

Table S2. Non-parametric correlations showing Decision-Makers' mental models, between problem statements and policy interventions (solutions). N = number of observations.

Problems	Policy interventions (Solutions)	Spearman Rho coefficient	Significance (* p<0.05)	N
There was a high wildfire risk	Raised funds must be reinvested in the forest	-0.249	0.319	18
	This forest required forestry interventions	0.532	0.023 *	18
This forest required forestry interventions	Raised funds must be reinvested in the forest	0.067	0.791	18
Forest must be profitable and they aren't	Raised funds must be reinvested in the forest	0.514	0.029 *	18
There was an overexploitation risk	The access to the forest should be limited	-0.344	0.162	18
	Landowners must conduct mycosilvicultural practices	0.452	0.068	17
Mushrooms were an underused asset in this area	Mushrooms should benefit the local community in general (market, restaurants, hotels)	-0.087	0.732	18
	Landowners should be allowed to put a price to pick mushrooms in their properties	0.221	0.378	18
	There were few income alternatives in these rural areas	0.742	0.000 *	18
Pickers benefited from a forest product without contributing to its maintenance	Landowners should be allowed to put a price to pick mushrooms in their properties	0.194	0.440	18
There were few income alternatives in these rural areas	Landowners should be allowed to put a price to pick mushrooms in their properties	0.195	0.438	18
	Mushrooms should benefit the local community in general (market, restaurants, hotels)	-0.014	0.955	18
Foreign pickers caused problems	Local pickers must be positively discriminated	0.278	0.265	18
	Foreign pickers must contribute to the forest	0.261	0.296	18
Local pickers must be positively discriminated	Foreign pickers must contribute to the forest	0.716	0.001 *	18
Local pickers help when needed, while foreign pickers don't do that	Local pickers must be positively discriminated	0.134	0.607	17
Controlling in this area is complicated	Nothing should be changed	0.155	0.540	18
Some pickers pick both small and mature mushrooms	Picking small mushrooms must be forbidden	0.029	0.923	14
Some pickers destroy non-edible mushroom species	Pickers must be obliged to distinguish the species they pick	0.307	0.248	16
Rakes and other tools damage the ground	Stirring up the mycelium must be forbidden	0.392	0.107	18
	Only a knife must be used	0.242	0.333	18
Some pickers use plastic bags	Only wicker basket must be allowed	-0.331	0.179	18
Some pickers get lost in the forest	Pickers must be obliged to not get lost in the forest	-0.220	0.431	15
Some pickers shout in the forest	Shouting in the forest should be prohibited to pickers	0.284	0.269	17
Some pickers throw trash	Throwing trash must be forbidden	0.568	0.017 *	17
Commercial picking must be regulated	Commercial pickers must gratify the forest owner	0.576	0.025 *	15
Commercial pickers aren't experts	Commercial pickers must proof their mushroom knowledge	-0.136	0.673	12
Local neighbours are accomplices of the grey mushroom market	Locals should dissimulate more the grey market	0.039	0.910	11

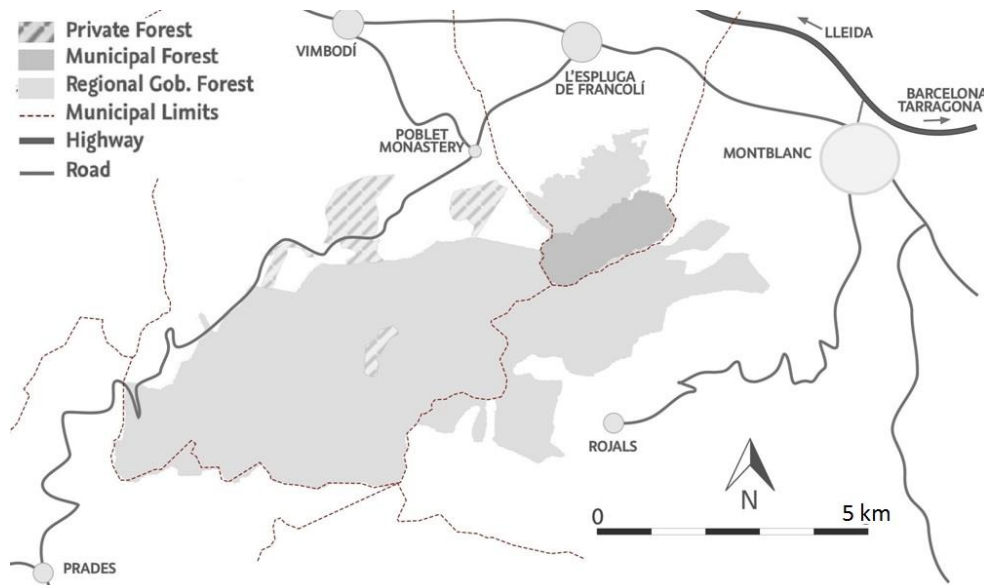


Figure S1. Map of the forest area (Paraje Natural de Poblet) requiring the mushroom picking permit with the four municipalities. Source: own elaboration.

Annex. Interview excerpts. Compilation of supporting interview quotes to mushroom pickers (from M = Montblanc, E = Espluga, V = Vimbodí, or P=Prades), and decision-makers (DM). ForX stands for statement X on ecological and forestry aspects (whole list in Table 3).

On informal norms and their transmission

Asked about how to define a “good mushroom picker” (*“bon boletaire”*, an existing Catalan expression) interviewees described it as respectful, picking only the species one is sure of, and leaving no trace in the forest. *“I recognise whether there was a good picker if the forest looks untouched, but without the good mushrooms. This is, from the past weather conditions and the type of forest I know that there should be mushrooms there, but just someone passed before you”* (M6). A good picker is not necessarily a mycologist: *“Besides [the good pickers], there’re “mycologists”, who bring a book and like finding both good and bad mushrooms”* (M13).

The motivation for behaving as good pickers is justified by their own interest (i.e. recurrent visit to the same spot) or by deference towards others: *“because you’ll return or someone will pass after you and will find what you left”* (M15).

Interviewed pickers stressed the fact of being exposed since infancy to rural environments imbues them with the norms: *“The [good] picker is built since a child, s/he enjoys and learns progressively”* (V3); *“Being a picker is a transmitted culture; it cannot be built when being in its 40s. It’s like the farmer: it cannot be taught, for example, to weak up very early”* (V6), *“By living in the rural area you learn them”* (M3). Interviewed pickers stressed the fact of being exposed since infancy to rural environments imbues them with the norms: *“The [good] picker is built since a child, s/he enjoys and learns progressively”* (V3); *“Being a picker is a transmitted culture”* (V6). Many respondents, moreover, highlight the self-experience for internalising the code of conduct: *“they sprout from inside”* (M9, M11, M13), *“it’s like an intuition”* (E12).

On mushroom-related ecological, economic and social concerns

Interviewed pickers support forest thinning and brush cleaning (statement For1). Respondents justify them for fire prevention (hence tackling statement For7), wild boar control (statement For9) and easiness to roam: *“Forestry interventions do not harm mushroom productivity, but affect the comfort for picking them”* (E3, E4).

Rain was crucial for fungal productivity, as the local rule on climatology referred by several interviewees: “*21 days after raining at the end of August-beginning of September mushrooms ripen; afterwards they need a couple of days more of rain*” (E2, E11), “*and without wind*” (DM1, DM15).

Respecting the ground is well shared among respondent pickers, who consider that the use of tools damaging the soil constitutes a problem (statement For6): “*When people say ‘mushroom harvesting’ I get aghast. It should be said ‘picking mushrooms’. The root has to be left for the mushroom to sprout again*” (V8).

Why wild boars behave in this manner is differently explained across pickers, with some of the opinion that the animal searches roots or worms and destroying mushrooms as side-effect: “*the wild boar doesn’t like the mushroom, but the worms. Hence they turn them down and come back once worms are inside while the mushroom gets rotten*” (E12”).

On permit acceptance:

The positive side of a payment is justified as a dissuasive mechanism (“*a payment reduces the amount of pickers*”, E2), as awareness-raising tool about the mushroom value (“*what isn’t paid, isn’t valued*”, E13), and for covering the permit costs (E9).