

## **YOU AND ME, WHAT DO WE HAVE TO DO?**

We want to improve shelter and food availability for the wildlife of Freita and Arada mountains.

We have committed ourselves to manage, for 10 years, 100 ha of common land belonging to the União das Freguesias de Carvalhais e Candal (S. Pedro do Sul) and through this campaign we intend to reinforce our property management capabilities.

We have a concrete goal: to make this property a better habitat for a greater diversity of birds and for the wild preys of the wolf, especially the roe deer. This way, we hope to help the conservation of the Arada pack of wolves and reduce the social conflicts associated with their presence.

### **PROJECT:**

Montis is the manager of a property with 100 ha that belongs to the common land of Carvalhais, União das Freguesias de Carvalhais e Candal, S. Pedro do Sul.

With this campaign, we intend to increase the resources for the sustainable management of the property.

We aim to intervene strategically in the property, restoring it and increasing the refuge areas for wildlife, especially the roe deer that is being reintroduced in the region as one of the main preys of the wolf.

Our priority is to work on the lower areas of the property, which are more favourable to the accumulation of soil and moisture, in order to accelerate the recovery of vegetation along the water lines. This will bring forward the growth of small woodlands and bushes that provide good shelter for the roe deer and other wildlife in a continuous way, like a circulatory system that will benefit the entire property.

Complementarily, we will create “edible forests” with plant species that guarantee more food to a greater diversity of birds.

All financial resources obtained through this crowdfunding campaign will be used in management actions implemented by people who want to take in their hands the opportunity to manage nature in a non-professional way. Montis has submitted applications to other funding sources, such as the PDR 2020 or ACHLI (Association for the Conservation of Iberian Wolf Habitat) support management programme, to accomplish all tasks that cannot be performed through volunteer work, such as controlled fire or rotational grazing. Those will be accomplished through contracting professional services.

Our purpose is that professional management actions and volunteering activities complement each other to obtain faster and more consistent results. Double funding for the same actions will be entirely avoided.

The management model we have chosen, combining professional management and the involvement of common people in the management of natural areas, will give more solid roots to the project, creating sustainability in the medium and long term and launching the basis for a program that will involve Montis members in the management of natural heritage through the following years.

The main actions to be financed through this campaign (obviously excluded from the above mentioned applications to funds) are the following:

- Use of natural engineering techniques, such as the construction of small dams for the accumulation of sediments and installation of living hedges;
- Planting of "edible forests" (with species like junipers, strawberry trees, European yews, hawthorns, Portugal laurels, mastic trees).

Crowdfunding will provide the resources to perform various management actions over one year, some more recreational, some more geared to education and training: volunteer weekends, corporate team building, natural engineering workshops, a international work camp, for example. Our goal is to ensure approximately 291 days of work on the property, that is, more than one employee equivalent.

#### **ABOUT THE PROMOTER:**

MONTIS – Nature Conservation Association is an NGO and non-profit organization whose main objective is to manage territories, with relevance for the conservation of natural values. It was created in March 23, 2014 and it is based in Vouzela, Viseu.

We have at present nearly 350 members, in Portugal and abroad, and we work to ensure the development of natural processes, promoting the conservation of native species and the smart management of wildfires and other natural risks. It is our aim to increase the market value of biodiversity.

Montis has started its activities in the mountains surrounding the rivers Vouga and Paiva (Freita, Arada, Lapa e Caramulo mountains), where the association manages presently around 155 ha, but intends to extend its activity in other areas of Portugal.

Every month we organize a walk for our members and a day dedicated to volunteer work in our properties. We also organize locally 2 seminars per year, on subjects pertaining to conservation and biodiversity.

[www.montisacn.blogspot.pt](http://www.montisacn.blogspot.pt)

#### **BUDGET AND DEADLINES**

The campaign will run for two months. It begins on **April 15 and ends on June 15 2016.**

The management actions that will take place over one year have a total cost of **9.282,50 €**.

Field work equipment and protection equipment (sticks, poles, fences...) and tents for volunteers have a total cost of **2.299,00 €**.

For project management we need **5.000,00€**.

**Total: 16.581,50 €.**

**Note:** Montis has the support of a company that will contribute with one euro for every four euros raised, up to a total of 3000 €.

### **REWARDS (all rewards can be used by yourself or offered to a third party):**

#### **5€:**

- **Voucher**, of the same amount, to participate in future paid activities of Montis.
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management.

#### **10€:**

- **Voucher**, of the same amount, to participate in future paid activities of Montis.
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management.

#### **25€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- **Voucher**, of 5€, to participate in future paid activities of Montis;

#### **50€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- **A climb of one of the mountain rivers**, half day, backed by guides for a group up to **5 persons**. (Alternatively, can be designed a specific route depending on the interests and characteristics of the group, including the use of a joellete for people with reduced mobility);

#### **75€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- An **inscription in one of the workshops** of natural engineering (a weekend).

### **150€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- **A climb of one of the mountain rivers**, half day, backed by guides for a group up to **15 persons**. (Alternatively, can be designed a specific route depending on the interests and characteristics of the group, including the use of a joellete for people with reduced mobility);

### **200€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- An **inscription in an international work camp** (one week / 10 days).

### **300€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- **A climb of one of the mountain rivers**, half day, backed by guides for a group up to **30 persons**. (Alternatively, can be designed a specific route depending on the interests and characteristics of the group, including the use of a joellete for people with reduced mobility);

### **OR**

- **Exclusive training program for 10 participants** (a weekend).

### **500€:**

- An **inscription of member** corresponding to 20 € of annual quota;
- **Annual digital report**, with the actions and results of land management;
- **Photo tour of a weekend** (with nature photographer João Cosme) **to 5 participants**. (Includes breakfast and accommodation)