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## CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF EUROPEAN WILDLIFE AND NATURAL HABITATS

## **Standing Committee**

41<sup>st</sup> meeting Strasbourg, 30 November – 3 December 2021

Other complaint: 2020/02

Logging threats to the Black Tysa River in Emerald Network site "Marmaroski ta Chyvchyno-Hryniavski Hory" (UA0000117) (Ukraine)

- REPORT BY THE COMPLAINANT -

Document prepared by ECOSPHERE

Other Complaint no. 2020/02: Ukraine: Logging threats to the Black Tysa River in Emerald Network site "Marmaroski ta Chyvchyno-Hryniavski Hory" (UA0000117):

Since our complaint in 2020, the situation has not changed, it has even worsened. During 2020-2021, Yasinyanske State Forestry and Hunting Enterparise (SFHE) has been carrying out sanitary clear-cuts in the valley of the Chorna Tysa (Black Tysa) river; heavy wheel and caterpillar machinery works on steep slopes in the forest, causing soil erosion. Mountain rivers, tributaries of the Black Tysa, are used as roads for timber transportation vehicles. This is the cause of destruction of these river ecosystems and is prohibited by law. Fuels and lubricants from the heavy machinery also pollute the water. There are no bridges across the Black Tysa and its tributaries within the Chornotysianske Forestry Sub-unit of the Yasinyanske SFHE, timber trucks and skidding tractors transport logs across the riverbed, even during a spawning season. Log depots and loading platforms are located on the banks right at the riverbed. As a result, coniferous wood is taken by floods into the river, creating dams and polluting the water with tar (this was described in our previous complaint). All these facts were confirmed by the State Ecological Inspectorate in the Zakarpattia province, which carried out an inspection of this Forestry Enterprise on our complaint. As a result, 2 officials were brought to administrative responsibility and fined (Annex 1). But the situation still remains the same.



More photos can be found in Annex 2