1 Title: Future supply of boreal forest ecosystem services is driven by management rather than

- 2 **by climate change.**
- 3 Running title: Future supply of forest ecosystem services
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23 Abstract

24 Forests provide a wide variety of ecosystem services (ES) to society. The boreal biome is experiencing the highest rates of warming on the planet and increasing demand for forest products. 25 To foresee how to maximize the adaptation of boreal forests to future warmer conditions and 26 27 growing demands of forest products, we need a better understanding of the relative importance of 28 forest management and climate change on the supply of ecosystem services. Here, using Finland as 29 a boreal forest case study, we assessed the potential supply of a wide range of ES (timber, bilberry, 30 cowberry, mushrooms, carbon storage, scenic beauty, species habitat availability and deadwood) 31 given seven management regimes and four climate change scenarios. We used the forest simulator 32 SIMO to project forest dynamics for 100 years into the future (2016-2116) and estimate the 33 potential supply of each service using published models. Then, we tested the relative importance of 34 management and climate change as drivers of the future supply of these services using generalized 35 linear mixed models. Our results show that the effects of management on the future supply of these 36 ES were, on average, eleven times higher than the effects of climate change across all services, but 37 greatly differed among them (from 0.53 to 24 times higher for timber and cowberry, respectively). 38 Notably, the importance of these drivers substantially differed among biogeographical zones within 39 the boreal biome. The effects of climate change were 1.6 times higher in northern Finland than in 40 southern Finland, whereas the effects of management were the opposite - they were three times 41 higher in the south compared to the north. We conclude that new guidelines for adapting forests to 42 global change should account for regional differences and the variation in the effects of climate 43 change and management on different forest ES.

44

45 Keywords: biodiversity; ecological modelling; Fennoscandia; Finland; forest dynamics;

46 silviculture; SIMO forest growth simulator.

47 **1 | INTRODUCTION**

48 Forests provide crucial ecosystem services (ES) for society including timber, non-wood forest

- 49 products (e.g., wild berries), recreation opportunities, regulation of water, soil and air quality, and
- 50 climate change mitigation (Brockerhoff et al., 2017). Boreal forests represent the largest terrestrial
- 51 biome (Hansen et al., 2010); they constitute around 45% of the world's stock of growing timber
- 52 (Gerasimov et al., 2012), store about one-third of the global terrestrial carbon (Moen et al., 2014;
- 53 Pan et al., 2011) and, despite low tree species diversity, provide habitats for a wide range of species
- 54 such as saproxylic fungi and beetle species (Siitonen, 2001). The levels of ES supplied by boreal

55 forests are highly dynamic, changing in space and over short-term periods (Snäll et al., 2021).

- 56 These dynamics result from variation in both environmental conditions (e.g., climate) and
- 57 management actions. Thus, a better understanding of how climate change and management will
- 58 drive the future supply of ES is critical in securing high multifunctionality in boreal forests.

59 Forest management plays an important role in the supply of ES (e.g., Eyvindson et al., 2018; Mina 60 et al., 2017; Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020; Pukkala, 2016; Schwenk et al., 2012). There is no single 61 management regime that maximizes the supply of all services simultaneously, as there are trade-offs 62 between them (e.g., Gutsch et al., 2018; Sing et al., 2018). For example, the most severe trade-offs 63 are found between timber production and other services (e.g., Duncker et al., 2012), such as carbon 64 storage, bilberry and biodiversity (Pohjanmies et al., 2017). To enhance multifunctionality in boreal 65 forests while achieving different policy and environmental targets, recent studies have highlighted the need of diversifying management alternatives across the landscape (Duflot et al., 2022; Triviño 66 67 et al., 2017) and increasing the share of management regimes that are beneficial for multiple 68 objectives simultaneously (e.g., increase the share of continuous cover forestry which maintains a 69 multi-layered structure created by harvesting individual large trees periodically) (Blattert et al., 70 2022; Eggers et al., 2020; Eyvindson et al., 2021).

71 Climate change will strongly affect forest ecosystems during the next centuries by altering the 72 growth, mortality and reproduction of trees (Dyderski et al., 2018; Seidl et al., 2014). Boreal forests 73 will be particularly affected by climate change (Chen & Luo, 2015; Sánchez-Pinillos et al., 2022; 74 Venäläinen et al., 2020) because they are expected to experience the largest increase of temperature 75 of all forest biomes, with increases from 4°C to 11°C (Gauthier et al., 2015). On one hand, rising 76 atmospheric CO₂ associated with climate change has a positive but uncertain effect on forest 77 productivity and growth, although these positive trends might be transitional (D'Orangeville et al., 78 2018). On the other hand, rising temperature and vapor pressure deficit have mostly negative effects 79 on forest demographic rates, but may have positive effects in cold and wet regions such as the 80 boreal zone (McDowell et al., 2020). Moreover, several studies suggest negative impacts of climate

- 81 change on the provisioning of non-wood forest ES (Breshears et al., 2011; Elkin et al., 2013;
- 82 Lindner et al., 2014; Mazziotta et al., 2022) and on the biodiversity these ecosystems host (e.g.,
- 83 Mazziotta et al., 2015; Virkkala, 2016). In boreal forests, the impact of climate change on ES
- 84 depends on the specific service, as increasing temperatures have been projected to increase harvest-
- 85 and carbon-related services but decrease some cultural services such as winter sports (Holmberg et
- 86 al. 2019).

87 Assessing the future supply of ES is crucial for promoting forest adaptation to climate change and 88 identifying how to maximize provisioning, regulating and cultural ES as well as biodiversity under 89 novel climatic conditions (e.g., Kellomäki, 2017). We need a better understanding of the relative 90 importance of forest management and climate change on the future supply of ES and maintenance 91 of biodiversity, and whether this relative importance is consistent across biogeographical zones. 92 Several studies have investigated the joint impacts of both drivers on such supply in temperate 93 (Gutsch et al., 2018; Thrippleton et al., 2021), mountainous (Albrich et al., 2018; Mina et al., 2017; 94 Seidl et al., 2019) and Mediterranean forests (Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020; Roces-Díaz et al., 2021). 95 However, the relative importance of management regimes and climate scenarios on the future

96 supply of a wide range of boreal ES have, to our knowledge, not been investigated.

97 Here, using Finland as a boreal forest case study, we first assessed the future supply of a wide range 98 of ES using simulations of forest development. Then, we tested the relative importance of 99 management and climate change as drivers of the future supply of these services using generalized 100 linear mixed models. Specifically, we address the following questions: (i) How will the potential 101 supply of ES change under different management and climate scenarios? (ii) What is the relative 102 importance of forest management versus climate change on this potential supply? and (iii) Is the 103 relative importance of these two drivers consistent across biogeographical zones within the boreal 104 biome? We expect that a diversified forest management planning which includes a larger share of 105 less intensive management regimes (i.e., no thinnings) will increase the potential future supply of 106 non-timber ES and biodiversity (e.g., Sing et al., 2018; Triviño et al., 2017), whereas the effects of 107 climate change will have both positive and negative effects on the supply of ES (Holmberg et al., 108 2019). We also expect that forest management plays a more important role than the direct effects of 109 climate change in the potential supply of forest ES, as shown in forests in other biogeographical 110 regions (e.g., Gutsch et al., 2018; Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020). Finally, we expect that the 111 importance of climate change will increase towards north as the most drastic changes are projected 112 for higher latitudes (Ruosteenoja et al., 2016).

113 **2 | METHODS**

114 **2.1.** | **Data, management regimes and simulations**

- 115 Finland is the most forested country in Europe and the boreal zone (UNEP FAO and UNFF, 2009),
- 116 with a forest cover of around 86% of the land area, mostly under commercial management
- 117 (Vaahtera et al., 2021). Moreover, the northeastern part of Finland hosts a significant proportion of
- 118 the primary forests of Europe (Sabatini et al., 2018). Finnish boreal forests are composed of
- approximately 50% Scots pine (Pinus sylvestris), 30% Norway spruce (Picea abies), 17% birch
- 120 (Betula pendula and Betula pubescens) and 3% other broadleaved trees (Vaahtera et al., 2021).
- 121 Finland is divided into four biogeographical zones; most of its area is part of the boreal zone
- 122 (subdivided in south, middle and north boreal subzones) and the south coastal area belongs to the
- hemiboreal subzone of the temperate zone (Ahti et al., 1968) (Figure 1).



124

Figure 1. Location of Finland within Europe and the biogeographical zones in Finland (source SYKE open-data service).

- 127 We used a systematic sample of the Finnish Multi-Source National Forest Inventory (MS-NFI) 128 (Mäkisara et al., 2019) as starting conditions for our simulations of forest dynamics and 129 management over the course of one century (2016-2116). The MS-NFI data is based on satellite 130 images, digital maps and NFI field data. The MS-NFI provides raster layers for the whole country 131 on a large number of forest variables at a pixel resolution of 16 m, e.g., volume of the main tree 132 species or site type, and is openly available from the National Resources Institute Finland (Luke) 133 (http://kartta.luke.fi/opendata/valinta-en.html) (Figure 2). The MS-NFI raster layers were sampled along a systematic inventory grid following the design of the sampling scheme of the 11th National 134 135 Forest Inventory (NFI) which varies for different regions of Finland (for further details see 136 http://www.metla.fi/ohjelma/vmi/vmi11-otanta-en.htm and Supporting Information Appendix S1). 137 When a NFI plot centre overlap with a MS-NFI pixel cell, this cell was selected and treated as an 138 individual forest plot in the simulations. In total, 52,015 forest plots representing different 139 proportions of the country were selected for our analyses. We made this selection to accurately
- 140 represent the Finnish forest conditions while keeping a reasonable computational time.



142 **Figure 2.** Flow chart showing the simulation and modelling approach used in this study.

141

143 We simulated forest development using the open-source forest simulator SIMO (Rasinmäki et al., 144 2009). The modelling framework in SIMO consists of over 400 equations to simulate tree growth, 145 mortality, regeneration and within stand competition for even-aged (Hynynen et al., 2002) and 146 uneven-aged boreal forests (Pukkala et al., 2013). Among other processes, SIMO simulates the 147 survival and mortality of trees as a function of tree competition (which is calculated independently 148 of the individual trees' location) and ageing. SIMO is an individual tree-based, stand-level 149 simulator based on empirical data. The input data for SIMO contain basic environmental 150 information (e.g., altitude, geographical location, climatic variables such as mean temperature, 151 mean precipitation, and CO₂ concentrations) and detailed information about the forest structure and 152 composition of each forest plot (e.g., volume of the different tree species, age, mean diameter, mean 153 height, and basal area) (see Supporting Information Appendix S1 for further details). The impact of 154 climate variables on forest growth dynamics in SIMO was based on climate-sensitive statistical 155 growth and yield models. These models by means of species-specific transfer functions describe the 156 increase in stem volume growth of trees as a function of increasing temperatures and CO₂

157 concentrations (Matala et al., 2005, 2006).

158 We simulated forest dynamics for 100 years into the future (2016-2116), separated in 5-years

159 sequences. This 100-year simulation allows the full rotation length of the standard, even-aged

160 forestry. Each forest plot was simulated under 28 alternative scenarios that resulted from

161 combination of seven management regimes and the climate change scenarios.

162 For each forest plot, we simulated up to seven management regimes: rotation forestry with final 163 clear cut as business as usual (BAU) following the official Finnish forest management 164 recommendations for rotation forestry, which tend to favor actions that lead to monospecific forests 165 (Åijälä et al., 2014); four regimes that represent modifications of BAU; continuous cover forestry 166 aiming for uneven-aged and more diversely structured forests; and set aside with no management 167 actions (see Table 1 for further details). Management is based on decision rules which depend on 168 site type, height of the dominant tree species and age of the forest stand. For BAU, a final clear cut 169 is conducted when the dominant tree height is larger than 14-16 meters and the age is 70-90 years. 170 After the final clear cut, the stand is prepared and artificially regenerated (either by planting or 171 seedling trees) (Äijälä et al., 2014). The four modifications of BAU represent alternatives that seek 172 to enhance forest multifunctionality as they either increase the size of the trees or promote a more 173 natural self-thinning mortality of trees, with consequent higher accumulation of deadwood. For 174 example, no thinning regimes (NT and NTSR) are expected to improve the habitat of species 175 dependent on deadwood and dense forests (Tikkanen et al., 2012). The specific set and total number 176 of simulated regimes for each forest plot depended on the initial conditions and characteristics of

- 177 the plot. For example, forest plots with reduced growth may not meet the threshold conditions of
- some of the management regimes, resulting in fewer applied management regimes than plots with
- 179 high wood productivity. Forest management is not allowed in protected areas, so these were
- 180 excluded from our analyses.
- 181 **Table 1.** Description of simulated forest management (adapted from Mönkkönen et al. (2014) and
- 182 Eyvindson et al. (2018)).

Management regime	Acronym	Description
Business as usual	BAU	Even-aged rotation forestry with final clear cut; 1–3 thinnings; final clear cut with green tree retention level 10 trees/ha (Äijälä et al. 2014).
Extended rotation by 15 years	EXT15	BAU with postponed final clear cut by 15 years.
Green tree retention	GTR	BAU with 30 green trees retained/ha at final clear cut.
No thinning	NT	BAU without thinnings; trees grow slower due to increased competition and final clear cut is often later than with thinnings.
No thinning with short rotation	NTSR	BAU without thinnings and final clear cut done 20 years earlier.
Continuous cover forestry	CCF	Large trees are periodically removed (thinnings from above using basal area threshold of $16-22 \text{ m}^2/\text{ha}$). The minimal time between thinnings is 15 years. No final clear cut (Pukkala et al., 2013).
Set aside	SA	No management actions.

183 Regarding the four climate change scenarios, we considered a baseline climate scenario (which

assumes that the mean climatic conditions for the period 1996-2014 will be held constant over the

185 100-year simulation period), and three alternative greenhouse forcing scenarios, termed

186 Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs): RCP2.6, RCP4.5 and RCP8.5. In Finland, the

187 annual mean temperature is projected to increase by 1.9, 3.3 and 5.6°C by the 2080s under the

188 RCP2.6, RCP4.5 and RCP8.5 scenarios, respectively, compared to the reference period of 1996-

189 2014 (Ruosteenoja et al., 2016; Venäläinen et al., 2020). The mean annual precipitation is expected

to increase by 6%, 11% and 18% under these RCPs by the 2080s, respectively. The changes are

191 projected to be larger during the winter than during the summer months. During the potential

192 growing season (April-September), the mean temperature is expected to rise by about 1-5°C and

193 precipitation by 5%-11%, depending on the RCP scenario (Ruosteenoja et al., 2016).

194 For this study, we selected the climate variables driving forest growth and decomposition dynamics

195 for mineral soils (using Yasso07 model): mean and amplitude of temperature, CO₂ concentration

and precipitation. The climate variables were downscaled to a $0.2^{\circ} \times 0.1^{\circ}$ longitude-latitude grid by

197 a quantile-quantile type bias correction algorithm for temperature (Räisänen & Räty, 2013) and

198 parametric quantile mapping for precipitation (Räty et al., 2014). Gridded harmonized

199 meteorological data by Aalto et al. (2013) were used. For the baseline climate scenario, we used 5-

200 years mean values over the period 1996-2014 (Lehtonen et al., 2016), and for the three future

- 201 climate change scenarios (RCP2.6, RCP4.5 and RCP8.5) we used 5-years mean values from one
- 202 General Circulation Model, the Canadian Earth system model CanESM2 (Von Salzen et al., 2013).
- 203 Initially, we considered and compared data from five global circulation models (GCMs): CanESM2,
- 204 CNRM-CM5, GFDL-CM3, HadGEM2-ES and MIROC5, sourced from the fifth phase of the
- 205 Coupled Model Intercomparison Project (CMIP5; Meehl et al., 2009; Taylor et al., 2012) for whole
- 206 of Finland (Supporting Information Appendix S2). Then, we focused only on CanESM2 as the
- 207 differences among GCMs were very small and we preferred to reduce the complexity of the
- analyses (Supporting Information Appendix S2).

209 2.2. | Ecosystem services

- 210 We estimated the potential of Finnish boreal forests to provide a wide range of forest ecosystem
- 211 services (including provisioning, regulating and cultural ones) that are relevant in Finland
- 212 (Saastamoinen et al., 2014): (i) timber; (ii) bilberry; (iii) cowberry; (iv) mushrooms; (v) carbon
- storage; (vi) scenic beauty; (vii) habitat availability for key vertebrate species; (viii) deadwood
- 214 (Table 2; Supporting Information Appendix S3). We used already published models (see Table 2;
- 215 Supporting Information Appendix S3) to link the potential supply of forest services to the forest's
- 216 structural characteristics and environmental factors, as projected by SIMO under the 28 scenarios
- 217 resulting from the combination of forest management regimes and climate change scenarios (Figure
- 218 2).

219 The most important provisioning service, from an economic perspective, is timber harvest. The 220 forest sector generated 9 billion euros in 2018 which represented 4.5% of the Finnish gross domestic 221 product Vaahtera et al., 2021). We calculated the total amount of harvested log and pulp timber 222 extracted during thinnings and final harvesting $(m^3 ha^{-1})$. Forests play a significant role in the 223 Finnish way of life, and the enjoyment of forest's benefits by citizens is supported by the traditional 224 everyman's right which allows picking wild berries and mushrooms or hiking even in private 225 forests. The wild berry and mushroom yields harvested from Finnish forests annually can reach tens of millions of kilos annually (Saastamoinen et al., 2014). Here, we used output data from the SIMO 226 227 projections (e.g., site type, dominating tree species, stand age, stand basal area; Table 2) constituting 228 explanatory variables in the models to predict the yields (kg ha⁻¹) of three forest collectables goods: bilberry (Vaccinium myrtillus) (Miina et al., 2009, 2016), cowberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea) (Miina 229 230 et al., 2016; Turtiainen et al., 2013), and marketed mushrooms (including Boletus edulis, Lactarius 231 spp. among others) (Tahvanainen et al., 2016).

233
 Table 2. Ecosystem services studied. See Supporting Information Appendix S3 for detailed information of each service.

Ecosystem service	Description	Most relevant predictors	Units	Туре	References
Timber	Extracted log and pulp wood during thinnings and final harvesting	Stand basal area, stand age, site type	m ³ ha ⁻¹	Provisioning ES	Rasinmäki et al. (2009)
Bilberry	Yield of bilberry (Vaccinium myrtillus)	Site type, dominating tree species, regeneration method, altitude, stand age, and stand basal area	kg ha⁻¹	Provisioning & Cultural ES	Miina et al. (2009, 2016)
Cowberry	Yield of cowberry (Vaccinium vitis-idaea)	Site type, dominating tree species, temperature sum, altitude, stand age, and stand basal area	kg ha ⁻¹	Provisioning & Cultural ES	Turtiainen et al. (2013); Miina et al. (2016)
Mushroom	Yield of marketed mushrooms	E.g., for cep are stand basal area and stand age	kg ha ⁻¹	Provisioning & Cultural ES	Tahvanainen et al. (2016)
Carbon storage	Carbon in biomass Carbon in mineral soils (Yasso07 model) Carbon in peatlands	Stand age and tree species composition Litter fall, temperature, and precipitation	m ³ ha ⁻¹	Regulating ES	Lehtonen et al. (2004) Liski et al. (2005); Tuomi et al. (2009; 2011) Ojanen et al. (2014)
Scenic beauty	An index based on forest age, density and tree species composition	Stand age, stem density and tree size and species composition	ha ⁻¹	Cultural ES	Pukkala et al. (1988, 1995)
Habitat availability	An index combining the habitat suitability models of six indicator vertebrate species	Stand age and tree species composition	ha ⁻¹ (range 0-1)	Biodiversity indicator	Mönkkönen et al. (2014)
Deadwood	Volume of 5 categories of deadwood	Stand age and tree species composition	m ³ ha ⁻¹	Biodiversity indicator	Mäkinen et al. (2006)

235 We assessed climate regulation as the total amount of carbon stored within forest biomass and soil $(m^3 ha^{-1})$. The carbon stored within forest biomass includes living wood, dead wood, extracted 236 237 timber and the residuals left after harvesting. Soil carbon was evaluated using two models. For 238 mineral soils, we use the Yasso07 model (Liski et al., 2005; Tuomi et al., 2009, 2011), and for 239 peatland soils were the carbon flux models by Ojanen et al. (2014). Almost all Finns (96%) engage 240 in some form of recreational outdoor activities, mostly in forests (Sievänen & Neuvonen, 2011), 241 which have well-known effects on the physical and mental health and wellbeing of people (Wolf et al., 2020). The cultural or aesthetic value of the forest was estimated using an index (ha⁻¹, no unit) 242 243 which assess the scenic beauty of forests based on their structural characteristics such as stand age, 244 number of stems per area and tree size and species composition according to previous studies from 245 Pukkala et al. (1988, 1995).

246 As biodiversity indicators, we used a measure of species habitat availability (habitat suitability 247 index) and deadwood volume. The habitat suitability index (ha⁻¹, no unit) combines the habitat 248 availability of six key vertebrate species of boreal forests: capercaillie (Tetrao urogallus), flying squirrel (Pteromys volans), hazel grouse (Bonasia bonasa), long-tailed tit (Aegithalos caudatus), 249 250 lesser-spotted woodpecker (Dendrocopos minor) and three-toed woodpecker (Picoides tridactylus). 251 These species were selected to represent a wide range of habitat types as well as social and 252 economic values including game birds, umbrella and threatened species. The models included in the 253 habitat suitability index were taken from Mönkkönen et al. (2014) and were based on literature and 254 expert opinion about the habitat requirements of the focal species. Deadwood is a critical resource 255 in boreal forests (Stokland et al., 2012) and an indicator of forest biodiversity (Lassauce et al., 256 2011). Intensive forestry in Fennoscandia has decreased the amount of deadwood to a small fraction 257 of its pristine levels (Siitonen, 2001). Thus, the amount of deadwood is considerably higher in 258 natural old-growth forests than in managed production forests.

259 2.3. | Estimate of the potential future forest attributes and supply of ES

260 We first analyzed the projected changes over time of different forest attributes related to forest

structure and composition and for each combination of climate and forest management scenario.

262 The selected attributes represent some of the most relevant predictors of the different ES (Table 2).

To estimate the potential supply of the ES, we calculated their cumulative supply after the 100-year time horizon (values were summed up over all simulation years and averaged across all forest plots in the study area and by biogeographical regions – see details further below) for each service under each management regime and climate change scenario. We also estimated the relative performance
of the different management regimes by comparing the supply values of each service under each
management regime with their corresponding values in unmanaged forests (*set aside*, SA),
irrespectively of the climate scenario (see Supporting Information Table S1). In the case of

270 harvested timber, we estimated the relative performance of the different management regimes in

terms of service provision, by comparing with *no thinning*, as the later regime provided the least

amount of timber (see Supporting Information Table S2) and since the value of harvested timber

273 under set aside was zero.

274 Similarly, we compared the potential supply of each service under each climate change scenario

275 with their corresponding values under the *baseline* scenario. For example, for bilberry under

scenario RCP8.5, we divided the cumulative bilberry yield (kg ha-¹) under RCP8.5 by the yield (kg

ha⁻¹) under the *baseline* scenario (133/141 = 0.94) (see Supporting Information Table S3). Next, we

278 calculated the relative change as 0.94 - 1 = -0.06.

279 2.4. | Drivers' contribution to the future supply of ES

280 We tested for differences in the effects of forest management and climate scenarios on the potential supply of the ES using Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMMs) (Bolker et al., 2009). We fitted 281 282 one model for each response variable, represented by the cumulative value of each service at the 283 end of the 100-year simulation period. The fixed predictors were the management regimes (BAU: 284 business as usual; EXT15: extended rotation (15 years); GTR: green tree retention; NT: no thinning; 285 NTSR: no thinning with short rotation; CCF: continuous cover forest; SA: set aside, Table 1) and the climate scenarios (baseline climate; RCP2.6; RCP4.5; RCP8.5). We included the identity of the 286 287 forest plot as a random effect to account for the spatial pseudoreplication of the data. We assumed that each response variable followed a gamma distribution and used a log-link function. We 288 289 followed the protocol recommended by Zuur et al. (2009) to assess the variance contribution of both 290 random and fixed effects; we compared a full model including the two fixed predictors with a 'null' 291 model with no predictors (but random factor) using the AIC score (Burnham & Anderson, 2002). We used two coefficients of determination R^2 (ranging from 0 to 1): (i) the marginal $R^2_{GLMM(m)}$ to 292 measure the variance explained by the fixed effects of the GLMMs and (ii) the conditional R^2 293 294 _{GLMM(c)} to measure the variance explained by both the fixed and random effects (Johnson, 2014; 295 Nakagawa et al., 2017; Nakagawa & Schielzeth, 2013). Following the methodology in Morán-296 Ordóñez et al. (2020), we quantified the relative effect of each fixed predictor on each response 297 variable based on the estimate of the associated regression coefficient, conditional on the estimates

298 of the random-effect variances. We fitted the GLMMs using the glmer function of the 'lme4' R

- package (Bates et al., 2015), and we calculated the R^2 estimators using the r.squaredGLMM
- 300 function of the 'MuMIn' R package (Barton, 2019). We carried out all the statistical analyses using

301 R software version 4.1.1 (R Core Team, 2021).

302 We also tested whether the relative contribution of management and climate on the potential supply

303 of the ES differed among the biogeographical zones of Finland: hemiboreal, southern boreal,

304 middle boreal and northern boreal (Figure 1). For this testing, we fitted GLMMs separately for

different biogeographical zones, with the exception that hemiboreal zone was combined with thesouthern boreal zone (Figure 1).

307 To compare the effects of forest management and climate change on the potential supply of ES, we

308 first calculated the mean among the GLMMs coefficient estimates associated with each

309 management and climate variable. Then, we divided this mean for the management effects by the

310 mean for climate effects. This quantified how many times higher or smaller (if less than one) were

311 the effects of management versus the effects of climate change, across all services.

312 **3 | RESULTS**

313 **3.1.** | Future trajectories of key forest characteristics

314 Business as usual (BAU) and its four variations (extended rotation by 15 years, green tree retention, 315 no thinning and no thinning with short rotation) favored spruce as this will be the tree species 316 planted after clear-cut if the soil type allows. Thus, under these management regimes, spruce will 317 become dominant by the end of the 100-year period (Figure 3 and Supporting Information Figure 318 S2). The highest forest age was projected under set aside and continuous cover forestry (CCF). We 319 found that CCF was the regime projected to promote the largest increased share of deciduous tree 320 species followed by set aside. Set aside and no thinning regimes (NTSR and NT) promoted higher 321 basal areas. The highest stem density was projected under continuous cover forestry (CCF) (over 322 1.5 times larger than under the other management scenarios) (Figure 3 and Supporting Information 323 Figure S2).



Figure 3. Temporal trajectories in selected forest characteristics - which represent changes in forest composition and structure - under the baseline climate scenario. The lines represent the mean value of each characteristic for every 5-year period. Lines colours indicates the different management regimes (legend at the bottom): BAU: business as usual; EXT15: 15 years extended rotation; GTR: green tree retention; NT: no thinning; NTSR: no thinning with short rotation; CCF: continuous cover forest and SA: set aside. Temporal trajectories under all climate change scenarios are represented in Supporting Information Figure S2.

331 3.2. | How will the potential supply of ES change under different management and climate 332 scenarios?

333 By the end of the 100-year simulation, the potential supply for half of the assessed services (carbon storage, scenic beauty, habitat availability for key forest species and deadwood), was higher under 334 335 set aside (SA) than for the rest of the management regimes (Figure 4, Supporting Information Table 336 S2). Continuous cover forestry (CCF) provided the highest potential supply values for harvested 337 timber and bilberry, whereas the regime no thinning with short rotation (NTSR) projected the 338 highest values for cowberry and commercial mushrooms. We found that no thinning with short 339 rotation (NTSR) provided the lowest values for bilberry and deadwood (Figure 4, Supporting 340 Information Table S2).



Figure 4. Relative change for each ecosystem service's supply values under different management regimes (BAU: business as usual; EXT15: 15 years extended rotation; GTR: green tree retention; NT: no thinning; NTSR: no thinning with short rotation; CCF: continuous cover forest). The bars represent relative supply values compared to the *set aside*, except for timber where the reference regime is *no thinning*, represented with a vertical grey line in each plot. For each service we calculated their cumulative supply after the 100year period (values were summed up over all simulation years and averaged across all forest plots in the study area).

349 The potential supply of ES was quite stable across the different climate scenarios (Figure 5,

350 Supporting Information Table S3). Projections suggested that the potential supply of six out of eight

351 services (timber, mushrooms, carbon storage, scenic beauty, habitat availability for key forest

352 species and deadwood) will increase under climate change compared to the baseline scenario. The

353 most extreme climate change scenario (high-end; RCP8.5) projected the highest supply values for

all services, except for bilberry and cowberry for which this scenario projected the lowest supply

355 values (Figure 5, Supporting Information Table S3).



Figure 5. Relative change for each ecosystem service's supply values under different climate scenarios. The bars represent relative supply values compared to the *baseline* climate scenario, represented with a vertical grey line in each plot. For each service we calculated their cumulative supply after the 100-year period (values were summed up over all simulation years and averaged across all forest plots in the study area).

361 **3.3.** | What drives the future supply of ES?

The variation in the future potential supply explained by forest management regimes and climate change in relation to set aside and baseline climate, respectively, ranged between 18% and 47% depending on the studied ecosystem service (Supporting Information Table S4).

365 Forest management was the most important driver explaining the future supply of the evaluated

366 services (quantified by standardized coefficient estimates, see Supporting Information Figure S1

and Table S5). The effect of management was on average eleven times larger than the effect of

368 climate change across all services but differed greatly between them — ranging from 0.7 times

369 higher for timber to 23 times higher for cowberry (Supporting Information Table S5). There was not

a single management regime that maximized the provision all services evaluated. For example,

371 green tree retention provided the lowest values for carbon storage and for the habitat availability of

key vertebrate species but high values of cowberry provision (Supporting Information Figure S3).

- 373 We also tested for interactions among management regimes and climate change scenarios. We
- decided not to include them because the coefficient estimates for the interaction terms were much

- 375 smaller than the coefficient estimates for the management or climate alone (Supporting Information
- Table S6), thus we found no support for interacting effects of management and climate on the future
- 377 supply of boreal forest ES.

378 3.4. | Is the relative importance of forest management versus climate change differing between biogeographic zones?

- 380 The effects of management regimes and climate change differed among the three biogeographical
- 381 zones (Table 3, see Supporting Information Table S7 for details for each ecosystem service).
- 382 Overall, when comparing the mean values across all services, the positive effects of climate change
- 383 were 1.6 times higher in the northern zone (mean value of 0.045) than in the southern one (mean
- value of 0.028) (Table 3 and Supporting Information Table S7). The patterns for management were
- 385 the opposite the negative effects of management were 3 times higher in the south (mean value of
- 0.235) than in the north (mean value of 0.078). Thus, in the southern zone the effect of management
- 387 was 13.9 times higher than the effect of climate change, whereas in the northern zone the effect of
- 388 management was 8.4 times higher than the effect of climate change (Table 3).
- 389 Table 3. Mean estimates from the generalized linear mixed effect models (GLMMs) used to assess the 390 contribution of management and climate on the supply of eight forest ES. Here, we present for each 391 biogeographical zone of Finland, the mean values across all management estimates, climate estimates and 392 comparison estimates. The comparisons were made between the management and climate values for each 393 ecosystem service (see all values in Supporting Information Table S7).

	South	Middle	North
Management	-0.235	-0.142	-0.078
Climate	0.028	0.032	0.045
Comparison	13.9	9.7	8.4

394 Considering individual services, we selected three of them to illustrate how the effects of 395 management and climate shift along the south-north gradient. However, full results are presented in 396 Supporting Information Figure S3 and Supporting Information Table S8. We chose harvested 397 timber as it is the most important provisioning ecosystem service, carbon storage as an example of a 398 regulating service and deadwood as an important biodiversity indicator. For harvested timber, we 399 found that the positive effects of climate change were slightly stronger in the northern boreal zone 400 than in the southern one (Figure 6 and Supporting Information Table S8). We also found that 401 continuous cover forestry (CCF) had the largest contribution to timber supply compared to other management regimes with an increasing positive effect from south to north gradient. Green tree 402

retention (GTR) had a positive effect on the supply of harvested timber in all biogeographical zones
except in the northern one, where GTR had a negative effect (Figure 6 and Supporting Information
Table S8).

406 For carbon storage, the positive effect of climate change remained quite similar across all

407 biogeographical zones. It is interesting to note though, that when comparing with a set aside

408 reference scenario, all management regimes had a negative effect on carbon storage in all

409 biogeographical zones except for the northern one where they had a positive effect on the future

410 storing of carbon (Figure 6 and Supporting Information Table S8).

411 For the future potential supply of deadwood volume, we found that the positive effects of climate

412 change on this ecosystem service were slightly larger in the northern boreal zone than in the

413 southern one (Figure 6 and Supporting Information Table S8). Nevertheless, this positive

414 contribution of climate change was still dwarfed by the negative effects of management on

415 deadwood, even though the management effects gradually improved northwards. Specifically, no

416 thinning with short rotation (NTSR) had the most negative effects on deadwood availability,

417 followed by no thinning (NT) and business as usual (BAU) regimes, this negative effect was

418 particularly strong in the south (Figure 6 and Supporting Information Table S8).



419

420 **Figure 6.** Relative effect of each management regime and climate scenario on the cumulative projected

421 supply values by simulation year 100 of three ES in the biogeographical zones of Finland. The effect is

422 relative to a reference (Int = intercept; dashed black vertical line), which is *set aside* (except *no thinning* for

423 timber) and *baseline* climate. The vertical and horizontal lines show the mean and standard error,

- 424 respectively of the coefficient estimate of the GLMMs and the dashed horizontal lines show the largest
- 425 deviance from the intercept.

426 4 | DISCUSSION

Here, we combine 100-year simulations (2016-2116) with GLMMs to test the relative importance 427 428 of management and climate as drivers of the potential future supply of a broad set of ecosystem 429 services in boreal forests. On one hand, we found that management greatly influences the future 430 trajectories of boreal forest development and thus, the future supply of these services. On the other 431 hand, climate change will potentially increase services provision by boreal forest, although the 432 direct impacts of climate change will be smaller than the effects of management. It is well-known 433 that forest structure and composition are the most important variables determining forest ES (e.g., 434 Felipe-Lucia et al., 2018; Mina et al., 2017; Roces-Díaz et al., 2021) and that forest structure is 435 strongly determined by management as the latter drives forest functioning (e.g., Cruz-Alonso et al., 436 2019). We also found that the relative importance of management and climate on the future supply 437 of ES differed substantially across the biogeographical zones in Finland. Altogether, our results 438 support the notion that intensive management reduces the deadwood volume and, thus, is a key 439 threat to biodiversity (especially in southern Finland). Even if climate warming is projected to 440 increase forest growth and the availability of fresh deadwood (e.g., Mazziotta et al., 2015), these 441 increases would not compensate for the negative effects of intensive forest management on 442 biodiversity.

443 **4.1.** | The potential supply of ES mostly increases under set aside and climate change scenarios

444 By the end of the 100-year simulation, the projected future supply of carbon storage, scenic beauty, 445 habitat availability of key vertebrate species and deadwood was highest under the set aside 446 management scenario. Forest age is on average higher in set aside forests (Figure 3), and this 447 correlates well with tree biomass and carbon accumulation (Xu et al., 2012), thus, explaining higher 448 values of carbon storage under this management regime which is line with results from previous 449 studies (Triviño et al., 2015). The scenic beauty index increases with the basal area and age of trees, 450 with increasing share of pines and deciduous trees, and with decreasing density in the number of 451 stems (Pukkala et al., 1995). We found that set aside promoted the forest stand characteristics 452 increasing this index (i.e., basal area, age and share of pine and deciduous trees) while reducing 453 stem density which decreases this index (Figure 3).

- 454 Setting aside forests is especially important for biodiversity conservation in boreal forests (e.g.,
- 455 Triviño et al., 2017), here evaluated through the habitat availability for key forest species and
- 456 deadwood volume. Forest characteristics that have a major positive influence on biodiversity such

457 the share of deciduous trees (i.e., birch), the number of large living trees, as well as the share of old-458 growth forest area and the amount of deadwood (e.g., Eggers et al., 2020; Mönkkönen et al., 2022) 459 are promoted by this management regime (see Figure 3). A larger share of deciduous trees is 460 particularly important for two woodpecker species, the long-tailed tit and the flying squirrel 461 (Min Lhin et al., 2014) which exists the state of the larger share of deciduous trees is 462 are promoted by this management for two woodpecker species, the long-tailed tit and the flying squirrel 463 are promoted by this management for the species of the larger share of deciduous trees is 464 are promoted by the species of the larger share of deciduous trees is 465 are promoted by the species of the larger share of deciduous trees is 466 are promoted by this management for two woodpecker species are promoted by the species of the larger share of the larger share of the species of the spec

- 461 (Mönkkönen et al., 2014) which are four of the key indicator vertebrate species used our habitat
- 462 availability index.

463 Our simulations suggest that climate change will increase the future supply of six out of eight of the 464 ES assessed, and that the positive or negative impact increases with the severity of the climate 465 change scenario considered. Climate change is likely to increase forest growth and productivity in 466 boreal forests (e.g., D'Orangeville et al., 2018; Kellomäki et al., 2018) where low temperatures and 467 supply of nutrients and short growing season currently limit vegetation growth (Hyvönen et al., 468 2007). This increase in forest growth and productivity will especially allow a rise in harvested timber, in line with previous studies (e.g., Gutsch et al., 2018; Holmberg et al., 2019). Heinonen et 469 470 al. (2018) also found that timber supply increased under climate change, except at the end of the 471 century under the most severe scenario (RCP8.5) because very high temperatures and low soil water 472 availability can limit forest growth. In addition, this increase in forest growth due to climate change 473 might decrease yields of bilberry and cowberry as it is likely that forests will become too dense, 474 leading to a decrease in wild berries production because of a reduction in sunlight reaching the 475 understory vegetation (Mazziotta et al., 2022; Peura et al., 2016).

476 **4.2.** | Future supply of ES is driven by management rather than by climate change

477 Forest management had a stronger effect on the future supply of all evaluated ES than climate 478 change (eleven times higher on average). These results are in line with previous studies, which 479 found that the future supply of ES will be more strongly determined by management than by 480 climate in Mediterranean (Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020), temperate (Gutsch et al., 2018; Thrippleton 481 et al., 2021) and mountainous forests (Mina et al., 2017). In contrast, studies in forests of the 482 Austrian Alps found that the direct effects of climate change had a stronger influence on the future 483 supply of several regulating services (climate, water and erosion regulation) than management 484 (Albrich et al., 2018; Seidl et al., 2019). It is important to note that these results depend on the 485 specific management regimes considered and that the studies from the Austrian Alps did not include 486 large-scale clear cutting which is a common forestry practice in Finland (and as such, it was 487 simulated here in all management scenarios except for continuous cover forestry and set aside).

488 The business as usual (BAU) management regime does not maximize the provision of any of the 489 ES, not even harvested timber, as also supported by previous studies (e.g., Eyvindson et al., 2018; 490 Peura et al., 2018). Moreover, our results suggest that there are trade-offs among ES, especially 491 between timber production and non-wood services such as carbon storage, bilberry and biodiversity 492 (also reported by Pohjanmies et al., 2017). Thus, there is no single management regime that 493 maximize all forest ES simultaneously, requiring a diversification of management regimes to 494 promote high levels of multiple ES. This has also been reported in similar forecasting approaches 495 (e.g., Eyvindson et al., 2018; Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020). Forest management needs to find 496 solutions that account for these trade-offs, e.g., forest areas with different management priorities to 497 enhance overall forest multifunctionality at the landscape scale (Blattert et al., 2018; Himes et al., 498 2022). This might be achieved through careful forest management planning that might pave the way 499 for increasing timber harvest while minimizing the negative impacts on biodiversity and other ES 500 (Eyvindson et al., 2018).

501 4.3. | The relative importance of forest management versus climate change differs across 502 biogeographic zones

503 We found that the effects of management regimes and climate change on the future supply of ES 504 differed between the biogeographical zones in Finland. The effects of climate change were 1.6 505 times higher in the northern zone than in the southern one. A study, using a gap-type forest 506 ecosystem model, has also found that forest growth increases significantly more in northern Finland 507 than in southern Finland because larger temperature increases are projected for that region, 508 regardless of the climate change scenario assessed (Kellomäki et al., 2018). Despite the projected 509 increased productivity, the expectation is that in southern Finland the conditions will become 510 suboptimal for Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) under the most extreme scenario (RCP8.5) (Kellomäki 511 et al., 2018). Furthermore, Norway spruce is more susceptible to spruce bark beetle outbreaks that 512 might increase in frequency with the warmer and drier conditions projected under climate change 513 scenarios (Venäläinen et al., 2020). Our results show that by the end of the 100-year period, spruce 514 is projected to become the dominant tree species across all management scenarios except set aside. 515 Thus, a relevant climate change adaptation strategy will be replacing coniferous monocultures with 516 mixed-species forests (with a higher share of deciduous trees) as mixed stands are less susceptible 517 to pathogens and pests while having a higher potential to store carbon (Huuskonen et al., 2021). 518 This strategy might be beneficial across the entire study area but especially in southern Finland 519 where conditions for spruce are expected to be suboptimal under extreme climate change conditions (Kellomäki et al, 2018). We found that continuous cover forestry was the regime which mostpromoted the increased share of deciduous tree species followed by set aside.

522 **4.4.** | Study limitations and future directions

523 In this study, we used the SIMO forest growth simulator as a basis for our ecosystem service 524 provision estimates. We acknowledge that applying a different modelling approach (e.g., a process-525 based or hybrid one instead of an empirical model) might have led to different results (Pretzsch et 526 al., 2015). However, our results and main conclusions using an empirical model are in line with 527 previous studies, which used different types of process models. These studies also found that the 528 future supply of ES will be more strongly determined by management than by climate in 529 Mediterranean (Morán-Ordóñez et al., 2020), temperate (Gutsch et al., 2018) and mountainous 530 forests (Mina et al., 2017).

531 The results from this study indicate the direction and magnitude of the effects of climate on the 532 chosen indicators but may be an under- or overestimation of the total effects. For example, the 533 modelling of climate change effects on the formation and decomposition of deadwood are 534 approximations because of the lack of data on climate change effects on some ecosystem processes, 535 such as in the decomposition decay functions (Mäkinen et al., 2006). We note that the models used 536 to translate forest characteristics and environmental factors into the potential supply of ES are 537 mostly based on forest structural parameters, with climate only indirectly influencing the supply 538 through changes in forest growth. For example, temperature sum is a predictor of cowberry and 539 mushroom yields but not bilberry yields in the models we have used (Appendix S2), while it has 540 been shown that bilberry cover is strongly explained by climate (Gamfeldt et al., 2013). This might 541 hamper our ability to identify tipping points in ecosystem service levels directly linked to extreme 542 natural disturbances (e.g., decrease in ecosystem service levels associated to prolonged droughts 543 and forest die-offs).

We acknowledge that the positive effects of climate change may have been overestimated in our study as our simulations did not include natural disturbances, such as windthrows, insect outbreaks, droughts and wildfires, which are expected to increase in intensity and frequency under climate change scenarios (Reyer et al., 2017; Seidl et al., 2017). For example, wind damage risk is projected to increase in southern Finland, because of a longer unfrozen soil period which weakens the anchorage of trees during the windiest season (i.e., from autumn to early spring) (Venäläinen et al., 2020). Prolonged drought stress will increase the predisposition of spruce to bark beetle infestations 551 (Netherer et al., 2019); this potential impact may be of particular concern given that our simulations

- 552 predict a dominance of this species under all management scenarios except set aside. Moreover,
- natural disturbances, such as windthrows, may substantially change the forest characteristics, e.g.,
- 554 increase deadwood volume (Kuuluvainen, 2002) and reduce harvested timber because of damaged
- 555 trees (Peltola et al., 2010). Even if extreme events (e.g., severe storms) can reduce the supply of
- some services (e.g., timber) locally, recent studies have suggested that their effects on larger scales
- are generally smaller than climate and management effects (Hahn et al., 2021; Seidl et al., 2019).
- 558 Therefore, the explicit implementation of potential disturbances linked to climate change in the 559 simulation of future provision of ES by boreal forest remains a challenge for future studies. A 560 couple of recent studies have gone into that direction and assessed wind damage risk under different 561 management regimes (Hahn et al., 2021; Potterf et al., 2022). Next steps could include assessing the 562 effects of several natural disturbances simultaneously (i.e., windthrows and prolonged droughts) on 563 a wide range of forest ES. These are challenges to overcome in future modelling of boreal systems 564 for which experiences from other systems such as the Mediterranean (e.g., regarding prolonged 565 droughts) (García-Valdés et al., 2021) might be useful.

566 5 | CONCLUSIONS

567 Our results suggest that forest management will have a stronger effect than climate change on the 568 potential future supply of boreal forest ecosystem services (ES). Climate change will have an 569 overall positive effect on the ES provision (in six out of eight of the ES evaluated), but the 570 magnitude and direction of this effect will vary with the severity of the climate change scenario and 571 across biogeographical zones. The climate change effect will be larger under the more extreme 572 RCP8.5 scenario and in northern Finland and the effect of management on ES provision will also 573 change across biogeographical zones. Thus, in the current context of climate change, careful forest 574 management planning to maximize the future supply of ES should be context dependent and 575 account for the biogeographic diversity of boreal forests. On one hand, a transition towards mixed-576 species forests (i.e., increased share of deciduous trees in coniferous forest stands) will be an 577 important climate adaptation strategy to implement in forests of southern Finland, where conditions 578 for spruce are expected to be suboptimal under extreme climate change conditions (Kellomäki et al, 579 2018). Mixed-species forests are less susceptible to the potential negative effects of climate change 580 (e.g., drought stress, increased risk of insect outbreaks and pathogens) and potentially maximize the 581 supply of some ES (e.g., carbon storage and scenic beauty) and the maintenance of biodiversity 582 (Huuskonen et al., 2021). This could be promoted by increasing the share of continuous cover

forestry and set aside forest stands. On the other hand, forests of northern Finland, with slower growth, could have a greater contribution for carbon sinks, for example by extending the rotation length and restoring low-productivity mires.

586 In addition, no single management scenario maximized the provision of all services evaluated, as 587 each service provision depends on different forest structural attributes and, in turn, structural 588 attributes differed among management scenarios. Provision of carbon, scenic beauty, habitat 589 availability and deadwood were maximized under the set aside scenario, but timber, berries and 590 mushroom provision were maximized when other management regimes were considered (i.e., 591 continuous forest cover forestry and management without thinning but with short rotation). These 592 results highlight the need to implement diversified forest management planning strategies across 593 boreal forests in Finland - now dominated by actions that promote monospecific stands - as well as 594 to increase the share of close to nature management regimes that are still poorly represented in 595 Finnish forest landscapes (i.e., continuous cover forestry, no thinning and setting aside).

596 Our results provide valuable input for developing new guidelines for adapting boreal forest to 597 global change via forest management and promote its resilience and ES supply, a key goal of the 598 recently approved new EU forest strategy (European Commission, 2021). Our results suggest that 599 climate change mitigation measures are particularly suited for the northern Finland, whereas in 600 southern Finland it is better to focus on increasing forest protection (i.e., increasing the amount of 601 forest within protected-areas and establishing voluntary forest protection by landowners) and 602 closer-to-nature management strategies. These guidelines should account for regional differences in 603 the boreal biome and the variation of the effects of climate change and management on different 604 forest ES and across biogeographic zones.

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623 DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

- 624 We used the Finnish Multi-Source National Forest Inventory (MS-NFI) as input data for the open-
- 625 source forest simulator SIMO (SIMulation and Optimization for forest management planning;
- 626 https://www.simo-project.org). SIMO is released under the open-source GPL 2.0 license. We used
- 627 SIMO 1.0.0, which was then modified by JYU BERG team (<u>https://www.jyu.fi/berg</u>). The MS-NFI
- 628 data is openly available from the National Resources Institute Finland (Luke)
- 629 (<u>http://kartta.luke.fi/index-en.html</u>). The SIMO outputs used for the generalized linear mixed
- 630 models have been archived and are available in a Dryad public repository (<u>https://datadryad.org</u>)
- 631 (https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.4j0zpc8g4).

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