

# Dendroecological analysis of a *Fitzroya cupressoides* and a *Nothofagus nitida* stand in the Cordillera Pelada, Chile

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Lumbering of *Fitzroya cupressoides* in Chile began in 1599 and continued until 1976, when the species was declared a national monument and cutting of live trees was prohibited. Today, *F. cupressoides* is threatened; many of the remaining stands in the coastal range appear to be declining, with a predominance of standing dead stems and patchy, sparse regeneration. We performed tree-ring analysis on a *F. cupressoides* stand and a nearby *Nothofagus nitida* stand, in the Cordillera Pelada, of coastal Chile (40°S) in order to examine the ecological history of two stands in the montane forest. Our analysis demonstrates that the *F. cupressoides* stand has undergone several periods of growth release and disturbance; the last 34 years of the chronology show a trend of increasing growth. In contrast, after 1865 radial growth of the *N. nitida* stand is fairly constant and steady. Radial growth of these two species is highly correlated with spring rainfall. November rainfall of the current growing season