

Project Update: November 2010

The first documented (by GPS locations) bear presence in Zarand Mountains was the most notable result of tracking large carnivores in the project area. The first phase of the questionnaire survey was completed – the final form of the questionnaire is being established, and the socio-economic assessment is ongoing. Several bear sightings in the project area were also revealed by the respondents during the interviews. The classification of human-large carnivore conflict sources was completed and the evaluation for the entire project area is ongoing. The methodology used to assess the transportation infrastructure permeability in the project area was adopted by a consortium of organisations for mapping dispersal routes in the entire area between Apuseni Mountains and Southern Carpathians. Data collected during the Rufford project proved the role of Eastern Zarand Mountains as ecological corridor and, as a result, the project-area was proposed as a new Natura 2000 site.



Bear track – a large animal foraging during the autumn season. The first GPS locations documenting bear presence in Zarand Mountains, Romania; September 2010