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Article

# Modeling of Dead Wood Potential Based on Tree Stand Data

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**Abstract:** Here we present a framework for identifying areas with high dead wood potential (*DWP*) for conservation planning needs. The amount and quality of dead wood and dying trees are some of the most important factors for biodiversity in forests. As they are easy to recognize on site, it is widely used as a surrogate marker for ecological quality of forests. However, wall-to-wall information on dead wood is rarely available on a large scale as field data collection is expensive and local dead wood conditions change rapidly. Our method is based on the forest growth models in the Motti forest simulator, taking into account 168 combinations of tree species, site types, and vegetation zones as well as recommendations on forest management. Simulated estimates of stand-level dead wood volume and mean diameter at breast height were converted into *DWP* functions. The accuracy of the method was validated on two sites in southern and northeastern Finland, both consisting of managed and conserved boreal forests. Altogether, 203 field plots were measured for living and dead trees. Data on living trees were inserted into corresponding *DWP* functions and the resulting *DWPs* were compared to the measured dead wood volumes. Our results show that *DWP* modeling is an operable tool, yet the accuracy differs between areas. The *DWP* performs best in near-pristine southern forests known for their exceptionally good quality areas. In northeastern areas with a history of softer management, the differences between near-pristine and managed forests is not as clear. While accurate wall-to-wall dead wood inventory is not available, we recommend using *DWP* method together with other spatial datasets when assessing biodiversity values of forests.

**Keywords:** biodiversity; coarse woody debris; conservation planning; forests; forest simulation; forestry; land-use planning; spatial conservation prioritization

## 1. Introduction

Land use, including forestry, is the main threat to biodiversity [1,2]. Forestry causes biodiversity loss as it fundamentally changes the ecosystem functioning and induces habitat loss and degradation. One of the most severe changes is the decline in the amount and quality of dead wood and dying trees,

which are a crucial part of the life cycle of forests and one of the most important factors for biodiversity in them [3–6].

Finland, situated in Fennoscandia in northern Europe, is one of the most forested countries in the world, with forests covering 75% (22.8 million hectares) of the land area [7]. Still, 76% of forest habitats and 9.8% of forest species are threatened. The main causes for this are the same for both groups: (1) reduction in the amount of dead wood, (2) reduction in old-growth forests and individual old trees, and (3) changes in tree species composition. These threats are interconnected as they usually occur simultaneously [8–10]. This decline in ecological condition results mainly from the intensive forest management during the last centuries, which has caused an alarming shortage of natural forests outside protected areas [11,12].

A significant difference between managed and natural forests is dead wood volume. The mean dead wood volume in Finnish forest areas is 5.8 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare, varying from managed forests with less than 2 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare [7] to forests with softer management practices, e.g., urban forests (median 10.1 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare [13]), and finally to natural forests that host a volumes between 40 and 170 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare [14]. What follows is that the dead wood continuum does not exist either [3,15,16]. Dead wood, in all forms, plays a significant role in the boreal forest ecosystems by producing a high resource supply and microhabitat diversity. Thereby, it causes, e.g., up to 75% higher species richness in saproxylic species in natural boreal forests compared to managed forests as 20–25% of forest species are dependent on dead wood [15,17]. Dead wood has been used as a surrogate marker for biodiversity as there are well-known dependencies between threatened forest biodiversity and the different size, stages, and composition of dead wood parcels especially in boreal forests [15,18–20]. Following this, dead wood is commonly monitored and, e.g., in Finland the National Forest Inventory (NFI) has compiled data on the amount of dead wood since the 1920s [21]. Based on collected data, the amount and quality of dead wood has been assessed and modeled in various ways (see [22]). In the beginning of the 21st century, the appearance of more biodiversity-oriented forestry has highlighted the importance of including dead wood in forest simulations (e.g., [23]), whereas during the last decades, its importance for climate change mitigation as carbon stock has emphasized it again (see, e.g., [24,25]). However, for the needs of conservation planning, this data is often insufficient. This is mostly because the big data sets, such as NFI, contain a minor amount of field plots with dead wood. The reason for this is that dead wood occurs randomly and the amounts are often very small. Following this, continuous dead wood information has not been achieved or the spatial accuracy has been insufficient. A challenge is also that data on dead wood becomes outdated quite fast as the wood decays [26].

In Finland, information on forest stands is collected regularly, producing several up-to-date national forest data sets for forest management or related purposes. These are nowadays based on remote sensing techniques and field inventoried sample plots. As field inventories have declined drastically, attempts to inventory biodiversity features based on remote sensed data have become necessary. Promising techniques for modeling the appearance of dead wood have been developed, but neither data nor techniques are yet operatively available for a wider audience [27–29]. A significant challenge for methodological development is the rarity of dead wood in forests [30], which causes a shortage of field plots containing dead wood.

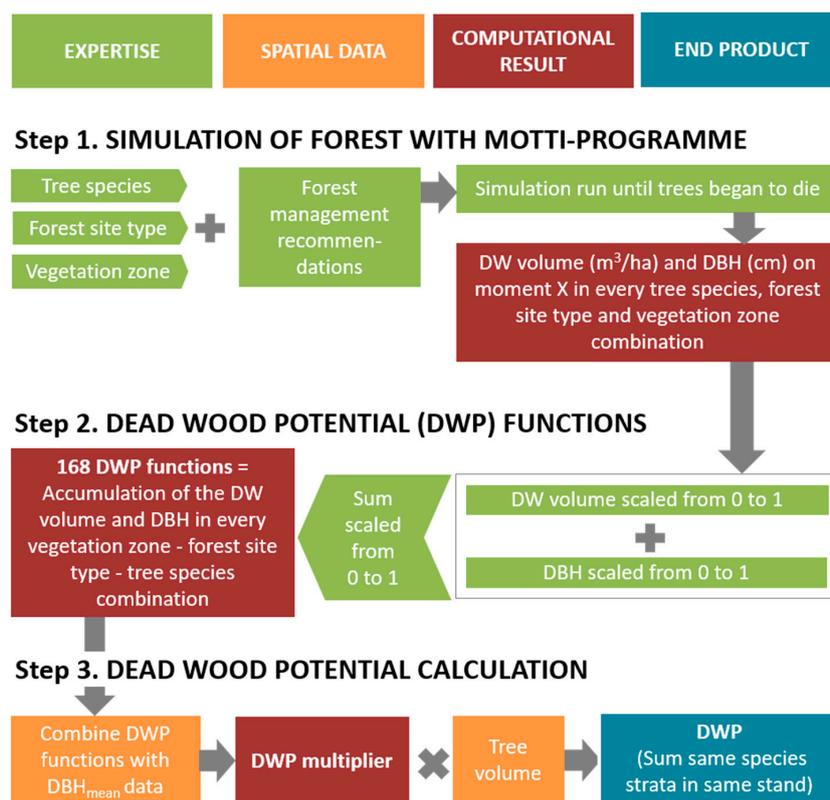
Here we report a framework for modeling dead wood potential (*DWP*) of forests based on forest stand data. The overall aim was to develop a method to assist in estimating the biodiversity values of forests on a large scale. These kinds of estimates are urgently needed in spatial land use planning concerning nature conservation, e.g., for the needs of The Forest Biodiversity Programme of Southern Finland, METSO [31]. Our *DWP* modeling is based on earlier developmental work on forest conservation values in Finland [32–36]. The method was validated with field data from two separate test areas in Finland. We were also interested in understanding how well the method works in areas that are known for their substantial dead wood volumes. Additionally, we wanted to know whether there are differences between different management histories.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Dead Wood Potential Modeling Method

The developed *DWP* is based on forest fertility classes, tree species richness, the mean diameter at breast height ( $DBH_{\text{mean}}$ ), and the volume of trees on each site. The variables for *DWP* modeling were chosen for the following reasons: forest site types describe the capability of wood production on a site based on soil fertility (e.g., Cajander [37]). The higher the growth, the higher the potential to create resources such as tree biomass to support biodiversity on the site. Site types are also rather easy to determine. Tree species reflect, obviously, species richness per se, but also different living environments, biotopes, as every tree species maintains at least partly its unique set of biodiversity [38]. Age of the forest is one of the most important factors when considering its value for biodiversity (see, e.g., [10,19,39]). As sufficient data on forest age on a national scale are not available, the  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  was used as a surrogate. The total volume separates sparse and dense forests as well as low canopies from tall ones. On its own, this variable does not reveal much about biodiversity, but as a part of this framework, it provides additional information on the sites' importance for biodiversity.

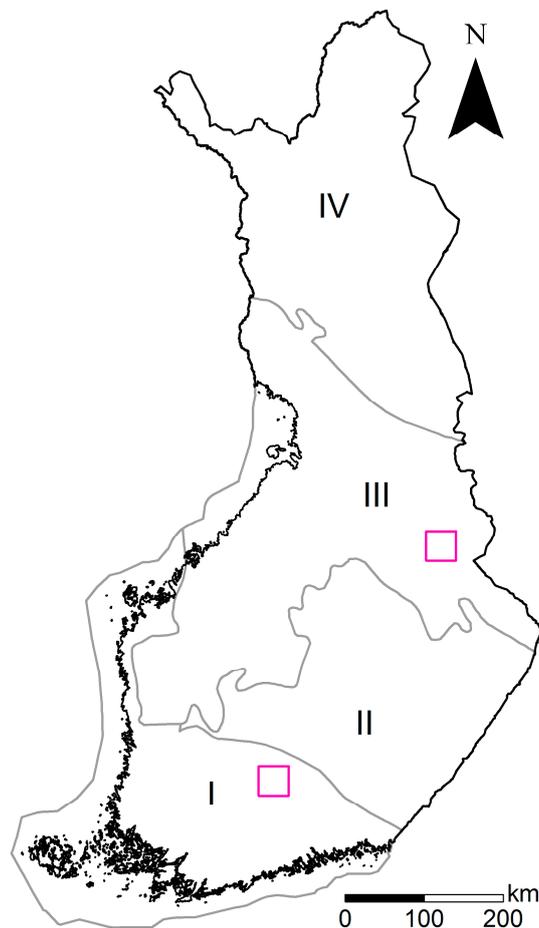
*DWP* was calculated for each forest stand in three steps (Figure 1): simulations of forest growth (1), development of *DWP* functions (2), and conversion of forest stand data into *DWP* on each site (3). Steps one and two did not require spatial data. All the three steps are described in more detail below.



**Figure 1.** Calculation of dead wood potential (*DWP*) was executed in three steps. First, simulations of forest growth produced the needed information of forest growth in 168 combinations of seven tree species, six forest site types, and four vegetation zones. Second, based on the previous information, altogether 168 different *DWP* functions were developed. Third, the spatial data of forest stands was converted into the *DWP* for each tree species with *DWP* functions. DW = dead wood, *DBH* = diameter at breast height,  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  = mean diameter at breast height.

As a first step, the data required for *DWP* modeling were simulated with the freely available Motti forest stand simulator (version 3.3) [40–42], provided by the Natural Resources Institute

Finland. The functionality of the simulator is built upon NFI. Simulations provided data on the amount of dead wood ( $\text{m}^3$  per hectare) and diameter at breast height (DBH) of living trees (Figure 1, step 1). Simulations were made in 5-year intervals for 168 forest combinations of seven tree species (*Alnus glutinosa* ((L.) Gaertn.), *Betula pendula* (Roth), *Betula pubescens* (Ehrh.), *Picea abies* ((L.) H. Karst), *Pinus sylvestris* (L.), *Populus tremula* (L.), and other broadleaved tree species), six forest site types, and four vegetation zones from hemiboreal to northern boreal zones [43,44] (see Figure 2 and Appendix A for more details). Finnish forest management practice recommendations [45] set the guidelines for simulations. This information included, e.g., the number of seedlings per hectare and the timing of thinnings in a growing stand. No clear-cutting was executed in the simulations as stands were allowed to grow until the volume of the growing stock started to decline due to self-thinning effect. Simulations were executed on mineral soil only as simulations on peatland were not available in this version of Motti simulator. As the used version did not include information on the decomposition of dead wood, the volumes were larger than in reality. Based on expert opinion, the amounts of simulated dead wood were correct (considering the known deficiencies) and similar between tree species and forest site types. As the initial purpose for the modeling was to develop relative data on the probability of dead wood (differentiated from exact biological data) for spatial conservation prioritization needs, this was not seen as a problem.

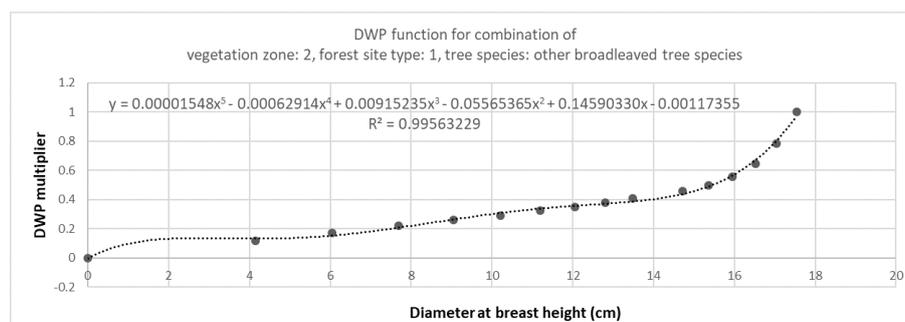


**Figure 2.** The map of Finland, the vegetation zones used in *DWP* modeling, and locations of the validation sites. The vegetation zones (grey lines) are as follows: I Southern Finland (vegetation zones 1 (hemiboreal), and 2a and 2c (southern boreal)), II Middle Finland (2b (southern boreal)), III Ostrobothnia and Kainuu (3a–c (middle boreal)), and IV Northern Finland (4a–d (northern boreal)). Southern (Evo) and northeastern (Kuhmo) sites are marked with pink squares.

The second step (Figure 1, Step 2) included the conversion of simulated estimates of dead wood and *DBH* into *DWP* functions. In total, 168 functions were formulated, one for each species–site type–vegetation zone combination (see Appendix A). This was done in four steps as described in Table 1. In Steps A and B, the amounts of dead wood (A) and *DBH* (B) were scaled between 0 and 1 in relation to the amount of them at the simulation maximum point, a point where the growing stock volume started to decline. In Step C, the scaled dead wood and the *DBH* were summed at each time step (minimum value 0 at time step 0, maximum value 2 at time step of 80 years in the example in Table 1). In Step D, the sum was rescaled from 0 to 1. These values were eventually used for fitting the *DWP* functions (Figure 3, Appendix A).

**Table 1.** Example of construction of one dead wood potential (*DWP*) function. *DWP* function for other broadleaved trees in forest site type 1 (herb-rich forest) and in vegetation zone 2 (southern boreal 2b) was calculated as follows: Step A: the amount of dead wood was scaled between 0 and 1 in relation to the amount at the simulation maximum point (bolded). Step B: the *DBH* values were scaled similarly to the dead wood. Step C: the scaled dead wood and *DBH* were summed at each time step (min 0, max 2). Step D: this sum was rescaled from 0 to 1 forming *DWP* multiplier.

Other Broadleaved Trees in Forest Site Type 1 and in Vegetation Zone 2							
Time steps, i.e., age of trees (years), starting from 0		60	65	70	75	80	85
Simulated results	Growing stock volume (m <sup>3</sup> per hectare)	155.2	170.7	183.1	190.6	<b>190.8</b>	181.9
	<i>DBH</i> (cm)	15.4	16.0	16.5	17.0	<b>17.5</b>	18.0
	Dead wood volume (m <sup>3</sup> per hectare)	4.7	7.9	13.6	23.5	<b>39.4</b>	63.3
Step A	Rescaled dead wood in relation to the Motti simulation maximum value (max. vol. 39.41 m <sup>3</sup> per hectare)	0.12	0.20	0.35	0.60	<b>1</b>	
Step B	Rescaled <i>DBH</i> in relation to the Motti simulation maximum value (max. <i>DBH</i> 17.54 cm per hectare)	0.88	0.91	0.94	0.97	<b>1</b>	
Step C	Sum of rescaled values of dead wood and <i>DBH</i> at certain time step	0.99	1.11	1.29	1.57	<b>2</b>	
Step D	<i>DWP</i> multiplier (minimum 0, maximum 1)	0.50	0.55	0.64	0.78	<b>1</b>	



**Figure 3.** Fitting the dead wood potential (*DWP*) functions and generating *DWP* multipliers. The figure describes one of the 168 functions, being the function for other broadleaved trees, growing in the most nutrient-rich soil (forest site type 1) in vegetation zone 2. *DWP* functions were formulated by fitting an 8-decimal function through the scaled *DBH* and dead wood values. Here, the X-axis is the diameter at breast height (*DBH*) and the Y-axis is the *DWP* multiplier for stratum volume. In this example the *DWP* multiplier for stratum volume for trees of, e.g., 10 cm mean diameter at breast height, is approximately 0.3.

Step 3 (Figure 1), required spatial forest stand data ( $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  and volume per hectare) as at this point the *DWP* functions were used to convert the stand variables into the *DWP*. The *DWP* multiplier was defined with the *DWP* function using the stand  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  (Figure 3, Appendix A). Due to the overestimates that resulted from the extrapolation of the *DWP* functions, some of the *DWP* multipliers were unrealistically high. This was because natural forests host larger trees than commercial forests,

especially for class other broadleaved trees. As we wanted to preserve the value of the large trees in natural forests, and on the other hand limit the overestimation of the *DWP* multiplier, its maximum was set to 2. Finally, the volume was multiplied with the *DWP* multiplier resulting in the *DWP* value. If there were more than one stratum of the same tree species in a stand, their *DWP* values were summed.

As an example, the stratum described in Figure 3 is *Alnus incana* ((L.) Moench) growing in herb-rich forests in the southern boreal zone. The *DWP* multiplier for  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  10 cm is approximately 0.3. When the volume is 30 m<sup>3</sup>/ha, the *DWP* for this is:

$$DWP = DWP \text{ multiplier} \times \text{volume} \quad (1)$$

where the *DWP* multiplier stands for the *DWP* function value at  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  of 10 cm (here 0.3). This is multiplied with the volume (i.e., 30 m<sup>3</sup>/ha) to achieve the *DWP* value  $0.3 \times 30 = 9$ .

## 2.2. Validation of *DWP* Modeling Method

The accuracy of the *DWP* modeling was validated on two separate sites in Finland, located in southern (Evo) and northeastern Finland (Kuhmo) (Figure 2). Both areas consist of managed and conserved boreal forests and are managed by Metsähallitus, the state-owned enterprise responsible for the management of state-owned areas. The most considerable differences between the areas, apart from vegetation zone, concern the management histories of the forests. Firstly, the Evo forest school, the oldest of the kind in Finland and still operational, has brought about systematic and intensive use and experimental research of forests for educational purposes in the Evo area. Secondly, throughout the history of the sites human population has been greater in southern Finland, inducing higher rates of forest utilization for self-sufficiency needs and later for private forestry [46].

The southern validation area was located in Hämeenlinna, in the Evo recreational forest area and in its surroundings (WGS84 lat: 63°52', lon: 29°09'). Altogether, 100 field plots were measured during the summer 2018 of which 82 were in managed and 18 in conserved forest areas (Table 2). Almost half of the field plots (40 plots) were in forest stands that have been signed as habitats of special importance in terms of biodiversity or alike. On these habitats, forestry is practiced with limitations or not at all, but exact information is not publicly available [47–49]. Mineral soil covered 90 and peatland 10 of the plots [50].

**Table 2.** Validation areas of Evo and Kuhmo in numbers.

Area	No. of Plots	Strictly Conserved	Some Degree of Conservation	Management Not Restricted	Plots on Mineral Soil/Peatland
Evo	100	18	40	42	90/10
Kuhmo	103	59	10	34	66/37

In Evo, in total, 88 of the plots were allocated to different forest strata using inventory data provided by Metsähallitus. The area was divided into 100 theoretical strata according to the dominant tree species (pine, spruce, birch sp., aspen, and other deciduous), *DBH* class (0–10, 10–20, 20–30, 30–40, and 40–50 cm), and basal area class (0–15, 15–30, 30–45, and 45–60 m<sup>2</sup>/ha). In total, 51 of the theoretical strata were found from the site. The number of plots in each forest stratum was determined by the forest stands' relative abundance in the study area. In addition, 12 field plots were positioned subjectively in areas where aspen (*Populus tremula*) was present. Plot-level  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  and mean volume were 24 cm and 260.4 m<sup>3</sup>/ha, and for dead trees 8 cm and 15.8 m<sup>3</sup>/ha, respectively (Table 3).

**Table 3.** Plot-level characteristics for living and dead wood (DW) in the Evo validation area.  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  = mean diameter at breast height, H = mean height, Vol = volume, N = number of pieces, D = mean value of the dead wood diameters. Mean row indicates mean values for the whole area.

	$DBH_{\text{mean}}$ (cm)	H (m)	Vol ( $\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$ )	N_DW (N/ha)	D_DW (cm)	Vol_DW ( $\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$ )
Min	0	0	0	0	0	0
Max	49.6	31.6	955.4	432	37	320.2
Mean	24	20.7	260.4	51	8	15.8

The northeastern validation area was in Kuhmo, covering the Hiidenportti National Park and Teerisuo-Lososuo Mire Reserve, and the commercially managed forests between them (WGS84 lat:  $61^{\circ}14'$ , lon:  $25^{\circ}07'$ ). Here, 103 field plots were measured during the summer 2019 of which 44 were in managed and 59 in conserved forest areas (Table 2). Ten of the managed forest field plots were in forest stands with restricted utilization possibilities. Mineral soil covered 66 and peatland 37 of the plots. The plots were positioned using a systematic grid with 400 m distance between the neighboring plots in x and y directions. The plot-level  $DBH_{\text{mean}}$  and mean volume were 18.5 cm and  $117.6 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ , and for dead trees 15.8 cm and  $28.6 \text{ m}^3/\text{ha}$ , respectively (Table 4).

**Table 4.** Plot-level characteristics for living and dead wood in the Kuhmo validation area.

	$DBH_{\text{mean}}$ (cm)	H (m)	Vol ( $\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$ )	N_DW (N/ha)	D_DW (cm)	Vol_DW ( $\text{m}^3/\text{ha}$ )
Min	0	0	0	0	0	0
Max	39.9	22.1	464.3	825	42.1	182.3
Mean	18.5	13.5	117.6	201	15.8	28.6

In both validation areas, the field sample was measured as circular plots with a fixed radius of 9 m (or 5.64 m for trees with  $DBH < 4.5$  cm).  $DBH$  and the tree species were determined for all living trees with a  $DBH$  of over 4.5 cm. For trees with a  $DBH$  of under 4.5 cm, only the height and number of the stems were recorded. Tree height was measured for 25% of trees in each forest stand stratum (i.e., for each tree species in both upper and lower canopy storey). The heights of individual trees were acquired by parametrizing Näslund's height curve [51] using the measured sample trees. Tree volumes were calculated with taper curves [52].

Both standing and downed dead wood were measured in all plots. Standing and downed dead wood with a  $DBH$  of over 10 cm were measured for length and  $DBH$  (maximum diameter if breast height could not be defined). For fragments of dead wood, all pieces with a maximum diameter of 10 cm or more were recorded. For fallen trees, only the parts inside the plots were included in the inventory. For intact trunks, volumes were calculated with taper curves [52], whereas for snags and coarse woody debris, volume was derived using the formula of truncated cone. The species was determined for all dead wood whenever possible.

Plot-level attributes for living and dead wood were calculated for each stratum. Mean diameter was weighted with the basal area (Equation (2)), and for height value, Lorey's mean height (Equation (3)) was used.

$$DBH_{\text{mean}} = \frac{\sum BA \times DBH}{\sum BA} \quad (2)$$

$$h_l = \frac{\sum BA \times h}{\sum BA} \quad (3)$$

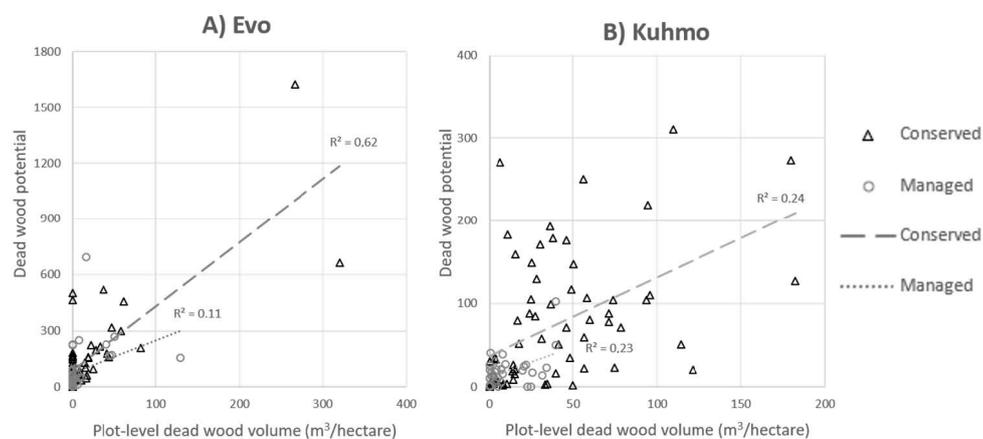
$BA$  stands for tree-level basal area,  $DBH$  for diameter at breast height (i.e., 1.3 m), and  $h$  for tree height.

Information on the forest site type was taken from the Metsähallitus database [53,54].

The *DWP* conversion was carried out for Evo with functions from vegetation zone 1 and for Kuhmo with zone 3. Strata from the same tree species in the same forest stand were summed. For dead wood comparison, all *DWPs* in the same field plot were summed. This information was compared with the field measured amount of dead wood.

### 3. Results

The modeling method was validated on two separate areas in Finland (Figure 2) by comparing the reference volumes of dead wood to the modeled index values, i.e., *DWP* (Figure 4). The modeled *DWP* values were calculated based on field plot data that had been collected simultaneously with the dead wood data. Dead wood and *DWP* volumes of different tree species occurring in the same field plot were summed for the comparison. In Evo, the *DWP* values varied between 0 and 1623 (mean 132) and volume of dead wood from 0 to 320.2 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare (mean 15.8). In Kuhmo, the *DWP* values ranged between 0 and 301 (mean 54) and dead wood volumes from 0 to 182.3 m<sup>3</sup> per hectare (mean 28.6).



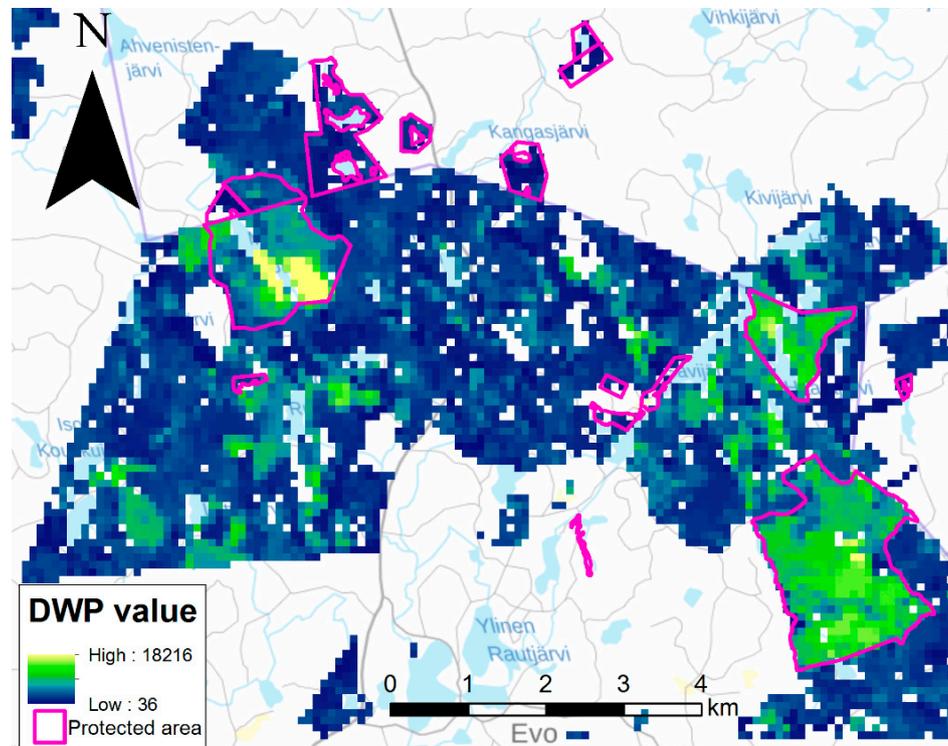
**Figure 4.** Correlation between the dead wood potential (*DWP*) and dead wood volume in Evo and Kuhmo. The *x*-axis describes the plot level dead wood volume (m<sup>3</sup> per hectare) and *y*-axis the *DWP* value for each plot. Both values are sums of different tree species in each plot. Plots on managed and conserved areas are marked with black triangles and gray circles, respectively. Coefficients of determinations are shown with dashed lines for managed and with dotted line for conserved field plots.

Results show that correlations between *DWP* and reference dead wood volumes (see Table 5) are more constant in Kuhmo than in Evo. When validation areas are observed separately, the correlation is stronger in Evo ( $R^2 = 0.54$ ) than in Kuhmo ( $R^2 = 0.29$ ). Correlation in conserved areas (strictly or with some degree of conservation) is stronger in Evo ( $R^2 = 0.62$ ) than in Kuhmo ( $R^2 = 0.24$ ). The results were investigated also based on soil type as the Motti simulations were executed only with mineral soil variables. Based on the results from Kuhmo, where 36% of field plots were on peatland, there were no significant differences between the correlations on different soil types (mineral soil and peatland both  $R^2 = 0.24$ ). As for Evo, where only 10% of field plots were on peatland, the correlation for mineral soil *DWP* was higher ( $R^2 = 0.57$ ) than for peatland ( $R^2 = 0.30$ ).

**Table 5.** Coefficients of determinations for two validation sites. Total = all field plots on area, conserved = field plots in permanently protected areas and areas with restricted forest management, managed forests = field plots in non-conserved areas, mineral soil = field plots situated in mineral soil, and peatland = field plots in peatland.

Area	$R^2$ Total	$R^2$ Conserved	$R^2$ Managed	$R^2$ Mineral Soil	$R^2$ Peatland
Evo	0.54	0.62	0.11	0.57	0.3
Kuhmo	0.29	0.24	0.23	0.24	0.24

In addition to plot-level validation, the *DWP* method was also examined on a larger scale using stand data for all forest stands in the Evo area managed by Metsähallitus [53–55]. The *DWPs* of different tree species were summed. The locations of areas known for their high biodiversity value and substantial dead wood volumes were revealed as shown in Figure 5.



**Figure 5.** Map of Evo validation area where tree stand data has been converted to dead wood potential (*DWP*) of each  $96 \times 96$  m pixel. Protected forest areas are marked with pink borders. Only areas managed by Metsähallitus are included in this calculation.

#### 4. Discussion

This article presents how forest stand information can be converted to wall-to-wall dead wood information that can be used for estimating forest biodiversity. In this approach, forest stand information (location, site type, tree species,  $DBH_{mean}$ , and volume) was converted into the *DWP* by exploiting Motti forest simulations. Altogether, a process transforming stand data into *DWP* was generated to enable dead wood modeling for the whole of Finland or similar boreal ecosystems. The framework was validated with field data from two separate areas. The comparison between the *DWP* values and field data showed that the dead wood value of forests is predictable with our *DWP* modeling method. Additionally, the method recognized areas known for their substantial dead wood volumes, such as the protected areas of Kotinen and Sudenpesänkangas in Evo. Correlations between measured dead wood volume and modeled *DWP* varied between 0.11 and 0.62 indicating variation in reliability of the method between forest environments.

The results show that the performance of the *DWP* method varies depending on which field plots were examined. Differences within validation areas arise when comparing the correlations of managed and conserved plots in Evo (see Table 5), where the difference is evident. In managed forests the correlation between *DWP* and reference dead wood volume is low ( $R^2 = 0.11$ ), whereas in conserved areas the correlation was much higher ( $R^2 = 0.62$ ). This was expected as managed forests in Evo have been treated according to the present forest management standards, which increases the amount of growing stock but leaves very little dead wood on site. It is notable, that there were exceptionally big aspens ( $DBH > 50$  cm) in some field plots in Evo, which resulted in significantly high *DWPs* ( $>600$ )

for three of the plots as seen in Figure 4. When the correlations were examined without these three plots, the  $R^2$  values appeared similar to those in Kuhmo. In Evo, the  $R^2$  of all areas decreased from 0.54 to 0.24. The  $R^2$  of managed and conserved forests changed from 0.11 to 0.25 and from 0.62 to 0.28, respectively. However, as there were no measurement errors in these three plots, they were not seen as outliers but merely as an evidence of the influence of chance on the results. On the other hand, in Kuhmo the correlations were constant. A likely reason for this is the more homogeneous forest management practices, or merely the lack of them, as the Kuhmo area forms an ecologically important region, where only 33% of field plots were normally managed, 57% strictly conserved, and 10% conserved with an unknown degree of conservation. A similar phenomenon can also be found in other forest areas with softer management practices such as urban forests [13]. There were no exceptional field plots that would have stood out from others in Kuhmo, either. For comparison, in Evo, 42% of field plots were managed, 18% strictly conserved, and 40% conserved with an unknown degree of conservation. The low correlations can also be caused by the heterogeneity of forest environments in conserved areas. Conserved forest stands tend to differ from managed stands in terms of their vertical and horizontal structure, species distribution, and age structure [3,4].

When comparing the results between the validation areas, the correlations between *DWP* and reference dead wood volumes were higher in Evo ( $R^2 = 0.54$ ) than in Kuhmo ( $R^2 = 0.29$ ). As mentioned before, most of the difference is explained by the presence of big aspens in a few field plots. However, we would also like to bring up the possible impact of using the Motti simulator for calculating the default dead wood volumes for *DWP* models. As the Motti program is developed for forest growth modeling in managed forests, and forest management recommendations were used as input data for the simulations, the results should be more accurate in the widely managed area of Evo (only 18 field plots on conservation areas) than in the more pristine area of Kuhmo (59 field plots in conservation areas). Lastly, the occurrence of dead wood is very scattered in the landscape. Together with the small sample plot size (radius 9 m and area 252 m<sup>2</sup>), the scattered occurrence increases stochasticity of the data. To lower the influence of individual trees in the future, using bigger sample plots (e.g., 30 × 30 m) would likely decrease the variation between plots.

The starting point for this study was to find a method to be utilized for conversion of national stand-level forest data into information on biodiversity values. As the volume of trees was considered inadequate and expert opinion-based estimate too inaccurate, the openly available Motti program 3.3 was seen as a possibility as it had been developed to observe the effect of different management decisions on forest growth in a small scale based on Finnish NFI data. Ranius, Kindvall, Kruys, and Jonsson [23] simulated dead wood quantity for *Picea abies* ((L.) Karst.) including decomposition, but as for us, Motti provided a Finnish NFI-based ready-to-use platform for seven tree species. Other methods based on Finnish NFI were either designed for modeling the estimations of use of forests in more coarse resolution or the changes in dead wood ratios and decomposition (see, e.g., [56,57]).

In general, the method presented in this paper provides a way to assess the biodiversity value of forests but also highlights the needs for development. The information and methodology on dead wood dynamics has increased during recent decades (see [22,57,58]), but accurate methods for locating dead wood, be it mapping or modeling, are still missing. As long as there are no techniques to measure dead wood automatically, modeling is needed. This *DWP* method should be improved first by adding dead wood dynamics into the calculations. Disturbances are an essential factor for the input rate of dead wood [59]. However, including natural disturbances, such as forest fires and windthrows, is challenging as long as operational stand-level data is pursued.

Decisions on the use of forest land are made daily. They are based on knowledge and values, and therefore it is essential to employ biodiversity data in decision making. This is especially because many nations, including Finland, have pledged to principles of sustainable development, Aichi targets, etc. [60]. As accurate landscape-level data on dead wood is often unavailable, *DWP* can be used to mimic such data. As forest management reduces biodiversity values but stimulates growth, thus increasing the *DWP* value, we recommend using *DWP* jointly with other datasets that can provide additional

information on the conditions of the subject area (see also [23]). This can include information on threats to biodiversity (e.g., planning and construction), species observations (e.g., red-listed species), locations of permanently protected areas, former land use decisions (e.g., ditching or forest management), or forest heterogeneity (e.g., horizontal and vertical structure of forests, changes in bedrock, soil, or soil moisture). According to the preliminary results, the method has been used successfully for spatial conservation prioritization needs when used with additional data in Zonation analysis [36,61].

When the development of *DWP* modeling to achieve a national-level surrogate for biodiversity started, there were no open forest data nor interfaces to deliver such information. Nonetheless, the old method needed an update. In this study we presented a method that treats the whole of Finland equally and builds upon NFI data. Our method utilized simulation results, and 168 options for calculating biodiversity value were developed. The results show that *DWP* performs better in near-pristine southern forests known for their exceptionally good quality areas. These areas have high correlations with reference dead wood values. However, in northeastern areas with a history of softer management, the differences between the near-pristine and the managed forests is not as clear. As the forest management history affects the trees and the biodiversity values of the sites, we recommend using this data with supplementary data for estimating the site-specific biodiversity values.

## 5. Conclusions

Dead wood data is a key factor in the assessment of conservation values of forest areas. This *DWP* method provides a tool for assessing the dead wood potential of large forest areas when spatially accurate data on dead wood volume is unavailable. Considering the techniques and data sources available, the *DWP* method presented in this paper provides a potential tool for acquiring wall-to-wall dead wood data for landscape-level analysis.

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## Appendix A

### *Dead Wood Potential (DWP) Functions*

These 168 *DWP* functions were used for calculating the *DWP* for every tree stratum.  $X$  in functions was replaced with stratum  $DBH_{mean}$ , which gave the *DWP* multiplier for stratum volume as an outcome. All multipliers greater than 2 is recommended to set to 2.

The vegetations zones were (1) hemiboreal 1 and southern boreal 2a and 2c, (2) southern boreal 2b, (3) middle boreal 3a–c (4) northern boreal 4a–d [42,43]. The forest site types (mineral ground forest site types and their counterparts on peatland) were (1) herb rich forests, (2) herb-rich heath forest, (3) mesic

heath forest, (4) sub-xeric heath forest, (5) xeric heath forest, and (6) barren heath forest. The forest site types 7, 8, and 9 (the most barren ones) were calculated with functions for barren heath forest (6). The *DBH* value in the table Appendix A is the value of *DBH* in Motti simulation maximum for tree volume in that tree species–vegetation zone–forest site type combination.

	Tree Species	Vegetation Zone	Forest Site Type	Functions for Dead Wood Potential (DWP) Calculation	DBH (cm)
1	<i>Picea abies</i> ((L.) H. Karst.)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000000161x^5 - 0.0000017284x^4 + 0.0000659861x^3 - 0.0010311017x^2 + 0.0147885592x - 0.0049002034$	55.4
2	<i>Picea abies</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000000184x^5 - 0.0000017033x^4 + 0.0000563171x^3 - 0.0007552955x^2 + 0.0134742452x - 0.0023702218$	50.7
3	<i>Picea abies</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000005264x^4 - 0.0000425948x^3 + 0.0011372754x^2 - 0.0002934437x + 0.0169174344$	52.6
4	<i>Picea abies</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000005986x^4 - 0.0000192421x^3 + 0.0003016817x^2 + 0.0115485958x + 0.0025994013$	37
5	<i>Picea abies</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000002716x^5 - 0.0000157163x^4 + 0.0003436485x^3 - 0.0030953347x^2 + 0.0272649678x - 0.0038273867$	28.8
6	<i>Picea abies</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0010125092x^2 + 0.0150097643x + 0.0023813648$	25
7	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000006155x^4 - 0.0000450509x^3 + 0.0010562901x^2 + 0.0018961460x + 0.0096330860$	53.5
8	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000006155x^4 - 0.0000450509x^3 + 0.0010562901x^2 + 0.0018961460x + 0.0096330860$	50.7
9	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000005306x^4 - 0.0000448023x^3 + 0.0012362144x^2 - 0.0014654573x + 0.0164931209$	53.7
10	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000013384x^4 - 0.0000816544x^3 + 0.0017079190x^2 + 0.0008330889x + 0.0132025288$	40
11	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000040479x^4 - 0.0001761466x^3 + 0.0027120941x^2 + 0.0028549025x + 0.0111397051$	29.3
12	<i>Picea abies</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000092054x^4 - 0.0003755234x^3 + 0.0052546605x^2 - 0.0051711784x + 0.0160875537$	25.5
13	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000122709x^3 - 0.0007624465x^2 + 0.0290175225x - 0.0309302578$	48.3
14	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000000372x^5 - 0.0000032919x^4 + 0.0001048535x^3 - 0.0013661297x^2 + 0.0173523584x - 0.0041851545$	45.6
15	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000008241x^4 - 0.0000591222x^3 + 0.0014262304x^2 - 0.0001559167x + 0.0149484085$	46.2
16	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000018927x^4 - 0.0000772079x^3 + 0.0012286067x^2 + 0.0087162361x + 0.0067653140$	31.8
17	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000007434x^5 - 0.0000389231x^4 + 0.0007562472x^3 - 0.0060387418x^2 + 0.0369600166x - 0.0055048664$	24.8
18	<i>Picea abies</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000018814x^5 - 0.0000895617x^4 + 0.0015570974x^3 - 0.0110989030x^2 + 0.0500584897x - 0.0068869694$	21.8
19	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000001362x^5 - 0.0000089326x^4 + 0.0002173264x^3 - 0.0021928022x^2 + 0.0227845402x - 0.0043775857$	33.7
20	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000049058x^4 - 0.0002520313x^3 + 0.0043429636x^2 - 0.0095134968x + 0.0253623319$	31.3
21	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000038422x^4 - 0.0001752678x^3 + 0.0028749856x^2 + 0.0007796390x + 0.0148666980$	29.8
22	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000015843x^5 - 0.0000734457x^4 + 0.0012755734x^3 - 0.0091984010x^2 + 0.0464506582x - 0.0076350317$	21.4
23	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000050816x^5 - 0.0001963719x^4 + 0.0028507686x^3 - 0.0173939950x^2 + 0.0655229900x - 0.0088755793$	17.4
24	<i>Picea abies</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000000094x^5 - 0.0000016212x^4 + 0.0001104195x^3 - 0.0035850719x^2 + 0.0628358948x - 0.0934533866$	15.6

25	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i> (L.)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000004623x^4 - 0.0000222413x^3 + 0.0001927273x^2 + 0.0120210416x - 0.0075600744$	48.3
26	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000000098x^5 + 0.0000001796x^4 - 0.0000515518x^3 + 0.0015055128x^2 - 0.0006701712x + 0.0042664418$	46.7
27	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000013512x^4 - 0.0001013567x^3 + 0.0023850056x^2 - 0.0060850485x + 0.0064301561$	46.7
28	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000012252x^4 - 0.0000893534x^3 + 0.0021243604x^2 - 0.0042316368x + 0.0101178798$	45.1
29	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000012644x^4 - 0.0000693070x^3 + 0.0010995711x^2 + 0.0077363288x - 0.0045700136$	41.8
30	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000000283x^5 + 0.0000006755x^4 - 0.0001089991x^3 + 0.0024651722x^2 - 0.0018870714x + 0.0052463026$	37.1
31	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000009335x^4 - 0.0000663941x^3 + 0.0014401761x^2 + 0.0015466061x + 0.0000349890$	48.3
32	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000006174x^4 - 0.0000326284x^3 + 0.0004487432x^2 + 0.0105988127x - 0.0075041933$	46.2
33	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000229170x^3 - 0.0010204842x^2 + 0.0216302498x - 0.0105496624$	45.7
34	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000010166x^4 - 0.0000676667x^3 + 0.0014820782x^2 + 0.0015167476x + 0.0046006516$	44.3
35	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000020094x^4 - 0.0001301944x^3 + 0.0026234281x^2 - 0.0040767151x + 0.0070796259$	41.7
36	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000030626x^4 - 0.0001696886x^3 + 0.0029412809x^2 - 0.0017420282x + 0.0028058062$	36.5
37	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000003836x^4 - 0.0000136713x^3 - 0.0000543905x^2 + 0.0147055443x - 0.0115382974$	47.2
38	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000000581x^5 - 0.0000047820x^4 + 0.0001280600x^3 - 0.0011291177x^2 + 0.0132446600x + 0.0021001166$	44.6
39	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000005446x^4 - 0.0000164774x^3 - 0.0001563580x^2 + 0.0170326122x - 0.0151731205$	43.7
40	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000012675x^4 - 0.0000882199x^3 + 0.0020954396x^2 - 0.0031922096x + 0.0113978403$	42.2
41	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.000000485x^5 - 0.0000019886x^4 - 0.0000093689x^3 + 0.0010724885x^2 + 0.0036876387x + 0.0065684616$	39.3
42	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000003745x^5 - 0.0000274009x^4 + 0.0007016601x^3 - 0.0072645366x^2 + 0.0404266958x - 0.0025942599$	34.5
43	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000201272x^3 - 0.0007666773x^2 + 0.0187609364x - 0.0056661884$	43.7
44	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000225723x^3 - 0.0006202513x^2 + 0.0177580701x - 0.0011832482$	38.1
45	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000127058x^3 + 0.0001898738x^2 + 0.0042006395x + 0.0443521300$	36
46	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000116647x^3 + 0.0000042624x^2 + 0.0117378253x + 0.0070122178$	36.3
47	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000038240x^4 - 0.0001528377x^3 + 0.0019583311x^2 + 0.0093019582x - 0.0011384075$	30.2
48	<i>Pinus sylvestris</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000759311x^3 - 0.0018448651x^2 + 0.0292579425x - 0.0051270841$	27.8
49	<i>Betula pendula</i> (Roth)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000000698x^5 - 0.0000029907x^4 + 0.0000126208x^3 + 0.0006443447x^2 + 0.0081154853x + 0.0028446742$	36.8
50	<i>Betula pendula</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000004286x^5 - 0.0000315153x^4 + 0.0008107264x^3 - 0.0084532404x^2 + 0.0439597902x - 0.0043918714$	34.5
51	<i>Betula pendula</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000004916x^5 - 0.0000342620x^4 + 0.0008300406x^3 - 0.0080614969x^2 + 0.0409280753x - 0.0062904828$	33.1

52	<i>Betula pendula</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000848874x^3 - 0.0025538279x^2 + 0.0357856249x - 0.0197727664$	29.7
53	<i>Betula pendula</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000026167x^5 - 0.0000929878x^4 + 0.0011342487x^3 - 0.0054258503x^2 + 0.0332693801x + 0.0003155131$	19.8
54	<i>Betula pendula</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000124704x^5 - 0.0004611922x^4 + 0.0060537298x^3 - 0.0328496818x^2 + 0.0907612742x - 0.0041143955$	17
55	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000023886x^4 - 0.0001199093x^3 + 0.0017604835x^2 + 0.0064533491x + 0.0003928322$	36.8
56	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000001835x^5 - 0.0000111267x^4 + 0.0002244220x^3 - 0.0016810971x^2 + 0.0179017119x + 0.0010852197$	34.4
57	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000006281x^5 - 0.0000454954x^4 + 0.0011532698x^3 - 0.0118540667x^2 + 0.0561558320x - 0.0080901647$	33
58	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000800245x^3 - 0.0022774568x^2 + 0.0326993896x - 0.0144578193$	29.5
59	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000041677x^5 - 0.0001574013x^4 + 0.0020859079x^3 - 0.0112566189x^2 + 0.0463268449x - 0.0010374605$	19.3
60	<i>Betula pendula</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000129718x^5 - 0.0004756278x^4 + 0.0061959914x^3 - 0.0334149409x^2 + 0.0918745245x - 0.0041449752$	16.8
61	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000000812x^5 - 0.0000025757x^4 - 0.0000173798x^3 + 0.0010223015x^2 + 0.0081035278x + 0.0043284919$	34.1
62	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000007434x^5 - 0.0000509956x^4 + 0.0012244189x^3 - 0.0119180632x^2 + 0.0550499985x - 0.0089540976$	31.4
63	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000044906x^4 - 0.0001489538x^3 + 0.0013133137x^2 + 0.0156569208x - 0.0038277485$	28.6
64	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000843469x^3 - 0.0014555367x^2 + 0.0237551975x + 0.0050821260$	25.2
65	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000134762x^5 - 0.0004836110x^4 + 0.0061431121x^3 - 0.0320798098x^2 + 0.0873219905x - 0.0061012210$	16.6
66	<i>Betula pendula</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000276450x^5 - 0.0008898351x^4 + 0.0101340238x^3 - 0.0473476725x^2 + 0.1086884842x - 0.0051200733$	14.7
67	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000142294x^3 + 0.0006851383x^2 + 0.0038379153x + 0.0305639777$	28.5
68	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000821947x^3 - 0.0013489222x^2 + 0.0225653406x + 0.0086468736$	25.2
69	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0001487373x^3 - 0.0032477261x^2 + 0.0384672973x - 0.0112808847$	23.5
70	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000237811x^4 - 0.0006969965x^3 + 0.0063541234x^2 + 0.0058201682x + 0.0066524128$	20.7
71	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000341585x^5 - 0.0010567167x^4 + 0.0115821628x^3 - 0.0522670867x^2 + 0.1164330642x - 0.0110599387$	14.1
72	<i>Betula pendula</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000607977x^5 - 0.0017280977x^4 + 0.0173812267x^3 - 0.0718177791x^2 + 0.1399870537x - 0.0109816278$	12.8
73	<i>Betula pubescens</i> (Ehrh.)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000005147x^5 - 0.0000397530x^4 + 0.0010706348x^3 - 0.0116114394x^2 + 0.0563842058x - 0.0081785677$	34.6
74	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000008478x^5 - 0.0000578998x^4 + 0.0013844346x^3 - 0.0134123160x^2 + 0.0598250568x - 0.0064807858$	30.8
75	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000008494x^5 - 0.0000570531x^4 + 0.0013427466x^3 - 0.0128234040x^2 + 0.0577501024x - 0.0077276424$	30.4
76	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000011998x^5 - 0.0000697299x^4 + 0.0014158143x^3 - 0.0115995601x^2 + 0.0505531563x - 0.0090827056$	27.2
77	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000195064x^5 - 0.0006349216x^4 + 0.0073406555x^3 - 0.0351181493x^2 + 0.0908986831x - 0.0032060826$	15.2
78	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000016683x^5 - 0.0000969083x^4 + 0.0021895457x^3 - 0.0235631730x^2 + 0.1367625836x - 0.1076733924$	13.2

79	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000005078x^5 - 0.0000396260x^4 + 0.0010777939x^3 - 0.0118120982x^2 + 0.0575682212x - 0.0096812959$	34.9
80	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000007892x^5 - 0.0000545302x^4 + 0.0013190001x^3 - 0.0129279489x^2 + 0.0586627985x - 0.0068225071$	31.1
81	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000009307x^5 - 0.0000626945x^4 + 0.0014860637x^3 - 0.0143806824x^2 + 0.0637802760x - 0.0046716255$	30.1
82	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000013047x^5 - 0.0000748816x^4 + 0.0015031182x^3 - 0.0121962798x^2 + 0.0522196363x - 0.0092041945$	26.8
83	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000199097x^5 - 0.0006442758x^4 + 0.0074117015x^3 - 0.0353237563x^2 + 0.0913360115x - 0.0032317430$	15.1
84	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000434301x^5 - 0.0012348638x^4 + 0.0125008008x^3 - 0.0525099819x^2 + 0.1142383729x - 0.0022700043$	13.1
85	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000008926x^5 - 0.0000586134x^4 + 0.0013438732x^3 - 0.0124500644x^2 + 0.0553706773x - 0.0088025839$	30.1
86	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000011983x^5 - 0.0000734126x^4 + 0.0015788582x^3 - 0.0138170861x^2 + 0.0589918348x - 0.0079444343$	27.9
87	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000024729x^5 - 0.0001290246x^4 + 0.0023699864x^3 - 0.0177546791x^2 + 0.0658269113x - 0.0055008469$	23.9
88	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0003131284x^3 - 0.0068869653x^2 + 0.0632760365x - 0.0340467609$	20
89	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000469941x^5 - 0.0013264440x^4 + 0.0132503785x^3 - 0.0542358803x^2 + 0.1129146343x - 0.0040491170$	13
90	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000973178x^5 - 0.0024765182x^4 + 0.0223414139x^3 - 0.0827234057x^2 + 0.1457634078x - 0.0033752688$	11.5
91	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0001056533x^3 - 0.0018595467x^2 + 0.0276357197x + 0.0014319387$	23.7
92	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000135491x^4 - 0.0002887099x^3 + 0.0014516350x^2 + 0.0247671329x - 0.0038273969$	20.5
93	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000520241x^4 - 0.0015190382x^3 + 0.0140511857x^2 - 0.0150064164x + 0.0165457552$	18.4
94	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000946763x^4 - 0.0025073073x^3 + 0.0211413109x^2 - 0.0274326999x + 0.0237633916$	16.1
95	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0001112251x^5 - 0.0027012577x^4 + 0.0231219019x^3 - 0.0808900733x^2 + 0.1407658016x - 0.0085794462$	11.1
96	<i>Betula pubescens</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0002010279x^5 - 0.0045434558x^4 + 0.0360747028x^3 - 0.1164661501x^2 + 0.1750207637x - 0.0087745744$	10.2
97	<i>Populus tremula</i> (L.)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000004911x^5 - 0.0000364224x^4 + 0.0009463543x^3 - 0.0099537068x^2 + 0.0497723271x - 0.0052573545$	33.7
98	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000006389x^5 - 0.0000448857x^4 + 0.0011066815x^3 - 0.0110807294x^2 + 0.0529277624x - 0.0053017914$	31.9
99	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000079795x^4 - 0.0004296518x^3 + 0.0072278336x^2 - 0.0222549155x + 0.0216449596$	31.4
100	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000025340x^5 - 0.0001252167x^4 + 0.0021839468x^3 - 0.0155782893x^2 + 0.0596280231x - 0.0065490851$	23
101	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000113631x^5 - 0.0004077298x^4 + 0.0051975367x^3 - 0.0273533659x^2 + 0.0790810564x - 0.0031555977$	16.8
102	<i>Populus tremula</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000233258x^5 - 0.0007620291x^4 + 0.0088408222x^3 - 0.0423768934x^2 + 0.1028515013x - 0.0028496552$	15
103	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000004952x^5 - 0.0000373045x^4 + 0.0009829351x^3 - 0.0104664729x^2 + 0.0520280776x - 0.0067635479$	34
104	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000005734x^5 - 0.0000429847x^4 + 0.0011286691x^3 - 0.0120179552x^2 + 0.0581328449x - 0.0081317520$	33.5
105	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000084733x^4 - 0.0004459214x^3 + 0.0073424690x^2 - 0.0218166161x + 0.0214580688$	30.8
106	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000026447x^5 - 0.0001281296x^4 + 0.0021927625x^3 - 0.0153685162x^2 + 0.0588012658x - 0.0058806919$	22.7

107	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000108433x^5 - 0.0003926531x^4 + 0.0050555795x^3 - 0.0269215264x^2 + 0.0788169919x - 0.0034048924$	17
108	<i>Populus tremula</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000245697x^5 - 0.0007935809x^4 + 0.0091121621x^3 - 0.0432970898x^2 + 0.1043628446x - 0.0028581742$	14.8
109	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000005817x^5 - 0.0000388786x^4 + 0.0009104427x^3 - 0.0086232657x^2 + 0.0433743113x - 0.0060358705$	31.2
110	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.000008455x^5 - 0.0000541241x^4 + 0.0012171283x^3 - 0.0111218403x^2 + 0.0512982223x - 0.0068051191$	29.4
111	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0001562745x^3 - 0.0046067531x^2 + 0.0537072162x - 0.0412866515$	26
112	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0003543187x^3 - 0.0078771000x^2 + 0.0700779711x - 0.0376300965$	19.6
113	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000206683x^5 - 0.0006761866x^4 + 0.0078290083x^3 - 0.0371976946x^2 + 0.0928146663x - 0.0049042456$	15.2
114	<i>Populus tremula</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000439513x^5 - 0.0012918402x^4 + 0.0134394830x^3 - 0.0573061683x^2 + 0.1192271055x - 0.0040964012$	13.4
115	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000048016x^4 - 0.000117991x^3 + 0.0003543209x^2 + 0.0226836786x - 0.0063111968$	25.8
116	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000919159x^3 - 0.0013406533x^2 + 0.0229964151x + 0.0086222734$	23.7
117	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0001862663x^3 - 0.0038237204x^2 + 0.0422245854x - 0.0127054555$	21.8
118	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000116611x^5 - 0.0003967235x^4 + 0.0047990655x^3 - 0.0240006334x^2 + 0.0726713154x - 0.0077883137$	16.3
119	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000449284x^5 - 0.0013038827x^4 + 0.0133998791x^3 - 0.0566353526x^2 + 0.1195635316x - 0.0100572770$	13.3
120	<i>Populus tremula</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0000843400x^5 - 0.0022248614x^4 + 0.0207460282x^3 - 0.0793170088x^2 + 0.1446013272x - 0.0096399207$	11.9
121	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i> (L.) Gaertn.)	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000074496x^5 - 0.0003525090x^4 + 0.0059404760x^3 - 0.0415701978x^2 + 0.1244785725x - 0.0023168716$	20.5
122	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000128704x^5 - 0.0005507459x^4 + 0.0084512065x^3 - 0.0543659749x^2 + 0.1493117306x - 0.0015781598$	18.3
123	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000120440x^5 - 0.0004985693x^4 + 0.0073668242x^3 - 0.0453107979x^2 + 0.1239013027x - 0.0021327974$	18.1
124	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0000988573x^5 - 0.0026154349x^4 + 0.0245845858x^3 - 0.0956244366x^2 + 0.1696714860x - 0.0020026933$	11.8
125	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0004043769x^5 - 0.0089613217x^4 + 0.0712133327x^3 - 0.2367022954x^2 + 0.3241998142x - 0.0006634528$	9.37
126	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0053924930x^3 - 0.0590984236x^2 + 0.2201961376x - 0.0256368371$	8.4
127	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000075081x^5 - 0.0003506327x^4 + 0.0058294432x^3 - 0.0402069148x^2 + 0.1199446382x - 0.0026136340$	20.3
128	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000145047x^5 - 0.0006014285x^4 + 0.0089383388x^3 - 0.0556707462x^2 + 0.1490098749x - 0.0016618983$	17.8
129	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000132149x^5 - 0.0005805631x^4 + 0.0091730318x^3 - 0.0610986544x^2 + 0.1701848768x - 0.0011818426$	18.5
130	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0019794703x^3 - 0.0307260916x^2 + 0.1574728842x - 0.0118975512$	12
131	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0004318896x^5 - 0.0094351732x^4 + 0.0739824124x^3 - 0.2429702683x^2 + 0.3295543992x - 0.0006597002$	9.23
132	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0057173199x^3 - 0.0617247899x^2 + 0.2259910364x - 0.0255182941$	8.26
133	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000082551x^5 - 0.0003559860x^4 + 0.0054499415x^3 - 0.0344546810x^2 + 0.1004627207x - 0.0032690688$	19.2
134	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000141998x^5 - 0.0005663320x^4 + 0.0080472709x^3 - 0.0475170982x^2 + 0.1254229615x - 0.0030199959$	17.5

135	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000162769x^5 - 0.0005859380x^4 + 0.0075014554x^3 - 0.0397237899x^2 + 0.1025931440x - 0.0025992132$	16.3
136	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0001040101x^5 - 0.0027123121x^4 + 0.0250222206x^3 - 0.0946173574x^2 + 0.1625612077x - 0.0038541966$	11.6
137	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0003465269x^5 - 0.0075489957x^4 + 0.0583114029x^3 - 0.1852030100x^2 + 0.2496181502x - 0.0024301401$	9.47
138	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0006307148x^5 - 0.0127831695x^4 + 0.0918602416x^3 - 0.2716487035x^2 + 0.3275330978x - 0.0017410250$	8.66
139	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000109015x^5 - 0.0004002291x^4 + 0.0052118785x^3 - 0.0279047711x^2 + 0.0799147601x - 0.0042342366$	17.1
140	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000232563x^5 - 0.0007786065x^4 + 0.0092497879x^3 - 0.0451945856x^2 + 0.1074552414x - 0.0040762029$	15.2
141	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000222440x^5 - 0.0007248221x^4 + 0.0083510986x^3 - 0.0394504590x^2 + 0.0966699136x - 0.0079985370$	15
142	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0001195714x^5 - 0.0029180046x^4 + 0.0250762833x^3 - 0.0880100258x^2 + 0.1496041466x - 0.0094044374$	11.1
143	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0003526446x^5 - 0.0074890484x^4 + 0.0557315217x^3 - 0.1679583885x^2 + 0.2211855538x - 0.0091879247$	9.41
144	<i>Alnus glutinosa</i>	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0049165839x^3 - 0.0569047042x^2 + 0.2187235843x - 0.0565417242$	8.77
145	Other broadleaved	1	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000159331x^5 - 0.0006551323x^4 + 0.0096463222x^3 - 0.0594495816x^2 + 0.1557082599x - 0.0009990372$	17.6
146	Other broadleaved	1	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000205100x^5 - 0.0007254342x^4 + 0.0093421540x^3 - 0.0512173513x^2 + 0.1319081391x - 0.0004774367$	15.4
147	Other broadleaved	1	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000401044x^5 - 0.0013620237x^4 + 0.0166251208x^3 - 0.0854673359x^2 + 0.1885573057x - 0.0007201616$	14.6
148	Other broadleaved	1	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0002650248x^5 - 0.0060471431x^4 + 0.0492898767x^3 - 0.1672909525x^2 + 0.2451454027x - 0.0006349294$	9.91
149	Other broadleaved	1	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0026390485x^4 - 0.0378261877x^3 + 0.1704826425x^2 - 0.1726942108x + 0.0023550176$	7.95
150	Other broadleaved	1	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0093497583x^3 - 0.0837830610x^2 + 0.2517833753x - 0.0135120058$	7.01
151	Other broadleaved	2	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000154781x^5 - 0.0006291426x^4 + 0.0091523543x^3 - 0.0556536543x^2 + 0.1459033017x - 0.0011735548$	17.5
152	Other broadleaved	2	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0010104419x^3 - 0.0177529097x^2 + 0.1097035692x - 0.0173601891$	14.3
153	Other broadleaved	2	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0009902020x^3 - 0.0180949531x^2 + 0.1133238427x - 0.0136136818$	14.7
154	Other broadleaved	2	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0002614646x^5 - 0.0059727446x^4 + 0.0487995206x^3 - 0.1663751121x^2 + 0.2456566987x - 0.0006193862$	9.92
155	Other broadleaved	2	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0070031761x^3 - 0.0686189565x^2 + 0.2293861734x - 0.0180324391$	7.67
156	Other broadleaved	2	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0096623996x^3 - 0.0864707998x^2 + 0.2587742488x - 0.0141651976$	6.95
157	Other broadleaved	3	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000191741x^5 - 0.0007210959x^4 + 0.0096521416x^3 - 0.0536080315x^2 + 0.1325356110x - 0.0018781810$	16.5
158	Other broadleaved	3	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000341563x^5 - 0.0011529939x^4 + 0.0139572824x^3 - 0.0707435928x^2 + 0.1588258703x - 0.0012299346$	14.7
159	Other broadleaved	3	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000440456x^5 - 0.0013787066x^4 + 0.0153463234x^3 - 0.0707112495x^2 + 0.1470997311x - 0.0013175106$	13.9
160	Other broadleaved	3	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0002722786x^5 - 0.0060045435x^4 + 0.0469498663x^3 - 0.1510238501x^2 + 0.2142271115x - 0.0017976770$	9.74
161	Other broadleaved	3	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0009667794x^5 - 0.0183945971x^4 + 0.1240917529x^3 - 0.3448562969x^2 + 0.3852069122x - 0.0009318150$	8.09
162	Other broadleaved	3	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0076237774x^3 - 0.0730281879x^2 + 0.2298242375x - 0.0247438319$	7.54

163	Other broadleaved	4	Herb-rich forest	$y = 0.0000323070x^5 - 0.0010219432x^4 + 0.0114310178x^3 - 0.0524164810x^2 + 0.1155566015x - 0.0031287472$	14.4
164	Other broadleaved	4	Herb-rich heath forest	$y = 0.0000634743x^5 - 0.0018274664x^4 + 0.0186526646x^3 - 0.0783238736x^2 + 0.1495900203x - 0.0025211789$	12.8
165	Other broadleaved	4	Mesic heath forest	$y = 0.0000571733x^5 - 0.0015683402x^4 + 0.0151450449x^3 - 0.0595812600x^2 + 0.1177980604x - 0.0055481454$	12.7
166	Other broadleaved	4	Sub-xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0003133823x^5 - 0.0064099859x^4 + 0.0458978425x^3 - 0.1330159652x^2 + 0.1814353937x - 0.0061431270$	9.31
167	Other broadleaved	4	Xeric heath forest	$y = 0.0007835618x^5 - 0.0145607268x^4 + 0.0942725426x^3 - 0.2456538957x^2 + 0.2703820828x - 0.0062743999$	8.24
168	Other broadleaved	4	Barren heath forest	$y = 0.0011059106x^5 - 0.0200709884x^4 + 0.1267110787x^3 - 0.3214094244x^2 + 0.3292721334x - 0.0068760501$	7.94

## References

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