

## THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HUNTING GROUND NR. 40 AGNITA, SIBIU COUNTY

R. Blaj<sup>1</sup>, Mirela Stanciu<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Forest Administration Sibiu,

<sup>2</sup>“Lucian Blaga” University Sibiu

e-mail: mirela\_stanciu2008@yahoo.com

### Abstract

*The hunting ground nr. 40 Agnita is situated in the southern part of Sibiu County, in the water catchment area of the Hartibaciu River, in the territory of Altana and Chirpar villages.*

*The measures concerning the organization and management of the hunting ground are: to ensure the refuge, food and silence conditions for the wild animals, to adjust the number of predacious animals based on the number of non predacious animals, to eradicate the trespass, the right wild evaluation, to maintain optimal wild herds, to capitalize efficiently the wild.*

*The study presents the wild herds and their dynamic on 10 years as well as the calculation of the necessary development projects, facilities/plants and hunting buildings.*

**Key words:** management, wild animals, herds, capitalize

### INTRODUCTION

The administration unit in the hunting domain is the hunting ground/territory. For satisfying the wild exigency but also the exigencies of an intensive and sustainable management, the hunting ground has to be endowed corresponding.

The hunting ground nr.40 Agnita lends very well to an endowment based on the amelioration of natural food and refuge conditions, to the execution of endowments,

plants, fallows and feeding units and to wild animals study.

### THE GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION

The hunting ground nr. 40 Agnita is situated in the southern part of Sibiu County, in the water catchment area of the Hartibaciu River, in the territory of Altana and Chirpar villages.

The administrative organization

The forest administration is done by the Agnita Forest Range – Sibiu Forestry Department, the villages Altana and Chirpar and has the following utility categories of land surface:

UM	Water surface	Wood	Plough land	Hay field	Grazing	Other agricultural land	Mountain	Hunting productive land (col. 1+7)	Unproductive	Total (col 8+9)
Ha	25	2770,5	2047	953	2174,7	0	0	7670,2	28,8	7699
%	0,32	32,09	26,59	12,38	28,24	0	0	99,62	0,38	100

## THE MAIN WILD SPECIES, THEIR NUMBER AND DYNAMICS IN THE LAST 10 YEARS

The great variety of natural conditions and the qualified work of the people, determinate the existence of a high number of wild species. Their evolution is the following:

Nr.	Wild specie	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
1.	Stag – Male	5	5	6	6	6	5	5	6	7	8
	Cervus Female	5	5	6	6	6	5	5	6	7	8
	elaphus Total	10	10	12	12	12	10	10	12	14	16
2.	Roe deer – Male	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	45	55	62
	Capreolus Female	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	45	55	64
	capreolus Total	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	90	110	126
3.	Wild boar – Sus scrofa	25	25	23	23	24	23	25	40	40	42
4.	Hare – Lepus europaeus	60	60	60	60	100	90	90	100	120	144
5.	Pheasant – Phasianus colchicus	70	60	60	60	60	60	60	70	84	127
6.	Partridge – Perdix perdix	60	60	60	60	50	40	50	70	72	86
7.	Bear – Ursus arctos	5	3	3	3	4	3	4	5	5	5
8.	Wolf – Canis lupus	4	3	3	3	4	6	7	12	14	14
9.	Wild cat – Felix silvestris	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	10	11
10.	Badger – Meles meles	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	20	24	26
11.	Fox – Vulpes vulpes	10	10	10	10	20	20	25	30	35	30
12.	Marten – Martes martes	5	5	5	5	10	10	10	20	24	26
13.	Polecat – Putorius putorius	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	15	17	19
14.	Weasel – Mustela nivalis	10	10	10	10	10	10	15	15	18	19
15.	Ermine – Mustela erminea	0	5	0	0	5	5	10	10	10	10

Main hunting species are considered: the stag, the roe deer, the bear and the wild boar.

### The organization within the hunting ground, protection and preventive measures against disease

For the security of the hunting ground the hunt keeper (forest guard) and the employees of the manager are responsible, by controlling in a systematic manner the area.

Concerning the preventive disease measures, periodically the stags and roe deer are medicated by putting veterinary medical products in the granule food or salt, the salt licks and food plants are greased with tar, in dips Nevugon is pouring against hypoderms and against pneumonia are used tetracycline, oxytetracycline and cloranfenicol. No domestic animals, without veterinary control, are allowed to graze in the area. This averts the danger of disease distribution in the territory.

To prevent the rabies, yearly the vaccine Lysvulpen is administered near the burrows. To prevent boar plague the vaccine Pestivac M is injected in eggs and administered in the land.

### The additional and natural food

The quality and quantity of food are very important for the wild animal life. If their number is optimal in the ground and the natural conditions very good, the wild is able to become enough food in a natural way. Otherwise the wild can cause damages or shall migrate.

Damages can appear if the number of wild animals grows and the vegetal resources come down. To prevent this situation, some surfaces of land inside the hunting ground are seeded with different types of crops.

#### The seeded fallows

On this hunting ground exists seeded land surfaces, specially created for the wild (maize, evergreen – Lucerne, clover, hay

fields) having the following structure: cereals 1.8 ha, hay fields 1.7 ha, clover/Lucerne 1.0 ha, stumpy plants 0.5 ha.

*The leaf foddere*

These represent some other food reserve during the winter, because leafs and trees are resources of food for the stag and roe deer, about 50% of the necessary. To get these implicates low costs and must be done even if there is enough hay.

The best trees for getting leafs are: black elder, ash, trembling poplar, maple, white willow, goat willow, raspberry and blackberry bush. The best time to harvest the leaf is June, the leaf contains the most nitrous substance. The quantity of nutrient substances is not equal during one day, that's why the best period of harvesting them is the afternoon, in sunny and warm days, when they are dry. Their drying must be done in the shadow, so that they won't lose their taste. The wild eats the leaf but not the branch, that's why this mustn't be thicker than 0.5 cm. The storage of leafs and hay must be in stacks, near the feeding places. The stacks have to stay in sunny places, on a wood paving on 50 cm from soil, covered by hay or other materials, able to keep them dry.

*The salt licks*

Is one of the most effective methods to keep wild inside the ground, especially stag and roe deer. These must be near feeding places, fallows, etc. Their presence is very important.

*The refuge and silence conditions*

To ensure these, the access of tractors, horse wagons and other persons in the wood is regulated and can't be done without serious reasons. The locked barriers can limit the car access and this is possible only after the agreement of the forester. The harvest of berries and mushrooms must be done organized and the

forester may charge penalties if this rule is trespassed. The cutting areas and roads must be very good delimited and rules concerning the wood exploitation must be respected. As chapter II, article 5 from the contract, a refuge area of 10% of the productive area was fixed out, this means 720 ha, surface delimited on the attached map.

*The disproof of trespass*

The trespass tend to grow in the last years (a reason can be the unemployment). The poachers use different methods, from guns to classical methods (traps). Using the cars light the poachers can easily shot the stag or roe deer. That's why roads are blocked with barriers. The hunt keepers are obliged to patrol periodical.

*Methods against environmental pollution, with influence upon wild*

Industrial activities are forbidden inside the hunting ground. Small and factories exist in the urban area. The zootechnical activities can influence the propagation and development of wild animals. The existence of 2174.7 ha pasture and hay fields, used yearly by the domestic animals influence negatively the life conditions for wild animals.

There is a growing tendency of domestic animal herds, herds that cross the hunting ground. Because of the weak development of the region, the unemployment grows, so that in the future acts of trespass may become frequent.

*Measures for protecting the young animals*

To protect the wild cubs is very important, the most important measures are the conservation of their habitats, the disproof of rapacious animals, the elimination of pariah dogs and the reduction of sheep dogs.

The evidence of hunted predacious animals in the last 5 years

Year	Wolf	Wild cat	Fox	Marten	Polecat	Weasel	Ermine	Pariah dogs	Pariah cats
2004	1	1	18	1	1	1	1	26	11
2005	1	1	15	1	1	1	1	18	15
2006	1	1	20	1	1	1	2	18	12
2007	1	1	20	2	4	1	2	15	8
2008	1	1	23	2	4	1	1	8	6

During the calving period (May-June), especially in the calving places, the wood exploitations are forbidden, some other activities too. In their first life week, young roe deer or stag, don't follow their mother and often good intentioned people are trying to raise them. But their chances to live are very few and later, because of the weak instincts they are not able to defend from predacious. The young pigeons and bears are well defended by their mother. The population has to understand that an unwounded young animal is better to be left there, because his

mother will look for it exactly in that place, where it was left behind.

Another measure, but not the less important, is the amelioration of refuge conditions, this means no cutting of young trees in those parts of the forest where the consistence of trees is law.

**Methods of hunting and efficient exploitation of wild**

The wild hunting is done by the members of the hunting group and the employees of the hunting ground manager, only the meet is going to be sell.

The situation of the hunted wild in the last 5 years.

Year	Stag	Roe deer	Wild boar
2004	0	12	8
2005	1	12	7
2006	1	14	8
2007	2	16	8
2008	3	19	7

The hunting actions took place on the basis of the hunting authorizations, issued by the ground manager. Following hunting methods are used: still, beat and grope hunts. The stag is hunting by still and on coming hunt

Roe deer: 4 gold, 6 silver, 8 bronze  
 Wolf: 1 gold, 1 silver, 1 bronze  
 Fox: 6 gold, 22 silver, 31 bronze  
 Badger: 1 gold, 2 silver.

**The trophies**

The presented conditions and the adequate management of the hunting ground, determined the development of species, bearing trophies.

**The existing hunt buildings and plants**

The hunting ground has to be endowed based on the natural and fauna conditions. The endowments include works and plants, bringing some modifications to the natural conditions, for creating a better natural frame to the wild or to facilitate the observation and hunting. All these are useful for the attendance and for the wild hunting.

In the last 5 years the following medal trophies were hunted:

Wild boar: 4 gold, 6 silver, 3 bronze

Specification	Feeding land - ha -	Endowments						Plants		
		Hunting lines - km -	Hunting pathways - km -	Dips buc	Watering - buc -	Salt licks buc	Observatory - buc -	Feeding places - buc.		
								Stag	Roe deer	Wild boar
Existing	5,0	5,0	5,0	38	20	57	5	1	17	2
Proposed	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	2	8	16
TOTAL	5,0	5,0	5,0	38	20	57	20	3	25	18

The necessary endowments and plants were calculated based on ICAS instructions:

Specification	Optimal number for specie			Necessary for 100 ha wood
	Stag	Roe deer	Wild boar	
Feeding land				0,2 ha
Pathways				0,1-0,5 km
Dips	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 10 exemplars	
Watering	1 la 10 exemplars	1 la 10 exemplar	1 la 10 exemplars	
Salt licks	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 5 exemplars	
Hunting lines				0,1-0,3 km
Feeding places	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 5 exemplars	1 la 5 exemplars	

The feeding places for stag shall be supplement with 2 pieces and for roe deer with 8 (one piece for 5 exemplars), so that the animals mustn't walk far in wintertime for feeding.

The salt licks shall be located at 15-20 m far from the feeding places, using the following types: in the log or in the stump.

The observatories shall be located near the stag call places, in glades where animals graze and near the pathways.

All these endowments are included in the presented map.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Our conclusion is that hunting can be, besides a hobby, an activity able to bring profit. The hunting mustn't be neglected in the future but first of all we must not neglect the wild. For being satisfied with this activity, it must exist a continuous preoccupation in view of growing quantitative and qualitative the wild animals number and the life conditions.

Generally the main conditions – refuge, silence, food – are satisfied, but in the future the evolution of anthropic factors must be restrained.

The negative influences on the wild animal evolution in the future, are:

- grazing in the forests
- the berries and mushrooms harvest
- the car access on forest roads
- the abusive wood cuttings
- the capture of young animals

The grazing has a very bad influence, first of all because of the produced noise by animals and people, but also because of wild hounding by the sheep dogs. Where grazing is allowed in the forest, the natural offer for wild animal is reduced and one of the most important existence conditions is eliminated.

The sheep dogs must be controlled periodically, the pariah dogs must be gunned, they are the greatest danger for young animals. Wild fruit and mushrooms harvest can bring a lot of noise but can also reduce the food for the animals. In the mean time the car access shouldn't be allowed, by layout of barriers. The refuges were destroyed, in many cases by abusive cuttings, most of them in woods taking in possession by former owners. Very important in this case are the foresters, responsible for this activity that must be done rational, respecting the management plan of the forest. For decreasing the bad effects of young animal capture, the employees have to talk these things up, so that the people should know the legal stipulations and the penalties in these cases.

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