

Progressive Report I

Title of Application: Reviving Oriental (Anatolian) Sweetgum Forest by implementing Action

Plan in Southwestern Turkey

Name of leader: Okan Urker

Project ID: 33742-D

Report Date: 23 February 2021

Place: Koycegiz-TURKEY

We have just started our new term studies for the protection of Anatolian sweetgum forests under pandemic conditions within the scope of Rufford Foundation's financial support.

During the first phase studies, the latest status of afforestation we carried out with the Köyceğiz Forest Management Directorate in previous years, winter period data from bat boxes and photo traps and amphibian-reptile observations were carried out and/or checked.

In addition, after giving information and sharing documents about the works we have done in the past to Mr. Adem Acar, who has just been appointed as the Manager of Köyceğiz Forestry Department, consultations were held about our current period works.



The winter view (right) of the afforestation site when it had planted in 2010 (left) within the World Youth Congress

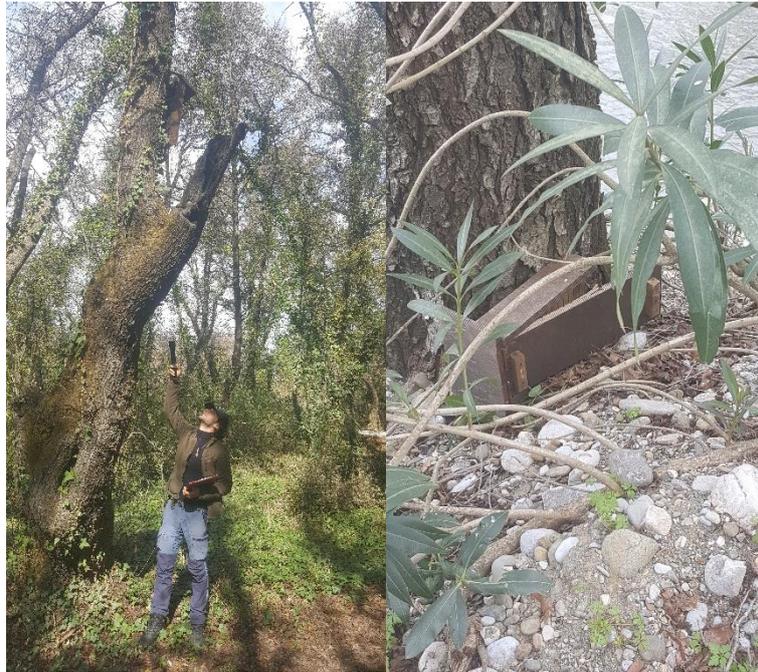


The winter view (right) of the school forests site when it had planted in 2011 (left) within the World Forestry Week



The winter view (right) of the afforestation site when it had planted in 2015 (left) within the World Forestry Week

The study of the survival rate on those afforested places will be done between this spring and summer period.



The bat boxes were checked for wintering activities (left). The bat boxes that have been stolen, broken or lost their function were also checked and observations were made to replace them (right).



Winter activities for amphibians and reptiles have been observed.

In the next 3 months, it is planned to organize afforestation activities within the scope of World Forestry Week, to review the Sweetgum Action Plan and to complete and report information on what stakeholders have done so far, to continue herpetofauna research, bat boxes and photo-trap controls and new bat boxes to be placed on the field.