

**I FEEL
SLOVENIA**

Slovenia

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REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA KMETIJSTVO,
GOZDARSTVO IN PREHRANO



ZAVOD za GOZDOVE
SLOVENIJE



General information

Slovenia- very diverse in terms of terrain with forests covering more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the area with the inclination of more than 20 %, and as much as 90 % of the terrain with the inclination of more than 35 %.

Protective function and hydro-meteorological role of forests, are important because of the terrain conditions and abundant precipitations.

Ratios between the highest and lowest annual outflow of Slovenian waters indicate that the majority of Slovenian waters have torrential characteristics.

Without forests would be torrential characteristics strengthened considerably.



Slovenian mountain watershed policy

The main protective function that forests provide is **protection of forest land and stands from the effects of all types of erosion processes.**

Out of 17 forest functions in Slovenia, three are important on this matter; **protection** function (indirect protection), **“shielding”** function (direct protection), and **hydrological** function.

Hydrological function is connected to forest ability of high containing and filtration capacities of forest soil to prevent pollution of potable water sources and regulating water drain by mitigating raindrops erosion power. This function accounts for the 16 % of the area.

There are three foremost documents relative to forest and water: the Act on Forests, Water Act and Environment protection Act. All documents dictate the general environmental treat.

Moreover, the Act on Forests stipulate **hydrologic, protective and protection function have to be specified, estimated and spatial limited in forest management plans.** In hydrological sensitive areas special measures in forestry must be taken to preserve forest sites and their positive influence on water resources.



Risk management

Specific problems in the management of protective forests are avalanches, rockfall, debris flow and landslides, as well as torrents.

Torrents are not always properly supervised or controlled, and as a result extreme weather events can cause negative effects of forest management (e.g. logjam in torrent).

Solution to this subject lies in properly amended legislation that would give authority to the public forest service to clear timber from torrents.



Mountain challenges

- Intensification of proper forest management
- climate change, forest fires
- bark beetle calamities
- windthrow, ice sleet

Focus in the future could be concentrated on active forest management, to establish the structure of forest that will provide long term protective, “shielding” and hydrological function.

Challenges will be addressed by research, to increase the knowledge, and by establishing forest policy or forest dialog, that provides the conditions for the implementation of silvicultural and other measures to enhance the stability and the protective role of forests. Some measures are funded.



Additional information

General:

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Thank you