

Conference Announcement and Call for Papers

SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

**“Forests at risk: Białowieża and beyond”**

**12 – 15 February 2019**

**Warszawa/Białowieża**

**Poland**

*Organized by the University of Warsaw and the Europe Section of the Society for Conservation Biology in cooperation with the Faculty of Forest Sciences at the Swedish University of Agriculture Sciences SLU, the University of Wrocław and the Institute of Nature Conservation, Polish Academy of Sciences*

**Keynote speakers**

**Prof. Robin Chazdon, University of Connecticut**

**Prof. Malcolm Hunter, University of Maine**

**Prof. David Lindenmayer, The Australian National University**

**Prof. William Sutherland, University of Cambridge**



The University of Warsaw and the Europe Section of the Society for Conservation Biology are pleased to announce the scientific conference “Forests at risk: Białowieża and beyond”. The conference (12 – 13 February 2019) will be held at the Faculty of Biology of the University of Warsaw and will be followed by a field-trip (14-15 February 2019) to Białowieża Forest (some 250 km east from Warsaw).

The conference will focus on the preservation of natural forests, which are continuously threatened by forest management practices, not adapted to ongoing global change. The conference will provide a forum **to present scientific knowledge and discuss solutions for the effective conservation of natural and close-to-natural forests.** Such forests are irreplaceable and vital for societies. The conference is a response to the urgent need to preserve the last fragments of close-to-primeval forests that have survived, such as Białowieża, increase forest resilience and provide guidance for forest management in conservation science and modern forestry.

### **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

The Scientific Committee of the conference is soliciting abstracts for contributed talks and posters on any aspect related to conservation of forests and their biodiversity, with special attention to the conservation of natural forests and the risks they are facing. The organizers will not discriminate abstracts based on the scientific discipline as long as there is a link to conservation of natural and close-to-natural forest ecosystems, their importance to biodiversity conservation and human wellbeing. Due to limited number of oral presentation slots, some presentations may be changed from oral to poster, according to the Scientific Committee recommendations and ranking.

Abstracts for talks and posters are submitted online and should be no longer than 1850 characters with spaces (without the names of the authors and their affiliations). A maximum of 3 numbered key references is allowed and is excluded from the word count. Please, indicate if you submit an abstract for an oral presentation (12 min. + 3 min. for questions) or a poster. In case of high number of oral presentations one of the sessions will be organized as “speed presentations” (5 min. each) and the Scientific Committee will propose to the author change of the presentation type.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

- Registration and Abstract submission opens: **1 September 2018**
- **Submission of abstracts closes: 31 October 2018**
- Decisions concerning abstracts: **30 November 2018**
- Early bird registration closes (Early bird fee must be paid before the deadline): **15 December 2018**
- The conference “Forests at risk: Białowieża and beyond”: **12-15 February 2019**

**For registration and more information please visit the conference homepage:**

**[www.forestsatrisk.eu](http://www.forestsatrisk.eu)**

**If you have any questions, please contact the Organizing Committee:**

**[forestsatrisk@gmail.com](mailto:forestsatrisk@gmail.com)**

