

## Project Update: January 2014

We successfully conducted a survey in Central and South-East Armenia in from 1<sup>st</sup> to 24th December 2013. We visited the following areas and counted wild goats: Nuvadi (Nrnadzor) Valley (Arevik NP) – 258 goats, Noravank Canyon – 168 goats, Ekhegis Gorge and Ardoikar cliffs – 147 goats, Kakavaberd and Khosrov branches of Khosrov NR – 93 goats. In Eghegis A. Malkhasyan witnessed and even photographed copulating goats. It is a rare event at daylight, probably happened due to intense snowfall. In Noravank, Eghegis and Ardoikar, our team was accompanied by two zoologists from Georgian NGO NACRES (George Gorgadze and Ivane Skhirtladze), who are working on a grant from Rufford (on river otter in Georgia) and now are interested in surveying bezoar goats there.

All photos by Alexander Malkhasyan.



Left: A female with very long horns in Eghegis. Right: Mature male mating with a yearling female just opposite the Observation point in Shatin village in Eghegis Gorge.



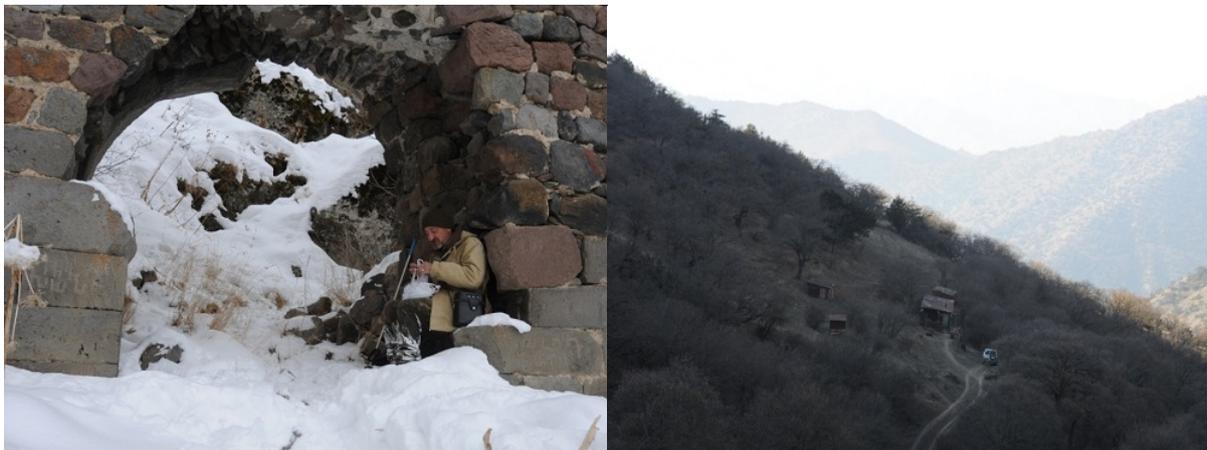
Left: Crossing the river in Kakavaberd. Right: On route in Khosrov.



Left: Visiting Ardoikar cliffs. Right: Leaving Kakavaberd.



Left: Noravank canyon. Right: Eghegis gorge.



Left: Lunch in the main gateway of early medieval Kakavaberd Fortress in Kakavaberd branch of Khosrov NR. Right: Our cabin in Nuvadi.



Left: Observing goats in Nuvadi. Right: Mature male courting a female in Nuvadi. Her kid is on the left.



Mature males.