



Status of Forest Biodiversity in the Western Balkans

Bosnia and Herzegovina: Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina

13th – 15th of November,
Skopje, North Macedonia

How forest biodiversity has been addressed by forest policy in your country/territory?

- More than 5.000 species and subspecies of vascular plants, more than 100 species of fish, over 320 species of birds have been identified in BiH.
- 30% of the total endemic flora of the Balkans (1.800 species) is found in BiH (NEAP 2003)
- Based on the estimates made during the creation of the preliminary list of species for the Red Book, and in compliance with the IUCN categorization, it was found that over 600 species and subspecies of the flora of BiH belong to one of the levels of threat.



How forest biodiversity has been addressed by forest policy in your country/territory?



Pinus mugo



Saxifraga marginata

- **General Part of the FBiH Forestry Program** (Study: Preservation of stability and improvement of forest ecosystems)
- In addition to standard elements and chapters, the Forest Management Plan (FMP) should include:
 - Detailed assessment of biodiversity
 - Concrete measures for biodiversity preservation and improvement
 - Ban on cutting and collecting endemic and endangered plant species
- **General Part of the FBiH Forestry Program** (Study: Management of karst)
 - Karst areas are recognized of exceptional importance for the preservation of biodiversity (identification of rare, endangered and threatened species)

How forest biodiversity has been addressed by forest policy in your country/territory?



- **Forest management plan** (High conservation value forests)

The Six High Conservation Values

HCV 2 Landscape-level ecosystems and mosaics, and IFL

Large landscape-level ecosystems, ecosystem mosaics and Intact Forest Landscapes that are significant at global, regional or national levels, and that contain viable populations of the great majority of the naturally occurring species in natural patterns of distribution and abundance.

HCV 1 Species diversity

Concentrations of biological diversity including endemic species, and rare, threatened or endangered species (RTE), that are significant at global, regional or national levels.

HCV 6 Cultural values

Sites, resources, habitats and landscapes of global or national cultural, archaeological or historical significance, and/or of critical cultural, ecological, economic or religious/sacred importance for the traditional cultures of local communities or indigenous peoples, identified through engagement with these local communities or indigenous peoples.



HCV 3 Ecosystems and habitats

Rare, threatened, or endangered ecosystems (RTE), habitats or refugia.

HCV 4 Ecosystem services

Basic ecosystem services in critical situations, including protection of water catchments and control of erosion of vulnerable soils and slopes.

HCV 5 Community needs

Sites and resources fundamental for satisfying the basic necessities of local communities or indigenous peoples (for livelihoods, health, nutrition, water, etc.), identified through engagement with these communities or indigenous peoples.

How forest biodiversity has been addressed by forest policy in your country/territory?

- **Decision on the creation, content and application of forestry management plans in FBiH** (Article 2 The forest management plan is adopted for a period of ten years and contains:
 - an introductory part with the reasons for adoption and a list of all cadastral parcels by cadastral municipalities that enter the forest management area;
 - forest condition at the time of editing;
 - analysis and evaluation of the previous forest management;
 - forest management and development plans in accordance with the classification of forests and forest land for the next planning period;
 - the amount and dynamics of felling by tree species in large timber and the structure of assortments;
 - scope and type of forestry works and forest protection works;
 - areas for biological reproduction of forests;
 - **measures to maintain and improve biodiversity and other ecological and social functions of forests;**
 - investments for the construction of forest roads, demining and other investments;
 - the use of secondary forest products and
 - the economic and financial analysis of forest management in the upcoming planning period.

Does forest biodiversity is part of the national forest inventory and forest management planning process?

- Forest management principles accent the importance of biodiversity
 - Limited focus on biodiversity in most subsequent Forest Management Plans (FMPs)
 - Minimal attention to specific conservation measures in FMPs
- Common approach by FMP authors:
 - General reference to biodiversity per Article 2 of the International Convention on Biodiversity
 - Inclusion of only a few general statements on preserving diversity
 - Lack of specific biodiversity strategies or measures
- Current state of biodiversity in forest management in Bosnia and Herzegovina
 - Biodiversity is included partialy in national forest management and inventory processes
 - Primary focus remains on timber production, productivity, and ecosystem stability

Does forest biodiversity is part of the national forest inventory and forest management planning process?

- Growing awareness of biodiversity's importance in forest management
- Recommendations to incorporate biodiversity indicators in forest planning
 - Identify areas of high conservation value
 - Implement measures to protect endemic and endangered species
 - Restrict logging and plant collection in sensitive areas
 - Gradual integration into forest management practices
- Ongoing need for:
 - Clearer strategies for biodiversity conservation
 - Improved implementation within forest management plans

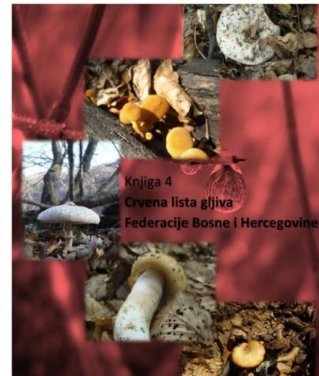
Do you have any instruction or biodiversity guidelines that support forest biodiversity monitoring? Please describe content in bullet points or give a pictures or link to document:



Red list of flora of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<https://www.fmoit.gov.ba/upload/file/okolis/Crvena%20lista%20Flore%20FBiH.pdf>



Red list of fauna of Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
<https://www.fmoit.gov.ba/upload/file/okolis/Crvena%20lista%20Faune%20FBiH.pdf>



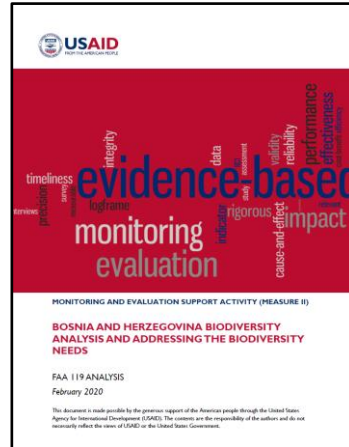
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<https://www.fmoit.gov.ba/upload/file/okolis/Crvena%20lista%20gljiva%20FBiH.pdf>



High conservation value forests in Bosnia and Herzegovina –
Guide for identification, management and monitoring
https://d2ouvy59p0dg6k.cloudfront.net/downloads/wwfhcvf_vodic_bih_verzija_za_web_1.pdf

Is there any intention or projects that foreseen introduction of forest biodiversity monitoring?

If yes, please give short content of project objectives:



USAID, 2020: Bosnia and Herzegovina biodiversity analysis and addressing the biodiversity needs

Sustainability of protected areas

SPA Project objective



GEF

Achieve **practical improvement in the management of protected areas** in BiH, ensure a better status of biodiversity through strengthening resilience to the climate change impact and financial sustainability of protected areas.

CONCLUSIONS



Bosnia and Herzegovina's forests are rich in biodiversity

Currently, limited biodiversity - focused management in place

Steps are underway to improve biodiversity integration

Full integration of biodiversity conservation in forest management remains in early stages