

Symposium on the Fire Management in Cultural and Natural Landscapes, Nature Conservation and Forestry in Temperate-Boreal Eurasia  
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**Increasing Wildfire and Land Management Problems in Middle East and South East Europe: Needs and Opportunities to Introduce the Concept of Prescribed Burning**

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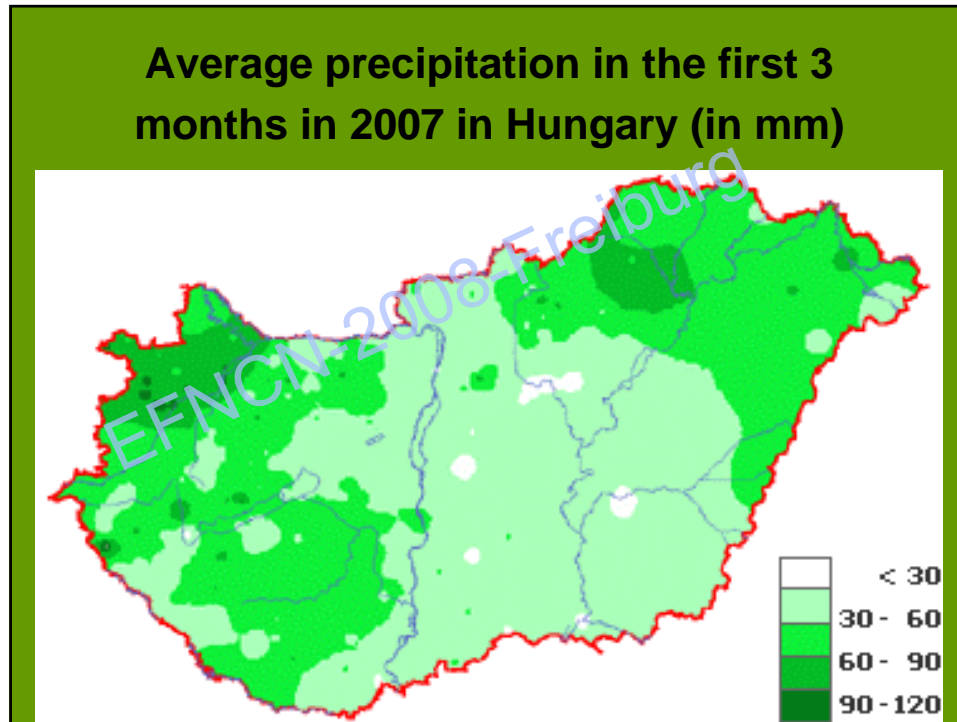
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**EU FOREST-FOCUS  
EU SEE ERA-NET**

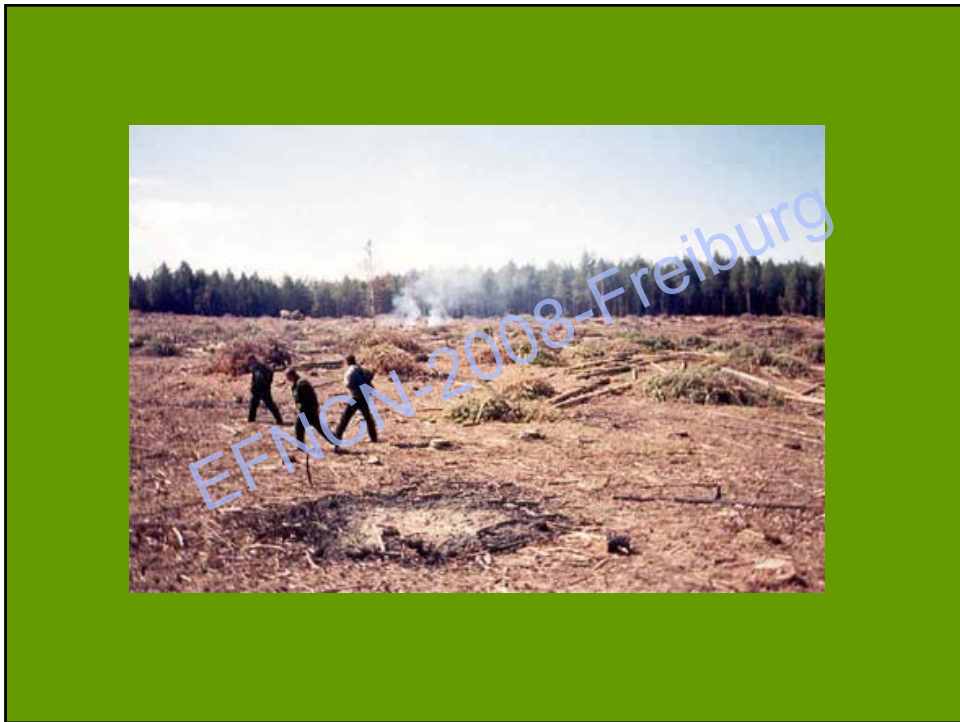


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Albania, Serbia and Montenegro,  
Macedonia, but also in Bulgaria









## Change in Wildland Fire Risk Factors

- **Economical processes**
  - change in forest ownership structure
  - economic sensitive private forest owners
  - change in land ownership structure and in agriculture structure
  - increasing fuel loads on non-managed agricultural areas
- **Environmental Conditions:**
  - Climate Change, Climate Variability
- **Social and political changes**
  - missing commitment by citizens
  - lack of forest law enforcement and administrative sanctions
  - lack of finances for fire prevention
- **Land development and Forest Policies**
  - High fire hazard in pine plantations
  - Afforestations of agriculture lands > 20,000/year

## Increase fire hazard in the Middle East and South East European region

1. decreasing of economic viability of smallholder farming
2. increasing extent of abandonment of land use
3. hand or mechanized land-care tools, such as scything or crushing of vegetation succession are expensive or even impossible due to the steep slopes prevailing in the abandoned areas
4. Prescribed burning

## RX in Hungary

1. RX in small scale private agriculture:  
legal currently is not allowed
  - burning of meadows
  - burning of stubble fields (corn, etc.)
2. RX for fuel reduction and open land management
3. RX in fireline construction (allowed since 2006)
4. RX in silviculture

## 2. RX in fuel reduction and open land management







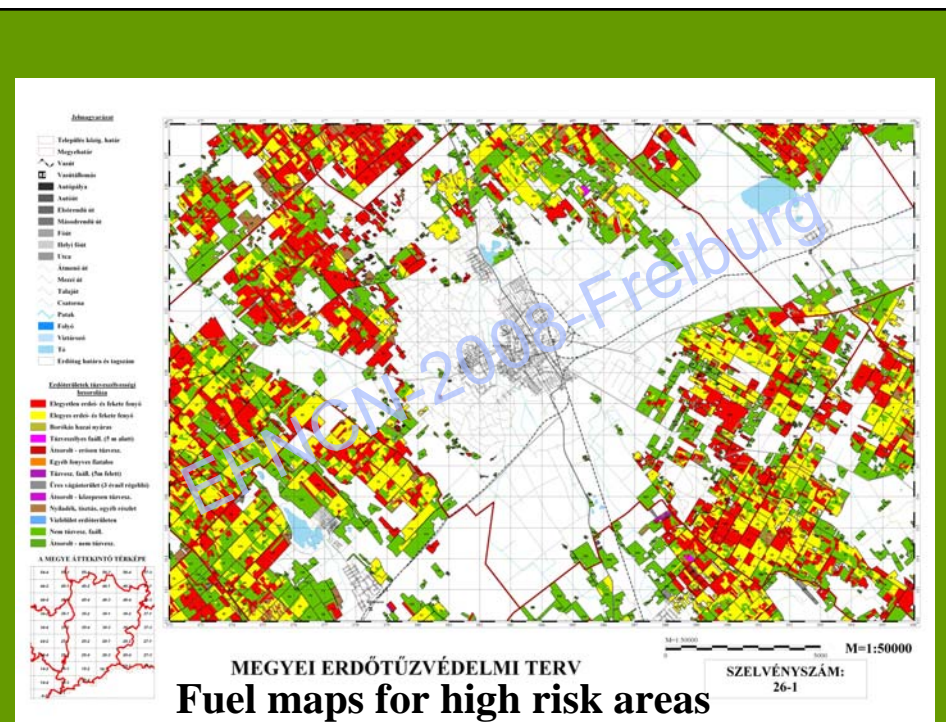




### 3. RX in fireline construction



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## 4. Planned RX activity in broadleaf regeneration stand



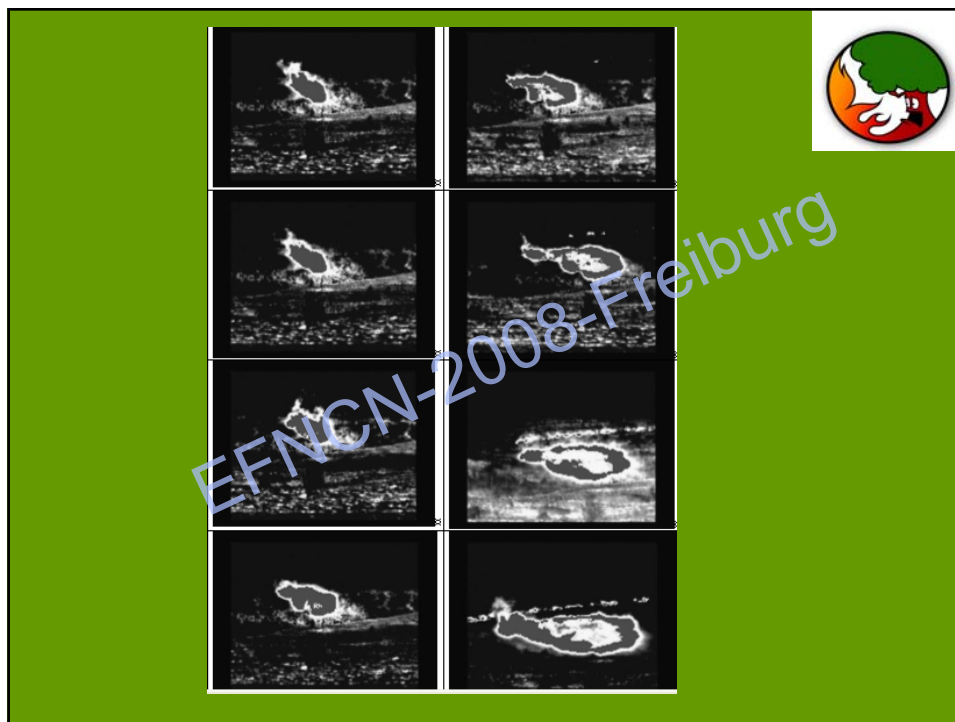
## Additional advantage of RX operations

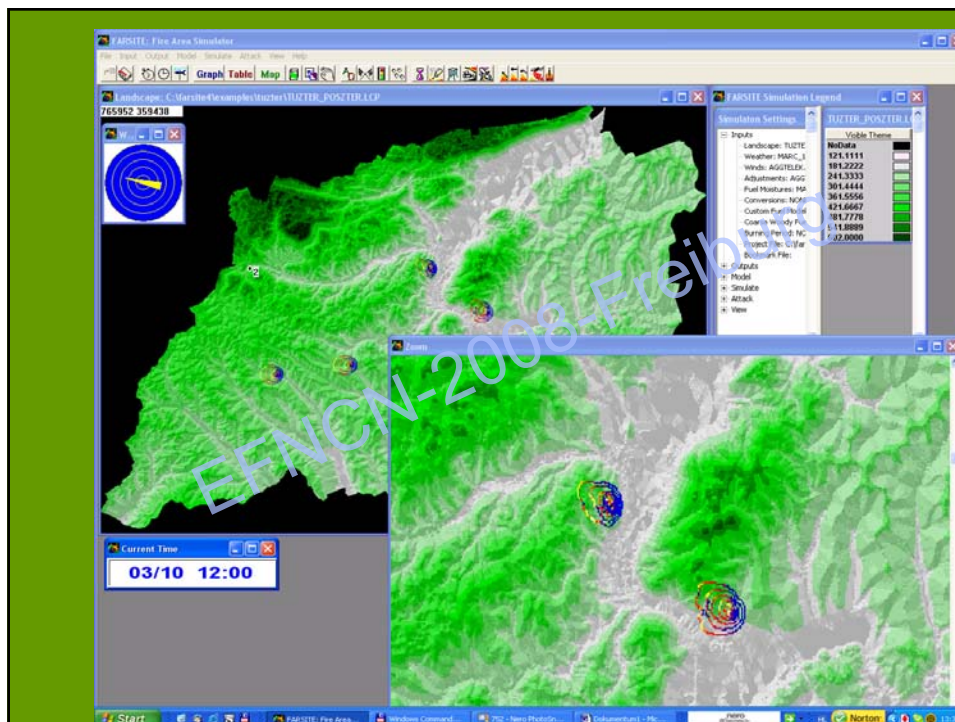
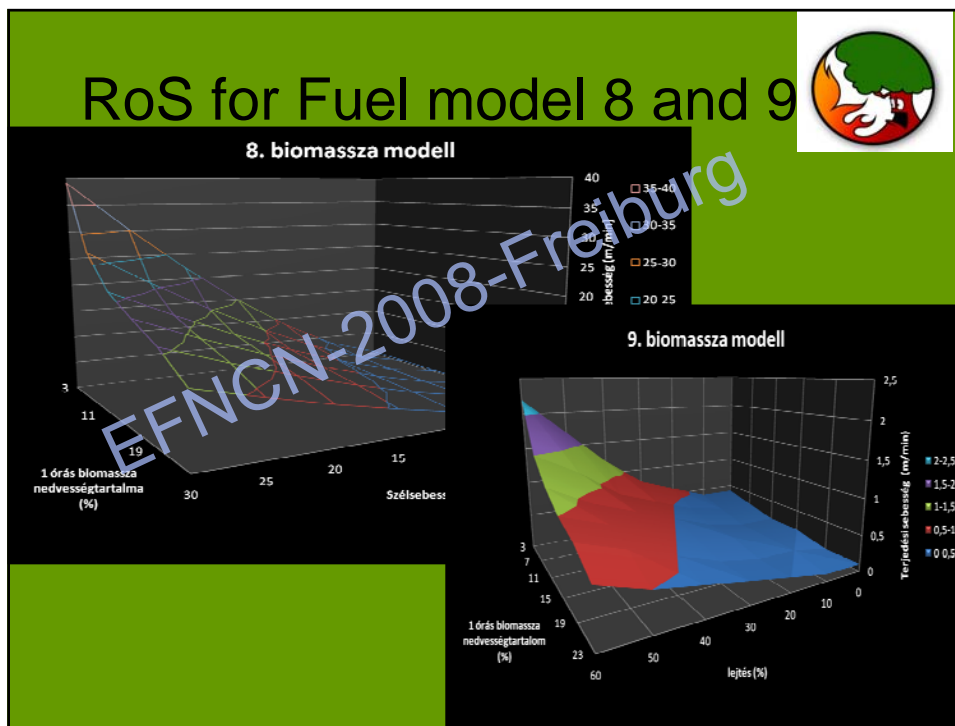


Sampling of fire behaviour data



Training of crews





## SEE ERANET PILOT PROJECT

### Germany, Hungary, Macedonia

#### Milestones 1.

- Selection of research plots in Hungary and in Macedonia
- Preparing of RX plans
- Prescribed burning training for MAC and HUN team
- Study on the historical use of RX in Middle-East and South East Europe.

#### Milestones 2.

- Autumn burnings in plots
- Fall burning in plots
- Development online database

#### Milestones 3.

- Evaluation of results
- Development of recommendation in reference to prescribed burnings for governments, NGO-s and land users

