

SUMMARY

Skrzyszewski J. Scots pine *Pinus sylvestris* L. in the “Pusta Wielka” nature reserve (S Poland).

Chrońmy Przyrodę Ojczyzną **63** (6): 75–81, 2007.

The “Pusta Wielka” reserve near Tylmanowa village (49°30'45” N, 20°23'45” E; Kłodne Forest Range, Krościenko Forest District) protects the local ecotype of Scots pine which has an outstanding natural and economic value. Regrettably, this tree stand faces an uncertain future due to the spontaneous development of beech in the lower storey, which markedly shortens the crowns of the few pines that managed to survive. It is to be expected that within the nearest 20 years the occurrence of pine will be limited to an extremely unfavourable microsite on the rock ridge. Active protection of the species would require removal of beech from the lower storeys of the stand. Apart from being in conflict with the natural processes taking place in the reserve, this does not ensure success in the long term since the pines are now over 140 years old and do not regenerate. It is suggested that a prompt action should be taken to conserve the genetic resources of this valuable pine ecotype, the more so because the pines in this stand bear seed only sporadically and in very small amounts.