

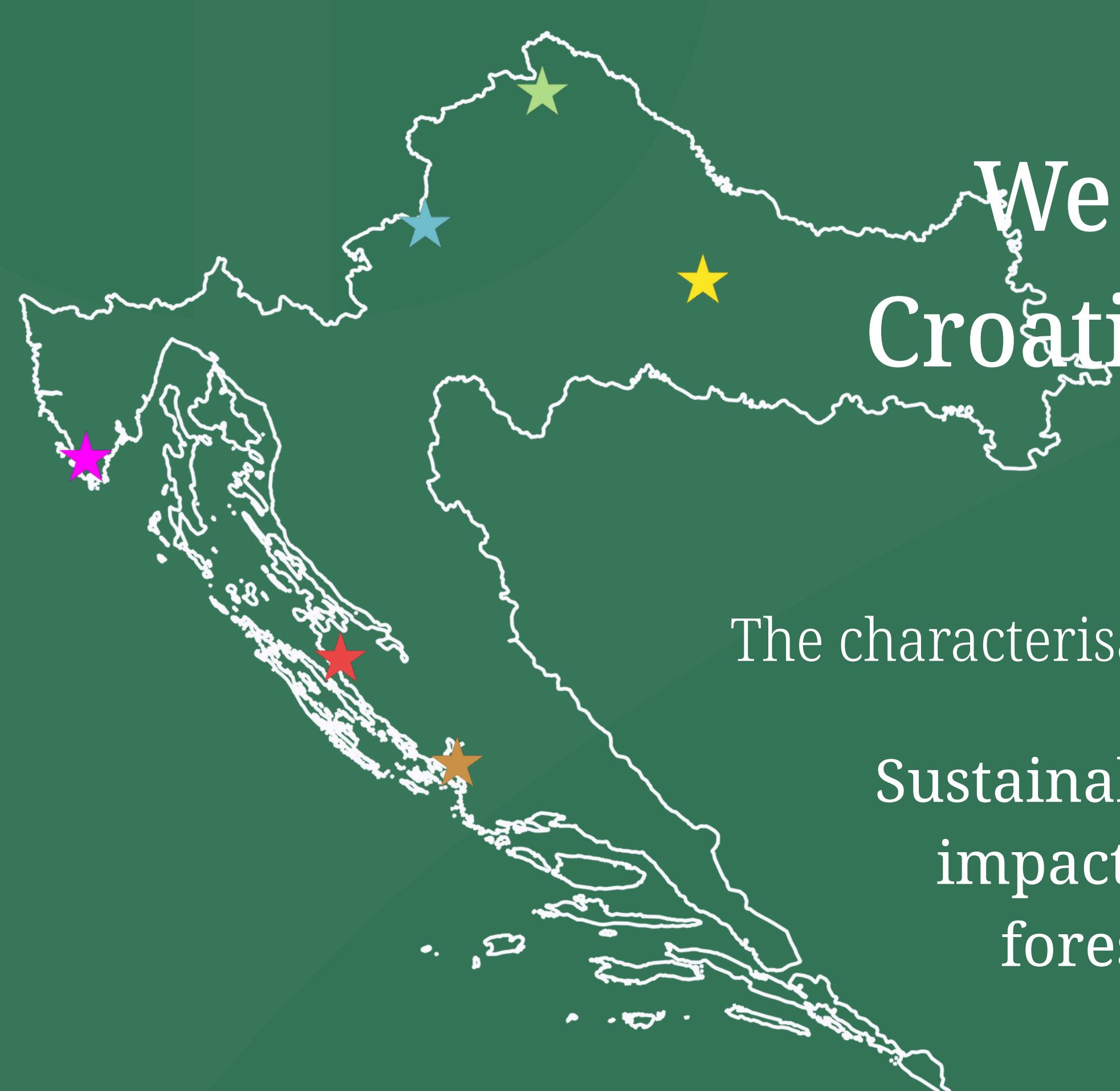
SAME, BUT DIFFERENT -

A CHARACTERIZATION OF SIX URBAN FORESTS IN CROATIA AND THE INFLUENCE OF MANAGEMENT ON FOREST ATTRIBUTES

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Urban forests are often mentioned as solutions to create cities that are resilient to the pressures of increasing population, higher temperatures, pandemics, weather extremes and natural disasters. Urban forests provide multiple benefits to the society - **improve people's physical and mental health, improve air quality and reduce noise, encourage residents to connect with nature**. Also, urban forests provide benefits for the environmental quality - **reduce the heat island effect, help regulate and drain stormwater, control erosion and sedimentation, and provide a habitat for wildlife and safeguard biodiversity**. In Croatia, urban forests are managed according to different protection status.



We characterized six different urban forests in Croatia to test the difference between management, protection status and forests' attributes.

The characterisation is based on observations, photo documentation and publicly available data.

Sustainable forest management increases the resilience of forests to the negative impacts of climate change and provides ecosystem services. Whereas, urban forest management must take into account public opinion as well as the characteristics of the forest.

	ŠIJANA FOREST-PARK	DRAVA FOREST-PARK	TEPEC-PALAČNIK FOREST-PARK	RIMSKA FOREST	MUSAPSTAN FOREST	ŠUBIĆEVAC FOREST
PROTECTED	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
WATER ELEMENTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VISITOR INFRASTRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UNEVEN-AGED FOREST	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PRESCRIBED FELLING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NATURA 2000	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

A common characteristic of all forests is the provision of ecosystem services. The distinction between forests is reflected in the prescribed forest management operations and protection category.

Given the common purpose of all characterised forests, a balance must be found between forest management and protection to ensure the continued provision of ecosystem services to humanity by healthy forests.

