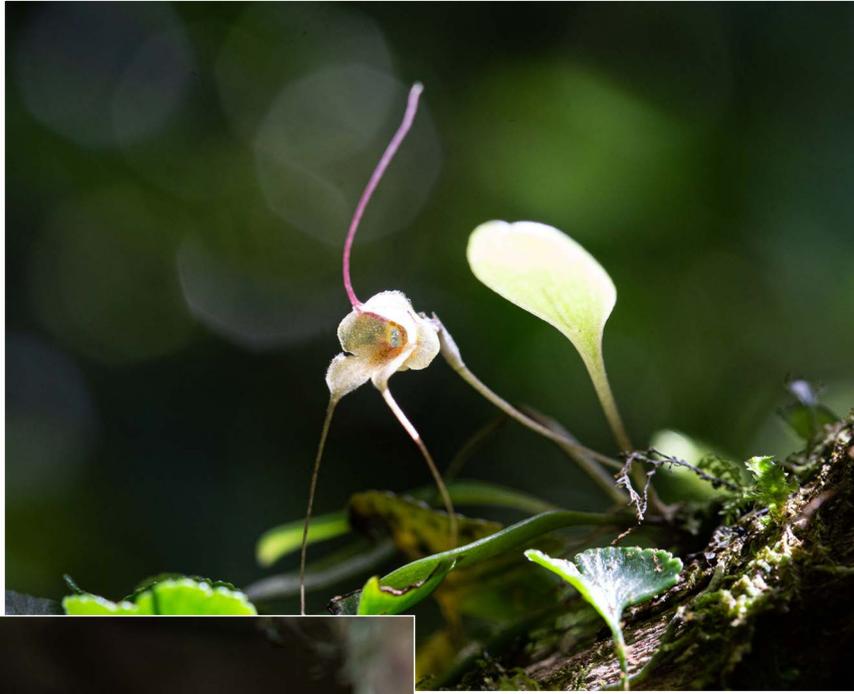
RESERVATION EXTENSION TO COSTA RICA

During January 2022, the Green Life II reservation was expanded from 95ha to a fantastic 154ha. As a result, the reservation has grown incredibly and one of the benefits is that we have also extended the protection of the Tapanti NP border.

Two new trail cameras have been placed in the area of the new plots and we are waiting for the results by June 2022. In addition, during January to March, the reservation turned out to be a real gem for the occurrence of rare orchids, of which there are at least over 150 species in our reservation, including few probably unknown species.

We would like to thank all our sponsors of Green Life II project in Costa Rica and the supporters of forest rescue. If we add up "our" project forest in Sumatra (175.5 ha) and Costa Rica (154 ha), and it is a great 329.5 ha and that is a great result of joined effort and support of the general public and sponsors of the Prales Dětém association (Rainforest for children) – Justice for Nature Initiative.

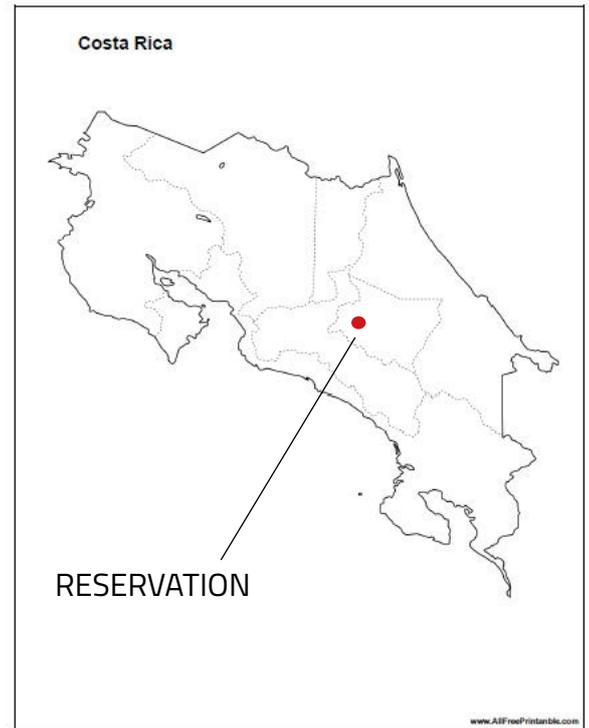




MAP OF RESERVATION

We are currently waiting for the official focus of the reservation from Costa Rican topographer, so we assume that in the next issue of our newsletter we will publish a map with exact boundaries of our reservation and surrounding land, including the neighboring Tapanti National Park and El Copal Reserve.

Here we attack an indicative assessment. The reserve is located between the towns of Orosi in the west and Pejibaye in the east in the province of Cartago [here](#).

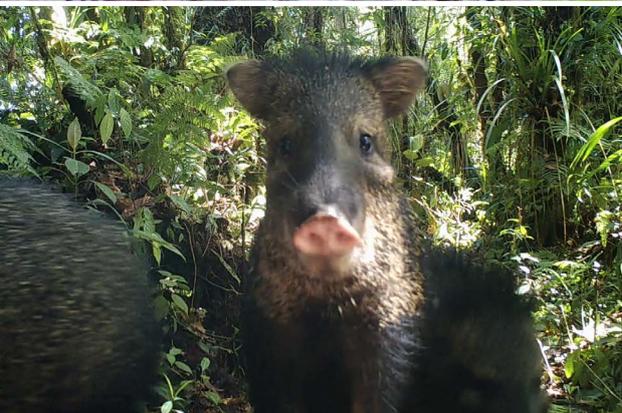


MONITORING IN RESERVATION GREEN LIFE II

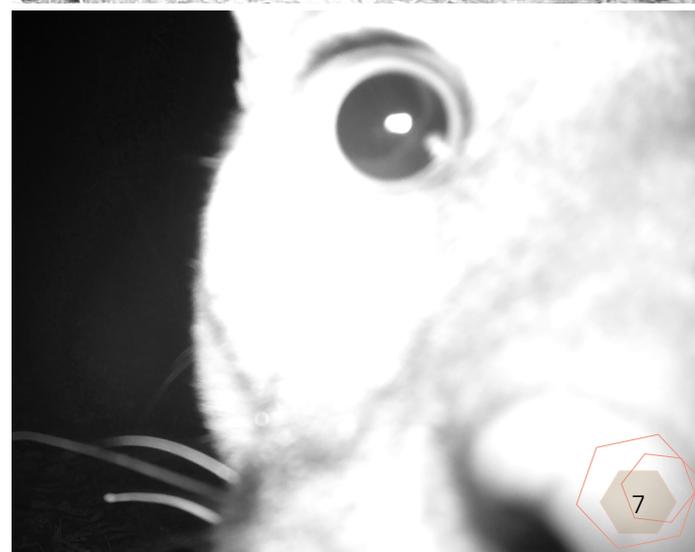
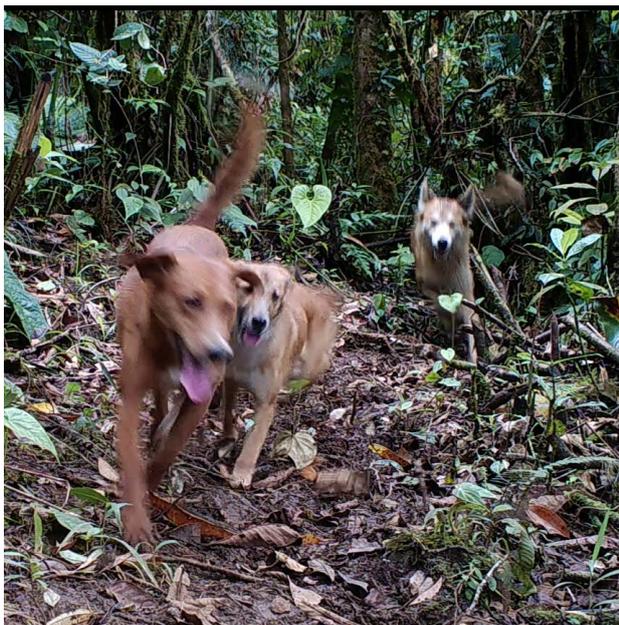
The Eye of the Jaguar Monitoring Program has had a great three months of obtaining data from the lives of wild species with one single flaw in beauty, which is the fact that the king of the Central American jungle - the jaguar - has not yet appeared in our area.

Instead, however, we detected the presence of five American puma, three of which appear in our country on a regular basis. Furthermore, ocelot trees, long tailed and large, this is the jewel of our reservation. It is a great pleasure to discover two places with tapirs, a large male and a female. Biodiversity in our reserve is unique and there are also Mexican ants, armadillos, and agouti and paky.

The only shadow came from the discovery that the neighboring El Copal Reserve was dominated by a three-member pack of wild stray dogs, which became a real threat to small mammals not only there, but also in our reserve. From August 2021 to March 2022, these dogs were observed on trail cameras in the El Copal Reserve 75 times and their interest is evidently hunting, so they critically threaten wild animals. We will have to solve this situation in the future in cooperation with the SINAC state protection.



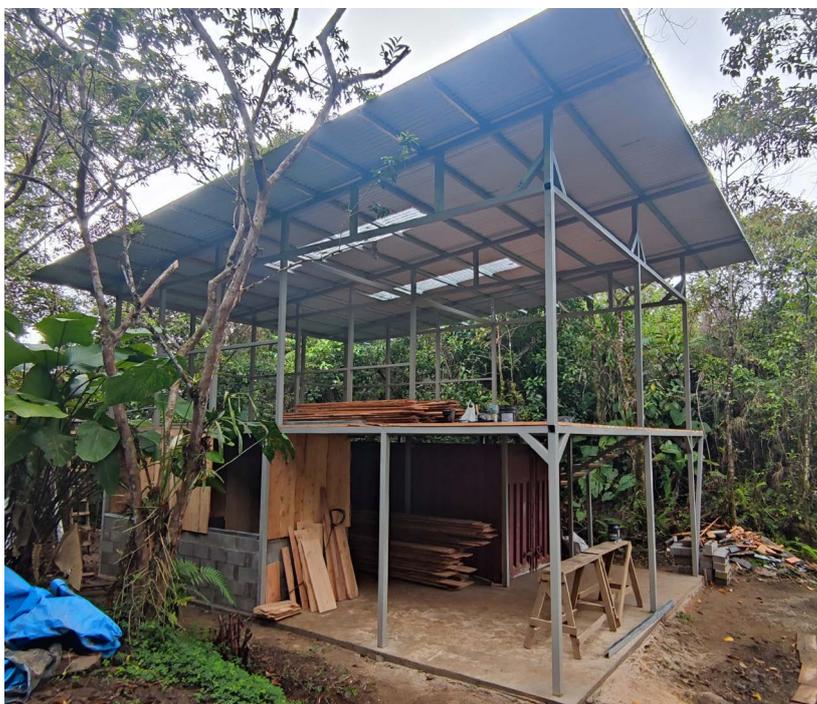
An important finding is that our reservation is not attacked by poaching, which is true of all the places we monitor. Not a single trail camera has been lost or destroyed. UV Green trail cameras proved to be unsuitable for monitoring, just as KeepGuard did not work for us. The top photo traps are OXE Wi-Fi Hunter and Bunaty Mini, both with 4K resolution with minimal failure. We are monitoring the reservation with 25 photo traps and another six are in the neighboring reservations of El Copal and La Marta. Three trail cameras are monitoring in Palo Verde NP and eight trail cameras have been helping to monitor tapirs in Braulio Carillo NP since March. In March, we began negotiations with the Victoria Ranger Association of Australia, which is interested in supporting the purchase of 100 OXE Wi-Fi hunter traps with accessories for our emerging Jaguar Eye monitoring in the Talamanca Cordillera, and possibly even in Guatemala, but as this turns out, will see in the coming months. The Jaguar Eye monitoring program is definitely up and running.



VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMS IN COSTA RICA

Since December 2021 till March 2022 were four volunteering programs for Green Life II project.

During that time, a really big piece of work was done, which brought the reservation a major development. One of the most important works is the construction of a new cottage, which will serve the Prales association for children and project partners. An old shipping container was discovered in the reservation, which is in good condition and was used for this construction.





Part of the program was mainly monitoring with the help of trail cameras, not only in the Green Life II reservation, but also in the La Marta and El Copal reservations, with which we established cooperation last year. Further monitoring has begun in Palo Verde National Park. There was no lack of cutting old trails or creating new ones. New reservation places were emerging, the camp was maintained and there were also endless debates on ethical issues related to our civilization and human society... Each group of volunteers together with us, visited the Hacienda Orosi thermal baths, which provide us with a significant discount for volunteers, for which we thank them very much. The inclusion of rafting on the Pejibaye River has also become a novelty, and volunteers have also been involved in planting trees along deforested banks or cleaning up parts of the river from rubbish.

ON THE UNIQUES OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS NATIONAL PARTS ASSOCIATED TO NATIONAL PARKS

With the first group, we had the opportunity to visit the Braulio Carillo National Park, where the volunteers helped with the repair of the old guard station, which currently serves as a background for volunteers and potential researchers or monitoring teams. The volunteers also helped build a new viewpoint over the volcanic lake Barva and of course, also got a glimpse into the secrets of the local mountain fog forest. With other groups, we visited the north, the Palo Verde National Park, which is an important bird area included in the Ramsar Convention.





The main task here was to help the guards with the restoration of information signs, the construction of a new shelter by the river Tempisque, the repair of the guard station at the entrance and the restoration of a new footbridge to the wetland. There was also monitoring with the help of trail cameras in this deciduous tropical forest.

The most amazing achievement of the programs is the direct two-day participation of volunteers in fighting a forest fire in the Lomas Barbudal Biological Reserve.



Extinguishing fires was not only challenging, but mainly heroic from all involved. In addition, the volunteers had the opportunity to look inside the work of forest firefighters and be a direct part of the intervention. Despite the fact that the fire could not be brought under control, this experience affected everyone involved in the view of fires and not only them.

(Complete report of this event was prepared for you in the next chapter)

We can only be satisfied with the work done for both the reservations and the national parks, which we have made easier in many ways, and as a gift we had the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the parks differently than the average tourist can.

Other volunteer programs begin in July, and we look forward to what they will bring and where we will come to help with the volunteers. Thank you to everyone involved for your work.





IN MIDDLE OF BURNING HELL

We would like to share with you the experience of extinguishing a forest fire in cooperation with the forest firefighters and guards of the Palo Verde National Park, of which we became part of the volunteers for two days.

In a moment we were told that the forest firefighters needed help extinguishing the forest fire in the Lomas de Barbudal Reserve, which connects to the Palo Verde National Park, so we did not hesitate and set off. The dry season was in full swing, so the air temperature in the sun was around 38 ° C and the shadow was nowhere. Leaves of dry tropical fallen forest and tall grass ready to catch fire. Fire in the role of the enemy and wild animals victims. There was no time to think. A team of Czech and Slovak volunteers set out off-road cars in direction to forest fire. When we arrived, Forestal bomberos were already in place.

We packed water bags, leaf blowers and underwent rapid training of volunteer forest firefighters. We took a quick step forward and knew it would be hell. But no one thought to say „no“ or „I don't feel like it.“ The threat of burnt animals was stronger than fear. Gradually we came to the place, pumped water from cars into bags, carried drinking water or gasoline to blowers, water pumps and chainsaws. When we got to the edge of the fire, it was clear that it would be no fun. Choking smoke, zero visibility somewhere and everything depended on clear orders and their 100% fulfillment. No „maybe“ or „but“. Men and women in yellow T-shirts and blouses moved forward, trying to control the fiery rooster.

We were arranged in one line and in several groups, each with the task of holding their position, cleaning the fire corridor and not letting fire through it. Some extinguished in the front line, others cleaned fire corridors and others provided logistics, i.e., they carried important equipment, drinking water, petrol, etc. In some places it was difficult not only mentally but also physically and especially the onslaught of the fire did not stop. If you had water bags (for about 20 liters of water), we not only extinguished, but also tens and hundreds of meters went to refill the bags. A rough work in the smoke and near the whipping flames.

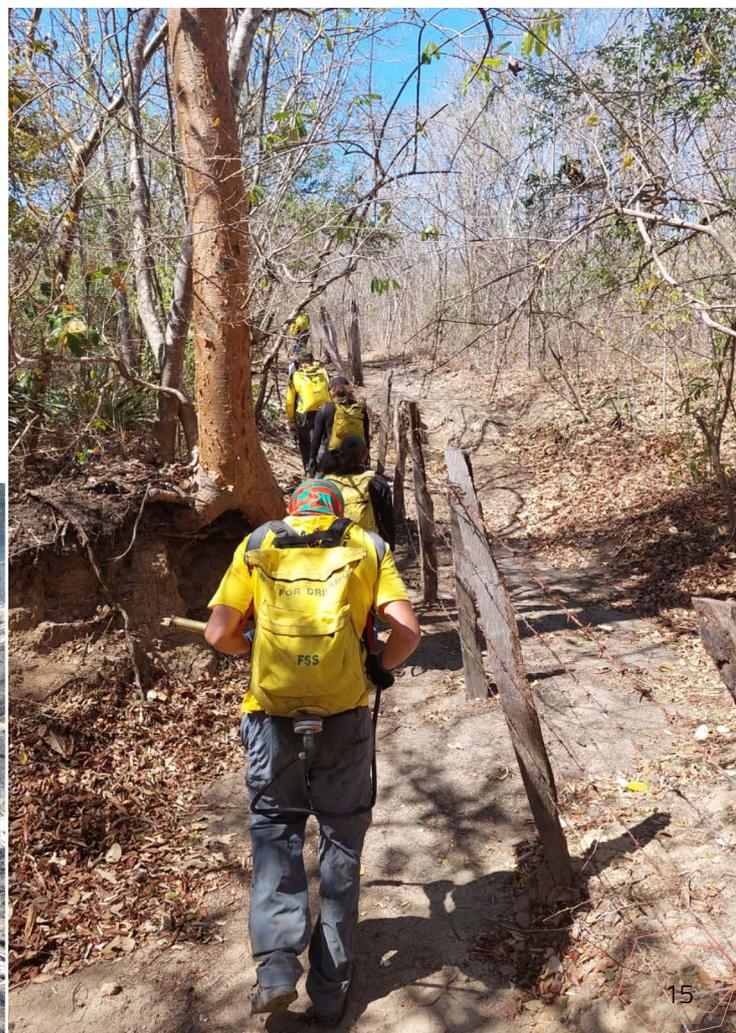




On the first day we managed to defend one line and not let the fire go, but the front of the fire itself continued. Exhausted and proud, we returned to the car after eight in the evening and were still waiting for the rest of the firefighters, who arrived an hour after us. We left the crisis area together and knew we would continue the next day.

After returning to the base in Palo Verde, we took a shower, ate and went to bed. The next day we started in the morning and knew what awaited us.

The next day we started flying over the area engulfed in drone fire. Zuzka was the main pilot and took off despite the really strong wind. She was at the helm of the fire soon, and Forest Chief William saw that it was a bigger problem than expected. The fire was already really big and stopping it in the arid and dry forest was a difficult task. On his return, Zuzka got in a way with a super strong wind and the battery was dwindling faster than we expected. It was clear that he would not make it, and the drone had to make an emergency landing in the middle of the burned forest about two kilometers from us. We packed a walkie-talkie and set out on a drone rescue mission. The passage through the burned forest alternated with impenetrable thorny vegetation. In the end, we gave up. On our return to the base, we met three forest firefighters who helped us in the search, as they had machetes and it was easier to cross the terrain. After an hour in the ashes, there was a triumphant shout from one of them, and the drone was saved. We hurried back to the fire to continue the fire and again, as yesterday, to re-stretch our section. Water bags, blowers, count, hoes, chainsaw and courage.



The fight was relentless and we knew we must not give up. Hours and hours in the smoke, with burning eyes, dirty, exhausted but motivated, we continued until dark. One of the groups literally banged dry grass in front of his eyes, and the flames climbed to a height of five meters. Dazzling glow, pain and ruin all around us. We did not deal with details, we followed orders, no discussion, no controversy. We knew that each of us was important. We did not do this for the government, for money or for strengthening the ego, but to stop the destruction that threatened the poor animals, which, despite our efforts, certainly burned hundreds, perhaps thousands. In the end, we found out that even today the fire could not be stopped and controlled, it was already too big, and the strong wind dangerously spread it at high speed. Despite our best efforts, we did not defeat the fire. However, the forest firefighters greatly appreciated our help and the courage of all the volunteers, for whom it was literally a baptism of fire in direct action. We returned to base again after dark.

On the third day, we flew the whole area with a drone so that the forest firefighters could evaluate the next step, which was finally possible. The fire eventually lasted 14 days and burned 2,500 hectares of dry tropical forest. Reason? Agriculture, sugar cane burning, wild bee smoking, or poaching. Were it not for the hard work of FORESTAL BOMBEROS, it could have been much worse. Burned, charred and severely burned wild animals were found after the fire. Most of them had to sleep.

Prales dětem - Justice for Nature initiative, and its Costa Rican subsidiary Bosque para los Niños have decided to become part of the volunteer forest firefighters and together with the volunteers we will fight the fire in the province of Guanacaste as part of the emerging Blue Life II project.

If you like this, i.e., protect animals and the forest from fire, then in the period from December to April apply for volunteer programs in COSTARICA or support our activities on the Costa Rican account.

Put BOMBEROS in the note. The support goes to very important equipment and logistics!!!



COSTA RICA WILL HAVE ITS BLUE LIFE

The leadership of the Forest for Children Association has made several visits to the coastal area of Cuajinicquill in the province of Guanacaste in order to find land that could be used to build a Blue Life II project in Costa Rica in the future. As we had hoped, so it happened, and in the end a 2.13 hectare plot was chosen. It was surveyed and officially marked out by a topographer with the participation of us, our lawyer Laura and the original owner Mr. Orlando. It is a pasture with huge trees and dry tropical forest. According to the plan, a volunteer center is to be built here in 2022 and will be open to volunteers from December 2022.

The whole vision is focused on the creation of a spectacular ocean education center, or project restaurant. Blue Life II will focus on monitoring on land and at sea, monitoring jaguars and humpback whales, while offering ACG Guanacaste assistance in monitoring illegal activities in protected areas. The ocean monitoring would include a boat. Volunteering with forest firefighters and helping to fight forest fires will be an important part of the project activities. The Blue Life II project should see the light of day from 2023 and be finally completed by the end of 2024.



PATROLS AGAINST POISONS IN THE LANDSCAPE

On Saturday, 19 March, a field patrol focused on searching for poisons in the landscape took place in the South Bohemian Region in cooperation with the Ecological Advisory Service at the Šmidinger Library. We met with a group of twelve volunteers at 10 a.m. at the railway station in Řepice. We trained the volunteers and headed out into the field. The route was 7 km long and ran mostly along the Řepice ponds (part of the landscape intensively used for fishing, forestry and agriculture). The aim of the patrol was to detect poisoned baits or dead, potentially poisoned animals. This time no finds were made during the patrol.

In addition to searching for poisoned baits and poisoned animals, we also searched for signs of the brown bear near Brandýs nad Labem, which, according to local (non-)hunters, has been present in this area for several days. Of course, there was no sign of the bear.

Here is a brief overview of the basic information that you can use to carry out similar activities yourself in other places.

We thank all volunteers for their active participation and we thank Strakonice TV for the interview and presentation of our activities in the broadcast.





FOREST BUYOUT STRATEGY NEWLY IN COSTA RICA

After considering the current circumstances, Rainforest for Children - Justice for Nature has decided to change its rainforest buyout strategy. All efforts will now be directed to Costa Rica, where an official chapter of Forests for Children called Bosque para los Niños was established in 2021 and the buying of a unique mountain mist forest in the new Green Life II reserve has begun. Within 8 months we have bought directly into the ownership of the association 154 hectares of a unique area, which is home to pumas, all three species of ocelot, tapirs and many other animals, which we have identified through monitoring with photo traps so far.

At this point, we are suspending the rainforest buyout and expansion of the Green Life I reserve in Sumatra, where 100% of the land has not been secured. Indonesian legislation does not allow for exclusive ownership as the land is within the Gunung Leuser NP buffer zone. Under an agreement between the Indonesian organization YHUA, which we founded in 2011 and have supported for 11 years, and the government organization KPH, the lands are used for conservation and education purposes for a period of 5 years each time. Every five years the contract has to be renewed. Despite the fact that we have paid all the people who have used the land in the past and taken over their right to use the land for Green Life purposes, we can never really own it securely. Due to the very complicated Indonesian legislation that does not give us any certainty of maintaining such private reserves, we are stopping the purchase of rainforests in Sumatra.

The 175.5 hectares of land originally used by farmers has been acquired over a period of 13 years for the purpose of preservation for future generations and removed from use for human benefit and profit. In this way, we have achieved our goal of saving the local ecosystem on the border with Gunung Leuser NP. Today, orangutans live here and no one shoots at them with airguns, no animals are hunted, no poachers' eyes are laid. There are fish in the streams again, which are caught by otters and not by local people using electricity. Even Sumatran tigers and forest elephants have returned to the vicinity of the reserve in recent years. Our goal has been achieved, but it cannot be pushed any further based on bureaucracy and legislation that has already made our original vision of extending the reserve to the banks of the Berkail River all the way between the Berkail and Sembelang impossible. However, it will certainly continue to be necessary to guard and monitor the reserve, which is the role of our Green



Patrol team, which performs its service conscientiously and with the involvement of local community initiatives.

So now, all support for buying up forests will be directed to countries with functioning authorities, laws and a desire to protect as many forests as possible. Costa Rica is considered to be literally a biological laboratory with the richest biodiversity on planet Earth. The lands we buy are monitored by photo traps, we have two Costa Rican rangers and there are volunteer patrols. Thanks to such activities, our reserve is clean of the poaching and orchid robbery that otherwise commonly occurs in the area. In the future, we plan to involve Costa Ricans and volunteers much more heavily in direct field patrols in other parts of the area where poaching still takes place.

Thanks to all who will continue to work with us to create Costa Rica's unique Green Life II reserve, and hopefully YHUA, Green Patrol and Zbynek Hrabek will continue to represent rainforest conservation interests in the existing Green Life I reserve they have long been responsible for. It is a real responsibility to protect tigers, orangutans, elephants and Malayan bears from poaching. Our organisation is prepared to continue to fund the Green Life I project and in particular the anti-poaching Green Patrol, the protection of the reserve or the maintenance of the Tiger House, based on the support of the general public through transparent accounts, as well as the Blue Life I and Blue Patrol project in the Pulau Banyak archipelago. However, the Rainforest for Children Society will no longer fund Sumatran projects from other sources and accounts, as it did during the crisis and the absence of volunteer programs and income from them. This leaves YHUA free to look for other local and international sources of support. We also allowed YHUA to use the Green Life I reserve for 6 months of the year also for ecotourism activities. For the remaining 6 months, the Green Life I reserve will be used for our volunteer programs, from January to March and from July to September.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN SUMATERA PROJECTS

TIGER GUARD

After a year, the tiger attacked the locals' cows again. During the year, several fences were built and many people changed the way they keep their cows, but not everyone still understands the importance of fences and lets their cows run free without protection far from the village in the forest. And it was these unprotected cows that the tiger attacked.

Three downed cows from three different owners who did not protect their cows even after our repeated appeals over the past year or even the day we found fresh tiger tracks near one of the owners' cows in the early hours of the morning. In the afternoon, a tiger hit one of his herd.



Once again, the Green Patrol spent three weeks doing very tiring work as they patrolled all over the area looking for tiger tracks and trying to protect the locals they were escorting to their plantation. They kept all the cow owners informed and helped them secure their cows.

In addition, we were asked by the authorities to help identify the tiger, but unfortunately there was a lot of resistance from the local residents of Tegapen village and the cow owners who demanded compensation for unprotected cows even though they are only entitled to compensation if the tiger attacks their cow when it is penned and secured.



In spite of all the arguments and emotions that the whole situation aroused, the local people could not be sufficiently convinced of the importance of tiger identification and the whole monitoring was thus unsuccessful.

To this day, we do not know what kind of tiger it is, what condition it is in, whether it is a male or female, or even whether it is pregnant.

The unsuccessful monitoring and the lack of information make it very difficult to proceed further and to establish preventive action strategies in the region. This makes it all the more difficult to find a successful solution.



GOVERNMENT VS POACHERS

During all three tiger conflicts, there were disagreements between the local people and the government or the non-profit sector, even though the latter tried its best to resolve the situation and prevent further conflicts.

Many times I witnessed provocative and hateful voices and always from the same people. It was always the poachers or their allies.

People provoked in this way, with their emotions stirred up, wanted a quick and convenient solution at any cost. Even during the third tiger attack on a cow, the owner tried to kill the tiger and therefore placed traps around the freshly knocked down victim. Fortunately, we discovered this in time and arrived shortly after setting them.

In the evening the owner apologized for getting carried away by his emotions.

After constant and persistent pressure on the government for a solution, they decided to capture and transport the tiger, despite the fact that



we had no information about the problem animal until now. This would have endangered the tiger itself, or its possible cubs if it was a female. Without prior identification and tracking of the tiger, such a capture and transport would have been very unprofessional, but the provoked people did not let on.

So a cage was placed at the third cow to catch the tiger.

Our Green Patrol team did not participate in the installation, as we do not agree with the capture and transport of the tiger due to the high likelihood of future attacks on humans by such a captured individual, as trapped and traumatized tigers begin to perceive humans as a negative element that wants to harm them. In addition, there is almost always no clear and verified location where a tiger can be released. This can easily lead to territorial conflicts between tigers at the release site. Moreover, the transfer of one tiger does not solve anything in the long run, as another tiger is likely to take its place and conflicts with local cows will continue.

The Green Patrol spent the next few days patrolling the area and looking for tracks so that we could know the approximate position of the tiger and also prevent people from trying to tiger-bait again. Fortunately, this did not happen and on the contrary we managed to convince other people to put up fences to protect their cows.

The tiger did not return to the cage and the capture was unsuccessful. We have not found any more tracks and to this day it is once again hiding somewhere in the forests as it did last year before these conflicts.

Hopefully it is okay and we can pacify all parties before the tiger reappears.





EDUCATION

Our education projects have focused on educating the local community and linking them to the Conservancy and its program.

Specifically, this was on the waste program and waste management in the village of Batu Katak. Between January and March, many educational meetings and official events were held with Mr. Yasra (now YHUA chairman), who established the Bank Sampah New Normal program with unique management.

The Tiger House and its facilities were used for educational events, or even the community facilities in the village, where we met many times to make everyone understand that we need to change the way we dispose of plastics and take them to the landfill as it is an inefficient solution.

This successfully educated the community on the plastic issue and its solutions.





NATIONAL WORLD WASTE DAY

As part of awareness, several events were organized with KMPA (Komunitas Masyarakat Pencinta Alam) to collect plastic waste that usually ends up around the river where local tourists come and who are still unaware of the plastic issue. One such educational event was held right on National Plastic Waste Day. In this joint event, which involved the community and local children from the Outdoor School program, we not only cleaned up the area around the river and village, but more importantly educated local tourists who took back new awareness and lessons back to their place of residence.





WORKSHOP STAKEHOLDERS

40 ORGANISATIONS AND FUTURE OF BUFFER ZONE PROTECTION

Project Wings arranged a big event for NGOs, governmental organisations and local associations to discuss possibilities for cooperation and to find solutions to NPGL buffer zone protection.

On 8th and 9th July 40 organisations presented their proposals and experience and discussed options. There were different working groups created around specific topics, such as plastic litter, human-wildlife conflict, deforestation, patrols and ecotourism development.

Various strategies and options to ensure effective nature protection in buffer zone were talked through. The meeting appeared to be on a good and friendly note. Everyone got to know each other better and many participants

chose ideas that resonated with them and joined forces to reach a common goal in nature protection.

Everyone partnered with associations closest to one's objectives and the whole event was very encouraging and inspiring. All environmental protection organisations faced difficulties during pandemic, especially with funding. The event boosted our motivation and determination to protect nature. According to us, it was the atmosphere, that was the biggest benefit of the event, as pandemic also took us a lot of energy. Ongoing cooperation among organisations in individual segments was among other benefits of the event.

It is very important to join forces and share enthusiasm during tough times. Especially when direct protection of vital ecosystems is of a concern.

We are thankful to Project Wings for excellent arrangement and we look forward to our future cooperation on our common goal that is nature protection in Indonesia.





MONITORING

EXPEDITION WITH VLADIMIR CECH

Vladimír Čech came to our Green Life reservation for a visit and equipped with his unique trail camera that is designed to make high resolution photos, he picked up where he left off half a year ago at monitoring of Sumatran tiger.

We have not seen our well known tiger, who is used to roam around in our reservation for quite some time. So we decided to undertake tiger tracking expedition, which we had agreed upon previously, to increase our chances.

Haray Sam Munthe, our ally in environmental protection, was our guide. He operates in Hadabuan Hills, where he aims to protect rich biodiversity of local nature. Monitoring of Sumatran tigers is among his established programmes.

During our expedition, we had to swim against the current of wild river with beautiful rock formations that rosed along its banks. We had to climb tall steep hills with our equipment in our bags, cross rushing streams in gorges and around waterfalls and we tried to make a fire from totally wet wood, so we could eat. The expedition was extreme, but also rewarding. We watched plenty of horn-bills, gibbons and siamangs.

On our way back we destroyed several traps placed by poachers near plantations. The expedition was truly challenging and demanding, but we managed to install trail cameras and we look forward to unique footage that we will obtain. We hope to capture tiger at last. And who knows, maybe there will be a suprise on a footage.

We are going to collect footage in summer, so keep your fingers crossed!



UNEXPECTED INCIDENT ON SUMATRA

Mr Sutresno, our colleague and a chief of our Indonesian sister organisation Yayasan Hutan Untuk Anak, suffered a stroke and passed away at the age of 55. We found out about the sad and unforeseen incident on 19th of March.

Our team received the news in the morning and it truly shook us, as none of us expected it.

Mr Sutresno was a chief of YHUA organisation since 2019.

We had to find a new chief in order to ensure the day-to-day administration of YHUA but also smooth operation of projects. Mr YASRA AL FARIZA became new chief of YHUA.

We are thankful to whole YHUA team and welcome its new member who is experienced in nature protection in Indonesia.

We wish him a lot of achievements on our common mission of Green and Blue Life.



FUNDRAISING FOR TRAIL CAMERAS WAS HELD ON DONIO PLATFORM TO SUPPORT EYE OF A TIGER

In November 2021, we announced a fundraising campaign on Donio platform for purchase of trail cameras OXE Spider 4G for Green Patrol in Sumatra. The campaign lasted til January 2022. OXE Spider 4G trail cameras are integral part of direct nature protection in reservation Green Life and adjacent protected areas, because they send data to smartphone and email in real time. Our patrol can see, if it was triggered by an animal, a person or a poacher and depending on the circumstances they can act accordingly.

We are going to use the cameras also in our new project Tiger Guard, that we initiated last year as a response to increasing number of incidents between tigers and communities that live on the frontiers of wilderness. Decline in natural prey is regrettable consequence of poaching and tigers are forced to search available alternatives. An unsecured livestock that graze near forest, provide an easy opportunity.

Green Patrol carried out several activities that aimed to scare off the tiger and make him return to forest. Most importantly, we had to avert a threat of killing the tiger. Our patrol also coordinated situation in local community. Its members helped farmers to build enclosures, where livestock can overnight and they conducted other tasks to solve the situation. Due to our new trail cameras, we can continue to monitor arrival of tigers near human settlements and intervene before the locals take the matter in their own hands.

We aimed to cover the cost of 10 camera traps including accessories, so we set 50.000 CZK goal. 52 donors gave in total 41.804 CZK.

Thank you!



SBÍRKA UKONČENA:

Oko tygra – chráníme deštný prales a poslední tygry před pytláky



Vybráno **41 504 Kč**
z 50 000 Kč

Děkujeme!

51 dárců
Celkem se zapojilo

814 Kč
Průměrná výše daru

10 000 Kč

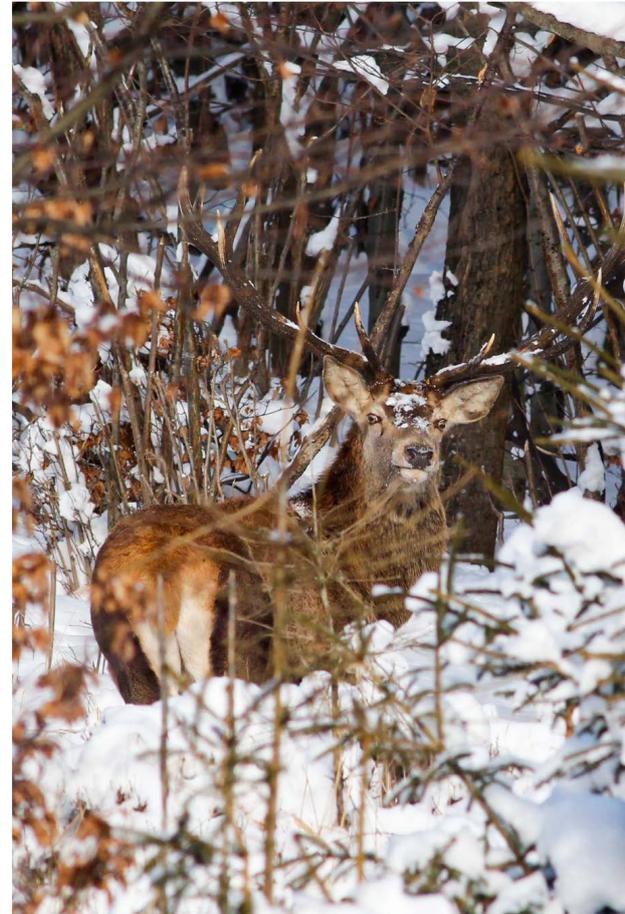
61 dnů

EYE OF A BEAR IN SLOVAKIA

At the end of 2021 most of our activities revolved around preparation of trail cameras for winter. In Kremnické Hills, we repositioned them, so we could obtain high-quality footage even during winter season. At the beginning of 2022 we searched for paw prints and other signs that indicate presence of wildlife. Snow cover is very helpful in tracking animals. Prints are more visible and it is easier to assess movement of large carnivores and other wild animals both in space and time. We are going to use this knowledge in upcoming months, when we will install trail cameras. Animal droppings are also easier to spot and in many areas we focused especially on wolves scats.

Jan Suchý, our field worker, was invited to 7th season of winter monitoring of large carnivores in national park Malá Fatra, Slovakia. He was assigned to a defined trail and list of species that he was supposed to monitor. His task was coordinated with other participants. Unfortunately, it did not go according to a plan. Jan had a bad luck and got trapped in a snowstorm and his vehicle had to be extricated from snow. He never reached the trail. We hope to have better luck next year, so we can provide valuable information to NP Malá Fatra about movement of large carnivores within national park.

Before our departure to Czech republic, we had to pick up our trail camera at the police station in Sliach district. Huntsmen, who operate in the territory stole it, and brought it to the police station. Obviously, there is no end to sabotage of nature protection from their side.

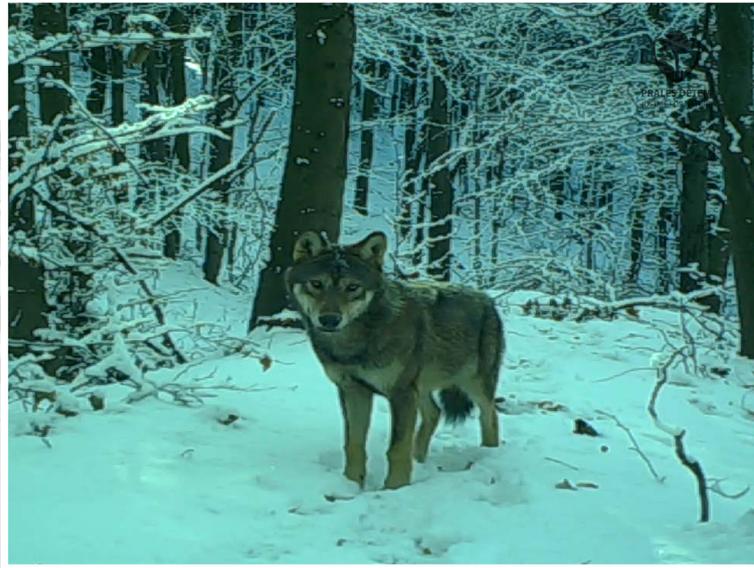




In February, first volunteering programme of the year took place. Many volunteers pulled out of the programme before it even started and in the end only 2 volunteers attended. They came with zest for nature and animal protection and we had very successful week in the end. We continued to check installed trail cameras. The footage taken in migration corridors between Kremnické and Štiavnické Hills was very interesting and most probably, we also captured a wild cat in the area.

We also carried on with checks of feeding spots, where huntsmen often baited animals based on our past experience. We did not find anything suspicious and problematic this time, we only saw racks full of hay. Unfortunately, many trail cameras disappeared again. We try to educate general public and expert community about importance of trail cameras in nature protection. Today, footage is a source of valuable information for patrols and guards. Sadly, some people still do not understand the fact and therefore some of our equipment get lost or stolen.





Several critical stretches of motorway R1 has been secured. We consider it a big success as we previously pointed out construction defects in motorway fences. There were big holes or gaps in the fencing and animals could end up directly on motorway. In the area, where 2 bears were killed in a car crash, the defects were repaired and holes were filled with wire netting. We will continue to monitor problematic spots, where deficiencies persist.

Recently, our team is devoted to process latest data and creating information materials for project Synantrop. At the beginning of the year, we handed in complete reports of audiovisual and genetic monitoring that took place in Kremnické Hills and NP Nízke Tatry. These reports were delivered to National nature protection SR and to leadership of nature guard NAPANT in Banská Bystrica. We believe, that we will manage to continue in such cooperation even during this year,



SUMMER VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMMES ON SUMATRA OR COSTA RICA

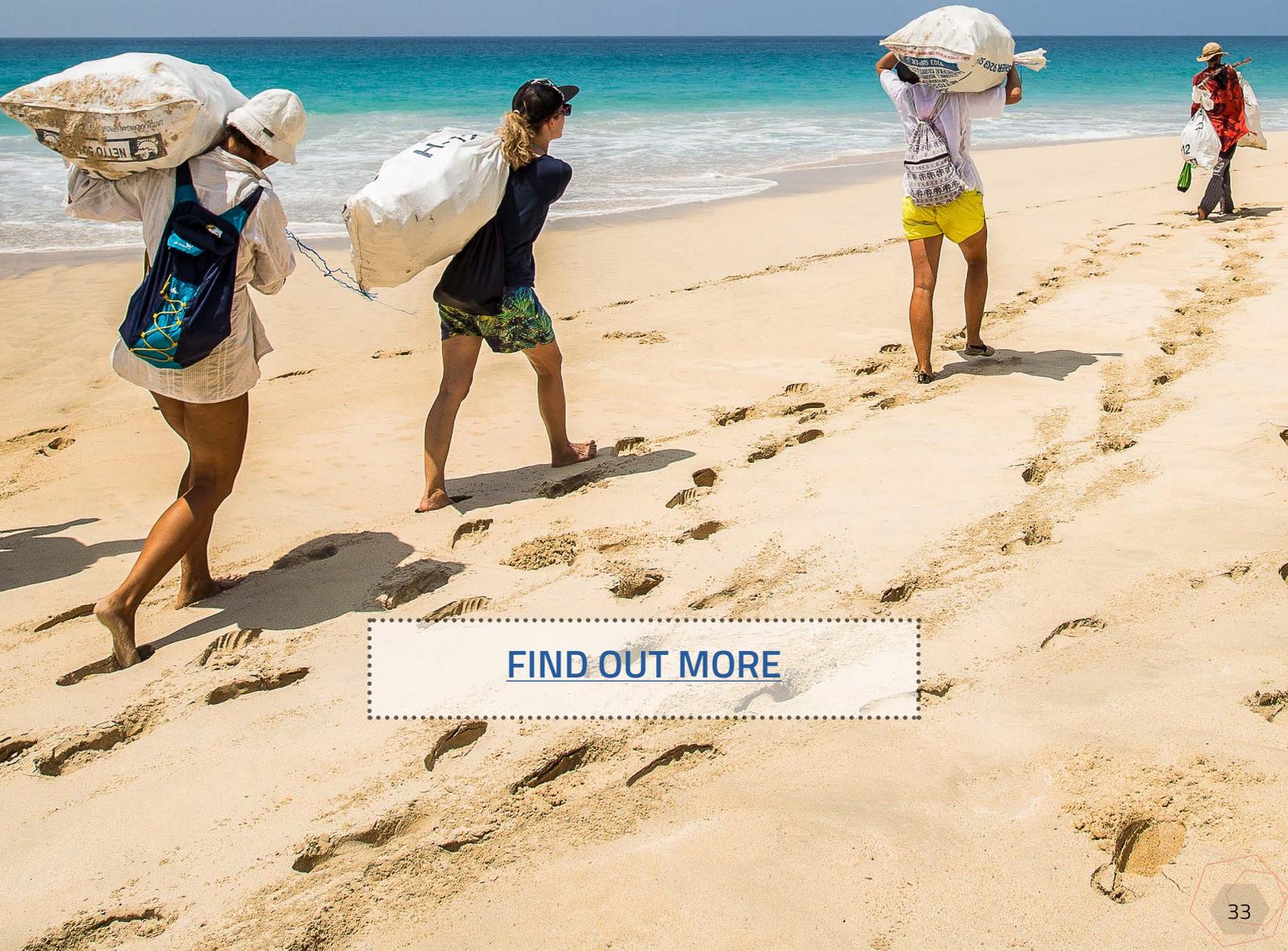
Countries slowly loosen coronavirus restrictions, so we can try to restore our volunteering programmes on Sumatra that has been suspended for 2 years.

Again, there is a chance to become a volunteer – GREEN and BLUE – for those who miss jungle/ocean and want to absorb atmosphere of a jungle and jump in the ocean and at the same time are eager to give a helping hand at monitoring and picking up litter...

On Sumatra and Costa Rica from July to September.

Book your stay with us
For more information click on the link to our website [here](#).

We look forward to see you!



[FIND OUT MORE](#)

CONCLUSION

We consider first quarter of 2022 a success, first and foremost our Costa Rican projects. The question is, however, how some of the events taking place in the world today will unfold. Russian-Ukrainian war that follows covid era, they have both shaken the foundation of public economy, safety, moral principles and our survival instinct.

It is difficult to predict future, but there is one thing I am sure of. People will not think much about nature and its protection in this bizzare times. Thoughts of society go in complete opposite direction and times that are yet to come, will be a test of our strength and our ability to survive. We believe, that we will make it through hard times with support of few hundreds of brave men and that together we will show, that we are healthy and pure organisation. Thank you, everyone!