



COST ACTION FP0703

**ECHOES: Expected Climate cHange and
Options for European Silviculture**

COUNTRY REPORT

« The Netherlands »

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Introduction

- Total area: 360.000 ha (12%)
- Management mainly dependant on ownership
- Dominated by Scots pine
- 3 major owner groups
 - State forestry
 - NGO's (landscape and nature oriented)
 - Private owners

Impacts:

- Floods – mainly along rivers
- Summer droughts – conflict with agriculture
- Storms
- Out of sync of migratory species -e.g. n predation on pest species
- Research focus:
 - Database and modeling studies
 - Often on EU-scale
 - Individual species level
 - Physiological process based studies
 - Forests for water retention
 - Forest reserves

Adaptation:

- Shifting to more broadleaved species in conifer dominated forest types (admixing)
- Increasing structural diversity
- More space for rivers – riparian forests

- Reasons:
 - Biodiversity conservation
 - Pest resistance
 - Wind stability

Mitigation:

- Afforestation programme
 - Approx 75.000 ha
 - In line with ecological network
- Short coppice rotation experiments with willows for bio-energy production