

# Montecuccoli Forest Estate „Gut Mitterau“ in Lower Austria

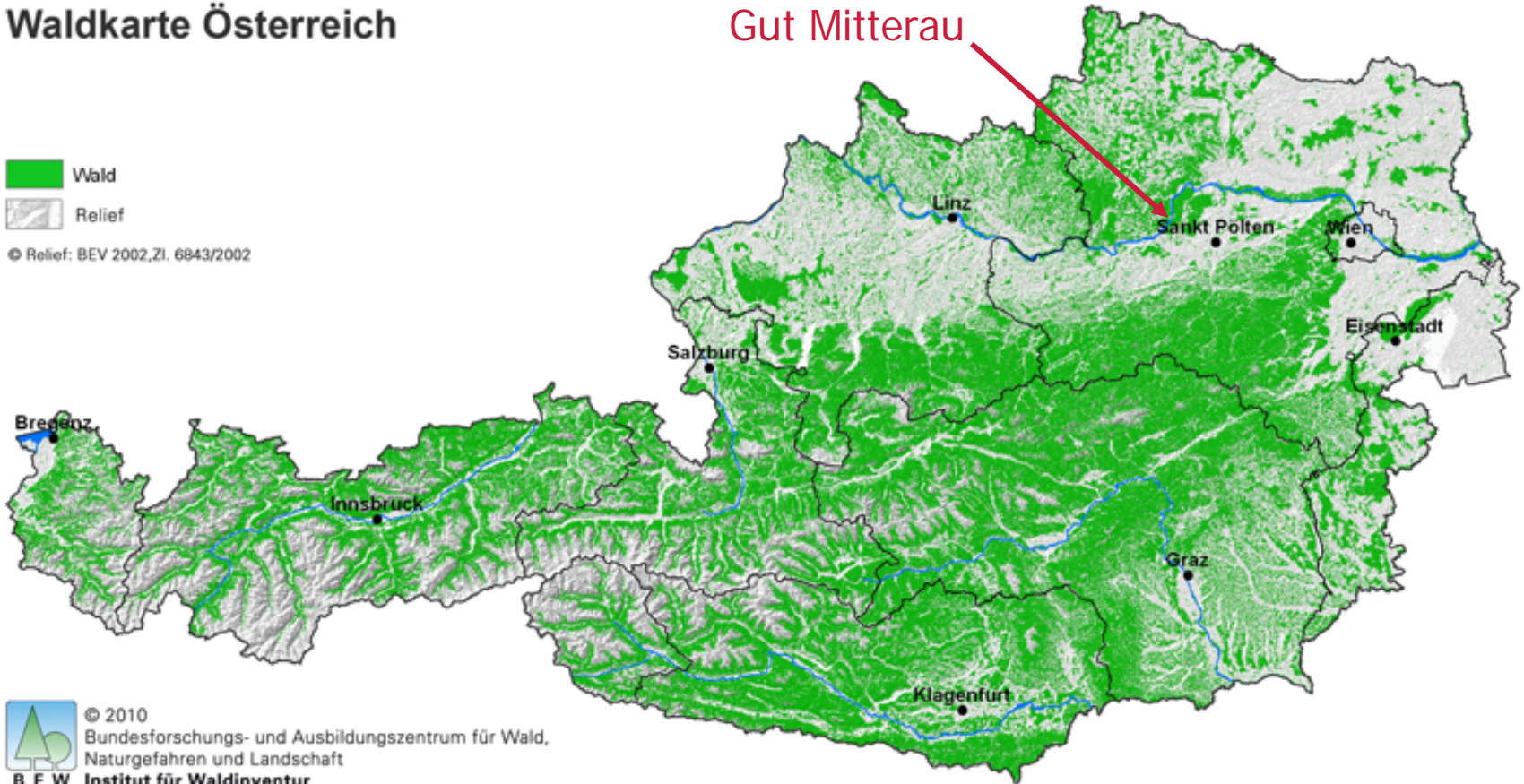


## Waldkarte Österreich



© Relief: BEV 2002, Zl. 6843/2002

Gut Mitterau

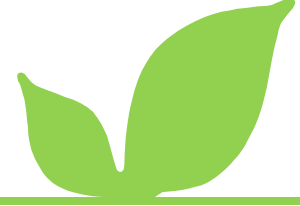


© 2010  
Bundesforschungs- und Ausbildungszentrum für Wald,  
Naturgefahren und Landschaft  
B F W Institut für Waldinventur



- bought in 1629 (documents can be found in the archive)
- 1848 loss of 70% due to the land reform after revolution
- economic difficulties after WW1 because of the value loss of government bonds
- 1938 end of fideicommissum
- 1945-1955 Expropriation by the Russian occupation administration
- 1955 starting the farm operation from zero

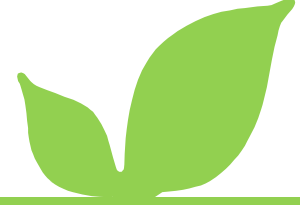
## 5 political systems & 6 different currencies



- Forest stands I harvest today were established by my great-grandfather in the **monarchy**, payed in **gulden**
- thinning was done by my grandfather during the **first Republic of Austria**, payed in **shilling**
- second thinning during **Deutsches Reich** payed in **Reichsmark**
- devastated by Russian soldiers to get firewood.

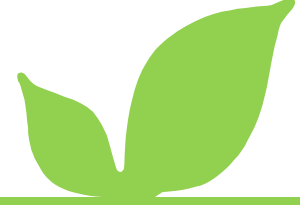
**5 different political systems and 6 different currencies during the last 100 years – or just one wood generation**

# Challenges today



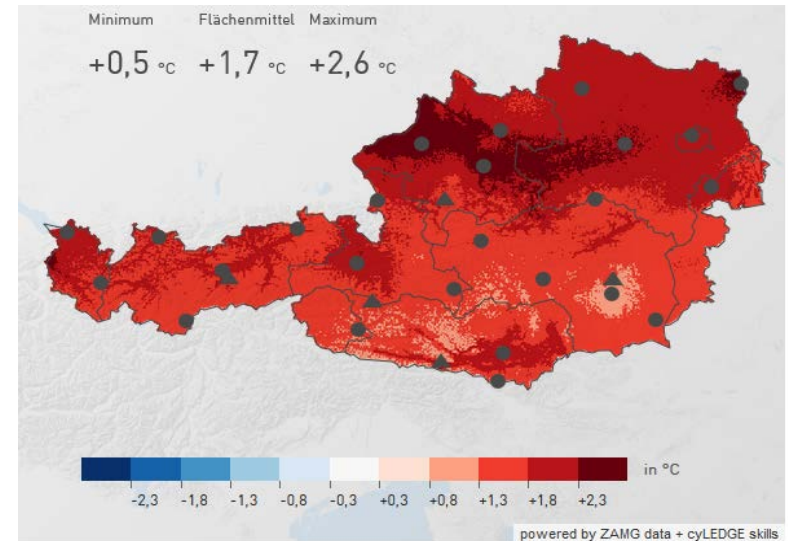
- drought, storm damage, heavy snowfall, extreme rainfalls  
→ **CLIMATE CHANGE**
- barkbeetles, ash disease, fungus on beech, insects on oak etc. raising administrative requirements to prove sustainability
- unclear role of forests to tackle climate change
- raising competition between desire of nature conservation and demand for wood





## Forests are doubly affected by the Paris Agreement:

- Global warming of 2 degrees will change forests especially in the Alps.
- Need for a lot of renewable energy-resources like biomass.
- Also material use and timber production play an important role as well as substitution of fossil-based raw materials.



Yearly average value of temperature 2018  
(Variation to the reference period 1981-2010)



- In many European countries, forests are old and already an important CO<sub>2</sub>-sink has happened, but there is not much more capacity for additional CO<sub>2</sub>-sequestration.
- A significant plus on the long term use of wood products and also producing energy out of wood will have a positive impact on GHG balance.
- Adapting European forests to the changes in site conditions needs an active forest management

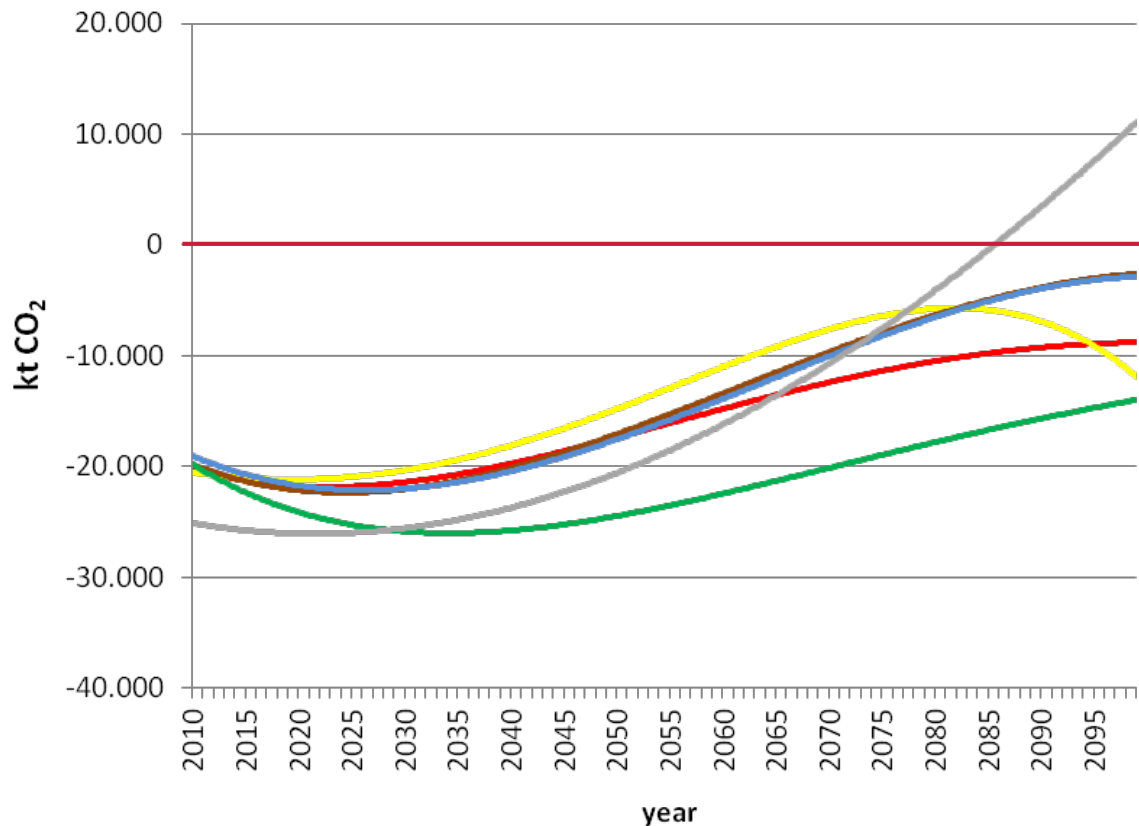
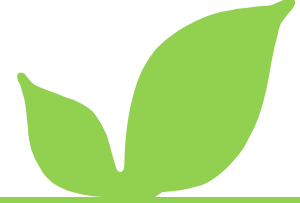


- Reduced forest management and harvest activities are the wrong way to tackle climate change.
- In the long-term, reduced or zero utilization of wood from the Austrian forest will have negative effects on the GHG balance.
- These effects are investigated in more detail in the ongoing FFG project “Care for Paris” (2017-2019).





# Effects on the GHG-balance



- R Reference Scenario
- 1a Increased logging due to biomass-for-energy policies
- 1b Increased logging due policies fostering increased material use
- 1c Increased logging due to policies fostering increased material use with optimistic import assumptions
- 2 Reduced utilization of timber from managed forests
- 0 Scenario with no utilization of timber (zero harvest)



PERSPEKTIVEN FÜR **umwelt**bundesamt<sup>e</sup>  
UMWELT & GESELLSCHAFT



**LAND & FORST**  
BETRIEBE ÖSTERREICH





**But forest owners need some help from society.**

**Therefore it will be necessary to have some forest-related measures in the RD-program.**