

Taking account of cultural values in forest planning



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Cultural 'Services'/Benefits/Values

- Millennium Ecosystem Assessment
(‘cultural services’)
- Indicators for monitoring and appraisal
- Economistic ideas of cultural consumption



Forestry Policy

- UK Forestry Standard
- Country Strategies
- Corporate and Regional Plans
 - Accent on archaeology and ‘Historic Landscapes’ (reactive consultation)
- Recreation and site plans
- Forest Design Plans
 - (consultation)

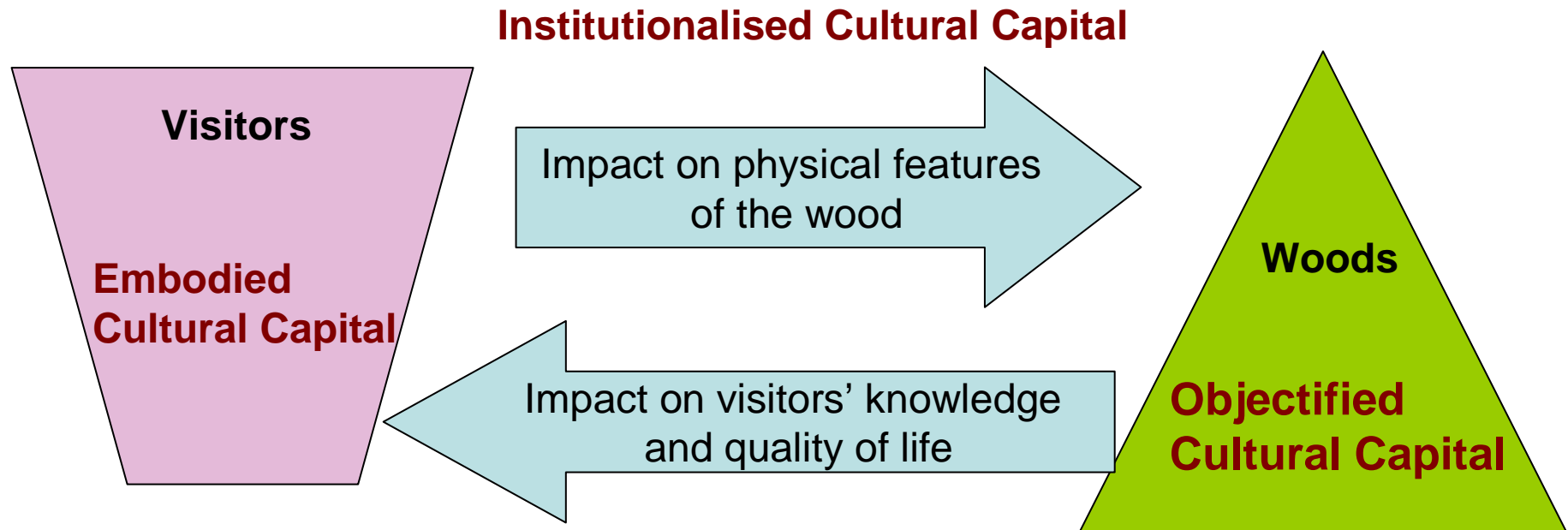


Methods

- Literature review
- Semi-structured interviews
- Case studies
 - Thames Chase Community Forest
 - Chopwell Wood (FC)



Cultural services and cultural capital*



(*Bourdieu, 1986)



Cultural Capital:

‘Institutionalised’



‘Objectified’

‘Embodied’



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Cultural values: Inspiration

“one little boy, I think he had ADHD or some disruptive learning difficulty, and the teachers weren't sure about bringing him, and he found a newt in the pond and he was just so into it and so involved in it he was maybe 7 and he just wanted to know everything about it, not just about the newt, about the wider woodland, and that one thing just inspired him. By the end of it he was “I'm going to do well at school and I want to do your job” I don't know if it will have made a difference to him, but even if it just made a difference for a day, it was worth it”



Cultural values: Health/Social Contact

“It is social contacts, really, I retired 6 years ago nearly 7 and didn’t realise I had become..... depressed, I didn’t recognise it as depression, but the doctor did.he said “you are displaying the classical symptoms of depression” and I said, “but I’m not a depressive person” “well” he said “nevertheless, that’s what it is” and I knew that I had got to get away from the house, and do things outside with other people.....”



Table 1. Typology of Cultural Values

Cultural resources:		Benefits
Intrinsic to visitors/users	Intrinsic to site	
Cultural capital (embodied): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Social capital •Skills •Knowledge •Values 	Cultural capital (objectified): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Archaeological remains •Historic features •Woodland diversity •Wildlife •Signs of management history •Stories •Practices •Artworks 	Health and well-being
		Social contacts
		Personal pride: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Physical achievements •Personal knowledge
		Education
		Inspiration
		Spiritual well-being
		Economic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Tourism •Local economic activity



Improve Communication

“I think we could improve hugely the way that we relate to and consult the local communities around our woods; the FDP process is terribly primitive really, and the way the UK Forestry Standard requires us to engage with communities is very simple as well, so we haven't got those skills in the organisation, to make those connections, at the moment, and we are not required to. But it's about reaching out and talking to people, finding out what they want.”



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Service Provision



Large Scale
Touristic



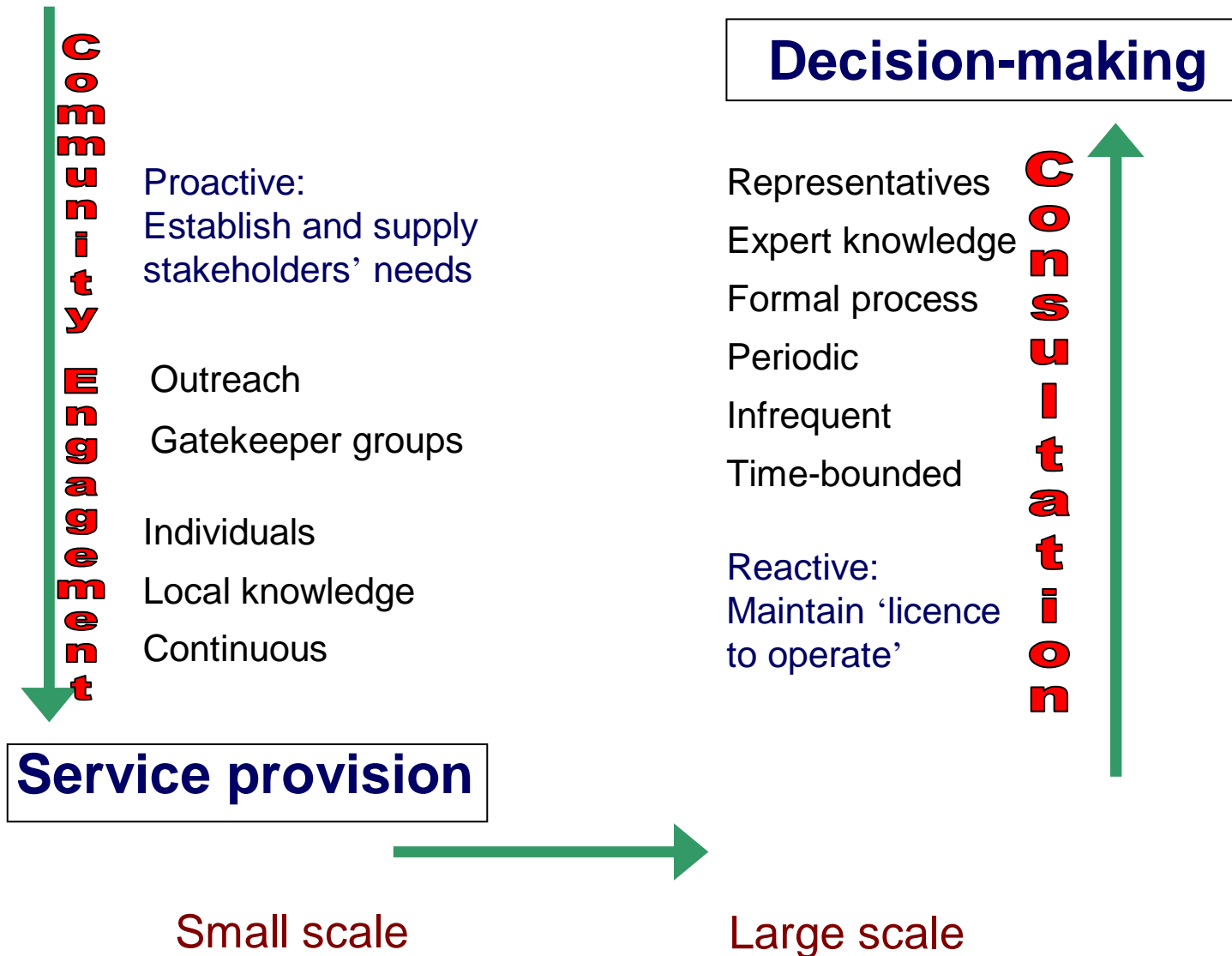
Small scale
Local



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Communication processes:



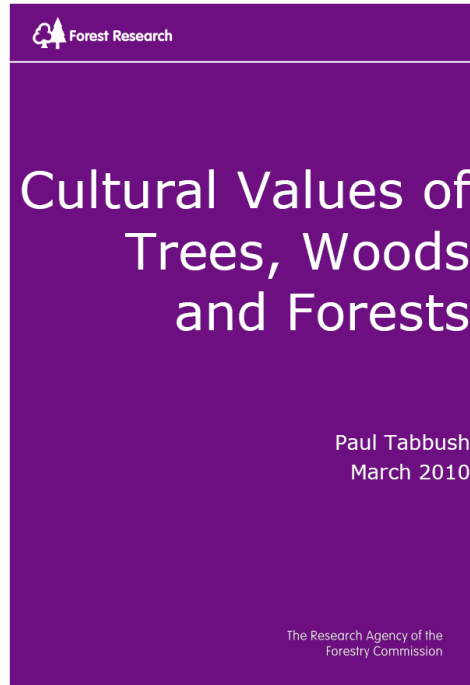
Cultural Values

Cultural values are not merely an additional layer of issues to consider as a constraint to normal management, they are the vehicle through which the value to society of trees woods and forests is realised



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Thanks

and please read the report!



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