

Agreement on the use of LWF Data

between the Long-term Forest Ecosystem Research Programme LWF of WSL, represented by the persons responsible for the surveys listed in Table 1 (i.e. data providers, principal investigators, PIs), and the data users listed in Table 3, concerning the use and dissemination (Table 2) of the LWF data specified in Table 1. To encourage their use and promote collaboration among experts worldwide, the data are freely available under the following conditions set out in *Conditions*.

Table 1: LWF data and data providers responsible for the surveys (PIs)

LWF survey	Period, aggregation, sites	Persons responsible for surveys (PIs) First name, family name, date

Table 2: Data use and dissemination

Project title		
Duration	Start:	End:
Objectives (Description)		
Methods (Description)		
Publications, products		
Working title		
Potential authors		
Targeted journal (e.g. <i>Nature</i>)		
Milestones and dates (e.g. <i>Draft, 1.8.2012</i>)		
Data storage at WSL		

Table 3: Data users (all persons who will have access to the data)

Institute, First name, family name, ORCID, Researcher ID, etc.	Email, phone	City, date, signature

Conditions

Legal basis

1. This agreement is based on the data access policy of the Long-term Forest Ecosystem Research Programme (LWF), the data policy of WSL and the Swiss regulations on intellectual property (SR 231.1).

Data

2. This agreement applies to the LWF data listed in Table 1 and disseminated within the framework of the project defined in Table 2.

Rules of fair data use

3. The data users (institutions and persons listed in Table 3) use the data solely for the purpose stated in Table 2. In the case of a change or extension of the above-listed purpose, the data providers ask for a new agreement.
4. Providing the data to the data users does not include the right to share these data with third parties other than specified in Tab. 3 or any data platforms or repositories. This restriction is important to prevent inconsistencies between datasets.
5. The data users must contact the data providers in the case of data use takes longer than 6 months after the project end as indicated in Tab. 2. This is to ensure that the last version of the data is available. The data users must delete all LWF data and data derived therefrom except those data which form an integral part of the publications. This is again to avoid inconsistencies between datasets.
6. Competing interests: If the data users' work directly competes with the current data providers' analysis, the data providers may ask for the opportunity to submit a manuscript before the data users' manuscript submission.
7. All data rights remain with WSL.
8. User information related to the data request is stored within a WSL database and shared with third party if not disagreed by the user (see GDPR 2018). Please let us know if your address is changing.

Publications, citation, acknowledgement and authors

9. Please acknowledge the data source as a citation or in the acknowledgements if no data set related citation is available. Please use the following citation:

„Evaluations were based on data from the Swiss Long-term Forest Ecosystem Research programme LWF (www.lwf.ch), which is part of the UNECE Co-operative Programme on Assessment and Monitoring of Air Pollution Effects on Forests ICP Forests (www.icp-forests.net). We are in particular grateful to X who provided the Z data.“

Possible reference: Schaub M, Dobbertin M, Kräuchi N, Kaennel Dobbertin M (2011) Preface-long-term ecosystem research: understanding the present to shape the future. *Environ. Monit. Assess.* 174:1-2.

For the German and French version, see <https://www.wsl.ch/de/wald/waldentwicklung-und-monitoring/langfristige-waldoekosystemforschung-lwf/daten/datenanfrage.html> and <https://www.wsl.ch/fr/foret/evolution-et-suivi-de-la-foret/recherches-a-long-terme-sur-les-ecosystemes-forestiers-lwf/donnees/demande-de-donnees.html>



10. Publications and products resulting from the project (Table 2) should be developed in collaboration with the data providers listed in Table 1. If the data providers (Table 1) feel that they should be acknowledged or offered co-authorship (under consideration of point 11), they will inform the users accordingly when receiving the request and ask for an agreement. The users might also proactively offer a scientific collaboration to the PIs listed in Table 1.
11. According to the Vancouver Protocol, the following criteria must be fulfilled for a WSL/LWF PI to be considered as co-author: a) conception and design or analyses and interpretation of data, b) drafting the article or revising it critically for important content, c) approval of the final version.
12. Upon conclusion of the project, sample copies of all publications and products (e.g. pdf files) should be sent to LWF@wsl.ch. Copyright fees are to be borne by the users, unless otherwise agreed.

Validated and derived data – service in return

13. Upon conclusion of the project, processed (i.e. cleaned, aggregated or validated) data, validation documentation, model parameterizations and scripts should be shared with LWF@wsl.ch. The processed data will be stored within the LWF data base. Upon reasoned request by the data users, this information can be temporarily blocked from further use.

Liability

14. The data are based on current scientific knowledge. However, no liability can be assumed for completeness, usability or freedom from error with respect to the data delivered.

Final provision

15. Amendments or additions to this agreement must be made in writing (including the non-application of the requirement of the written form) and agreed by all parties. Should any of the institutions being part of this contract become restructured, this agreement shall be valid for the new organisational units of the data users involved.