

Eawag Seminar Invitation

Land-use changes in Switzerland: Socio-economic Investigations from the Alpine Meadows to the Swiss Plateau

Speaker

Irmi Seidl

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When

March 12, 11.00 – 12.00 a.m.

Where

Forum Chriesbach C20, Eawag Dübendorf

Abstract

In this seminar I will first briefly introduce the WSL-research unit ‚Economics and Social Sciences‘. The main part of the seminar will be dedicated to the research of our unit on land-use changes at various altitudes in Switzerland.

In the alpine regions and summering pastures we identify natural forest regrowth and intensified use of the pastures and land, intense construction of new infrastructure and buildings. We investigate the reasons of these developments and the needs and expectations of various societal groups, and deduce policy recommendations.

At the Swiss plateau the settlement area is growing rapidly and urban sprawl is spreading. We identify economic incentives (e.g. fiscal) and instruments (e.g. taxes, development rights) and their potential to influence the settlement development, and options for landscape development.