Questionnaire Recreation & Tourism

Instructions for interviewers

The following 4 questions are to be answered by the interviewer, the questions for the interviewees start with Nr. 1.

Make sure that the interviewees have already visited the test site.

Day and Time of interview:

..... day .....time
○ Working day ○ Holiday (Sat/Sun)

Weather Condition

- ○ Sunny
- ○ Cloudy
- ○ Rainy

Location of Interview:

- ○ Parking lot
- ○ Entrance to protected area
- ○ Visitor centre
- ○ Inn/alpine hut/…

Who filled out the questionnaire:

- ○ Single person
- ○ Group
- ○ Family

Introduction

'Life Prognoses – Protection of Old-Growth forests in Europe' is a project financed by the LIFE+ fund of the European Union. It involves different organizations from 8 European countries. We study the impact of forest management on human well-being, and are conducting this survey to assess the impact of forest management on recreation and tourism. Please share your personal opinions with us. All data will be kept strictly confidential and anonymously and will be used for research purposes only. Filling out the questionnaire takes about 15 minutes.

Thank you!

1. How well do you generally feel informed about the following topics (1 = not at all | 5 = very well)?

	1	2	3	4	5
Recreation activities & possibilities	○	○	○	○	○
Nature and species conservation programmes	○	○	○	○	○
Forest ecosystems services	○	○	○	○	○

2. How often do you visit forests in your free time?

- ○ Daily
- ○ 2 – 3 per week
- ○ Once a week
- ○ 2 – 3 times per month
- ○ Once a month
- ○ Twice a year
- ○ Once a year
- ○ Less than once a year or never

3. Is today your first visit here?

- ○ Yes
- ○ If not, how often have you visited this protected area before?
  - ○ 1-5 x
  - ○ 5-10 x
  - ○ More than 10 x
  - ○ Regularly

4. Which country are you from? .....

5. If from Belgium, postal code: .....

6. How long was your journey from your home to this area?

..... km ..... hours

7. What main means of transport did you use to get here (max. 2 items)?

- ○ Bicycle or by foot
- ○ Public transport
- ○ Car
- ○ Motorbike
- ○ Camper/trailer

8. What was the last mode of transportation you used (please name only one)?

- ○ Bicycle or by foot
- ○ Public transport
- ○ Car
- ○ Motorbike
- ○ Camper/trailer

9. With whom are you here today?

- ○ Family
- ○ Friends
- ○ Partner
- ○ With a tour group
- ○ Alone

10. How many people are with you today (in your group/family)? .....

11. How many are younger than 14 years?.....

12. How long do you stay in this area (day visitor)? ..... hours

13. If you stay overnight, how many nights do you stay?.....nights

14. Where do you stay?

- ○ Inn/ bed & breakfast
- ○ Hotel
- ○ Family/ friends
- ○ Camping site
- ○ Rented accomodation/Airbnb

15. What was the main motivation for coming to this region?

- ○ I (we) came solely for the purpose to spend holiday/leisure time here
- ○ I (we) was (were) passing by and decided to visit this region
- ○ I (we) had other motives to visit this region (friends, family, event, professional reasons, sightseeing)

16. Which activities are most important for your visit this area (max 2)?

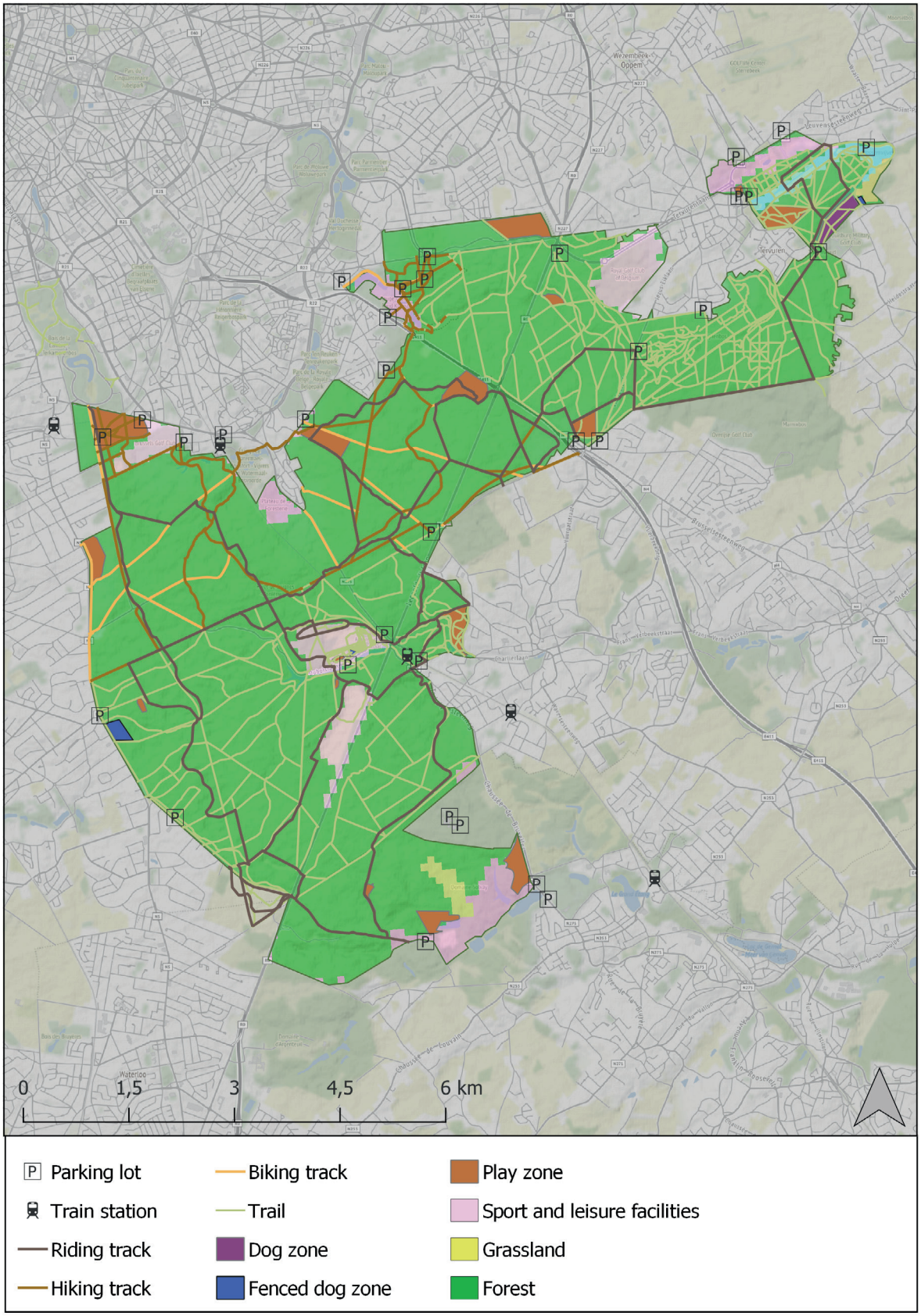
- ○ Walking or hiking
- ○ Observing nature, doing round trips, visiting viewpoints
- ○ Sports (running / nordic walking / cycling / climbing /...)
- ○ Camping/picnic/barbecue
- ○ Spending time in the visitor center / under taking cultural activities
- ○ Food and shopping
- ○ Just a trip out of town, spending a day in the open
- ○ Other .....

17. How important are the following facilities for your leisure activities in the area? Please name the <u>three</u> facilities that are <u>most important</u> to you!

- ○ Walking & hiking trails
- ○ Facilities and paths suitable for people with disabilities
- ○ Bike paths/mountain bike trails/ horse riding trails
- ○ Children‘s playground
- ○ Inn/restaurants
- ○ Rest areas/benches/picnic areas/barbecue areas/waste bins/fountains/viewing platform
- ○ Parking lots
- ○ Nature trails / themed trails (e.g. health) / information boards
- ○ Visitor Centre/exhibition
- ○ Places of historical and religious interest
- ○ Other .....



18. Please draw the approximate route or area of your visit today on the map



19. Which landscapes or landscape elements were most important for you for visiting this area (max. two)?

- ○ Forests
- ○ Grasslands
- ○ Small clearings within the forest
- ○ Summits
- ○ Viewpoints
- ○ Lakes or rivers
- ○ Wetlands
- ○ Villages, Towns

20. Do you know if this area is under protection?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Not sure

21. If yes, do you know which conservation category the area belongs to (multiple answers possible)?

- ○ UNESCO World Heritage
- ○ National park
- ○ Nature park
- ○ Biosphere reserve
- ○ Protected landscape area
- ○ Natura 2000 site
- ○ Other .....

22. Is a designation of the forest as a UNESCO World Heritage Site a reason for you to visit it?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

23. Have you ever visited an old-growth forest that is UNESCO World Heritage site before?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No
- ○ Not sure

Forest types

Different types of forest management (including no management) influence the appearance of the forest and its characteristics. Forest management refers to human activities in the forest such as logging, planting or replanting, construction and maintenance of roads and trails, or fire prevention. No management therefore means no human intervention.

A forest ecosystem can be described by various characteristics such as tree species, tree age, tree height, habitat structures such as deadwood in different stages of decay, gaps in closed forests and microhabitats, which are small habitat structures such as tree trunk holes or woodpecker cavities. Other characteristics include biodiversity, which is the variety of different species, or human impact (e.g., forest or logging roads, paths, tree stumps created by logging). In the following, we describe four differently managed forest types (including no management).

Forest type 1 / old-growth forest





Characteristic of forest type	● = very low | ●●●●● = very high	Additional Information
Species diversity	●●●●●	High number of rare species and native uneven aged trees
Natural structures and microha-bitats	●●●●●	
Timber production	●	
Human impact	●	Only some hiking trails, no tree stumps created by logging

Forest type 2 / seminatural managed forest





Characteristic of forest type	● = very low | ●●●●● = very high	Additional Information
Species Diversity	●●●●	Moderate number of rare species and native uneven aged trees
Natural structures and microha-bitats	●●●●	
Timber production	●●	
Human impact	●●	Sparse forest road network, tree stumps created by logging

Forest type 3 / moderately managed forest





Characteristic of forest type	● = very low | ●●●●● = very high	Additional Information
Species Diversity	●●●	Mean number of rare species and mainly native even aged trees
Natural structures and microha-bitats	●●●	
Timber production	●●●●	
Human impact	●●●	Moderate forest road network, tree stumps created by logging

Forest type 4 / intensively managed forest





Characteristic of forest type	● = very low | ●●●●● = very high	Additional Information
Species Diversity	●	Low number of rare species and non-native even aged trees
Natural structures and microhabitats	●●	
Timber production	●●●●●	
Human impact	●●●●●	Dense forest road network, tree stumps created by logging

24. When you review your visit to the forest today, which of the following forest type comes closest to the forest you have seen (max. two)?

- ○ Forest type 1 / old growth forests
- ○ Forest type 2 / seminatural managed forest
- ○ Forest type 3 / moderately managed forest
- ○ Forest type 4/ intensively managed forest

25. Which forest type would you prefer for your next visit? (please tick only one)

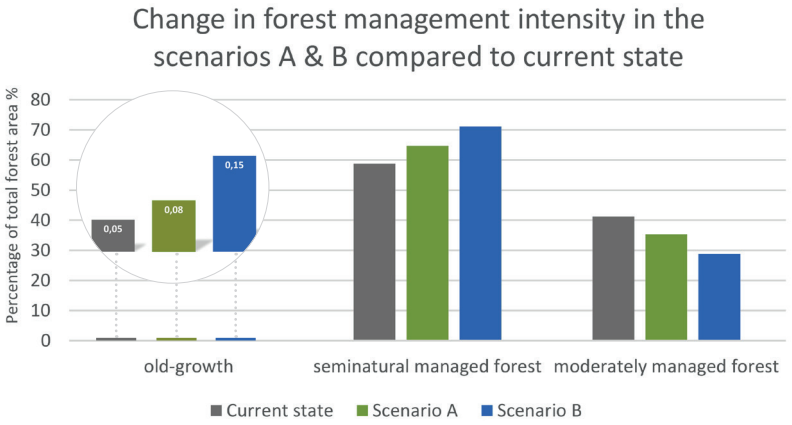
- ○ Forest type 1 / old growth forests
- ○ Forest type 2 / seminatural managed forest
- ○ Forest type 3 / moderately managed forest
- ○ Forest type 4/ intensively managed forest

Scenarios

Changing the harvesting volume will have an economic, biodiversity and recreational impact. We would like you to consider the following two scenarios of different forest management compared to the current state.

An increase in old growth forests and seminatural forests and a reduction in moderately and heavily modified forests in all scenarios would lead to more natural structures and an increase in diversity of species and recreational quality in the future. This would also mean a reduction in logging and, as a consequence, a decrease in tax revenues from forestry. Let us now assume that such shifts in forest types in the following scenarios could only be realized with your financial help. The additional revenues would be earmarked for nature conservation. The financial support for the realization of the following scenarios would be paid, for example, in the form of additional entrance fees, parking fees or tourist taxes. A discount would be offered for stays of several days.

Which of the following scenarios would you prefer in order to increase the proportion of old growth forests and seminatural forests in Belgium compared to the current state described?



26. A: In Scenario A, timber production and human impact are slightly reduced. This will lead to a slight decrease in economic revenues from timber production and processing, but will result in a slight increase in biodiversity, natural structures and microhabitats in the forest.

○ Yes, I/we would be willing to pay € 0.5 for the implementation of this scenario every time I/we visit this region to realize scenario A.

If yes, would you also be willing to pay € 1 for the implementation of this scenario every time you visit this region to realize scenarion A?

○ Yes ○ No

○ No, I am not willing to pay for scenario A.

If no, would you be willing to pay € 0,25 for the implementation of this scenario every time you visit this region to realize scenario A?

○ Yes ○ No

27. If you are not willing to pay an additional tax burden for scenario A, please tell us your opinion on the following statements (1 = reject completely | 5 = fully agree):

	1	2	3	4	5
- Natural forests and high biodiversity are not my/our priority. I am (we are) not willing to pay for the changes described in this scenario.	○	○	○	○	○
- The holidays are already expensive, and I am (we are) not willing to pay more.	○	○	○	○	○
- It is a public task to conserve nature and should not be dependent on individual contributions.	○	○	○	○	○
- I/we would like to await others' contributions, and then decide.	○	○	○	○	○
- I/we would like to pay for other conservation programmes.	○	○	○	○	○
- I would be willing to pay but the amount is too high.	○	○	○	○	○

28. B: In Scenario B, with significantly less human impact than currently, the proportion of forests in which little or no timber is harvested will increase significantly. This will reduce the economic return from timber production but increase biodiversity, natural structures and microhabitats significantly.

○ Yes, I/we would be willing to pay € 0.5 for the implementation of this scenario every time I/we visit this region to realize scenario B.

If yes, would you also be willing to pay € 1 for the implementation of this scenario every time you visit this region to realize scenarion B?

○ Yes ○ No

○ No, I am not willing to pay for scenario B.

If no, would you be willing to pay € 0,25 for the implementation of this scenario every time you visit this region to realize scenario B?

○ Yes ○ No

29. If you are not willing to pay an additional tax burden for scenario B, please tell us your opinion on the following statements (1 = reject completely | 5 = fully agree):

- Natural forests and high biodiversity are not my/our priority. I am (we are) not willing to pay for the changes described in this scenario.
- The holidays are already expensive, and I am (we are) not willing to pay more.
- It is a public task to conserve nature and should not be dependent on individual contributions.
- I/we would like to await others' contributions, and then decide.
- I/we would like to pay for other conservation programmes.
- I would be willing to pay but the amount is too high.

1	2	3	4	5
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○
○	○	○	○	○

Please provide us finally with some short statistical data. All data will be kept strictly confidential and anonymously and will be used for research purposes only.

30. Gender

- ○ Male
- ○ Female
- ○ Prefer not to tell
- ○ Other

31. Age .....

32. Which occupation group do you belong to?

- ○ Self-employed
- ○ Senior official (manager)
- ○ Blue-collar worker/crafts(wo)man
- ○ Housewife/-husband
- ○ Retiree
- ○ Employee/public official
- ○ Student/trainee/apprentice
- ○ Not employed

33. Are you a forester or do you work in the forest industry?

- ○ Yes
- ○ No

34. How many people live in your household in total?

..... people, of which: ..... children (below 14 y.)

35. What is your highest level of formal education?

- ○ Compulsory school
- ○ Professional education (trade, apprenticeship)
- ○ High school
- ○ Technical school
- ○ College/university

36. What is your monthly household income? (After deduction of taxes & social security)

- ○ Up to 750 Euro
- ○ 751 to 1,000 Euro
- ○ 1,001 to 1,250 Euro
- ○ 1,251 to 1,500 Euro
- ○ 1,501 to 1,750 Euro
- ○ 1,751 to 2,000 Euro
- ○ 2,001 to 2,250 Euro
- ○ 2,251 to 2,500 Euro
- ○ 2,501 to 2,750 Euro
- ○ 2,751 to 3,000 Euro
- ○ 3,001 to 3,250 Euro
- ○ 3,251 to 3,500 Euro
- ○ 3,501 to 3,750 Euro
- ○ 3,751 to 4,000 Euro
- ○ more than 4,000 Euro
- ○ no specification

Thank you for taking the time to participate in our survey.

