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LOW-ALTITUDE PERMAFROST RESEARCH IN AN OVERCOOLED TALUS SLOPE–ROCK GLACIER SYSTEM IN THE ROMANIAN CARPATHIANS (DETUNATA GOALĂ, APUSENI MOUNTAINS)

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Abstract

Ground and air temperature monitoring, geophysical soundings and dendrological investigations were applied to a basaltic talus slope–rock glacier system from Detunata site in the Apuseni Mountains (Western Romanian Carpathians) to verify the presence of sporadic permafrost at 1020–1110 m asl, well below the regional limit of mountain permafrost. The near -0° C mean annual ground surface temperatures imposed by the large negative annual thermal anomalies of the ground (up to 7.4°C), together with the high resistivity values and the occurrence of trees with severe growth anomalies, support the presence of permafrost at this location. Temperature

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