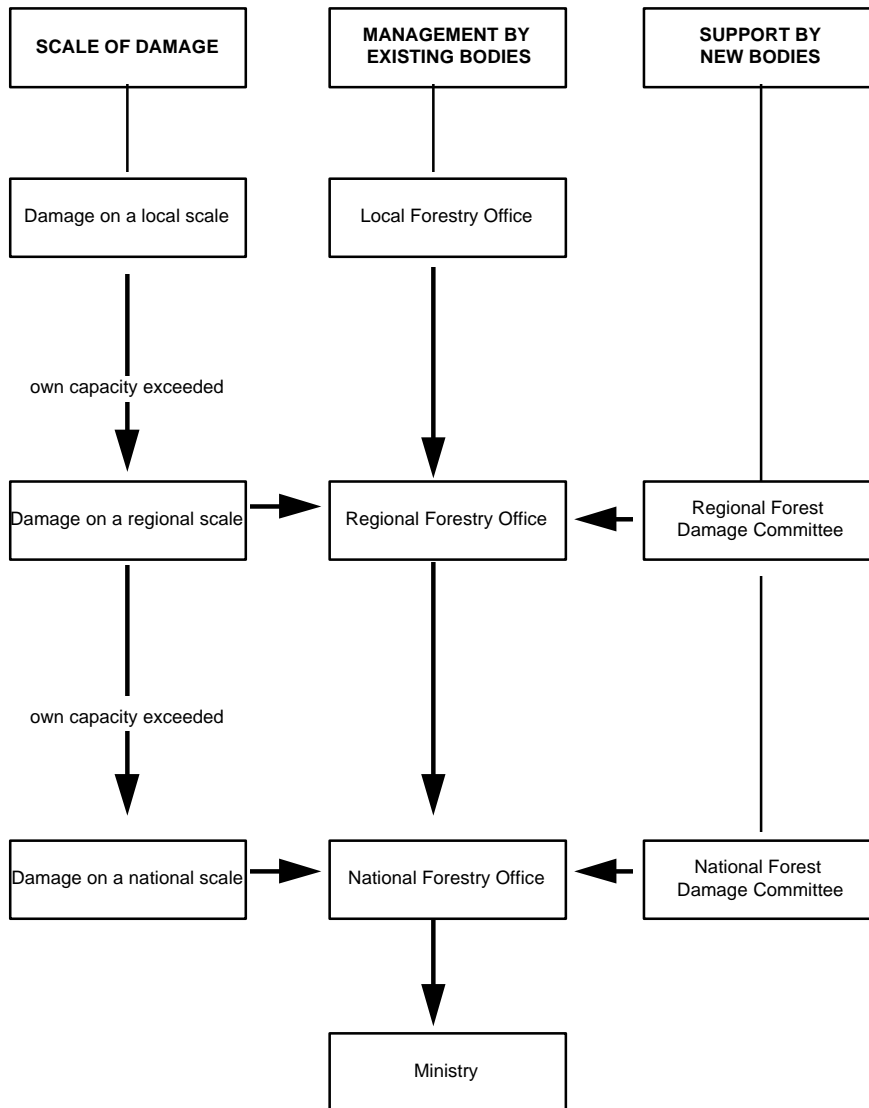


2. Management and organisation

2.1 Preparations prior to acute forest damage

Organisation chart of damage management



2. Management and organisation

2.1 Preparations prior to acute forest damage

2.1.2 Forest Damage Committee

If the resources, powers or expertise of existing bodies are insufficient then a **Forest Damage Committee** should be established. In order to avoid misunderstandings, its responsibilities should be clearly defined. It has to be decided which of the above mentioned measures are tasks of the Forest Damage Committee.

Depending on the scale of the problem the main Forest Damage Committee may set up sub-committees to deal with particular aspects such as harvesting or marketing. If there is likely to be heavy and continuing demand for advice and information from woodland owners, harvesting and haulage contractors, wood users and the media then it is helpful to establish a single point of contact such as a Forest Damage Information Desk staffed with people who are kept informed of developments. Even if they do not have sufficient expertise to deal with every enquiry themselves they should be sufficiently well informed to be able to direct enquiries to the right people. Having a single initial point of contact reduces the risk of contradictory advice and information which would otherwise add to a mood of crisis.

The Forest Damage Committee should comprise representatives of the Woodland Owners Association, the National (or Regional) Forestry Office, the Timber Merchants Association, the Wood Processing Association and other important representative bodies across all sectors of the forestry and wood using industry.

As soon as the organisation for handling an acute forest damage incident is established, its functions and responsibilities should be publicised by press release and direct notification to relevant organisations. The address and telephone number of the Forest Damage Information Desk should also be widely advertised.

2.1.3 Other preparatory actions

The need for preparatory action in anticipation of acute forest damage will depend on the action already taken as part of normal forest management. If the risk of acute forest damage is low it will seldom be worth incurring additional expenditure on equipment, infrastructure, inventory data and maps. However time can be saved by identifying additional items of information which will be required after an incident and which can be readily obtained and updated in advance. Examples are lists of contractors and training manuals for dealing with acute forest damage.

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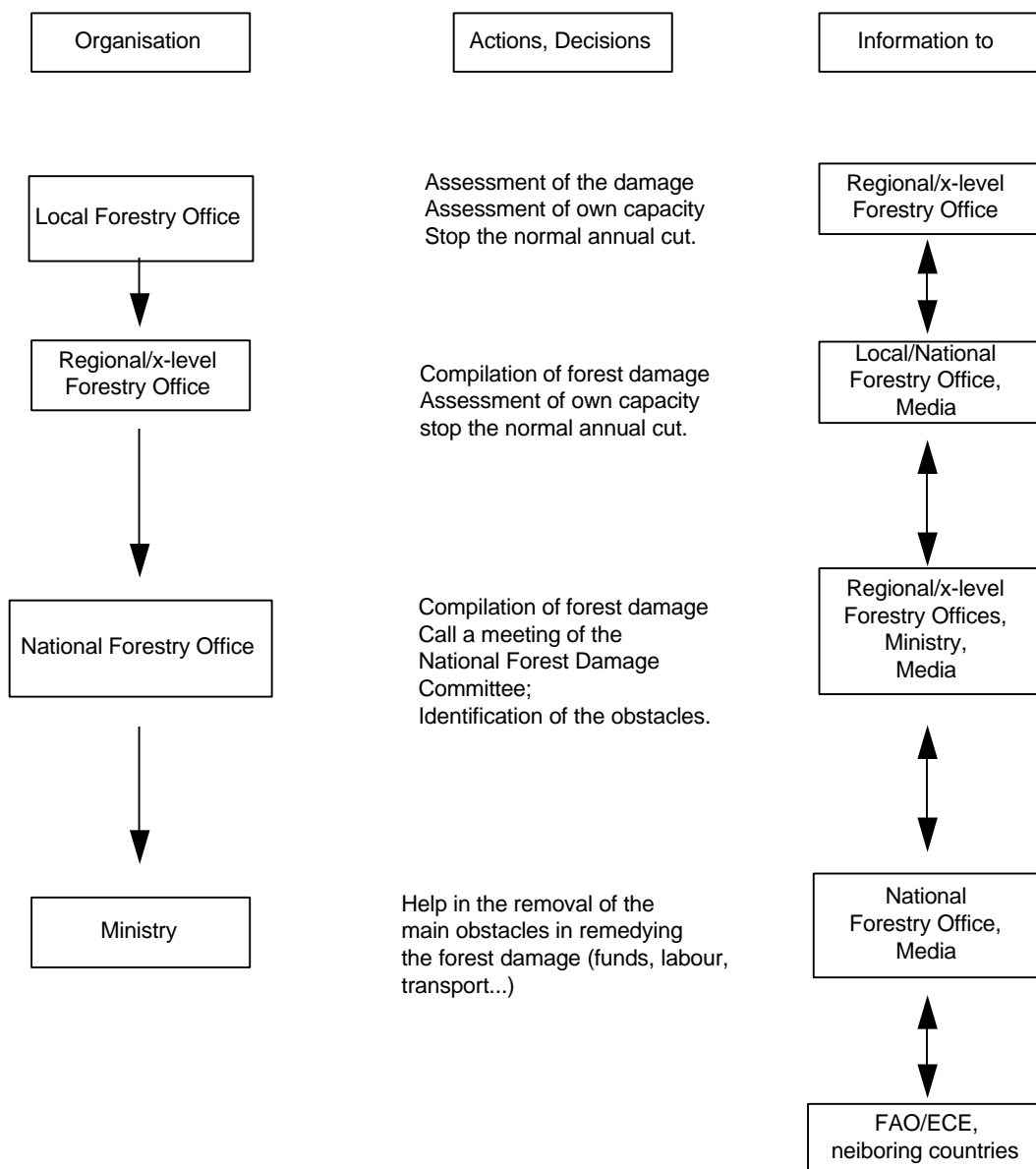
2. Management and organisation

2.2 Immediate measures following acute forest damage

2.2 Immediate measures following acute forest damage

2.2.1 Alarm chart

This alarm chart is an example for immediate actions following forest damage.



2. Management and organisation

2.2 Immediate measures following acute forest damage

2.2.2 Immediate measures of the Local Forestry Office (The first 3 days)

The following measures should start and if possible be terminated 3 days after the damage:

- ◆ Rescue of people and clearance of infrastructural units:
The immediate response to a forest damage must be to rescue any injured or trapped people and to clear public roads, powerlines and other infrastructural units.
- ◆ First assessment of the acute forest damage. A detailed description of this measure is in Chapter 3.3.

Immediate decisions:

- ◆ Is the Local Forestry Offices able to handle the damage by its own resources or is a coordination at the regional level essential ?
- ◆ Should the normal annual cut be stopped ?

Flow of information and advice:

- ◆ The informations of the first assessment and of the immediate decisions should be reported directly to the Regional Forestry Office and to the neighbouring Local Offices.
- ◆ On demand, the local press should be supplied with all the available informations.
- ◆ The woodland owners are advised to avoid taking hasty decisions and to refuse low prices or incurring high costs.

2. Management and organisation

2.2 Immediate measures following acute forest damage

2.2.3 Immediate measures of the Regional Forestry Office (The first week)

The following measures should start and if possible be terminated within the first week of the damage:

Compilation of the damage and fact finding:

- ◆ Coordination of the flights by helicopter and of the production of aerial photos in order to carry out the first assessment of the damage.
- ◆ Based on the informations of the Local Forestry Offices, a compilation of the damage has to be established for the region, containing the following informations: volume of timber, areas of damage, requirement of cadres, labour, machines and funds.
- ◆ Comparison of the damage to timber-volume with the normal annual cut.
- ◆ State and prospects of the timber markets.
- ◆ Assessment of the own capacity in cadres, labour, machines and funds.

Immediate decisions:

- ◆ Are the Local Forestry Offices able to handle the damage by their own resources or is a coordination at the regional level essential ?
- ◆ Is the Regional Forestry Office able to handle the damage by its own resources or is a coordination at the national level essential ?
- ◆ Should the normal annual cut be stopped ?

Flow of information

- ◆ The informations on the compilation, the facts and the decisions should be reported immediately to the National Forestry Office, to the regional authorities and the neighbouring regions.
- ◆ Exchange of informations with Regional Woodlands Association, Regional Timber Merchants Association and forest contractors.
- ◆ Information of the media with all the available informations.
- ◆ Short-time meeting with the Local Forest Officers.

2. Management and organisation

2.2 Immediate measures following acute forest damage

2.2.4 Immediate measures of the National Forestry Office (The first week)

The following measures should start and if possible be terminate within the first week of the damage:

Compilation of the damage and fact finding:

- ◆ Based on the informations of the Regional Forestry Offices, a compilation of the damage has to be established on the country level (volume of timber, areas of damage).
- ◆ Comparison of the damage to timber-volume with the normal annual cut.
- ◆ State and prospects of the timber market.
- ◆ Assessment of the capacity in cadres, labour, machines and funds.
- ◆ Collect the informations of the damage in the neighbouring countries.
- ◆ Identification of the main obstacles in handling the damage.
- ◆ Evaluation of the legal remedy.

Immediate decisions and actions:

- ◆ Are the Regional Forest Offices able to handle the damage by their own resources or is a coordination on the country level essential ?
- ◆ Provision of first advise to the Regional Forestry Offices on dealing with the damage. Coordination of the first measures on regional and national level.
- ◆ If the damage is of national scale: Invitation of the National Forest Damage Committee to a meeting.

Flow of information:

- ◆ The informations on the compilation, the facts and the decisions should be reported immediately to the Ministry, to the Regional Forestry Offices and to the media.
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