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## **Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania takes steps to integrate Campusel forests into Retezat National Park**

- Primary and old growth forests owned by the Schweighofer Group were evaluated – quasi virgin forest was identified in the area of Campusel - region shall be placed under long-term protection
- Campusel (Retezat Mountains) to be integrated into the National park of Retezat and Domogled-Valea Cernei

Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania is committed to preserve primary and old growth forests in Romania. Independent experts have evaluated – among others – the company's forest 'Campusel' in Romania. This study identified around 83.8 ha of precious quasi virgin forest and an ecological significance of the whole area. According to previous studies carried out by Agent Green scientists, such forests are of significant importance for biodiversity, serving as a key habitat and wildlife corridor for many large mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and insects.

Retezat is the home of all bat species living in Romania. Two bat species have previously not been observed in Romania. The area of Campusel is a very important habitat for brown bear and lynx as well as a wildlife corridor for deer, chamoix, boar and wolves. The property is situated directly in between the two National Parks Domogled-Valea Cernei and Retezat and connects these two protected areas.

In a conclusive meeting with Agent Green in the frame of a dialogue over the past 10 years, Holzindustrie Schweighofer Romania decided today to integrate Campusel into the National Park of Retezat and Domogled-Valea Cernei. The next steps will be to ask the authorities and other stakeholders for their support and identify the necessary steps for such a project.

With this commitment the company wants to underline once again its mission to do everything within its means to secure the precious natural heritage in Romania and to show that a sustainable timber industry is compatible with this effort.

### **Holzindustrie Schweighofer's measures for a sustainable forestry industry in Romania**

- **Holzindustrie Schweighofer pays a bonus of 10 RON/m<sup>3</sup> (2 €) for FSC-certified saw logs**  
To ensure a sustainable supply chain in Romania that meets the high FSC standards, Holzindustrie Schweighofer pays its suppliers a bonus for FSC-certified logs. Since 2012, HS has paid a total of 5.65m RON (about €1.25m) for this FSC-bonus.
- **GPS-tracking – transparency for the supply chain**  
Holzindustrie Schweighofer has implemented a GPS tracking system in Romania (Timflow). This system surpasses all legal requirements by far. Every truck delivering Romanian saw logs to the company's saw mills is equipped with a GPS device, which proves the logs' exact loading place. The results are publicly accessible at [www.timflow.com](http://www.timflow.com).
- **Improved stakeholder consultation**  
During the past two years, Holzindustrie Schweighofer improved and intensified its dialogue with all stakeholders. Holzindustrie Schweighofer is committed to an open and transparent dialogue with NGOs and civil society. We share the aim of securing sustainability in timber processing.
- **Comprehensive audit by the renowned Indufor group**  
In January 2016, Holzindustrie Schweighofer subjected its purchasing processes to an in-depth analysis. The independent Finish consulting firm Indufor examined all processes as well as the supply chain and the mills in Romania. Their conclusion: Holzindustrie Schweighofer's due diligence system surpasses the regulatory

requirements by far and complies with the standards laid down by the European Timber Regulation (EUTR) for placing legal wood on the European Single Market.

- **Strict controls for sensitive forest areas**  
Holzindustrie Schweighofer has developed a system for risk minimization based on geographical maps issued by the Romanian Association for Forest Certification which identify regions that are susceptible to unlawful logging. If Holzindustrie Schweighofer buys timber from these regions or from sites that are located in close vicinity to national parks or virgin forests, our employees act with the highest degree of sensitivity by inspecting the most important documents necessary for legal timber harvesting (the authorized document proving the harvested amount "APV", the waybill (Aviz) and the forest management plan) with maximum attention.
- **Strengthened compliance team**  
A rigorous due diligence process requires an adequate number of trained experts. Holzindustrie Schweighofer doubled its team for compliance and certification during the past months to 16 employees.
- **Exclusion of suppliers who do not comply with Holzindustrie Schweighofer's purchasing policy**  
If suppliers don't follow the company's purchasing policy, they are excluded from the supply chain.
- **Holzindustrie Schweighofer does not accept timber shipments from national parks**  
Holzindustrie Schweighofer implemented a "Zero Timber from National Parks"-Policy in Romania, although the legislation would allow for logging in so called national park buffer zones and in case of sanitary cuttings.
- **Compliance and anti-corruption training**  
For its Romanian employees, especially those working in the area of purchasing, Holzindustrie Schweighofer organizes anti-corruption and compliance trainings on a regular basis.
- **Information on our website [www.schweighofer.at](http://www.schweighofer.at):** Holzindustrie Schweighofer is committed to a transparent and open public dialogue. The website [www.schweighofer.at/en/responsibility](http://www.schweighofer.at/en/responsibility) is part of the company's contribution towards this discourse and showcases its efforts to improve sustainability.

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