

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE Old-growth forests: policy and practice

October 10-11, 2024

10:00 am – 17:30 pm (EEST); 9:00 am – 16:30 pm (CET), hybrid

Co-organized by Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava (Latvia)
and Horizon Europe project FORWARDS

AGENDA



October 10

- 10:00
(EEST) Coffee
- 10:15 **Welcome and opening**
(10 min) *Jurgis Jansons, Director, Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava, Latvia*
- 10:25 **Welcome remarks from William S. Keeton**
(5 min) *Head of IUFRO working group on old-growth forests (USA)*
- 10:30 **Establishment of maximum biomass stock capacity of *Pinus sylvestris* forests at the level of global ecological zones**
(30 min) *Juan Alberto Molina-Valero, Postdoctoral researcher, Faculty of Environmental Sciences, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague (Czech Republic)*
- 11:00 **Monitoring and assessment of old-growth forest biodiversity in Poland: case study of the Białowieża Forest**
(30 min) *Maciej Lisiewicz, Assistant Professor, Department of Geomatics, Forest Research Institute (Poland)*
- 11:30 **Protection, Management, and Monitoring of Old-Growth Forests: Insights from the Nature Conservation Agency**
(30 min) *Gita Strode, Director of Department of Nature Conservation, Nature Conservation Agency (Latvia)*

12:00 **Carbon storages and fluxes in a chronosequence of Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) stands**
(30 min) *Mats Varik, Researcher, Estonian University of Life Sciences (Estonia)*

12:30 **Lunch break and poster session (from 13:30)**
(1 hour 30 min)

14:00 **Old growth forests definition and indicators: a case study for beech forests in Europe**
(20 min) *Kris Vandekerkhove, Senior scientist on Forest Ecology, Research Institute for Nature and Forest (INBO) (Belgium)*

14:20 **Latvia's perspective on defining old-growth forests**
(20 min) *Laura Kēniņa, Researcher, Latvian State Forest Research Institute Silava (Latvia)*

14:40 **Enhancing science-based knowledge on old-growth forests in Europe: Horizon project OptFor-EU and old growth forest research in Romania**
(20 min) *Any Mary Petritan, National Research and Development Institute in Forestry "Marin Dracea" (Romania)*

15:00 **SafeNet – Safeguarding biodiversity and carbon-rich forest networks in Europe**
(20 min) *Jukka Forsman and Mikko Peltoniemi, Luke (Finland)*

15:20 **Rewilding versus forest vulnerability: aligning natural dynamics and management for conservation and sustainability**
(20 min) *Sophia Djacenko, Research Assistant, Department of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Milan (Italy)*

15:40 **Scientific and conservation insights from old-growth forests in Slovenia**
(20 min) *Thomas A. Nagel, Assistant Professor, Department of Forestry and Renewable Forest Resources, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)*

16:00
(20 min) Coffee

Panel discussion

16:20
(1 hour) Defining old-growth forests within the European Union Biodiversity strategy 2030

17:20
(10 min) Concluding remarks

19:00 **Social dinner**

October 11

9:30-15:00 Forest site visit "Old-growth forests in Latvia"
