

LONG-TERM FOREST ECOSYSTEM RESEARCH LWF¹

DATA ACCESS POLICY

Environmental data must be collected and analysed to understand the elements of our natural environment, how they interact, and how they change over time. LWF supports and encourages the full and open sharing of environmental science data for research and education. Such sharing enhances advancement of scientific and technical knowledge for education, economic advancement and public safety. Since measurements of ecological quantities cannot in general be repeated, earth and space data should be preserved, documented, and archived for future generations.

The success of scientific international co-operative programmes such as the Long-term forest Ecosystem Research LWF depends on an unprecedented sharing of scientific data and information.

Our intentions are to make our data as freely available as possible (see [guidelines for acceptable use of LWF data](#)). Our data sets consist of short- and long-term research study data with accompanying documentation (metadata). We encourage the use of our data sets, but as a professional courtesy we ask that data users read and agree to the terms of our data use agreement contained in our data access policy.

It is considered a matter of professional ethics to acknowledge the work of other scientists that results in data used in subsequent research. Therefore, LWF researchers request appropriate citation and acknowledgement for subsequent distribution or publication of any work derived from these data sets. Data users are strongly encouraged to consider consultation, collaboration and/or co-authorship with original investigators.

DISCLAIMER:

While substantial efforts are made to ensure the accuracy of data and documentation, complete accuracy of data sets cannot be guaranteed. All data are made available "as is". The LWF shall not be liable for damages resulting from any use or misinterpretation of data sets.



¹ Swiss contribution to the International Co-operative Programme on the Assessment of Air Pollution Effects on Forests in Europe ICP Forests

GUIDELINES FOR ACCEPTABLE USE OF LWF DATA

- Data access is given after submission of an official request (including a copy of the research proposal and/or other information about the data use) to:

Norbert Kräuchi
Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow
and Landscape Research WSL
Forest Ecosystems and Ecological Risks Division
Zürcherstrasse 111
CH-8903 Switzerland

- While LWF will make every effort possible to control and document the quality of the data it publishes, the data are made available "as is." LWF cannot assume responsibility for damages resulting from misuse or misinterpretation of datasets or from errors or omissions that may exist in the data.
- It is considered a matter of professional ethics to acknowledge the work of other scientists that has resulted in data used in subsequent research. LWF expects that any use of data from this server will be accompanied with the appropriate citations and acknowledgments.
- LWF encourages users to contact the original investigator responsible for the data that they are accessing. Where appropriate, researchers whose projects are integrally dependent on LWF data are encouraged to consider collaboration and/or co-authorship with original investigators.
- Two copies of any publication resulting from the use of data obtained have to be submitted to the address above.
- LWF requests that users do not redistribute data obtained upon request or from our web page. However, links or references to this site may be freely posted.

GENERAL CITATION

Data sets were provided by the Long-term Forest Ecosystem Research Programme LWF, a partnership between the Swiss Federal Institute of Forest, Snow and Landscape Research WSL and the Swiss Federal Agency of Environment, Forest and Landscape SAEFL.

By using LWF data and documentation, the Data User agrees to abide by the terms of this agreement. LWF shall have the right to terminate this agreement immediately by written notice upon the Data User's breach of, or non-compliance with, any of its terms. The Data User may be held responsible for any misuse that is caused or encouraged by the Data User's failure to abide by the terms of this agreement.

Thank you for your cooperation. We hope your collaboration with our Research Platform is a productive one!

Norbert Kräuchi

Project leader LWF

<http://www.wsl.ch/forest/risks/riskshome-en.ehtml>