



PRAHA, 07.01.2012

Lessons from 30 years of natural disturbances in the Bavarian Forst National Park

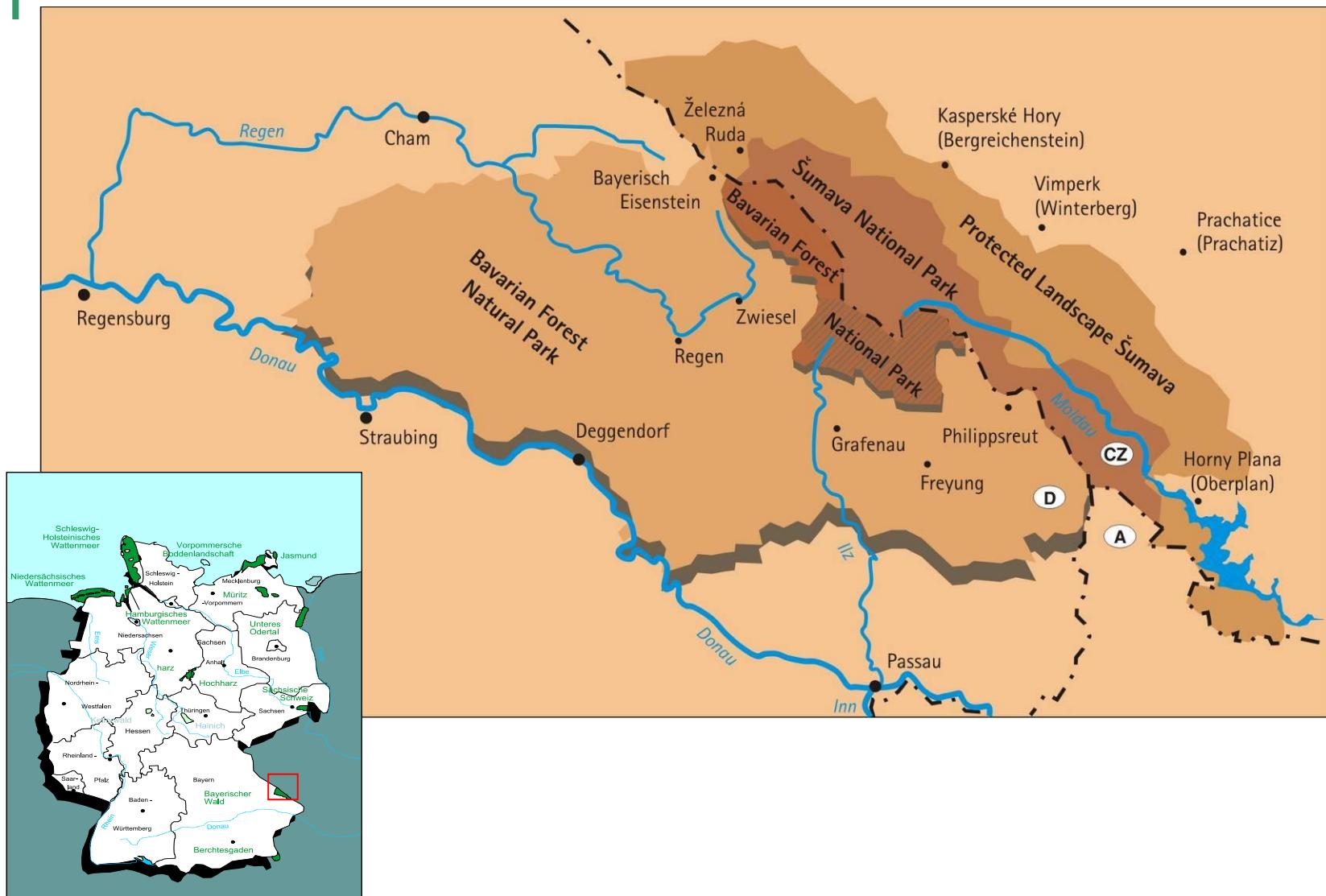
Marco Heurich



Nationalpark
Bayerischer Wald



Study Area



Study Area

Elevation: - 600m to 1.453m a.sl. (Großer Rachel)

Relief: - \pm steep slopes, SE-, S-, SW-orientation

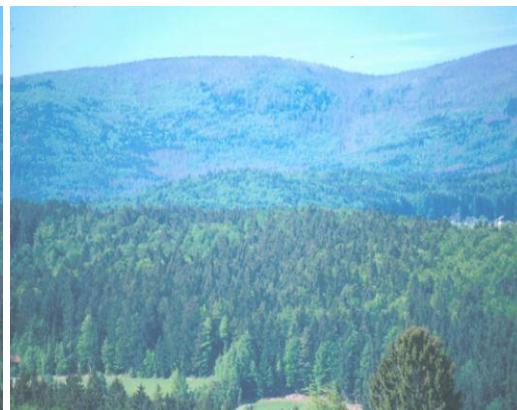
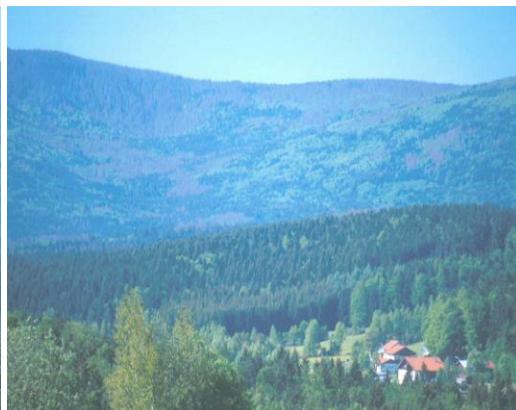
Geology: - Part of the Moldanubicum, a very old low mountain range

- Cristalline rocks (gneis, granite)

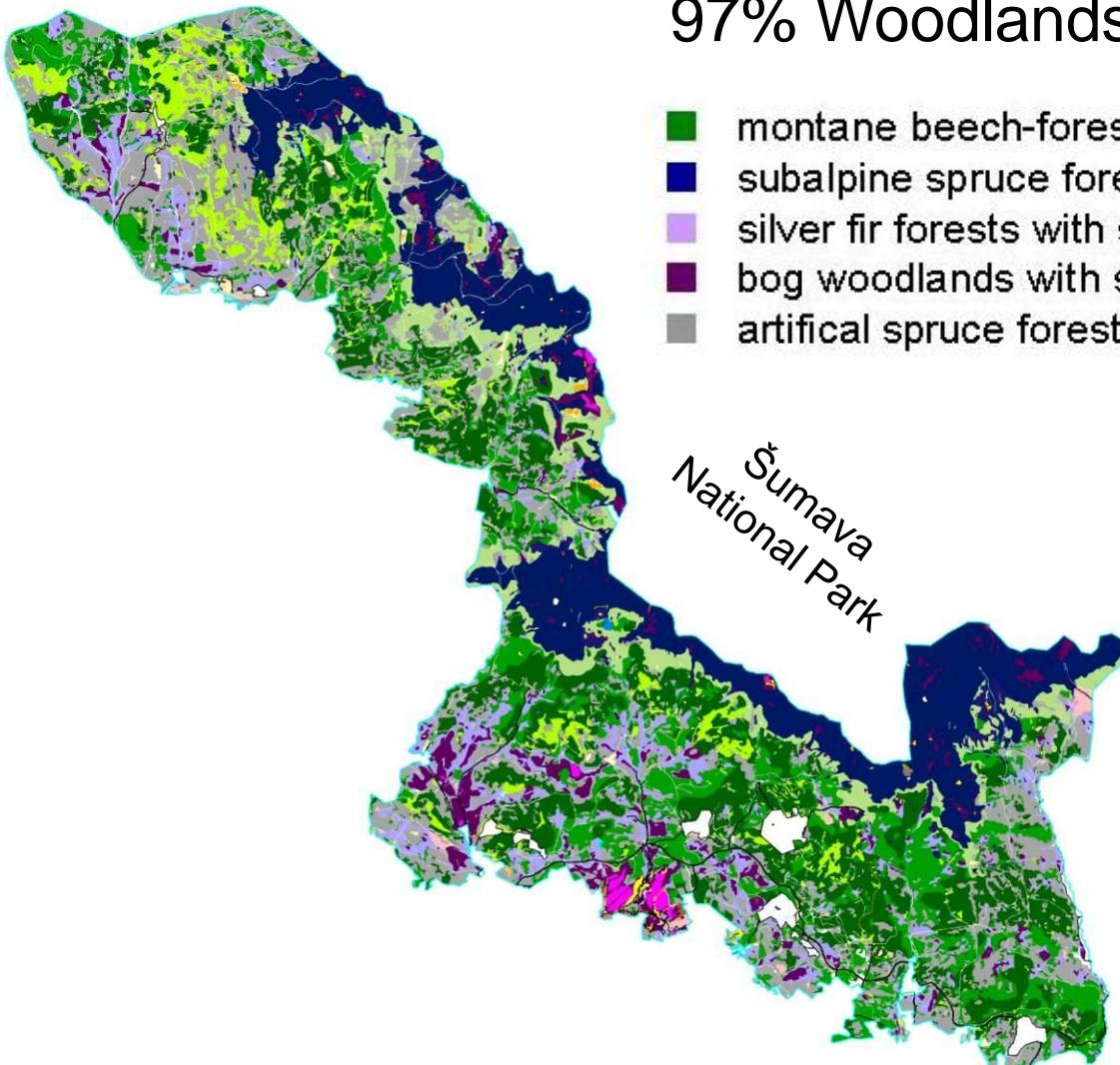
Soils: - Relatively poor and acid, stony

- 19% wet mineral or organic soils

Climate: - rough and humide



Vegetation



97% Woodlands

- montane beech-forests with spruce + fir (52%)
- subalpine spruce forests (19%)
- silver fir forests with spruce (8%)
- bog woodlands with spruce or pine (6%)
- artificial spruce forests (15%)

Bavarian Forest National Park

Foundation: 7th October 1970

Dimension: 13.300 hectares

1974: Added to UN list of National Parks (IUCN)

1986: European Diploma Category A

Extension: 1st August 1997

Actual size: 24.250 hectares

Primary aim:

Protection of natural or near-natural ecosystems
within there inherent dynamics

Windthrow ...

...Triggers of radical changes in the woodlands of the Bavarian Forest National Park

- Thunderstorm on 1st August 1983
- Heavy storms in autumn of 1984
 - **173 ha** windthrow area totally,
spread over 43 regions
 - **14,3 ha** in the mountain spruce
forests
 - **88 ha** in the strict protected zone
(~30.000 fm timber)



First Practical Test ...

...for the management of the National Park

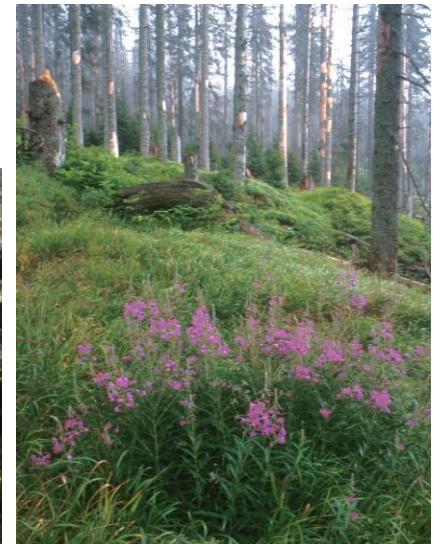
...and a quite new concept: The protection of dynamic processes

Bavarian State Minister Dr. Eisenmann:

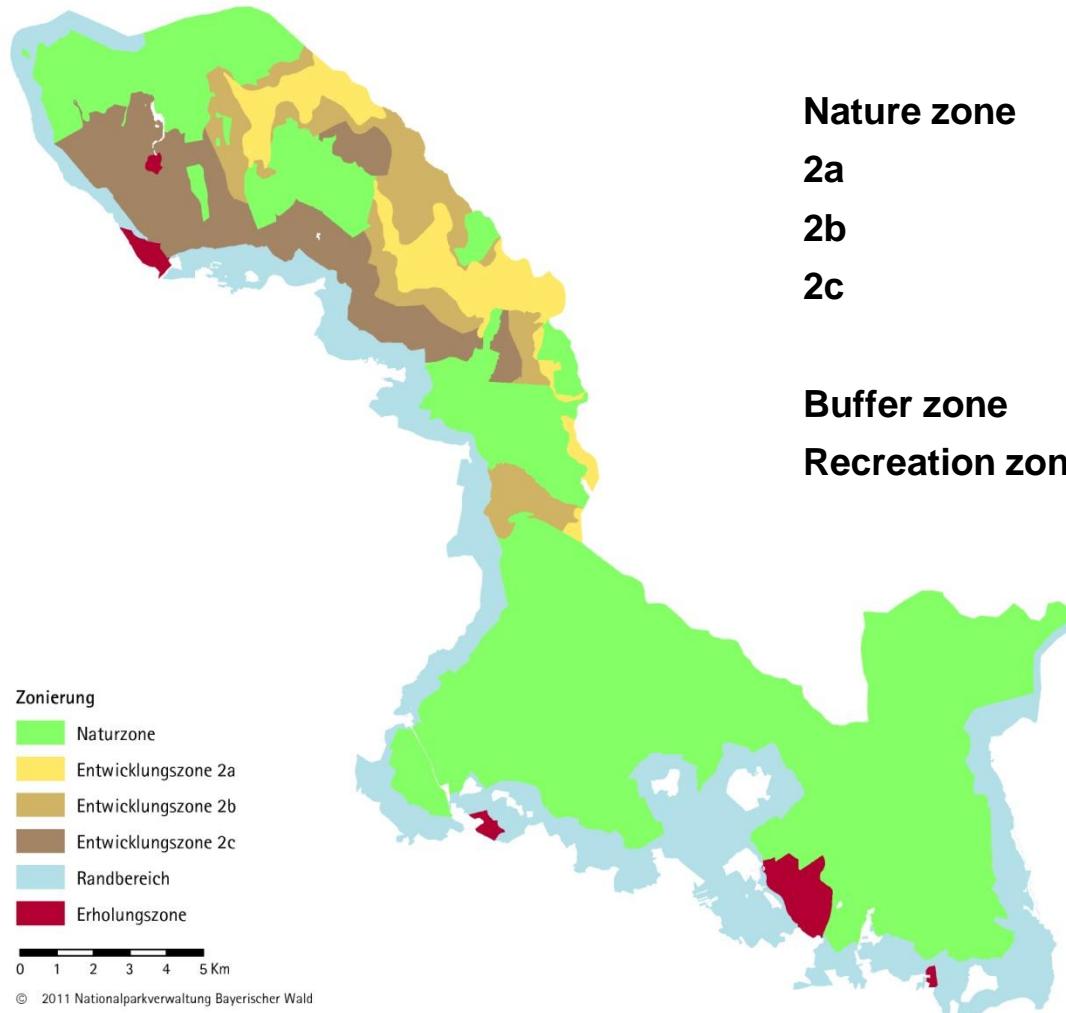
These events give us the opportunity to get „a primeval forest for our children and grandchildren“



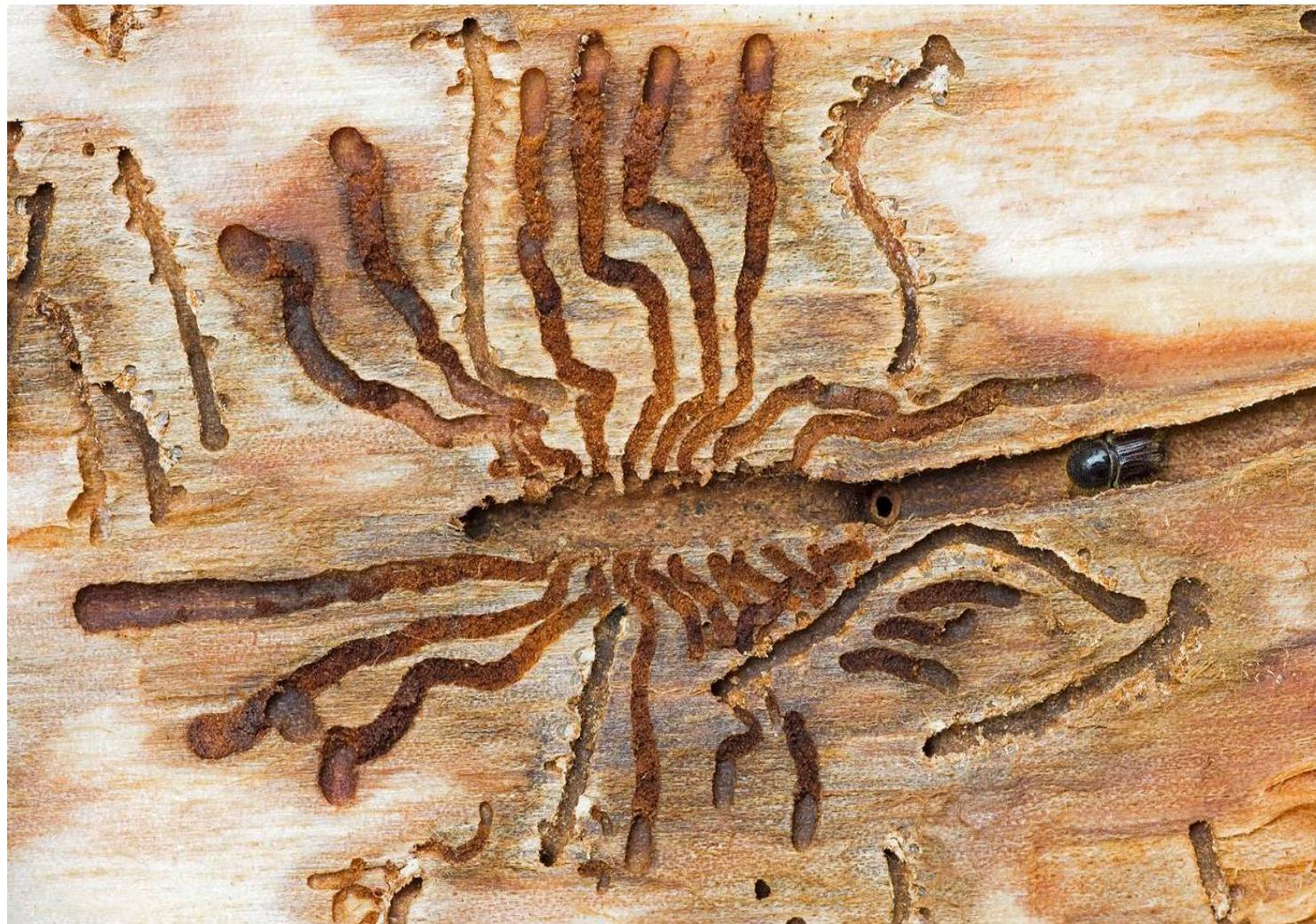
- ⇒ no clearing of windthrow areas
- ⇒ no fighting the bark beetle
...in the strict natur protection zone



Management Zonation (Stand 1.10.2012)



The Bark Beetle *Ips typographus*

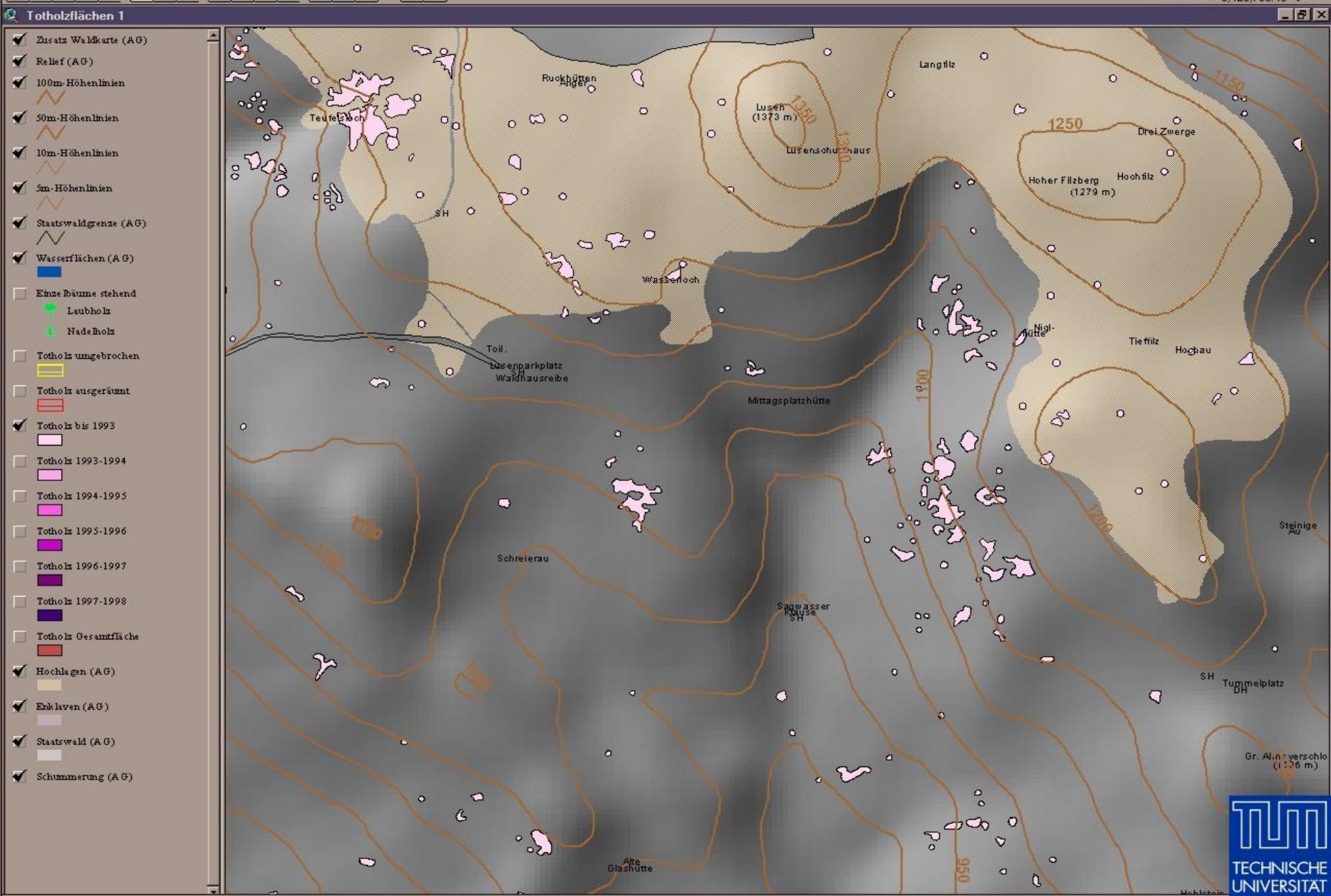


Expected development



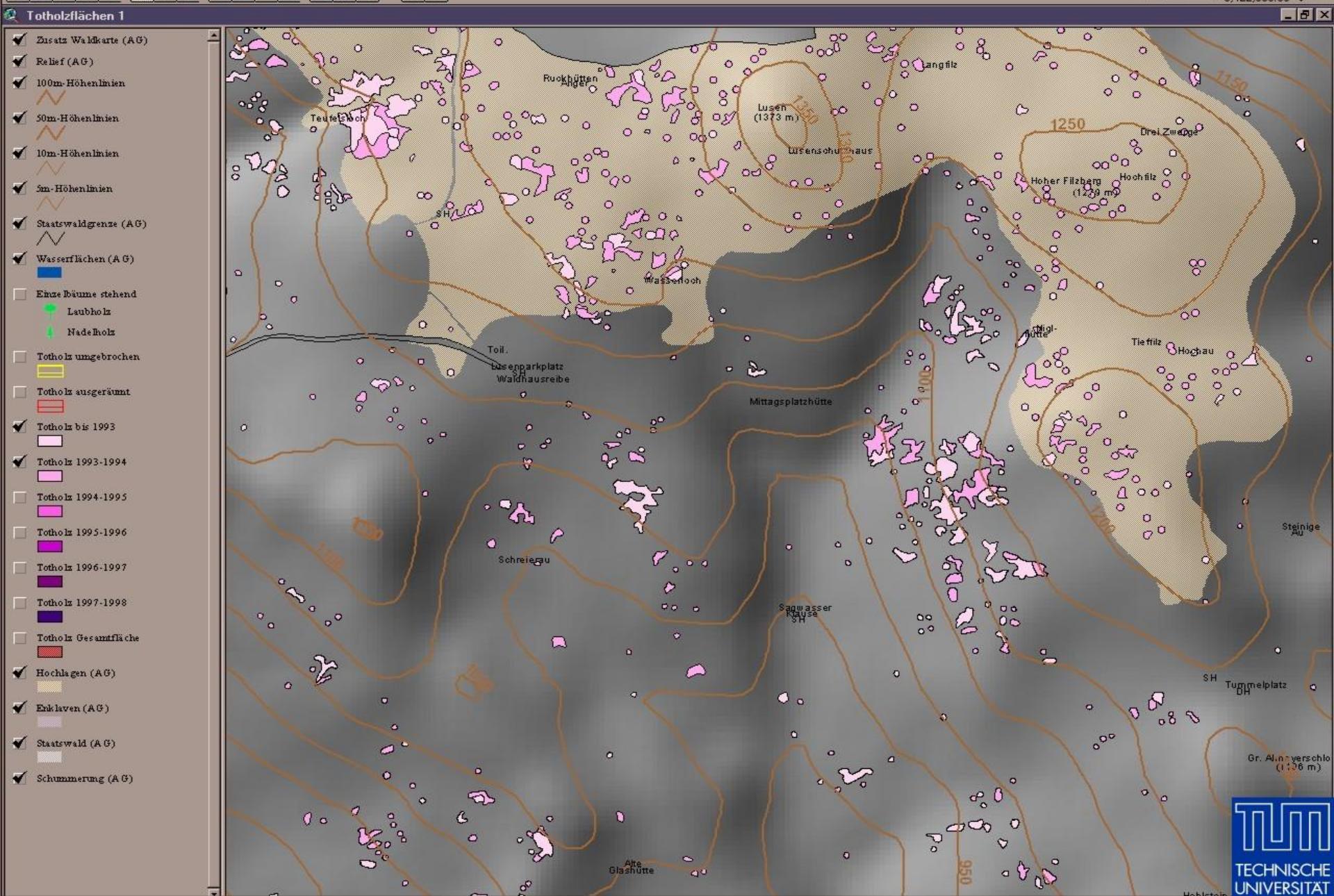


Maßstab 1: 15,000 4,610,732.06
5,423,766.43



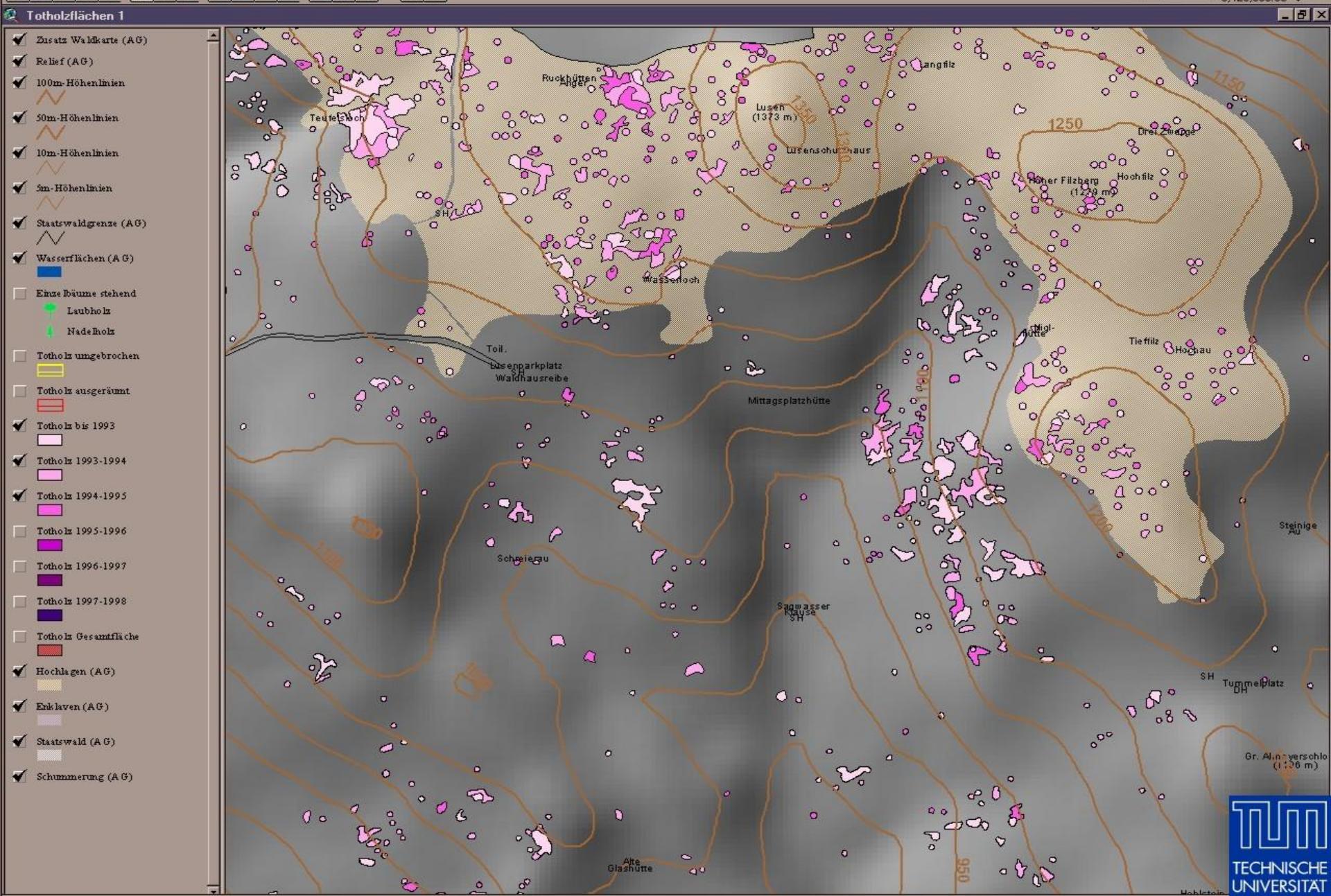


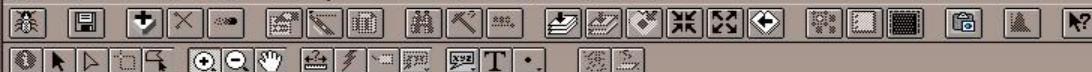
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4,608,493.68
5,422,385.30



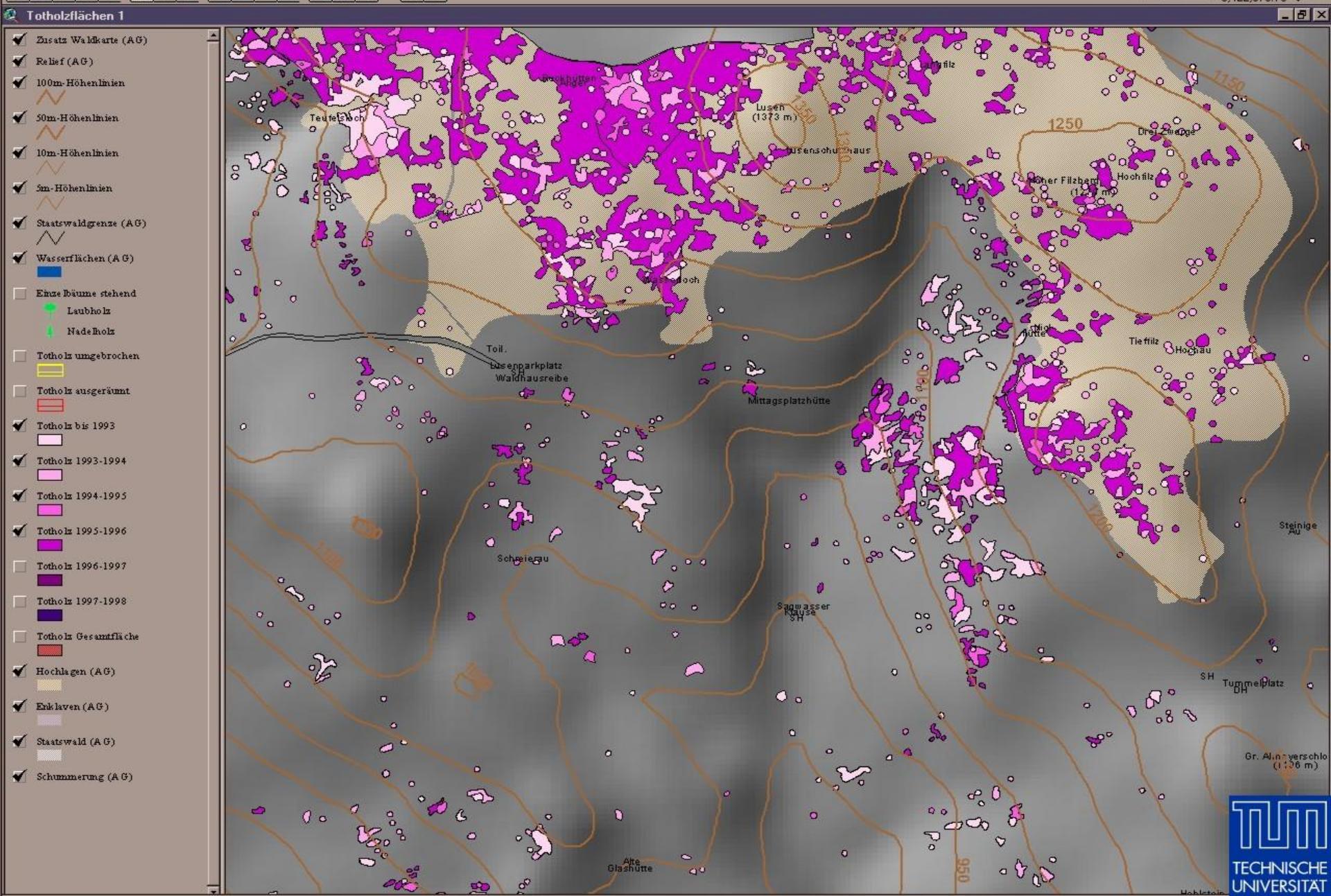


Maßstab 1: 15,000
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5,423,698.96





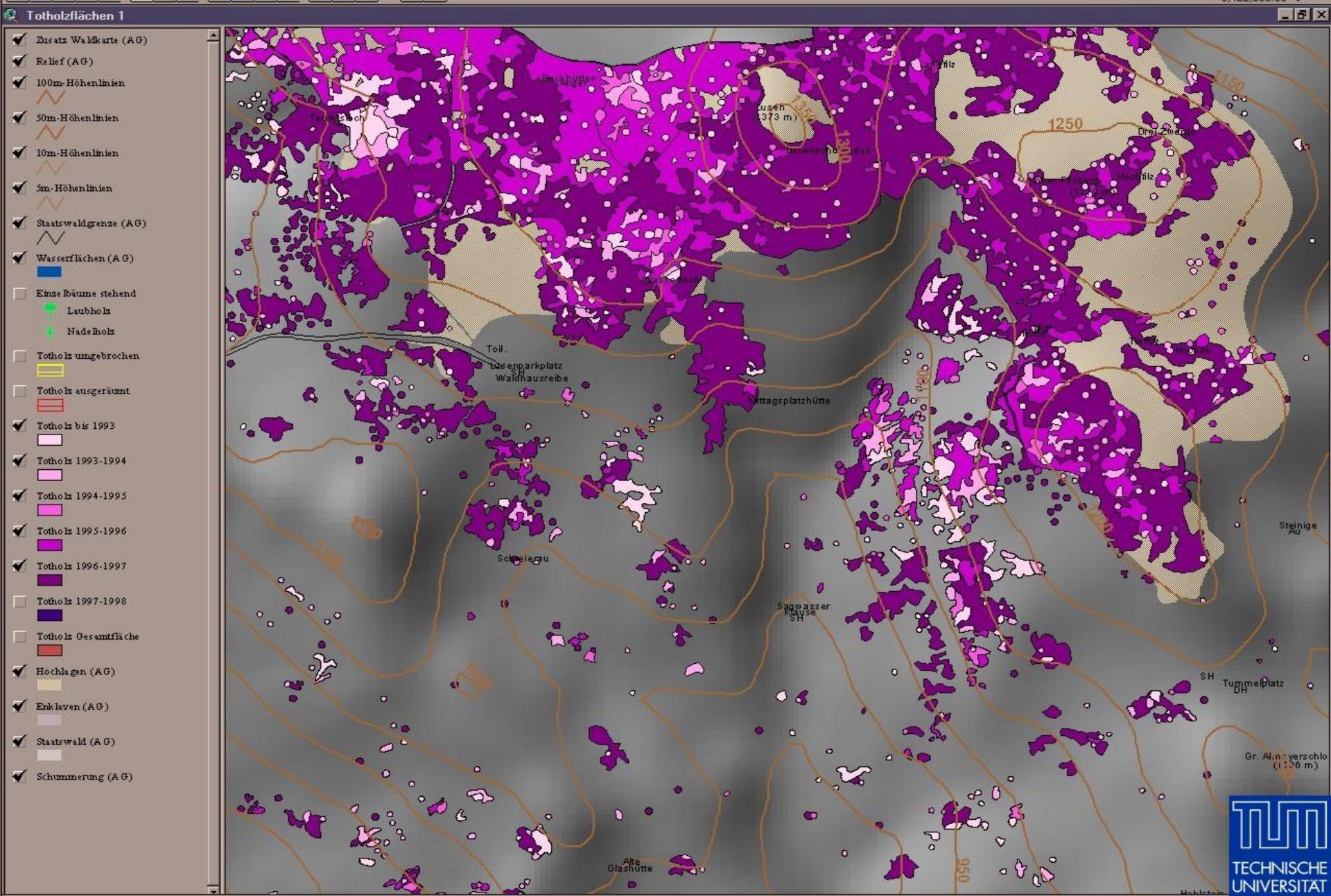
Maßstab 1: 15,000 4,608,573.06
5,422,075.73

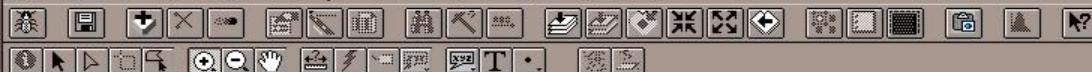
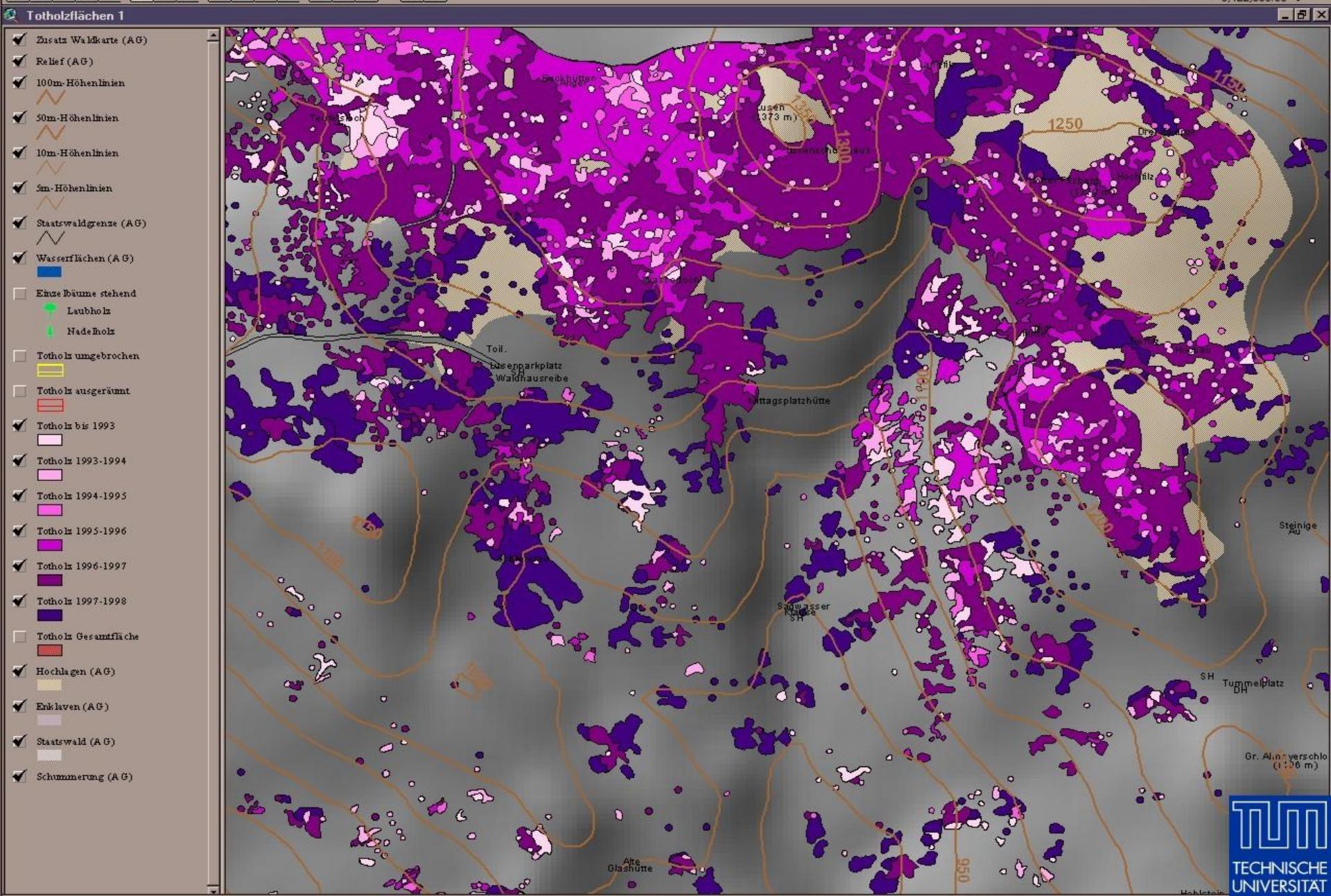




Maßstab 1:

15.000

4.608.505,59
5.422.059,86

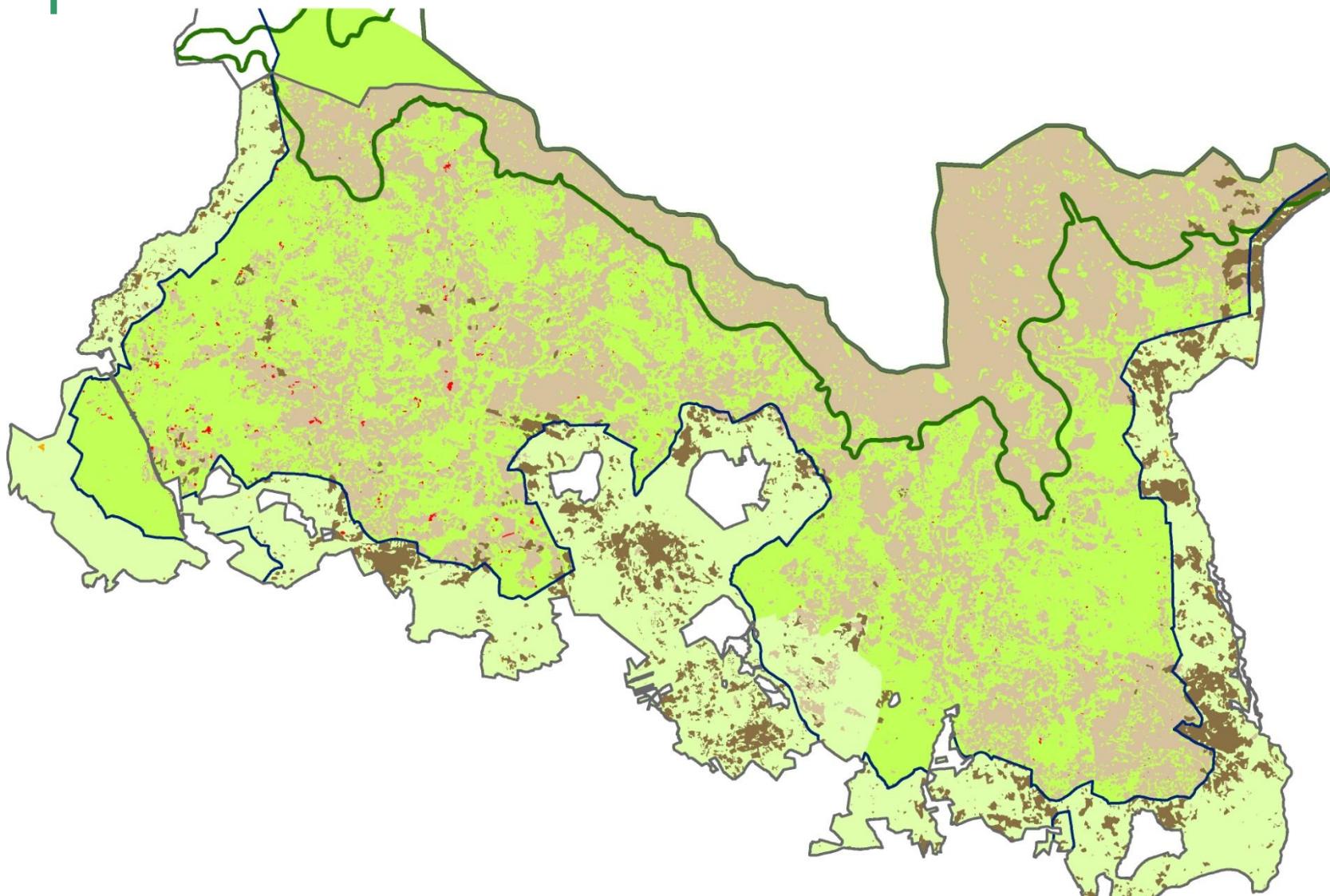
Maßstab 1: 15,000 4,608,430.18
5,422,055.89



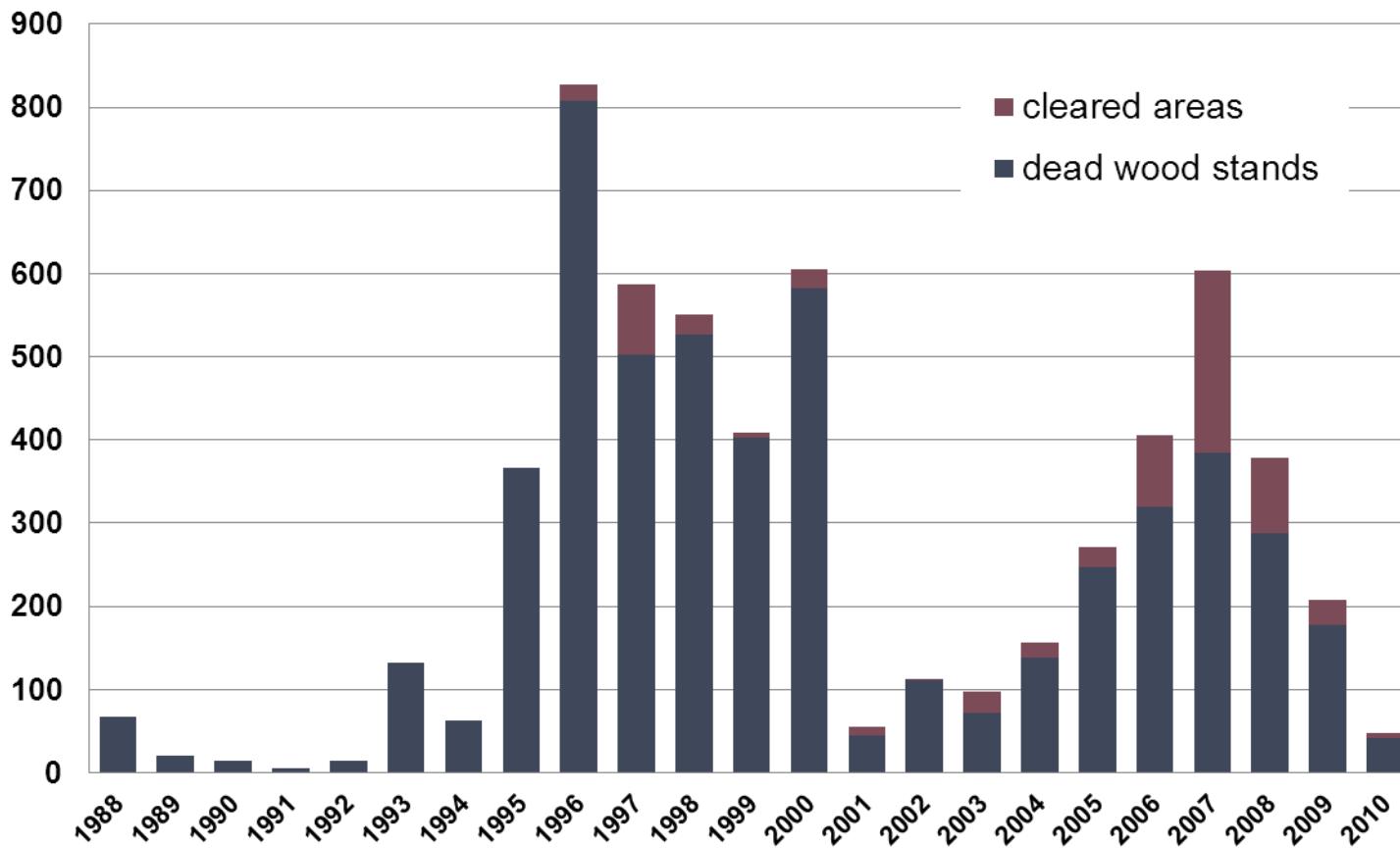
Methodology:



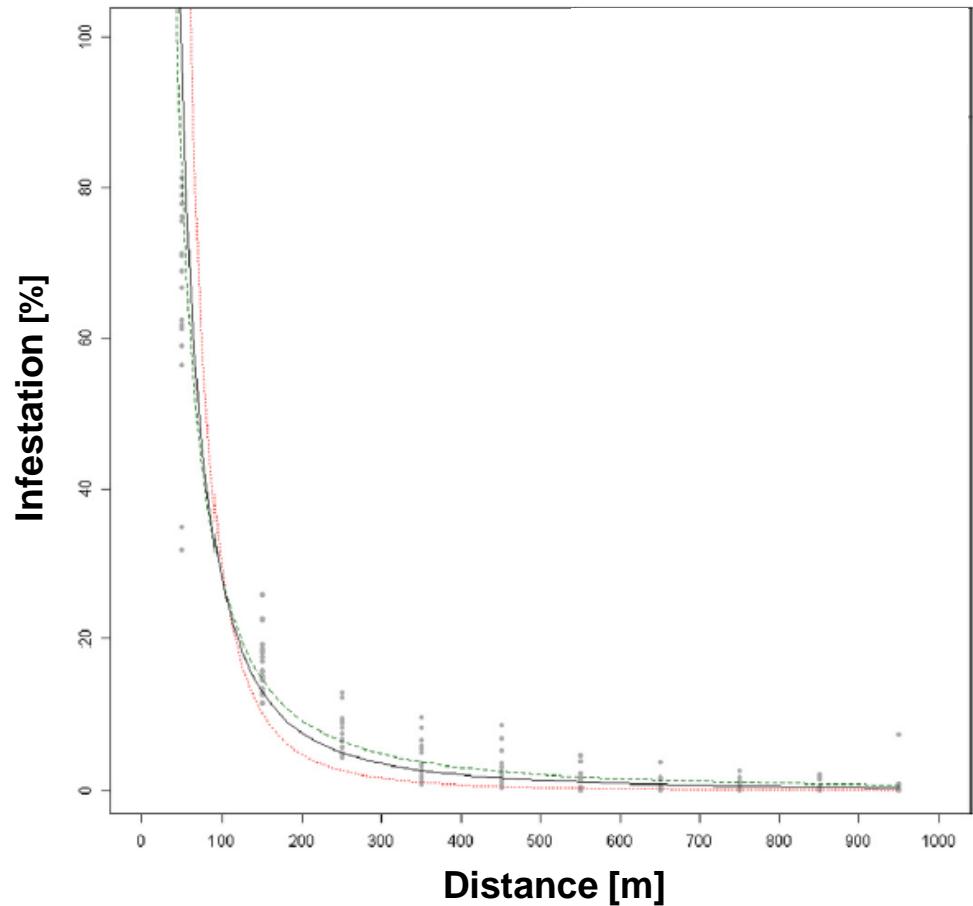
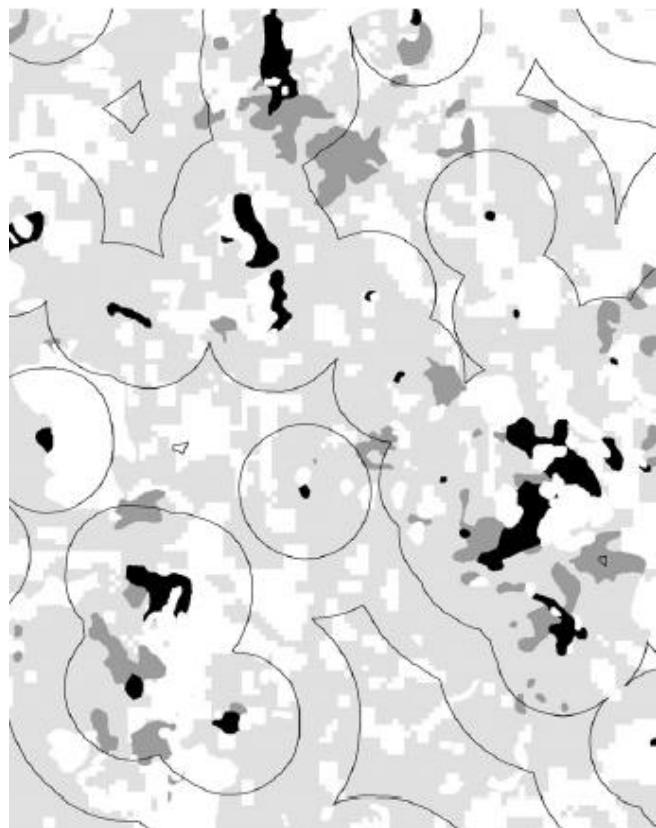
Dead wood stands in the RLG:



Development of dead wood stands in the RLG:



Distance of infested patches in consecutive years



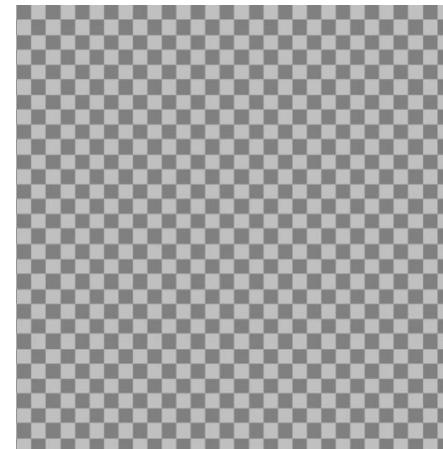
Spatially explicit agent-based simulation model (SAMBIA)

Why programming a simulation model?

- Understand the complex interplay between beetles, host trees, antagonists and management
- the model offers the possibility to perform experiments , without destroying anything...

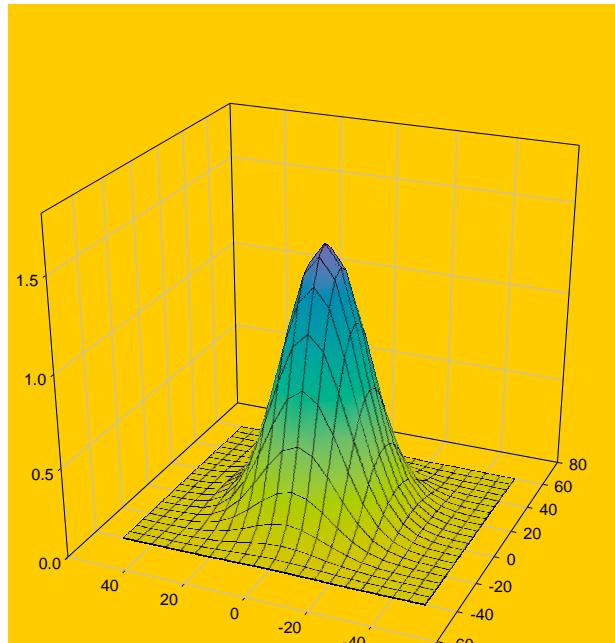
Structure of SAMBIA

- Grid based
- Bottom-up-approach:
local processes → regionale patterns

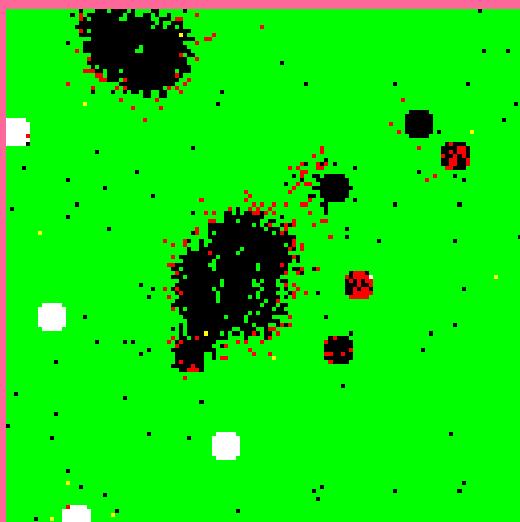


Implementation of biological processes

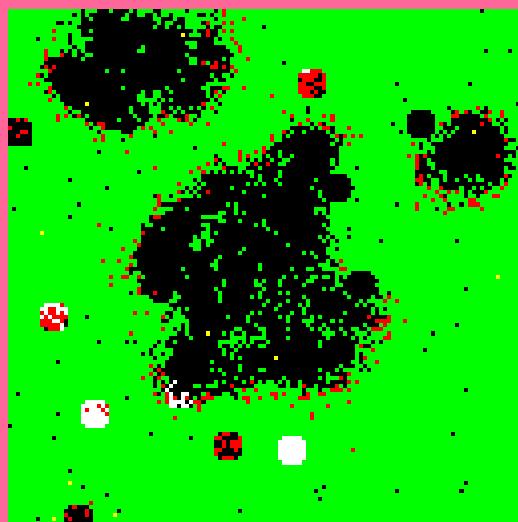
- population dynamics
(reproduction, mortality)
- dispersal



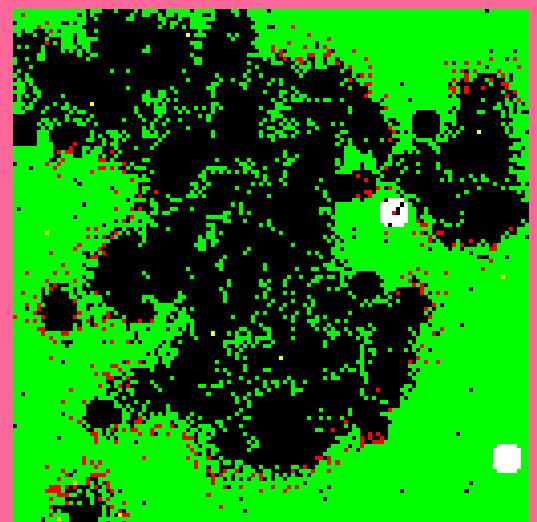
Infestation patterns in consecutive years



$t = 1$

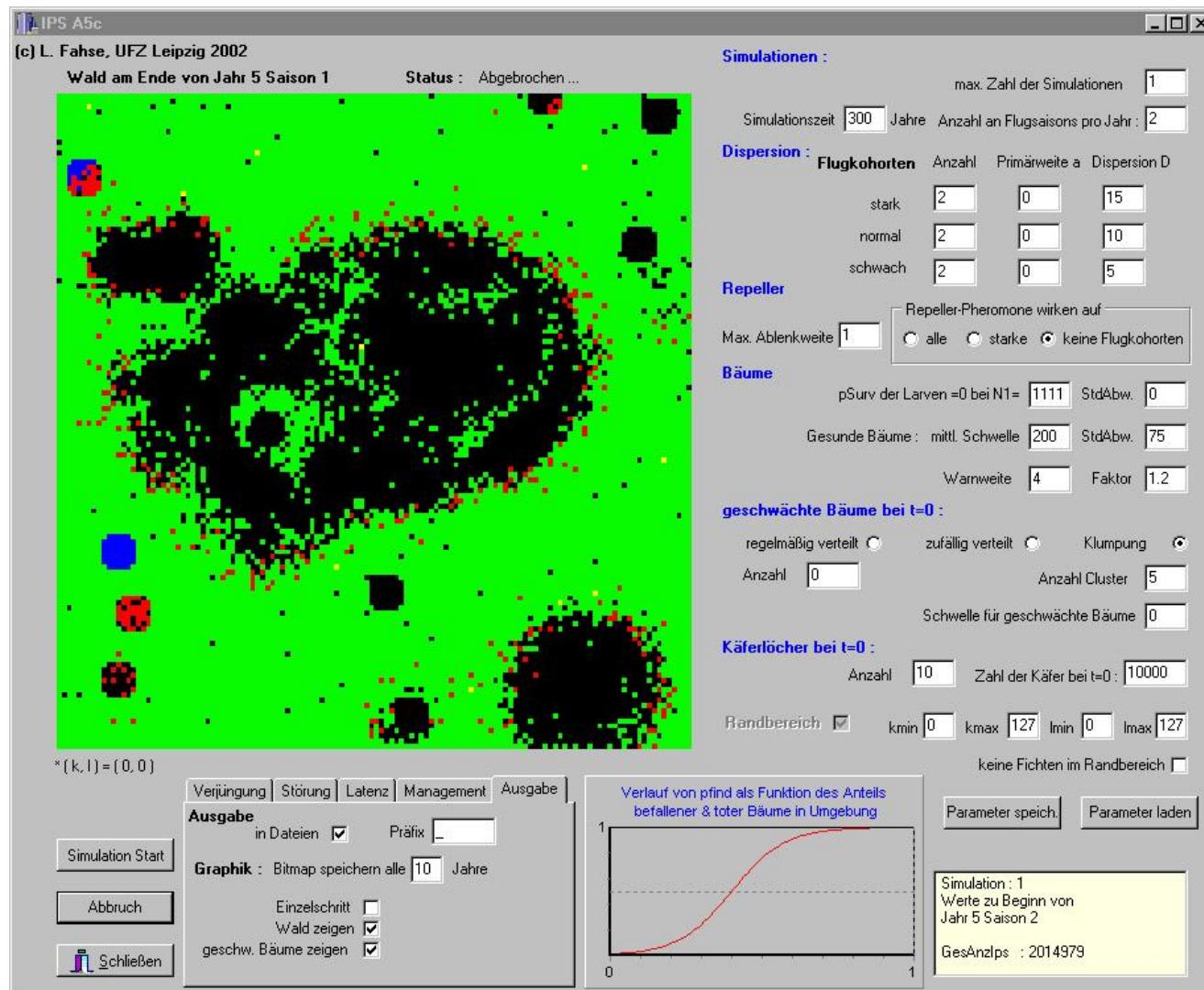


$t = 2$



$t = 3$

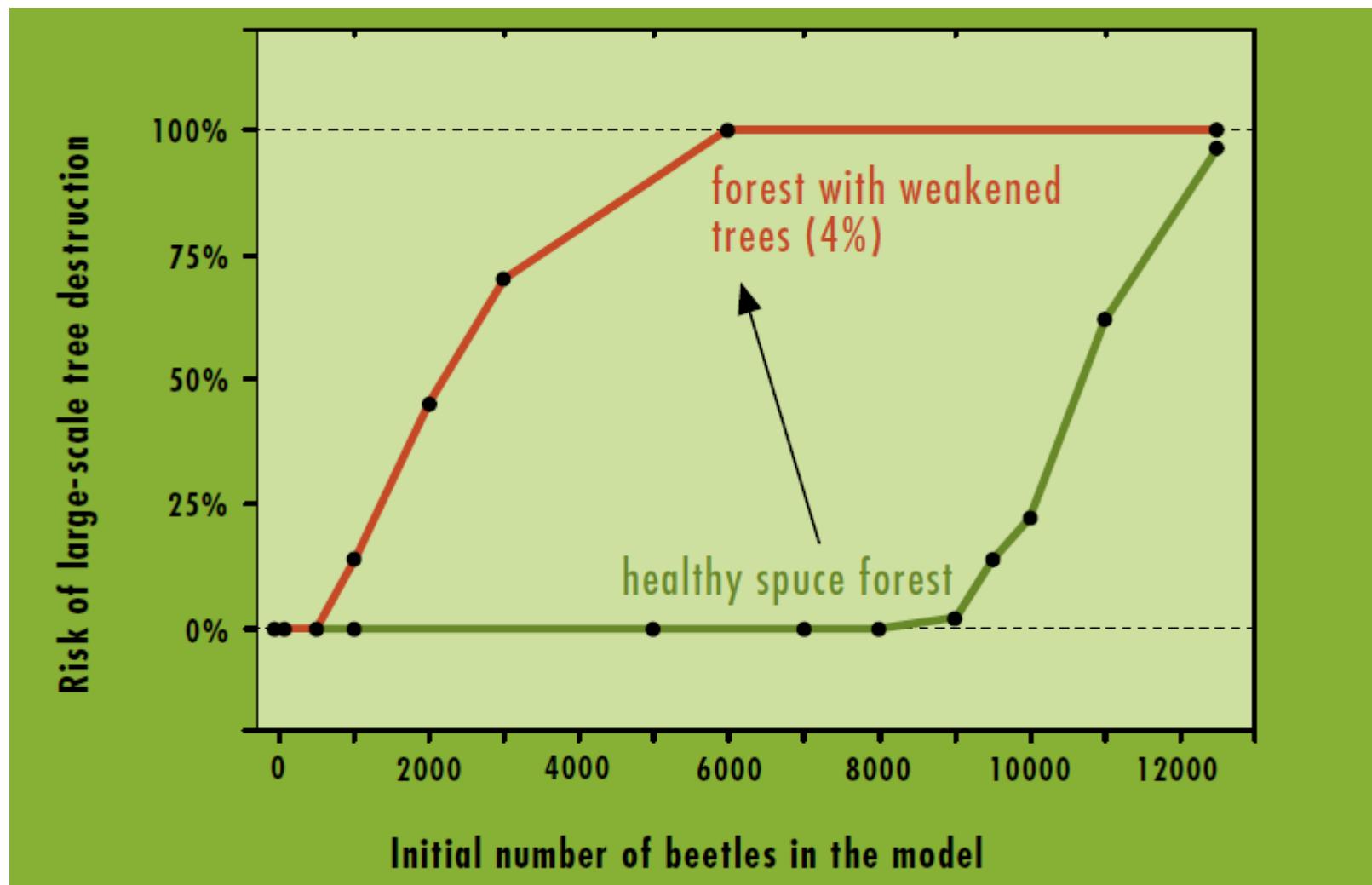
User interface of SAMBIA



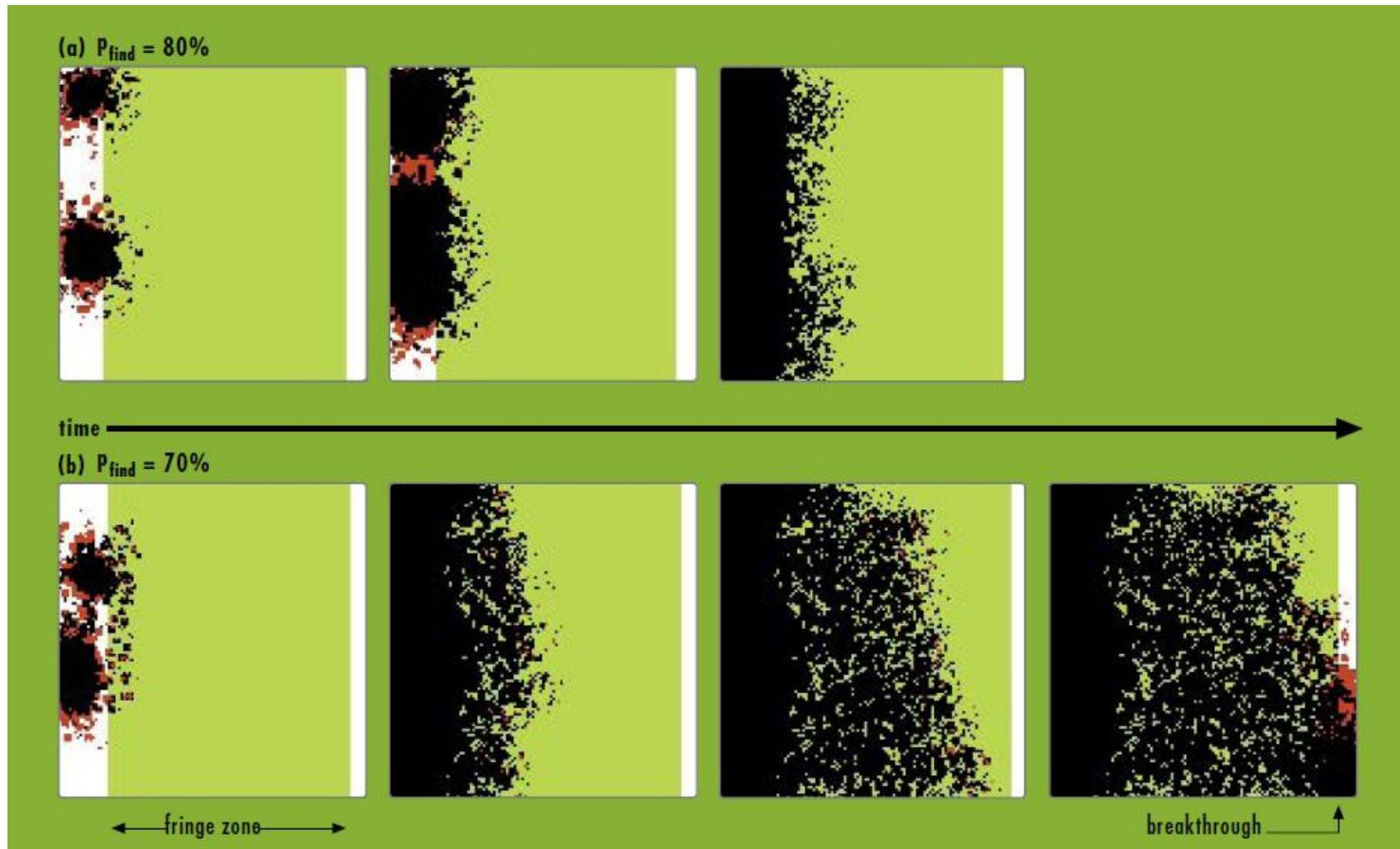
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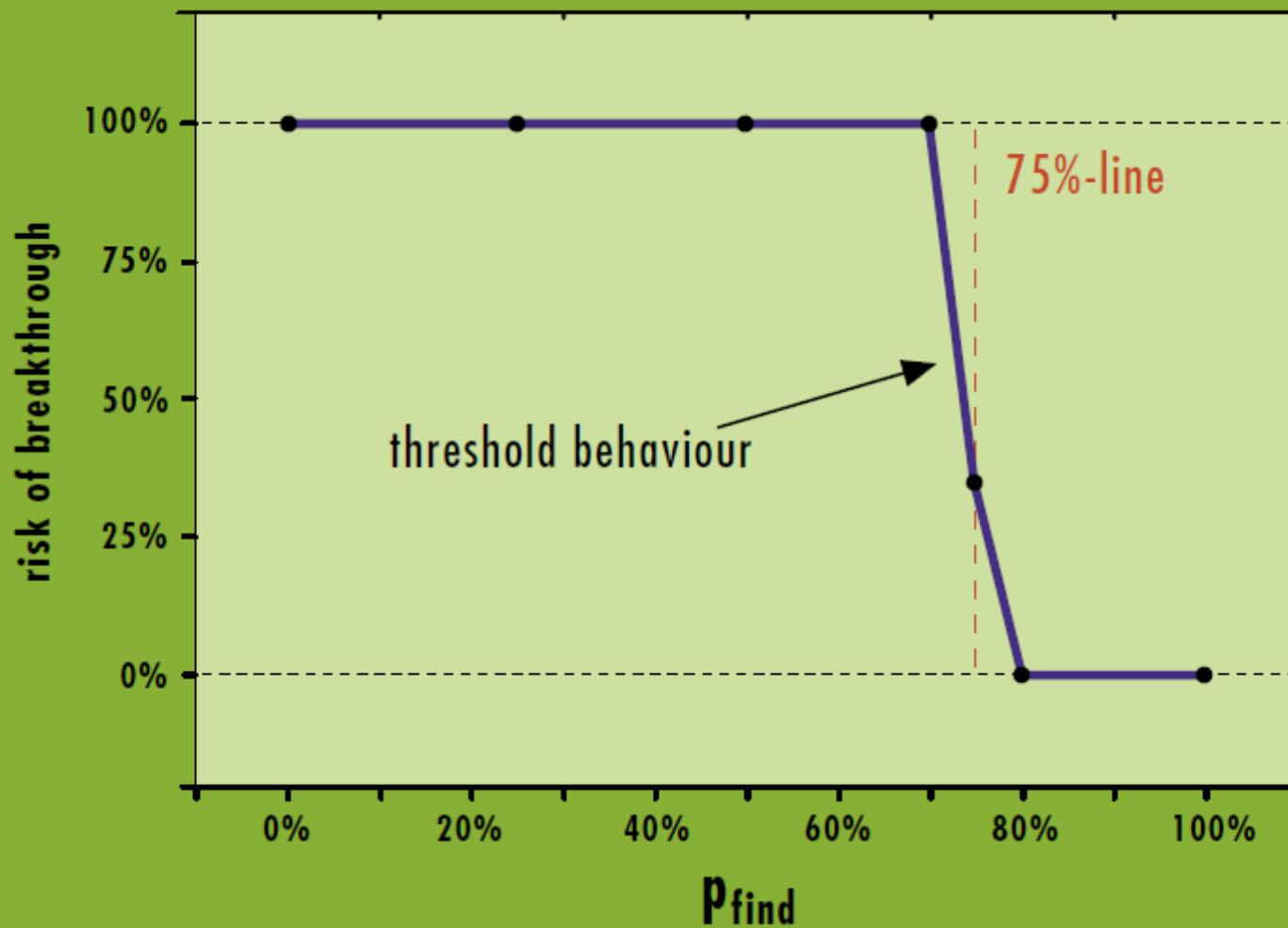
Risks of outbreaks as a function of the initial numbers



Efficiency of management zone



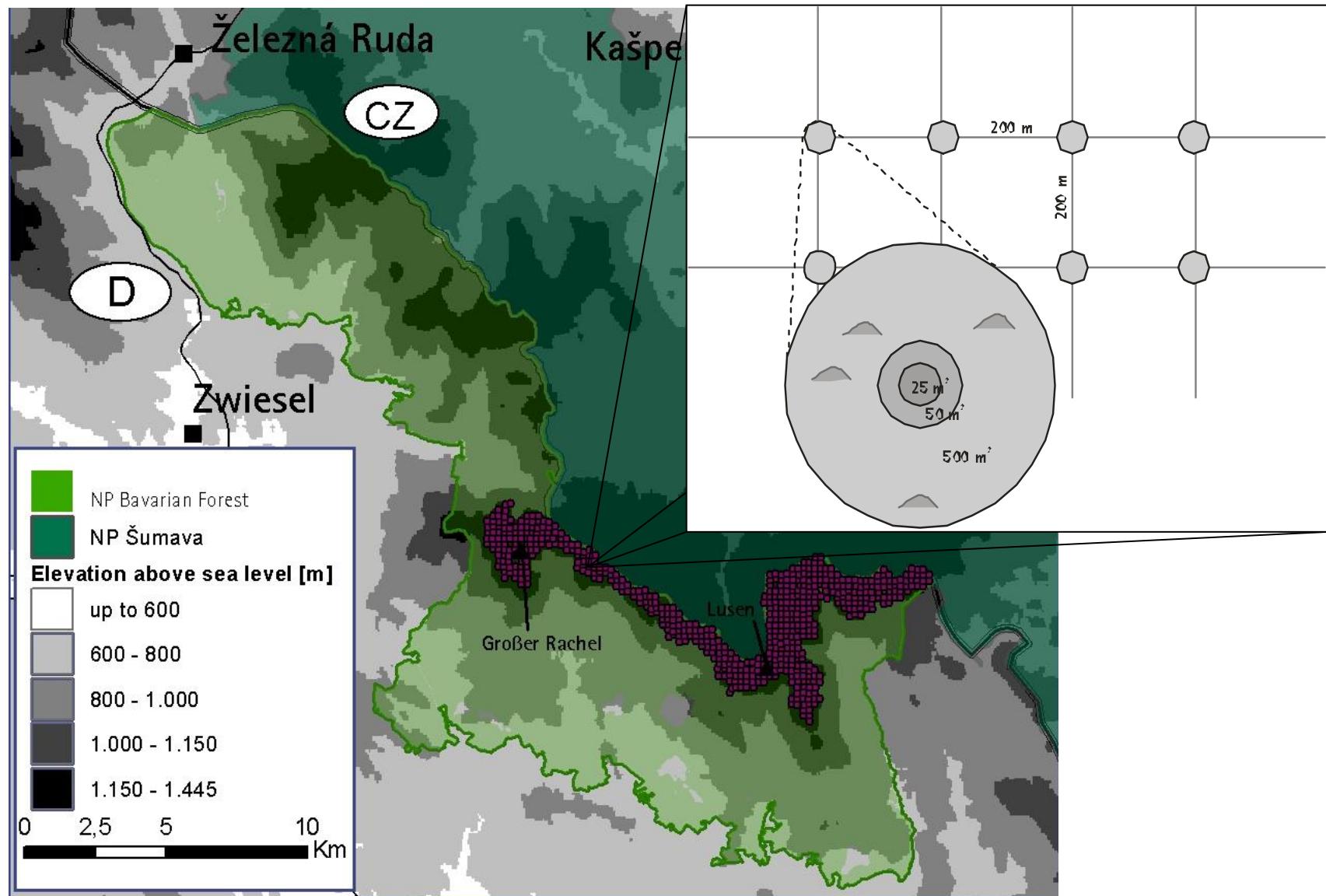
Threshold for management efficiency



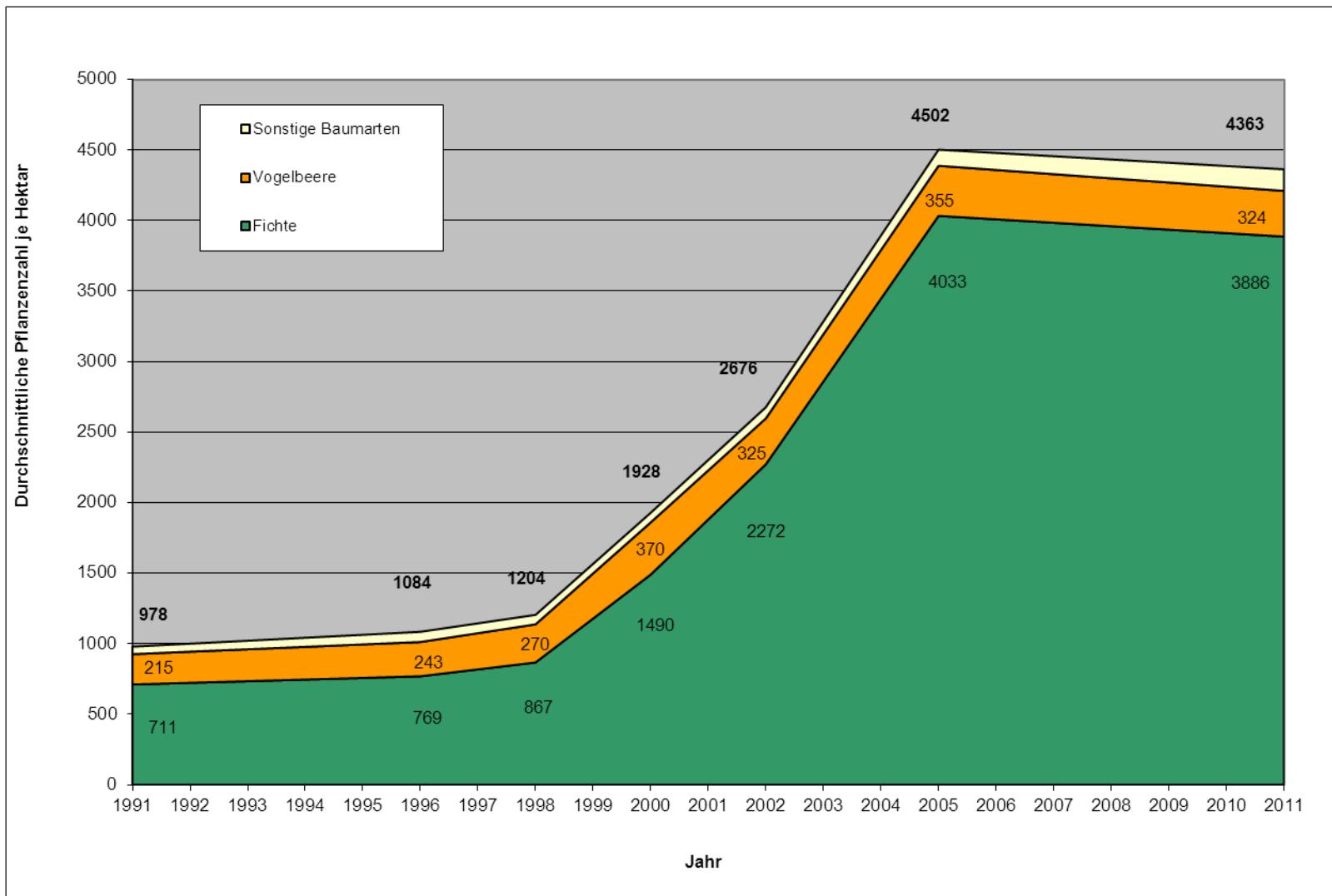
Conclusions

- *Natural development is now allowed on 12580 ha (52 %) of the park area*
Přirozený vývoj je nyní umožněn na 12580 ha (52%) území parku
- *Bark beetle affected 6000 ha of the Rachel-Lusen-Area* **kůrovec zasáhl 6000 ha v okolí vrcholů Roklan a Luzný**
- *Bark beetle shows a cyclic dynamic influenced by climatic charakteristics (wind, temperature)* **kůrovec vykazuje cyklickou dynamiku ovlivněnou klimatickými charakteristikami (vítr, teplota)**
- *Bark beetle outbreak can be explained by natural dynamics* **kůrovcová kalamita může být vysvětlena přírodní dynamikou ekosystému**
- *Bark beetle management can keep the disturbance within park borders*
Management kůrovce může udržet disturbanci uvnitř hranic NP
- *For efficient bark beetle management you have to reduce beetle numbers by 75 %* **pro efektivní zásah proti kůrovci musíte snížit jeho početnost o 75%**

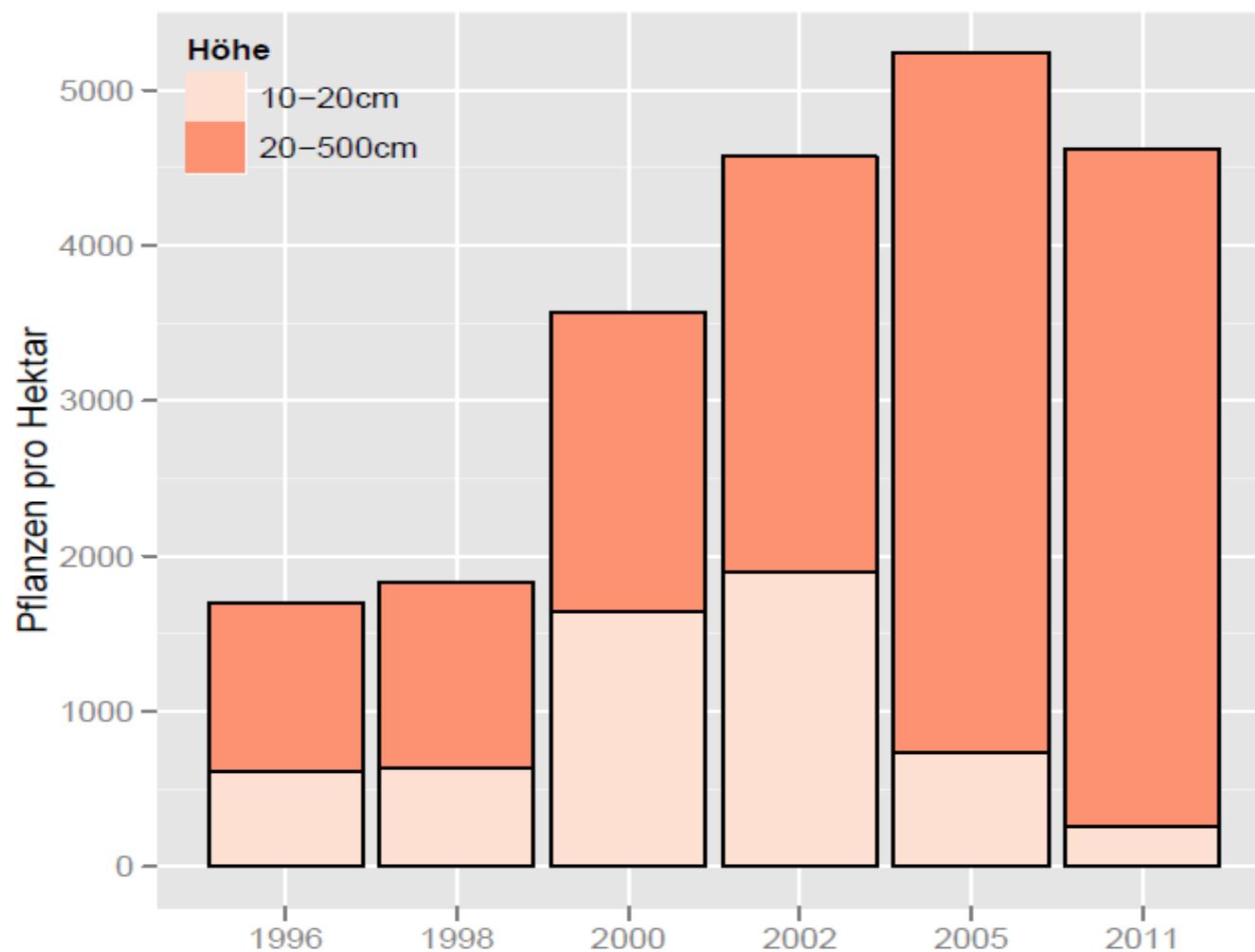
Study design



Development of regeneration density > 20 cm



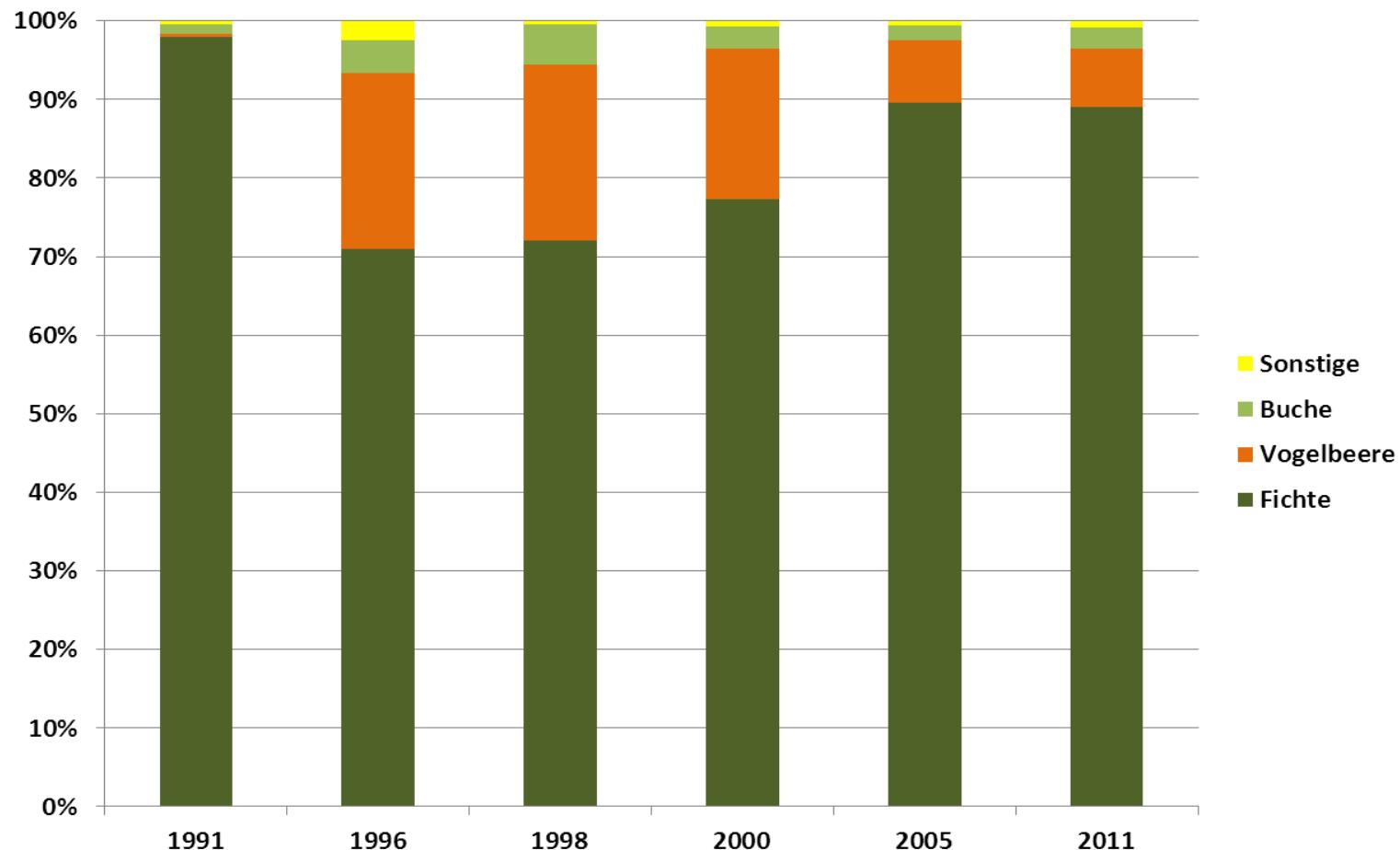
Development of regeneration density >10 cm



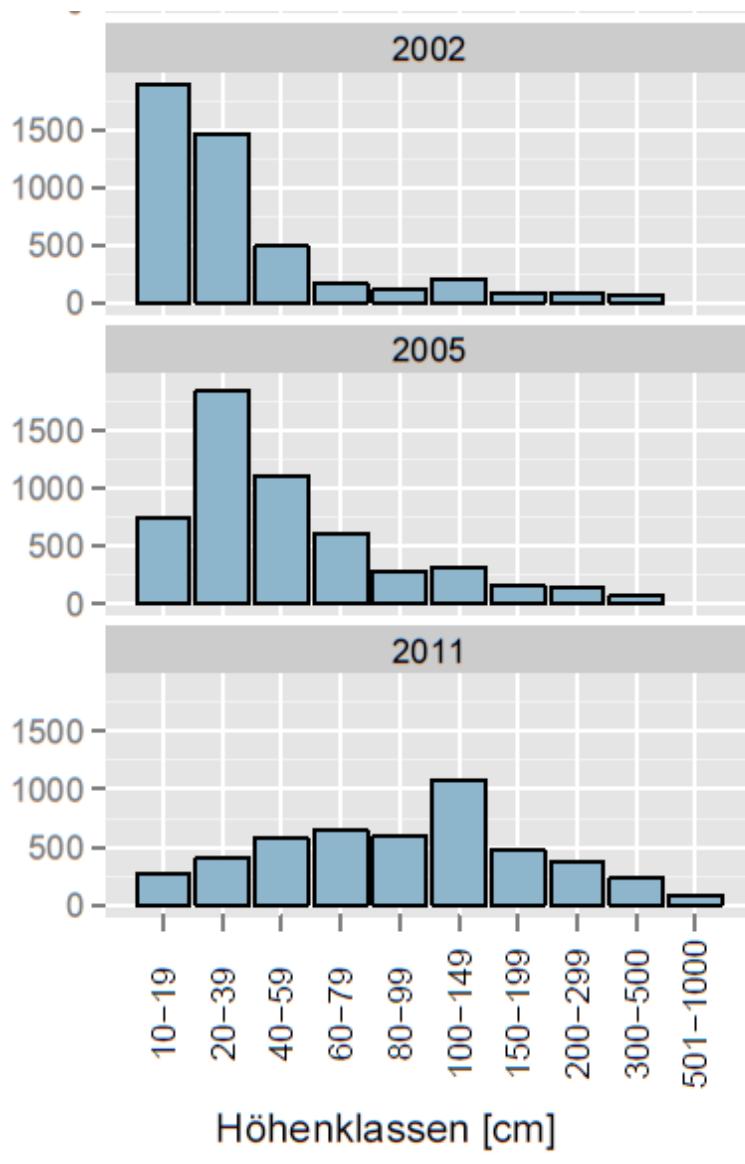
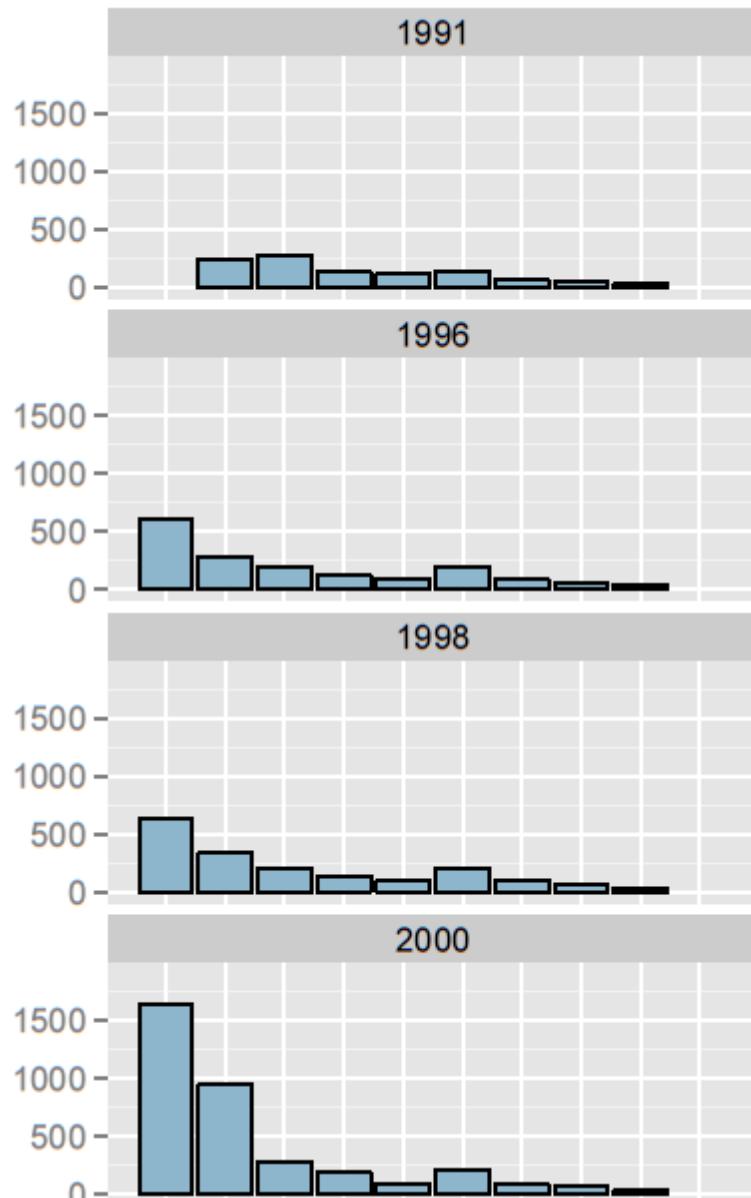
High competition within regeneration



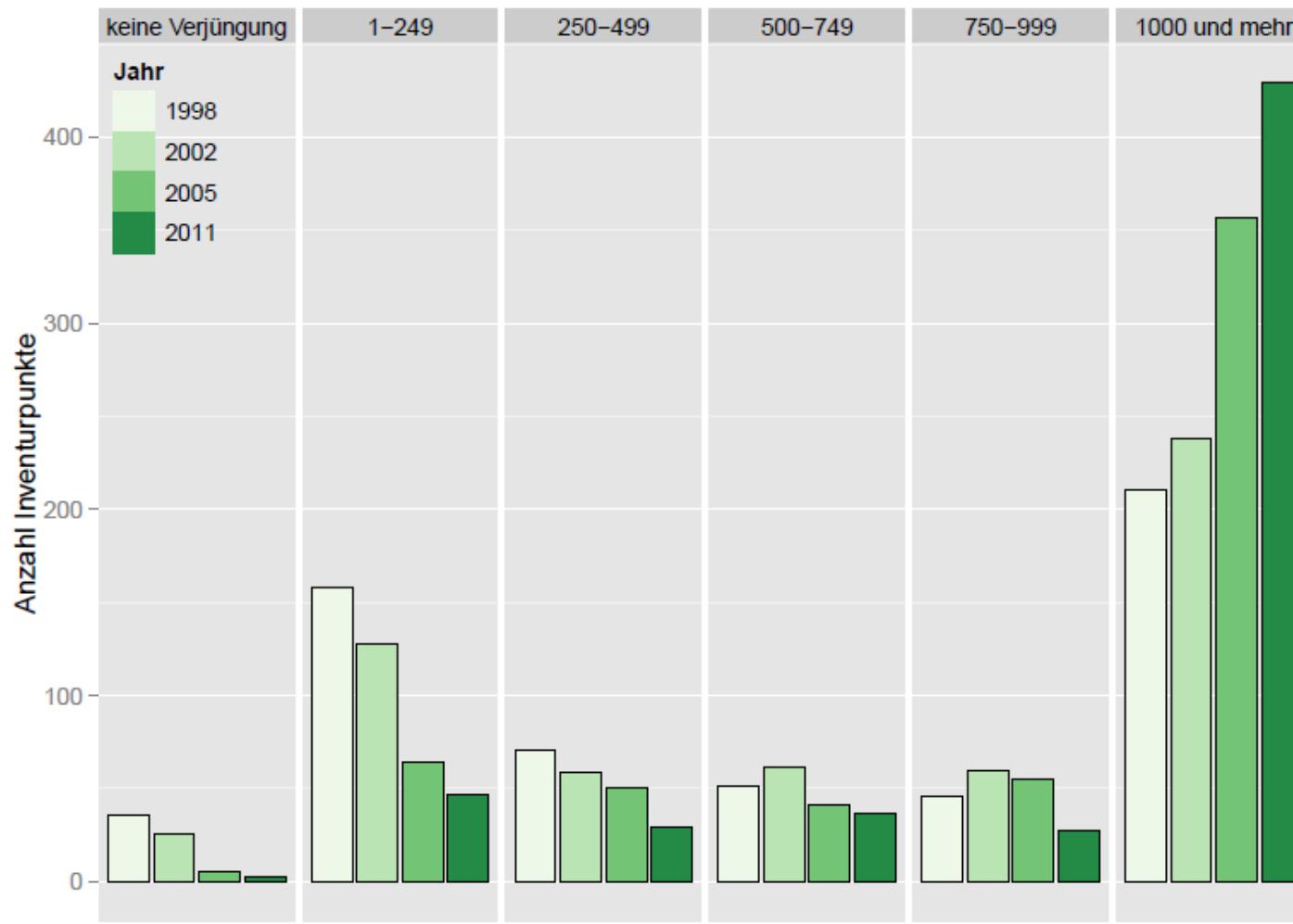
Development tree species composition



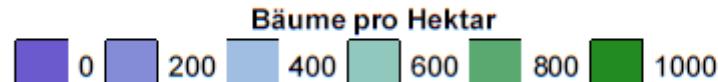
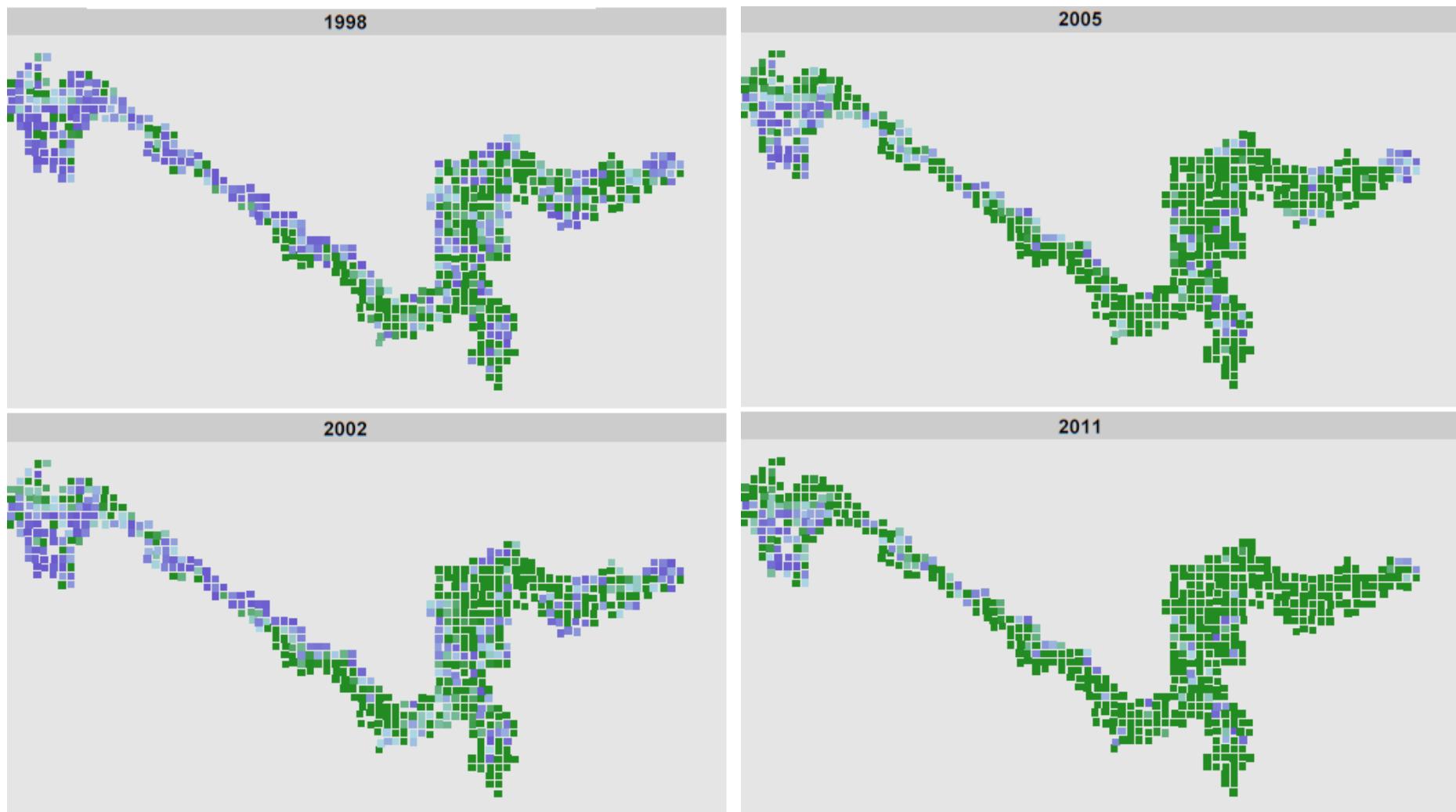
Development of regeneration height



Frequency distribution of regeneration density



Spatial distribution of regeneration density



Conclusions

- Decreasing number of young trees from 4502 to 4463 plants /hectare. **Snížení počtu zmlazení stromů z 4502 na 4463 jedinců**
- Reasons for the decline: natural (spacial) competition between the young trees, where the density of regeneration is very high. **Důvody snížení počtu: přirozená (prostorová) konkurence mezi stromky tam, kde je zmlazení velice husté**
- Species composition in the previous stand and the regrowing stand is not different. **Druhové zastoupení dřevin v původním porostu a v rámci zmlazení se neliší.**
- In general the regeneration of the stands is developing well. Currently more than 2185 tree plants > 1m/ hectare meter are recorded there. **Celkově se zmlazení vyvíjí dobře. V současné době je zde zaznamenáno více než 2158 stromků > 1m/ hektar (v roce 1991: 296)**

Conclusions

- At 75% of the total area of the most elevated sites (more than 1150 m a.s.l.) are more than 1000 trees / hectare. The regeneration is missing only on 0,5% of the area. **Na 75% plochy nejvyšších poloh (nad 1150 m.n.m.) odrůstá více než 1000 stromů / hektar. Pouze na 0,5% plochy zmlazení chybí.**
- Development of the regrowth is following the bark beetle infestation progress (what died first – is regenerated first). **Rozvoj zmlazení následuje postup kůrovce (co dřív odumře, to se dříve zmladí).**
- Only south from the Rachel summit there are places with sparse regeneration. But also there the situation is gradually improving. **Pouze jižně od vrcholu Roklanu existují místa, kde je zmlazení málo. Ale i zde se situace postupně zlepšuje.**



Thanks for your attention!