



Best practices for soil regeneration: forests

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**Programme for Endorsement of
Forest Certification schemes
Italy**



***EU DG Clima Expert group
“Carbon removals – FORESTS”***

Pefc Italy and its certification standards



Forests



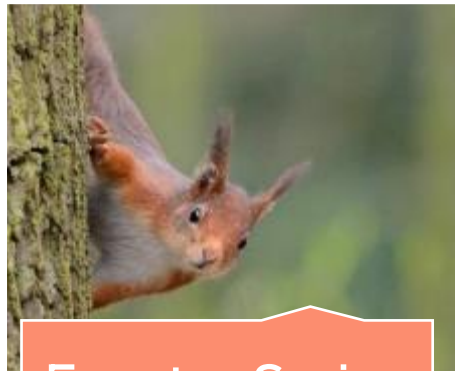
Plantations



Urban Green areas



Agroforestry

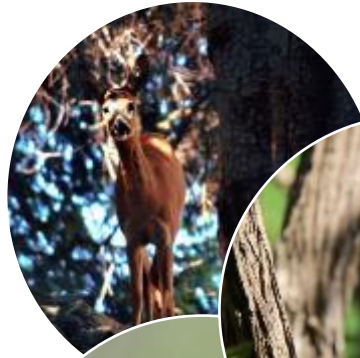


Ecosystem Services



CoC and Logo

Certifying the sustainability of management and ecosystem services



Biodiversity



NTPP



Forest



Tourism – recreation



Wood



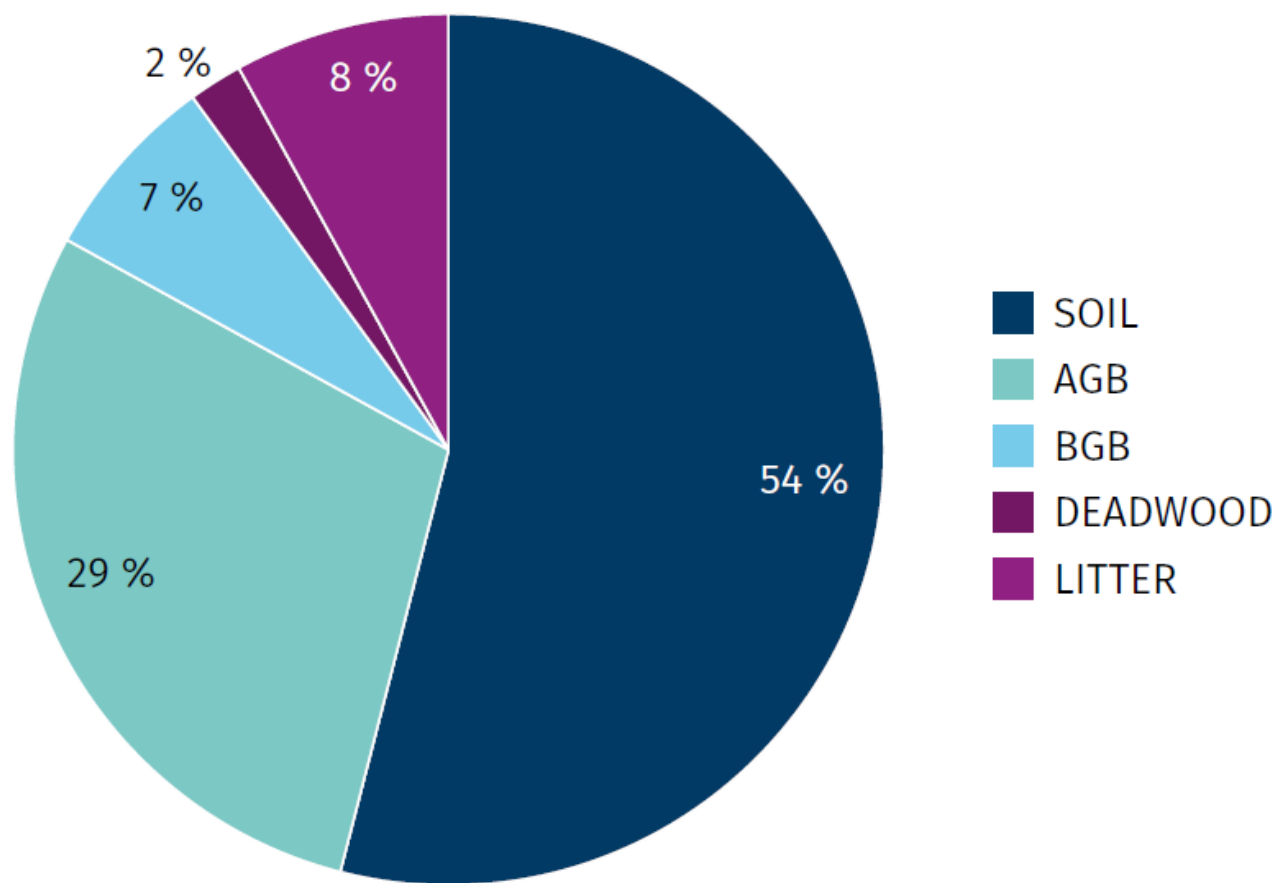
Water quality
& quantity



Sink CO₂



Hydrogeological
protection

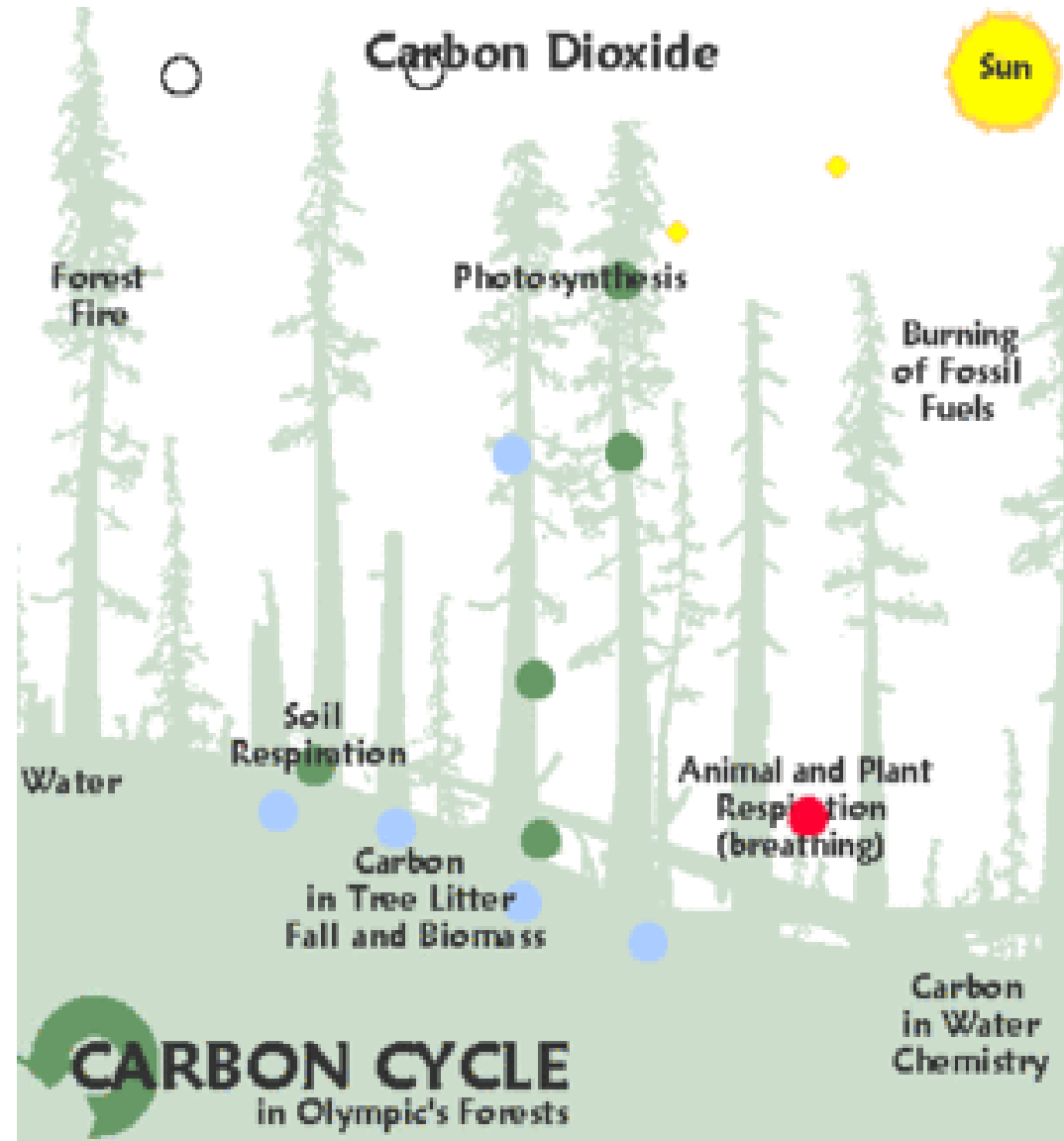
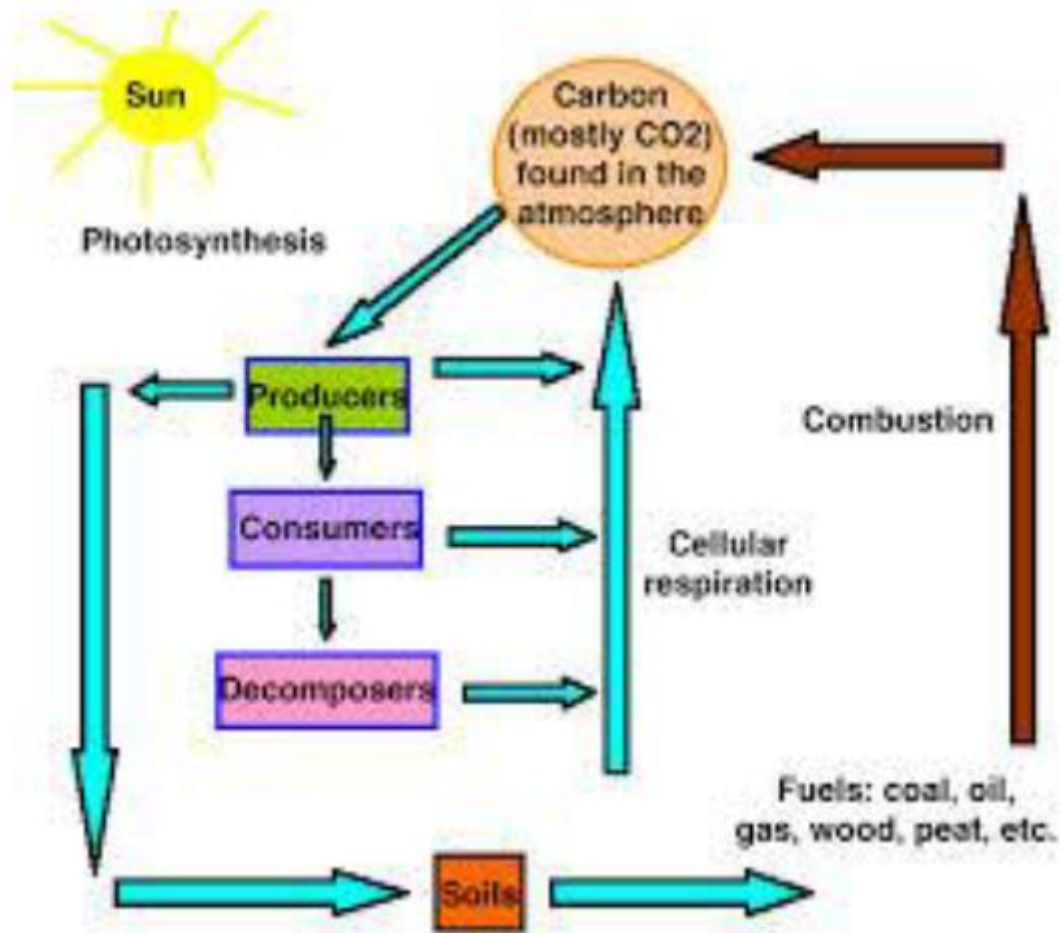


Soils are the largest terrestrial carbon reservoir (IPCC 2021), with European soils hosting more than half of the forest carbon pools. However, in Europe more than 60–70% of soils are degraded as a direct result of unsustainable management practices (EC 2020), and are a net emitter of CO₂ (EEA 2022a).

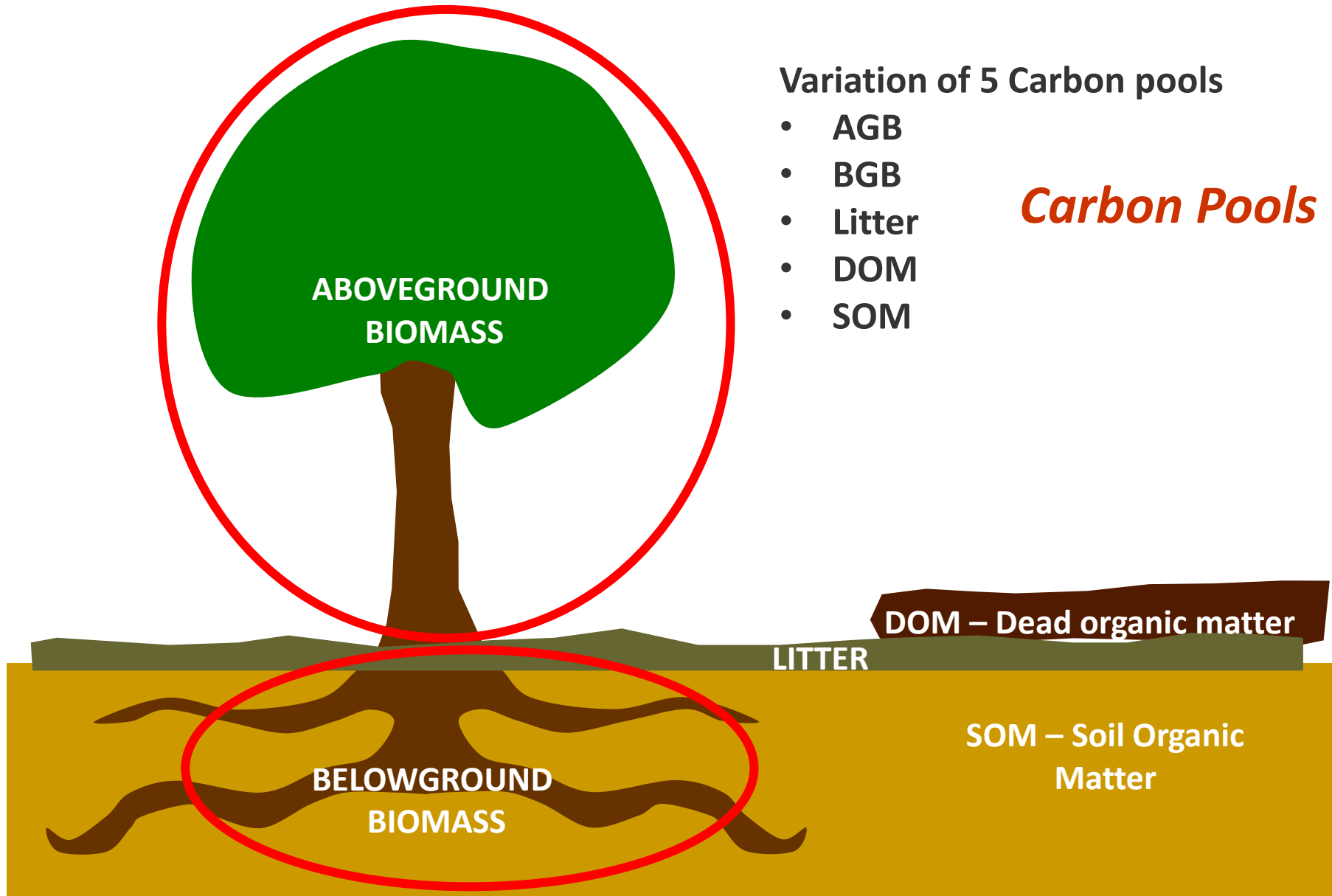
Improved soil management for carbon sequestration is therefore particularly relevant for any carbon farming practices.

Figure 4. Proportion of forest carbon pools in Europe 2020: AGB, above-ground biomass; BGB, below-ground tree biomass. Data source: Forest Europe 2020.

Carbon cycle



$$\Delta C_{ij} = (\Delta C_{LB,ij} + \Delta C_{SOM,ij} + \Delta C_{DOM,ij}) \cdot 44/12$$



How to calculate the tree biomass and its C content

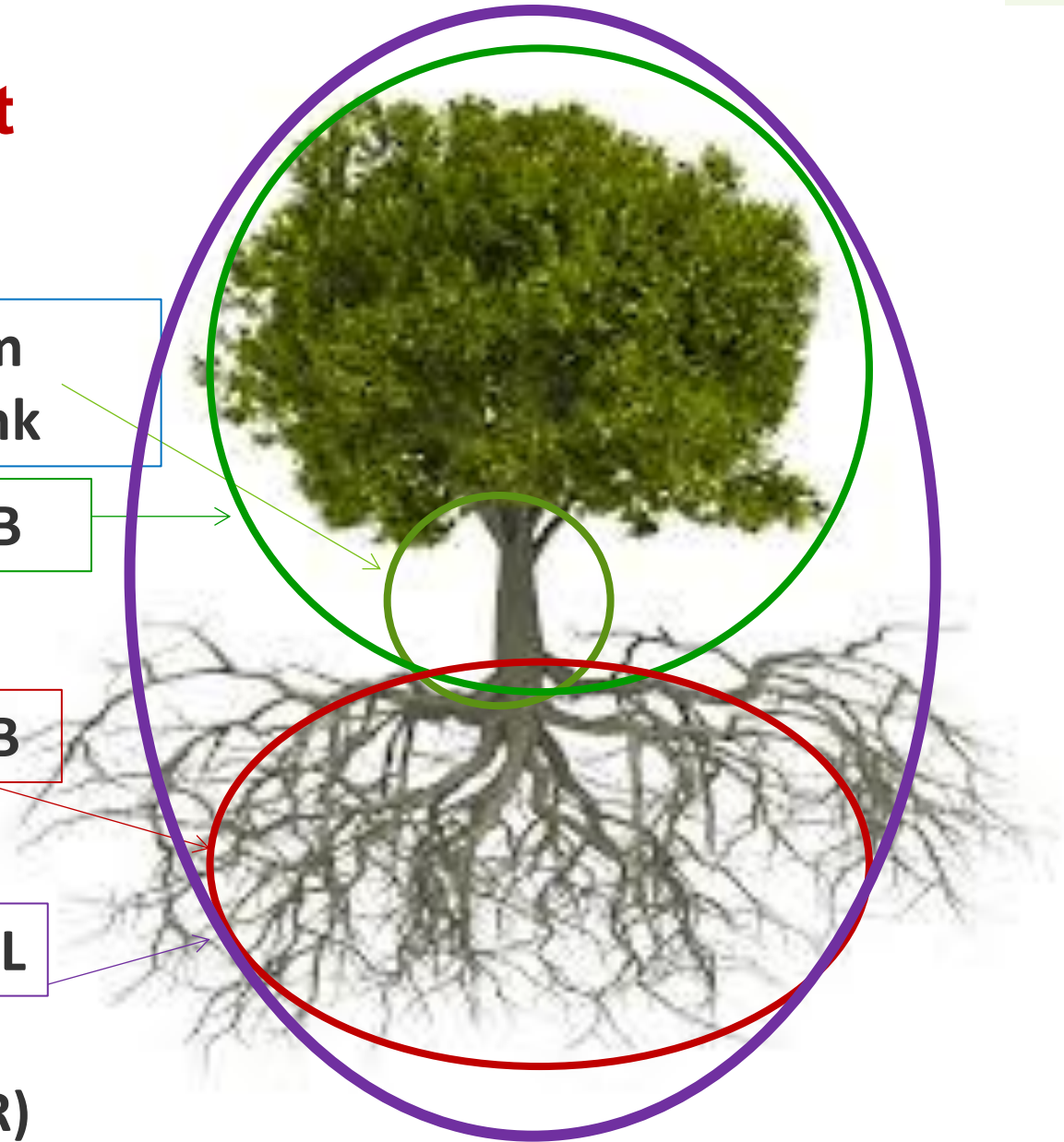
$$V \text{ (m}^3\text{)} \times D \text{ density (t dm/m}^3\text{)} = \text{T dm Trunk}$$

$$\text{T dm trunk} \times \text{BEF} = \text{T dm AGB}$$

$$\text{T dm AGB} \times R = \text{T dm BGB}$$

$$= \text{T dm TOTAL}$$

$$\text{Total Dry Matter} = (V * D * \text{BEF}_s) * (1 + R)$$





T dm TOTAL

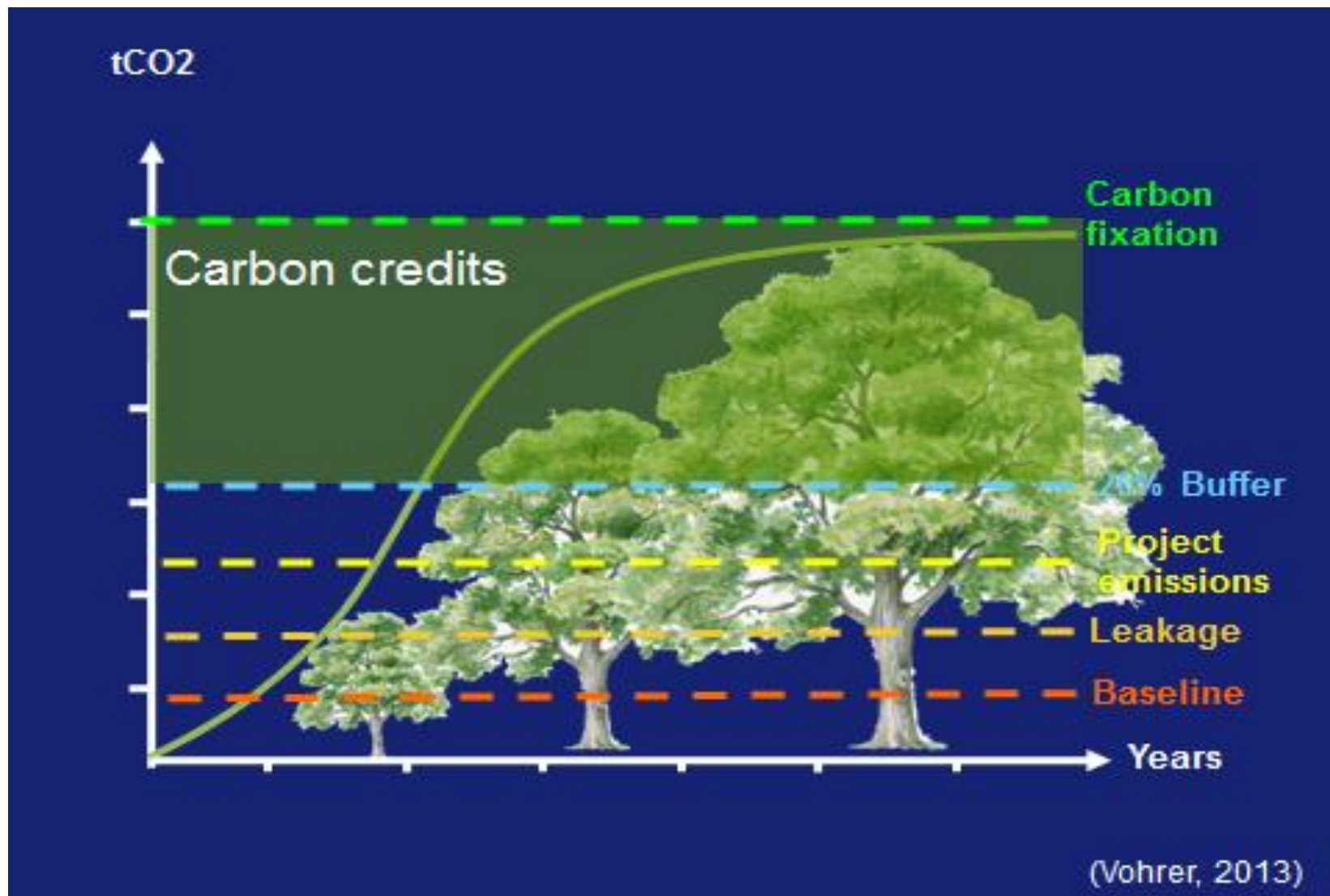
$$\times \text{CF (0,48)} = \text{C total}$$

C total

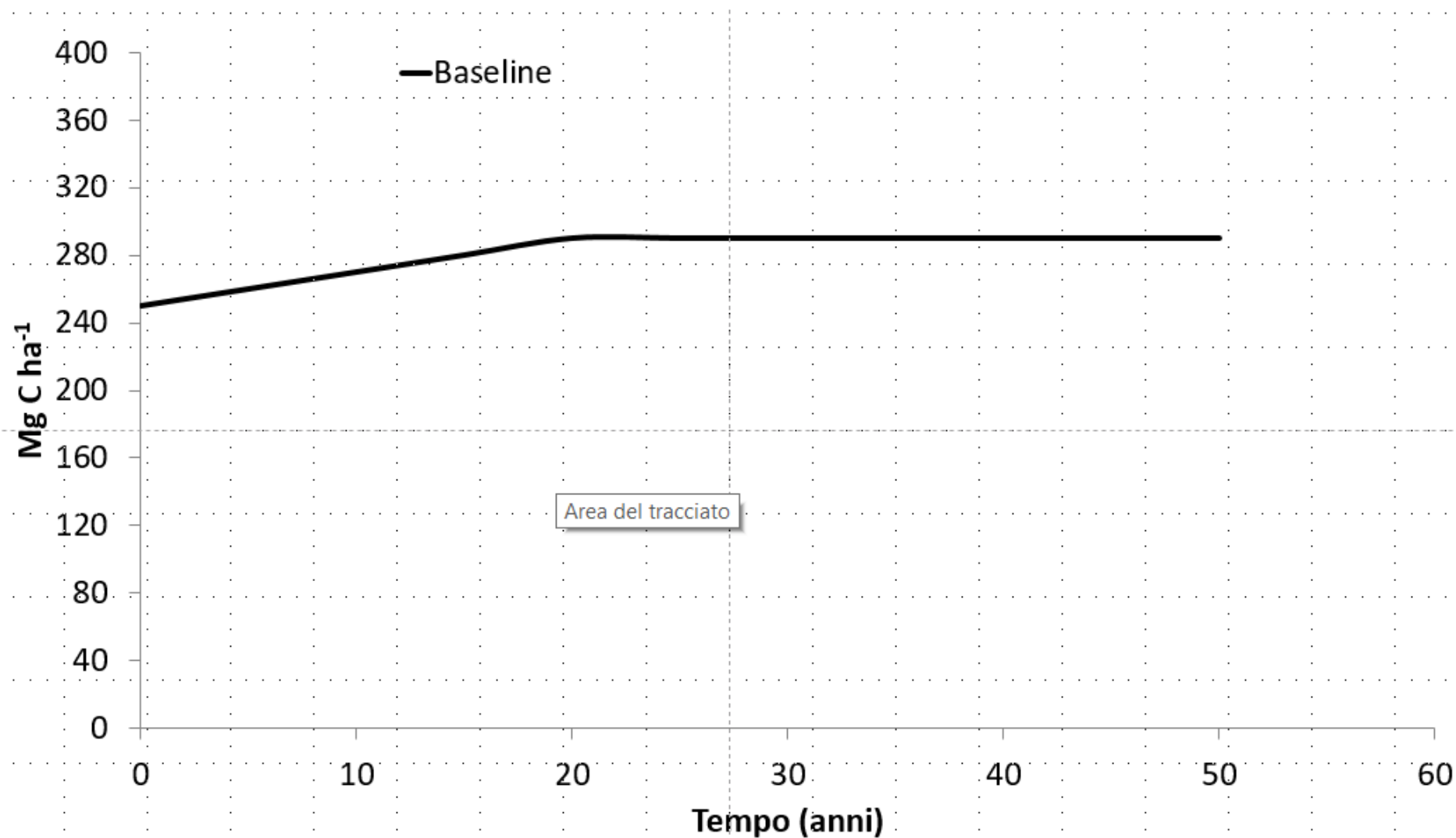
$$\times \text{CO}_2/\text{C (44/12)} = \text{t CO}_2$$

Besides carbon sequestration, forest ecosystems harbour biodiversity and provide many other important ecosystem services that are vital to society and human wellbeing. These include provision of timber and non-wood forest products, soil formation and protection against erosion, water purification and retention, local climate regulation, and provision of recreational use (Thompson et al. 2014). **The concept of carbon farming accounts for these services and includes provisions to avoid any harm to these “*natural values*”.**

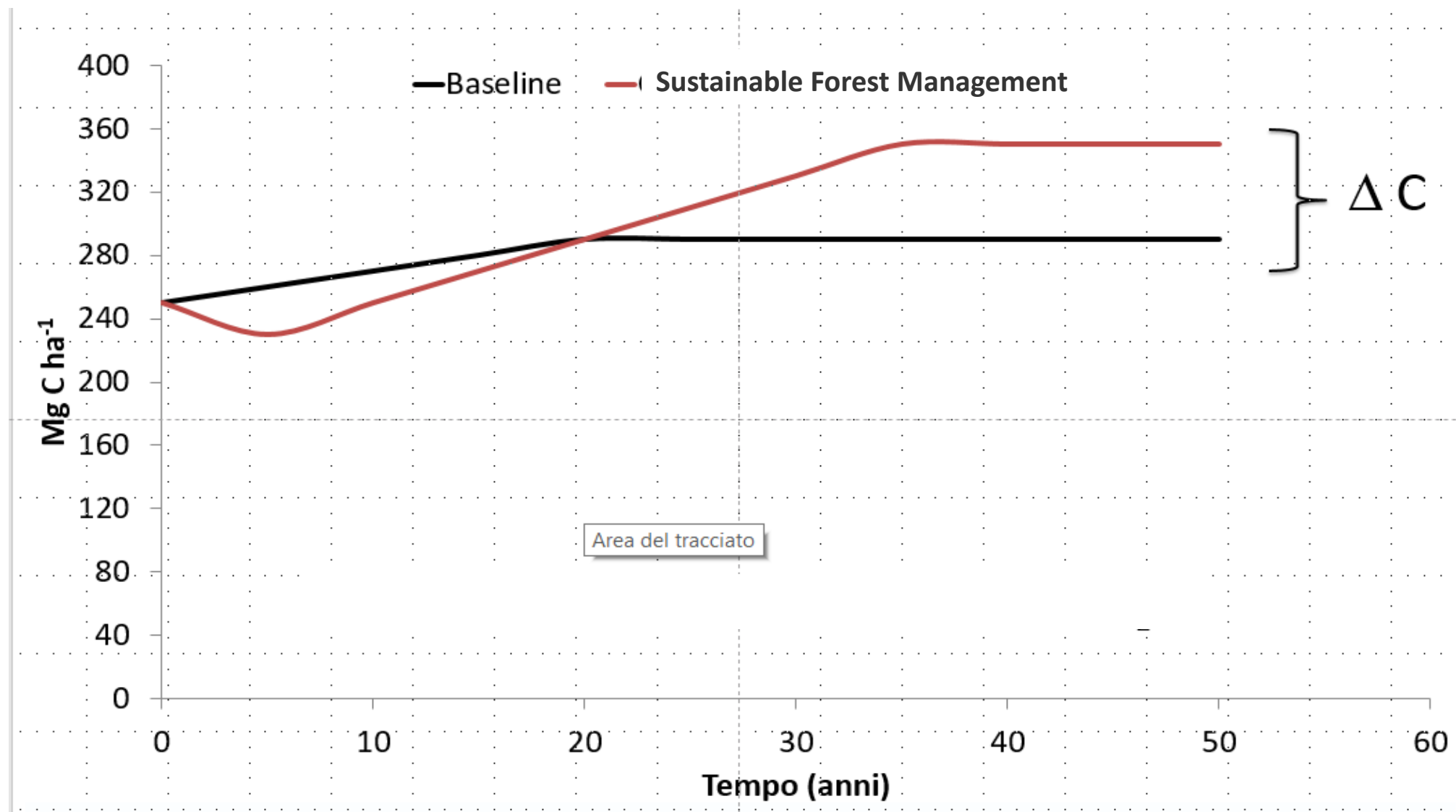
How to create credible Carbon credit?



Additionality in forestry



Additionality in forestry



PEFC Ecosystem Services Certification Standard.

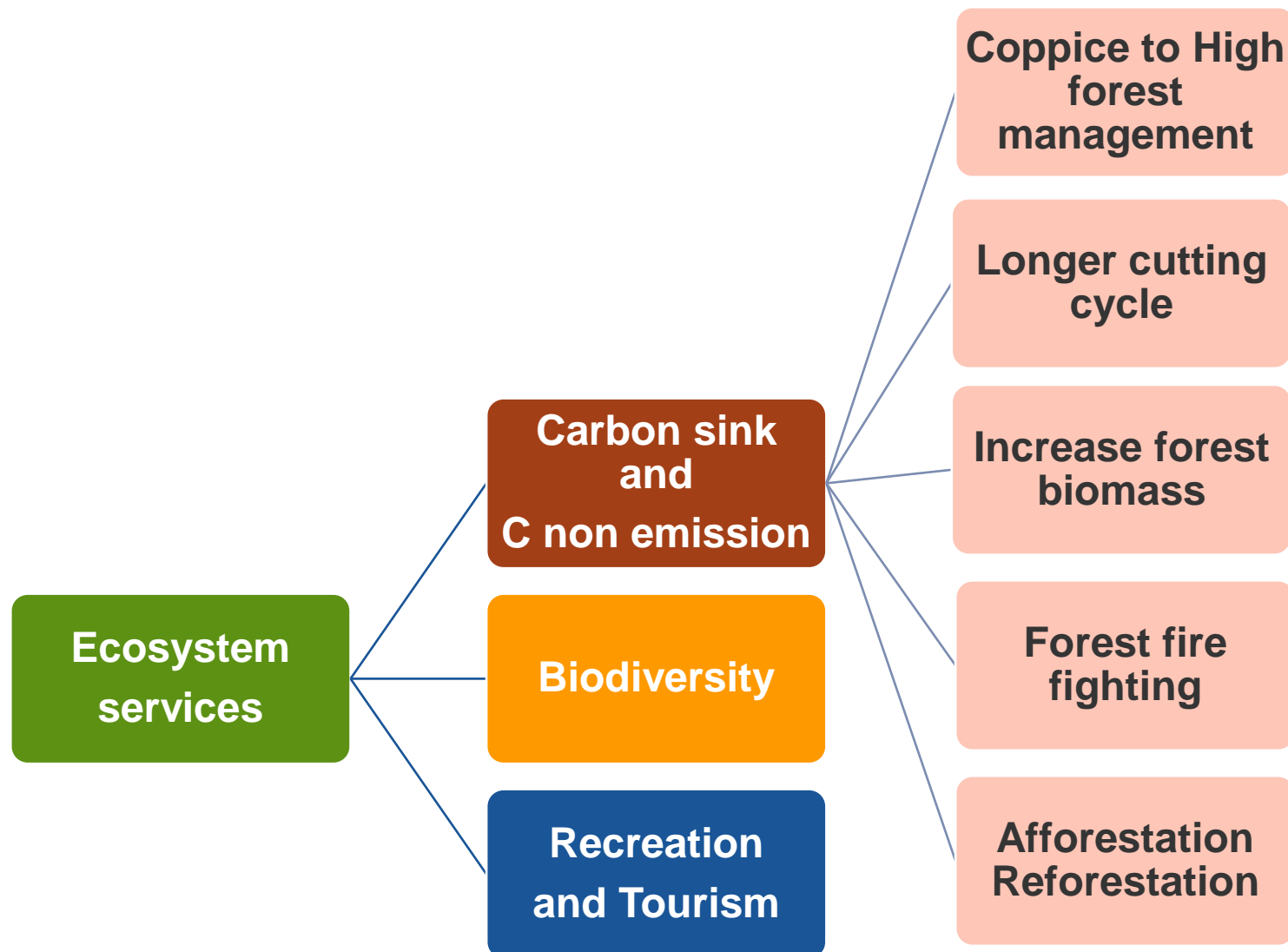
PEFC ITA - SE:2021

ANNEX 1

FOREST CARBON: STORAGE, UPTAKE AND NON-EMISSION



ES and certified «additional activities»

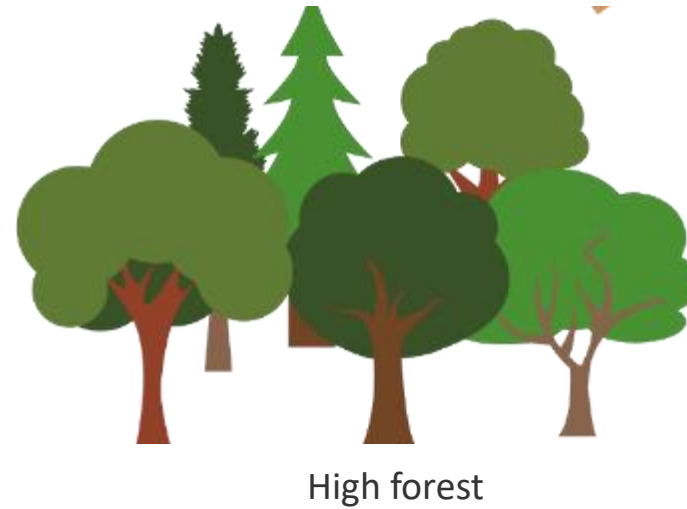
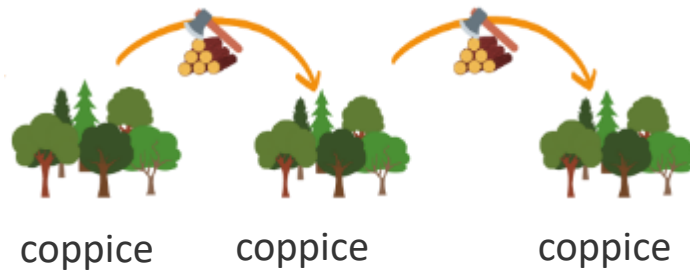


Forest Carbon: storage and uptake

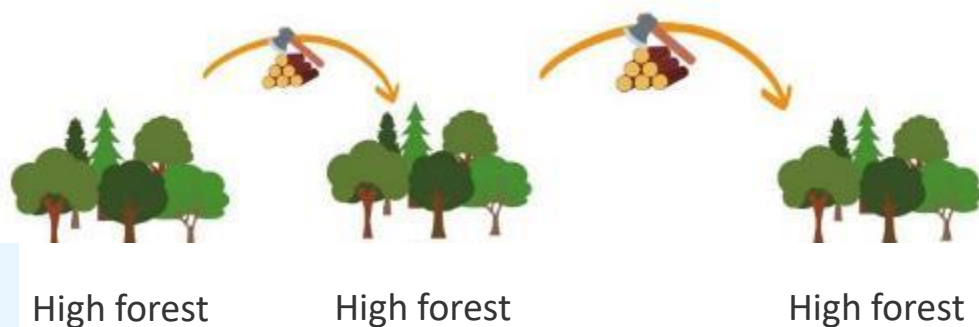
INCREASE IN BIOMASS
IN THE FOREST

- ...GOOD PRACTICES

COPPICE TO HIGH FOREST



LONGER CUTTING INTERVAL



- IPCC equation 2.5: stock difference method, volume 4 (IPCC 2006)
- $CO_{2FY} = (V \cdot D \cdot BEF_s) \cdot (1+R) \cdot CF \cdot 3,67$
- $CO_{2CX} = (V \cdot D \cdot BEF_s) \cdot (1+R) \cdot CF \cdot 3,67$
- $CO_{2/anno} = (CO_{2FY} - CO_{2CX}) / (Y - X)$

Tabella 1

La seguente tabella riporta i valori di Incremento corrente (INFC, 2005), densità basale, Root/shoot ratio, BEF (Federici et al, 2008) e BEFs (IPCC 2006) per le principali specie presenti in Italia, suggeriti dal PEFC per l'applicazione delle metodologie di calcolo precedentemente riportate

Specie	Incr. corrente m ³ /ha/anno	
	fustaia	ceduo
Abete rosso	8,2	
Abete bianco	8,3	
Larice	3,9	
Pino silvestre	3,7	
Pino nero	6,7	
Pini mediterranei	3,9	
Altre conifere	6,8	
Faggete	6,6	5,4
Rovere, roverella, farnia	2,9	2,1
Cerrete	4,3	3,1
Castagneti	7,2	6,8
<u>Ostrieti</u> , <u>carpineti</u>	3,7	3,3
Boschi igrofili	5,8	5,8
Altri boschi caducifogli	5,2	5,2
Leccete	2,8	2,9
Sugherete	1,2	1,0
Fonti	INFC, 2005. Inventario Nazionale delle Foreste e dei Serbatoi Forestali di Carbonio. Ministero delle Politiche Agricole Alimentari e Forestali, Ispettorato Generale – Corpo Forestale dello Stato (CRA) – Unità di ricerca per il Monitoraggio e la Pianificazione forestale	

Specie	Densità basale (t/m ²)	R (rapporto radici/fusto)	BEF ₁ Fattori di espansione della biomassa (dall'incremento al ad AGB)	BEFs Fattori di espansione della biomassa (dalla provvigione al AGB)
Boschi gestiti ad alto fusto				
Abete rosso	0,38	0,29	1.29	1.3
Abete bianco	0,38	0,28	1.34	1.3
Larice	0,56	0,29	1.22	1.3
Pini montani	0,47	0,36	1.33	1.3
Pini mediterranei	0,53	0,33	1.53	1.3
Altre conifere	0,43	0,29	1.37	1.3
Faggio	0,61	0,20	1.36	1.4
Cerro	0,69	0,24	1.45	1.4
Altre querce	0,67	0,20	1.42	1.4
Altre latifoglie	0,53	0,24	1.47	1.4
Boschi gestiti a ceduo				
Faggio	0,61	0,20	1.36	1.4
Castagno	0.49	0.28	1.33	1.4
Carpino	0,66	0,26	1.28	1.4
Altre querce	0,65	0,20	1.39	1.4
Cerro	0.69	0.24	1.23	1.4
Leccio	0.72	1.00	1.45	1.4
Altre latifoglie	0.53	0.24	1.53	1.4
Conifere	0.43	0.29	1.38	1.3
Fonti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2006 IPCC Good Practice Guidance for LULUCF: BEFs Tabella 3A.1.10 Federici S, Vitullo M, Tulipano S, De Lauretis R, Seufert G, (2008). An approach to estimate carbon stocks change in forest carbon pools under the UNFCCC: the Italian case. iForest 1: 86-95 [online: 2008-05-19]: Densità basale D e Root/shoot Ratio R e BEF1 			

Forest Carbon: storage, uptake

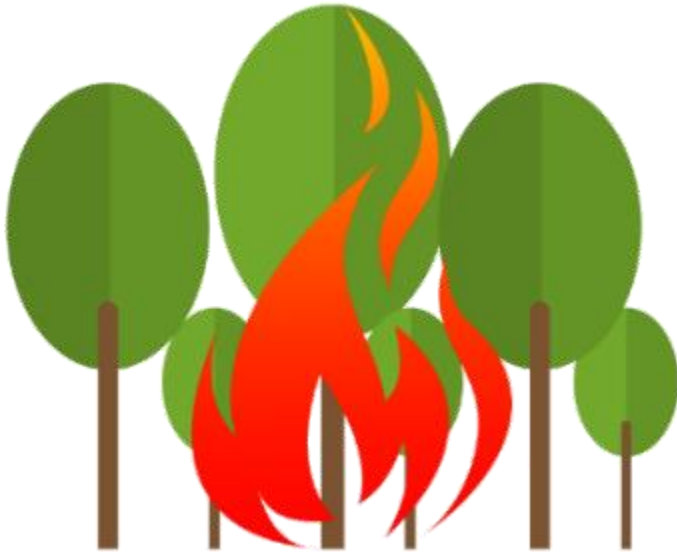
- ...GOOD PRACTICES
PROTECTION FROM BIOTIC DAMAGE



....REFORESTATION/AFFORESTATION

- IPCC, 2006 – Vol. 4 chapter 2 – Eq. 2.10 biomass).
- $CO_2 \text{ year} = I_v * BEF1 * D * (1+R) * CF * 3,67$

Forest Carbon: non-emission



FOREST FIRE FIGHTING

**INPUT USE REDUCTION
ENERGY**





D6 REPORT: FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS OF THE SAMPLING FRAMEWORK

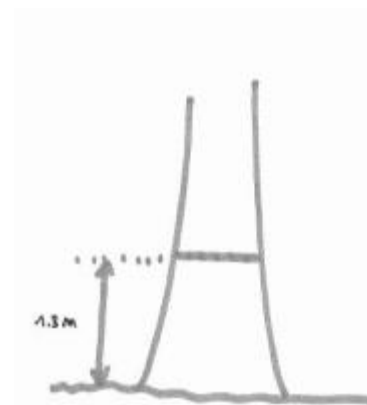
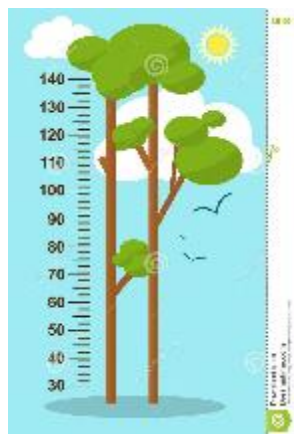
ACTION A.5

UNITUS, CREA FL E PEFC ITALIA

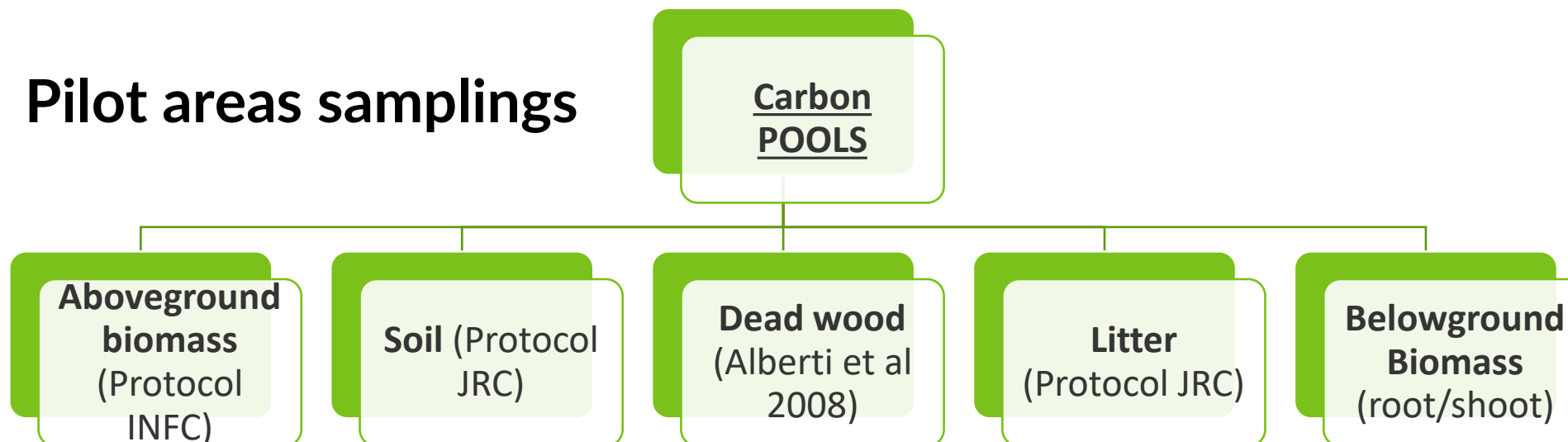


*«CO₂ Stored in Forest Management Marche» Project
Calculation and certification of carbon sequestration in
managed forests*

«CO₂ Stored in Forest Management Marche» Project Calculation and certification of carbon sequestration in managed forests



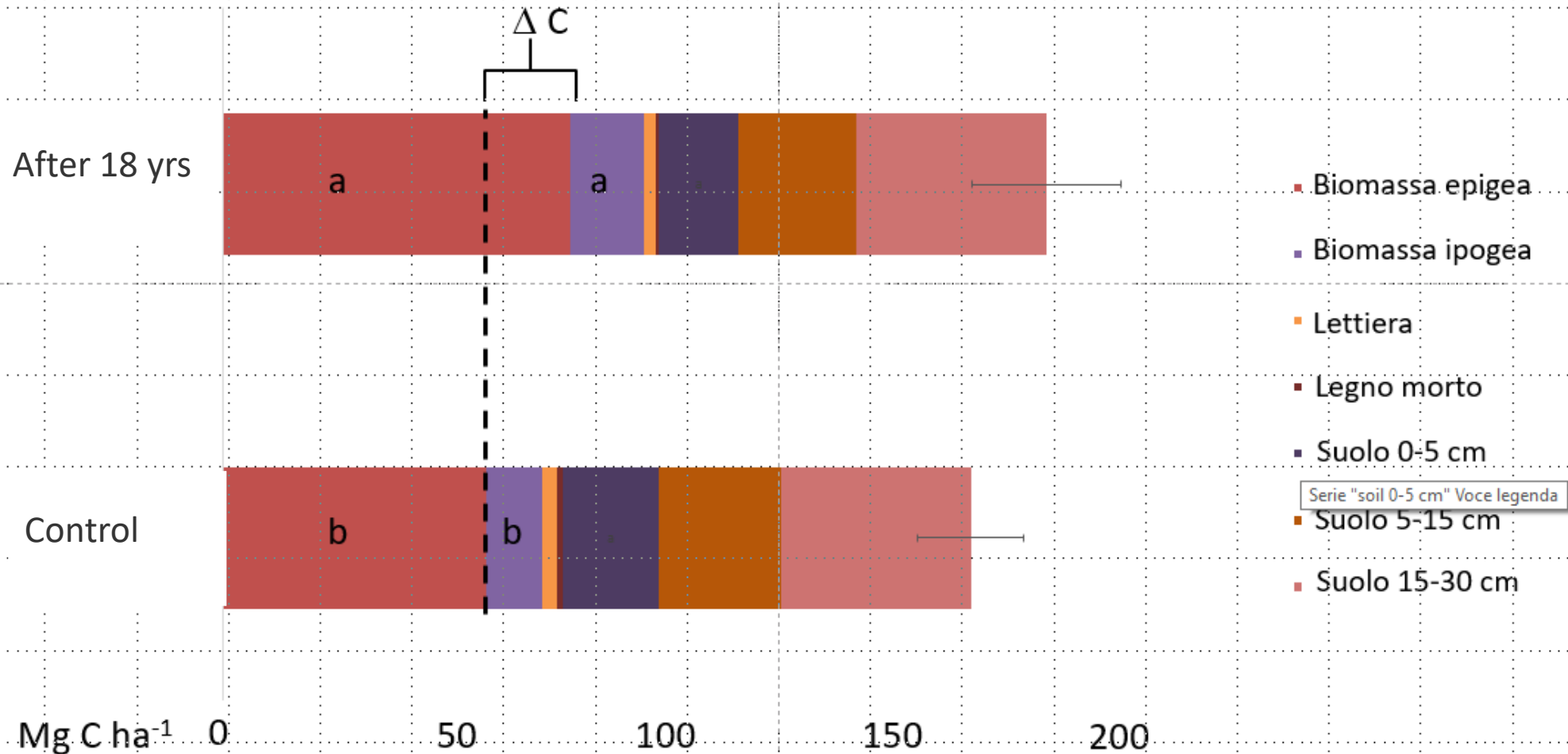
Pilot areas samplings

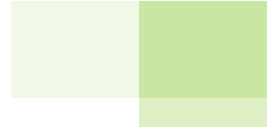


«CO₂ Stored in Forest Management Marche» Project Calculation and certification of carbon sequestration in managed forests



Monte Maggio - Faggio



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Forest soils can increase climate change mitigation with targeted management

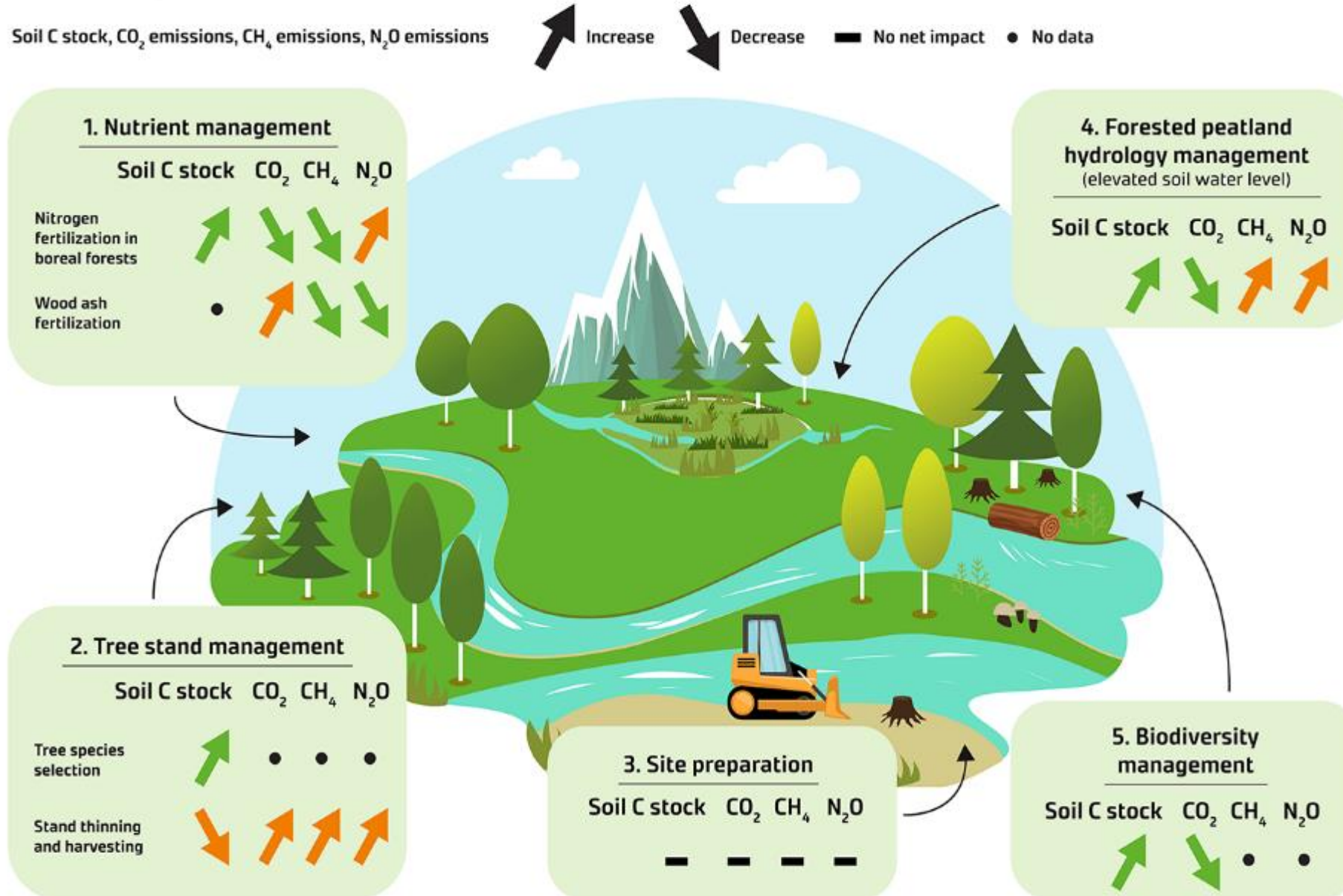
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Management practice



- Management practices affect soil C stock, CO₂, CH₄, N₂O emissions in temperate and boreal forests.
- (Green arrow indicates positive impacts for climate change mitigation and orange arrow negative impacts for climate change mitigation).



PRACTICE		Quantification	Additionality	Permanence	Leakage Prevention
Afforestation		High	High	High	High
Silvi-cultural practices	<i>Species selection</i>	Medium	Medium	High	Medium
	<i>Reduced harvest/ Lengthened rotation</i>	Low	Medium-High	Medium	Low
	<i>Reduced thinning intensity</i>	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
	<i>Diversification of forest structure</i>	Medium	Medium	High	High
	<i>No harvesting</i>	Medium	Medium-High	Medium	Low
	<i>Site fertilisation</i>	na	Low-Medium	Medium	High
Fire management		High	High	Medium	High
Agroforestry		Low	High	Medium-high	High
Peatland management	<i>Peatland restoration</i>	Medium	High	High	Medium
	<i>Continuous cover forestry on drained peatlands</i>	Medium	Medium	High	Medium-high

Despite much research over the last decades (Keenan et al. 2013; Kutsch and Kolari 2015; Hyyrynen et al. 2023), the role of forest management on long-term carbon sequestration potential remains uncertain. Consequently, predictions are contradictory among existing models, which disagree on whether the carbon balance of global forests will be positive or negative in 2100. It is, therefore, generally challenging to derive robust conclusions about the potential of carbon farming practices in the long term.

Multifunctional management and forest C credit market ... but with respect!

