

## **MUSICAL CHAIRS!**

**Our aim is to achieve a healthy mixture.**

**Nowadays, if you speak of silviculture, you also have to include forest conversion and the energy revolution. In keeping with the site, close to nature, stable, efficient, renewable: adaptable forests convince in all aspects. With a view to species diversity, climate change, cost-effectiveness and sustainability.**



“We don’t plant any trees at all. The forest provides those for free. As long as there are a couple of old trees left, you only need to create the right conditions for the new generation to emerge. That saves a pile of money for planting, of course.”

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STEFAN BAUERNFEIND,  
FOREST DISTRICT LANDSBERG





## **FOR NATURE, WITH NATURE**

**Natural regeneration has better roots, a stronger footing in the ground and better growth. The next generation of trees develops from the seeds of the old trees. Desired tree species are specifically encouraged by silvicultural measures, the genetic resources of the forest are preserved.**



“It is quite possible that  
our grandchildren will get a  
better forest than the one  
inherited by my generation.”

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ALOIS GLÜCK, POLITICIAN






No worries about demographics:  
The oldest oaks in the Bavarian  
State Forests stand in the Spessart –  
and they are over half a millennium  
old. This young oak, on the other hand,  
only has three years under its belt.





A man with a grey beard, wearing a brown hat and a dark brown jacket, stands in a forest. He is leaning his right arm on a large tree trunk. A black and tan dog is sitting on the mossy ground to his right. The forest is lush with green foliage and tall trees in the background.

“The prognosis for Bavaria is that the climate will be around two degrees warmer by the end of the century, and that is why we are now already looking at regions in southeast Europe: The tree species that grow there without any difficulty will also be suited to our latitude in future.”

HUBERT DROSTE,  
HEAD OF THE FOREST DISTRICT  
ZUSMARSHAUSEN



# THIS IS HOW THE CHANGE GROWS



## 1 LARGE AND FORWARD-LOOKING

The Bavarian State Forest covers an area of 720,000 hectares, two-thirds of which were originally stocked with Norway spruce and other conifers. Climate change brought a change in our thinking: The forestry sector is preparing for it and is converting the pure coniferous stands into complexly structured mixed forests with a high percentage of deciduous trees.

## 2 STABLE AND MORE RELIABLE

Because forests cannot change overnight, planning has to be forward-looking. More violent storms on the one hand and more dry years on the other make life easier for the bark beetle, for instance – and in this case a pure stand is more vulnerable than a forest consisting of different tree species. In 2013 there were still 202,000 hectares of such pure stands in the State Forest. 70,000 hectares of these forests have already been regenerated in advance with climate-resilient tree species. By 2035 a further 132,000 hectares will be converted by means of planting, seeding and natural regeneration.

## 3 NATURAL AND COST-SAVING

Nature is a dedicated helper when it comes to forest conversion. Natural regeneration brings the forest a new generation of trees that fits and saves hard cash. Only every now and then trees have to be planted actively. Thereof 75 percent are deciduous, but also Silver firs and Douglas firs are being planted. On average, over 8000 m<sup>2</sup> of forest are converted into a mixed stand every hour.





The most recent generation of wind turbines have hub heights of over 100 m and can create renewable energy at the upper level of the forest. The sites have many advantages: they do not use much land, there is a lot of wind, particularly in the mid-range mountains, they are at a great distance from residential areas and they are more compatible with the landscape than in case of open-land sites.



Let there be wood! For young seedlings there is sometimes too much going on in the forest. To control the competition for space, all the important species are nurtured in nurseries until we can let them out into the wild.





In the Laufen seedling nursery, which is 12.5 hectares large, several hundred thousand trees a year push their way up into the world. Less than a third of the regeneration occurs as a result of planting or sowing – but that is the only way to change a clearing into a healthy wood after a storm.





# All natural

Every hour on average, an area of the forest bigger than the size of a football field is converted into a mixed stand:

8000

square metres





“Natural regeneration”  
of a slightly different kind.

“What I enjoy most is solving  
problems on the  
computer and to configure and  
administrate servers.”

—  
ALEXANDER NAGL

“I like being outside every day  
in all weathers. I particularly enjoy  
working with the chainsaw.”

—  
PATRICK WILLINGER

Investment in the future: Well-trained  
junior staff are indispensable  
for a modern company. That is why the  
Bavarian State Forest Enterprise  
offers training in five different occupa-  
tional areas, from forestry to IT.



“I like the forest in autumn best because it’s so nice how the leaves rustle.”

BRUNO, AN 11-YEAR-OLD PUPIL, DRAWS WHAT HE SEES AS AN IDEAL FOREST: WITH LOTS OF TOADSTOOLS, FIRS, SPRUCES – AND A HIGH PERCENTAGE OF DECIDUOUS TREES.





Whatever lasts a long time will be a good forest: Regeneration also means encouraging strong trees so that the forest of the future can grow under their canopies.

