

## Unit6. Wildfire prevention and restoration

### Lourizán Forest Research Center



Source: CIF lourizan

#### Description

The Lourizán Forest Research Center was created in 1943, and is located in the vicinity of the city of Pontevedra, specifically on the Montero Rios estate. It consists of 52 hectares, which has a pazo (manor), a greenhouse and numerous modernist gardens, all built at the end of the 19th century. Subsequently, new buildings for laboratories and greenhouses were built and plantations of forest species were made, all linked to its current use as a research center. At present, it belongs to the “Consellería de Medio Rural”

This center conducts forestry research that is intended to be useful for the community and for the forestry production sector. The research attempts to improve the intangible assets provided by forest areas (biodiversity, carbon fixation, availability of quality water, conservation of soil resources, landscape...), and ensure the durability, adaptability and resistance of forest ecosystems to disturbance factors (climate change, fires, diseases and pests).

The center has three departments: forest protection, forest ecosystem, and forestry and improvement. The forest protection department is responsible for improving techniques for preventing and fighting forest wildfires. In the field of forest fires, research began in the second half of that decade, with the CIF being a pioneer in Spain in providing means for this research on a continuous basis. Initially, the effects of fire on soil erosion and on the regeneration of forest vegetation will be addressed.

The lines of research developed in this department are:

- Fire behavior and preventive treatments for forest fuels
- Environmental impact of forest fires, urgent rehabilitation and restoration of burned areas.



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#### Goals

The forest protection department has objective to improve techniques for preventing and fighting forest fires, mitigating their environmental impact and restoring burned areas.

#### Activities

- Promote the sustainability of forest resource management.
- Improve the productivity and multifunctionality of two forest spaces.
- Increase the quality of forest properties, services and products.
- Promote the sustainability of forest ecosystems versus disturbances.

#### Impact

- Different manuals for restoration and prevention of forest wildfires.



#### Social Media

<https://lourizan.xunta.gal/gl>