



State Forest
Resources Agency of
Ukraine

WAR AND CLIMATE CHANGE ARE THREATENING UKRAINE'S FORESTS

Ukrainian foresters are calling for
support to implement close-to-nature
forestry in the Carpathians



Denys Zelenyi, the author of the famous photo of Serebrianskyi Forest, gave his life defending our and your freedom.





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Ukrainian cities are under attack, civilians are dying, forests are burning.



The mass attack on Ukrainian cities and civilians on April 24, 2025. In Kyiv, 12 people were killed and another 87 were injured. These attacks also damage the forests.

30% of Ukraine's forests have been damaged. 1 million hectares of forests in the temporarily occupied territory



In April 2025, while extinguishing a fire in the Rivne region, a tractor driver from the Klesiv forest, probably in the dark, drove onto a mined area. Two people were injured as a result of the explosion.

While extinguishing a forest fire in the Kharkiv region, a fire truck belonging to the State Enterprise "Forests of Ukraine" hit a landmine, with two employees on board.



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War and climate change are the twin threats to the Carpathian forests.



That is why Ukraine has set a national priority: to change how we manage forests in the Carpathians and move toward close-to-nature, climate-resilient forestry.



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Enhancing the Resilience of Ukraine's Carpathian Forests through Close-to-Nature Sustainable Forest Management



- Restoring and expanding forests through afforestation and reforestation
- Moving away from clear-cutting, toward more selective, nature-based cuts
- Promoting mixed and uneven-aged forests, better adapted to future risks
- Improving forest roads, protecting river zones, and applying close-to-nature silviculture



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Enhancing the Resilience of Ukraine's Carpathian Forests through Close-to-Nature Sustainable Forest Management



We are also making progress on the legislative front:

- **In 2019, clear-cutting was banned on steep fir-beech slopes**
- **In 2020, rules for logging in mountain forests were strengthened**
- **In 2024, our government banned main-use clear-cutting across the entire Carpathian region. This ban will take full effect within three years.**



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Ukrainian foresters continue to plant forests and rescue wildlife even under rocket fire



In April 2025, joint fire-tactical exercises took place in the Carpathian forests, involving rescuers and foresters.



The only institution responsible for developing forest management plans—UKRDERZHLISPROEKT—was under occupation, its equipment looted, facilities damaged.



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Mobilizing Leadership: A Call to Support Ukraine's Forest Sector



Ukraine's Forestry Needs

- **Technical cooperation for forest management, forest restoration and forest management planning**
 - **Support for the transition to close to nature sustainable forest management in Carpathian.**
 - **Joint research and monitoring to understand how war and climate are affecting our forests and how to respond.**
 - **Policy coordination to integrate Ukraine into European forest policy efforts.**
 - **Support for the protection of biodiversity, including the protection of virgin forests in the Carpathians.**
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Ukraine's Request for Leadership: A Dedicated Support Program for Carpathian Forestry Development



Ukraine would be very grateful if the UNEP and the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention could take the lead in developing a dedicated support program for sustainable forest management in the Ukrainian Carpathians and begin mobilizing funds for the first support project as soon as possible.

We also hope that, as declared at the last Ministerial Conference, FOREST EUROPE will actively contribute to attracting donors for the implementation of such a program.



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UKRAINE'S FORESTS NEED YOUR SUPPORT! Thank you!

**Mariana Ostrovska, the State Forest
Resource Agency of Ukraine
m.ostrovska@forest.gov.ua**