



EGU Vienna 2023

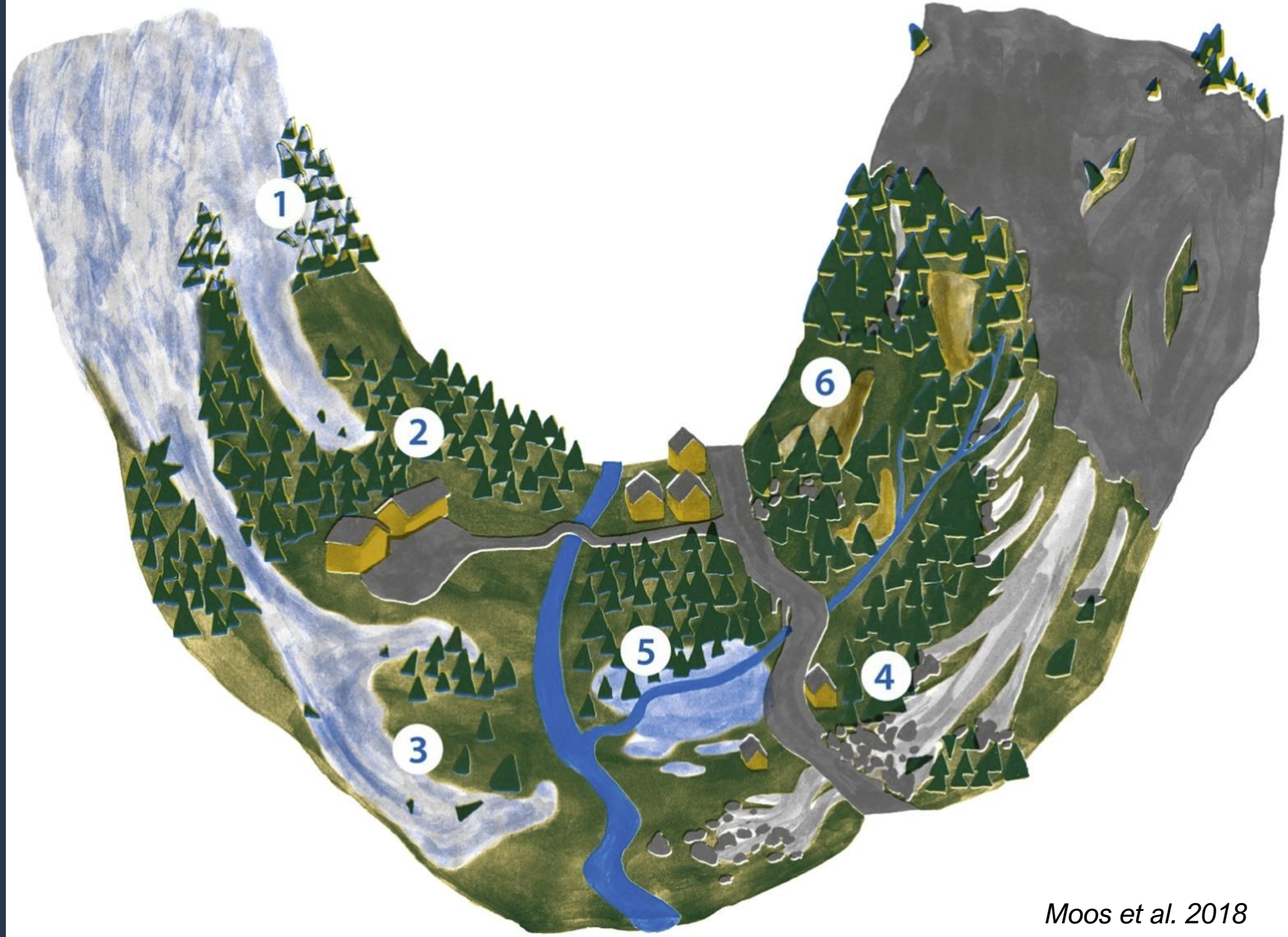


The impact of global change on the protective effect of forests – a review

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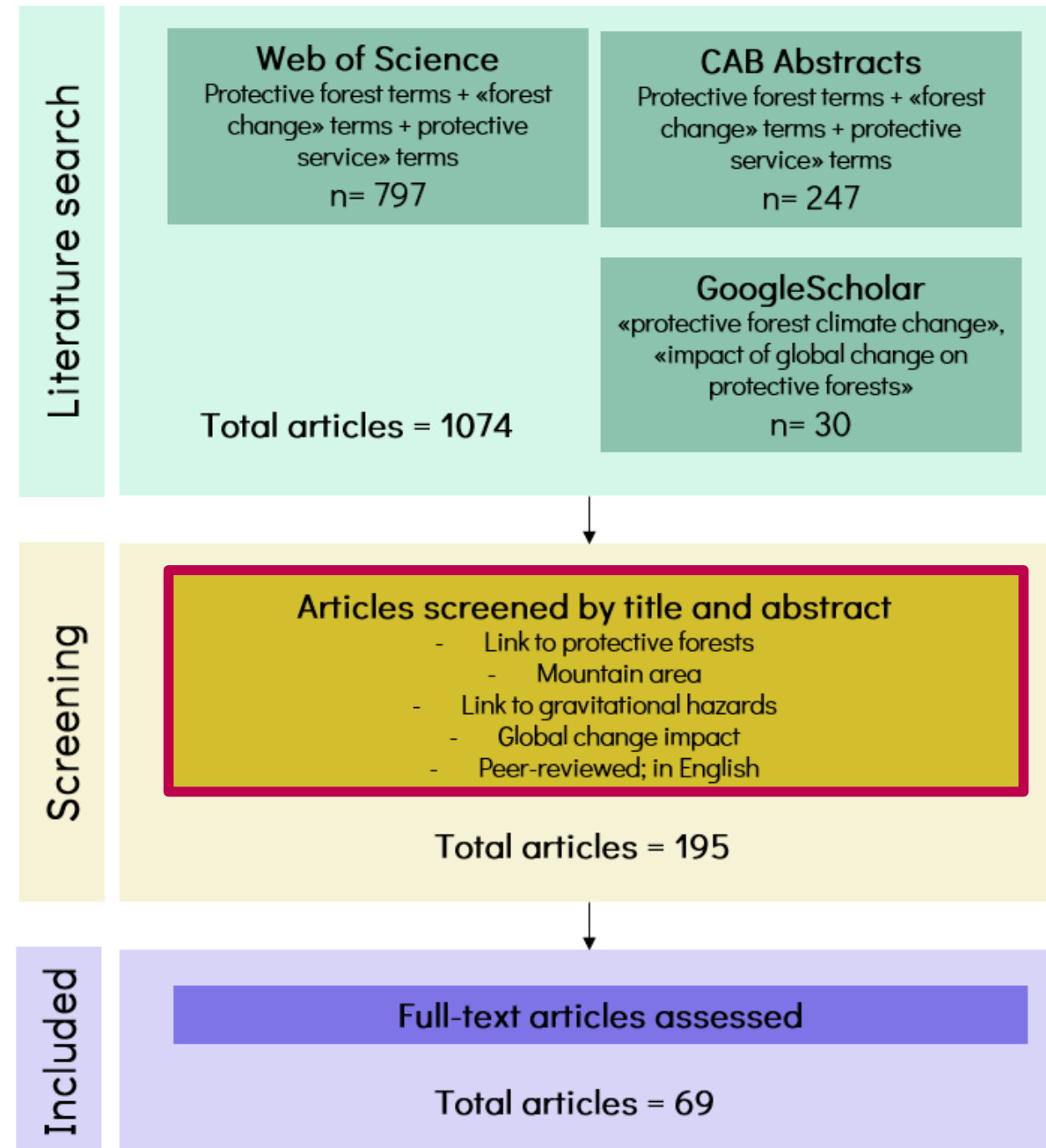


Quantitative review on the impacts of climate-driven or anthropogenic changes on protective forests and their implications for natural hazard risks in mountain areas

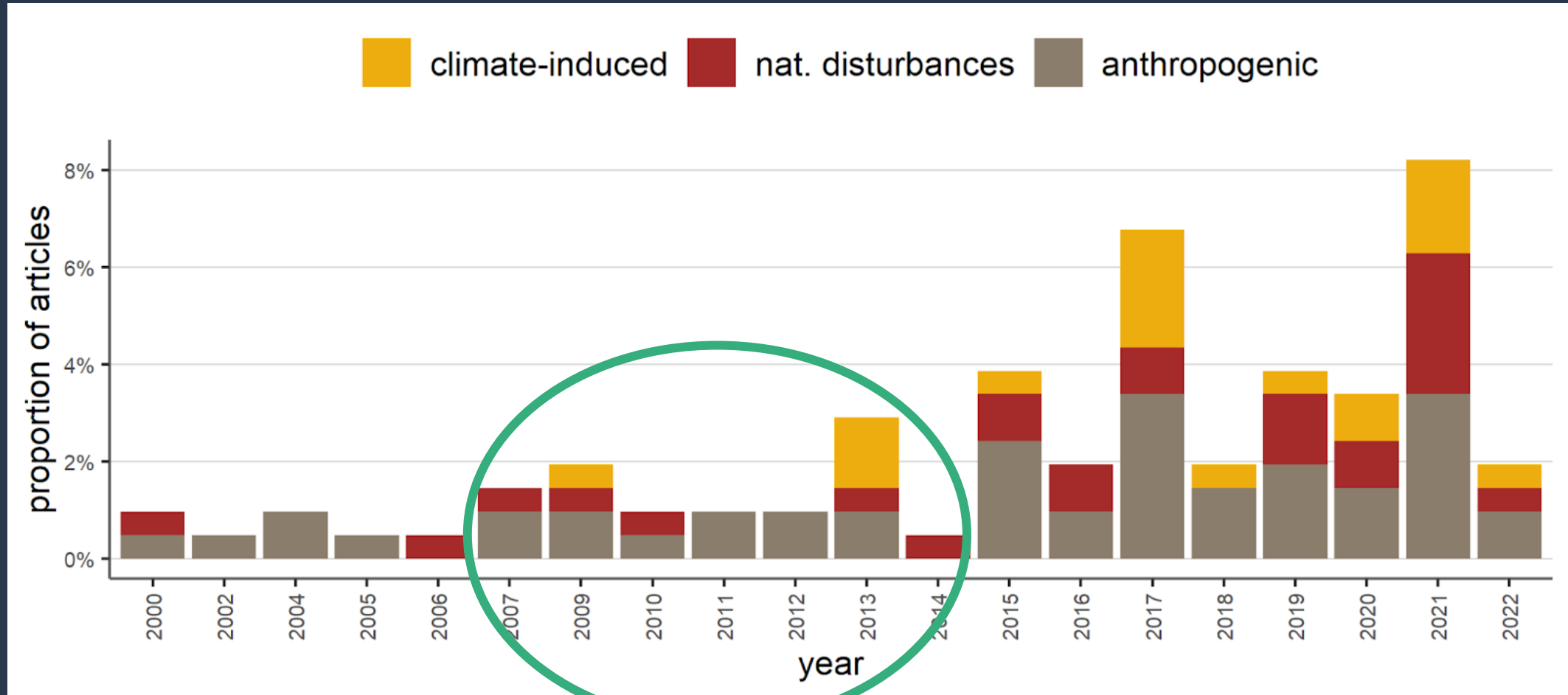


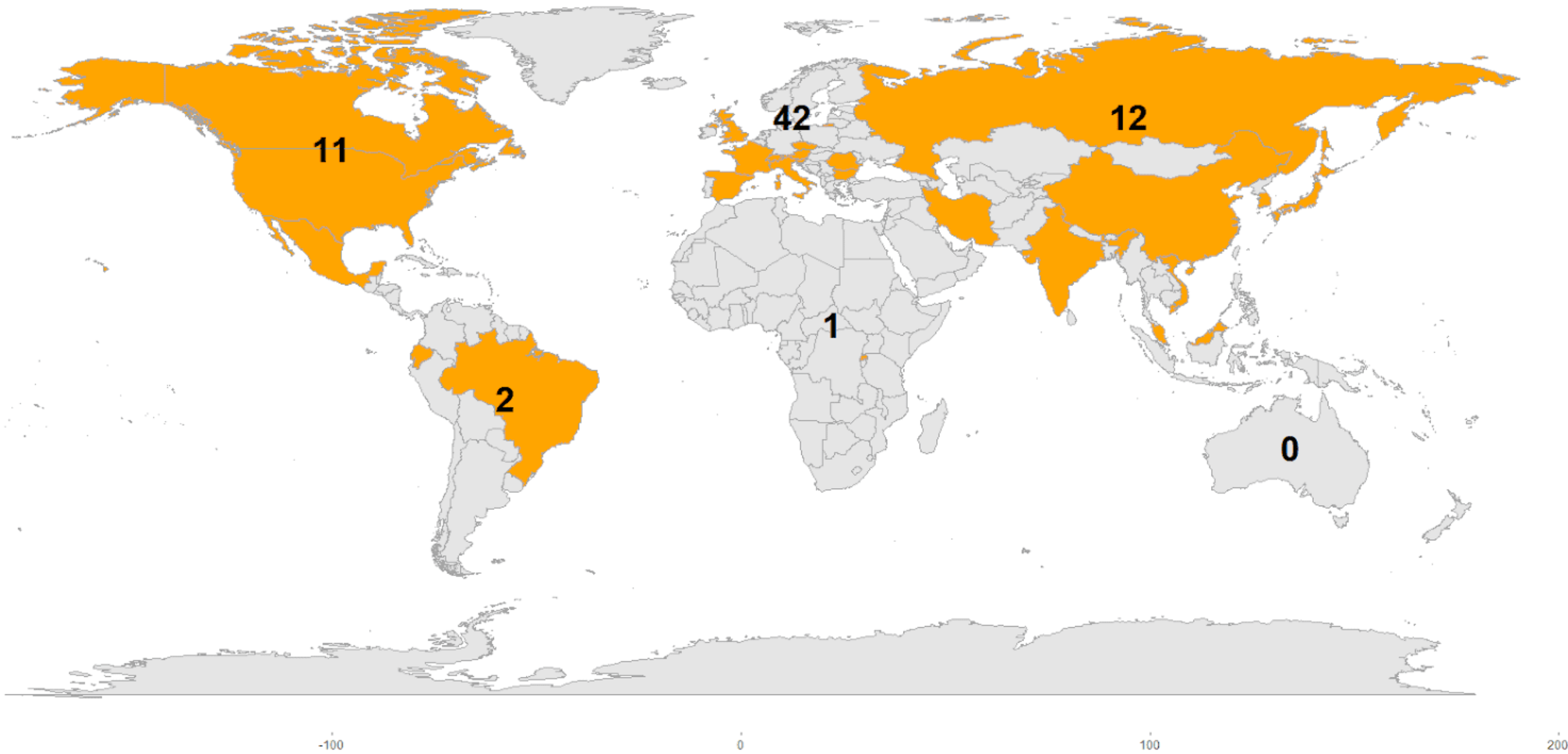
Method

- Climate-induced forest change
- (Changing) natural disturbances
- Anthropogenic forest change



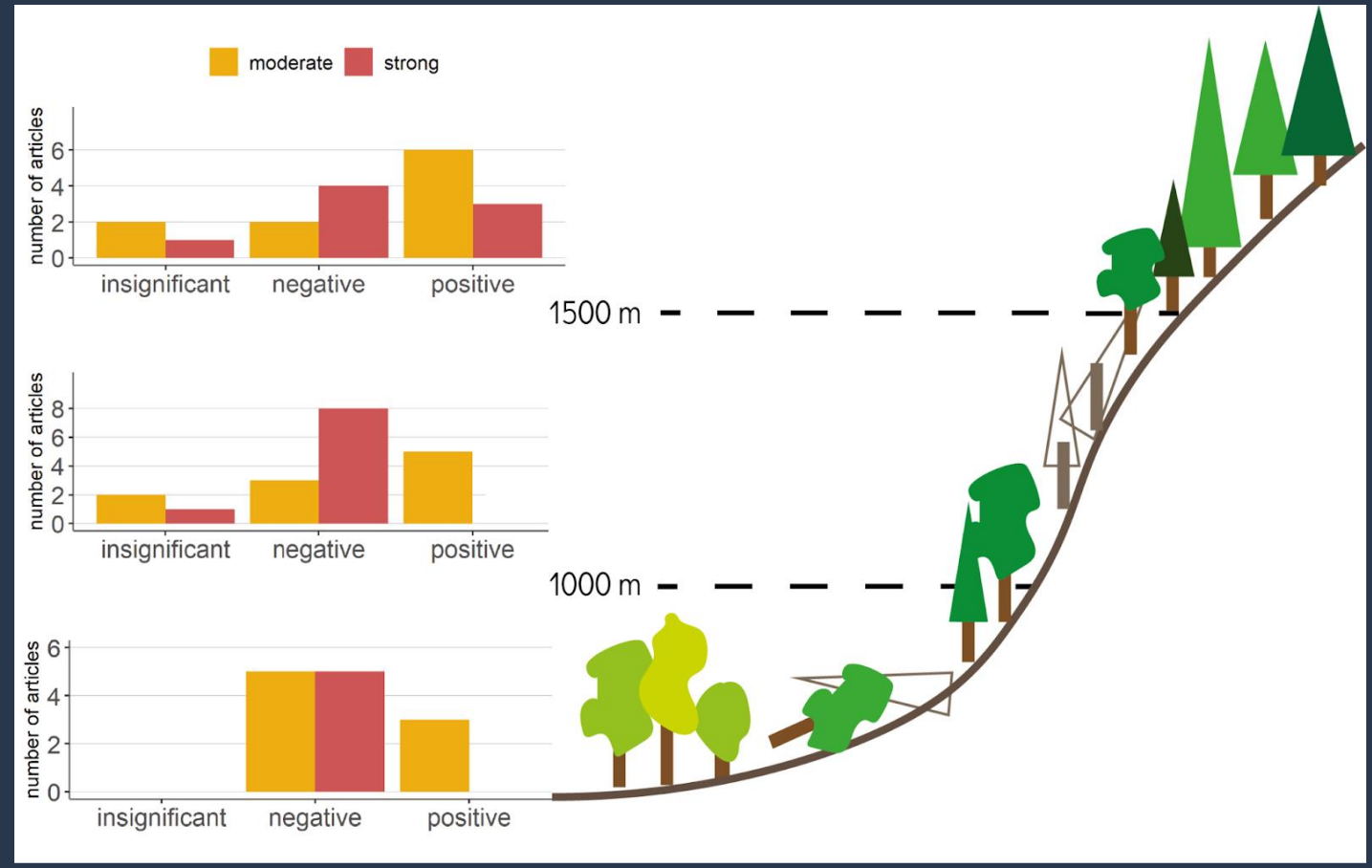
Results





Climate-induced changes depend strongly on the altitude and the scenario.

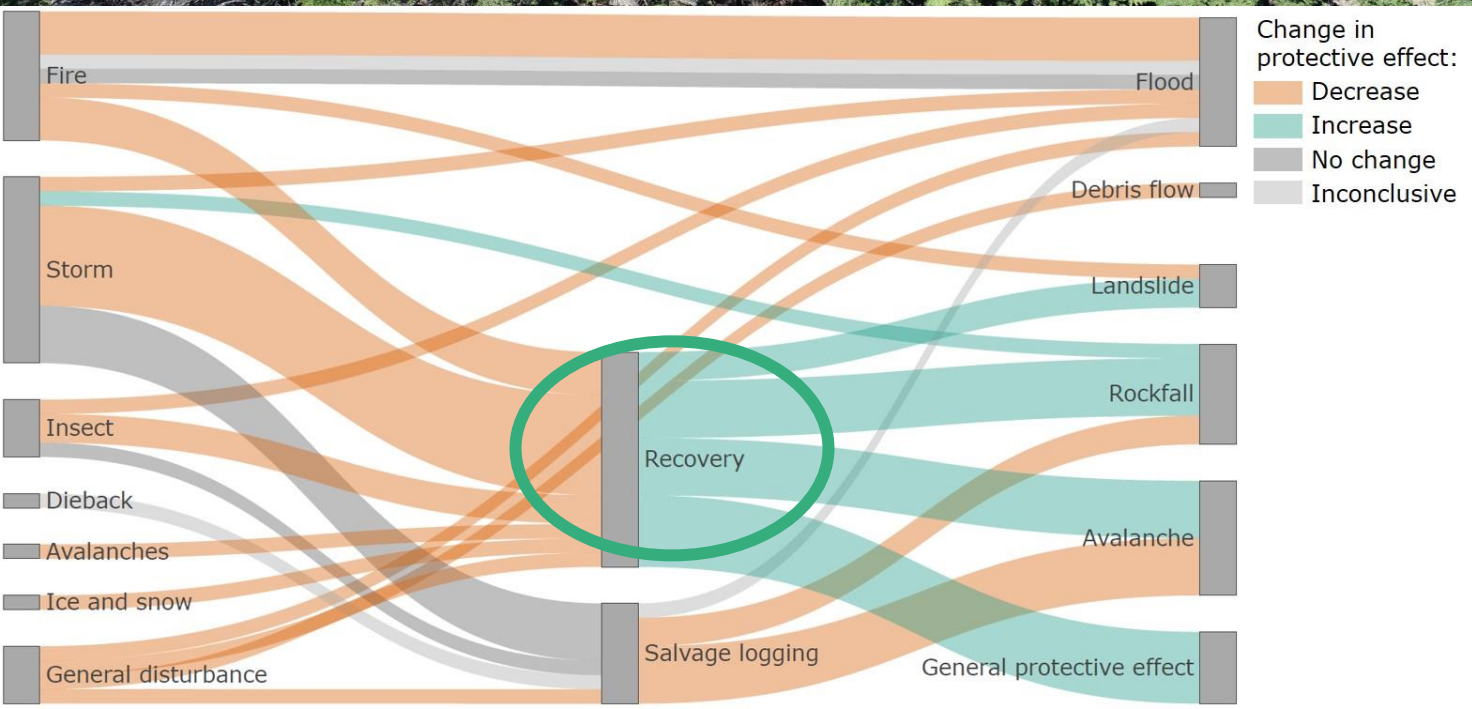
Most studies modeling-based.





Protective effect **decreases**
after disturbances

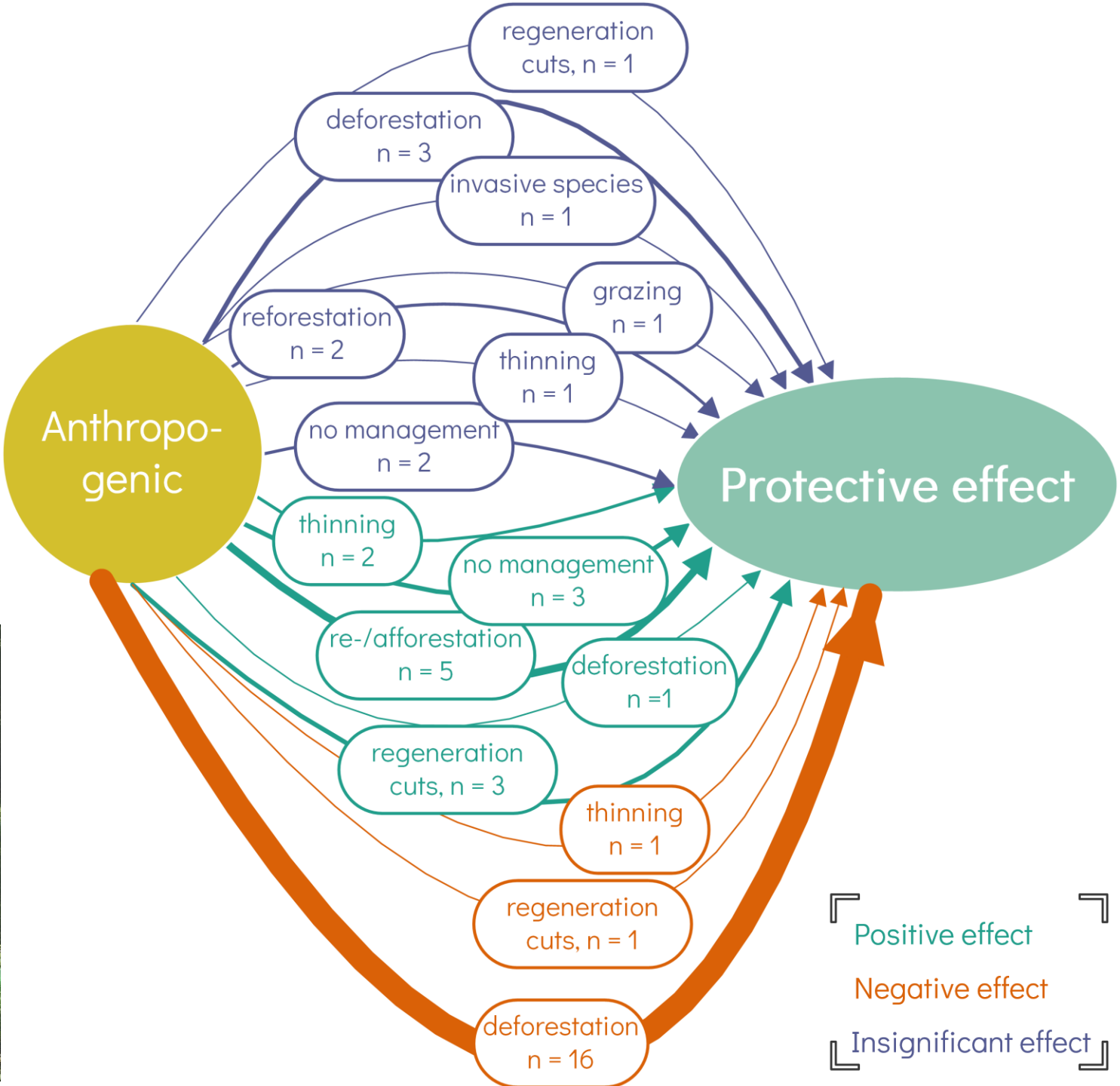
Recovery / Increase
after several decade



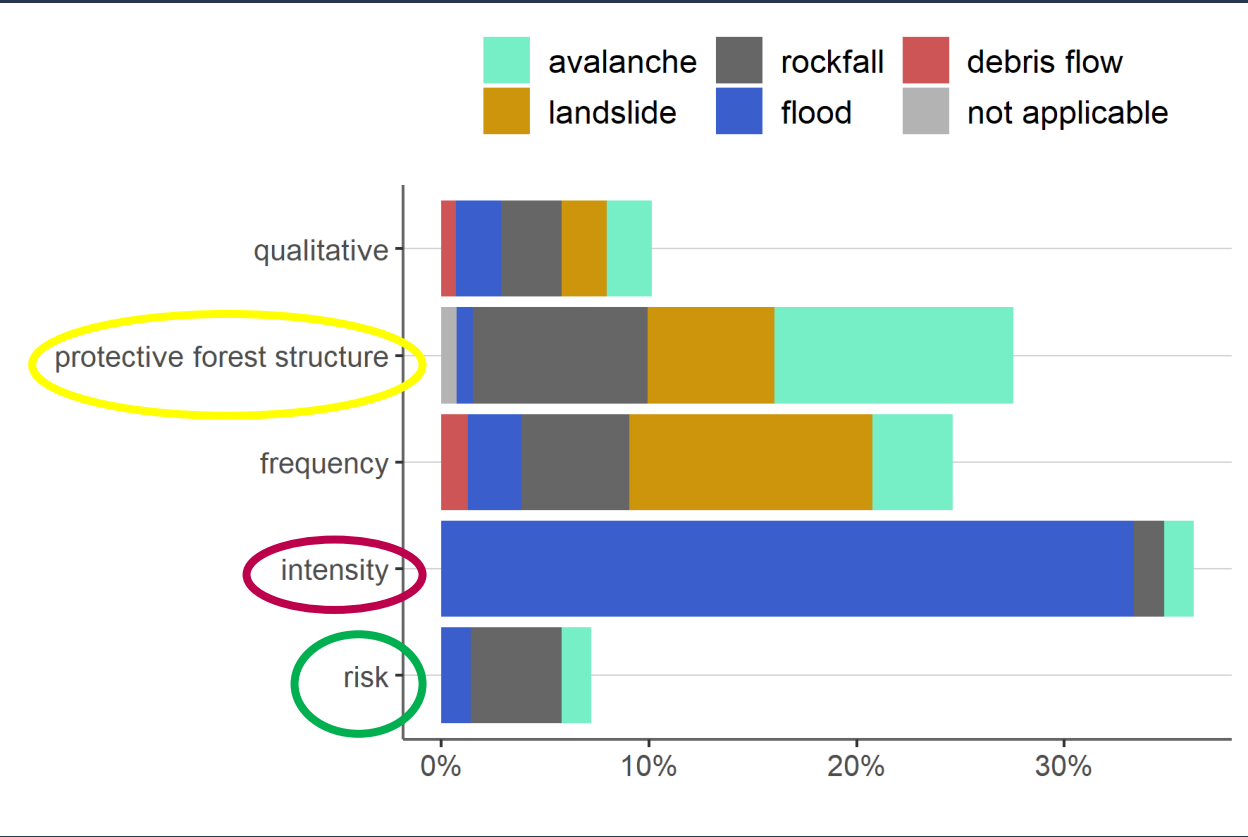
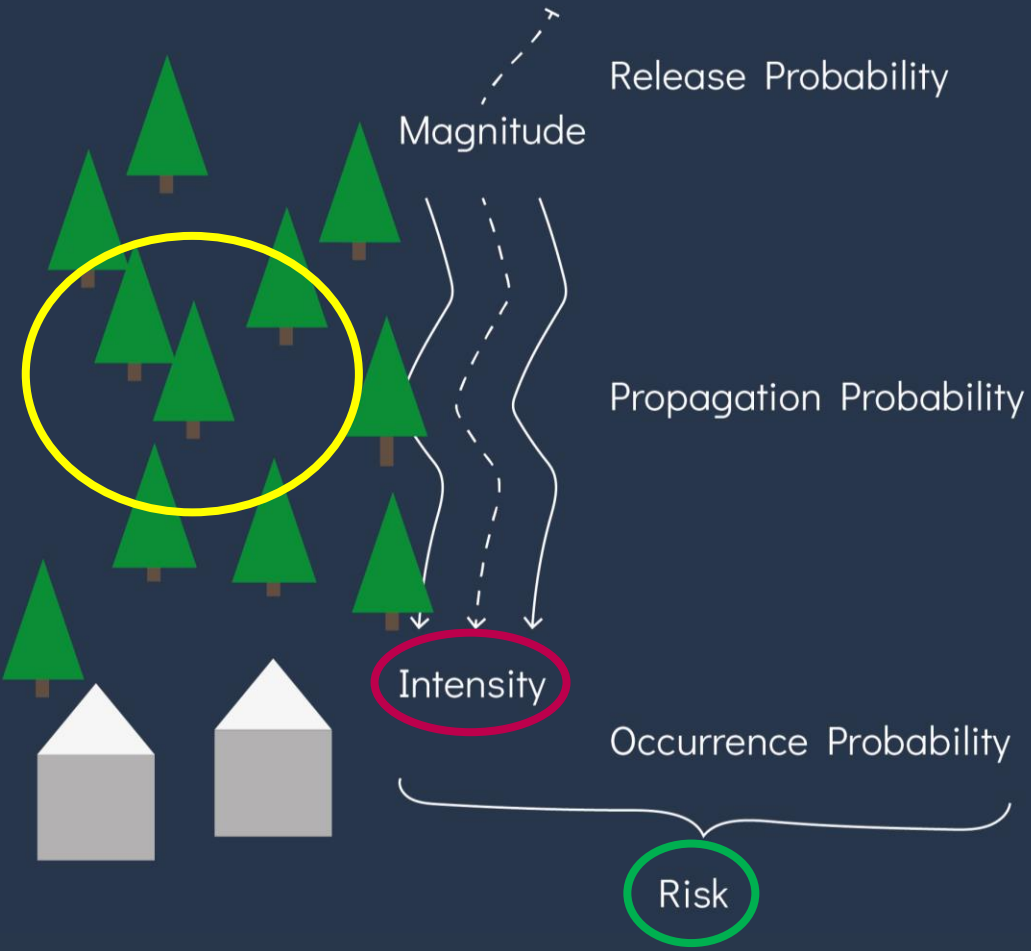
Effect of forest fires on
floods most often
addressed

General negative effect of deforestation

Management effects inconclusive



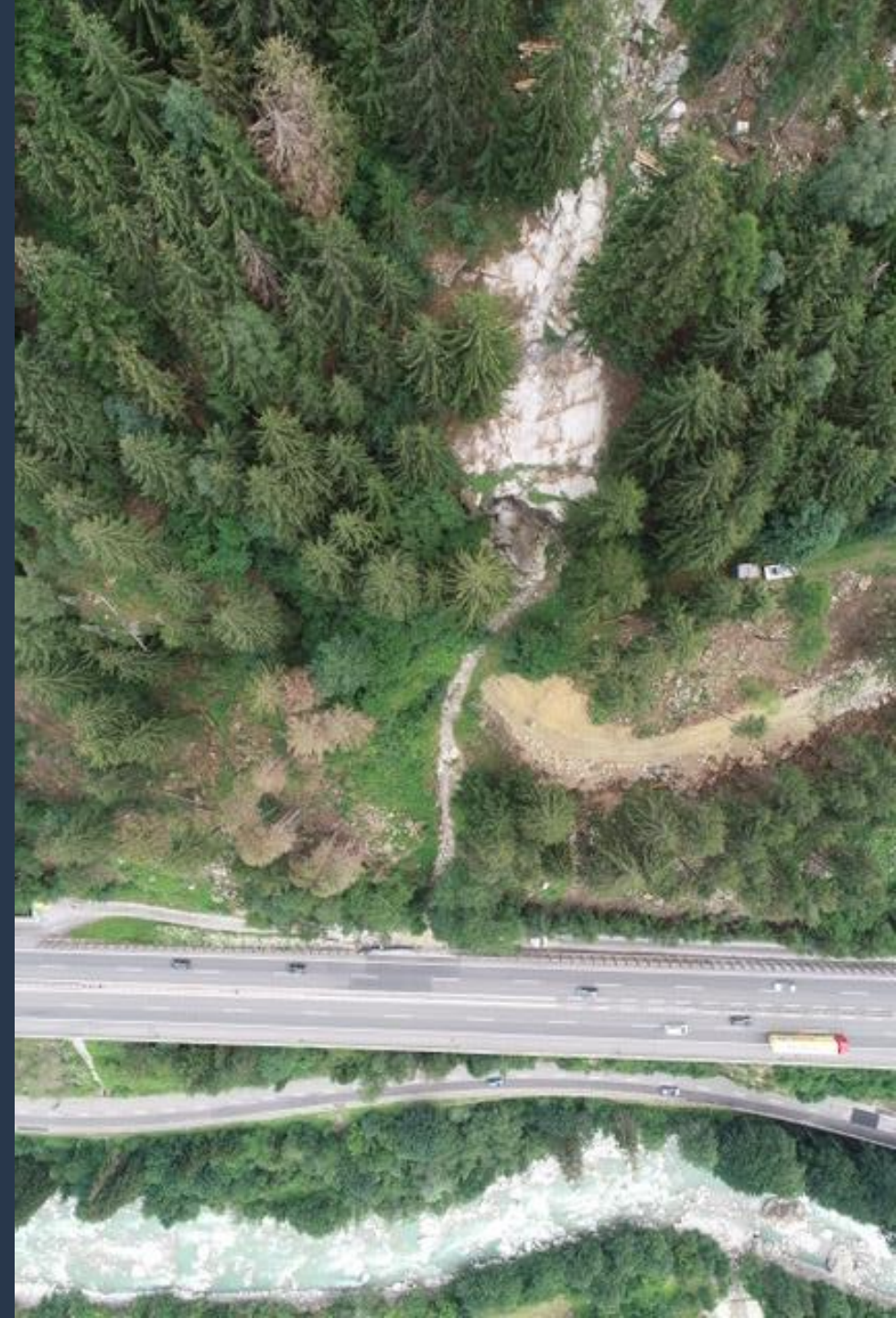
Assessment of protective effect



Conclusions

- Geographic bias?
- Missing empirical evidence (at large-scale)
- Link to risk often missing

More data and monitoring required to enable pro-active decision-making



Thank you for your attention!

See our Special Issue in *Frontiers in Forests and Global Change*!



<https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/42658/impacts-of-global-change-on-protective-forests-in-mountain-areas>