RANGER PORTRAIT

Catalin Josan Rewilding Officer & Ranger in Țarcu Mountains, Romania

Main duties:

- human-wildlife conflict management
- bison rewilding
- wildlife monitoring
- environmental education

Why is your work important to you?

Ever since I heard about the bison reintroduction programme, I wanted to join. When I was invited as a ranger, it was a dream come true for me: I had wanted to work in the forest and with animals since I was a child and particularly admired this species.

What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?

Being out in the forest, seeing wild animals, tracking them down and dealing with them while never knowing what you will encounter during your working hours: That gives me the greatest motivation.

Your biggest moment of luck during work?

As I was doing a transect monitoring, we came across a nice clearing. As we were unpacking our lunch, we happened to see a beautiful red deer, a male with very large antlers. We had a full ten minutes to watch him while he took no notice of us, but ate and did the things he normally does without being disturbed by our presence.

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