

Appendix 1 – Location and Synthetic description of 10 old-growth stands used to evaluate the performance of the SHI

Table S1 – Location and main features of the 10 stands with old-growth characteristics included in this study. Dominant species – AA: *Abies alba*, FS: *Fagus sylvatica*, QC: *Quercus cerris*.

Forest Name	Location	Altitude (m asl)	Average mean Temp. (°C)	Average Annual Prec. (mm)	Years since last human intervention	Dominant Species	Bedrock
Abeti Soprani	Central Apennines	1250-1450	8.4	1124	30	AA, FS	Marly Limestone
Collemeluccio	Central Apennines	900-1000	9.2	960	50	AA, FS, QC	Marly limestone
Cozzo Ferriero	Pollino NP	1700-1750	7.3	1350	80	FS	Limestone, Dolomitic limestone
Fonte Novello	Gran Sasso, Monti della Laga NP	1340	10	1071	310	FS	Sandy marlstone
Gargano Pavari	Gargano NP	720-800	11.6	1041	56	FS	Limestone
Monte Cimino	Central Italy	925-1053	14.3	1300	61	FS	Trachyte
Monte di Mezzo	Central Apennines	950-1150	8.6	1022	55	FS, QC	Marly Limestone
Monte Sacro	Cilento, Vallo di Diano and Alburni NP	1330-1550	7.1	1600	60	FS	Limestone
Sasso Fratino	Foreste Casentinesi NP	950-1050	9	1689	76	FS, AA	Sandstone, Marlstone
Val Cervara	Abruzzo, Lazio, Molise NP	1730-1830	7.2	1211	no ref	FS	Limestone

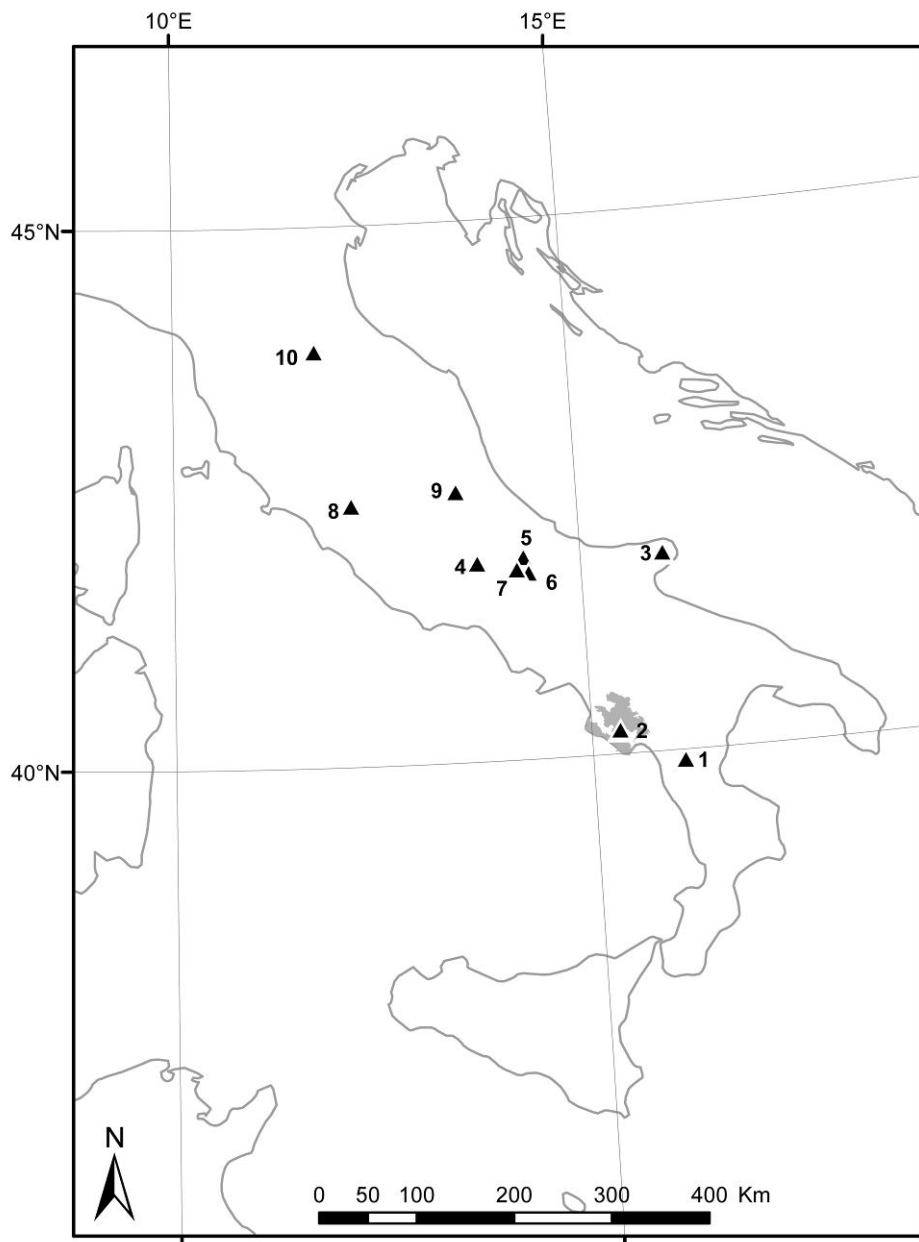


Fig. S1.1 – Distribution of old-growth stands used to evaluate the performance of SHI. 1 – Cozzo Ferriero, 2 – Monte Sacro, 3 – Gargano-Pavari, 4 – Valle Cervara, 5 – Abeti Soprani, 6 – Collemeluccio, 7 – Monte di Mezzo, 8 Monte Cimino, 9 – Fonte Novello, 10 – Sasso Fratino (from Calamini et al. 2011 – modified). Cilento, Vallo di Diano and Alburni National Park area is shown in grey.