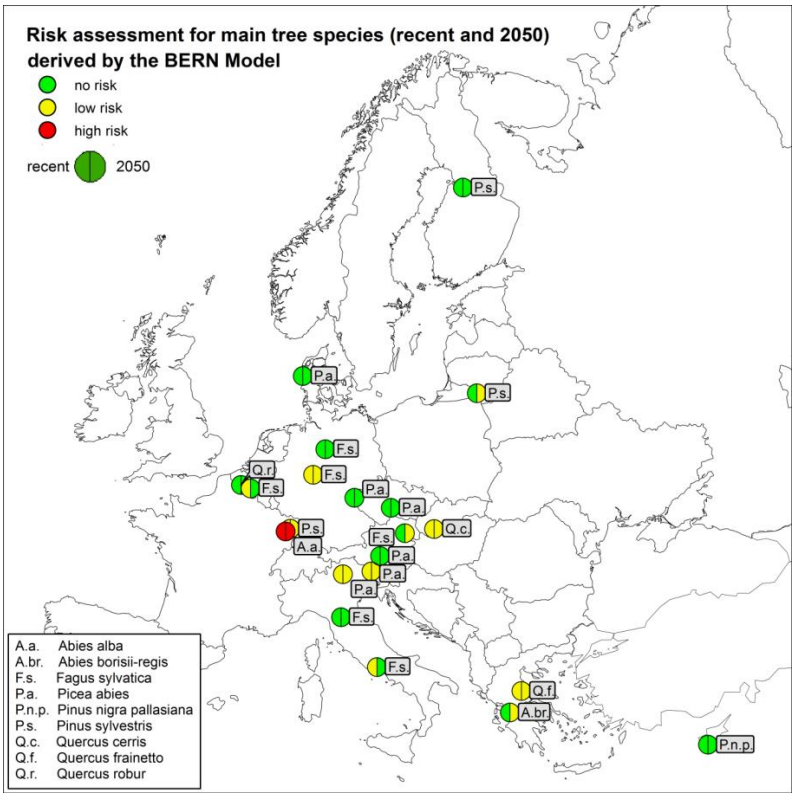
Critical loads and their impact on biodiversity

Deposition of sulphur and nitrogen has a continuous influence on soil-chemical properties and nutrient availability of soils. The 21 selected plots of the pilot study show different degrees of adaptability of the tree species and associated plant communities. Deposition leads to changes in soil properties and these changes affect the vitality of plants differently. But on a number of plots plant species composition will remain adapted also to future site conditions. On several plots the present site conditions do not match requirements of the presently occurring main tree species, or the present tree species will be less adapted in future. With decreasing site suitability there is a risk for higher latent mortality and for the need of sanitary felling. In addition to reduced economic benefits the stability of the stands may be at risk.

Further information and discussion of results are available in [FutMon Scientific R eport]



Risk assessment for main tree species (recent and 2050)