

Restoring resilience in Mediterranean landscapes

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DEPT. ECOLOGY - MULTIDISCIPLINARY INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES

UNIV. ALICANTE (SPAIN)

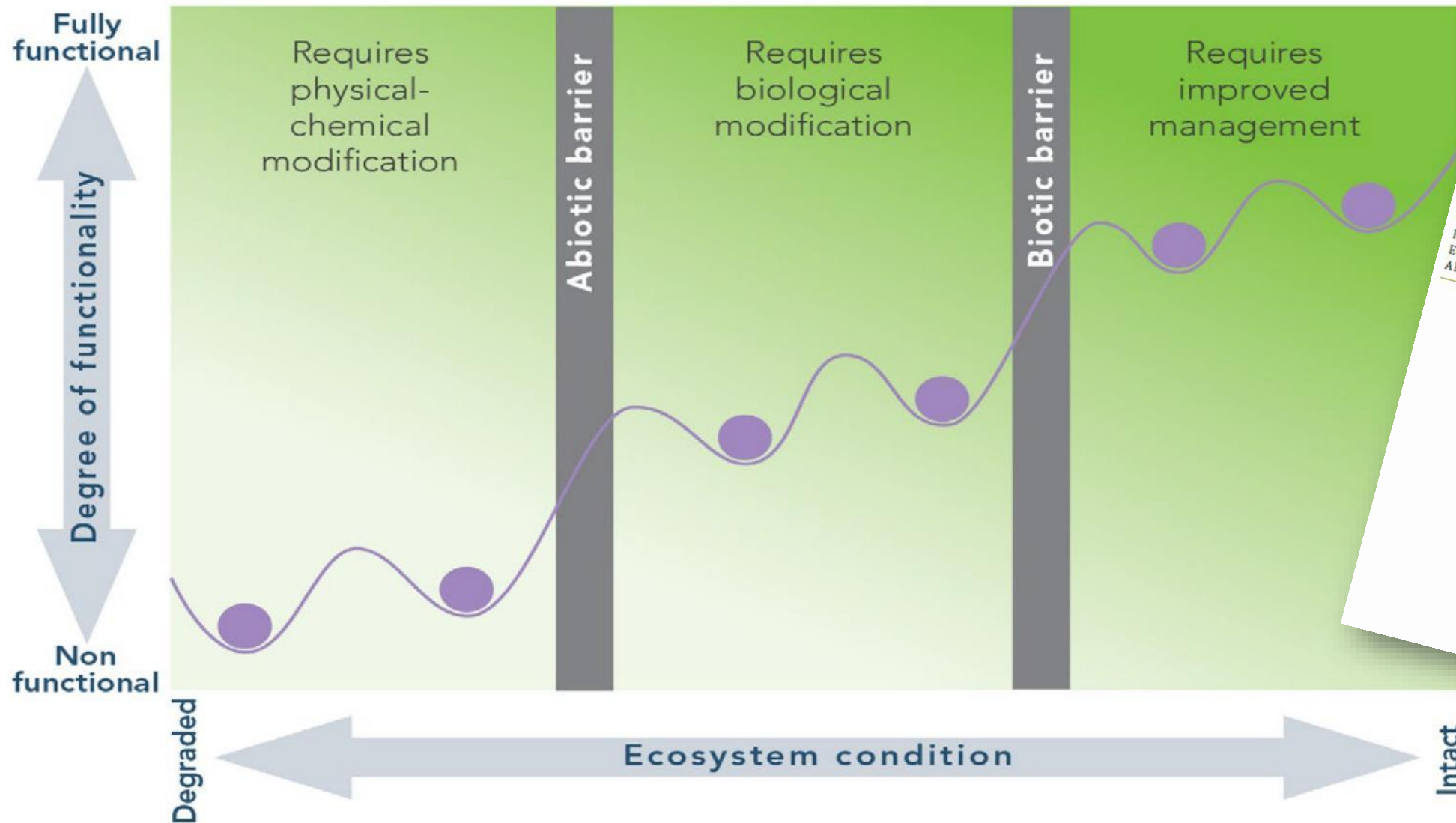


Restoring resilience in Mediterranean landscapes



- What's resilience in the context of Mediterranean landscapes?
- Biotic thresholds requiring no intervention (or passive restoration)
- Biotic thresholds requiring intervention
- Abiotic thresholds
- Increasing resilience under CC, assisted migration
- Resilience and society needs and aspirations

Resilience in the context of Mediterranean landscapes



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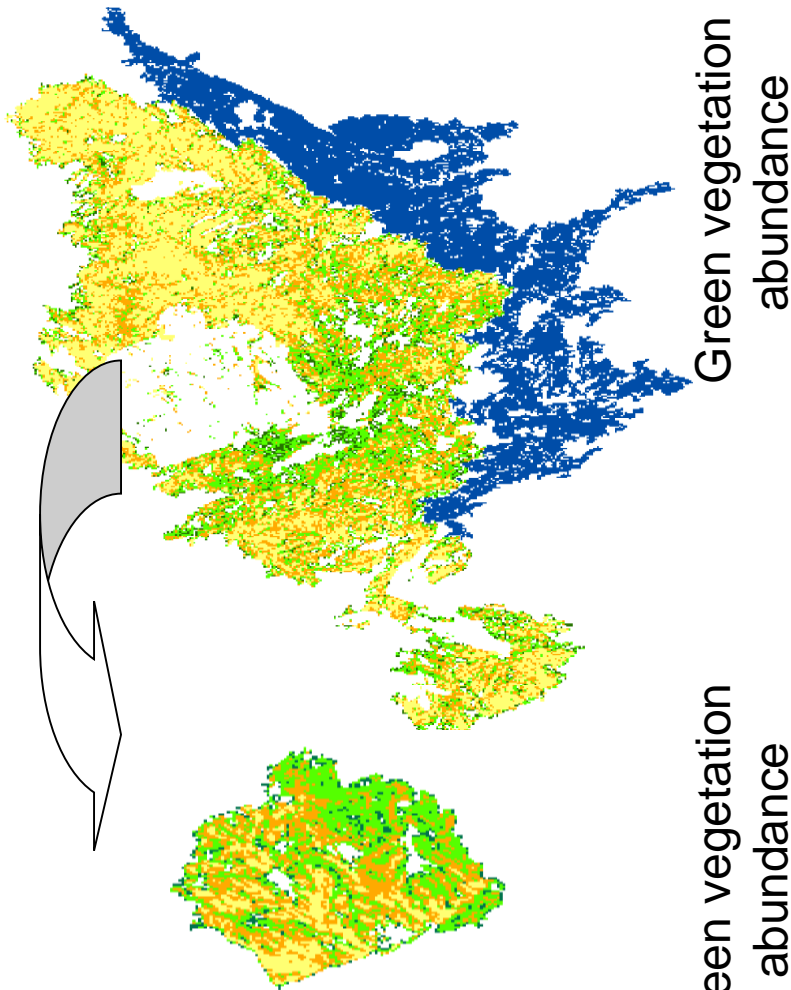
Biotic thresholds requiring no intervention



Biotic thresholds requiring no intervention

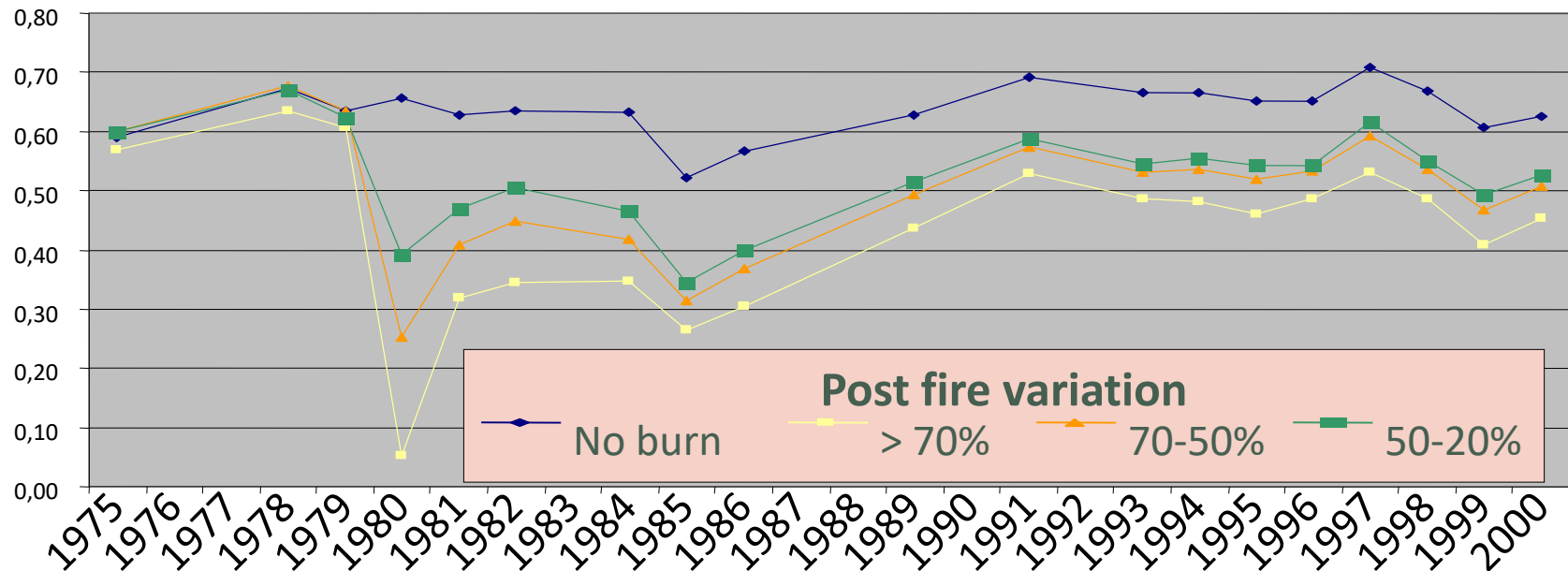
Old-fields colonised by *Juniperus phoenicea*

Limits to resilience

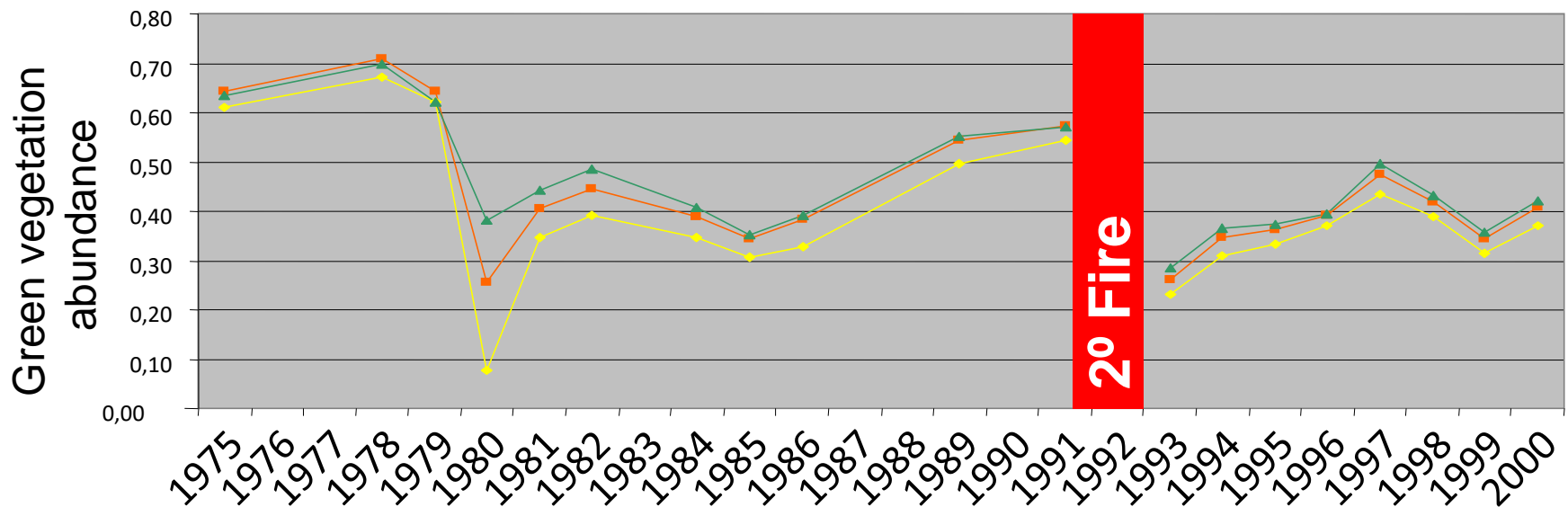


Spectral mixture analysis
based on Röder et al. 2008

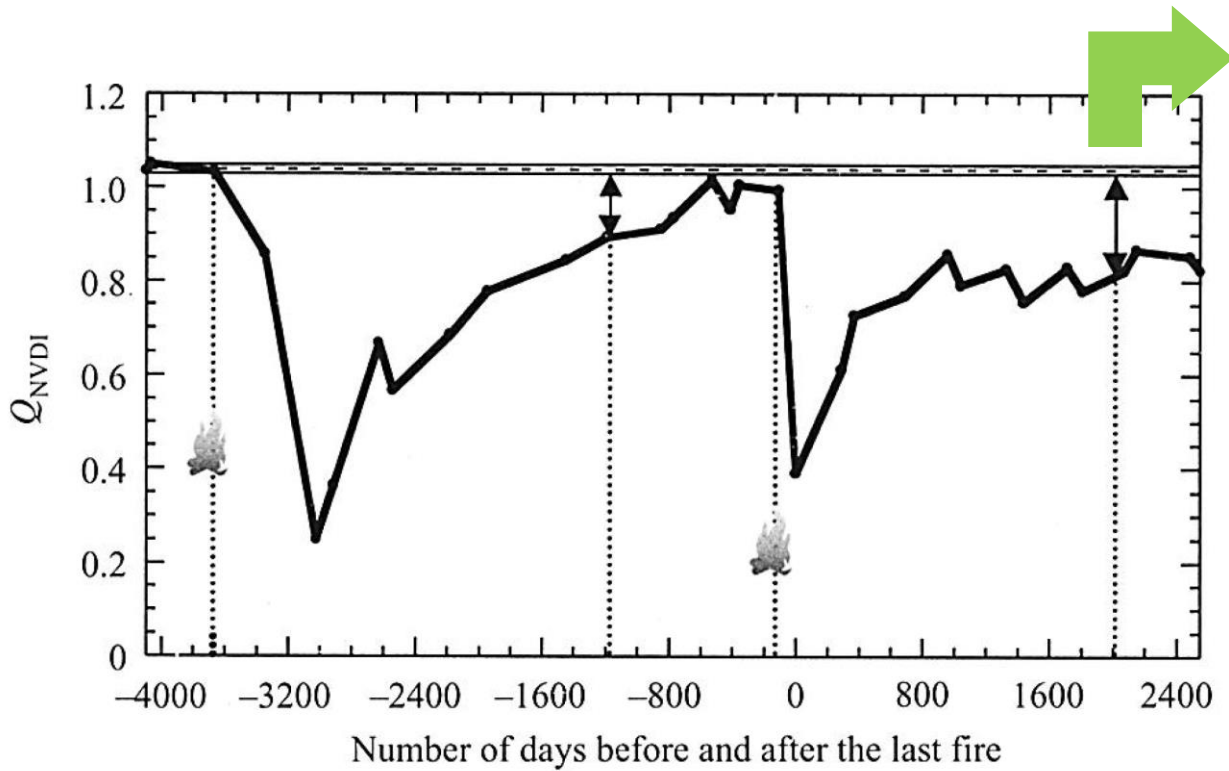
Areas burned once in 1978



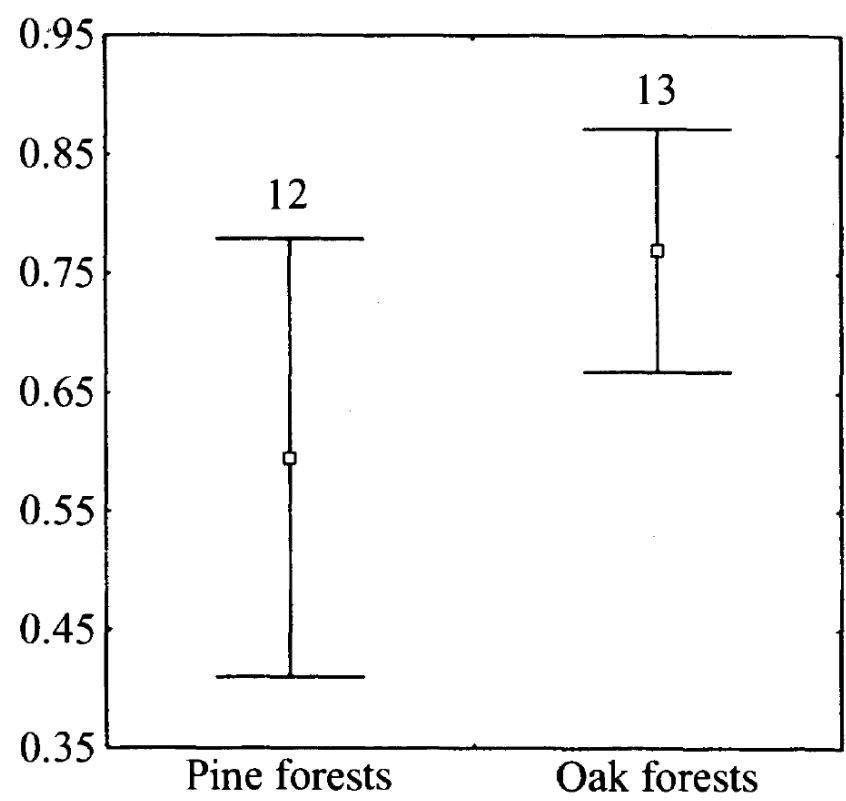
Areas burned in 1978 and 1991



Limits to resilience



Plant resilience 38 mo after second fire



Díaz-Delgado et al. (2002). Ecol. 83: 22293-2303

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Biotic thresholds requiring re-introduction



Valle de Ricote, Murcia

www.mma.es/portal/secciones/biodiversidad/montes_politica_forestal/fototeca_forestal/



Biotic thresholds requiring disturbance



SERRA ESPADÀ (CASTELLÓ, SPAIN)

Biotic thresholds requiring disturbance



Control (**CONTR**)

Spot cleared (**SPOT**)

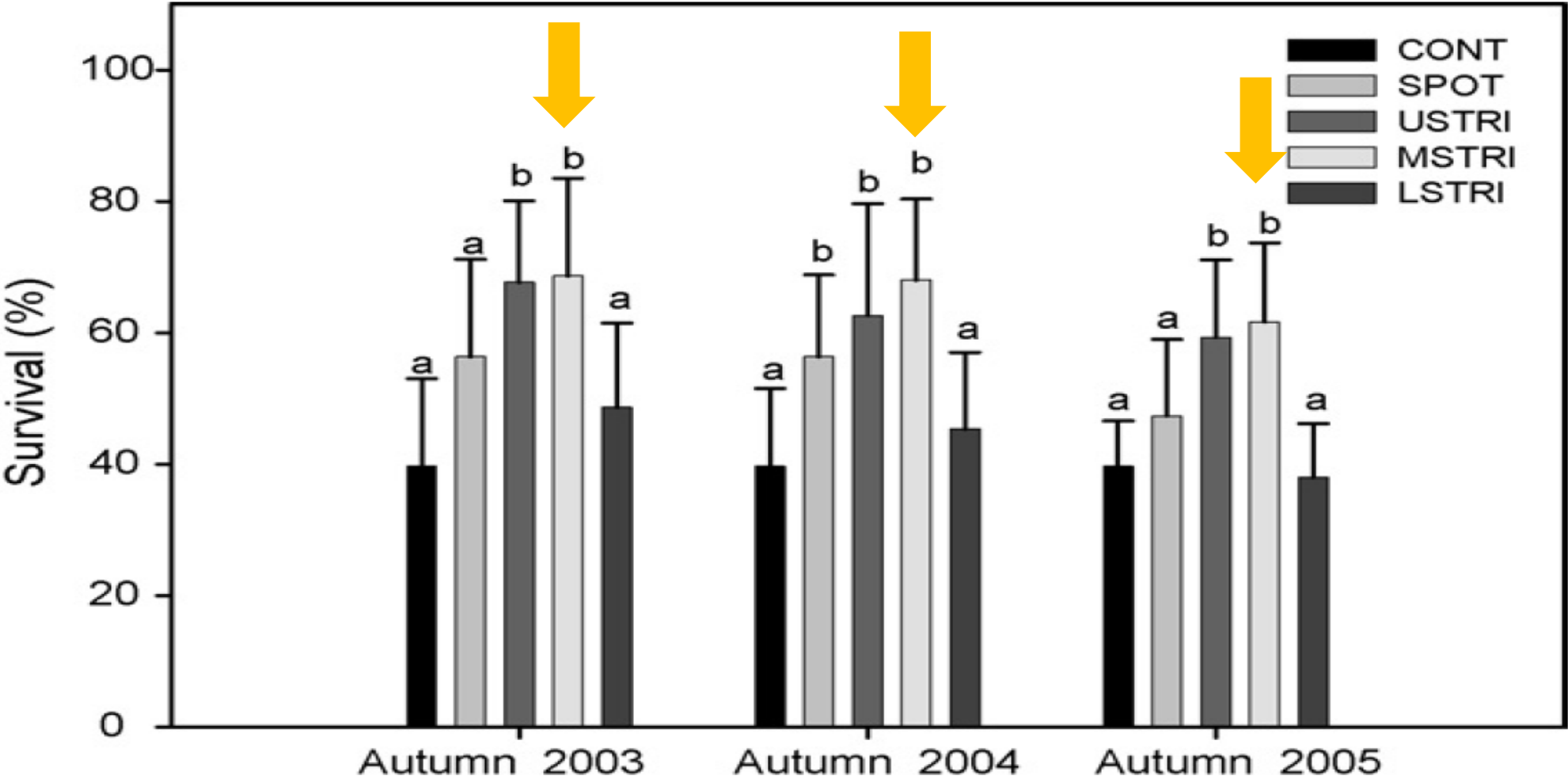
Strip cleared-planted downslope (**LSTRI**)

Strip cleared-planted midslope (**MSTRI**)

Strip cleared-planted upslope (**USTRI**)

Biotic thresholds requiring disturbance

most exposed



Pérez-Devesa et al. (2008). For. Ecol. Manage. 255: 374-386.

Biotic thresholds requiring changes in structure/disturbance



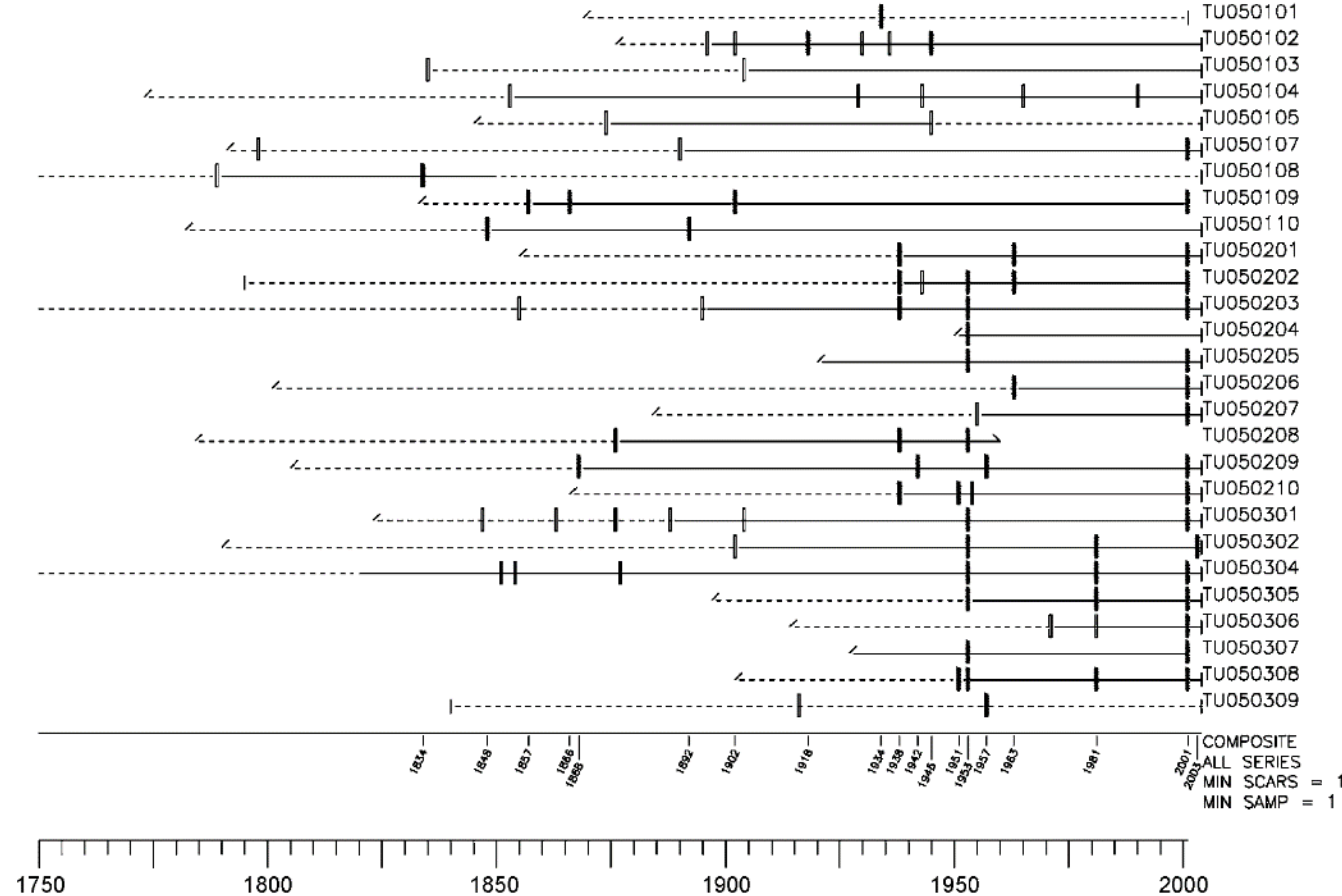
Tapias et al.(2001)



FW
Mediterranean
Week

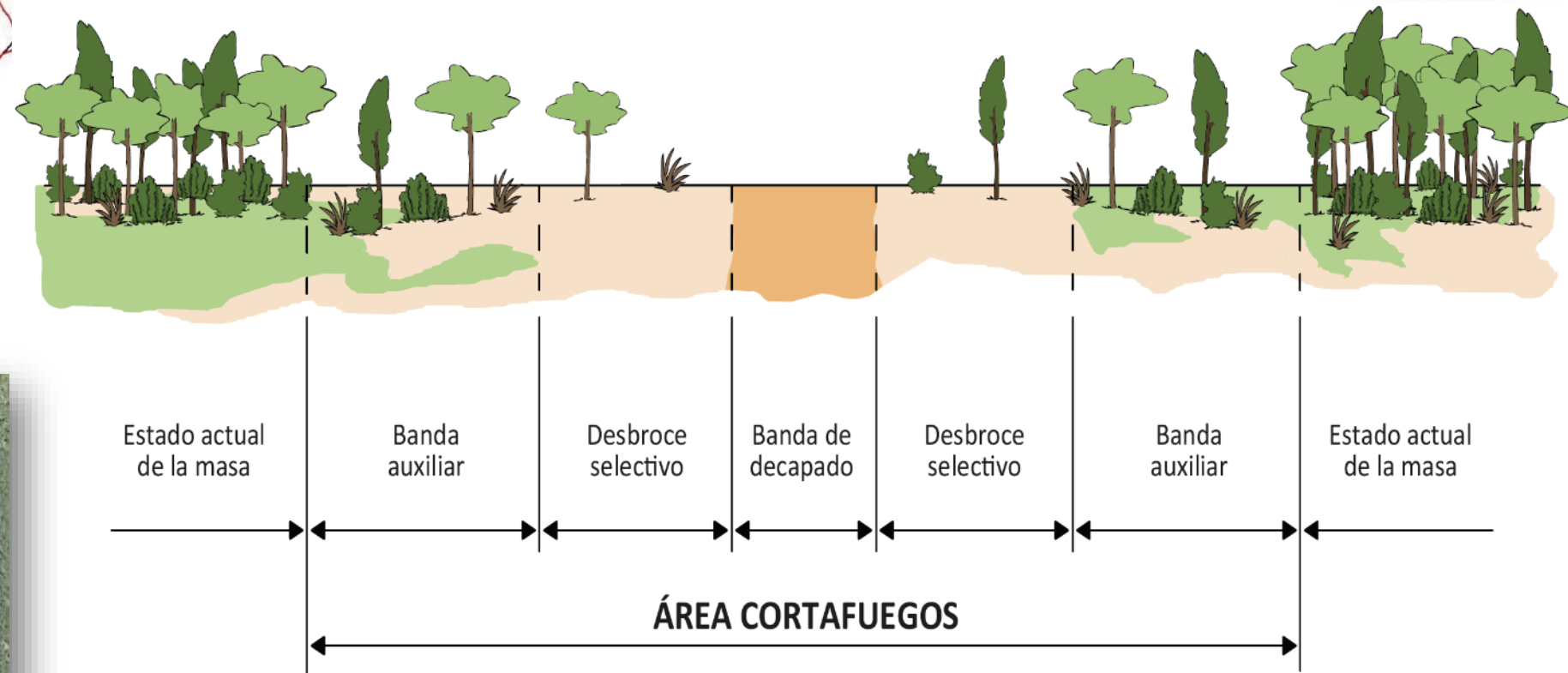
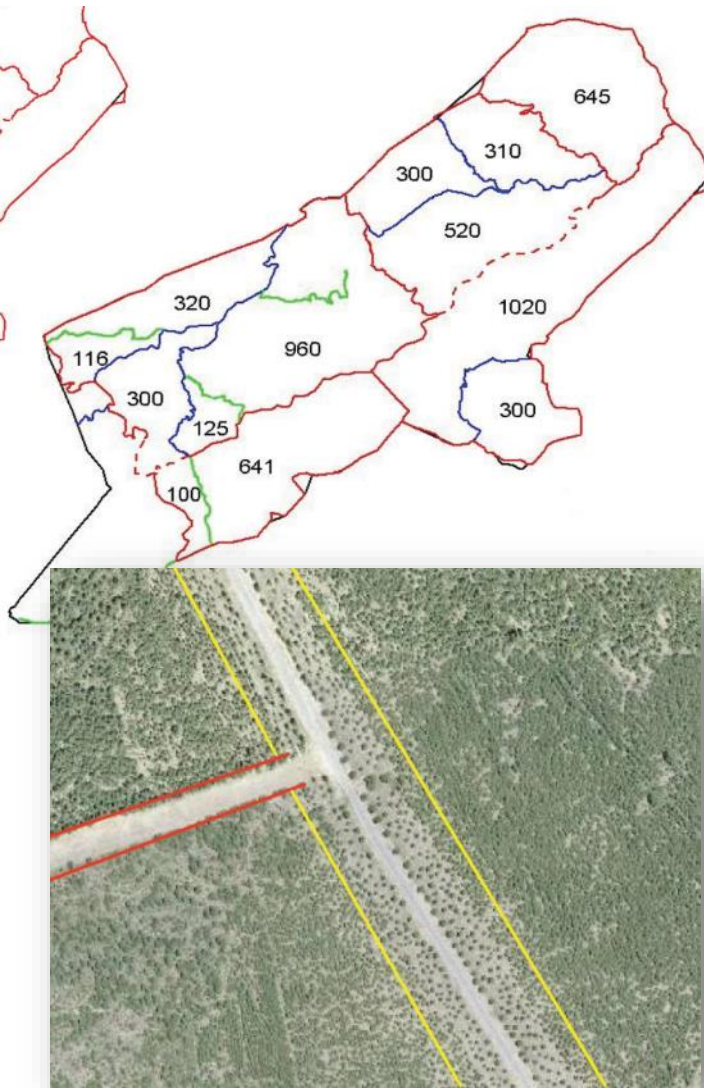


Biotic thresholds requiring changes in structure/disturbance



Pinus nigra natural stands
Turmell site (Castelló, E Spain)
Fule et al., (2007) For. Ecol. Manage.

Biotic thresholds requiring changes in structure/disturbance



Navarro et al. (2015). Infraestructuras de Prevención de Incendios Forestales. GV-REE. <http://www.agroambient.gva.es/>

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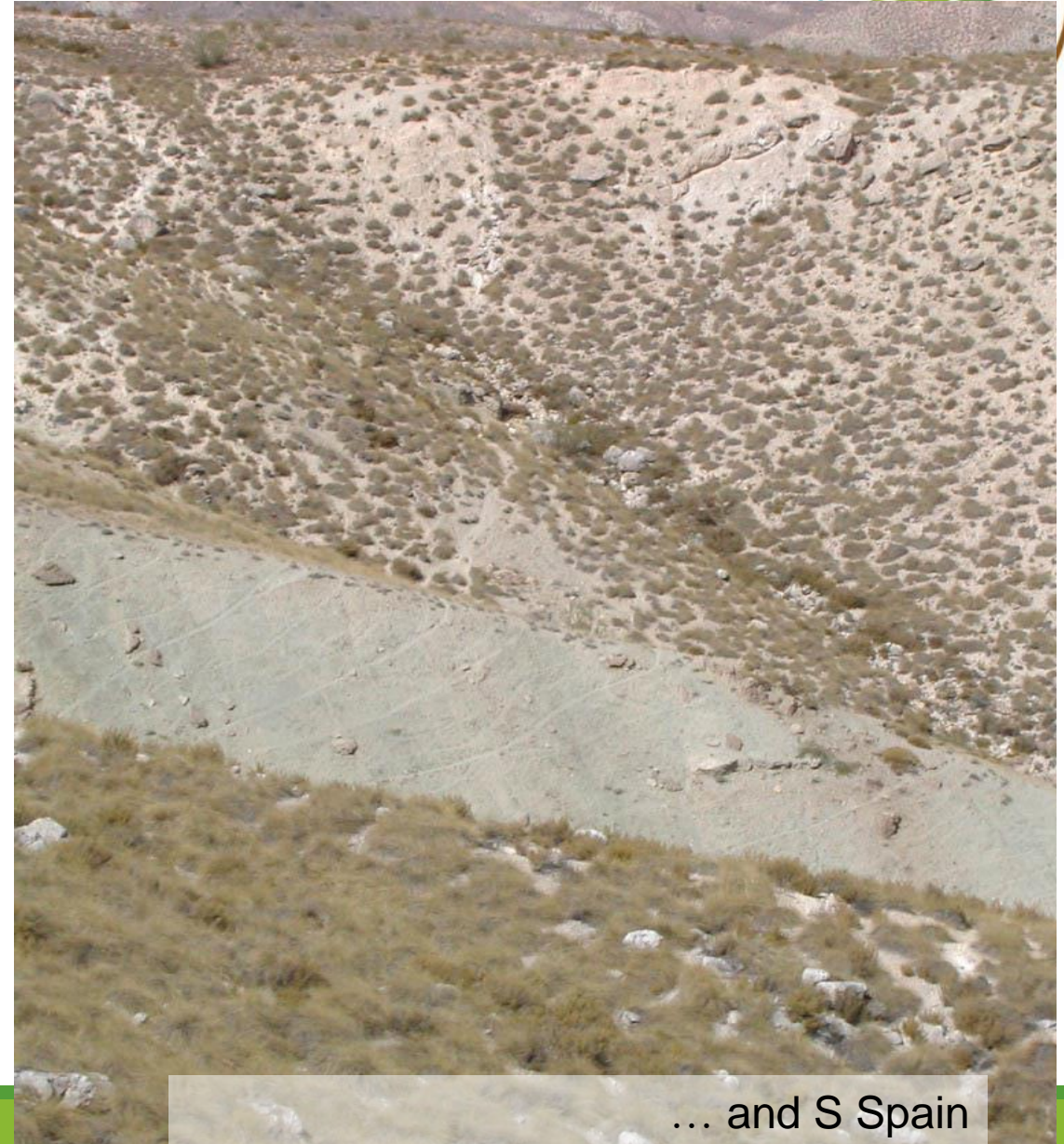


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- **Abiotic thresholds**
- Increasing resilience under CC, assisted migration
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Abiotic thresholds that can be hardly reversed



Overgrazed alfa grass steppes in Central Tunisia

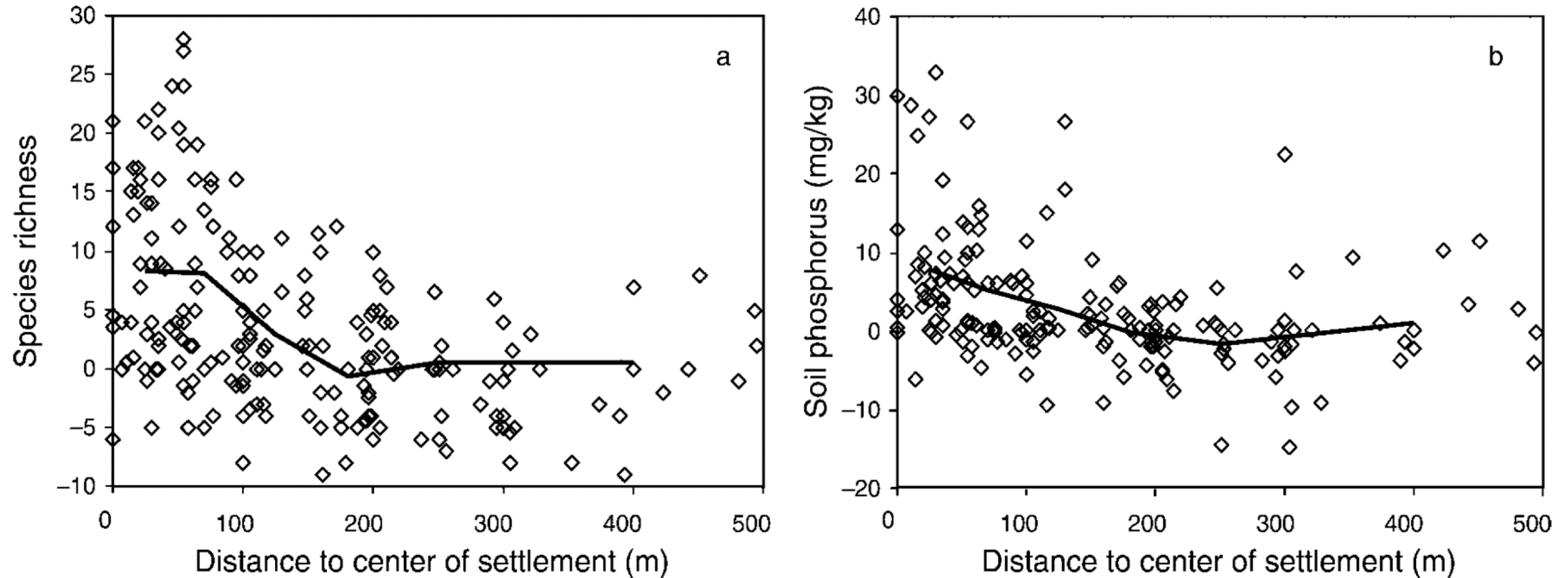


... and S Spain

Abiotic thresholds that can be hardly reversed



Effects of Roman disturbance persisting after ca. 1,500 years



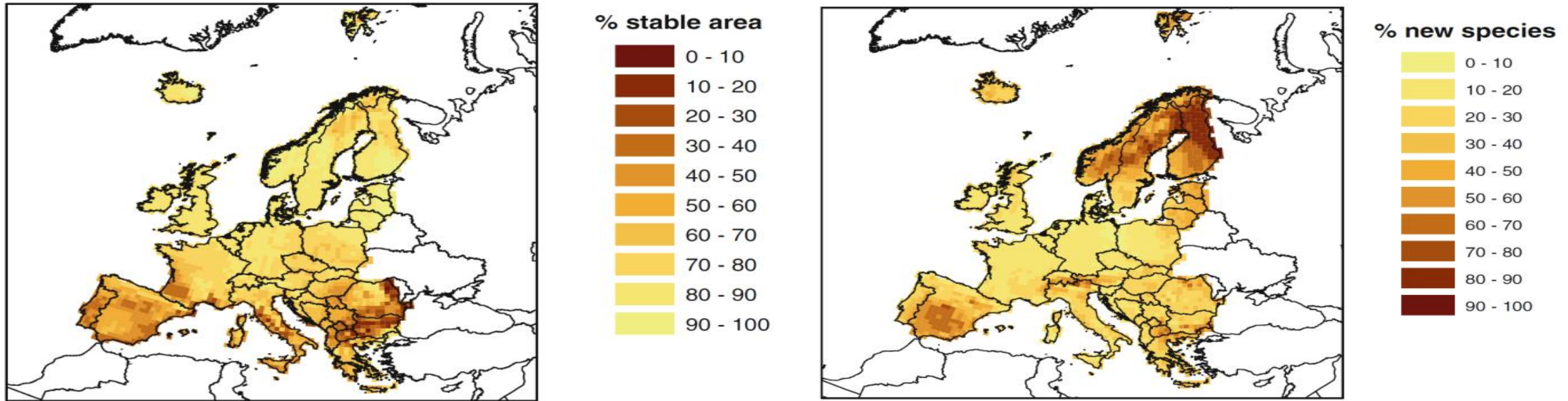
Dambrine et al., (2007). Ecol. 88: 1430-1439.

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Increasing resilience under climate change



Bakkenes et al. (2006)

“...in southern Europe, where up to 25% of the species currently present will disappear under the climatic conditions predicted for 2100” Alkemade et al. (2011)

Increasing resilience under climate change

Sierra de Orihuela, SE España (12/01/2015)



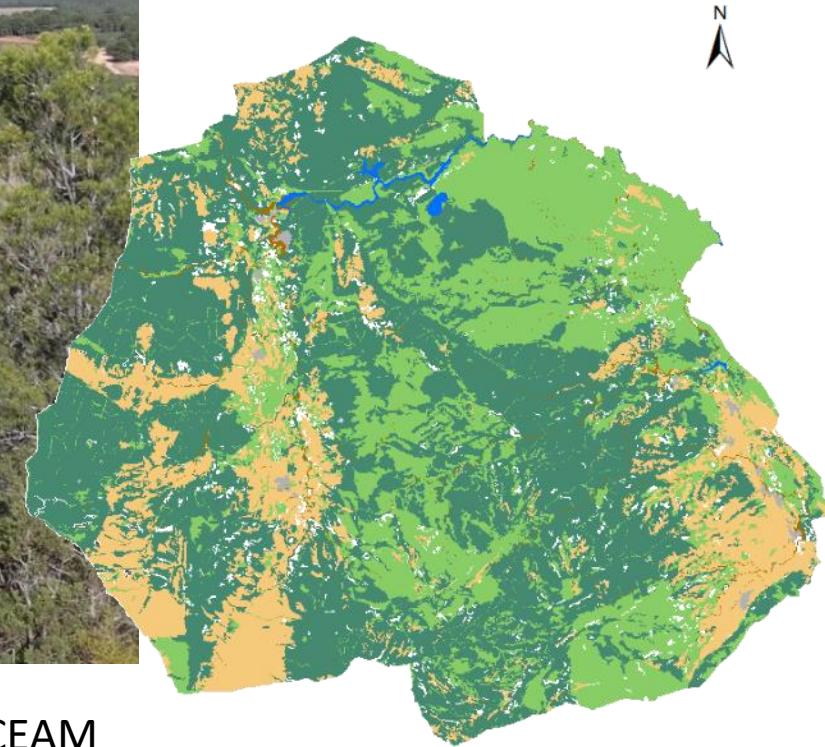
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Resilience and society needs and aspirations

Demarcación Forestal de Enguera (Valencia, E Spain)

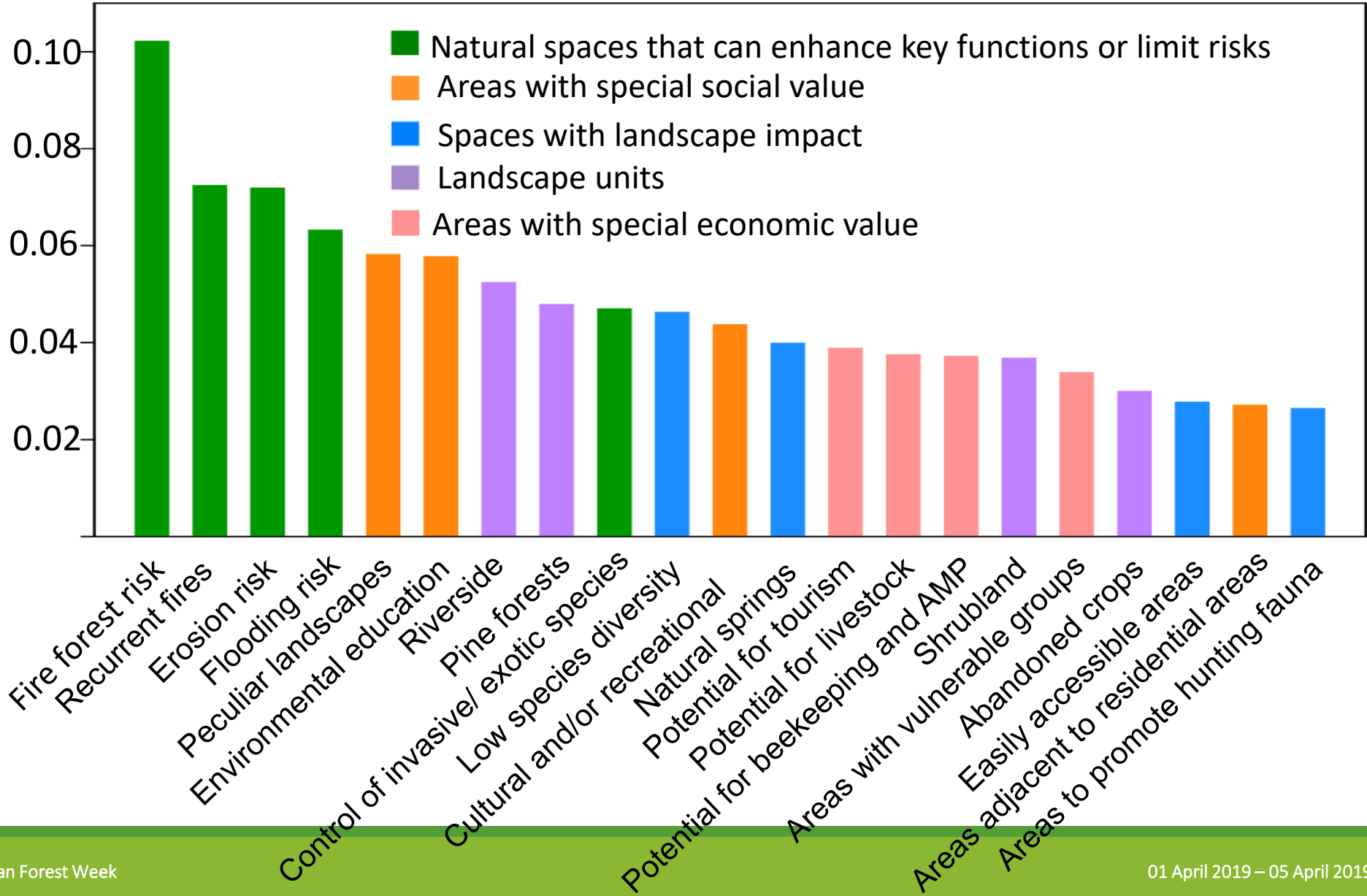


Disante, K. et al (unpublished) Fundación CEAM

Resilience and society needs and aspirations



WEIGHT CRITERIA TO PRIORITIZE ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION



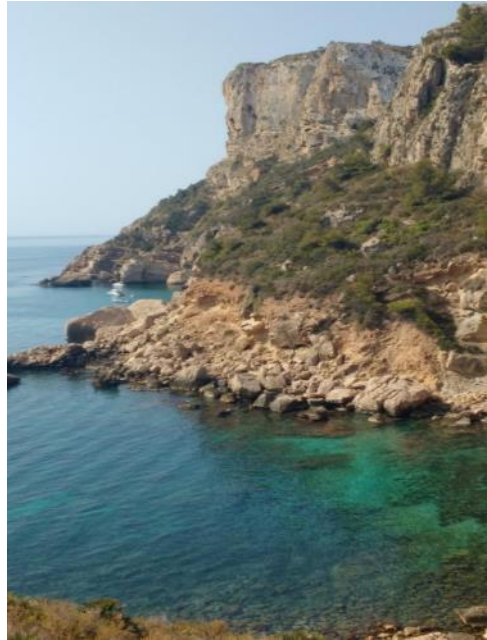
Conclusions



1. Mediterranean landscapes are resilient ...to some extent
2. Identify when passive restoration is feasible and acceptable
3. Identify when loss of resilience cannot be reversed
4. Manage for increased resilience under climate change: resprouting and other traits, assisted migration, landscape configuration
5. Prioritize actions and areas
6. Engage society, restore socio-ecological resilience

THANK YOU!!

ALICANTE, Spain



SER Europe Conference

September 2020