In the frame of a large public information program regarding the damages produced by the skiers in the French forests, we present an exhibition called "Ski and Forest".

This exhibition consists in nine panels (1.20 by 0.80 cms) on the following subjects:

Panel 1
Introductory panel: the negative action of the ski edges on the young trees; branches and buds are broken.

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1 Poster presented at the International Snow Science Workshop, Lake Tahoe, California, October 22-25, 1986.

2 Francois VALLA, Dr.es Sciences Physiques, Snow, Avalanches, Glaciers Division, C.M.A.G.R.E.F., BP 76, 38 402, Saint Martin d’Heres, FRANCE.
Panel 2
The different roles of the mountain forest: it takes a part in some basic equilibriums, like air regeneration and water cycle. Economically, it has importance in timber production, leisure activities and frame of life.

Panel 3
Two types of forest landscape, in the French Alps. A north slope typical of the northern Alps, with a large forest (firs and spruces). A typical south slope of the sunny southern Alps (larices and pines).
Panel 4
The four main types of conifers in our mountains:
- Fir (Abies pectinata)
- Spruce (Picea excelsa)
- Larch (Larix decidua)
- Pines (Pinus silvestris, pinus niger, pinus uncinata, pinus cembra)

Panel 5
Forest and snow cover. How the forest modifies the snow cover. One fir is able to bear several tons of snow for many days.

Panel 6
For a young tree, it is very hard to grow in altitude. Many factors are aggressive, like the strong sun radiations, the cold wind, the snow creep, the snow overweight on the branches etc...
In the mountains, a conifer tree is just able to reach 4 metres after some 50 years.
Competitive interaction between forest and ski areas. Ski business need more and more space for the ski practice. The forest is cut into pieces to give room to the ski lifts, ski runs, buildings, parking...

Panel 8
Drawing: "The saw-skier and the fir...".
Satirist.

Panel 9
Watercolor: a synthetic and artistic view of the mountain, with the forest and the ski areas. A list of addresses for more informations.

This exhibition is a part of a large set of educational means for skiers, especially scholars and young people. Five exemplars are already printed, and more are in preparation.