Expert input sheet

Conservation and management of Continental Woodland and forest in Poland

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Habitat(s):
91E0 - Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior (Alno-Padion, Alnion incanae, Salicion albae); 91F0 - Riparian mixed forests of Quercus robur, Ulmus laevis and Ulmus minor, Fraxinus excelsior or Fraxinus angustifolia, along the great rivers (Ulmenion minoris)

Biogeographical region:
Continental

Member state:
Poland

Region(s) (if applicable):
Małopolska province

Issues and pressures
1. Significant undergrowth occupation by a foreign species of origin (Rudbeckia laciniata), especially in the overexposed parts of the stands. The occurrence of specimens of alien species in some stands (black locust, Canadian and Californian poplar).

2. The gradual drying of habitat leading to its evolution in the direction of riparian forests of oak and elm-ash. As a result of the existence of a cascade of water reservoirs comes to lowering of the level of the riverbed in some sections and at the same time reducing the regular inundations.

3. Waste deposited in the water and transported by the waters.

Conservation requirements
1. Removal of unwanted species of plants - mainly Robinia pseudoacacia and hybrid taxa of poplars (Populus sp.).

2. Leaving gaps to be spontaneous succession.

Conservation management
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Species specific management:
No
Barriers and bottlenecks
1. Lack of cooperation with landowners and incomprehension from them; cutting trees without environmental assessment
2. Lack of state financing of active conservation
3. Lack of wish to realize active protection

Solutions and opportunities
1. More educational events, projects
2. Higher financial support from governmental institution for nature conservation

Cross cutting issues
1. Preparing in Polans forstry-environmental program for compensation of lost incomes for private forest owners.

Lessons learned / best practice
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Opportunities for joint action
1. methods taken to protect habitat

References
Project of management plan for Natura 2000 site Dolna Soła.