Black poplar
Implementing the activities related to study of Black poplar NP Rusenski Lom Directorate has performed procurement procedure according to Bulgarian legislation.

Having performed inquiry among experts in the field, there has been selected and contracted the company AL IV Forest.
The contractor and experts from NP Rusenski Lom Directorate have followed the set methodology in search of individual Black poplars in the area of Ruse (Rusenski Lom)–Kalimok-Brashlen.

It has been a real challenge to find 30 individual Black poplars in the relevant area.
• From each tree there has been gathered and kept leave samples.
• All trees were marked according to the set requirements and all materials were properly linked to the marked tree.
• A part of these leaves was sent for analysis and another one was precisely measured for establishment of their morphology.
Conclusion

The main conclusion we made on this stage of the project was, that the Black poplar is a specie degraded by economic activities in the area. It was replaced by hybrid poplar used in mass timber industry.
Measures for restoration of the specie

• Having informed the Lead Partner and the JTS we got approval to use the unspent funds from morphology activities for restoration of Black poplar. We have performed afforestation of Black poplar on 3 ha regularly flooded municipal lands near Brashlen.

• NPRLD purchased seedlings from poplar nursery in Pazardjik BG and Calarasi RO. All seedlings had certificate for origin.
Measures for restoration of the specie

• In performing afforestation we worked in cooperation with the Brashlen local community.

• After growing the seedlings over this time, 97% of them have survived the first months. This afforestation is a good contribution to re-naturalize the forests in the region, which were degraded due to hybrid poplar plantations.
Thank you for attention!

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