

Forest management plans in Slovenia

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Forests in Slovenia cover 58% of the country



Photo H. Kraigher



Photo A. Marinšek



Photo L. Kutnar



Photo B. Rantaša



Photo M. Čater



Forests management principles are embedded in the law

Sustainability

Use of forests and forest lands in a way, and at a rate, that fulfills, now and in the future, relevant ecological, economic and social functions.

Multifunctionality

Ecological, economic and social functions of forests are fulfilled at the same time and space.

Close-to-Nature Forest Management

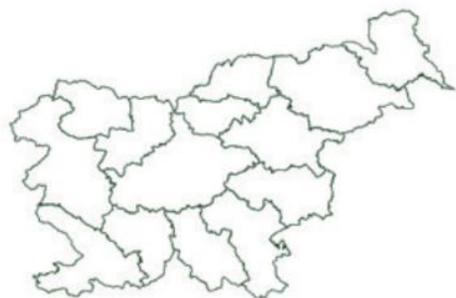
Forest management methods that promote conservation of natural forest structure by mimicking natural processes.



Forest management planning in Slovenia is mandatory for public and private forests.

HIERARCHICAL ORGANISATION OF FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANNING IN SLOVENIA

NATIONAL FOREST PROGRAMME



Regional forest management plans

14 forest management regions
area ~ 100.000 ha



Forest management plans for forest management units

231 forest management units
unit size ~ 5.000 ha



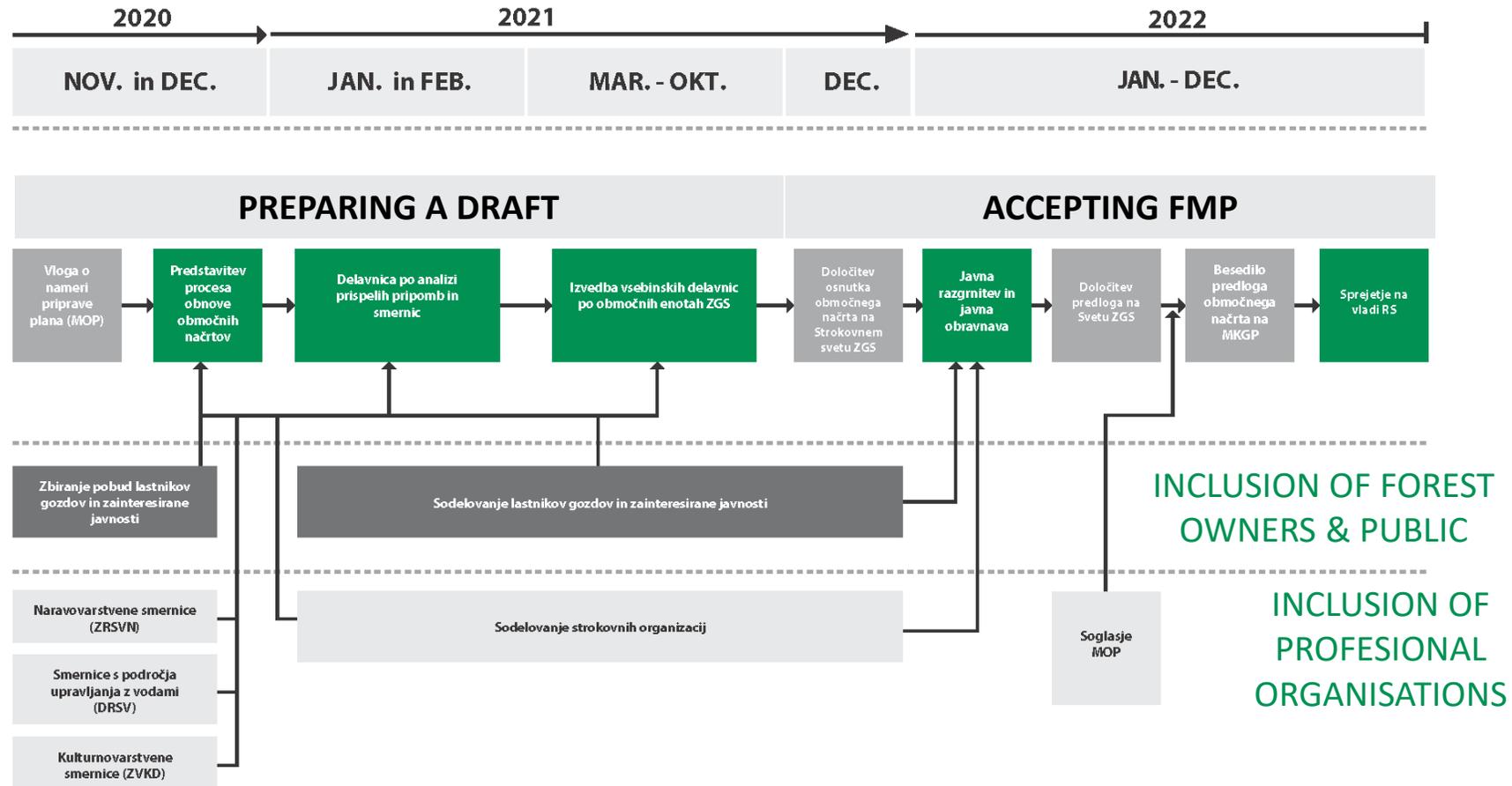
Silvicultural plans

over 50.000 forest departments
department size 5 – 100 ha

RENEWAL EVERY 10 YEARS



Involving stakeholders - participatory approaches are embedded into legislation.



BIOGOV improved stakeholder participation (staff capacities & tools, primarily in digital environments)

FMP process activity	Period	Participants	
		Stakeholders	Internal
Introductory presentation of the process	dec. 20	120	
Collecting public initiatives	dec. 20	131	
Online stakeholder workshops - forest management (14x)	maj. 21	419	269
On site stakeholder workshops (14x)	sep. 21	244	
Public survey - forest and game management goal priorities	jul. 21	621	
	TOTAL	1613	513
		2126	

Improved participatory governance & tools for preparation of forest management plans directly affecting OP priority 2.6.4 Protecting and restoring biodiversity and soil and promoting ecosystem services, including through Natura 2000, and green infrastructure

This has helped to further improve biodiversity conservation, including in the case study area, where stakeholders have benefited from a better understanding of the importance of biodiversity and its conservation principles.

SLOVENIAN FORESTS – THE HOME OF BIODIVERSITY

- Over 200 forest vegetation units (forest associations) are the basis for Slovenian forest management planning.
- There are 171 forest reserves in Slovenia with a total area of 9,426 ha.
- The first forest reserve in Slovenia was declared in 1892 – Rajhenavski rog Forest reserve in the Kočevska region.
- 14 forest reserves are old-growth forests, 2 are part of the UNESCO world natural heritage.
- Natura 2000 areas comprise nearly half of Slovenian forests. Forests represent over 70% of Natura 2000 areas in Slovenia.
- The conservation of 43 animal species, 5 plant species and 11 forest habitat types within the Slovenian Natura 2000 forests is of European importance.
- Slovenian forests are home to over 1000 bears, 100 wolves and 20 lynxes. The populations of brown bear and wolf are in a favourable conservation status.



Forest regeneration:

- 95% of Slovenian forests regenerate naturally.
- In 2020, 1.9 million seedlings of 30 tree species were planted in a forest area greater than 700 ha.
- Forest tending and regeneration works were performed in a forest area greater than 2,283 ha.

THERE ARE OVER 70 TREE SPECIES PRESENT IN SLOVENIAN FORESTS.

Tree species composition:

