



### MAIN OBJECTIVE

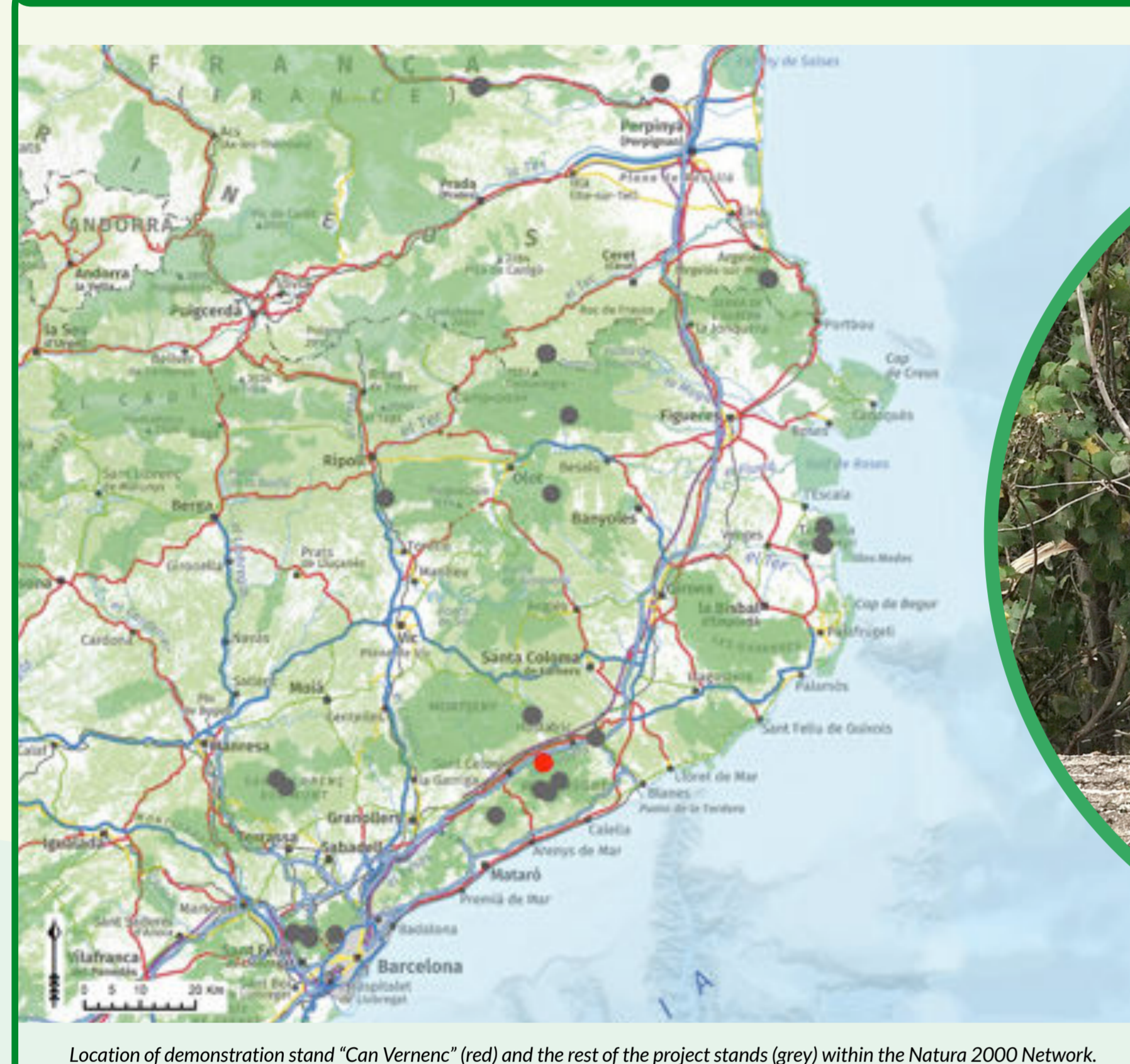
To improve the biodiversity of the Mediterranean forests through the integration of innovative practices into forest management, making its environmental and socioeconomic values compatible and guaranteeing their adaptation to climate change.

### WHAT IS BEING DONE IN THIS AREA?

#### Management based on stand-scale guidelines

Since 2004, due to the need of forest management support tools adapted to the Catalan context, ORGEST (Guidelines for Sustainable Forest Management in Catalonia) have been developed. Depending on forest formation, site quality of each stand and the preferred management objectives, reference management models are offered at stand scale for developing forestry actions. Until 2020, a total of 157 reference models have been generated for 32 different forest formations, integrating the different objectives and ecosystem services they can offer. Reference models are detailed silvicultural pathways for all stages of forest development, and promote various objectives, such as production, fire prevention and structural and species diversification, to move towards more resilient forests that are more resistant to climate change impacts.

### WHERE DOES THE PROJECT OPERATE?



Location of demonstration stand "Can Vernenc" (red) and the rest of the project stands (grey) within the Natura 2000 Network.

### YOU ARE HERE



### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE STANDS

| Management model       | Forest type   | Actions   |
|------------------------|---|---|
| Stand-scale guidelines | Pubescent oak ( <i>Quercus pubescens</i> ) and holm oak ( <i>Quercus ilex</i> ) mixed stand | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Thinning from below</li> <li>- Selective shrub clearing</li> <li>- Deadwood generation</li> <li>- Retention of key elements</li> </ul> |

This stand belongs to an unmanaged private estate.



### POTENTIAL BIODIVERSITY DIAGNOSIS IN THE STAND

We use the Potential Biodiversity Index (IBP) to facilitate the application of forest management techniques that favour biodiversity conservation in the stand. With IBP we diagnose the state of valuable elements for the biodiversity of a stand, with the evaluation of 10 factors that influence the capacity to host species (animal, plant and fungi), which are assigned a score from 0 to 5. Within the factors that make up the index, 7 can be modified by forest management, so that according to the score assigned to each of them, a specific action design is carried out to favour the elements that are scarce and to conserve the most abundant ones. This graph shows the result of the diagnosis in this stand, with the weight of each factor. The final objective of the implemented treatments in the stand is to ensure that the managed stand has the greatest possible diversity of habitats, guaranteeing continuity in space and time.

