

The EcoCult Project – An Introduction

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Structure: Transdisciplinary Network



Objective:

Develop and assess novel and adaptive management strategies aimed at securing the ecosystem services and biodiversity of extensively managed cultural landscapes

Landscape Components - Lüneburg Heath, Northern Germany



Agriculture



Heathland



Woodland

Management Strategies

- **Restitution of segetal flora**
- **Dry grassland restoration**
+/- intermittent cropping
→ both topsoil and seed transfer
- **Assisted migration Calluna***
→ 4 provenances +/- N addition
- **Moss removal** including development of new machinery
- **Adaptive mowing**
- **Restitution of lichen-pine forests**
→ Topsoil removal + inoculation
- **Establishment of semi-open woodland-heath ecotones**
→ +/- grazing by goats

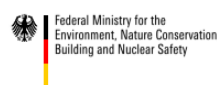
Analyses

- Plant diversity
- Plant fitness
- Cultural ecosystem services
- Calluna fitness
- Genetic variation*
- Associated animal diversity (e.g. Coleoptera)
- C- & N pools & fluxes
- Groundwater recharge
- Cultural ecosystem services
- Growth & diversity of lichens and Ericaceae
- Plant diversity
- Tree regeneration
- Cultural ecosystem services

Evaluation

In a final step the transferability of results within and beyond the region will be assessed by quantifying possible trade-offs and the evaluation of public acceptance, legal conformity and economic viability.

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For more information email: walmsley@leuphana.de search for "ÖkoKult" or visit <http://www.leuphana.de/en/professorships/landscape-ecology/forschung-projekte-alt/ecocult.html>

*with Walter Durka: Request for sampling of *Calluna vulgaris* for genomic analyses (PLEASE TAKE A FLYER from beside the poster)

Request: If you would like to contribute, please contact me (walter.durka@ufz.de), visit the web page <https://www.ufz.de/index.php?de=43305> and follow sampling instructions. - THANKS FOR ANY HELP !