

Millions Of Trees Blown Down In Massive Wind. No News Reporting. Why?

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posted by Tapestry

Excessive heat replaced by excessive storms in Poland

For the second time in a week, Poland has been hit by extraordinary storms.

Rob McElwee



A flattened forest outside Suszek, northern Poland [Reuters]

Five people have died in freak accidents as a result of violent storms in Poland. All the deaths were a result of falling trees in the area surrounding the Park Narodowy Bory Tucholskie, a national park of peat bogs, pine forests and lakes.

Deutsche Welle reported that rescuers had to force their way through “kilometres” of fallen trees in the Tuchola Forest to reach the site of Friday night’s tragedy.

A front of Atlantic air has forced itself into Spain, through the Alps, Austria and the Czech Republic, Germany and Poland. Hail the size of hens’ eggs fell in Spain. Flash floods raged through the Italian Alps, tombstones were felled in the Czech Republic but Poland may have seen the most dramatic effect on Friday night.

This particular storm appears to have been a mesoscale convective system (MCS), grown to such an extent that it produced destructive winds. An MCS typically creates a gust front or “squall line” that produces straight line wind damage.

Drone footage from northern Poland shows hundreds of shallow-rooted pine trees felled all in one direction. This is typical of a straight line blast of wind, not a tornado.

The city of Elblag, to the east of the national park, reported a sudden but short-lived increase in wind speed to 151 km/h before midnight. Lesser gusts, but equally sudden, and short-lived gusts were reported at Leborg and Chojnice.

The stormy worst is now over and the heat is starting to build again over a much quieter European plain.

Storms felled record number of trees in Poland: officials

August 16, 2017



The storms in Poland snapped whole swathes of forest like matchsticks

It will take two years to clear the tens of thousands of trees smashed by the weekend storms that devastated Poland’s forests, the country’s forest service said Wednesday.

“We’re dealing with what is undoubtedly the worst disaster in the history of Polish—and perhaps even European—forestry,” Poland’s chief forester, Konrad Tomaszewski, told reporters.

The storms that hit Poland overnight Friday to Saturday killed six people, including two Girl Guides crushed by a falling tree while camping in a forest.

Aerial television footage in vast swathes of forest where trees had been snapped like matchsticks.

According to Tomaszewski, the storms brought down an estimated 8.2 million cubic metres of lumber.

It would take two years to clear the debris and begin replanting trees and decades to recover the lost natural habitats of birds and other wildlife, he added.

More storms are forecast for the coming weekend.

<https://phys.org/news/2017-08-storms-felled-trees-poland.html>

Read more at: <https://phys.org/news/2017-08-storms-felled-trees-poland.html#jCp>

Comments Received from The Merton Tree Warden Group 1/9/17

1. This is *forestry*. Planted trees largely of one species in each block. Note how most stems broke at 2-4 metres. Monoculture on this scale is ‘asking for it’.
2. The Polish government is in the process of removing protection of large sections of the ancient Bielowiecza (spelling?) forest in order to plant even larger areas for ‘lumber’ – thus ‘asking for some more of it!’

Not a natural disaster.

3. Texas. Professor Brody of Marine Sciences A & M University, Texas. A low lying coastal plain, with clay based soils which do not drain well. Take that flood risk landscape and put 6 million people on it, with prolific amounts of pavement and roadways, and a lack of collective and regional thinking about what that does to natural drainage.....

Another ‘not a natural disaster’.

We make both of these mistakes, just on a smaller scale.

Dave
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London Borough of Merton

Global Urban tree canopy is falling.

Of 20 U.S. cities, 17 are losing canopy and 16 have significant increase in hard surfaces.

What's happening here? Are we winning or losing the battle to add a third to London's canopy. Help us find out.

Woking

Thanks Chris for this interesting and intriguing article. I reckon that the under reporting is due to the very little loss of human life, and that it is in Eastern Europe