

Community forests in NRW and legal framework



The ownership of the forests is shared by the stockholders as an historically rooted legal framework. Due to different backgrounds in formation, there is no relation between the size of community forests and the number of stockholders.

The four cornerstones of the community forest law from 1975 are:

All stockholders are part of a public corporation, the forest cooperative

It is forbidden to dissolve forest areas which are part of a community forest

Consistent management policies for all kinds of community forests

The possibility to merge forest cooperatives or create new ones

For the creation of the community forest law in 1975, an advisory board with participants from all existing forms of community forests was formed. Because of this involvement the framework is well accepted and has proved its practicability. Since the implementation of the community forest law until 2002 only two new forest cooperatives have been founded. It is not easy to convince private forest owners to make this step

There are several advantages of community forests compared to small private forests:

a chairman can decide for all members how to manage the forest, especially after calamities such as a storm

merger of forest cooperatives and newly founded cooperatives improve the forest ownership structure

DETAILS

ORIGIN OF WOOD

Forest

TYPE OF WOOD

Stemwood

KIND OF WOOD CONCERNED

Stemwood

IMPACT ON ENVIRONMENT & BIODIVERSITY

Positive - depending on management decisions

INCOME EFFECT

Positive

EXPLOITATION POTENTIAL

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HUB

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ECONOMIC IMPACT

Estimated up to 50€/ ha

SPECIFIC KNOWLEDGE NEEDED

MOBILIZATION POTENTIAL

1 - 2 m³/ha in region of NRW

SUSTAINABILITY POTENTIAL - VALUE

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EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION

high

EASE OF IMPLEMENTATION - EVALUATION

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KEY PREREQUISITES

Regional ownership structures and legal frameworks need to be suitable; participation processes needed in the implementation

TYPE OF EVENT WHERE THIS BPI HAS BEEN FEATURED

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JOB EFFECT

More efficient forest operations and thinnings possible with higher forest work force

COSTS OF IMPLEMENTATION (EURO - €)

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Medium; need for specific regional structure knowledge and also administrative expertise

MORE DETAILS

CHALLENGE ADDRESSED

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KEYWORDS

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COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

Germany

DOMAIN

Ownership, cooperation

DIGITAL SOLUTION

No

SCALE OF APPLICATION

Regional/sub-national

TYPE OF SOLUTION

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INNOVATION

No

START AND END YEAR

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REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

MAIN WEBSITE

https://recht.nrw.de/lmi/owa/br_bes_detail

PROJECT WEBSITE

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PROJECT REFERENCE

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RESOURCES

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PROJECT UNDER WHICH THIS FACTSHEET HAS BEEN CREATED

Rosewood

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