



## ~ Methodology ~

# ANNUAL REPORT ON CHANGES IN THE AREA OF FORESTS

### LEGAL BASIS

The survey is carried out on the basis of the Work Plan of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics for 2023, in accordance with the Statistical Programme of Republika Srpska for the period 2022-2025 ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska" No. 102/21) and Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska ("Official Gazette of Republika Srpska" No. 85/03).

### METHODOLOGICAL BASIS

#### Aim and content

The main aim of this survey is to provide an overview of the area of forests on the territory of Republika Srpska.

#### Observation units/Reporting units

For state forests, reports are filled out by enterprises from the field of forestry and by units of other enterprises which are engaged in the production of forest assortments and which were entrusted with the forest husbandry and management, regardless of the forest management being their main activity or not. For private forests, reports are filled out by enterprises in the field of forestry and by units of other enterprises and municipal administrative bodies competent for forestry activities.

The report is completed by reporting units for each municipality separately and for each category of ownership, using a special form – questionnaire.

#### Coverage

This statistical survey covers state enterprises and private owners on the territory of Republika Srpska.

#### Method and period of data collection

Collection of data within this survey is carried out using the reporting method. The periodicity of the statistical activity is annual.

#### Protection of confidential data

Aggregate data are published. Individual data are protected pursuant to Articles 25 and 27 of the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska and in accordance with the Rules of protection of confidential data.

#### Definitions of main features – indicators

**Area of forests at the beginning of the year and an increase in forests during the year** – these data provide the stand structure of the area of forests at the beginning of the year and causes of the increase

in the area. Causes of the increase in the area under forest may be afforestation (natural, classic or plantation), based on the correction made on the basis of new measurement and regulation of legal-property rights.

**A decrease in areas under forest during the year and area of forests at the end of the year** – these data provide indicators of the area decrease during the year (ending with 31<sup>st</sup> December). These may occur due to clear cutting, fire, deforestation, insects, wind or other natural disasters, corrections made on the basis of new measurement and regulation of legal-property rights through transfer or sale.

## **IMPLEMENTATION ORGANISATION**

### **Authorities implementing the statistical survey**

Collection of data is carried out in the regional offices of the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics, while entry and processing of data are the responsibility of the Division for Production Statistics of the Institute. Data are collected using the reporting method. Instructions for completing the questionnaire are provided in the questionnaire itself.

Data entry and processing, in accordance with the criteria of logical and computation controls, are performed in IST application.

### **Obligation to provide data**

Reporting units are obliged to submit data to the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics pursuant to the Law on Statistics of Republika Srpska.

### **Implementation frequency**

Reporting units are obliged to submit data to the Republika Srpska Institute of Statistics until 25<sup>th</sup> March for the previous year.

Deadline for the publishing of data is 1<sup>st</sup> October each year.

## **INSTRUMENTS**

### **Questionnaire**

The questionnaire “Annual report on changes in the area of forests – ŠUM -13” is used to carry out this survey.

### **Instructions for completing the questionnaire**

Instructions for completing the questionnaire are provided in the questionnaire itself.

## **PUBLISHING**

Data are published for the level of Republika Srpska, in the “Statistical Yearbook” and in the “Forestry Bulletin”, as well as at the website of the Institute.

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### **Last updated:**

23 February 2023