



European Forest Week, Excursion 5

Forest Biodiversity

Friday 6 November 2015 (whole day, starts 08.30 at the railway station in Engelberg, finishes ca. 16.00 in Engelberg, possibility to take a train to Zurich Airport at 15.35 from Sarnen)

The excursion will be guided by Roland Christen, Heidi Vogler and Christian Kuchli

Please take good shoes and warm clothing – it is possible that in November there is already snow.
Lunch will be offered.

Forests in the valleys of the Schlieren torrents have been heavily exploited in the 19th century. With the revenues, the commune of Alpnach built an extraordinary church – but the clear cuts had consequences that are felt until these days and might also jeopardize forest management in the future. These consequences touch on watershed management, tree composition with a drastic decline of Silver Fir and implications for forest biodiversity and adaptive forest management in times of climate change. We will also discuss wildlife management and visit rare forests on moorlands with a specific biodiversity.

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| 08.30 | Departure from the railway station Engelberg, travel to Alpnach by bus |
| 09.30 | Arrival at Alpnach, visit of the church St. Maria Magdalena and welcome by the local authorities; history of the church and the forests in the valleys of the Schlieren torrents |
| 10.20 | Departure to Langis Schlierental via Sarnen, the capital of the Canton of Obwalden |
| 11.10 | Short walk to Schwendi Kaltbad (15' walking time) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- the clear cuts and their impact on biodiversity- the risks of climate change and important elements of adaptive forest management- Mountain moorlands Glaubenberg, a jewel of national importance |
| 12.00 | Lunch at Bergrestaurant Schwendi Kaltbad |
| 13.00 | Walk to Seeliwald – Schlierental (45' walking time) <ul style="list-style-type: none">- forest biodiversity in the moorlands- forest reserves- forest management to safeguard the protective forest and fauna (Mountain Cock)- designated wildlife areas- forest related communication activities |
| 14.30 | End of the excursion and return journey to Engelberg |
| ca. 15.00 | Possibility for participants to take the train 15.35 in Sarnen to reach Zurich airport |
| 16.00 | Arrival at Engelberg |

