

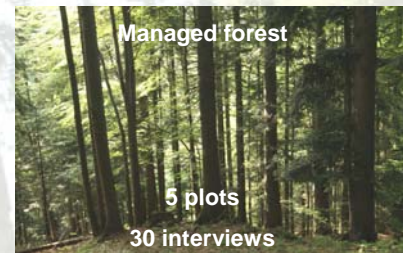
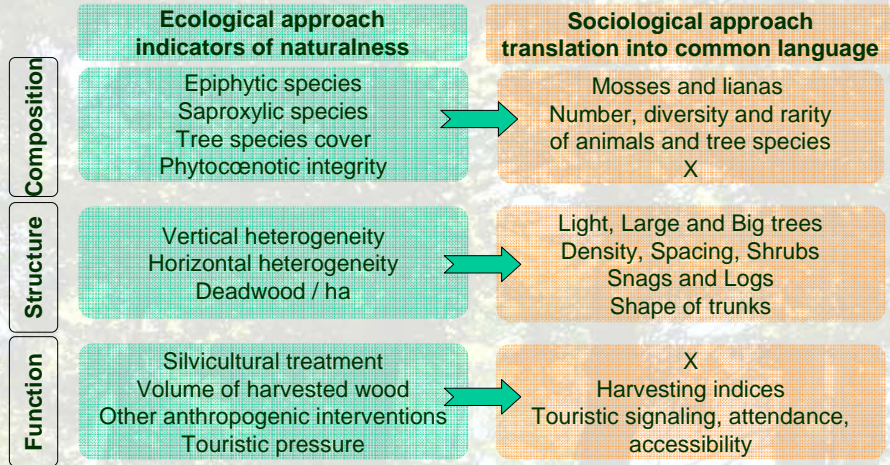
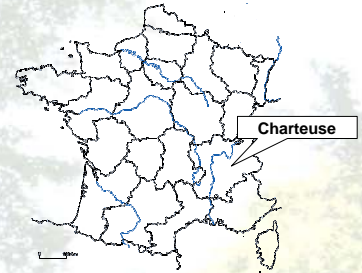
« Into the Wild » : When ecological and sociological perceptions of forest naturalness converge

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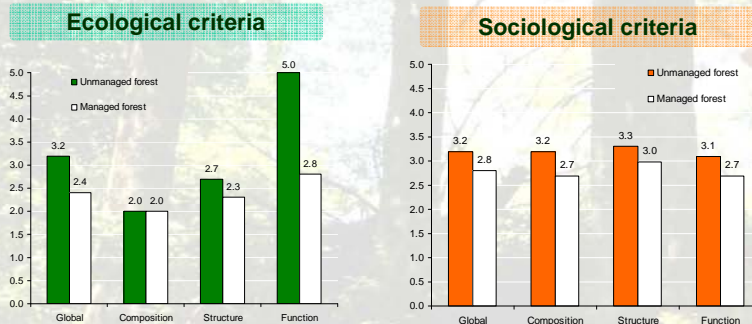
Do public and scientists see the same forests?



A pluridisciplinary approach of forest naturalness



Public and scientific perceptions appear to converge



Social and ecological perceptions of forest naturalness showed the same variations in terms of Composition, Structure and Function

Naturalness vs. wildness: Do public and scientists look at the same things?

Despite the observed convergences, **some scientific terms could not be fully transposed** and some indicators of naturalness diverged between scientists and general public.

The general public seems to be able to differentiate between **degrees of naturalness**, but may perceive **strong wildness** in areas with a strong human footprint. On the contrary, scientist may find **high naturalness values** in areas almost devoid of wildness.

Involving the general public in forest conservation issues could enhance understanding and avoid potential conflict.

