

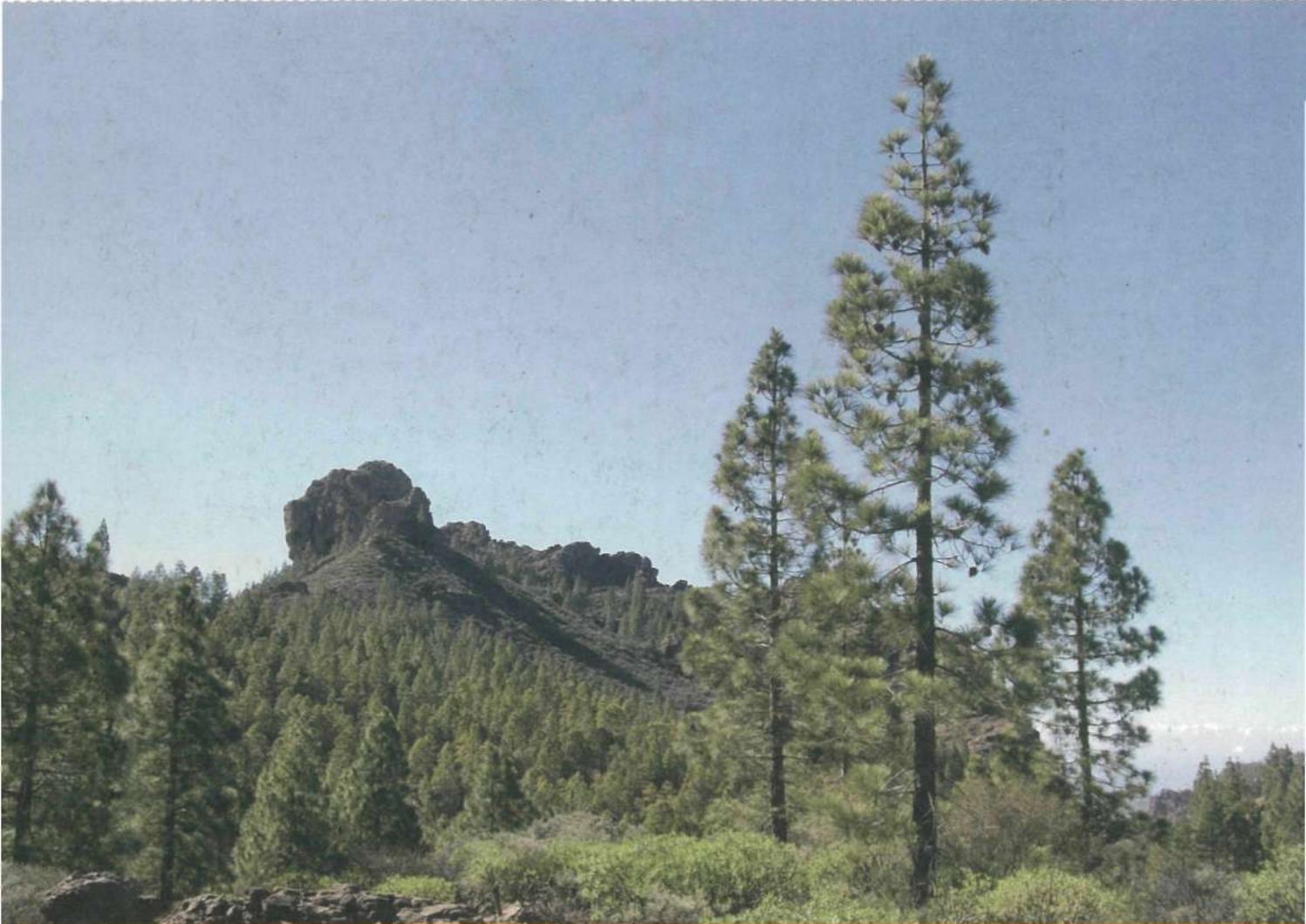
1И//290520К(039)

44K:63

EEA Report | No 3/2008

European forests — ecosystem conditions and sustainable use

ISSN 1725-9177



European Environment Agency



Contents

Acknowledgements	4
Executive summary	5
1 Safeguarding the biological diversity of Europe's forests	8
2 Managing European forests — main findings and challenges	12
2.1 Main findings and preliminary assessment of European forest biological diversity	12
2.2 Main challenges for future management and use of European forests	18
3 Development of forests and forest biological diversity in Europe.....	20
3.1 Europe's forest area is increasing	20
3.2 Semi-natural forests dominate in Europe.....	21
3.3 European forest types for assessment of forest conditions	24
3.4 Mosaic of landscapes and fragmentation	25
3.5 Old forests are important for many species.....	28
3.6 Deadwood is an important forest-stand quality	31
3.7 Trends in selected species	34
3.8 Genetic diversity of European forests.....	39
4 Use of forest resources and other anthropogenic factors having an impact on forest biodiversity and ecosystems	41
4.1 Forest use in traditional economies and the development towards today's multifunctionality and industrial use	41
4.2 Wood production and consideration of biodiversity.....	45
4.3 Wood for renewable energy and ecological restrictions.....	49
4.4 Forest fires and other damages.....	51
4.5 Invasive alien species in European forests	55
4.6 Long-range air pollution.....	56
4.7 Climate change and carbon stock	59
5 Actions and capacity-building for sustainable forest management and safeguarding biodiversity	63
5.1 Activities towards sustainable use of forest resources in Europe	63
5.2 Forest protection in Europe	66
5.3 Cross-sector cooperation and coordination	73
5.4 European support to education, research and monitoring	74
Annex 1 European Forest Types	81
Annex 2 Forest species on the list of worst invasive alien species threatening biodiversity in Europe	85
Annex 3 Definitions of main concepts used in the report.....	92
References	95