



CCF and FOREST RESILIENCE in the face of CLIMATE CHANGE: the EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVE



photo Petr Válek



Green Deal – circular (bio)economy

EU Forest Strategy for 2030 – mitigation of climate change, resilience of forests, closer-to-nature forestry

EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 – stop the loss of biodiversity

Nature Restoration Law – protect 30 % of land/sea (20+10)

+ new potential **EC certification system** for closer-to-nature-forestry

= to change the state of European forests

2 questions:

HOW to change the state of forests (CCF, CTNF...)

WHO can change it?

Uncertainty: Tree mortality

Continental Europe

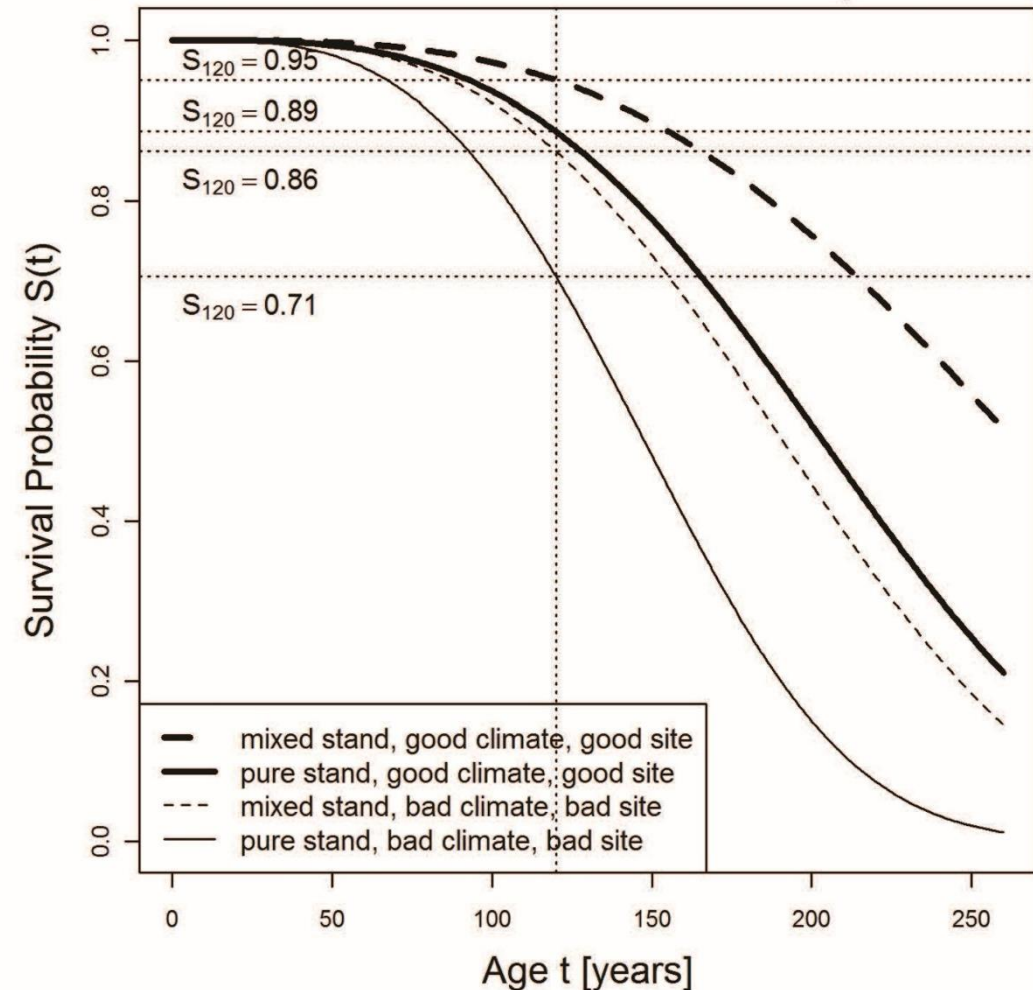
Forestry is a field that currently works with the highest level of uncertainty!

How much time do we have to change the forests?

40-70 years?

Ireland – partly different perspective:
afforestation of former agricultural land

Effect of mixture on survival probability



Neuner et al. 2014. Global Change Biology 21: 935-946



HOW to change the state of European forests



Even-aged
Regular
Unified
Loss of biodiversity

Continental Europe
Norway spruce



Ireland
Sitka spruce



Uneven-aged
Irregular
Diversified
Support of biodiversity

HOW to change the state of European forests



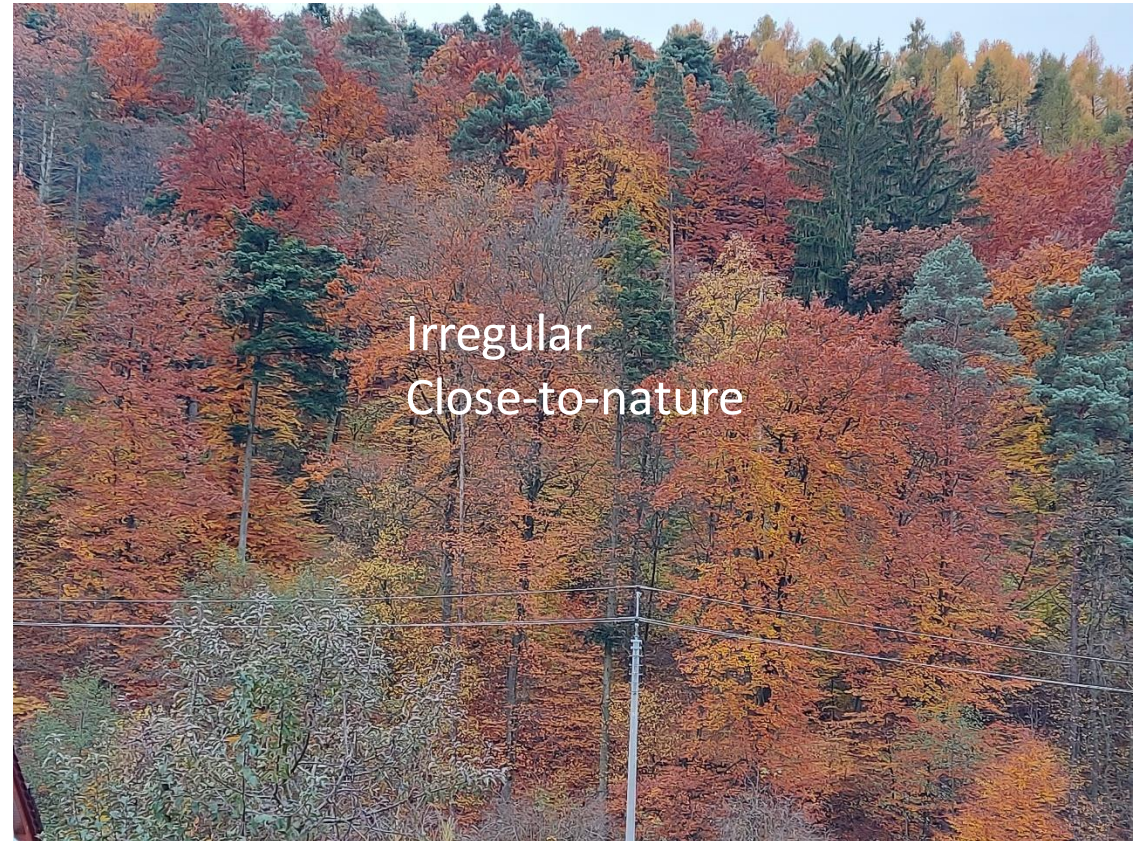
Regular
Continuous cover

Continental Europe



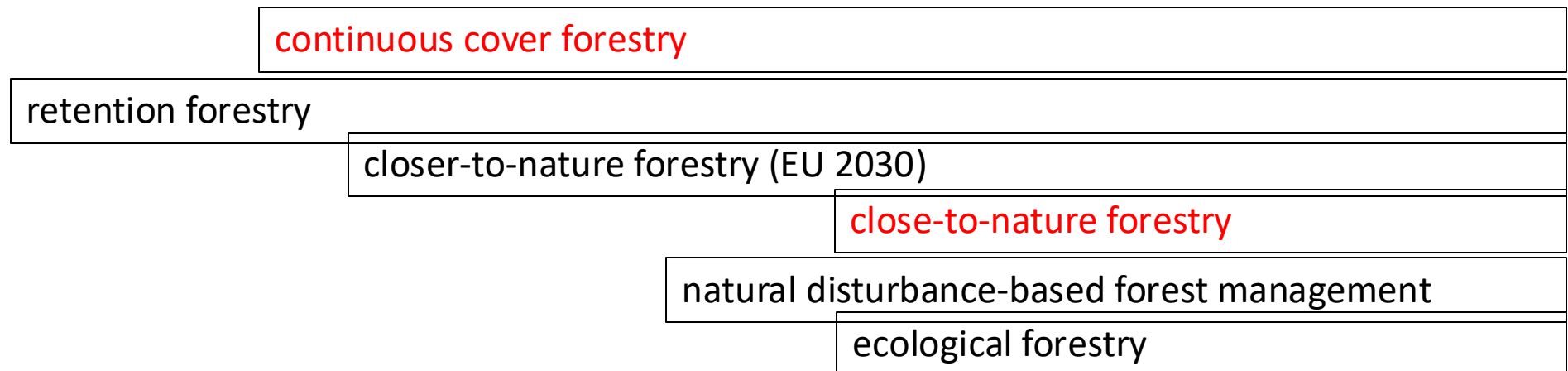
bark beetle outbreak is possible to see,

but we have big hidden problem –
loss of valuable timber

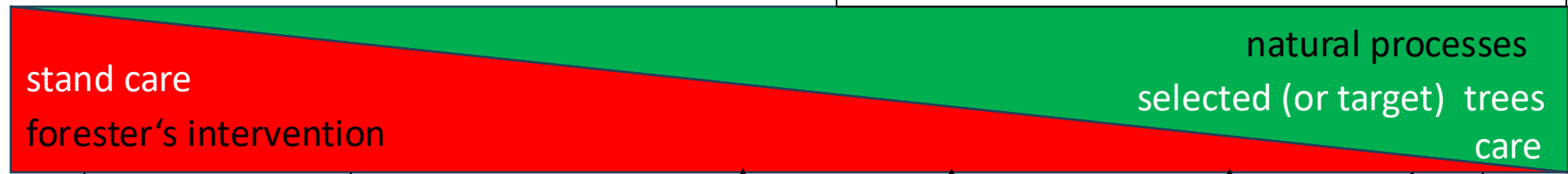


Irregular
Close-to-nature

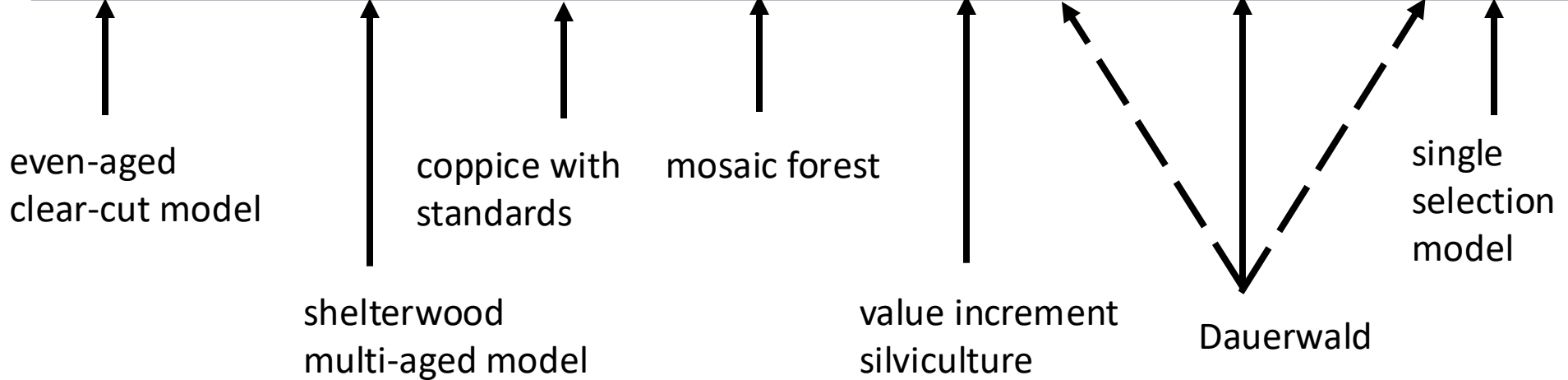
CONCEPTS



„even-aged“
„regular“
principle



„uneven-aged“
„irregular“
principle

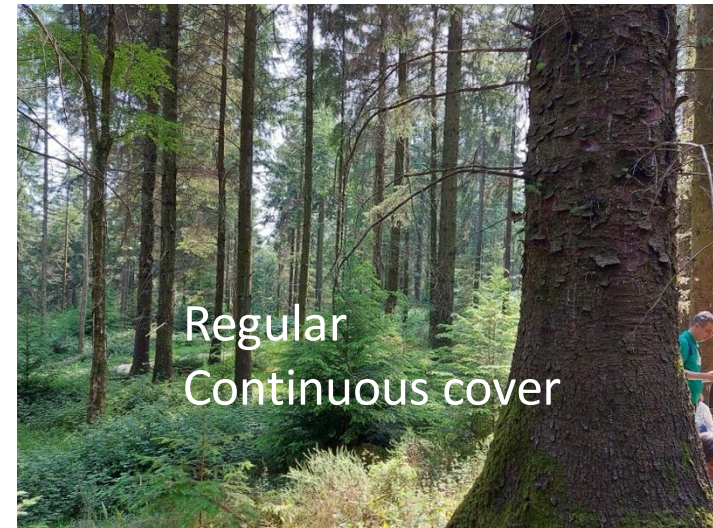
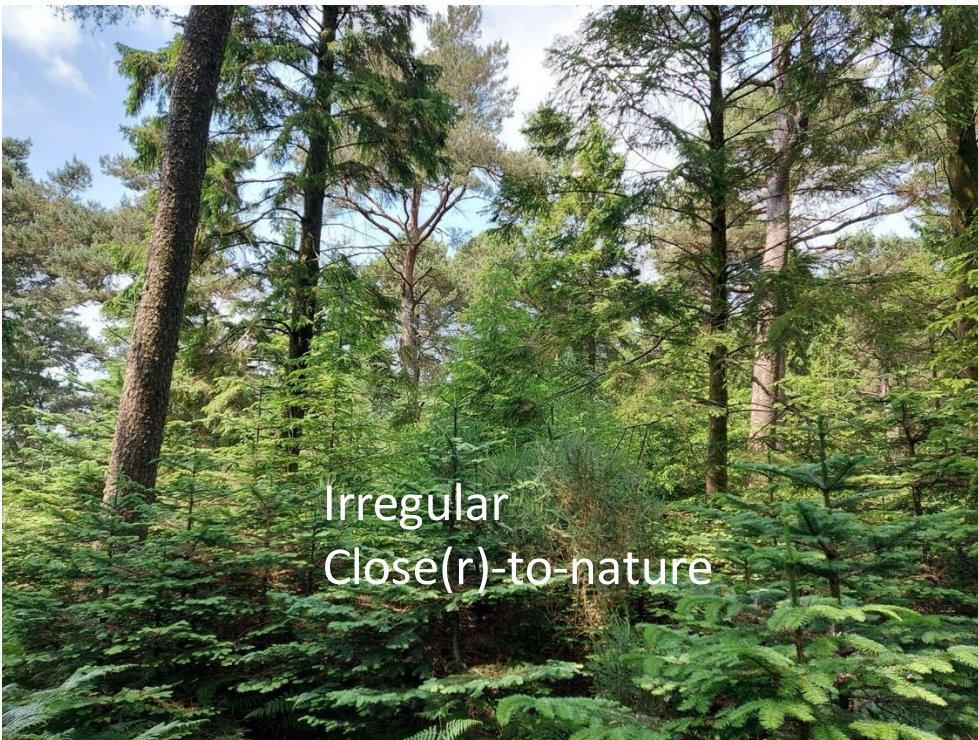


- MENDELU
- University Forest
- Enterprise Masaryk
- Forest in Křtiny

MODELS

HOW to change the state of European forests

Irish trajectory





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WHO to change the state of European Forests - EP, EC, EEA, EFI, Universities, Authorities?

FORESTERS + FOREST WORKERS

foresters have to: WANT – CAN – BE ABLE (to know how)

forest workers need: qualified forester, long-term job, regular salary, to return to the same forest stands

It costs a lot of money! Close-to-nature forestry brings the savings!

Close-to-nature forestry =

- to use the more natural power (lower human input) to produce high quality timber continually
- to work with more complex ecosystem (more irregularity, more biodiversity = higher resilience)
- to work with qualified responsible workers

triple WIN strategy – HQ timber / biodiversity+resilience / social role=local people

Plantation – CCF - CTNF



WANT = change the mind

CAN = owner's decision

BE ABLE TO DO IT = to know how to do it

- theoretically lessons
- practical presentations in the field
- practical training on the training plots
- first change in the forests managed by me
- broader practical applications
- first results need min. 20 years

It cannot be ordered by some regulation!

CCF (shelterwood- CTNF (Dauerwald)





Integrated forest management = HQ timber (economy) + biodiversity (resilience) + people (social role)

CTNF practitioners need political and financial support to share the knowledges with other colleagues.

- we know why they are so careful to change the silvicultural models
- we know how to explain the necessity of big change in mind, in daily practice
- we are able to earn their trust

ONLY the motivated „dot makers“ can change the state of forests



Pro Silva = foresters who advocate forest management based on natural processes

Main level: daily practice in the close-to-nature forestry, adaptation of forests to climate change

Mission: we are practical knowledge hub with enlarged hand of lobbying in policy and science

Funding: volunteers only, own funding

Main target group: practitioners – foresters, forest owners; bilateral cooperation with scientists

23 national branches = more than 6.000 members + 7 associated group members across the World

We are „dot makers“ wo change the state of forests DAILY

www.prosilva.org



NEW VISION?

Climate change + new social expectations of fulfilling the functions of forests = new role of foresters

We cannot „control“ the forests due to silviculture as we mentiod in the past. No possibility to control the nature.

We should discuss about the redefinition of silviculture according to Puettmann et al. (2025):

it could be „art and science supporting and stewarding forest and woodland ecosystems and their ability to adapt in order to foster the diverse values of forest’s contributions to people.....“

Our tool is PERSEVERANCE



Pro Silva

Integrated forest management for resilience and sustainability across 25 countries



HAPPY BIRTHDAY – 25 years – PRO SILVA IRELAND



14th March 2025

Pro Silva Ireland – 25th Anniversary

TOmáš Vrška, Pro Silva president