

The role of forest owners in delivering non-wood benefits

National Forestry Conference

11 October 2022



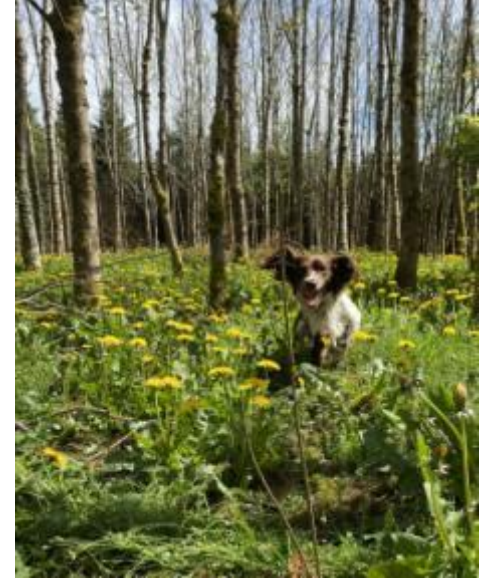
Olive Leavy



Our forest



Also our forest

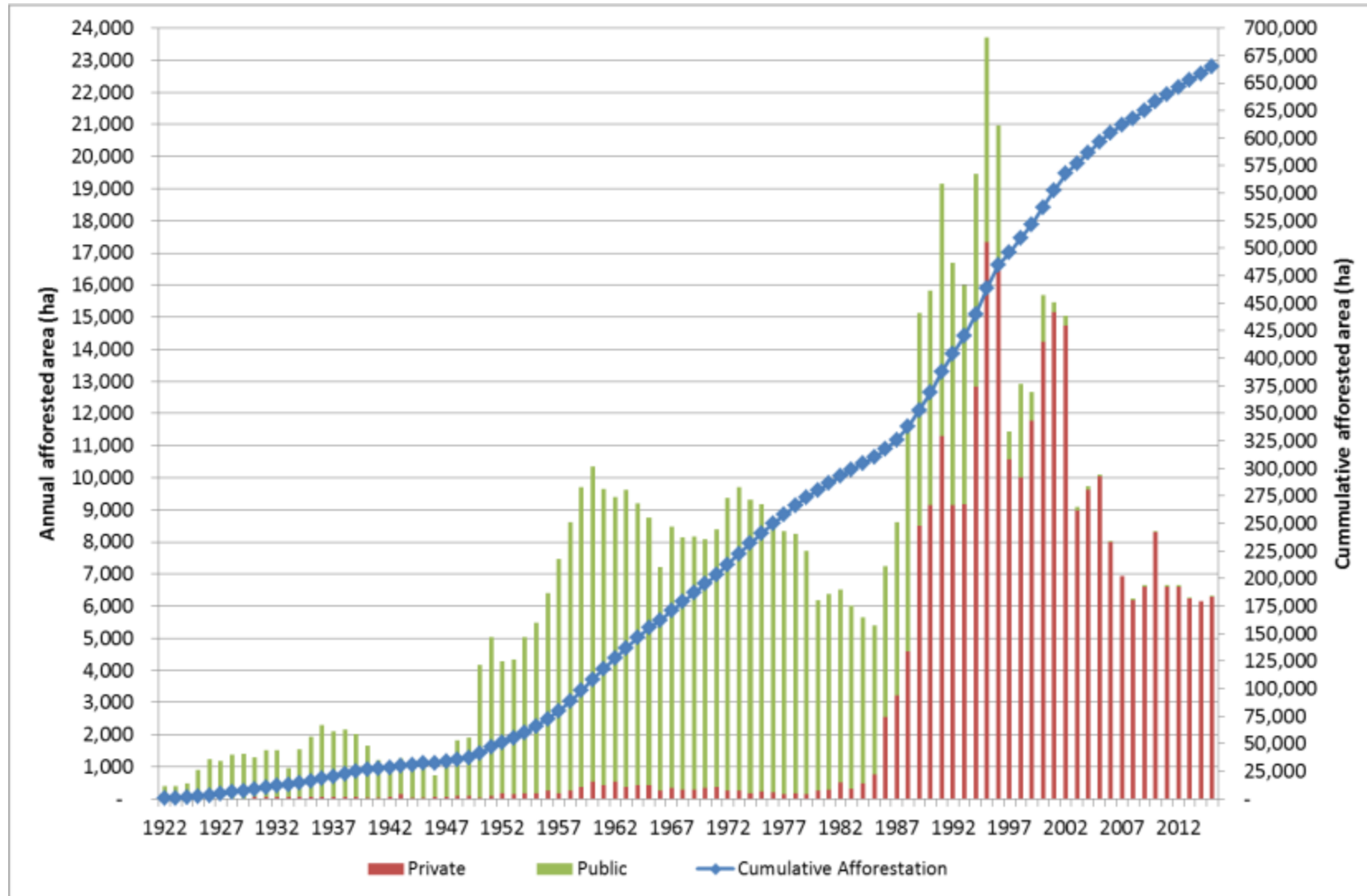


What is role of forest owners in delivering non-wood benefits?

The role of forest owners is...

central

Afforestation



Forest owners

Ownership	Area (ha)	% of total forest estate	No of forest owners (1980-2019)
Private (grant-aided)	268,100	34.8%	23,256
Private (non grant-aided)	110,563	14.4%	??

Farmers accounted for 81% of private lands afforested between 1980 and 2019

Private forestry in Ireland

- Diverse in species composition

Broadleaf afforestation up from 4% early 1990s to 29.8% in 2017

The forest estate is comprised of 71% conifers and 29% broadleaves

- Young plantations

89.3% of the Private (grant-aided) category is aged 30 years or less

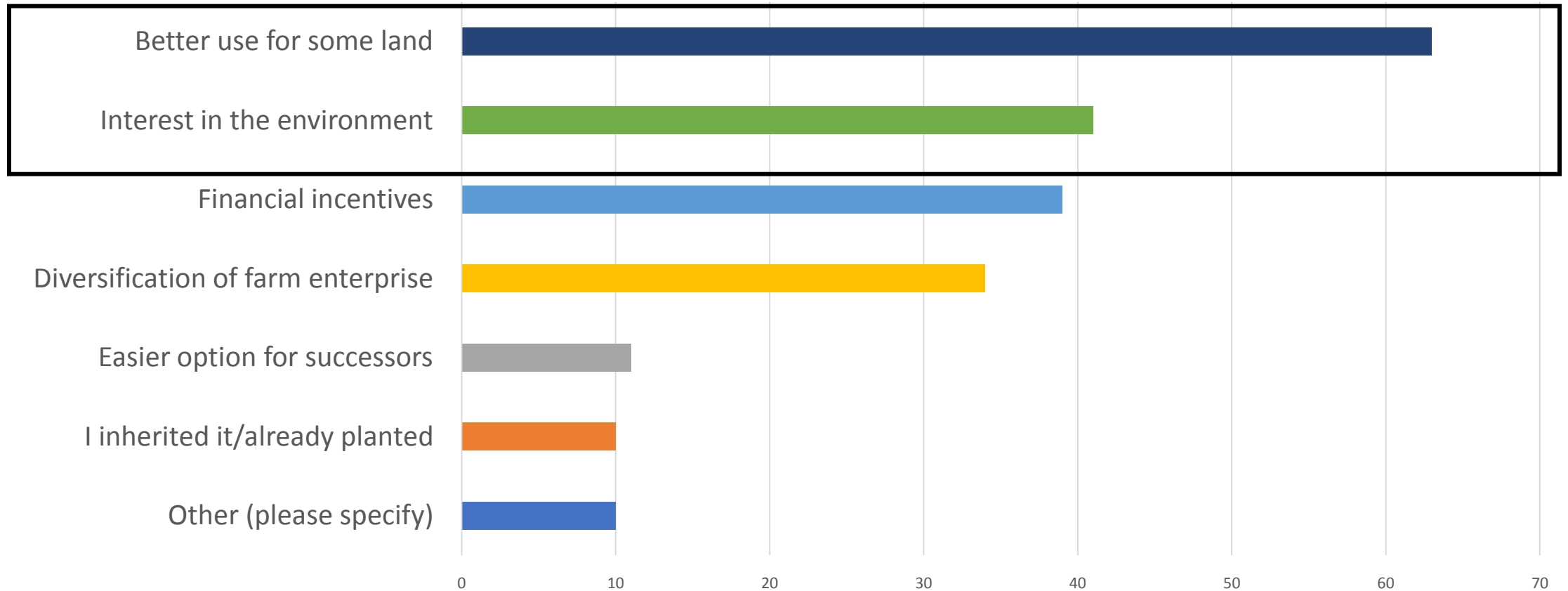
- Higher performance/yield class

Private forestry in Ireland

All positive for biodiversity, carbon sequestration and
other non-wood benefits

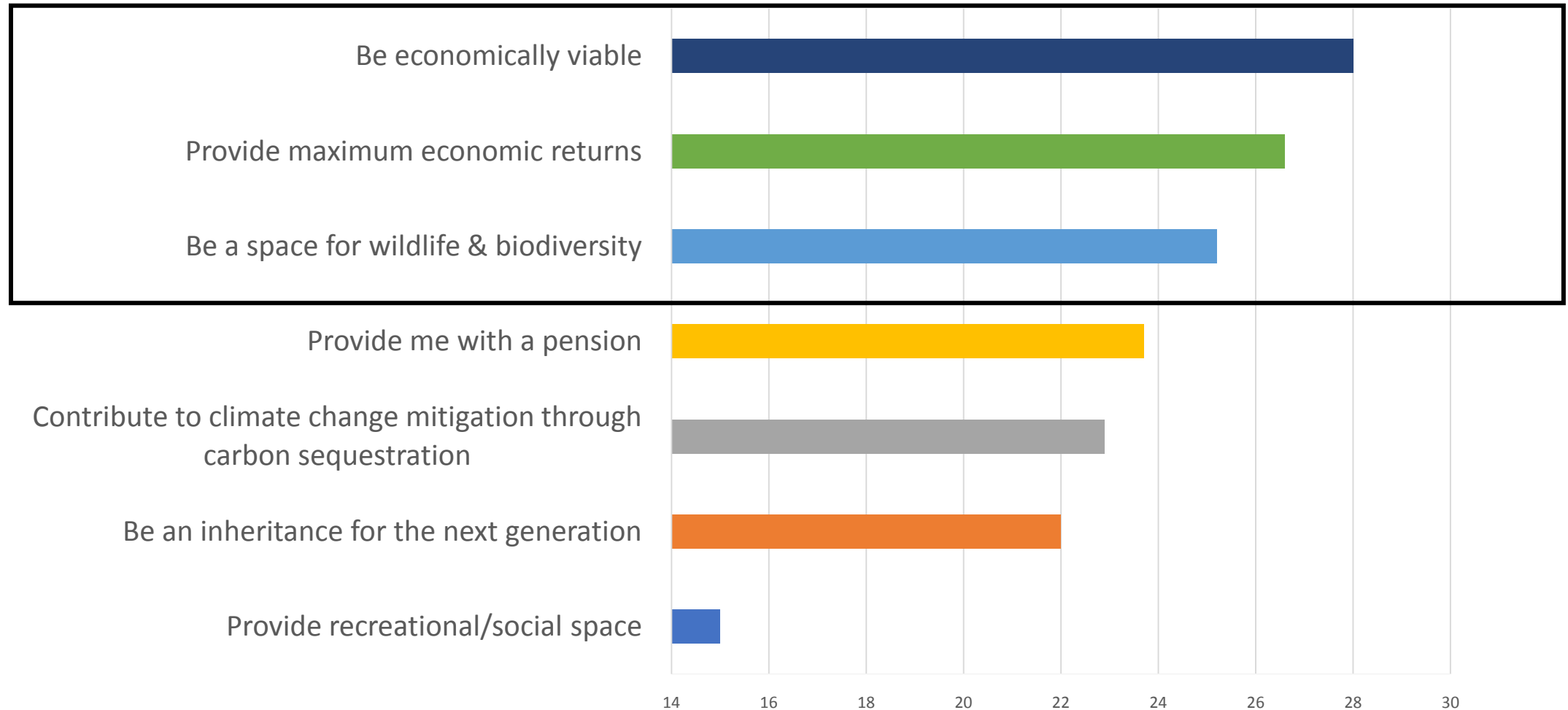
Motivations for planting

Why did you decide to plant forestry?

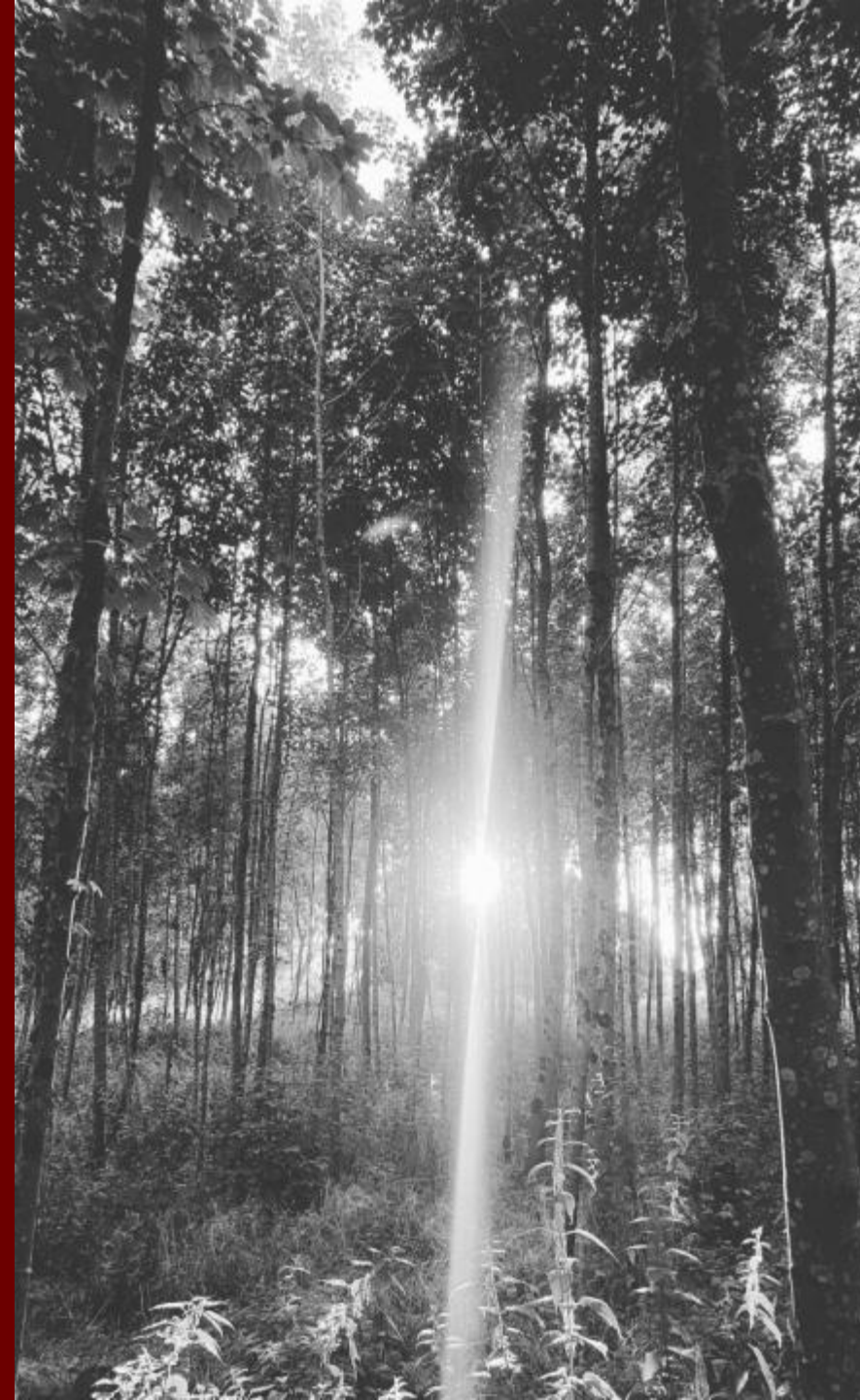


What do you want to get from your forest?

Rate the importance to you of the following statements



- A lot of non-wood benefits are already being delivered by forest owners
- Many forest owners are strongly motivated by the environmental benefits of forestry
- Forestry as a land use option has to be economically viable for the forest owner



Conifer forests



Carbon sequestration

Timber production

Biodiversity



Broadleaves



Continuous cover forestry



- Continuous income
- Resilience
- Biodiversity
- Legacy
- Alternative income streams

Challenges

1st generation forest owners

Challenges

2nd generation
forest owners



Challenges

New forest owners

Economically viable model of forestry

Support

Engagement

Education

Non-wood benefits



Non-wood benefits





Forest Owner Groups



Acknowledgements

IFO steering committee

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