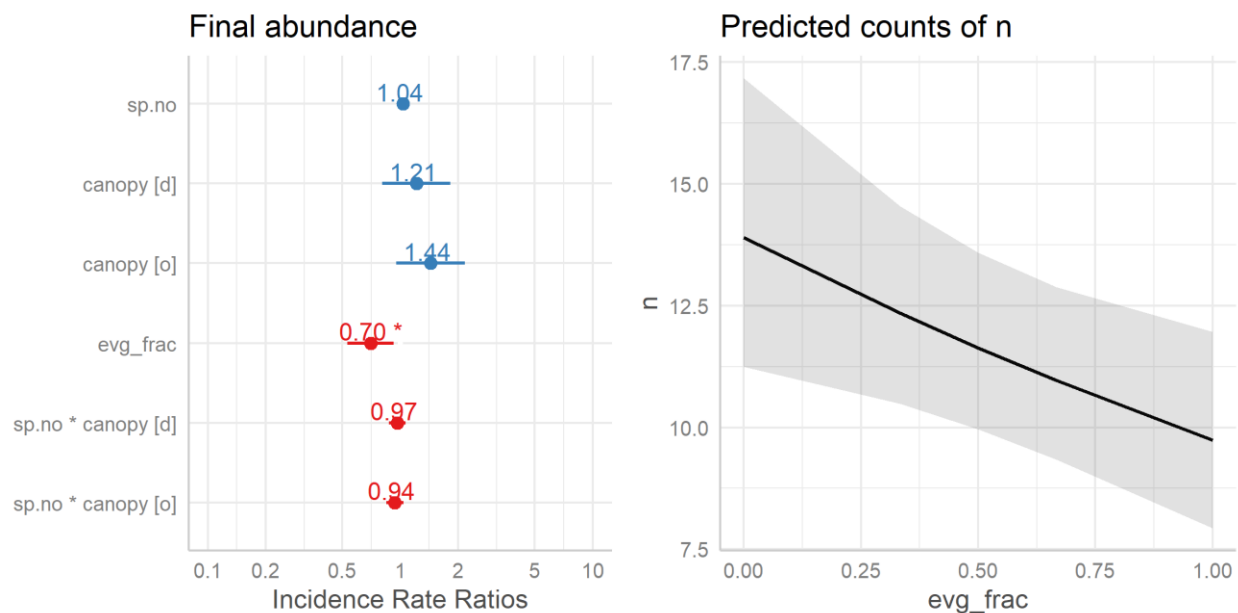


Supplementary information

**Table S1:** Model selection for basal area and height in observed long-term dynamics plots.

			<b>Estimates</b>			Random effect variance	AIC
			Intercept	Linear term	Quadratic term		
Basal area	species richness	Linear	118***	18.02		1.50E-06	858.6
		Quadratic	60.38	82.60*	-13.43*	0	<b>856.7</b>
	canopy openness	Linear	150.10**	9.13		1.79E-13	862.2
		Quadratic	116.21**	363.55*	538.12**	46.03	<b>858.6</b>
Height	species richness	Linear	181.27	23.71		1.76E-11	917.8
		Quadratic	125.93	86.93	-13.4	0	918.2
	canopy openness	Linear	233.21	-43.69		0	920.8
		Quadratic	164.39**	641.40**	970.11**	69.15	<b>913.9</b>



**Fig S1.** Generalized linear model with negative binomial family of errors modelling the number of individuals surviving at the end of 12 months of the experiment starting from equal abundance communities with 18 individuals each. Model deviance = 50.354, df=46, p=0.305.

Anova,  $F(4,522) = 6, p = 1e-04, \eta_g^2 = 0.04$

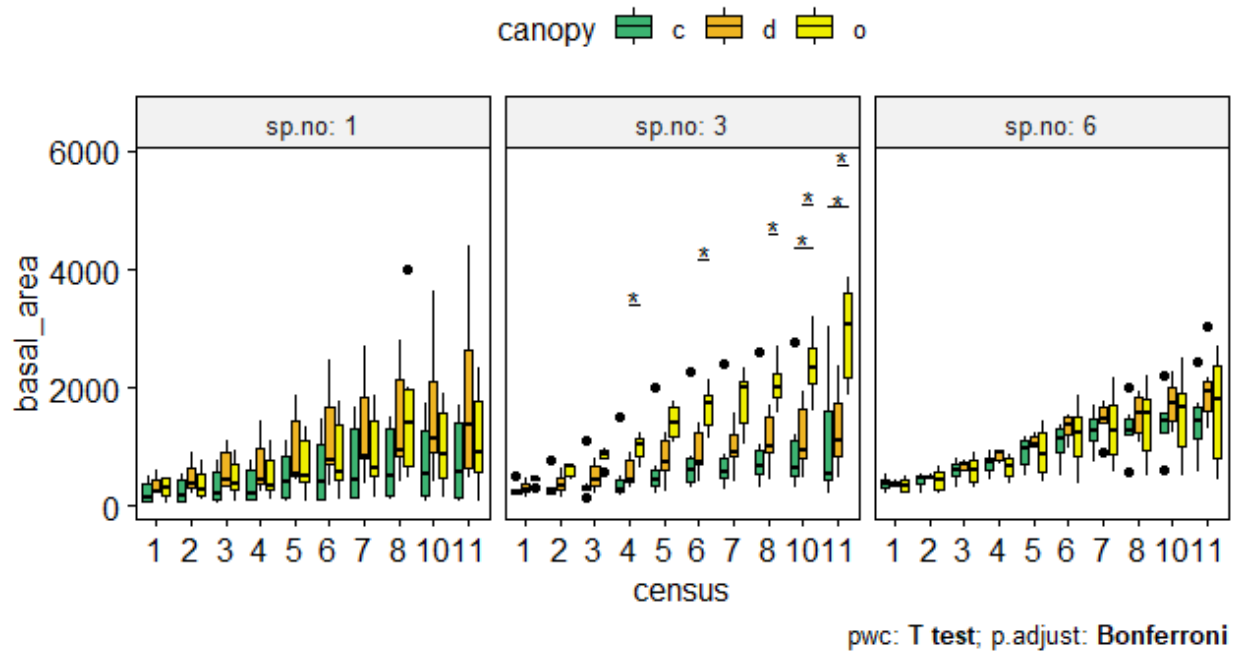


Fig S2. Repeated measures three-way ANOVA, F statistic = 6,  $p < 0.001$

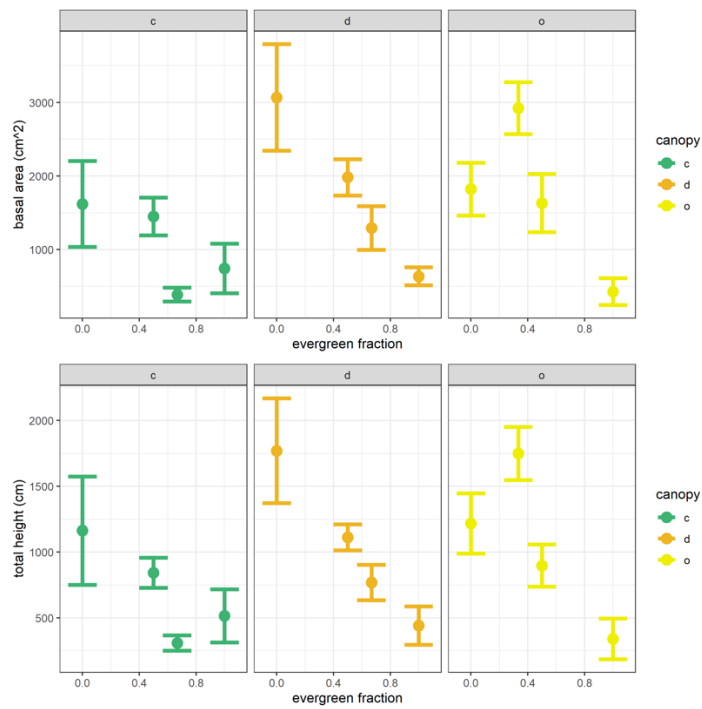


Figure S3: Final community properties as a function of functional composition. Evergreen fraction was calculated as the proportion of planted individuals from evergreen species in each community. Dots represent mean values at the end of the experiment across communities with similar functional composition. Error bars represent standard errors.