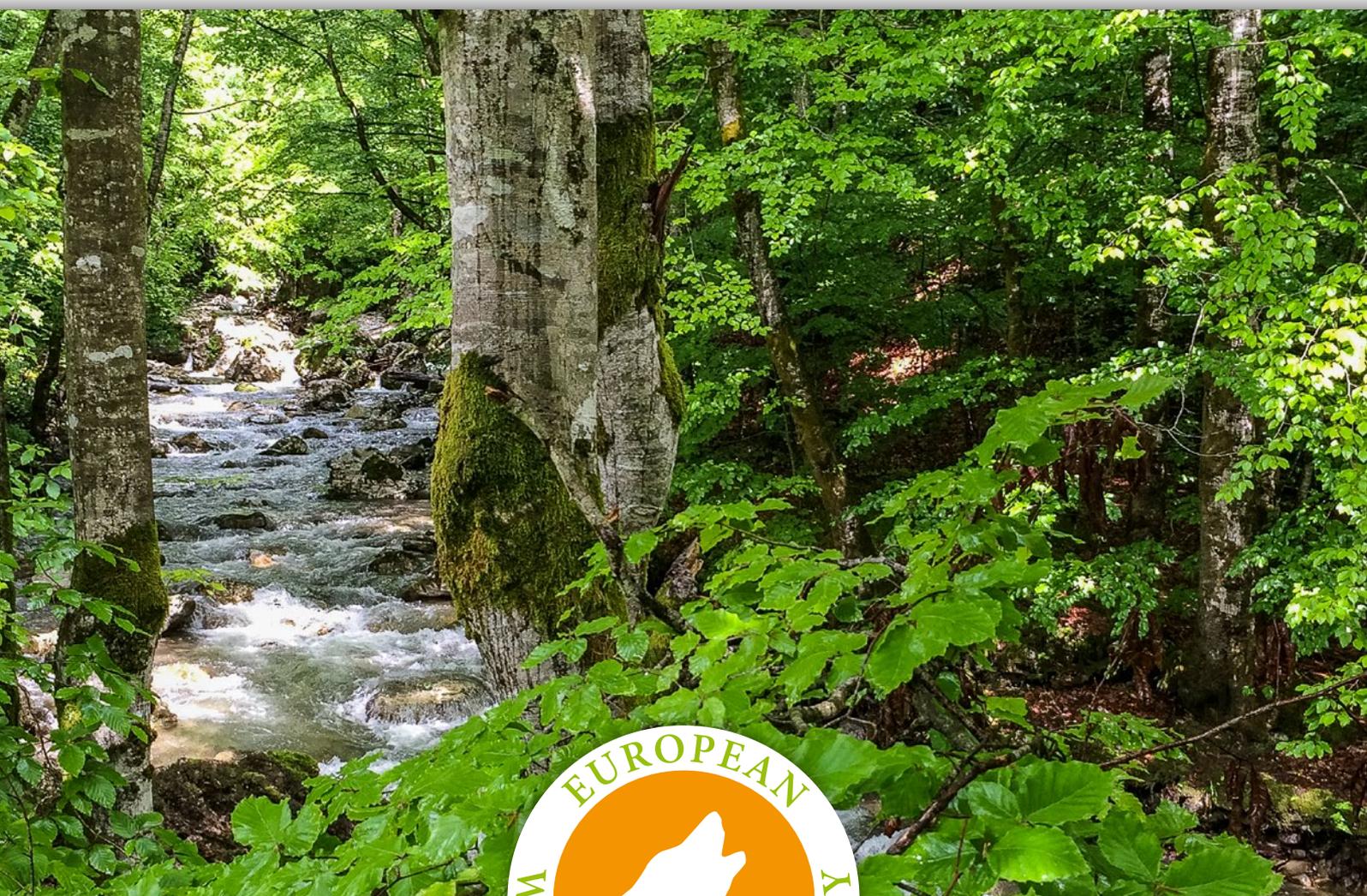


European Wilderness Network

Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness



2018

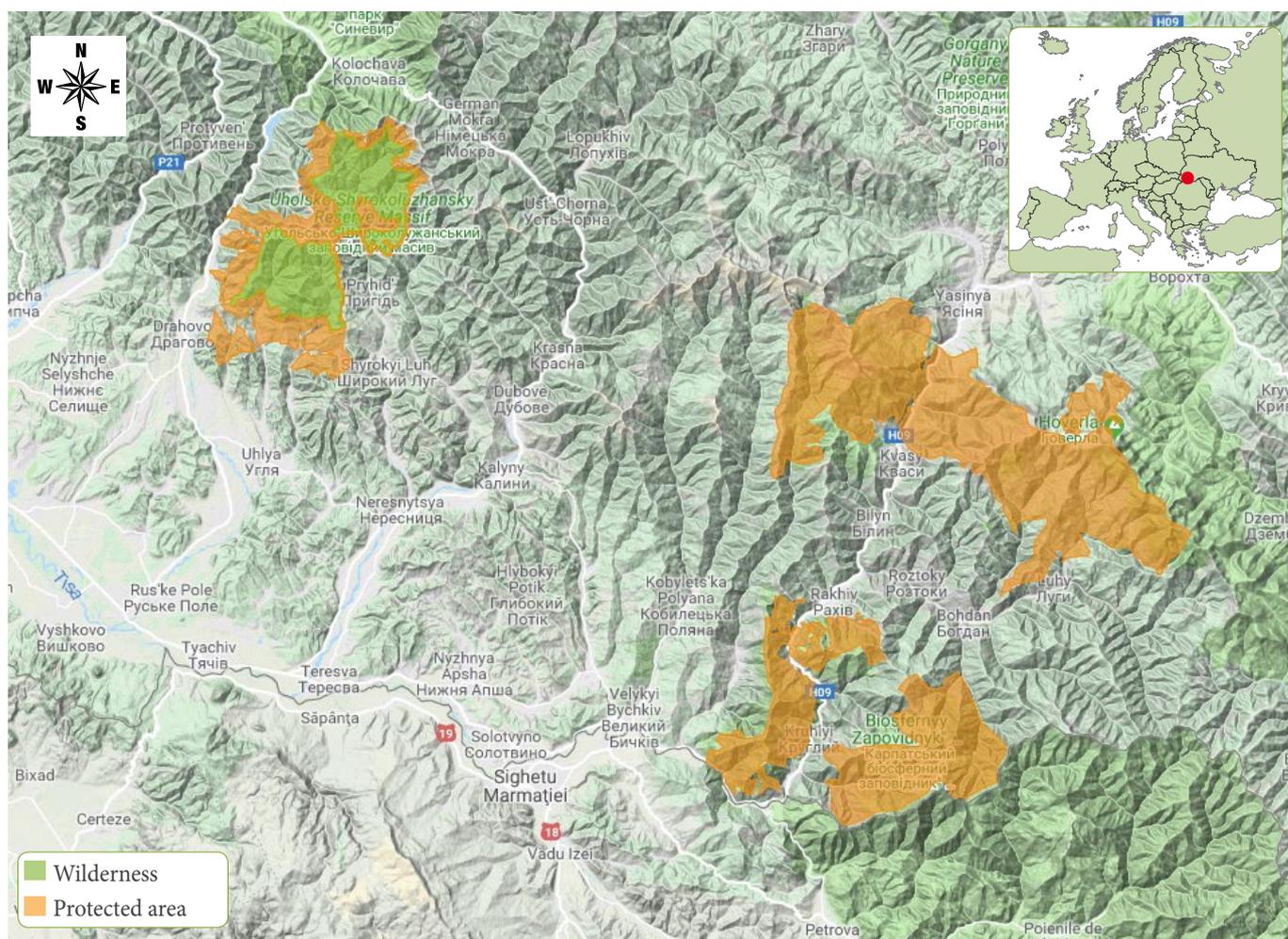
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Let's get Wild!

Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness, Ukraine

The 7 117 ha Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness is part of the Carpathian Biosphere Reserve. The area preserves the largest area of unique old-growth beech forest of Europe and the natural state of the Carpathian mountain landscapes. The Carpathian Biosphere Reserve includes three additional, large areas with Wilderness potential: Svydovec, Chornohora, Maramorosh. The Kuziy-Trybushany WILDForest is already a certified Bronze Wilderness. Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness represent an outstanding example of undisturbed temperate beech forests and provides a sample of pure stands of European beech. The area contains a large genetic reservoir of beech, on which many species are dependent and can be associated with in this forest habitat. The Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness is part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site – Ancient and Primeval Beech Forests of the Carpathians and Other Regions of Europe.

Wilderness information	
Protected area	Carpathian Biosphere Reserve
Wilderness	Uholka-Shyrokyy Luh Wilderness
Country	Ukraine
Size of the protected area	57 880 ha
Size of the Wilderness	7 117 ha
European Wilderness Quality Standard Audit	2015
Wilderness Uniqueness	WILDForest and 3 WILDRivers – upper watersheds of Mala Uholka River (7 km), Velyka Uholka River (8 km) and Shyrokyy Luh River (9 km).
Number of visitors per year to the protected area	approx. 20 000
Number of visitors per year to the Wilderness	approx. 1 000



Map scale 1 : 577 000



European Wilderness Quality Standard Audit System

The 7 117 ha Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness was audited in 2017 and meets the Platinum Wilderness Quality Standard. The Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness also includes the Uholka-Shyroky Luh WILDForest and 3 WILDRivers – upper watersheds of Mala Uholka River (7 km), Velyka Uholka River (8 km) and Shyroky Luh River (9 km). A European Wilderness Quality Standard Renewal-Audit is scheduled for 2027.

Biodiversity

The Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness is the largest area with contiguous old-grow beech forests in Europe. It is an area of great international importance and a local hotspot for biodiversity that is dependent on spontaneous natural processes and ecosystem dynamics. It contains representatives of flora and fauna typical for old-growth Carpathian beech forests. The most striking and impressive features of this forest are the trees; broken tree stems are covered with a variety of fungi and a rich variety of life can be found in the deadwood trunks, such as the protected alpine longicorn *Rosalia* beetle. The area has a permanent population of the brown bears, wolves and lynxes. Typical bird dwellers in the area are the black stork and eagle-owl.

Wilderness Tourism Experience

Access to Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness is permitted only for guided tours and for participants of workshops. The Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness is located approx. 90 km from Uzhhorod and approx. 60 km from Ivano Frankivsk. The Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness is accessible for cars and busses. Two nature trails, in Mala Uholka and Velyka Uholka, provide a unique experience in Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness. The trails lead through primeval beech forest, passing the caves in limestone massive, and the Karst Bridge.



Contact

Uholka-Shyroky Luh Wilderness

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Let's
Get
Wild!

European Wilderness Society

Founded on more than 20 years of Wilderness work by our members, the European Wilderness Society is the only Pan-European, Wilderness and environmental advocacy non-profit, non-government organisation.

It has a dedicated multi-cultural and experienced team of Wilderness and wildlife specialists, nature conservationists, researchers and scientists, tourism experts, marketing and business professionals, legal advisors and Wilderness advocates, whose mission is to:

- ▶ identify
- ▶ designate
- ▶ steward
- ▶ promote

Europe's last Wilderness, WILDCoasts, WILDForests, WILDIslands and WILDRivers. Here non-human intervention leads to open-ended, dynamic processes.

This is conveyed through a range of projects that facilitate Wilderness knowledge exchange, including education, culture and science, from local community through to scientific and governmental level.

European Wilderness Network

The European Wilderness Network connects Europe's wildest places. Certified by the European Wilderness Quality and Audit System, these unique areas host diverse wild ecosystems governed by dynamic open-ended processes, with no or minimum human-intervention. The Network includes, for example, Europe's last primeval beech forests, the arctic tundra, and mountain landscapes in different climate conditions. It aims to promote Europe's last Wilderness, WILDCoasts, WILDForests, WILDIslands and WILDRivers, with a comprehensive marketing strategy. The European Wilderness Network offers a platform to share Wilderness Stewardship best-practice examples and Wilderness research. It connects like-minded Wilderness managers and advocates and fosters the exchange of ideas and knowledge across Europe and the world through the European Wilderness Exchange Programme.

For more information please see <http://european-wilderness.network>

European Wilderness Society

Registration number / ZVR Zahl: 305471009

Registered in Austria

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EU Transparency registration number: 706136913777-83

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