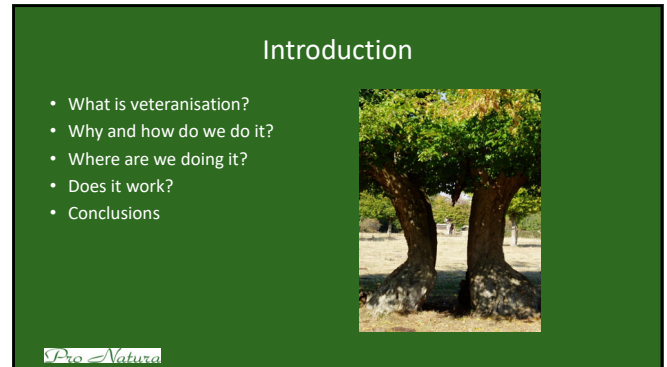




1



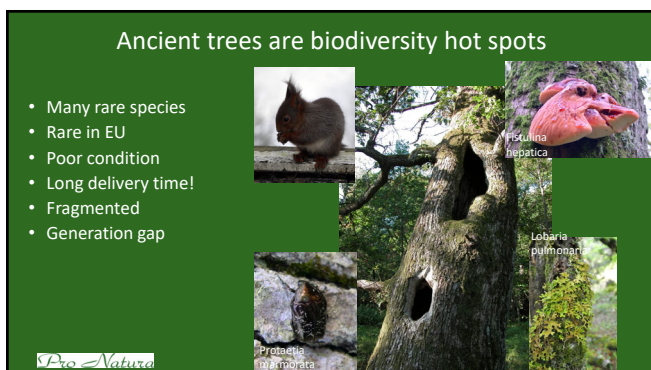
2



3



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6

### Where and how do we do veteranisation?



7



8

### Where do we NOT do it?



9

### Hatfield Forest

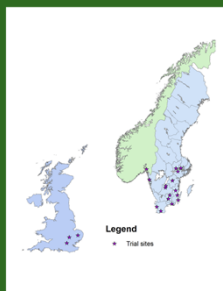
- Mid 1990s started
- Various species
- Techniques
  - Spikes
  - Topping
  - Sledgehammer
  - Hard pollarding
- Explosives!



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### International trial 2012 - 2037

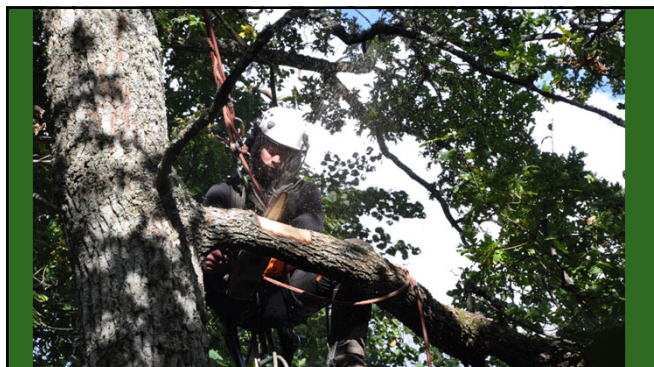
- 20 sites in total
- 980 oaks
- 700 veteranised
- 25-60cms in diameter
- All visibly healthy
- All trees tagged, photographed and coordinates taken



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Does veteranisation  
work?



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Monitoring 2020



What did we look at in 2020?

- Girth
- Dead/alive
- Decay
- Hollowing
- Sap runs
- Social bees, wasps, ants
- Nesting material, bats, remains
- Callus growth

Pro Natura

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Results from 2020 (18 sites)

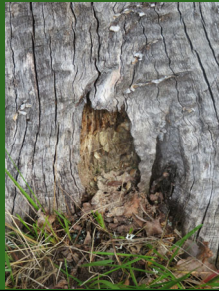
- 67% of nest boxes used for nesting
- 13% of holes used by bats (under recorded)
- Only 1.4% died (12 trees of 878)
- Wood mice found and their remains
- Trees with nestbox/woodpecker hole had more social hymenoptera
  - 30% with tree ants

Pro Natura

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## Results from 2020 (18 sites)

- Trees with nestbox grew less
- Nestbox and woodpecker hole had more decay
  - 37% with decay
- Veteranisation had limited impact other than near treatment
- 40% woodpecker holes had been damaged (hacked/chewed?)



Pro Natura

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## Results from 2020 (18 sites)

- 21% woodpecker holes had occluded
  - Remove bark from around in future?
- Trees with nestbox and woodpecker hole had more sap runs
  - 24% with sap runs
- Aspect/direction of treatments showed no impact
- No point in doing branch treatments



Pro Natura

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2012



2020



Pro Natura

21

2012



2020



Pro Natura

22

26-08-2020

14:32

Pro Natura

23

Pro Natura

24



25



26



27



28



29



30



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### Conclusions

- On the right track
- Creation of hollows important
- Succession of species?
- Sharing of cavities?
- More research needed
- Cavity ecology is fascinating!



*Pro Natura*

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Thank you to all who have helped!

- Jönköpings kommun
- Linköpings kommun
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- Fastighetsverket
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- Stiftelsen Nordens ark
- NINA
- City of London
- The National Trust
- Per Flodin



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- Länsstyrelsen Kronoberg
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- Länsstyrelsen Östergötland
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- Länsstyrelsen Västmanland

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