Swiss Federal Research Institute WSL
Eidg. Forschungsanstalt WSL
Institut fédéral de recherches WSL
Istituto federale di ricerca WSL

Pfynwald Research Platform

Terms of Use

Preamble

The following Terms of Use (ToU) aim to regulate the use of and collaboration on the Pfynwald Research Platform. The **Pfynwald Core Group** (PCG) supervises the Pfynwald Research Platform and issues these ToU. For the members of the PCG, see Table 1 below.

Definitions

- *User*: everybody who is performing measurements on the Pfynwald Research Platform according to clause 5 below,
- *External Collaboration Partner (hereinafter "Collaboration Partner")*: a natural person who is not a member of the PCG, who represents a research institution and is responsible for the supervision of a User.

Purpose

The present ToU regulates the use of and the collaboration on the Pfynwald Research Platform

- to secure the integrity of the forest ecosystem and its single trees;
- to consider the reduced tree- and forest-health due to drought;
- to minimize the impact from measurements and sampling on the trees and soil;
- to prevent conflicting interests and conflicting measurements;
- to manage and secure the data from all Users;
- to allow for appropriate communication and foster collaboration and networking;
- to foster innovative science with a unique research platform.

Compliance with the following requirements is mandatory for all Users of the Pfynwald Research Platform:

1. All Users protect the integrity of the forest ecosystem and its infrastructure and respect Pfynwald as common research platform inside the nature reserve Pfyn-Finges.
2. No extensive (e.g., tree coring, girdling) or repeated (e.g., weekly) destructive sampling is allowed.

3. Any installations of sensors and any sampling should be avoided on the tree stem at a height of 1.3 m above the ground (see blue cross; so as not to interfere with the BHD and circumference measurements).
4. **For any planned measurement campaigns or installations, Users must contact the PCG at least one month prior to the expected installation.** The PCG discusses the planned measurements, decides on their approval/disapproval and offers assistance. The contact address for the PCG is pfynplatform@wsl.ch.
5. **Before the start of the anticipated study**, Users must
    a. enter expected metadata in the metadata table (download from www.wsl.ch/Pfynwald) and return them to the PCG;
    b. create a project web page (see https://projektdb.wsl.ch/addProject_Webpage) for appropriate communication and networking;
6. After completion of the measurement campaigns, Users must enter the collected data and metadata at www.envidat.ch. Support in this process and for data analysis is provided by the PCG and the appropriate individuals (see Tables 1 and 2)
7. Users are obliged to immediately report broken research infrastructure, objects causing risks (e.g., hanging trees, loose power cables or sensors) or any other incident to the PCG (send photo & short description to pfynplatform@wsl.ch).
8. Users must take waste generated during the stay in the Pfynwald back home.
9. **After completion of the measurements, Users must remove all installed equipment from the Pfynwald Research Platform.**
10. The measurements for the VPDrought project (www.wsl.ch/vpdrought), which will be carried out at the Pfynwald Research Platform from 2023 to 2028, have priority. Collaboration and data exchange between VPDrought and other projects is encouraged.
11. Users are responsible for their own installations and for any damage they cause to infrastructure or other measurements.
12. Users must comply with the attached Safety Concept of the Pfynwald Research Platform.

Contact

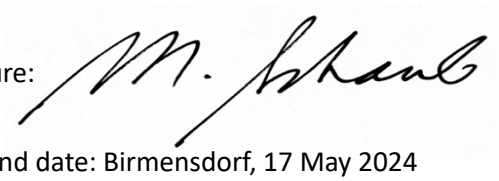
Detailed information on the Pfynwald Research Platform can be found at www.wsl.ch/pfynwald.

Email contact: pfynplatform@wsl.ch

Signatures

On behalf of the PCG

Name: Marcus Schaub

Signature: 

Place and date: Birmensdorf, 17 May 2024

User

I confirm that I have read, understood, and accepted the above Terms of Use and that I comply with the attached Safety Concept for the Pfynwald Research Platform.

Institution: ……

Name: ……

Signature: ……

Place and date: ……

External Collaboration Partner (if applicable)

I confirm that I have read, understood, and accepted the above Terms of Use and that I comply with the attached Safety Concept for the Pfynwald Research Platform.

Institution: ……

Name: ……

Signature: ……

Place and date: ……

Table 1. Members of the Pfynwald Core Group (PCG)

The members of the Pfynwald Core Group (PCG) are the following representatives of WSL, EPFL and ETHZ:

- Marcus Schaub, head of PCG and scientific co-coordinator
- Jonas Gisler, technical coordinator
- Charlotte Grossiord, scientific co-coordinator (EPFL)
- Stefan Hunziker, meteorological analyses
- Christian Hug, technical support
- Volodymyr Trotsiuk, data base manager
- Arthur Gessler, scientific advisor
- Andreas Rigling, scientific advisor (ETHZ)

Table 2. List of system parameters and responsible scientific experts (data owners) at WSL:

- Stefan Hunziker, meteorological parameters
- Katrin Meusburger, forest soils and biogeochemistry
- Petra D'Odorico, multispectral and thermal imaging
- Richard Peters, xylem sapflow
- Roman Zweifel, point dendrometers