



# „ Forestfireprotection in Poland and Europe”

# What is the forest fire protection?

A forest fire protection is a prevention of appearing of fires of forests. This action  

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consists on:

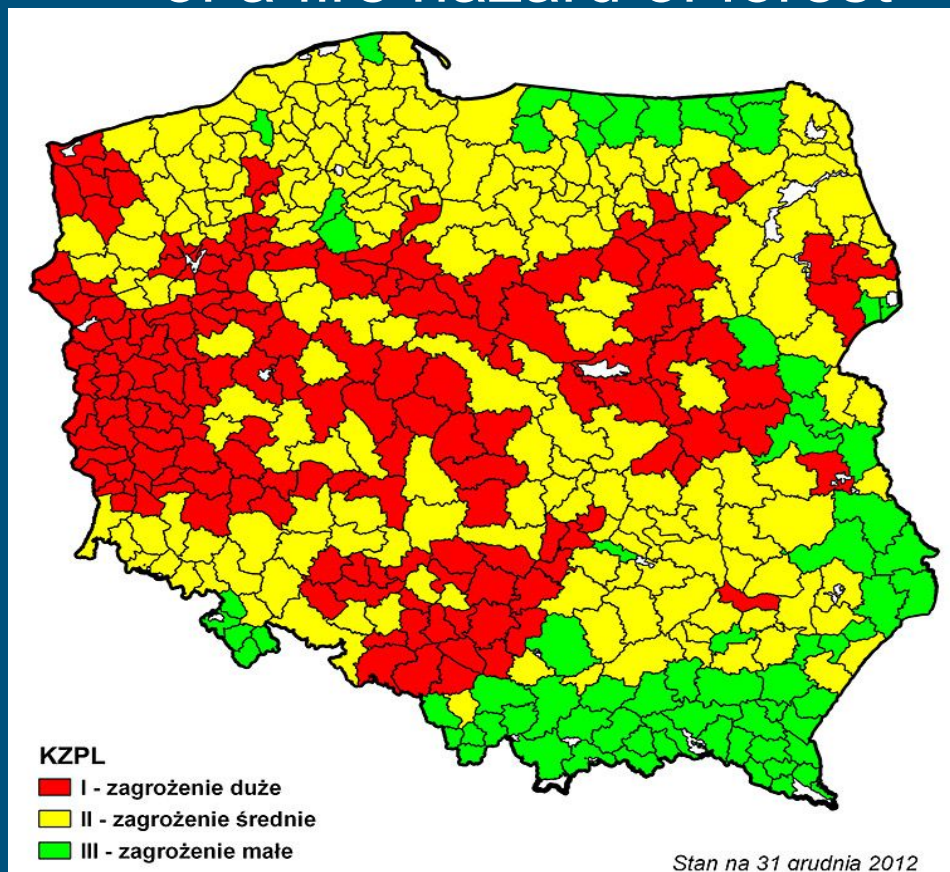
- of organisation of a network of observation and patrolling forests to the purpose of the detection of fires,
- of creating alarm-flexible points,
- of creating the network of the alarm-flexible contact
- of creating the transport system in forest complexes,
- of creating bases of the fire-fighting equipment,
- of organization of forest air stations,
- of developing manners of the forest district in the case of the fire,
- of appointing attorneys at Forestry Commissions in the objective of the organisation of firefighting actions.

# The classification of wooded areas in terms of a fire hazard

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They in terms of a fire hazard are effecting classification of wooded areas pursuant to the regulation of Environment secretary from 26 March 2006 on detailed principles of fire protecting forests. Classification was drawn up by a research institute of Forestry. The method of ranking forests among the category of a fire hazard enables classification of forest districts, regional managements of Sing., national parks, communes, districts, subregions and provinces. They are effecting ranking among the category a fire hazard of forest on the basis of observations of the environment in the course of years.

# Map of forest districts according to the category of a fire hazard of forest



Functionings of the created system of the fire protection are fundamentals:

- rapid detection of the fire,
- fast notifying rescue forces
- taking firefighting effective actions, when the fire is enveloping like the small size.

# The forest fire protection in Poland

Forests occupy 9,14 mln ha of surface of Poland, of which 83% is potentially endangered by fires. These fires are breaking out from the fault of people, because only 1% of fires arising as a result of atmospheric discharges. Therefore, the forest fire protection is especially important in Poland. Lids of the soil are overbalancing fires (85.5%). Remaining these are total fires (12.7%), subsurface fires (1.4%) and fires of single trees (0.4%). Total fires which they are embracing altogether are most dangerous as far as 24% of the hot surface.

Natural-forest conditions and human activity cause the growth of a fire hazard. It is forcing the need into creating effective system of the fire protection of forests, based on scientific bases. In National Forests an Instruction of the fire protection of forest, entered according to ordering the director-general is regulating the organization of the system of the fire protection with the day of 1 January of 2012 yr This system is based on analysis of the potential and dynamic threat of forest. The evaluation result of the potential threat is a base of connected action with preparing wooded areas in the case of the fire, but the dynamic threat (everyday forecast considering apt meteorological conditions) - with base of taking current protective actions by the forest civil service. Above all a rapid detection of a forest fire influences the effectiveness of the fire protection and the functioning of emergency services. A network of permanent lookouts and ground and air patrolling are clubbing together for the monitoring system. In National Forests located is 656 discernible fire, in it 226 equipped with television apparatus.





# Fire forest in Europe

On account of the number of fires of forests and the forest area Poland, behind Spain, and Portugal, belongs to these European countries, in which fires most often break out. These fires in the straight majority are caused by people. Scarcely the 1% is arising as a result of atmospheric discharges. Lids of the soil are overbalancing fires (85.5%). Remaining these are total fires (12.7%), subsurface fires (1.4%) and fires of single trees (0.4%). Total fires which they are embracing altogether are most dangerous as far as 24% of the hot surface.



## **IMPACTS OF FOREST FIRE**

- **Forest ecosystem**
- **Change in landscape**
- **Effect on photosynthesis**
- **Effect on food web**
- **Effect on seed capacity**
- **Effect on new recruits**
- **Loss of valuable timber resources.**
- **Degradation of catchment areas.**
- **Loss of biodiversity and extinction of plants and animals.**
- **Loss of wild-life, habitat and depletion of wild-life.**
- **Loss of natural regeneration and reduction in forest cover.**
- **Global warming.**
- **Loss of carbon sink resource and increase in percentage of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.**
- **Change in the microclimate of the area with unhealthy living conditions.**
- **Soil erosion affecting productivity of soils and production.**
- **Ozone layer depletion.**
- **Health problems leading to disease.**
- **Loss of livelihood for the tribal and rural poor, as approximately 300 million people (including 70 million tribal) are dependent upon collection of non-timber forest products from the forest areas for their livelihood.**

# We are thanking for attention

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# Sources

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