

Press Release



MATA DO BUÇACO FOUNDATION AND FORESTWISE UNITE FOR FUEL MANAGEMENT

Bussaco, 7th March 2023

Mata Nacional do Bussaco and CoLAB ForestWISE – Collaborative Laboratory for Integrated Forest and Fire Management are joining forces to guarantee the mission of preserving the heritage of this National Monument, through the REACT-GesCoMB – Fuel Management in Mata Nacional do Bussaco project.

The integrated management of the Bussaco National Forest requires particular attention, involving the preservation of the forest heritage and its biodiversity. Rural fires and the proliferation of invasive woody plants within the forest and the surrounding area jeopardise the balance of the ecosystem.

This is how the REACT-GesCoMB – Bussaco National Forest Fuel Management project came about, which aims to improve an area of the forest covering more than 60 hectares, divided into 13 plots. This area was selected on the basis of the high and dense load of combustible biomass and the type of vegetation involved in these plots.

The project also includes the maintenance of around 1,380 metres of forest road network, to promote and facilitate the mobility of fire-fighting vehicles and other vehicles to support the management of the forest.

Running until the end of 2023, work on the plots included in the project will begin soon. Consequently, the work may result in temporary restrictions on access to certain areas of the forest.

The REACT-GesCoMB project is the result of an application under Call No. 1/REACT-EU/2022 Support for the Climate Transition "Interventions for the Resilience of Territories in the Face of Risk | Fuel Management in Territories Subject to the Forestry Regime (National Forests and Forest Perimeters) and Consequent Recovery and Maintenance", launched by COMPETE 2020, taking into account issues related to forest management.

For more information:

Fundação Mata do Bussaco: gabpresidencia@fmb.pt

or

CoLAB ForestWISE: media@forestwise.pt



Press Release



About the Bussaco National Forest:

Classified as a Property of Public Interest, the monumental complex of Bussaco mobilises a wealth of exceptional heritage. In addition to the central centre formed by the Palace Hotel do Bussaco and the Convent of Santa Cruz, there are the residential hermitages, the chapels of devotion and the Steps that make up the Way of the Cross, the Fence with the Gates, the Military Museum and the monument commemorating the Battle of Bussaco, the crosses, the fountains (especially the Fonte Fria with its monumental staircase) and cisterns, the viewpoints (the Cruz Alta offers a privileged view over the entire region between Coimbra and the Serra do Caramulo) and the forest houses.

<https://fmb.pt>

About CoLAB ForestWISE:

CoLAB ForestWISE - Collaborative Laboratory for Integrated Forest and Fire Management is a private, nonprofit association with legal personality. Its aim is to promote integrated forest and fire management through (co)research, innovation and knowledge and technology transfer activities with a view to contributing to more sustainable forest management in Portugal, enhancing the value of forest products and services, reducing the negative consequences of major rural fires, increasing the competitiveness of the Portuguese forestry sector, boosting sustainable development in low-density territories and promoting scientific employment. CoLAB ForestWISE acts as a uniting element between industry, academia and public administration, leveraging existing knowledge in centers of knowledge and applying it to solve concrete, current and emerging problems in companies and in the fields of forestry and fire, meeting the major societal challenges.

www.forestwise.pt

