

## “Eco-Points” (Conservation banking)

### Location

**Country:** Germany / Fed. State of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (MV)

**Scale:** regional

**Region:** ~30 locations in north-east Germany

for a map see <https://www.wald-mv.de/static/Wald-mv/Inhalte/Landesforst/Umweltdienstleistungen/Karte.PNG>

### Compensated /improved ecosystem services

Compensation of interventions in nature and the landscape due to development projects, by increasing biodiversity & nature protection in existing ecosystems (*here: forests*).

### Management

Background: According to Nature protection law, interventions into nature and landscape have to be compensated. The extent of the necessary compensation is assessed by using a valuation system based at “ecopoints”. These ecopoints can be “produced” even in advance by service providers and may be banked (by individual enterprises or by brokers), and eventually be sold.

In the present case, the ecopoint provider (i.e. Forest Service of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania) acts as his own broker, providing:

- Forest areas for compensation measures
- Concepts for compensation measures
- Administrative handling (dealing with nature protection agency)
- Implementation of the concept
- Maintenance of compensation measures
- Monitoring

### Stakeholders

#### Sellers or service providers:

- Forest Service of Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania (Landesforst MV)

#### Buyers and beneficiaries of services:

- Residential and other developers

#### Knowledge providers:

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#### Donors – funding agencies or sponsors:

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#### Intermediaries:

- Verification by public authorities

### Timeline

**Establishment year:** legal basis introduced in 1998

**Time horizon:** long term

**Status of PES:** active

### **Availability of economic data**

Prices of “eco-points” depend on region and are subject to negotiation between buyers and sellers, and are usually not published.

The amount of “eco-points” necessary for a compensation is assessed for each individual case by the regionally competent authority.

Tentative value guesstimate possible on the basis of funding instruments for PES provided by German Federal states (e.g. Bavaria: 90 € per tree left as dead wood, minimum duration 12 years; MV: minimum 6 habitat trees/ha, between 56 € and 165 € per year and ha)

### **References / Source of information**

<https://www.wald-mv.de/landesforst%E2%80%93mv/Umweltdienstleistungen/>