FARCLIMATE

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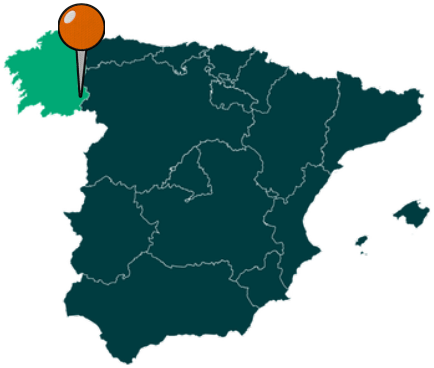
Organisation: AMETLAM, Cesefor

Sector: Forestry

Location: A Veiga Valley, Orensana Mountain range, Ourense (Galicia), Spain



This case study focuses on increasing climate resilience and reducing wildfire risk through proactive landscape management in the A Veiga Valley (Orensana Mountain range, NW Spain). The area is highly exposed to extreme fire events, and recent fires have shown a stark contrast between unmanaged areas—where large portions of the landscape burned—and the managed zone represented by this case study, which remained largely unaffected.

The work is built around three practical lines of action: (1) maintaining low-fuel areas through silvopastoralism, reducing fuel load and continuity and ensuring that strategic strips remain functional over time; (2) agricultural-type plantations in the wildland–urban interface (WUI) to create productive low-fuel strips and diversify land use; and (3) close-to-nature forestry, with light but regular interventions every few years, maintaining structural diversity and improving long-term resistance to drought, pests, and fire.

Overall, the case study supports a more fire-resilient landscape while protecting people and assets, and it is implemented through an innovative private, associative management model working with a landscape approach.

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