

2,300 more hectares of virgin and quasi-virgin forests are now safe



Photo: WWF Romania / Adrian Grancea

We continue to work hard to protect the virgin and quasi-virgin forests and to include them in the [National Catalog](#). Since January, we've managed to include in the catalog 1,515 hectares of virgin forests in Caras Severin County (at OS Anina, OS, Bozovici, OS Baile Herculane, OS Nera and OS Rusca Montana).

At present, we are in the process of protecting additional 787 hectares of quasi-virgin forests in Hunedoara County, which will later be included in the Catalog. Our proposal has received the green light from the Timisoara Forest Guard and will be soon be discussed and approved by the CSAT (Technical Forestry Approval Commission).

“Theoretically, everybody understood the importance of virgin forests but, unfortunately, few get actively involved in protecting them. For us, these forests don't represent only a topic, but over 1,600 hours of work, around 600,000 hectares of evaluated forests, trainings and white nights. They are Europe's most valuable forests and they are here, guiding our steps. We just have to understand them and, when we are ready, learn to cherish them.” – **Radu Melu, national forestry manager at WWF Romania.**

WWF Romania has evaluated over 600,000 hectares of forests so far and has identified around 65,000 hectares of virgin and quasi-virgin forests at a national level. The authorities are currently analyzing our studies for additional 14,800 hectares.

The most recent data presented by the Environment Ministry show that, in November 2020, the National Virgin and Quasi-virgin Forests Catalog included almost 44,000 hectares of forests.