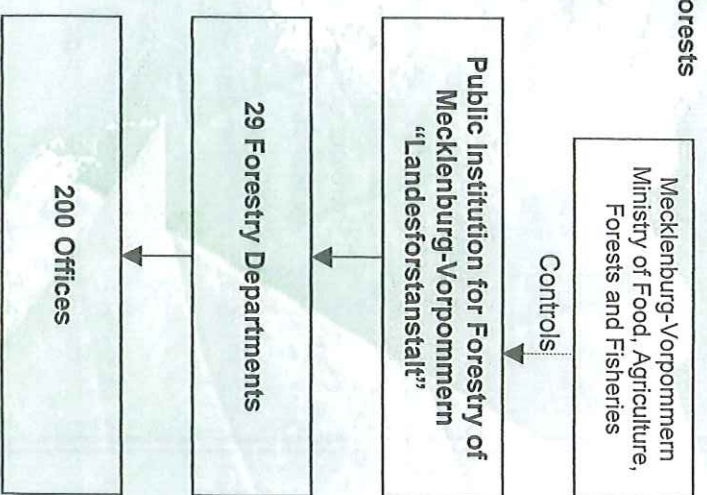


**Organisation of the state administration service for forests**



**The concept of close to nature forest management**  
 The model of close to nature forest management was developed in 1995. The idea on which it is based is that woodland should be regarded as a sustainable dynamic ecosystem. The long-term development of woodland in this state follows specific principals and aims, which are binding for the state-forests. It is recommended that they should be applied by all owners of woodland.

The priorities are:

- Increasing the proportion of broadleaved species
- Developing of mixed and multi-layered planting
- Using all suitable opportunities for natural regeneration
- Density of wildlife should be endurable for forests
- Higher amount of old and dead trees
- Protecting rare plants and animals
- Sustainable assurance of wood-production, recovery and protection-functions

In the long run monocultures of conifers should be changed into mixed-deciduous woodlands. In the past, mixed woodlands which are rich in broadleaved trees have proved to be more able to counteract the effects of abiotic and biotic damage.



Foto: M. Schmidt



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**IMPRESSUM**

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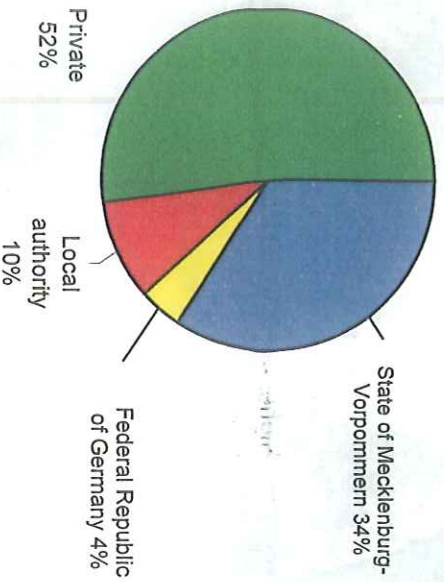


## Facts and figures

The forestry department Schuenhagen is one of the most traditional forestry departments in Germany. It was first mentioned in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. At this time the Swedish King ruled the northern parts of Germany. Schuenhagen is situated near Stralsund at the banks of a little river named Barthe.

The woodland managed by the department ranges from the Baltic Sea in the north to Richtenberg in the south and from Stralsund in the east to Ribnitz-Damgarten in the west. The total area of woodland averages about 16380 hectares (= 163,8 km<sup>2</sup>).

## The woodland and its owners



## Climate, Geology and Soils

On one hand the climate of the region West-Pomerania is affected by the maritime climate of Western Europe, on the other hand there are continental influences. The averaged temperature p.a. is 8° C. The annual deposit is about 630 mm. 50 % are falling during the growing season.

Because of freeze in May, frosted damages are not infrequently. Easterlies are predominantly and result in

long dry periods during spring. The other time of the year is dominated by western winds.



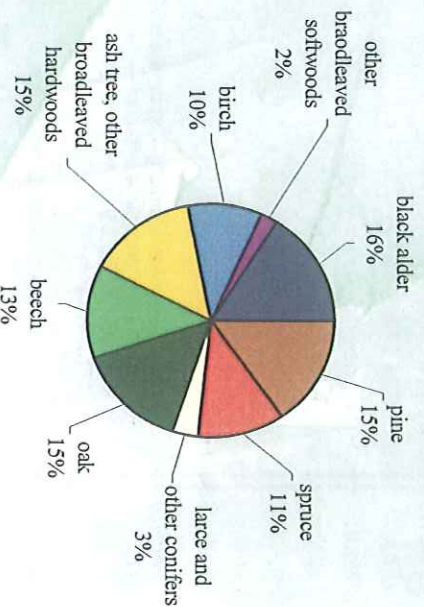
Foto: A. Baumgart

After the last ice age (12.000 years ago) formed the peninsula Darss-Zingst. Erosion and Sedimentation are still changing the coastline.

## Silviculture and Forestry Operations

A high fraction of soils in Schuenhagen is richly provided with nutrients and water. The combination with the favourable climate, causes a great diversity of forest trees.

### Proportions of varieties of trees



## Wildlife and Natural Conservation

In Schuenhagen you can find many rare plants and animals in their natural habitat. According to this about 85 % of the woodlands are part of the European network of sites called NATURA 2000. It requires special protection areas (SPA) and Flora Fauna Habitats (FFH).

Following species are inhabitants of Schuenhagen's woodlands. Some of them need huge connected areas without disturbance:

- European Otter (*Lutra lutra*)
- Beaver (*Castor fiber*)
- Red Deer (*Cervus elaphus*)
- White Tailed Eagle (*Haliaeetus albicilla*)
- Lesser Spotted Eagle (*Aquila pomarina*)
- Crane (*Grus grus*)
- Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)
- Red Kite (*Milvus milvus*)



Foto: M. Schmidt

There are two nature protection areas in the range of the forestry department. One is the "Ahrenshooper Holz" with a huge appearance of holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). It is 54 hectares in size and is protected since 1961. The other one is called "Borgwalsee und Puttler See". On 555 hectares the lakes are surrounded by swamps, reed and wooden wetlands with black elder (*Alnus glutinosa*) and elm trees (*Ulmus laevis*).