

Contribution of new forests to the carbon balance and wider ecosystem services



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KEY:

→ Transfer of carbon

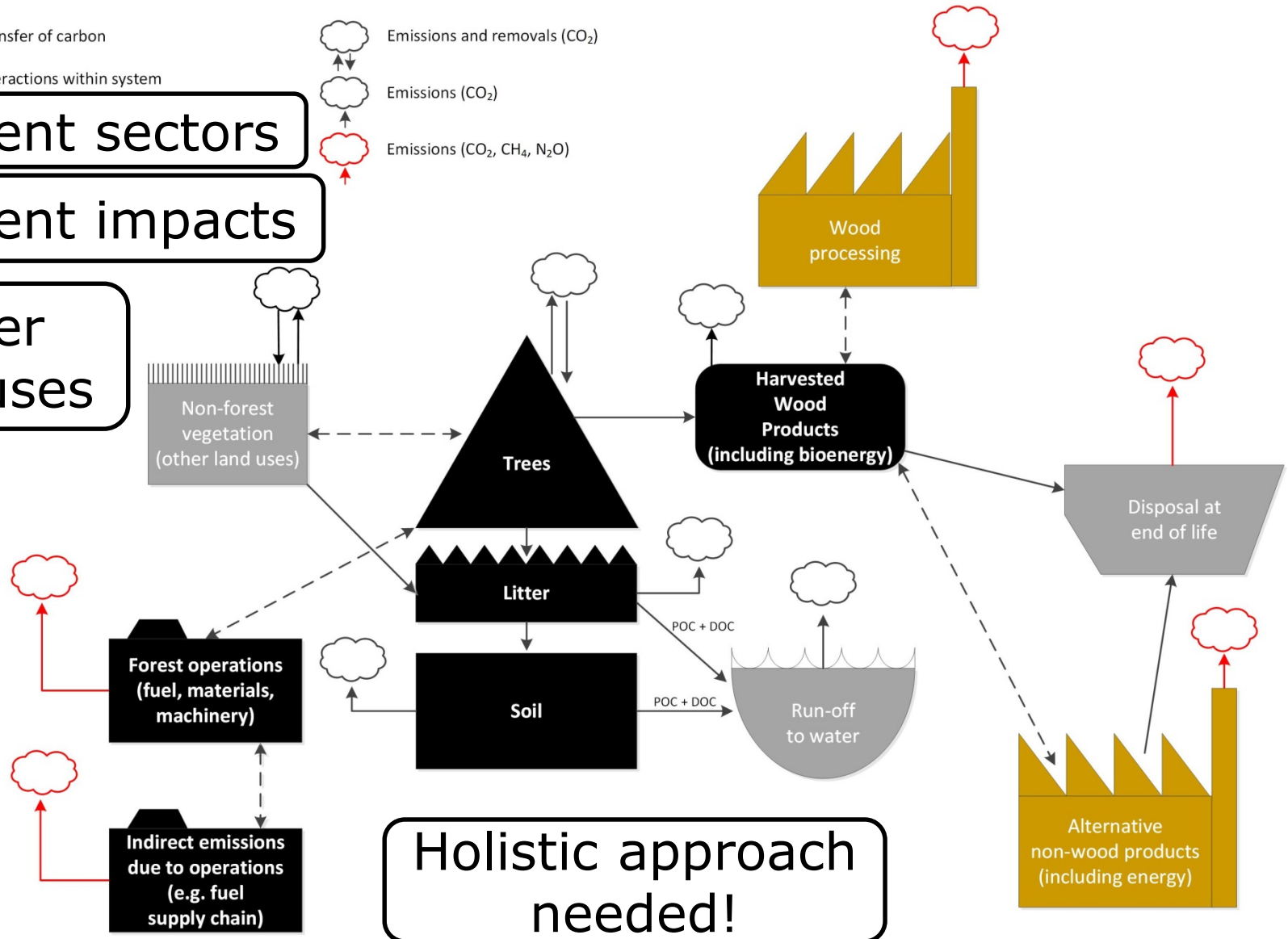
↔ Interactions within system

☁ Emissions and removals (CO₂)
 ☁ Emissions (CO₂)
 ☁ Emissions (CO₂, CH₄, N₂O)

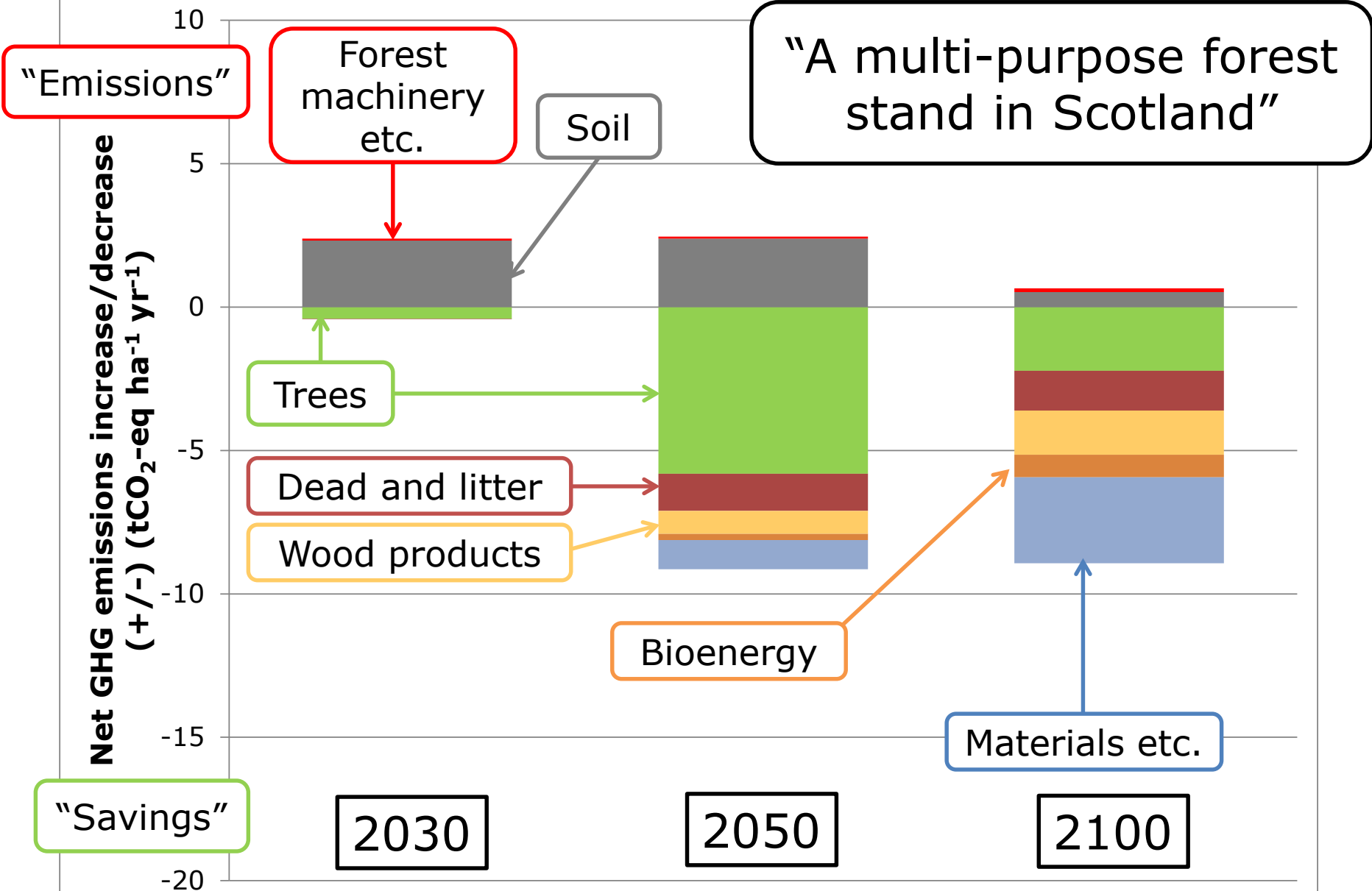
Different sectors

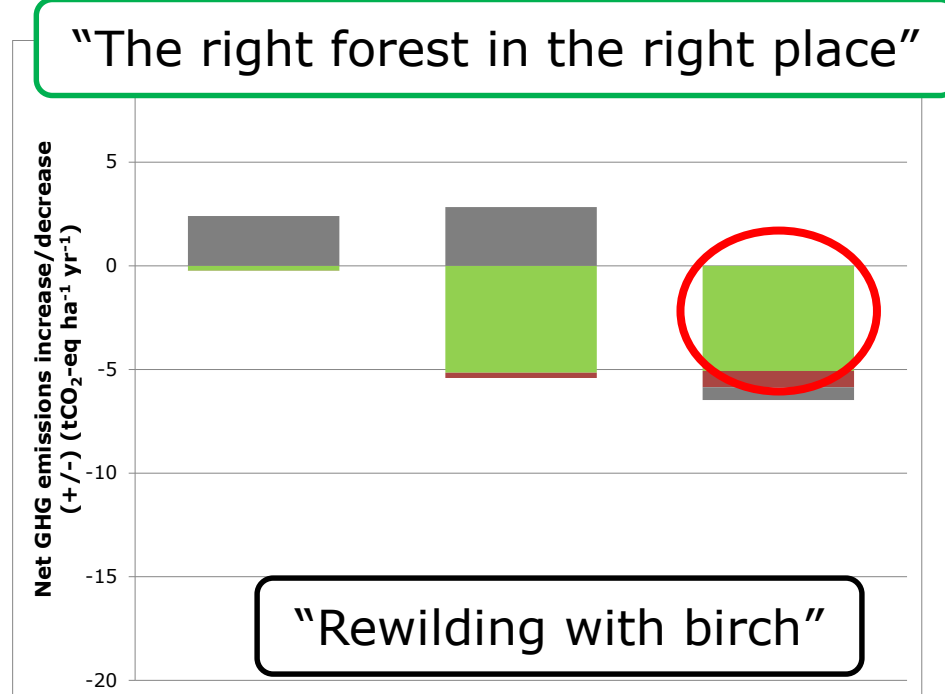
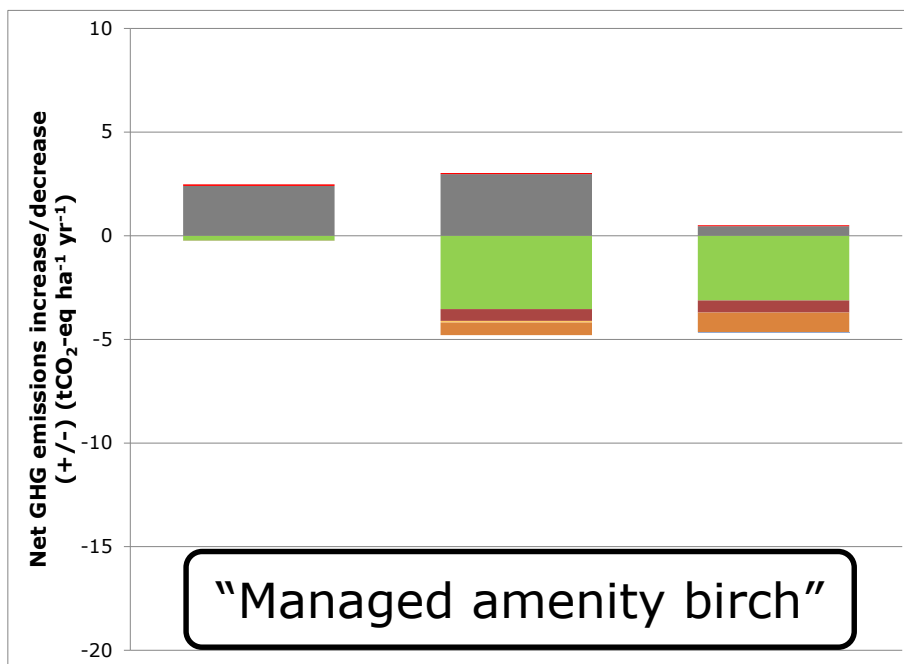
Different impacts

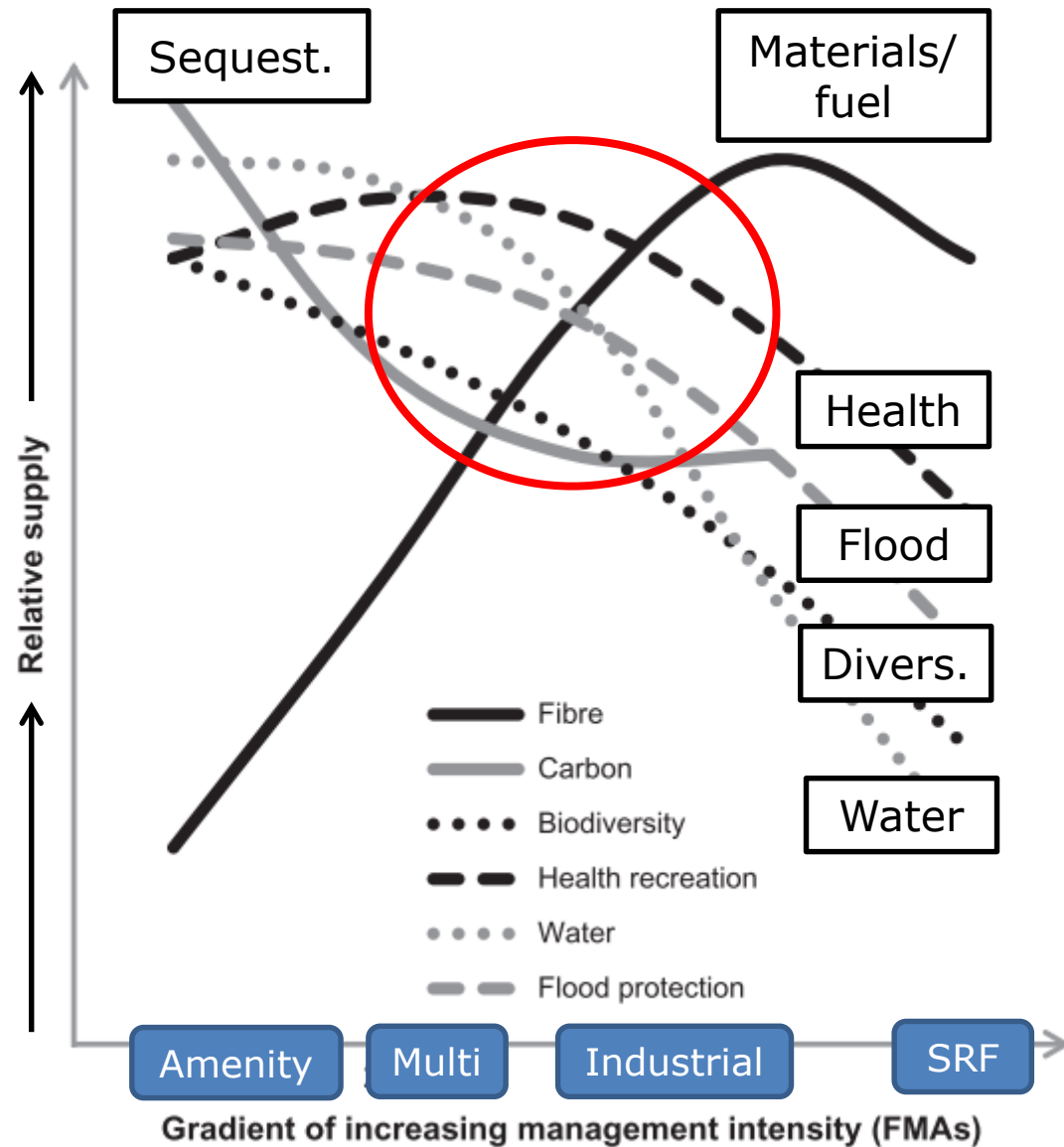
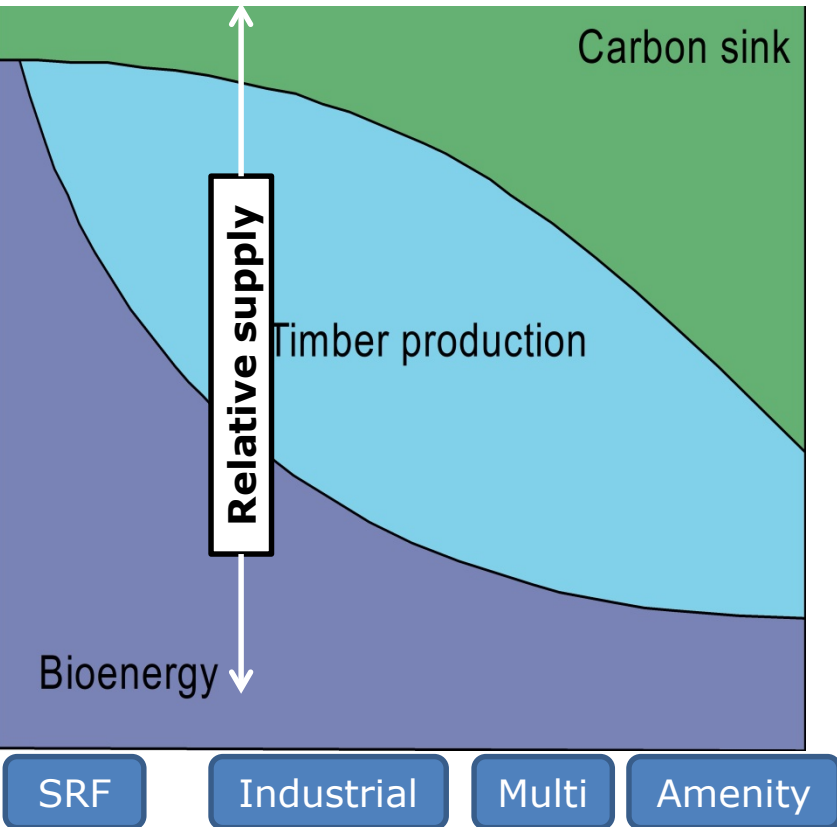
Other land uses



Holistic approach needed!







- Guidance?
- Standard?
- Criteria
- Decision support?

What is involved in a “holistic” approach?

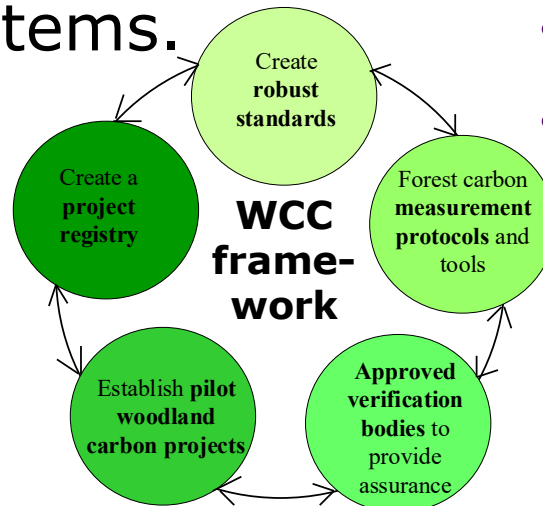
Options for instruments

- Targets
- Standards
- Public programmes
- Regulation
- Payments for actions/services
- Trading systems.

Some actual examples

- Planting targets
- Recycling targets
- Planting/management grants
- Deforestation laws
- Bioenergy incentives
- Green construction and
- timber innovation programme.

↑
Environmental integrity
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- Carbon sequestration is reversible/"lock-in"
- How to ensure wood products give GHG savings
 - Joined-up sectoral policies (environmental integrity)
- Pay now to get (long-term) benefits eventually
- Environmental/social benefits difficult to monetise
 - Carbon prices can be very volatile
- Who's carbon is it anyway?
 - Forests
 - Wood products
- "Sting" in some LULUCF accounting rules
- Need "no regrets" action (risk management)
- "Mind your language" (terminology, definitions ...)
- Beware simplistic arguments/positions
 - Too big for sectoral interests.

ACT NOW

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Acknowledgements

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(graph on Slide 5)

Thank you

Robert Matthews
Forest Research

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