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NORWEGIAN INSTITUTE OF
BIOECONOMY RESEARCH

Country report - Protective forests in Norway –

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Definition of protective forest

Norwegian Forestry Act of 2005, forest that

- protects other forested area against **adverse weather conditions**
- provides **protection against natural** hazards for other land uses, e.g. settlements, infrastructure, and agricultural land
- has a low potential for natural regeneration due to the climatic growth conditions, thus is **at risk for degradation** under unsuited management



Protective forest today



4.6 million ha \approx 38% of the total forest area

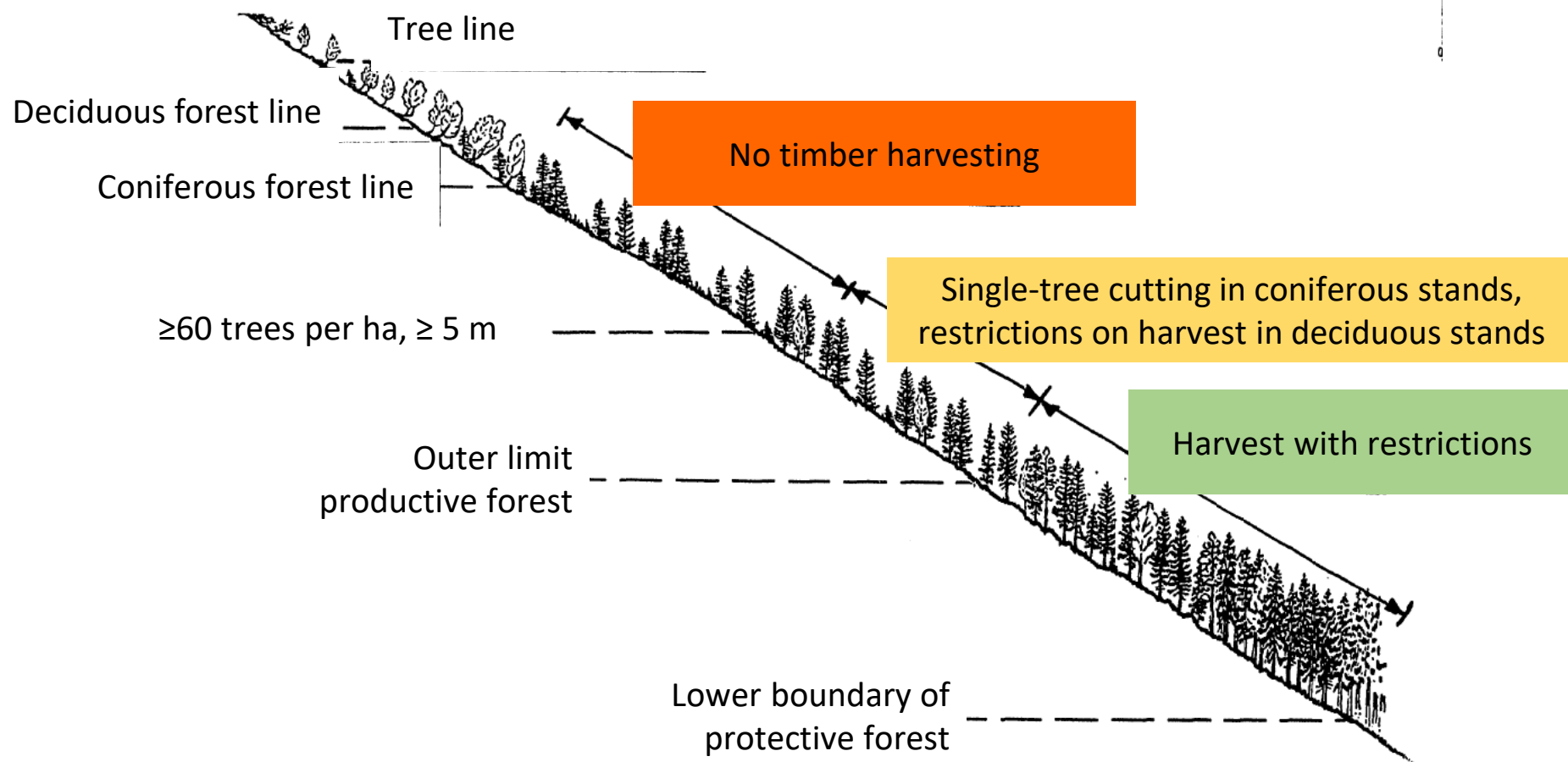
29% of all productive forest (annual increment $\geq 1 \text{ m}^3$ per ha)

60% of all non-productive forest are classified as protective forest

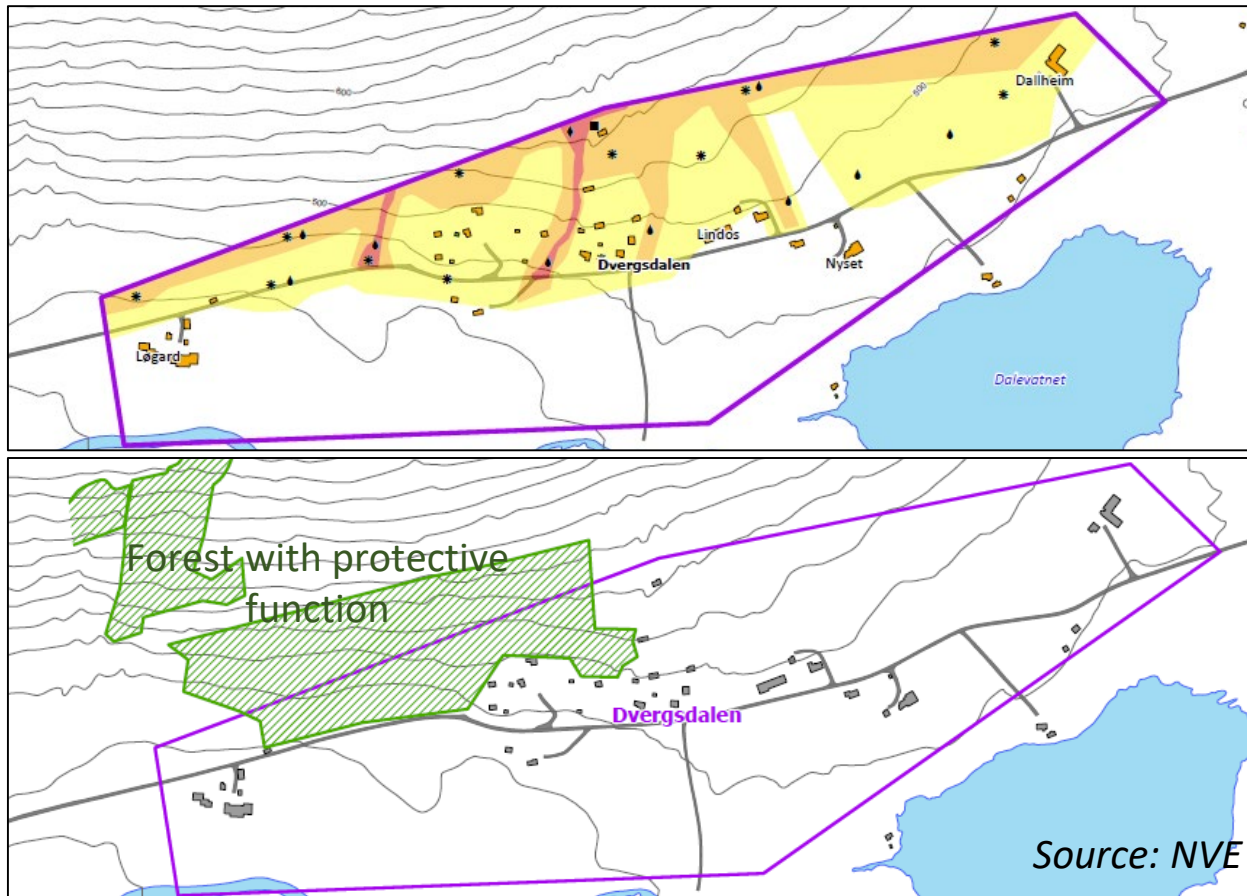
Designation and regulation

- Individual counties (County Governor) can issue regulations on the management, including the formal designation and delineation of protective forests
- Process carried out at municipality level (moderation with stakeholder interests and public authorities at municipal and regional level)
- 1st draft by municipal forestry officer:
 - outline of potential protective forest
 - description of its protective functions
 - general rules for forest management and operations
 - circumstances under which notification of planned harvest is required

Three-part zoning of protective forest



Protective function against natural hazards



Example for combined local risk zone mapping for natural hazards