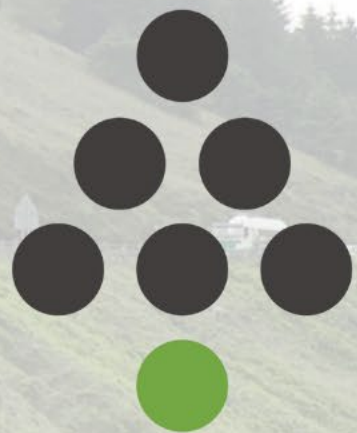




Scottish
Forest &
Wood-based
Industries

Speakers



- Rubén Manso, Forest Research – Stem Cracking in Conifers
- Hester – Cloud Forest
- Simon Hart, Forest Market Review 2025
- Richard Hunter - Respectful Engagement in Forestry
- Scottish Forestry
- Richard Hunter - Confor Update

Rubén Manso, Forest Research – Stem Cracking in Conifers



Stem cracking in British conifers: potential impact on economic resilience and current assessment efforts

Rubén Manso & Thomas Baer
FR Tree and Wood Properties team

Stem cracking

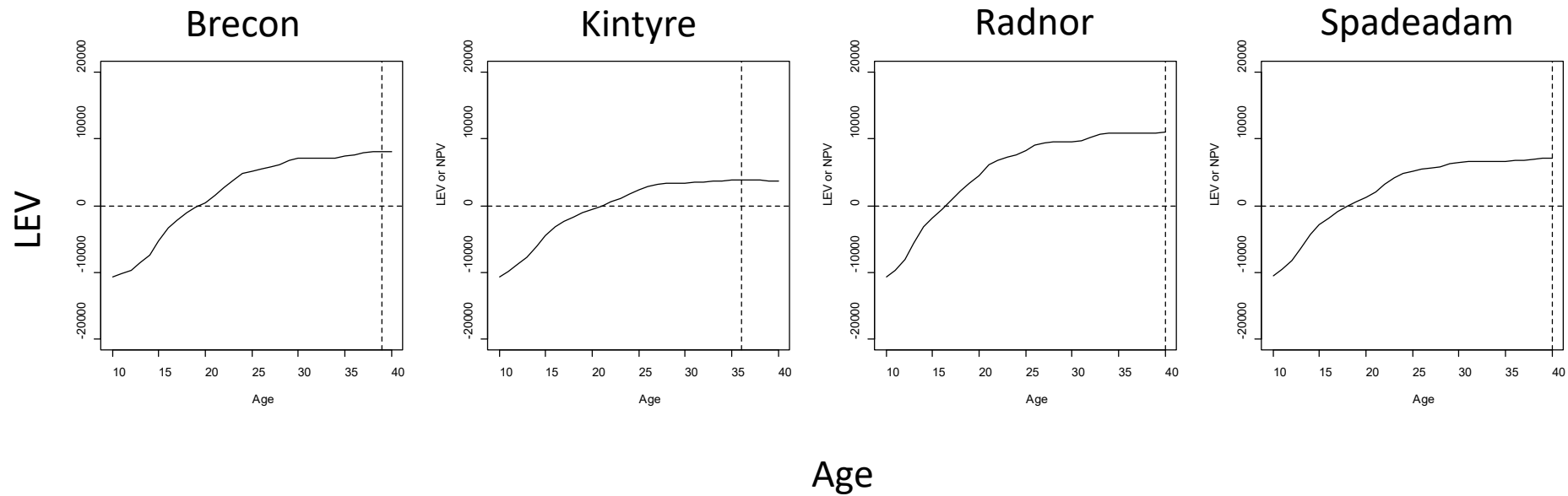


Consequence

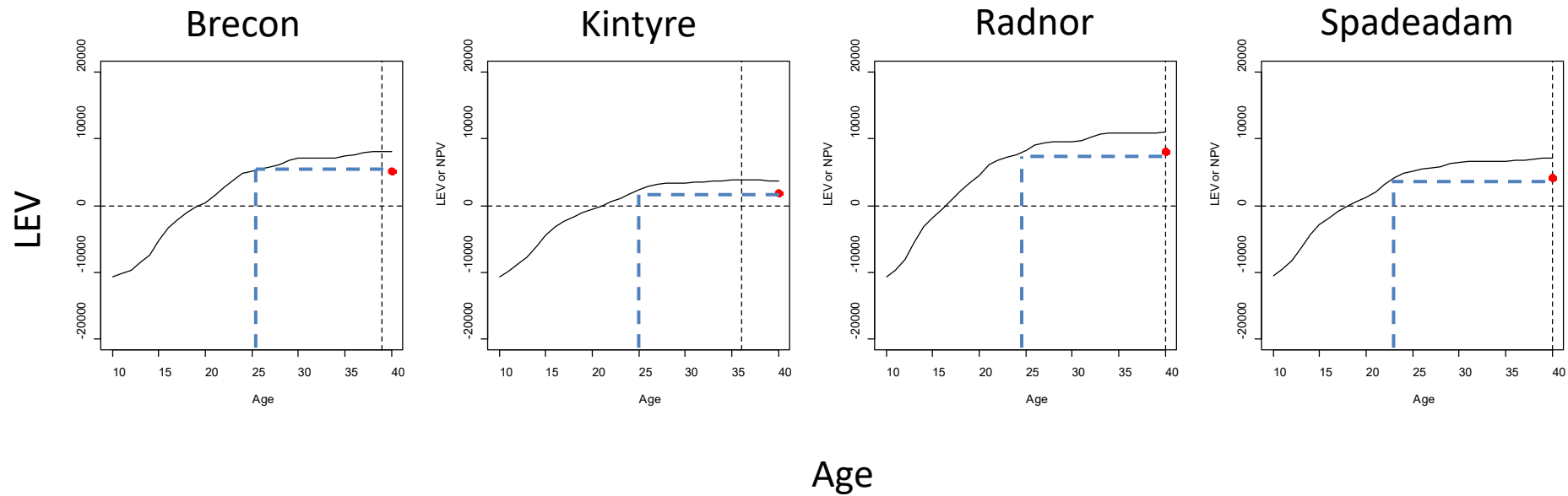
Log rejection at sawmill & loss timber value



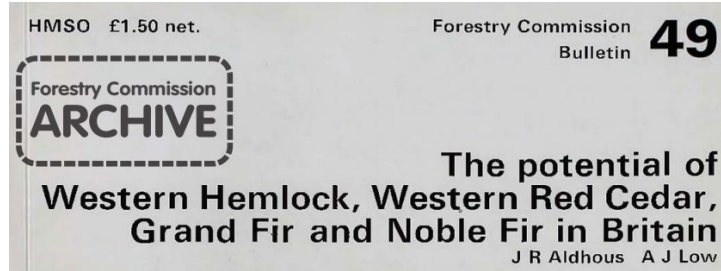
Consequence



Consequence



Species and incidence



Species	Prop. stands affected	Prop. Trees affected
Western hemlock	8/72 (11%)	<33%
Western red cedar	0/48 (0%)	0
Grand fir	24/67 (36%)	33%-66%
Noble fir	16/26 (62%)	33%-66%
Sitka spruce	1/44 (2%)	<33%

Species and incidence

Variation in the incidence and severity of drought crack in three conifer species in North East Scotland

Andrew Cameron , Duncan Orr & James Clark

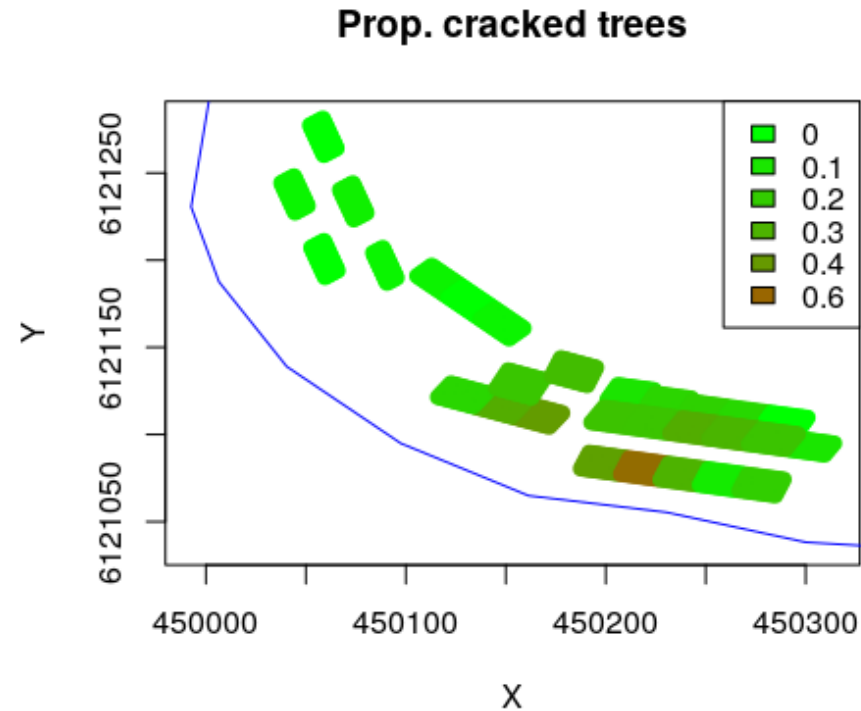
Pages 658-662 | Received 22 Mar 2017, Accepted 23 Jul 2017, Accepted author version posted online: 27 Jul 2017, Published online: 09 Aug 2017

 Cite this article  <https://doi.org/10.1080/02827581.2017.1360936>



Species	Prop. stands affected	Prop. Trees affected
Grand fir	-	13%
Noble fir	-	16%
Sitka spruce	-	3%

Species and incidence



Species	Prop. stands affected	Prop. Trees affected
Norway spruce	1/2 (50%)	33%-66%

Species and incidence

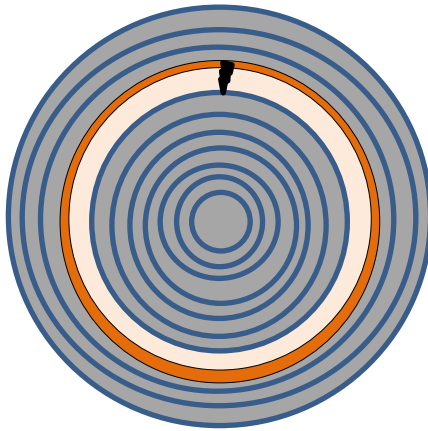
The UK Forestry Standard

The governments' approach
to sustainable forestry



Maintain or establish a diverse composition across the forest management unit so that no more than 65% of the area is allocated to a single species. Enhance resilience and seek to mitigate the risks from climate change and pests and diseases by selecting species appropriate to the site using Ecological Site Classification or a similar tool.

Causes



"Weak" ring



Predisposition factors

+

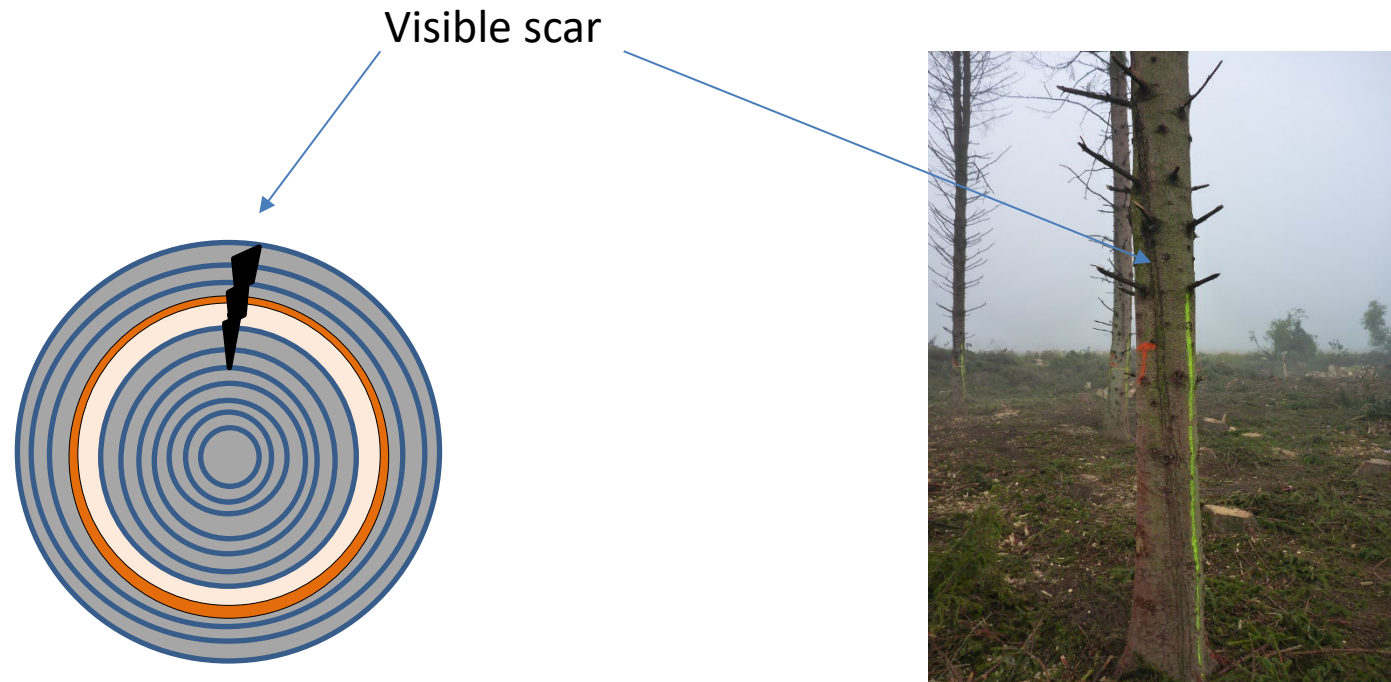
Hydraulic stress
(e.g. drought)



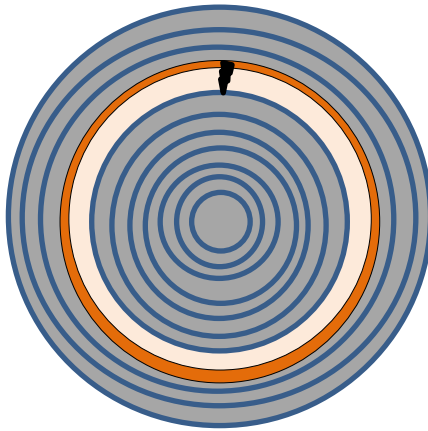
Triggering factors



Causes



Causes

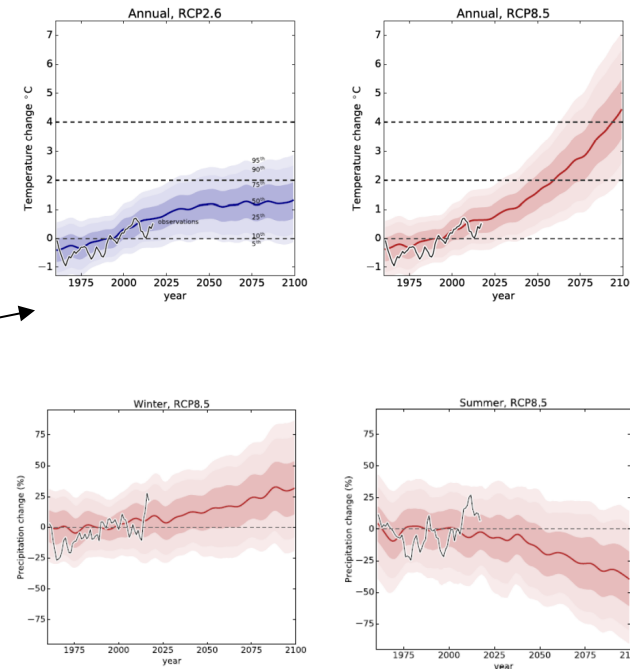


"Weak" ring

+

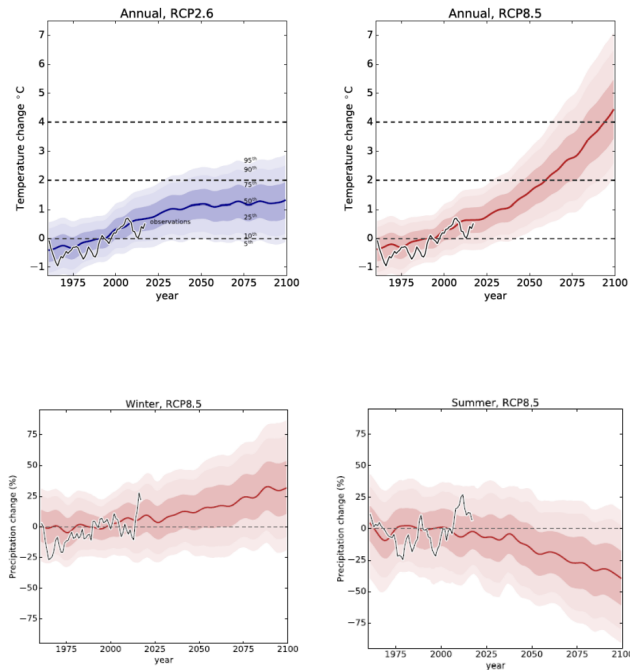
Hydraulic stress
(e.g. drought)

Future UK climate



/!\ Potential increase in cracking occurrence /!\

/!\ Warning /!\



+

The UK
Forestry
Standard

The governments' approach
to sustainable forestry



Causes

Abnormal growth?
Genetics?
Size?



Predisposition factors

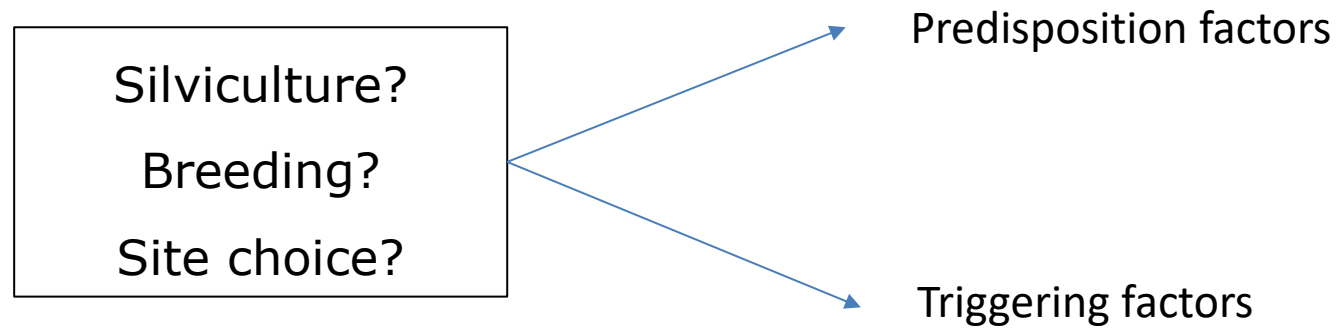
Drought?
Soil depth?
Wind?



Triggering factors



Solutions?





Studying stem cracking



Studying stem cracking

First step: to find out where this happens



Studying stem cracking

First step: to find out where this happens



Quite hard
(unknown distribution)



- Systematic inventory non-viable
- Expert survey as an alternative

Studying stem cracking

First step: to find out where this happens





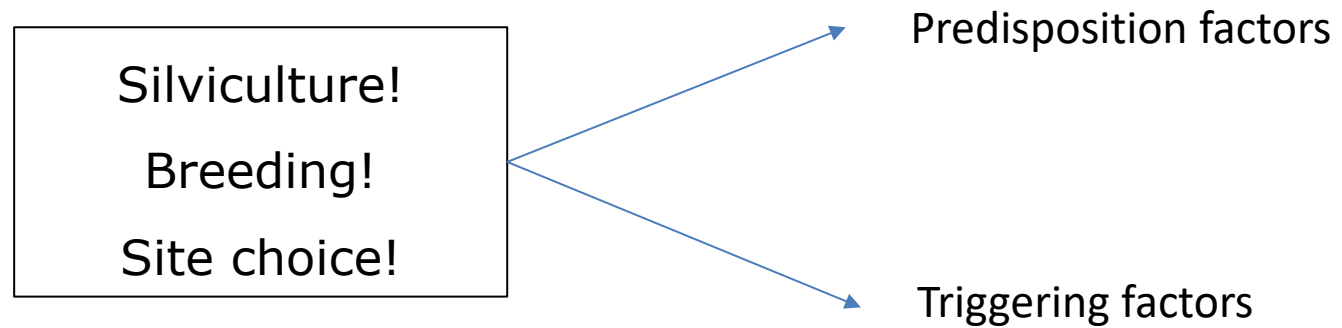
Studying stem cracking

First step: to find out where this happens

- Then:
 - Exploratory quantification and mapping
 - Samples (i.e. discs)
 - Empirical analysis
 - Determine crack years
 - Study what happened in those years



Solutions!



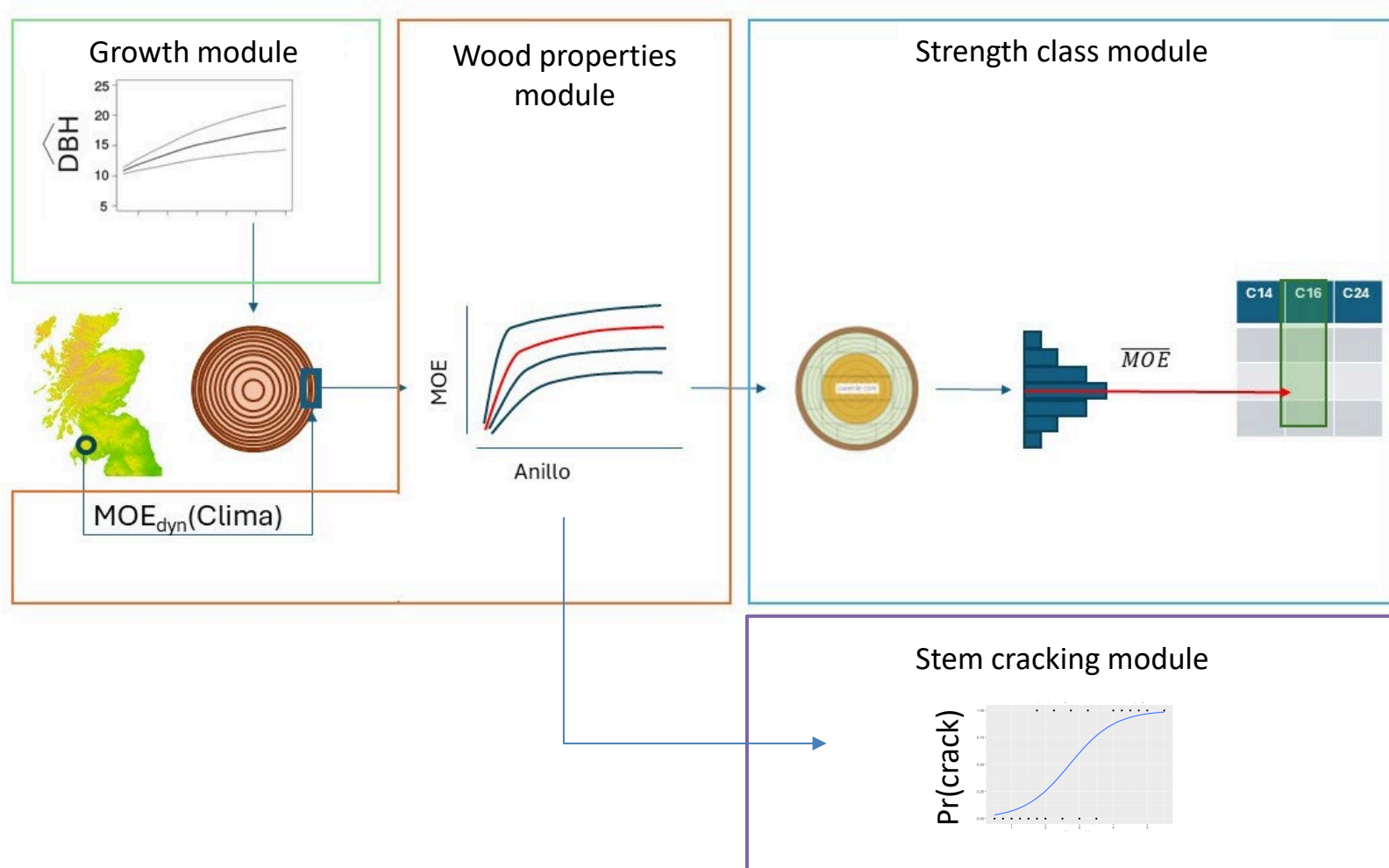
Solutions!



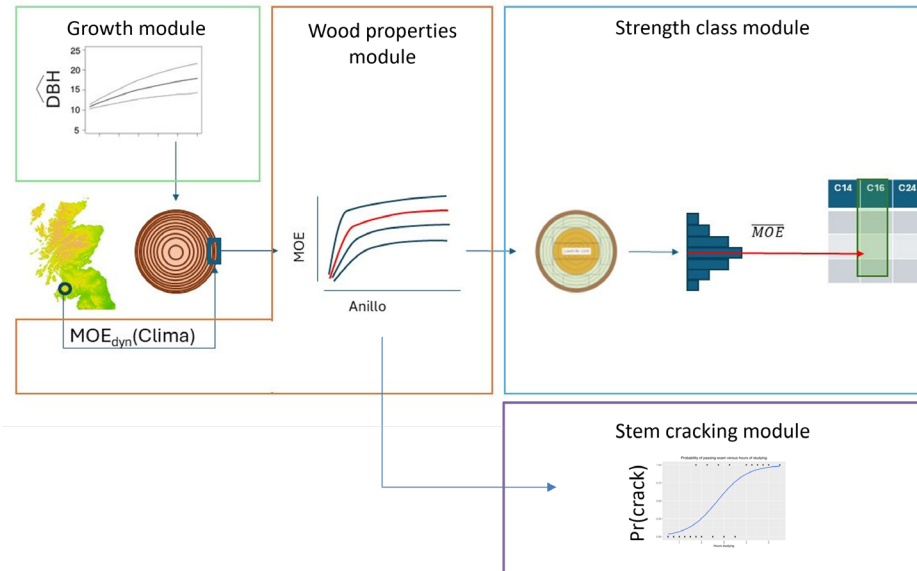
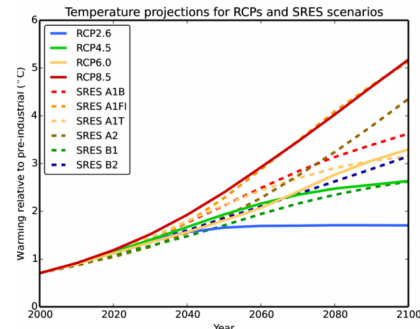
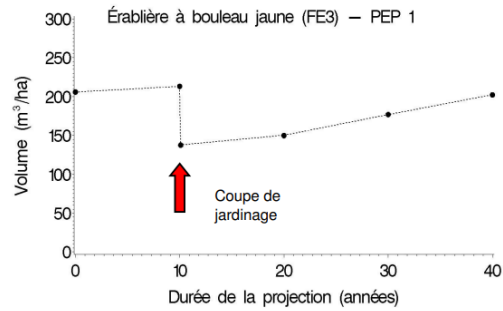
Un simulador estocástico con base climática para predecir la clase resistente de madera estructural a partir de árboles en pie

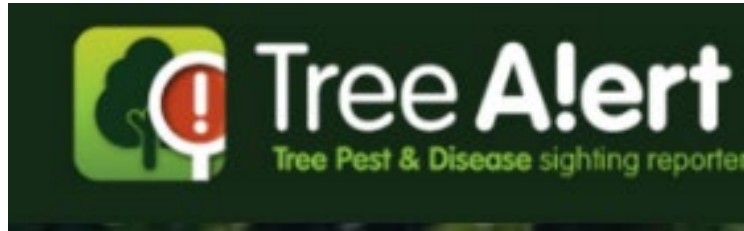
MANSO GONZÁLEZ, R. (1), HEVIA CABAL, A. (2, 3), SÁNCHEZ SALGUERO, R. (3), ASH, A. (1)

Solutions!



Solutions!

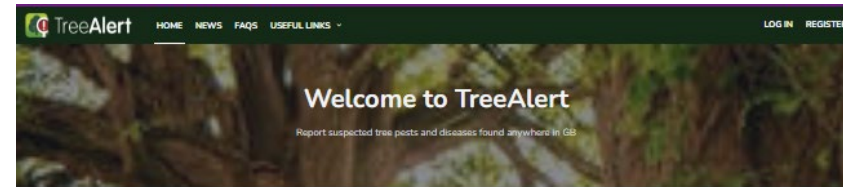




Abiotic Reports

Submit a report of damage not caused by a pest or disease, including

- Stem Cracking



About

Forest Research is the research agency of the [Forestry Commission](#) and Great Britain's principal organisation for forestry and tree-related research. We are internationally renowned for the provision of science, research, evidence, data and services in support of sustainable forestry.

Within Forest Research, the Tree Health Diagnostic and Advisory Service provides advice and where possible diagnosis and identification of tree pests and diseases.

Tree Alert is used to gather information about tree health issues across Great Britain. This information supports important tree health monitoring and surveillance work, contributes to ongoing scientific research, and helps to protect the nation's trees.

Tree Health Reports



How to submit a report

To submit a useful report of a tree health problem you will be taken through a series of pages where you will be asked a number of questions about your observations. The more information you can provide, the more useful your report will be.



What we do with your reports

We use the data obtained through TreeAlert to follow-up findings, to identify trends of spread, to direct surveys looking for regulated or quarantine pests and pathogens and to support pest and disease management.



Pests and Diseases

If you want to know more about any specific pests and diseases then the main Forest Research website has a range of information available. Alternatively, the [CitrusVirus](#) project has a range of guides, posters and videos which can help with trying to identify a pest or disease.

Submit a Report



General Report

Submit a report of a problem affecting the health of a tree. If you suspect or know the cause then please use the Disease specific report, otherwise use this General report.



Pest or Disease Specific Reports

Submit a report of a specific tree pest or disease that you have seen.

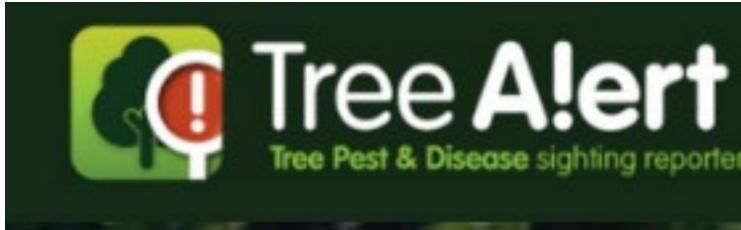
- Chalara Dieback of Ash
- Dothioroma Needle Blight
- Acute Oak Decline
- Phytophthora lateralis
- Asian/Citrus Longhorn Beetle
- Oak Processionary Moth



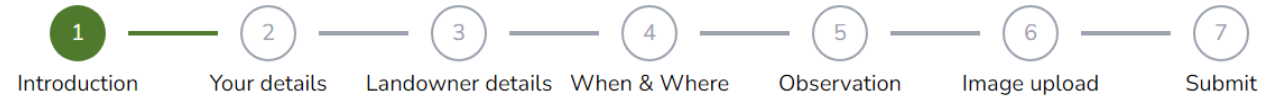
Abiotic Reports

Submit a report of damage not caused by a pest or disease, including

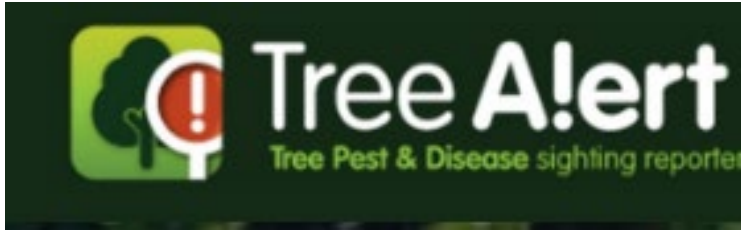
- Stem Cracking
- Oak Shrike



[Dashboard](#) > [Stem Cracking](#)



Introduction to Stem Cracking

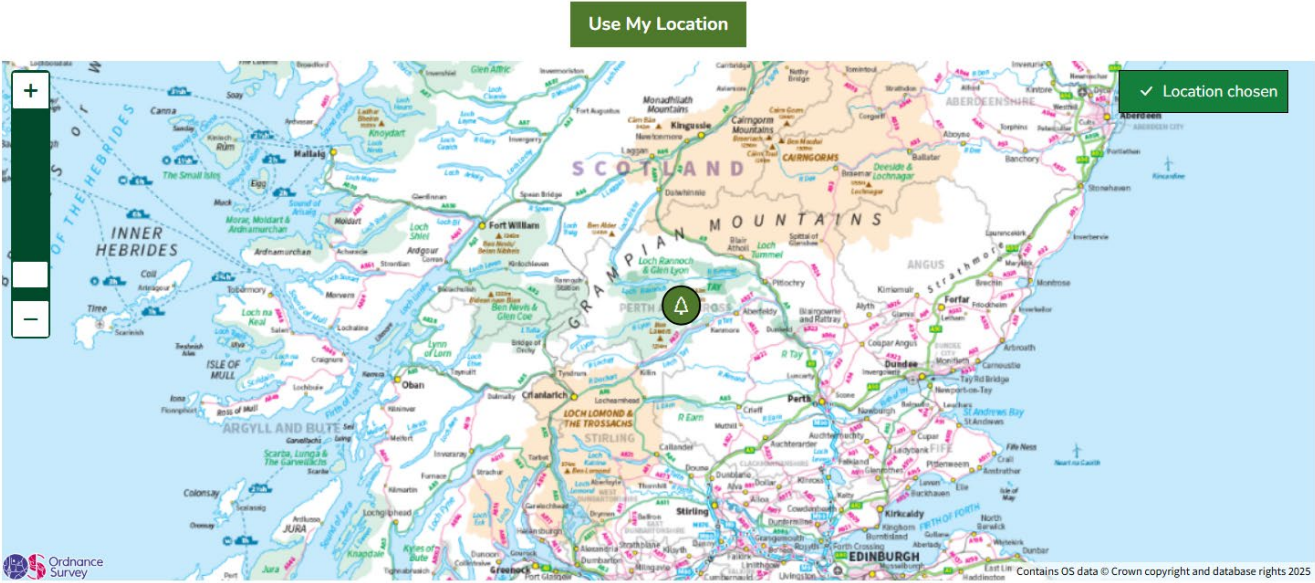


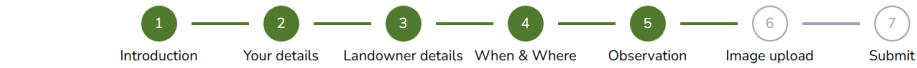
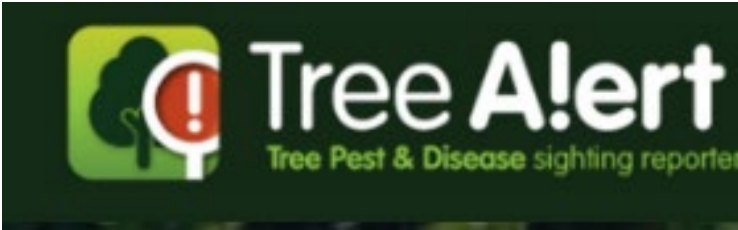
LOCATION

POSTCODE

OS Grid Reference *

NN7007351105





Tree Details

Age of affected trees

Has the tree(s) been recently planted? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Don't know

What is the approximate age of the trees affected? *

- ☐ Young
- ☐ Mature
- ☐ Old
- ☐ Mixed

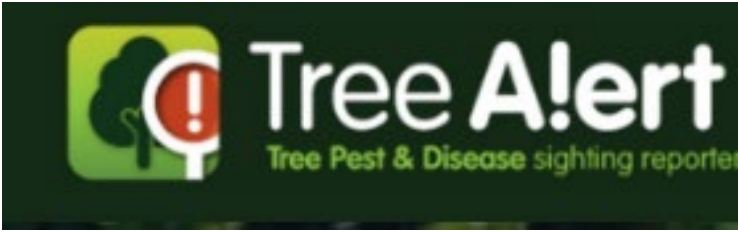
Size and number of affected trees

How many trees are showing signs of poor condition? *

- ☐ One
- ☐ A few (up to 10)
- ☐ Many (more than 10)

What is the approximate diameter of the stem / trunk? *

- ☐ Less than 5cm
- ☐ 5-15cm
- ☐ 15-30cm
- ☐ Greater than 30cm
- ☐ Mixture of diameters



Tree Species

Type of affected trees

At present we are only looking to collect information regarding coniferous trees.

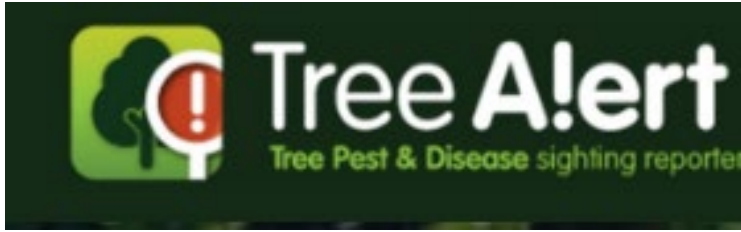
Please indicate the general tree type *

☒ Coniferous



Common name
Spruce

Species
Sitka spruce



Upload Images

Details

Please be aware you will not be able to submit a report without uploading photographs of your observation.

To complete the report we need you to upload at least 1 photograph of the affected trees.

For more information about what we are looking for in the submitted photos please read the [How to take a photo](#) article on our website.

Damage in context photo *

Please upload a photo that shows the damage in context on the affected tree. So, where the damage is on the tree.

Drag & Drop images here, or click to browse

Affected tree(s) in context photo

If you have a photo that shows the affected tree(s) in context - so where the tree is and how it relates to its surroundings, please upload that too.

Drag & Drop images here, or click to browse

Damage details photo

If you have a photo that shows the detail of the damage, please upload that too.

Drag & Drop images here, or click to browse

FORESTRY & TIMBER NEWS

August / September 2025 Issue 130



Fig 1: Noble fir (*Abies procera*)

Foresters urged to report evidence of stem cracks in conifers

Dr Rubén Manso and Thomas Baer outline the issue of stem cracking and seek input on compiling evidence to determine the cause.

The demand for structural timber has been increasing both in the UK and worldwide in recent years. This trend is expected to continue as a result of the implementation of policies that aim to mitigate the effects of climate change.

One measure included in these policies is the substitution of timber for traditional construction materials, which typically come with a significant carbon footprint (e.g. concrete, steel). The Timber in Construction Roadmap is an example of such policies in the UK.

The supply of domestic gradable timber in the UK largely depends on conifer planted forests. The range of strength classes and yield one can expect from this UK-grown timber resource has been studied for decades in principal species such as Sitka spruce, Scots pine or larch, and is now well understood.

The impact on the supply chain of large defects found in logs and/or standing timber, such as cracks, shakes or splits, has however received

significantly less attention in spite of recent efforts in academia.

One of such defects is stem cracking, commonly referred to as drought cracks. Stem cracking renders the affected timber unsuitable for structural uses. This defect is very common in Norway spruce and some firs grown in Britain but can also occur in Sitka spruce.

The issue seems to be driven by internal tensions in the tree. When internal tensions develop into a crack, the fault propagates vertically and radially, hitting the cambium and causing a scar or set of scars to form on the bark that often spiral up the tree. This enables cracked trees to be identified for many years after the cracks occur (Fig 1). The scars typically bear a healthy appearance, with no resin exudates coming out from them, and appear to be wide but sealed, as opposed as what one would expect from recent disease, deer or machinery damage (Fig 2).

The internal tensions that lead to cracking have been associated with different forms of water deficit, including drought. As a result of this, an increase

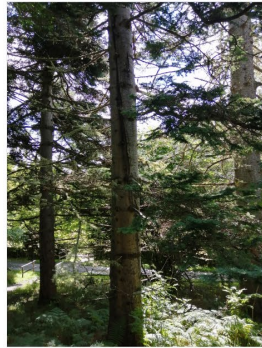
in this type of defect can reasonably be expected in Britain in the near future due to climate change. Given this and the efforts to diversify the UK conifer stock with spruce and fir species that may be prone to cracking, it seems relevant – and timely – to give more consideration to this issue.

At present, however, there is only anecdotal evidence on the rates of stem cracking occurrence or geographical areas of prevalence. The predisposition factors that make trees vulnerable to stem cracking are also unclear, although some sources point to abnormal, potentially climate-mediated, earlywood/latewood ratios within tree rings, tree age and size, and micro-site conditions that affect the rooting depth. Lastly, a recent study conducted by Forest Research has also gathered strong evidence that genetics could play a key role in this regard, at least in British Sitka spruce.

To provide answers to these questions, Forest Research has embarked on further research. The short-term objective is to assess the problem



Grand fir (*Abies grandis*)



Noble fir (*Abies procera*)



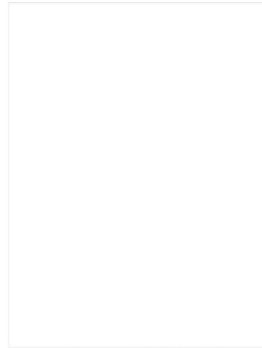
Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)



Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)



Norway spruce (*Picea abies*)



Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*)



Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*)

Thank you
(for listening
and reporting)!

Stem cracks in conifers – report it via TreeAlert

<https://treealert.forestresearch.gov.uk>

Any questions?

Hester Cloud Forest



Helping timber reach the right buyers





You'd go out to a quarry in like Italy or Portugal to look at the strata.

We would never go to look at a forest because that supply chain is arguably much longer.

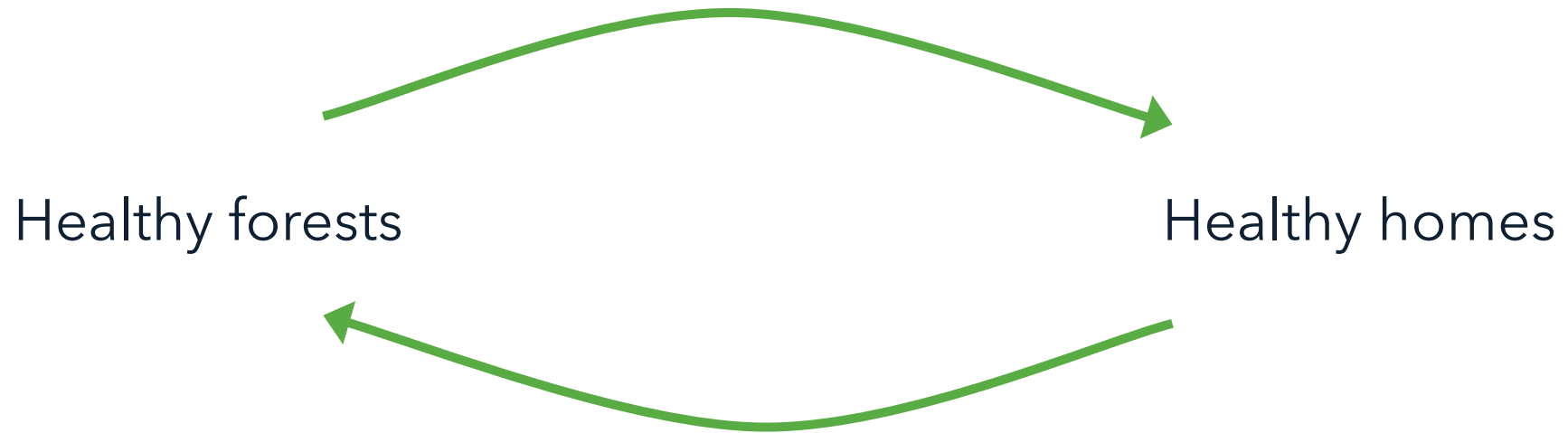
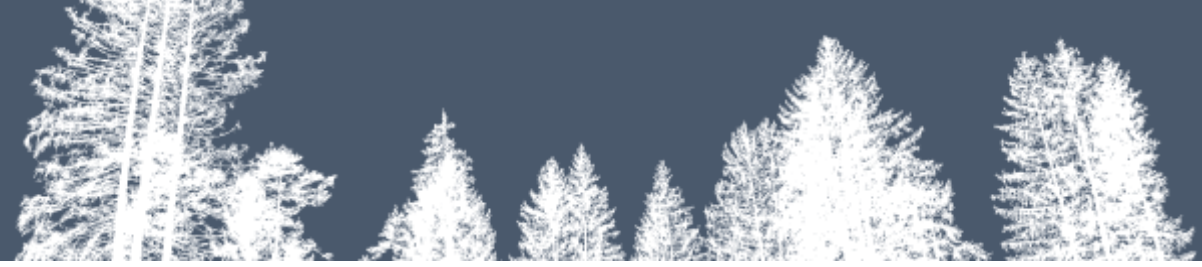
Project sustainability manager

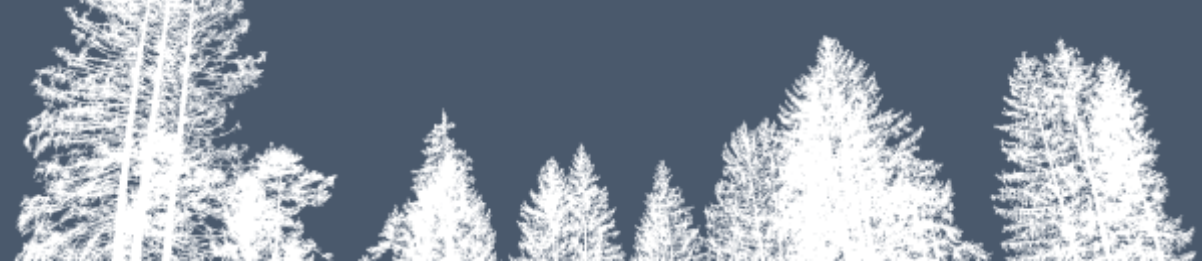
Tier 1 construction company



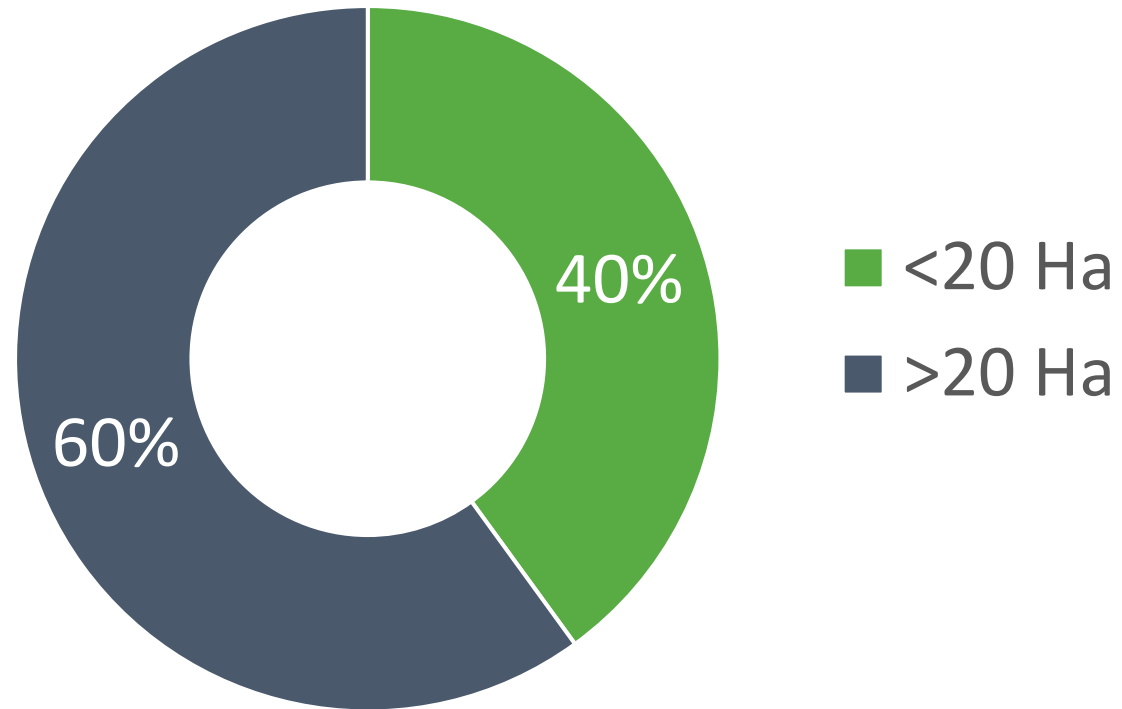
Callender Wood
Falkirk

Supply chains matter

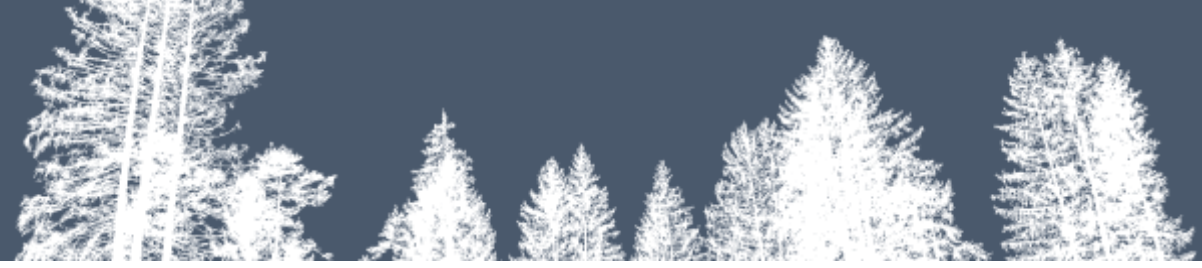




Woodland size - England



Supply chains matter





Mission:
Uncover challenges in the supply chain.

“

I'm thinking yes, invest but don't get carried away because I've got no confidence the raw material is going to be there. And we're not talking here 20 to 30 years ahead. We're talking two or three years down the line, five years down the line.”

Sawmill

“

The biggest pain in the ass is trying to find certain timbers at certain times because the liaisons between everybody are, they're just awful.”

Sawmill



Well, you can have a period of three months when nothing's offered to you and then for some reason...three or four parcels all around a £100,000 pounds will be offered. Well, you can't afford to buy them all, you can't afford to not get one of them, and so it's very difficult to do the pricing."

Sawmiller



I'll buy as much as I can afford, or I have the space and money for and would love to keep the rest but it just disappears and you know, goes up country or in some cases goes to the wrong market."

Sawmiller

“

*Longer term planning
would benefit everyone.”*

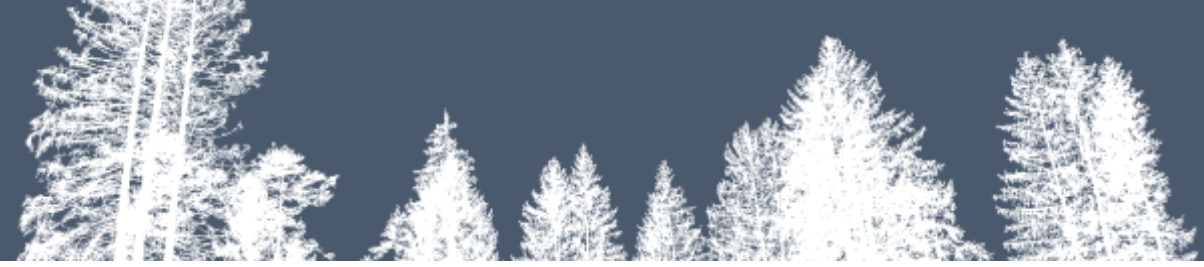
Sawmill

“

We're sat there going, oh, bloody hell, I wish you didn't [...] chop that for firewood. We've got a market for that. There's a lot more money in that.”

Sawmill

Homewood bound?



- Lack of market transparency
- Difficulties matching supply and demand
- Power imbalances
- Communication barriers
- Difficulties capturing timber's value



 CloudForest

Homewood bound?

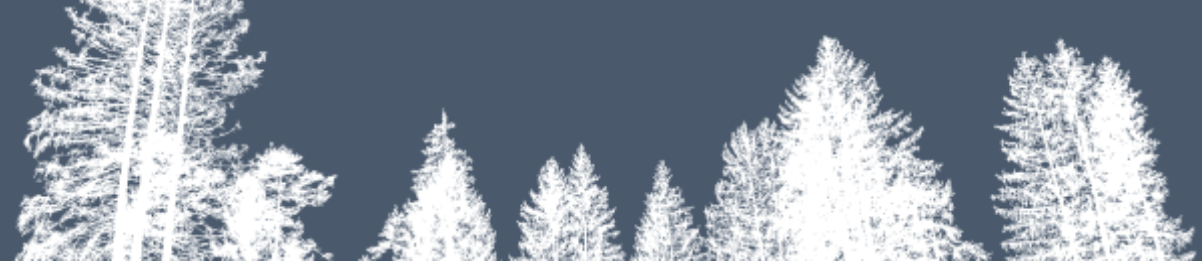
Challenges along the UK's small-scale timber supply chain from forest to construction

CloudForest

Mission:
Connect demand with
locally-grown timber.



CloudForest Marketplace



**Advertise
your
business**

**Market
your timber**

**Get timber
alerts**

CloudForest Marketplace

**Advertise
your
business**

Wood Business Directory

Search our directory of businesses working with UK grown wood and trees.

Filter By

[Clear filters](#)

▼ Products and services

- Standing Timber
- Roadside Timber
- Saw Logs
- Small roundwood
- Biomass or Arisings
- Timber Products
- Sawn Timber
- Firewood
- Woodchip
- Fencing**
- Cladding
- Decking
- Flooring
- Coppice Products
- Coppice Fencing
- Other Products
- Mobile Milling Services
- Static Milling Services
- Carpentry
- Arboriculture
- Forest Management
- Tree Nursery
- Harvesting
- Tree Surveying
- Flooring Fitting
- Decking Installation
- Fencing Installation**
- Cladding Installation
- Windthrow Clear-Up
- Herbivore Control
- Haulage
- Other

15 businesses

[Fencing X](#)

[Fencing Installation X](#)

[View on map](#)



Abbey Timber

Family-run sawmill processing local timber into a wide range of standard and custom products

Location: Duns, Berwickshire

- Roadside Timber
- Sawn Timber
- Flooring
- Decking
- Fencing
- Cladding
- Static Milling Services

[View](#)



Central Scotland Sawmill

Central Scotland Sawmill are a small owner operated mill producing cladding, hardwood boards and firewood

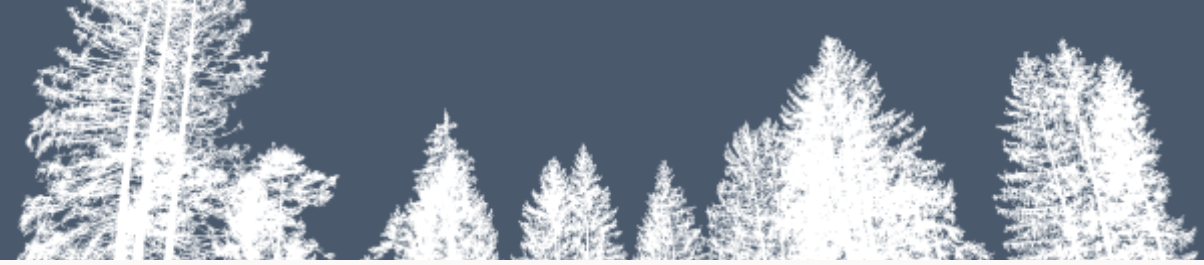
Location: Winchburgh, West Lothian

- Roadside Timber
- Sawn Timber
- Decking
- Fencing
- Cladding
- Firewood
- Static Milling Services

[View](#)

Cut N Clear Ltd

CloudForest Marketplace



**Market
your
timber**

Filter By

▼ Category

Standing Timber

▶ Roadside Timber

▶ Timber Products

▶ Coppice Products

Other Products

▶ Species

▶ Certification

▼ Location

☒ Nationwide

☐ Within

Choose... of

postcode

Go

49 listings

Get timber alerts

Use the filters to create a search. You can then save it. We'll email you when we find new matches.

Cedar and fresh Sycamore storm felled

Windfallen trunks in March Storm Dave. 5.5m x 96cm circumference midpoint measured sycamore. Straight, not twisted. Plus firewood/extra if wanted 3.5m x 30cm circumference midpoint measured windfa...



Saw Logs

Helen F

2 items available

Available now

View

Large diameter Douglas Fir sawlogs

Fine Douglas fir, relatively knot free, mid diameter > 50cm. Inspection of standing timber if you wish.



Roadside Timber

 Clackmannan Woods Settlement - Fring Estate

Offers over £145.00 per m³ 500 m³ available

Available now

View

Large diameter Larch sawlogs

> 40cm mid diameter, high quality logs relatively knot free. Standing trees available for inspection. Loads of sawlogs sold on rideside basis.



Roadside Timber

 Clackmannan Woods Settlement - Fring Estate

Offers over £145.00 per m³ 500 m³ available

View

CloudForest Marketplace

**Get
timber
alerts**



Roadside Timber - 1 new match today



Sitka spruce saw logs, roadside

Sitka saw logs from low-impact, nature friendly forestry operations.

3.7m, 16cm min top diameter under bark (but most are bigger than this). One lorry load currently available. More will be available later in the year.

[See more...](#)

Best wishes,

The CloudForest Marketplace Team

You have received this email notification because you are a member of CloudForest Marketplace. To contact us, email hello@cloudforest.market

CloudForest Marketplace

Use cases

1. Left over logs
2. Separating out quality logs
3. Felled to order

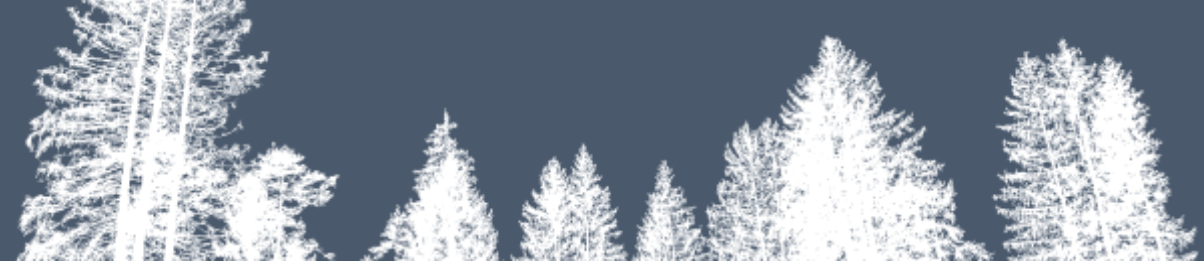


HARVESTING CONTRACTOR

Listed two lorry loads of left Douglas fir from a cancelled
One load sold to a local saw timber that would otherwise gone for chip.



Large diameter Douglas Fir sawlogs



CloudForest helped Dan find buyers for his skinny larch

1. Dan created a listing



Larch and Scots Pine Logs

Thinning of larch and pine close to Elgin. Start date will be between Late August and 1st October 2025. Larch Av dbh 25, with a dbh range of 15-33 log volume forecast 1068m3 Pine Av dbh 34, with a dbh...

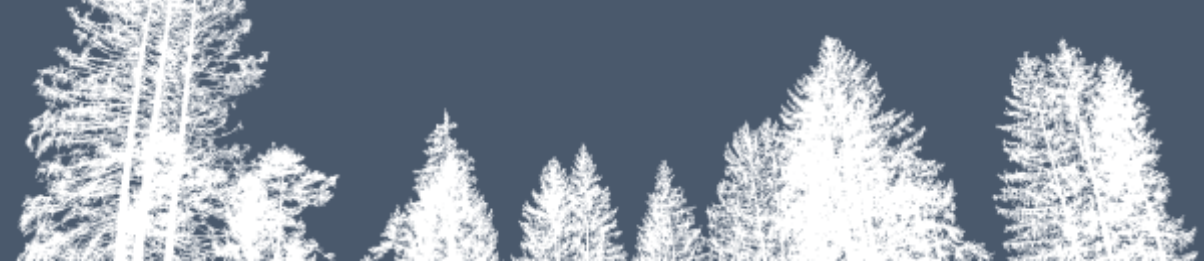
[Saw Logs](#)

 **Dan U**

2004 m³ available
Planned between September 2025 and December 2025

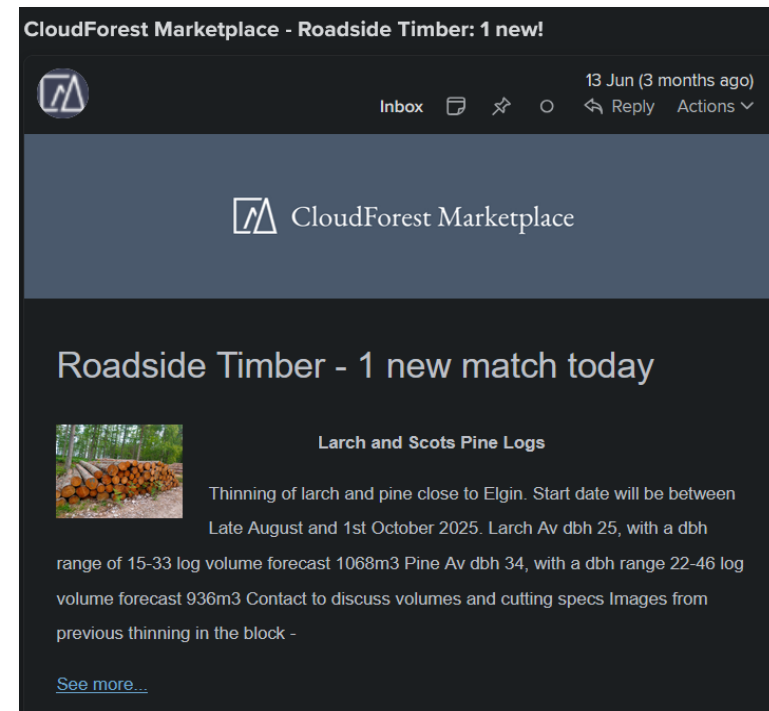
[View](#)

CloudForest Marketplace



CloudForest helped Dan find buyers for his skinny larch

1. Dan created a listing
2. CloudForest emailed sawmills



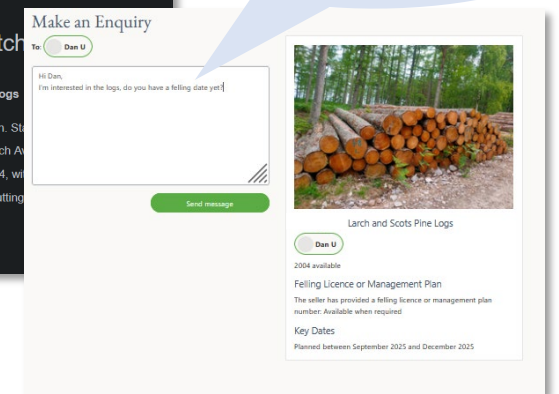
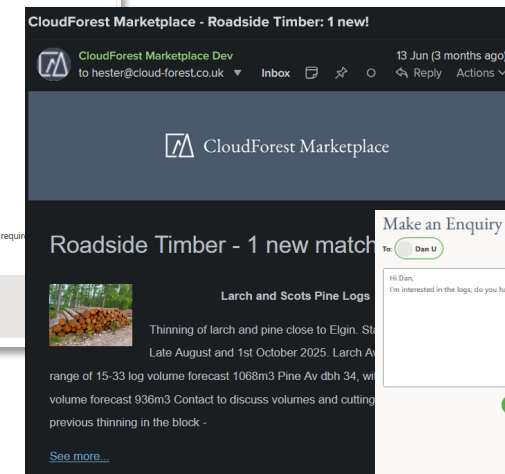
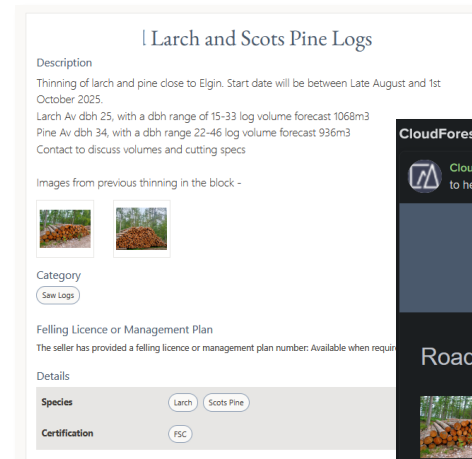
CloudForest Marketplace

CloudForest helped Dan find buyers for his skinny larch

1. Dan created a listing

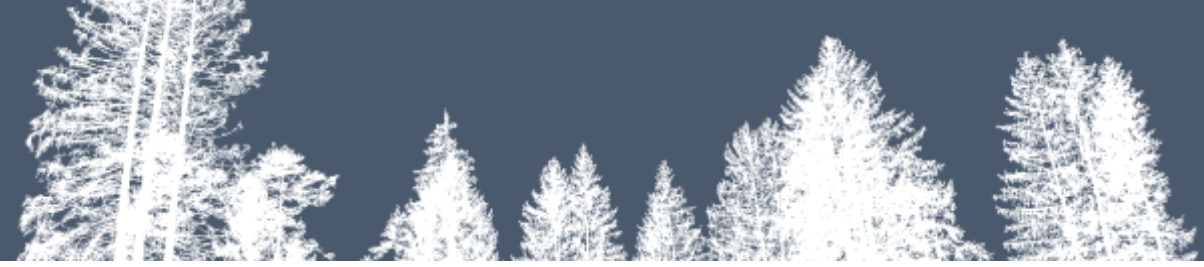
2. CloudForest emailed sawmills

3. Dan received 8 enquiries, all before felling



I love these logs! ❤️

Supply chain pressures



Increasing natural
disturbance



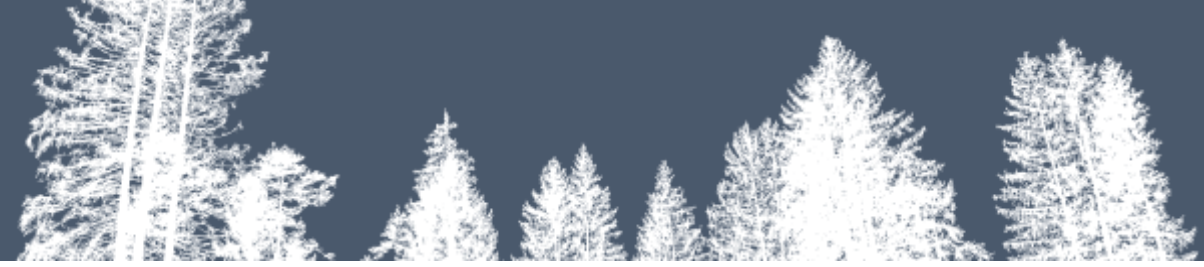
Healthy forests



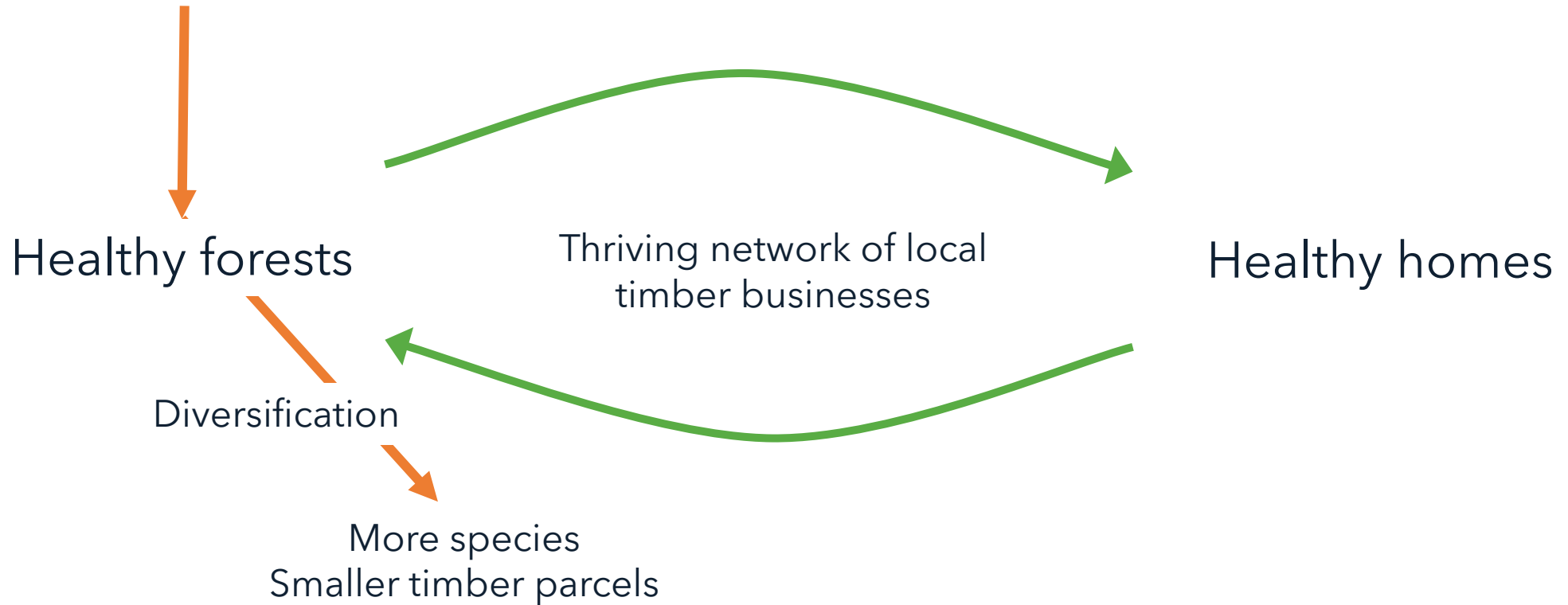
Thriving network of local
timber businesses

Healthy homes

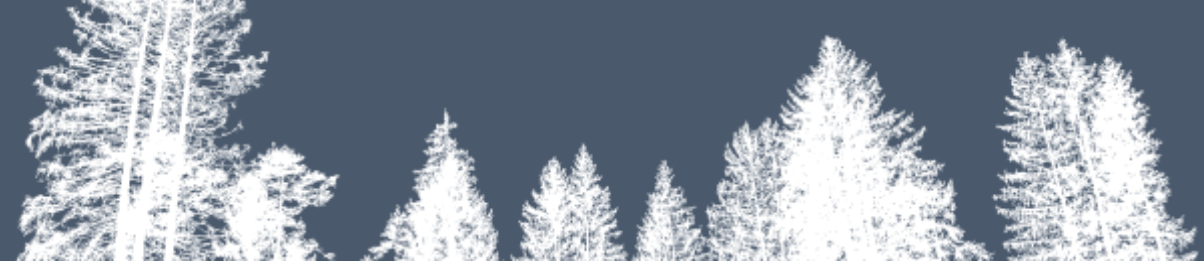
Supply chain pressures



Increasing natural
disturbance



Supply chain pressures



Increasing natural
disturbance



Healthy forests



Disruption



Unpredictable
timber supply



Diversification



More species
Smaller timber parcels

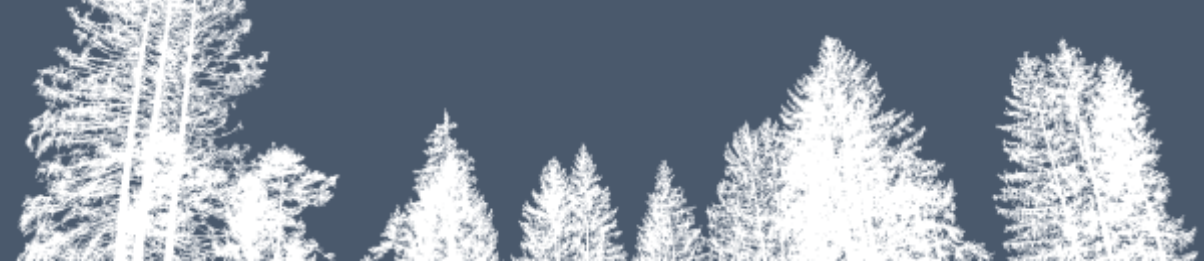


Thriving network of local
timber businesses

Healthy homes



Supply chain pressures



Increasing natural
disturbance

Building safety constraints
Off-site specificity
Just in time

Healthy forests

Thriving network of local
timber businesses

Healthy homes

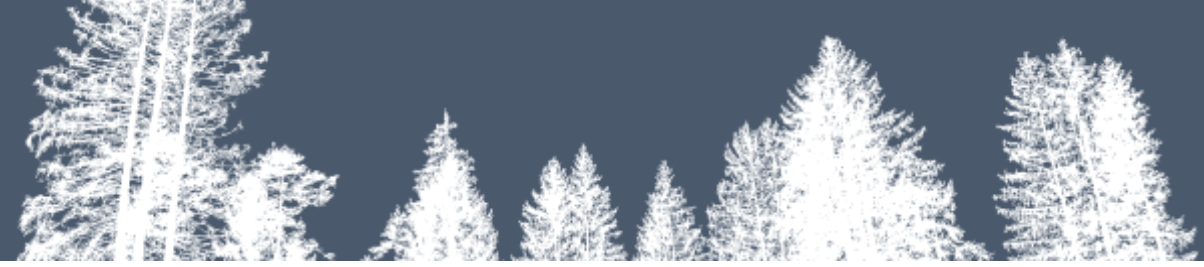
Disruption

Diversification

Unpredictable
timber supply

More species
Smaller timber parcels

Supply chain pressures



Increasing natural
disturbance

Building safety constraints
Off-site specificity
Just in time

Healthy forests

Thriving network of local
timber businesses

Healthy homes

Disruption

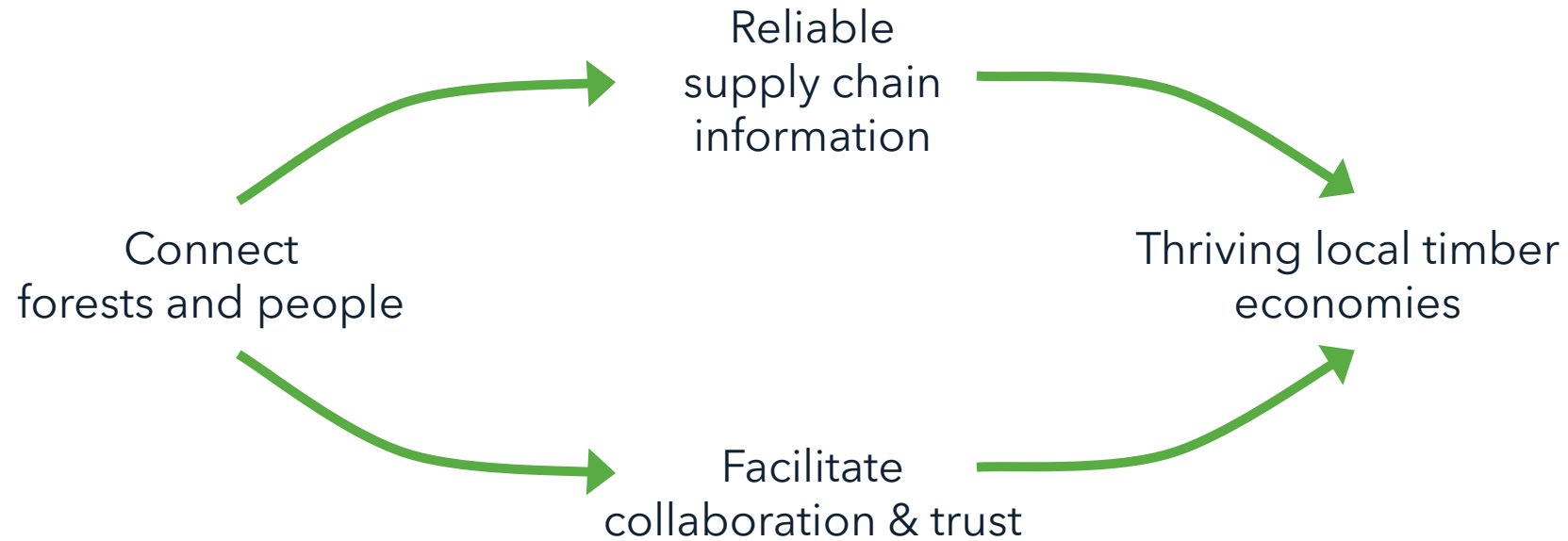
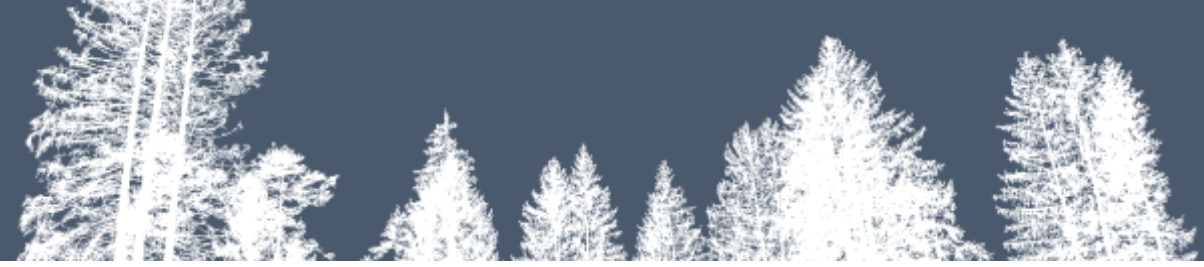
Diversification

Unpredictable
timber supply

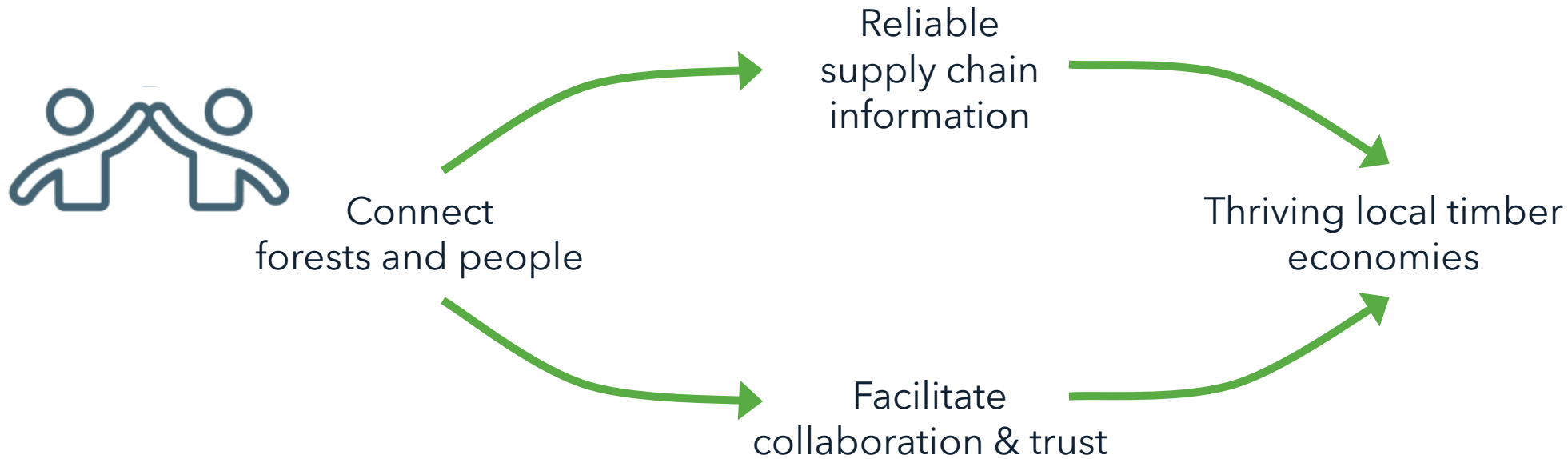
More species
Smaller timber parcels

New products
Distributed mini-factories

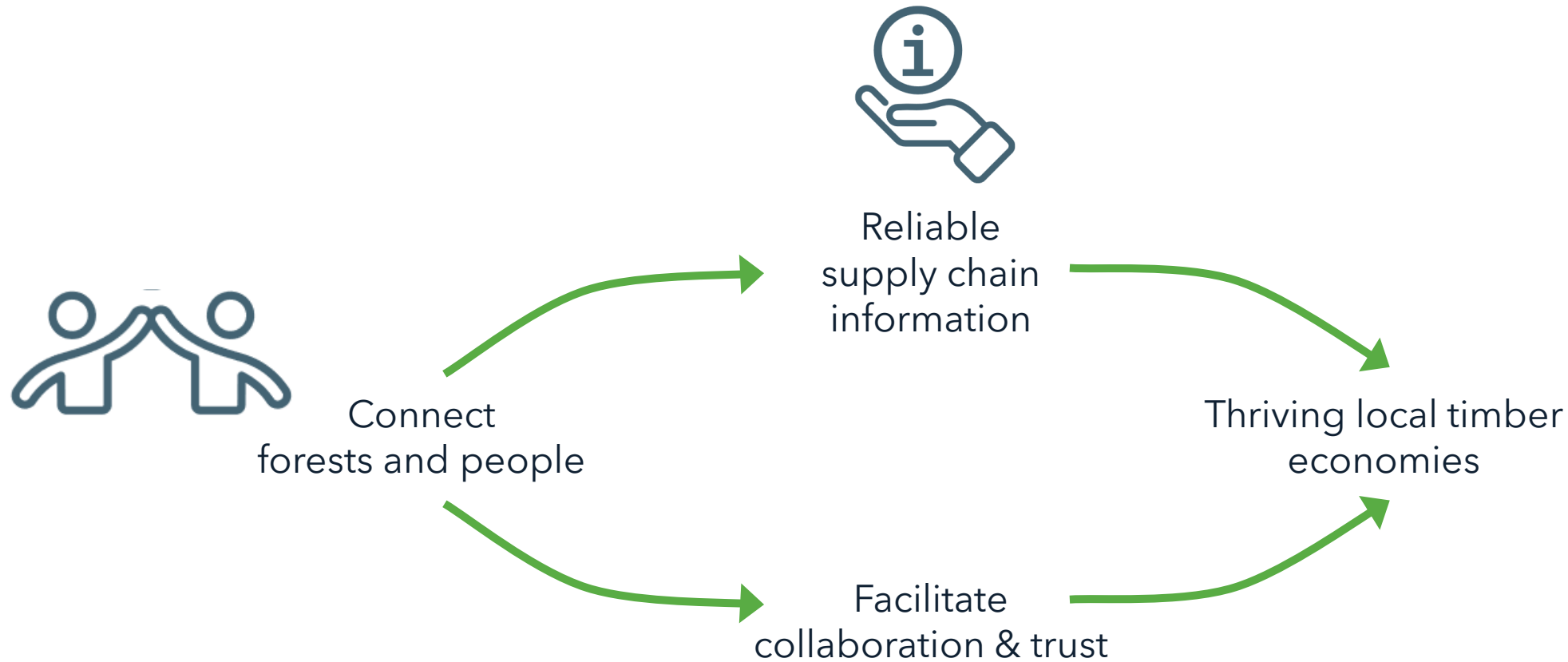
CloudForest's approach



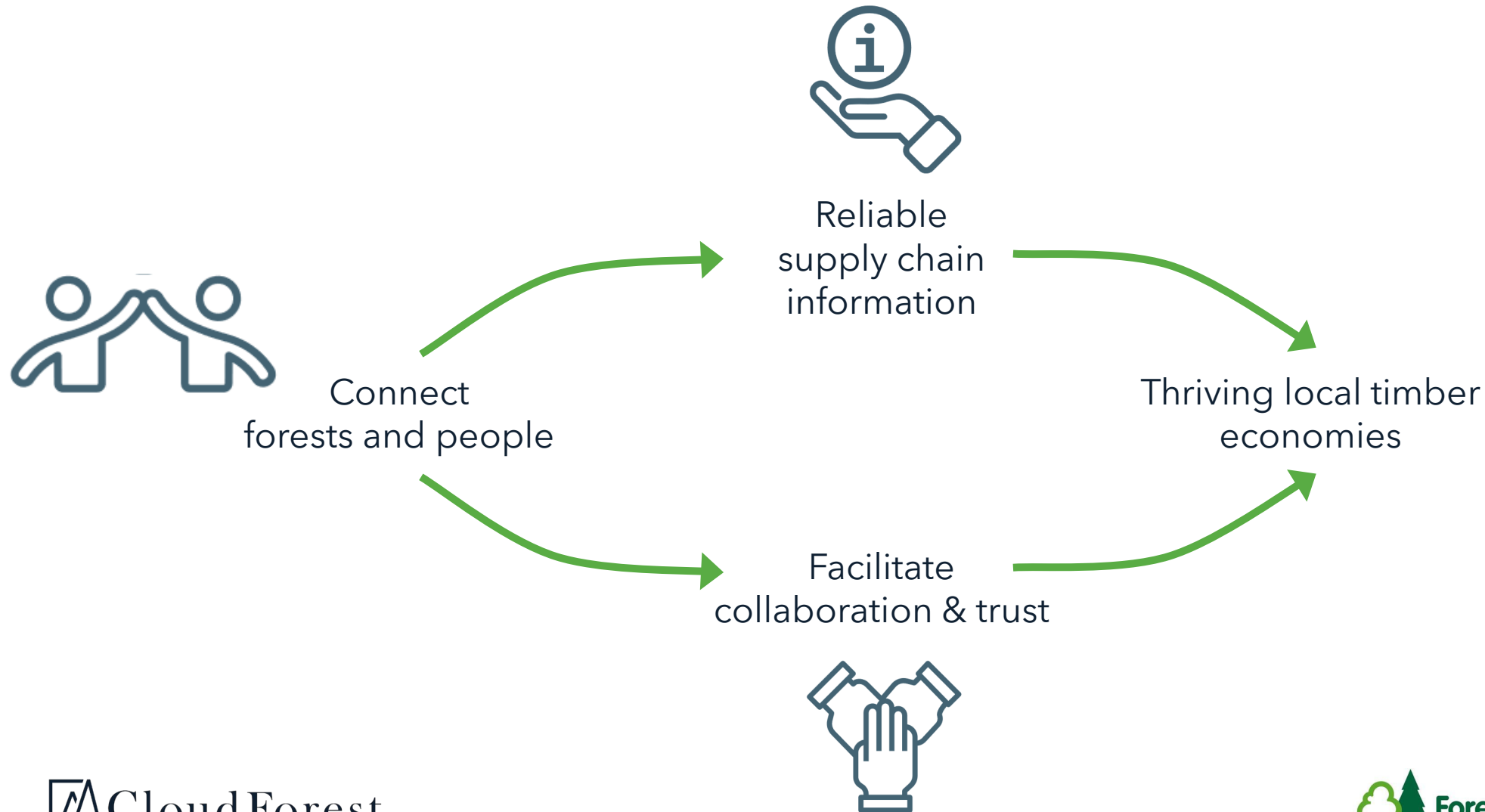
CloudForest's approach



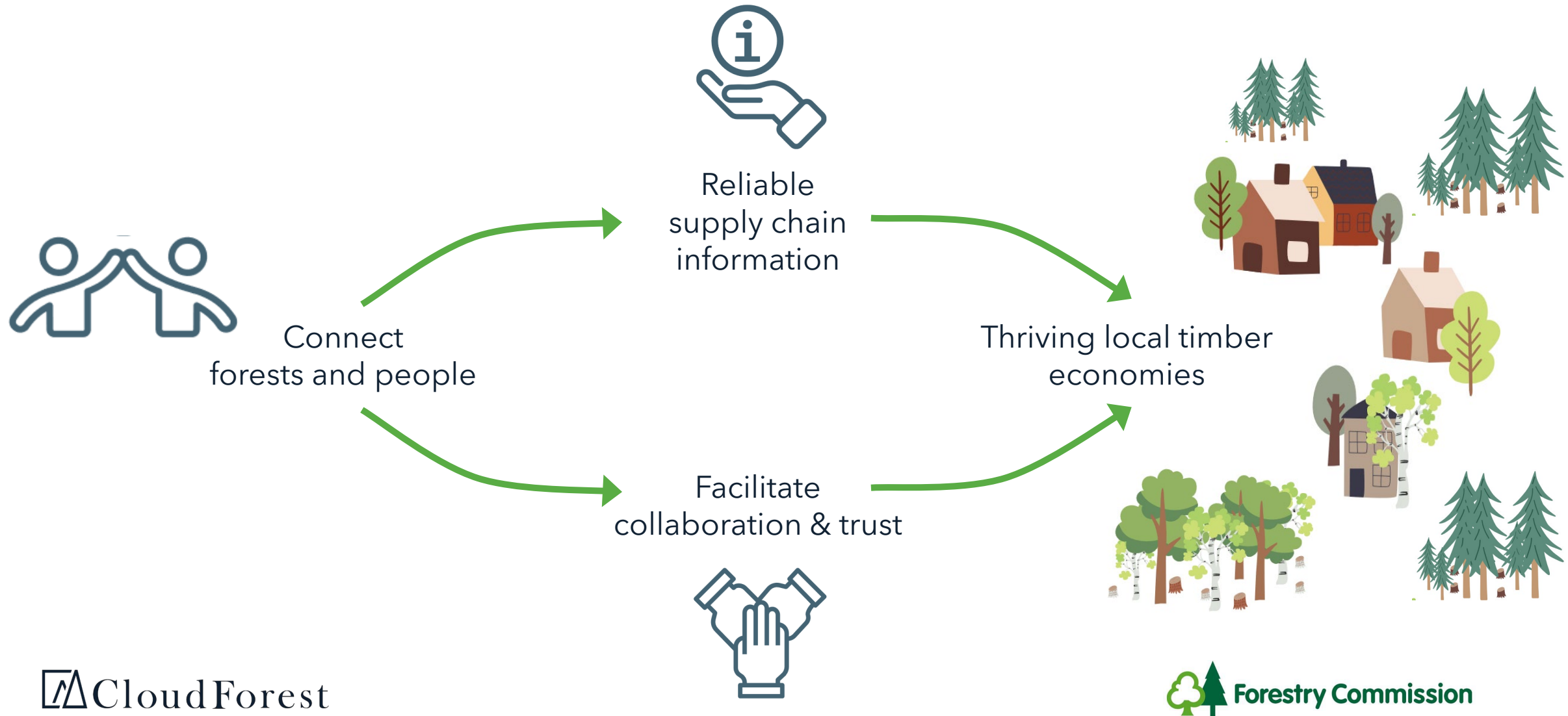
CloudForest's approach



CloudForest's approach



CloudForest's approach





Cloud Forest

www.cloudforest.market

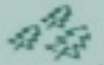
Simon Hart John Clegg & Co Forest Market Review 2025

FOREST MARKET REVIEW 2025



MARKET AT A GLANCE

Supply



20 forests were sold in Great Britain during the 2023 calendar year. This is much fewer than in 2022 (59) and below half of the five-year average (54).

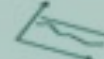


Only 2,200 stocked or plantable hectares were traded, almost 80% less than in 2022 and 76% below the five-year average.



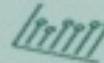
75% of the land sold was in Scotland.

Demand

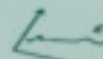


60% of the forests sold within six months of being marketed, which is slightly below the five-year average.

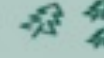
Pricing



Due to the small number of sales each year, average prices can be affected by changes in the type of forests that were available. This means caution needs to be applied when comparing figures year-on-year.



The average asking price was £16,500/hectare or £19,700/stocked hectare, which are both records.



The forests sold from an average of £21,000/stocked hectare, 1% higher than in 2022. Half (50%) sold for over £20,000 compared with 40% in 2022. The average selling price was £21,000/stocked hectare, 1% higher than in 2022. Half (50%) sold for over £20,000 compared with 40% in 2022. The average selling price was £21,000/stocked hectare, 1% higher than in 2022. Half (50%) sold for over £20,000 compared with 40% in 2022.

SIMON HART

BSc, FICFor, FRICS (REGISTERED VALUER)

DIRECTOR – HEAD OF FORESTRY

JOHN CLEGG & CO

Forestry | Investment | Sales | Management

STRUTT & PARKER

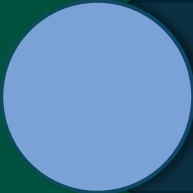
BNP PARIBAS GROUP

—————> Overview and key messages

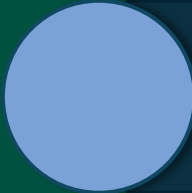
—————> Plantation market detail, plus planting land

—————> Outlook 2026 and beyond

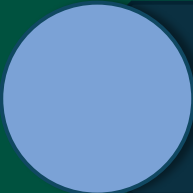
KEY MESSAGES



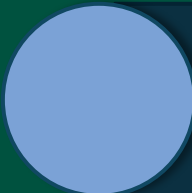
Record breaking year for total sales £



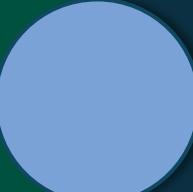
Prices are lower



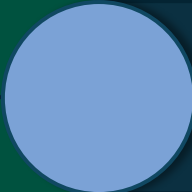
More caution in the market than expected



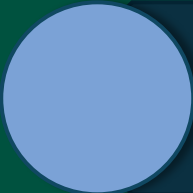
Increasing spread of values



Flat timber prices and rising costs

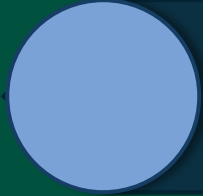


Buyers still active, new capital coming into the market

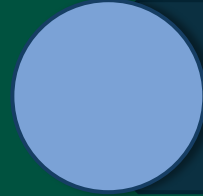


Continued signs of slowing market

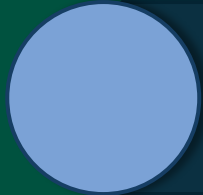
METHODOLOGY AND THE HEALTH WARNING



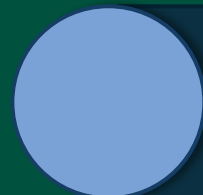
Commercial conifer woods
>20ha



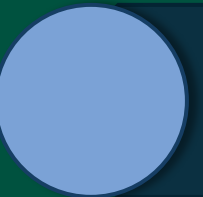
Private sales not included where
we don't have the data, but
significant



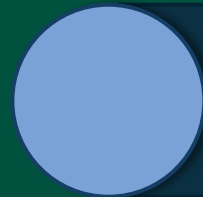
Every year different sample



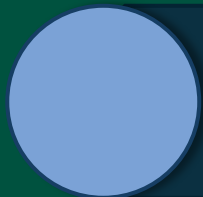
The Griffin effect



Age in 2025 higher than 2024



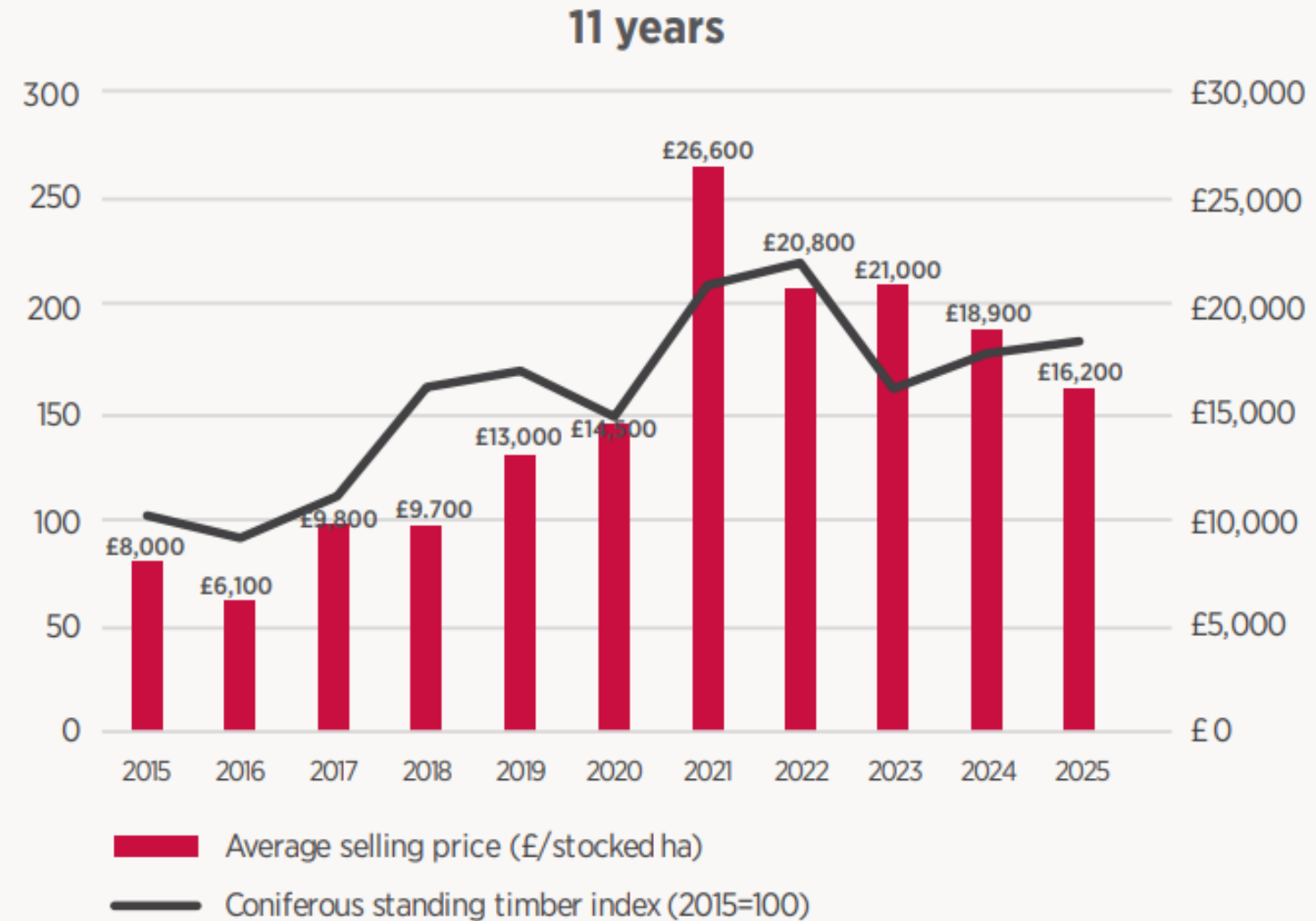
Be careful with extrapolation!



Relatively small size

Figure 1 Average selling price of commercial forests per stocked standing timber Index

NB The 2025 data excludes the two Griffin sales (see About this rep



1 hectare in Great Britain and Forestry Commission coniferous

ort).

26 years

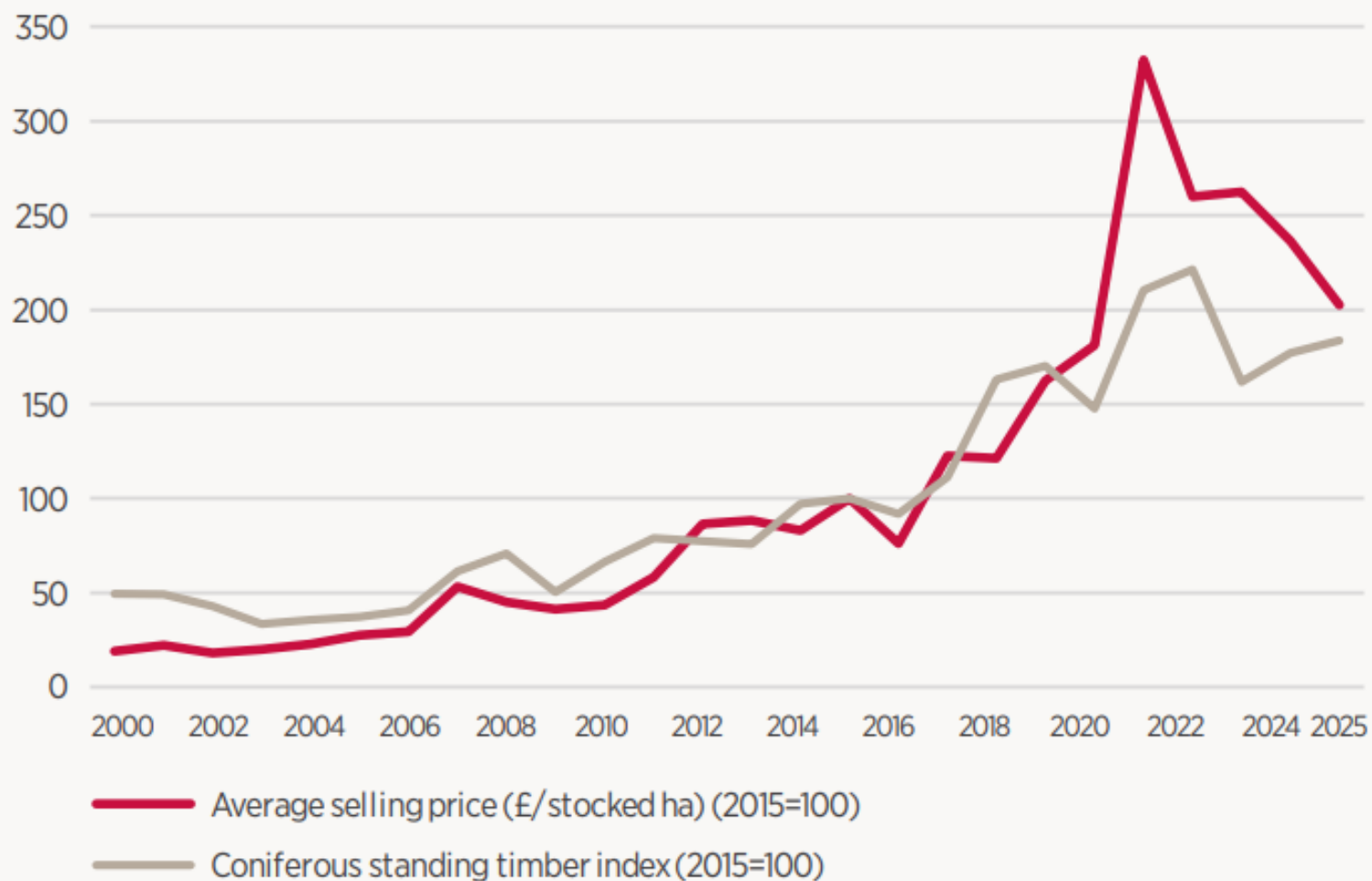


Figure 3 Area of commercial forest land sold in Great Britain (stocked hectares)

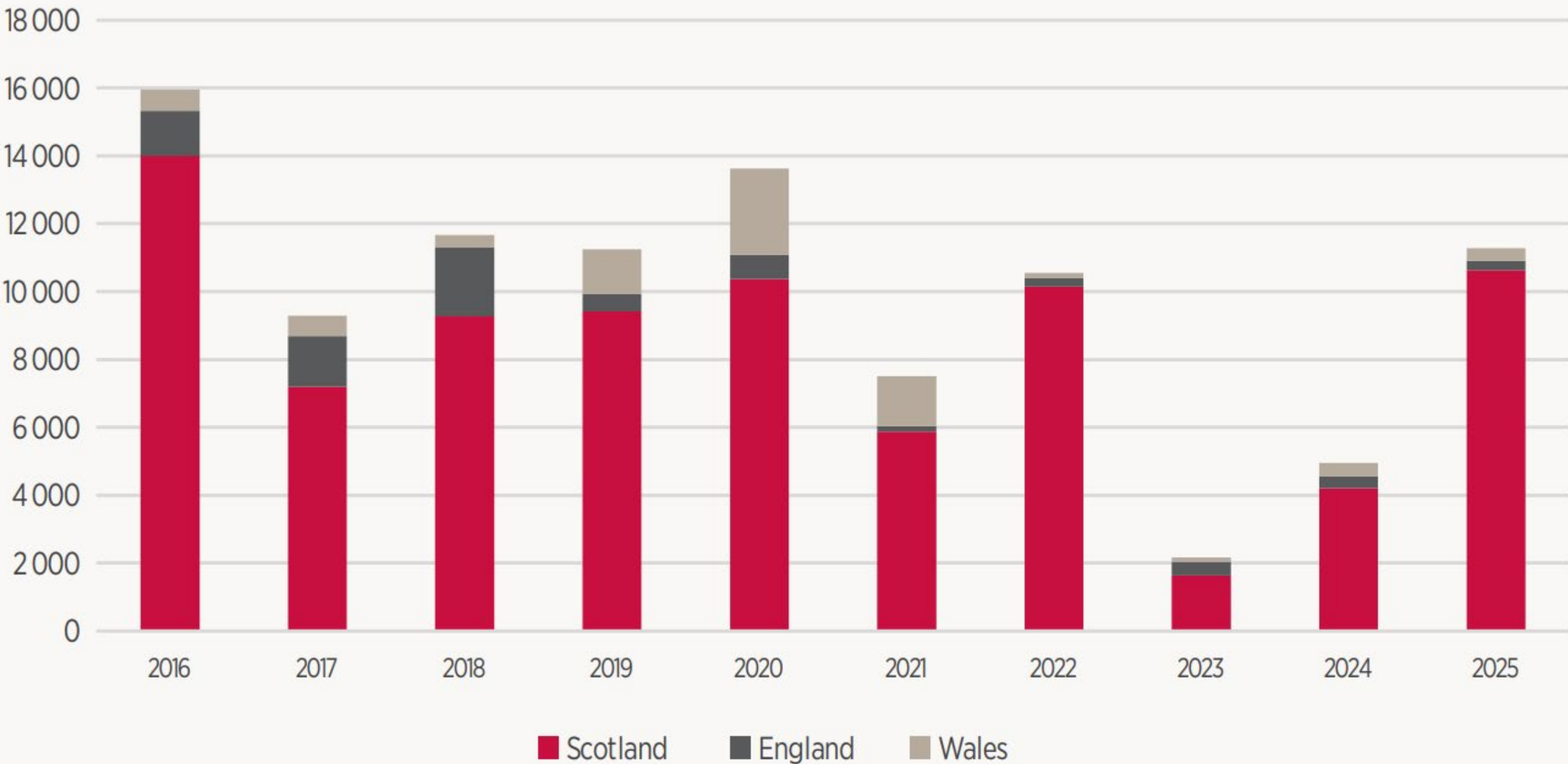


Figure 6 Number of commercial forests sold in Great Britain by size band

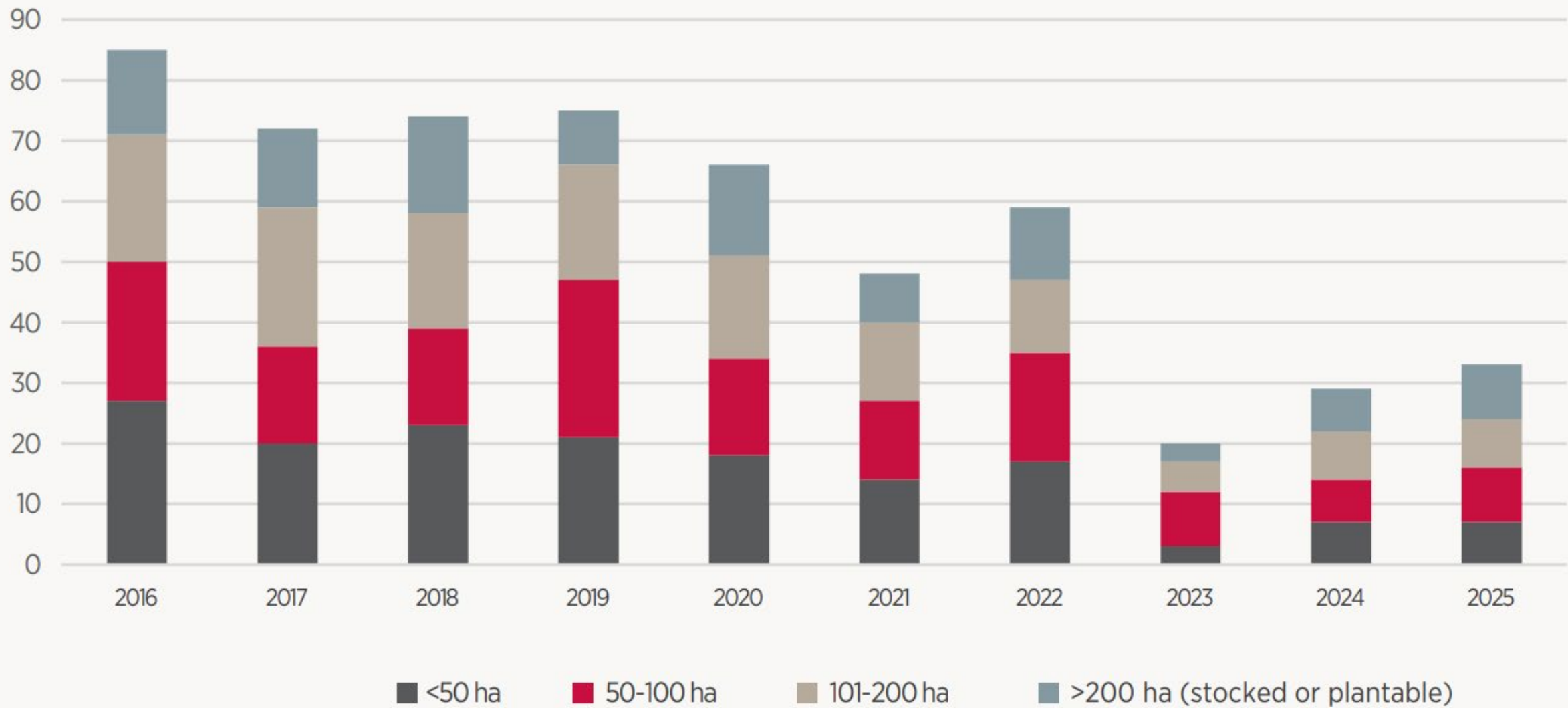


Figure 7 Total selling price of commercial forests sold in £million

	Scotland	England	Wales	Great Britain
2021	£153	£4	£42	£199
2022	£213	£5	£1	£219
2023	£30	£11	£4	£45
2024	£78	£7	£9	£94
2025	£249	£4	£8	£261
Five-year ave	£145	£6	£13	£164
2025 % diff from ave	+72%	-40%	-35%	+60%

Figure 8 Percentage of commercial forests sold in Great Britain by time from date on market to date of sale

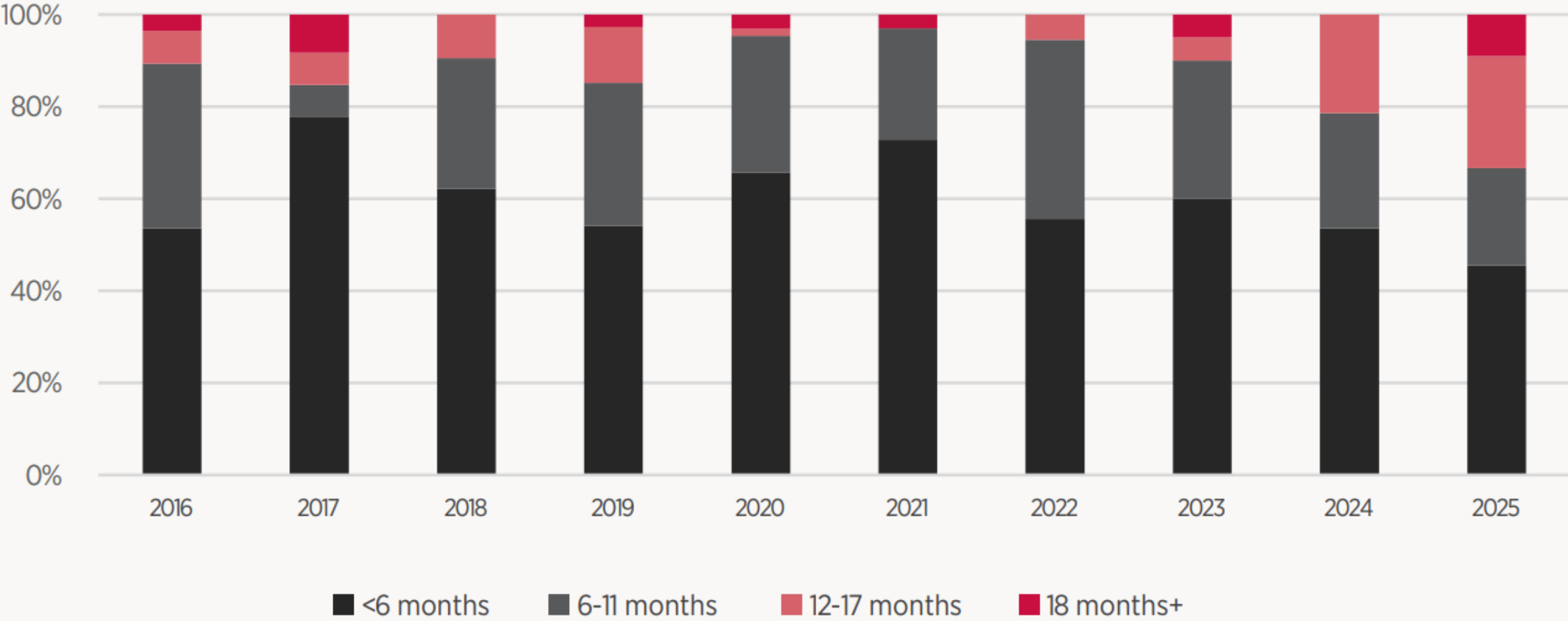


Figure 9 Percentage of forests sold below, at or over guide price in Great Britain

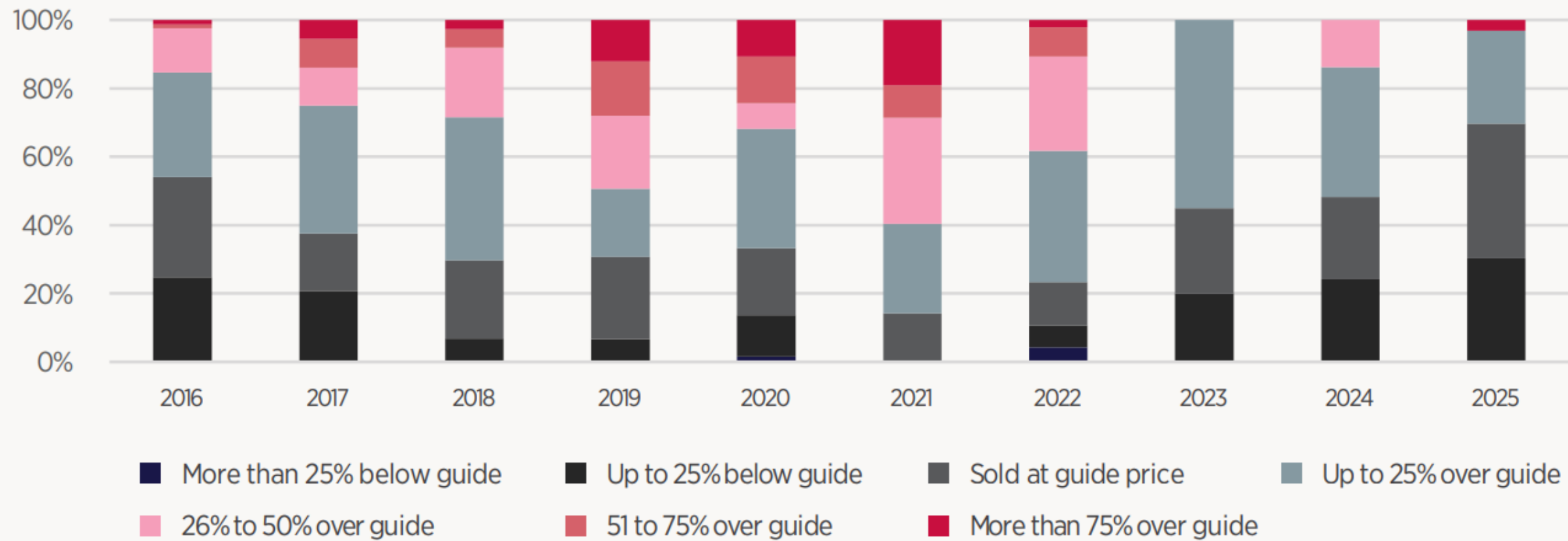


Figure 12 Selling price of commercial forests in Great Britain per stocked hectare by price band

NB The 2025 data excludes the two Griffin sales.

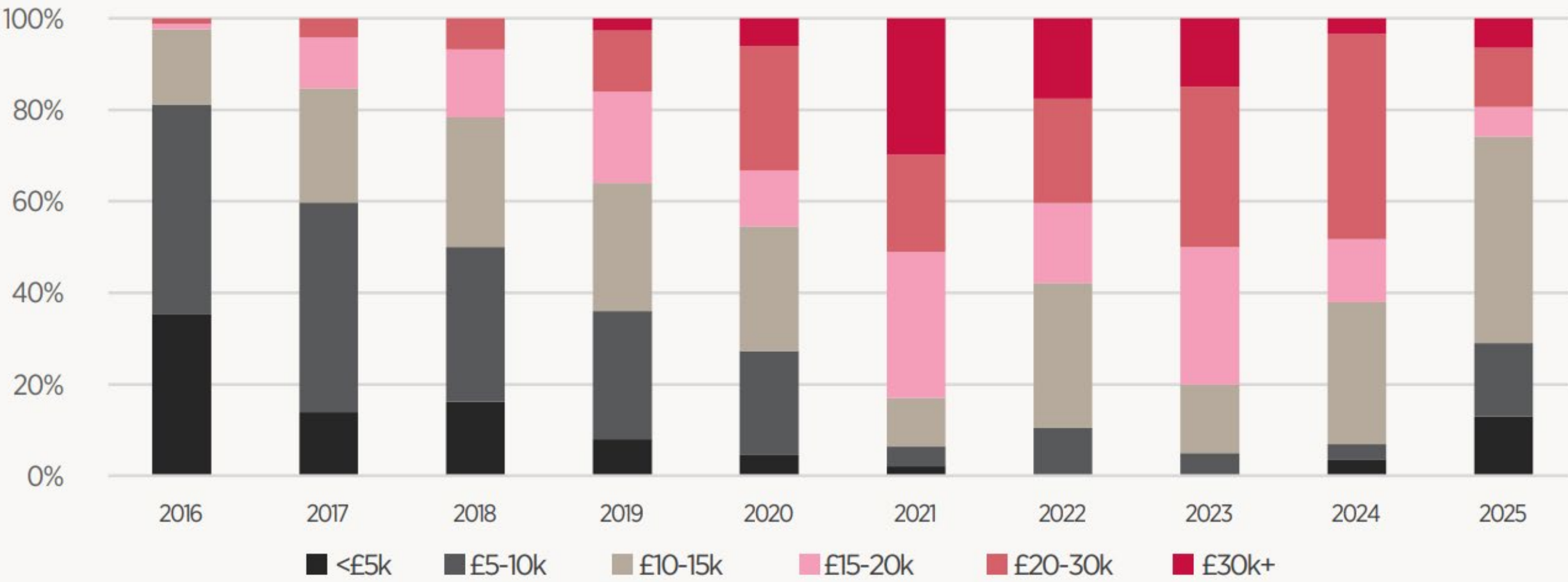
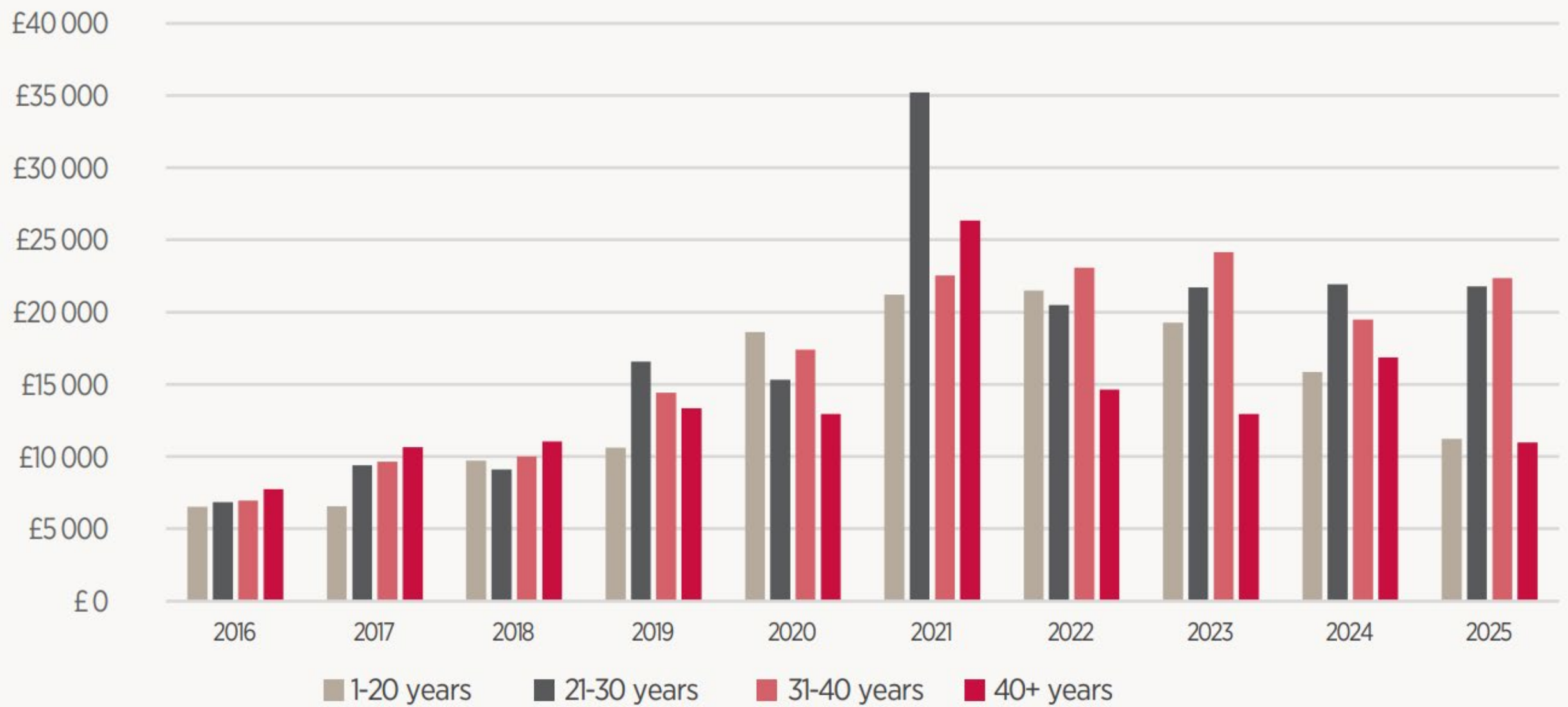
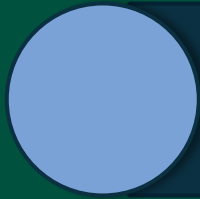


Figure 13 Average selling price of commercial forests in Great Britain per stocked hectare by age band

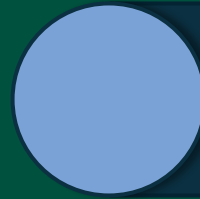
NB The 2025 data excludes the two Griffin sales.



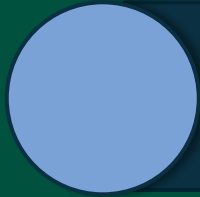
THE PLANTING LAND MARKET.



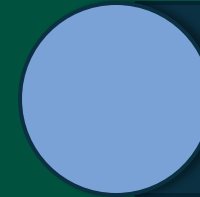
Conifer ground at c. £8K/ha-
range £6-11K/ha



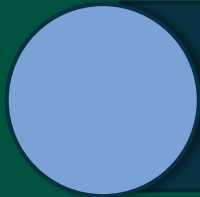
Scottish Gov planting budget means Scotland
will not meet its 18,000ha target. Unless
alternative sources of funding can be found.



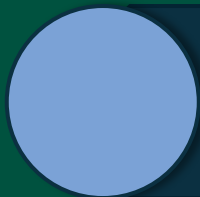
Broad leaf (carbon) £5K/ha



Carbon funding.

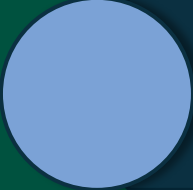


UK Gov afforestation target
30,000ha/yr

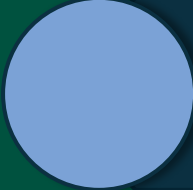


Current planting c. 16,000ha

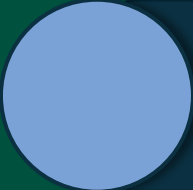
● OUTLOOK FOR 2026 & BEYOND



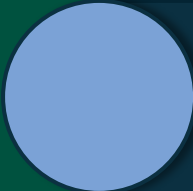
Caution prevails



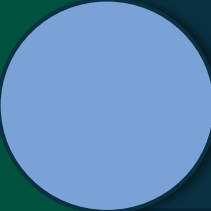
Rising global demand for timber-
good fundamentals



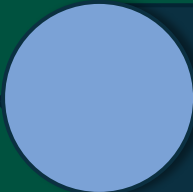
Timber prices key to any upturn



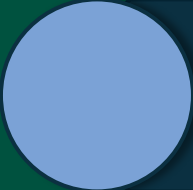
Increasing focus on carbon and
natural capital



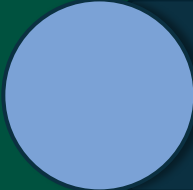
Acceptance that prices won't be
returning to peak any time soon



Tariffs and turmoil- forestry as a
safe-haven?



Significant funds investing in forestry



In summary we see little upward
pressure on prices

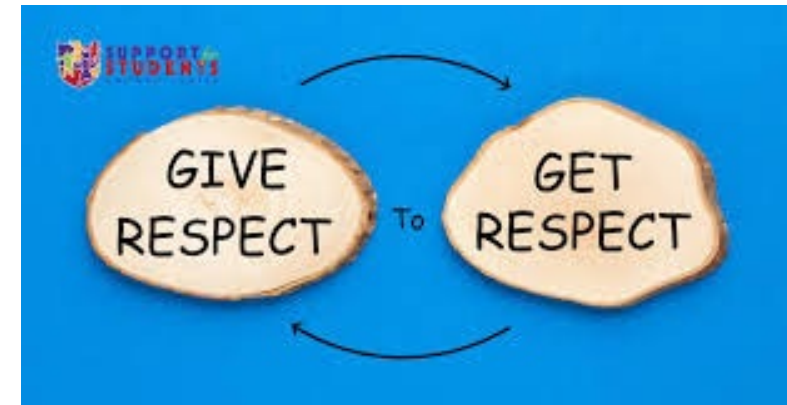
Any questions?

Richard Hunter - Respectful Engagement in Forestry

WORK BY AMANDA BRYAN – AIGA ASSOCIATES

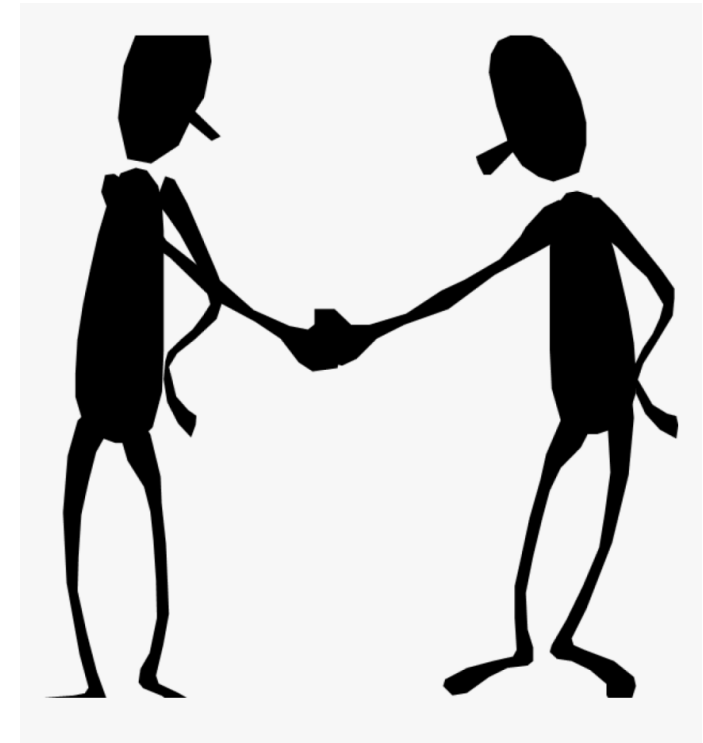
Respectful Engagement in Forestry (Scotland)

- Complements Good Practice in Stakeholder Engagement document.
- Developed these guidelines in response to feedback from members.
- FTN article - How can we achieve respectful and constructive engagement and what to do when it goes wrong?
- Audience: Forestry Sector Professionals.



Why Stakeholder Engagement Matters

- Improves project outcomes
- Identifies issues early
- Helps build long-term relationships



Purpose of the Guidelines

- Set clear expectations
- Define good engagement and appropriate behaviours
- Provide guidance when things go wrong

Development of the Guidelines

- 8-month process.
- Input from member companies including Scottish Woodlands and Tilhill, along with ICF, FLS, SF and SLC.
- Sets out expectations of how forestry businesses and stakeholders will act and what is unacceptable behaviour.

Unacceptable Behavior

- Aggression or abuse.
- Threats.
- Unreasonable demands.
- Persistent complaints.



Responding to Issues

- Maintain professionalism.
- Follow complaints processes.
- Escalate where necessary.
- Report threats to police.

Adopting the Guidelines

- Formal commitment by businesses.
- Integration into engagement processes.
- In agreeing to adopt the guidelines we ask that companies email me, provide a link to their own complaints process which can be included in the appropriate section of the guidelines online. Those that sign up will then be able to use the guidelines as part of their engagement processes.

Questions

- Next Stakeholder Engagement Training to be held at John Deere, Perth in June 2026.
- Happy to take questions and pass them on to Amanda Bryan to reply to!



Scottish
Forestry / Coilltearachd
na h-Alba

Scottish Forestry Update



Scottish Forestry Update

National figures given in Dec 2025.

Type	Submitted, not yet approved (ha) 2026	Approved (ha) 2026	Total
Broadleaves	35	50	85
Conifer	785	490	1275
Diverse Conifer	234	95	329
Native BL	687	472	1159
Natural Regen	110	2008	2118
Other	1189	1071	2260
			7226



Categories & Competitions

- **Quality Timber:**
 - **New Commercial Woods**
 - **Silvicultural Excellence** - single stand, compartment or small woods
 - **Multipurpose Forestry** – whole forest or estate
- **New Native Woods**
- **Farm Woodlands**
 - **All farm / croft woodlands**
- **Community Woodland Award**
 - **Small groups**
 - **Large groups** - trophy for overall winner
- **Urban Forestry**
- **Schools and Early Years** – *entries closed for 2026*



Scotland's Finest Woods Awards 2026

Current Sponsors & Supporters

Sponsors



Supporters





- Encourage inspiring and eligible people & projects to enter – winners will gain PR, a cash prize & may receive trophy
- New website: www.sfwa.co.uk – visit for Award details, eligibility criteria and online entry forms
- Entries open now!
- **Closing date: 23:59 on 31 May 2026**
(Schools & Early Years closed on 31 March)

Contact: Jeannie Nairn

E: admin@sfwa.co.uk M: 07975 847055

Follow us:



Confor Update

- Election
- Timber National Security
- 50 Year Forecast Published
- C16 Timber Campaign
- Lanzarta Approval
- FTS UK – New Entrants Scheme
- CRG and Scottish Forestry Liaison meetings
- SPS agreement with EU
- Police and Crime – Fuel theft increase
- Lynx to Scotland Consultation
- Game Release Pens in UKWAS 5
- CTP Career's Fair in Edinburgh
 - Signed the Armed Forces Covenant

Election Manifesto

1. Create a UK-leading timber strategy for Scotland
2. Plant more trees
3. Use more wood in construction
4. Create a new forestry strategy for a new decade
5. Develop a forestry and timber skills plan for Scotland

Please send this to your local candidates.

Newly Published SG Docs

- 4th Land Use Strategy - Forestry referenced throughout
 - Key points include:
 - Economic resilience
 - Skills and training for new entrants
 - Critical value to the overall economy
- Climate Change Action Plan 2026-2040
 - Describes Forestry as critical to climate goals.
 - Highlights that forestry is one of the few sectors that can make effective cost savings to the Scottish carbon budget

TIMBER: AN ISSUE OF NATIONAL SECURITY AND ECONOMIC RESILIENCE

- Formal inclusion of timber supply metrics within the National Security Risk Assessment
- Establish a cross-government Timber Security Taskforce reporting to the Cabinet Office
- Provide Treasury-backed 20-year certainty on productive woodland incentives.
- Recognise wood processing within the Industrial Strategy as strategic manufacturing.
- Commit to annual public reporting on timber import dependency and domestic capacity

Dates for your calendars: Confor Update

- CRG meeting 19th May – issues to raise to me by early May.
- FEG – Early Sept at Gretna
- APF – Late Sept
- Policy Conference 3rd Dec



Thanks for listening!
Safe trip home

