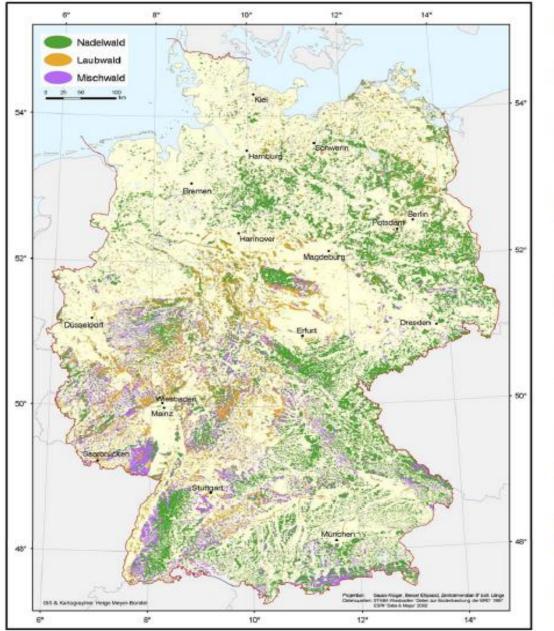
Best practices from Germany on sustainable forest management

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Forests in Germany



Forest area: 11 x 10⁶ ha

Forest cover: 32 %

Average standing volume 317 m³ ha⁻¹

Average PAI 12 m³ ha⁻¹ y⁻¹

Average annual cut 8 m³ ha⁻¹ yr⁻¹ (66 % of PAI)

Total annual increment 134 x 10⁶ m³ yr⁻¹

Total annual harvest 89 x 10⁶ m³ yr⁻¹

Ownership 43 % private 37 % state 20 % community



Until the 18th century large forest areas in Germany had been devastated. The state rehabilitated the forests mainly with conifer plantations.

In the 19th century the concept of CNF "close-to nature forest management" was developed, which is implemented in most forests in Germany now



Large spruce monocultures close to Munich, established in 1840, had to be clearcut after insect damages in 1920. Due to the climatic conditions (i.e. frost), competing vegetation and deer browsing spruce monocultures developed again.

Storm damages in German forests between 1980 and 2007, more than 90 % occured in pure conifer forests ! 1990: 73 Mio m³, 1999: 33,9 Mio m³, 2007: 37 Mio m³

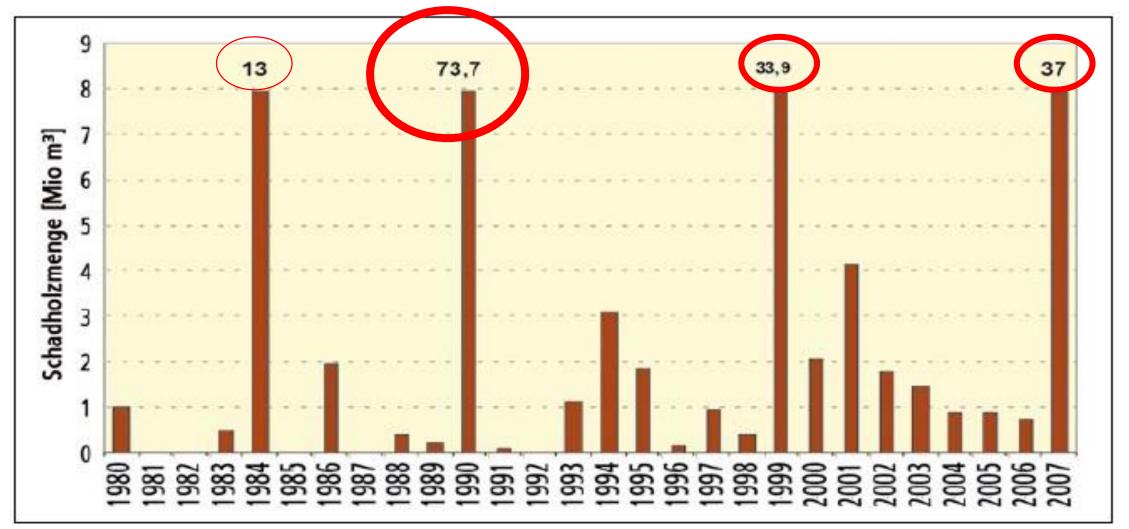
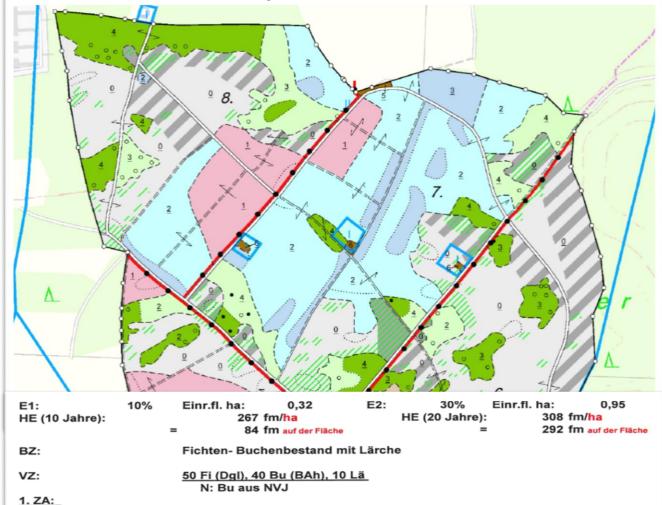


Abb. 1: Häufigkeit von Sturmschäden und Menge des Schadholzes durch Stürme in Deutschland im Zeitraum 1980 bis 2007

Sustainable forest practices: Forest Management Plan for 20 years for stand treatment



Forest Management Plan for communal forests

Forest Management Map 1:5000 of former pure spruce area after 40 years of conversion of monocultures:

Dark-green and dark-blue areas are broadleaf-dominated young stands

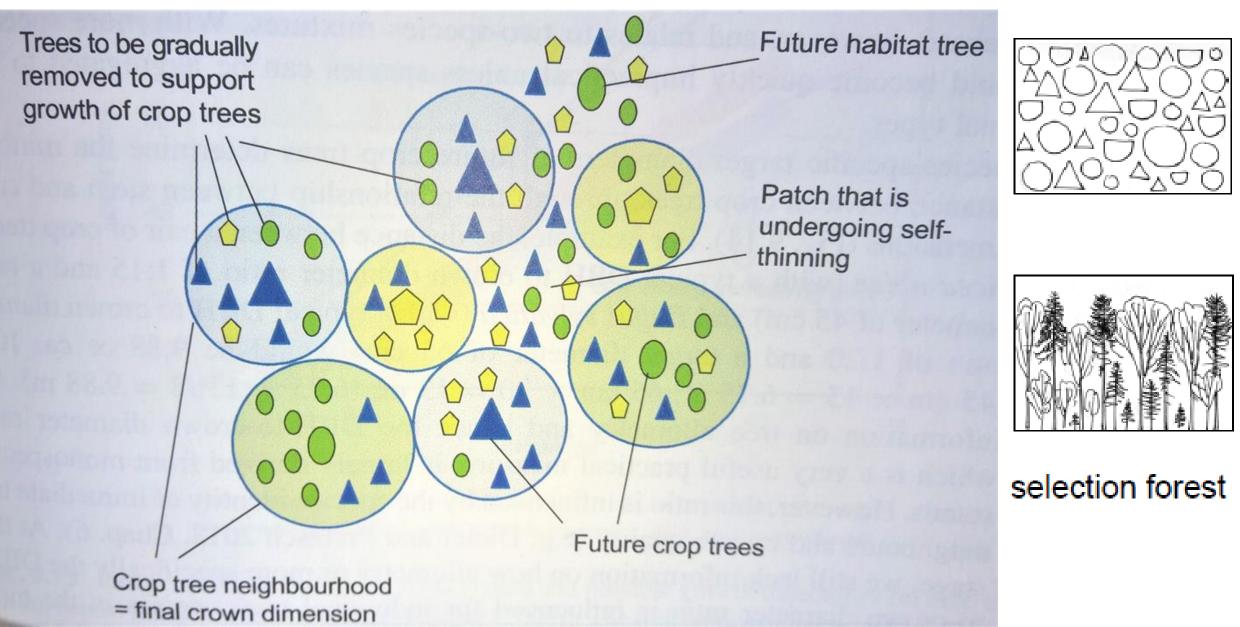
Exemplary stand description and planning sheet:

- With target species mix (BZ)
- Regeneration target by species in % (VZ)
- Cutting intensity by volume for 2 decades

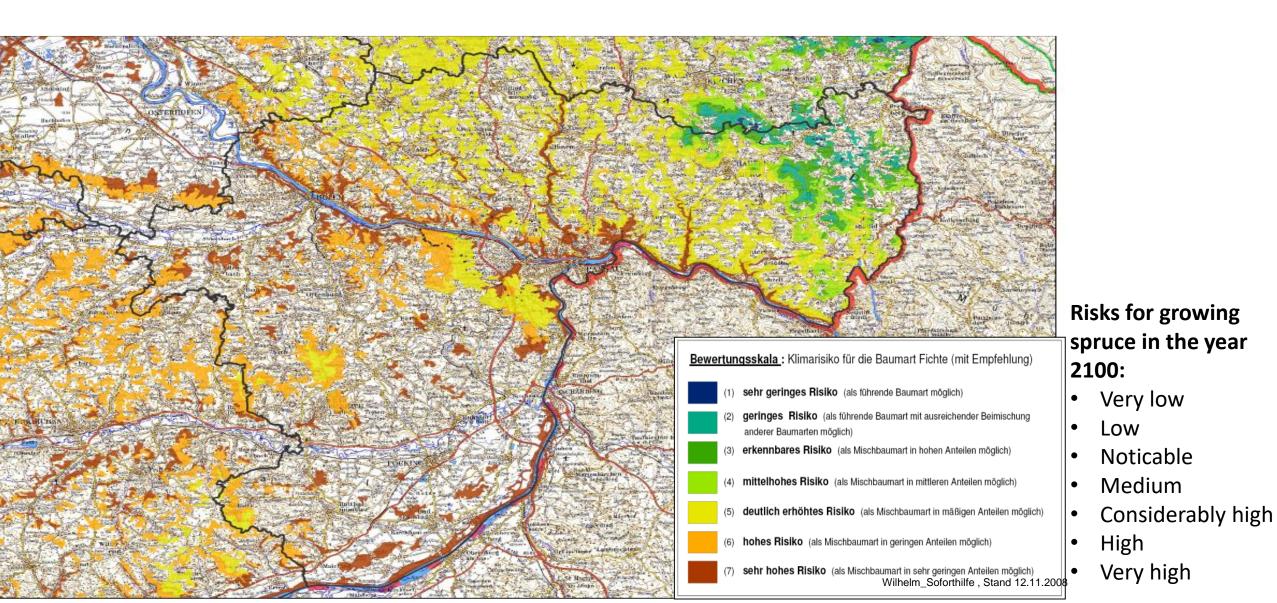
Ausnutzen lichter Bereiche und Schaffen von Gruppenshirmstellungen zur VV von Bu, Nachlichten über gesicherter Bu- VV-Gruppen entsprechend ihrem Lichtbedürfnis, gesicherte Bu-VV mit Fi aus NVJ zusammenführen, Bu mit Lä durchstellen, Waldrandgestaltung.

2. ZA: Fortführen der Verjüngung wie im 1. ZA.

Sustainable forest practices: Selection management

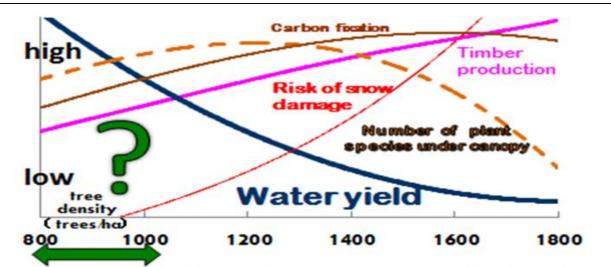


CLIMATE CHANGE RISK MAP: SPRUCE, YEAR 2100

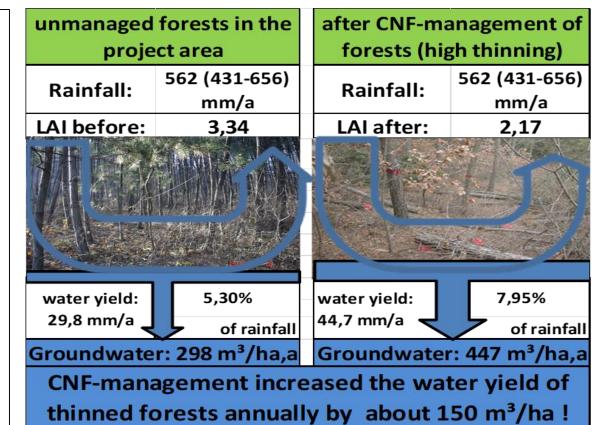


Sustainable forest practices, climate change and other forest functions like water protection

• Waterharvesting by thinning of monocultures could be achieved in young planted forests in the Miyun watershed



In the young stands of the project the optimum tree density for forests with dominating water yielding function is less than 1000 trees/ha. Depending on tree species, mixture, structure, age and site conditions we planned for each stand individual tree densities with less than 1000 trees/ha. In order to maintain the stand stability we planned 1 to 3 thinnings within 10 years with defined cutting intensities to achieve such "water-yielding" tree densities.



Sustainable forest practices and climate change in the EU

- Close-to-nature silviculture is widely recognized to be more effective in adapting forests to climate change. It promotes the use of natural and/or site-adapted tree species in mixed forests, aims to diversify the vertical and horizontal stand structures, promotes natural regeneration and avoids large clear cuts.
- Even-aged silviculture can also be practiced sustainably: In boreal regions with large forest areas that will naturally regenerate and often are affected by forest fire and pest outbreaks as part of their regeneration cycle, even-aged management is considered close-to-nature.
- Plantation forests have a low resilience to disturbances, but due to short rotations, they offer more frequent options to adapt the tree species selection to the changing climate

