

Sustainable Development of Forest Landscapes – the NEWAL-NET Research and Implementation Strategy

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Keywords: IMPACT ASSESSMENT, PARTICIPATION, EDUCATION

Abstract

The overall scientific goal of the NEWAL-NET* research group lies in the implementation of a region-specific example of sustainable forest development in a European model region within North-Eastern Germany by using existing natural, economic and social potentials. Site-specific scenarios of measures and strategies of forest utilization in their complex effects on the regional landscape system (ecosystem network plus forest users) under variable environmental and site conditions as well as economic, social and political boundary conditions are measured and evaluated. As a result optimized, site-specific options for action are derived. These contain elements of the adjustment to variable natural and social basic conditions by increase of self-adaptiveness, site plasticity and functional diversity of the forests as well as by development of various timber and wood assortments. The practical implementation of the development concepts will be prepared by a broad participation of local actors during a continuous transfer process and a 'landscape workshop', an action-oriented dialogue between science and the actors' ensemble (e.g. land owners, forest users, researchers). Furthermore, modules for an education for sustainable development are being developed together with teachers and students of both high schools (colleges) and vocational schools.

*<http://www.fz-juelich.de/ptj/waldwirtschaft/projekte>