

Anything Goes?

Report on PEFC Certified Finnish Forestry



GREENPEACE

LUONTO-LIITTO

January 2001

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Greenpeace Nordic

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The Finnish Nature League

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Coverphoto: Greenpeace/Liimatainen. Clearcut in a state-owned old-growth forest. Kuhmo, eastern Finland, October 2000.

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Additional information and material

The contents of the report and additional photographs can be found at the web-site:

<http://www.pefcwatch.org>

Most photographs in this report and on the web-site are free for media use. For delivery of high-resolution photographs contact the authors of the report. The source [pefcwatch.org](http://www.pefcwatch.org) must be mentioned in association with all photographs used.

Anything goes? -video: a brief (10 min.) video release on the issue with footage from the case study sites is available upon request.

For more information on Finnish forests, please see also the website of the Finnish Nature League:
<http://www.luontoliitto.fi/forest>

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CHAPTER 1. INTRODUCTION

PEFC Certification in Finland

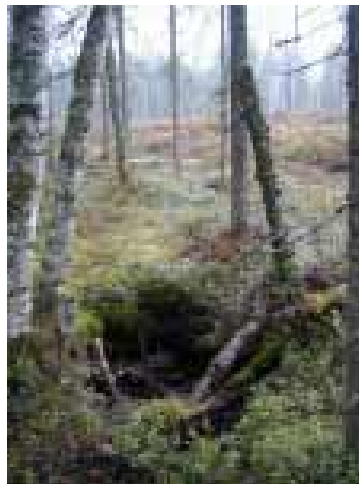
A vast majority of the Finnish forests have been certified according to the Finnish Forest Certification System FFCS. FFCS was acknowledged as part of the Pan European Forest Certification Scheme (PEFC) on May 24, 2000. According to the FFCS Council, "FFCS certification indicates impartially and reliably that Finland's forests and forest ecosystems are being sustainably managed." Yet FFCS certification is not supported by any major Finnish environmental non-governmental organisation (NGO), see appendix 12.

The Aims of the Report

The purpose of this report is to inform customers of the Finnish forest industry as well as the consumers about the ecological sustainability of FFCS/PEFC certification. The report concentrates on presenting concrete examples of the ecologically detrimental practices of FFCS/PEFC certified forestry. Examples of the main shortcomings of the Finnish certification system from the point of view of Finnish environmental NGOs are summarised on pages 5–6.

When the first Finnish PEFC-labelled products entered the market on November 22 2000, Greenpeace Nordic and the Finnish Nature League decided to assemble a report on the past logging activities and the current logging plans in forests of high conservation value in five FFCS certified Forestry Centres of Finland. Our main aim was to find out how the new certificates affect the management of globally

threatened old-growth forests and other forests of high conservation value in Finland.



Eastern and Northern Finland: old-growth forests still threatened

Only 4,9% of Finnish forests are old-growth. Regardless of the importance of the threatened old-growth forests for biodiversity, only about half of the Finnish old-growth forests have been protected.¹ Finnish environmental NGOs have for years criticized the state enterprise Forest and Park Service (FPS) for logging old-growth forests that even the FPS considers ecologically valuable.

Majority of the old-growth forests in Finland are owned by the state and situated in eastern and northern Finland². Four Forestry Centres in eastern and northern

Finland were chosen as the study areas for our report. These are Kainuu, North Karelia, Ostrobothnia and Lapland.

Southern Finland: forests of high conservation value being logged

According to a report published in September 2000 and written by a large group of authorities and specialists, the network of protected areas should be rapidly improved in southern Finland³. The report states that forests with particular importance in improving the conservation network are those located next to the present protection areas. Other forest areas that should be protected in southern Finland are those which currently host threatened species or other characteristics important for the conservation of biodiversity. One Forestry Centre in southern Finland was chosen for as the study area for our report. This is the Pirkanmaa Forestry Centre, where many forests important for conservation purposes can be found.

Results of the Study

Despite the lack of resources and the tight schedule we found altogether 55 cases of already logged areas or areas with current logging plans that clearly did not take into account the biological, social or cultural value of the areas in question. It is obvious that a more thorough study would have revealed an even grimmer reality.

Within the studied Forestry Centres in eastern and northern Finland we found 32 examples of old-growth forest logging

1. *Only 4,9% of Finnish forests are old-growth.* Reference: The significance of protected area network for forest-dwelling species... A report by Finnish Environment Institute 2000, publication number 440 published in The Finnish Environment - series. For more information, please see appendix 1, a map from page 65 of the report.

2. *Majority of the threatened old-growth forests in Finland are owned by the state and situated in eastern and northern Finland.* Reference: Aksenov, Karpachevskiy, Lloyd, Yaroshenko: Last of The Last - The Old-Growth Forests of Boreal Europe. Taiga Rescue Network 2000. For more information, please see http://www.taigarecue.org/old_growth/last.shtml

3. *According to a report written by a large group of authorities and specialists published in September 2000, the network of protected areas should be rapidly improved in southern Finland.* Reference: Forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia. A report by official working group, published by Ministry of the Environment 2000 in The Finnish Environment series 437. For more information, please see appendix 2, "Extracts from the abstract of the report" (translated by the Ministry of the Environment) and "Objectives of the working group" (translated and summarised by the Finnish Nature League)

and logging plans.

In northernmost Lapland (the Sámi area) there are also examples of the conflicting interests between forestry and reindeer herding. Reindeer herding is an important part of the culture of the indigenous Sámi people. There are also conflicts regarding land ownership in the Sámi area (see Chapter 3 for more information).

In North Karelia we found two examples of old-growth forest logging. We also found four cases of violations of the ecological FFCS certification criteria in managed forests. They are presented in the report as examples of the generally poor implementation of the certification criteria. A comprehensive list of the types of criteria violations that independent certifiers have revealed in each Forestry Centre can be found in appendix 3.

In Pirkanmaa we found ten examples of logging in forests of high conservation value.

Our research efforts concentrated on

five Forestry Centres. However, during the field work we received information on past logging and current logging plans in forests of high conservation value as well as violations of the FFCS certification from four other Forestry Centres as well. There were altogether nine such cases from the four Forestry Centres and they are also presented in this report.

Conclusions

This report shows that FFCS/PEFC certification has not stopped the logging of forests of high conservation value. A certification scheme dominated by forest industry, forestry authorities and forest owners has not been able to significantly change the forest management practices in Finland. Straight-forward clearcutting continues to be everyday practice of the Finnish forestry.

Some of the world's leading forest industry companies, UPM-Kymmene, Stora

Enso and Metsäliitto, are the biggest users of wood from FFCS/PEFC certified forests in Finland.

Several Finnish forestry companies have received a permission to use the PEFC logo in their products. UPM-Kymmene – mentioned over 20 times in this report – sold the first PEFC-labelled wood to the Netherlands on November 22, 2000. Thus there may already be Finnish PEFC labelled products on the European market with timber from old-growth forests and other forest areas of high conservation value included.

Based on our study we cannot recommend PEFC-labelled products to ecologically responsible consumers.

In Helsinki, Finland on January 17 2001

Authors

Examples of the shortcomings of the Finnish Forest Certification System

System dominated by forestry

The FFCS is dominated by the forestry sector and the system has obviously not been developed with equal influences of economic, ecological and social aspects on the outcome. The national FFCS certification council is forestry-dominated. An equal representation of the three sectors, i.e. the economic, ecological and social, is not required by the scheme.

Low level of commitment

FFCS certification is based on regional group certification. Large areas are certified simultaneously through regional Forest Management Associations and Unions of Forest Management Associations. A very small fraction of the numerous pri-

vate forest owners whose forests are being certified are actually involved in the process.

In a research carried out last year during the certification process of the North Ostrobothnia Forestry Centre, it was shown that most of the forest owners of the area were not aware of the involvement of their Forest Management Association in certification or of the fact that their forests were being certified as a result of the association's decision.⁴

The involvement of a majority of forest owners in certification is thus largely theoretical. It is probable that this will also lead to a low level of commitment to the certificate.

Poor criteria

The ecological criteria of the FFCS are ei-

ther too weak, too general and/or worded intentionally. For example, the sizes of valuable habitats and biotopes to be preserved are limited to one hectare. Valuable habitats and biotopes larger than that do not need to be preserved! Thus, it is not surprising that in the personnel magazine of the manager of most Finnish old-growth forests, the state enterprise Forest and Park Service, it was stated in October 1999 that "forest certification will mostly cause paperwork in the Forest and Park Service and will hardly affect actual operations in the forests".

Governmental Regional Environment Centres have heavily criticized the Finnish certification system.

For example, officials from the Pirkanmaa and North Karelia Environment Centres stated that in the FFCS criterion 10 concerning the preservation of key biotopes and valuable habitats "many of the

4. Tuomikoski, Heikki. Knowledge and attitudes concerning forest certification, and the development of commitment and distribution of information. Oulu 2000, the Polytechnic of the Oulu region. In Finnish.

definitions related to valuable biotopes and habitats are subject to differing interpretations and there are no possibilities for non-forestry parties to assess or verify the classifications made by the forestry sector.”⁵

”In addition to the ambiguities of criterion 10 associated with the classification of key biotopes, the system falls short in the rather simplified assessment sheet that the forestry sector uses to assess their own performance retrospectively... The monitoring system is a closed system of the forestry sector built up under conditions of forestry. Possibilities for subjective interpretation are so severe that according to our understanding the system does not meet the requirements of impartial reliability.”⁵

The shortcomings of the criterion concerning the making of studies on biological values associated with road con-

struction plans were also commented on: ”Criterion 24 defines a certain minimum level of factors that must be examined in the studies, but defines no actual environmental standard or requirement concerning the consideration of biological values in the concrete implementation of the road construction plans.”⁵

The South Savo Environment Centre criticized the monitoring of the preservation of valuable habitats in 2000: ”The Environment Centre considers it a major defect that the forestry officials do not sufficiently inform the Centre on the matters monitored in forest certification...the Forestry Centre does not inform the Environment Centre on the locations of even those sites that have conservational value...In relation to species conservation the situation is unsustainable. For example, the main responsibility for the preservation of flying squirrel habitats is on the

operators of forest machines.”⁶

Poor criteria being poorly implemented

The ecological benefits of the FFCS certification are further diminished by the fact that the ecological criteria are poorly implemented. Independent certifiers Det Norske Veritas DNV and The Finnish Standards Association SFS have reported violations of the preservation of the key biotopes (criterion 10) in all audited Forestry Centres. Violations of maintaining the conservation values of protected areas (criterion 19) and buffer zones for waterways and small water bodies (criterion 28) were common. The same violations have been reported also in re-evaluations of the same Forestry Centres⁷.

5. The forestry sector's certification system: Guidelines for interpretation and the collection of data: A statement by Mr. Matti Saura, senior researcher for the Pirkanmaa Regional Environment Centre and Mr. Aarne Wahlgren, director of waterway protection for the North Karelia Environment Centre 7.10.1998.

6. Request of data for the use of forest certification: The South Savo Environment Centre 14.9.2000 0599J0055-25

7. *The ecological benefits of the FFCS certification are further diminished by the fact that the ecological criteria are poorly implemented. Independent certifiers DNV and SFS have reported violations of the preservation of the key biotopes (criterion 10) in all audited Forestry Centres. Violations of maintaining the conservation values of protected areas (criterion 19) and buffer zones for waterways and small water bodies (criterion 28) were common. The same violations have been reported also in re-evaluations of the same Forestry Centres.*

References: 5) Violations of FFCS-criteria reported by independent certification companies DNV and SFS, November 30, 2000. See appendix 3 for the complete list of violations for each forestry centre. 6) ”Familiar shortcomings came up in the monitoring audit of the North Karelia region forest certification criteria.” Article on newspaper Karjalainen November 30, 2000, translation by authors. Appendix 4.

CHAPTER 2.

Case studies: PEFC certified logging and logging plans

An FFCS certificate is issued for a Forestry Centre as a whole (Map 1). Thus, in this report the forest holdings researched are grouped under the name of the Forestry Centre they belong to.

The target areas that have been surveyed as the case studies in Lapland and in Kainuu as well as the cases 1 and 2 in North Karelia are state-owned old-growth forests, which have been inventoried and considered valuable by environmental NGOs already some years ago. Many of these sites have also been inventoried by the Forest and Park Service during the preparation of the old-growth forest protection program or as a part of their landscape ecological planning. The locations of these forest sites have been published twice: as national old-growth forest maps by Finnish environmental NGOs in January 1998, and in the "Last of The Last" -maps by the Taiga Rescue Network

(TRN) in May 2000.¹

The other case studies have been found in later forest inventories performed by Finnish environmental NGOs (by the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation and its regional associations, by ornithological associations and by the Finnish Nature League). Some of the sites are included in the "Implementation of Natura 2000" report by WWF Finland. The report was given to the Ministry of the Environment in March 2000.

In the majority of the forest holdings, the forests in question have been logged, or have been included in logging plans, after the issuing of the FFCS certificate. The information concerning the logging plans has been collected by the authors of this report by visiting forestry authorities and officials. In this report there are also some cases, where the logging has been conducted a maximum six

months before the certificate was issued. These examples are nonetheless relevant, since the forest management of the Forestry Centre must be in compliance with the FFCS criteria already during the preparation, training and auditing phase. Issuing of the certificate cannot depend only on the expectations of future practices.

There are two main findings resulting from the research done: the FFCS/PEFC allows management practices that are detrimental to old-growth forests or other forests of high conservation value, or the authors of this report consider the logging practices a violation of one or several of the FFCS criteria.

The reported cases have been marked on Map 1. Additional photographs related to the cases can be found on the internet version of this report.²

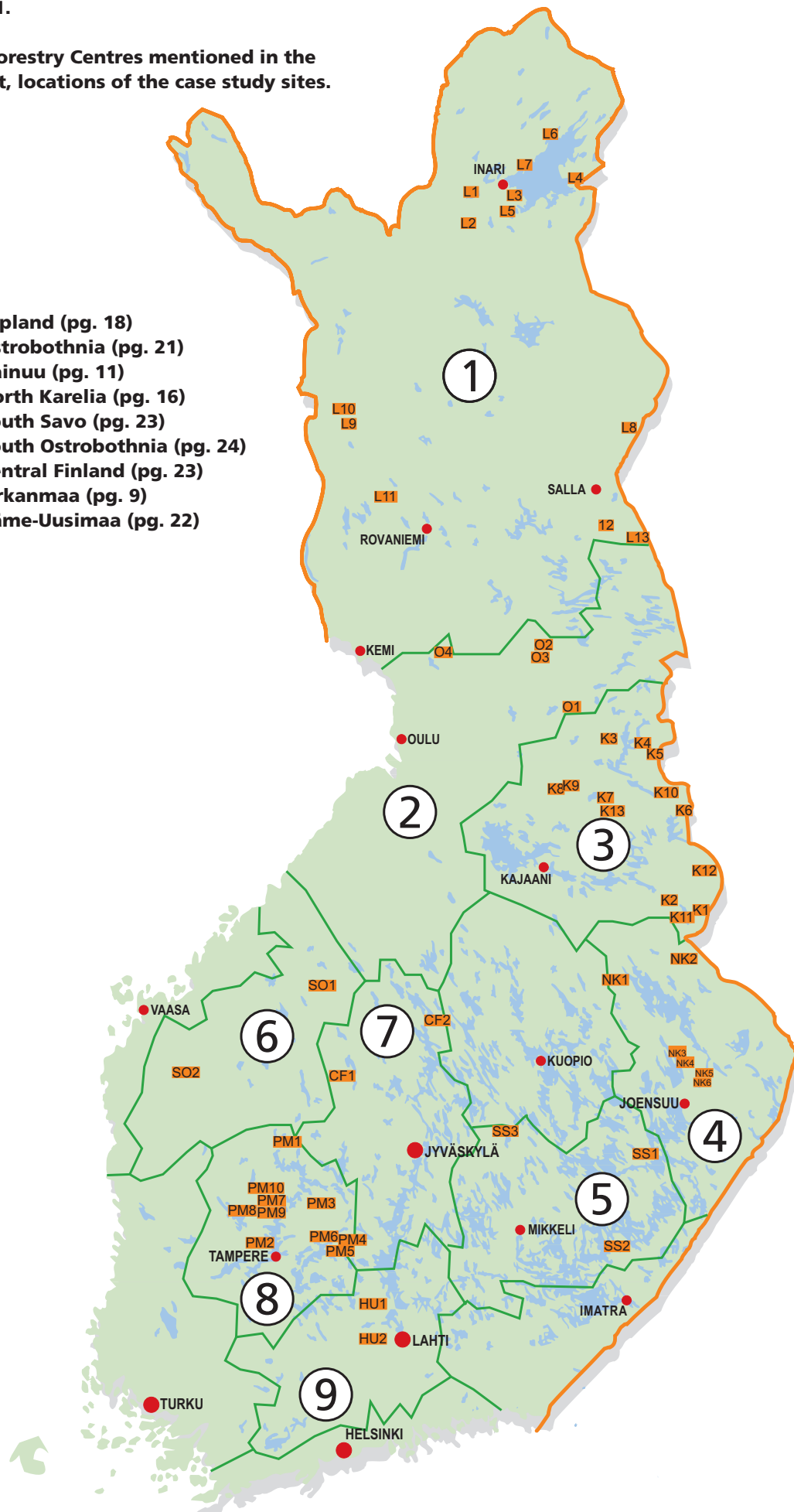
¹ Read more about the "Last of the Last" -maps at the www-pages of the TRN (<http://www.taigarecue.org>).

² <http://www.pefcwatch.org>

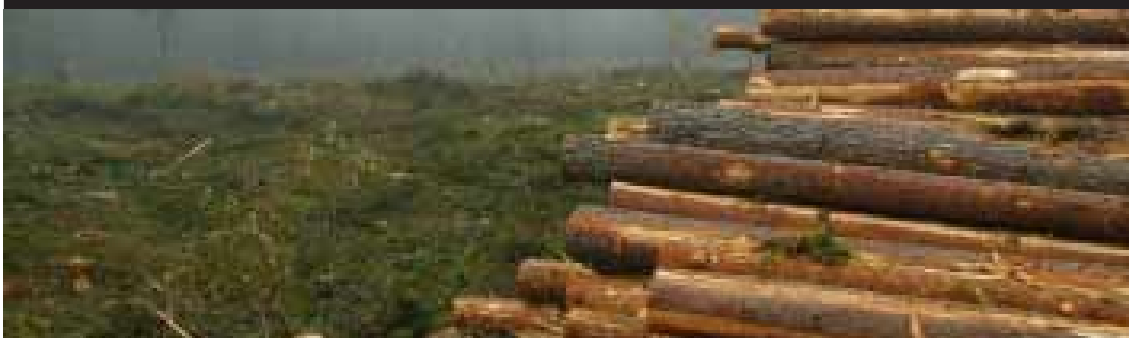
Map 1.

The Forestry Centres mentioned in the report, locations of the case study sites.

- 1 – Lapland (pg. 18)
- 2 – Ostrobothnia (pg. 21)
- 3 – Kainuu (pg. 11)
- 4 – North Karelia (pg. 16)
- 5 – South Savo (pg. 23)
- 6 – South Ostrobothnia (pg. 24)
- 7 – Central Finland (pg. 23)
- 8 – Pirkanmaa (pg. 9)
- 9 – Häme-Uusimaa (pg. 22)



PIRKANMAA



The certificate for Pirkanmaa Forestry Centre in southern Finland was issued in December 1999.

PM-1. Riponeva, Virrat

Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

Logging (by the FPS) in the autumn of 2000 and future logging plans of dozens of hectares in a state-owned old forest of



The Forest and Park Service logging style in a territory of the threatened siberian jay. Demonstrators are hanging a banner "Certified extinction wave" in front of a forest machine.

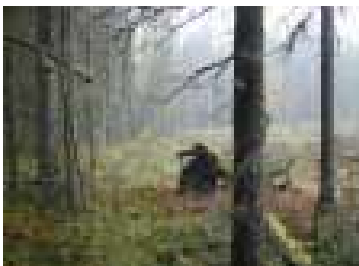
high ornithological value. At least one pair of siberian jay (*Perisoreus infaustus*) live in the area. Siberian jay is a threatened species in southern Finland and its population has been declining in the whole country. Also, the nearly threatened capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*, wood grouse) and the regionally threatened three-toed



woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) live in the area.

Source of information: discussions with the FPS and field trips, FPS's notifications.

Buyer of the timber: UPM-Kymmene (FPS's notification)



PM-2. Pihlajistonkorpi, Ylöjärvi

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored, violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for waterways and small waterbodies.

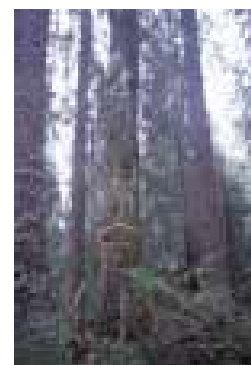
Key biotopes protected in the Forest

Act³ were logged by UPM-Kymmene in a private forest in October 2000. The biotopes included a natural brook, a herb-rich forest and a habitat of the threatened flying squirrel. Also the regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker and the near-threatened honey buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*) live in the area. The police is investigating the logging as a violation of the Forest Act.

In the land-use plan of the municipality, logging by a brook is subject to licence. However, no licence was applied for by UPM in this case.

Source of information: the newspaper Aamulehti, ornithologists, the local nature protection association

The buyer & logger of the timber: UPM-Kymmene



³The Forest Act is the Finnish forestry legislation that applies to the management and utilisation of forests. The act lists seven key biotopes (habitats of special importance) whose special features should be preserved during forestry operations. Surroundings of streams, brooks and springs are included in these.

PM-3. Kalliojärvi, Lyly

Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

A clearcut in the habitat of the

regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) by the FPS in June 2000. Several hectares of the ornithologically valuable old spruce forest were clearcut by the FPS, and only a thin line of spruce trees was left as an ecological cor-

ridor.

Source of information: ornithologists, local nature conservation associations.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, Metsäliitto



A threatened three-toed woodpecker looking out of its nest while machines of the Forest and Park Service are clearcutting its territory.

PM-4. Mulkovuoren Lautasuo, Längelmäki

Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed, presence of threatened species ignored, violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 20: No

first-time drainage is carried out, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for waterways and small waterbodies.

Draining in swamp forests of high botanical value on private land in January 2000. A natural spring brook was completely destroyed by the draining, as well as the habitat of two regionally threatened

plant species. A part of the forest inhabited by red-breasted flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*) and three-toed woodpecker was also destroyed by logging.

Source of information: WWF Finland.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, Metsäliitto

PM-5. Kyperäniemi, Orivesi

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored.

Clearcutting of 3-4 hectares by a pri-

vate land-owner in the spring of 1999. The forest was inhabited by flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*) and white-backed woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*), both of which are threatened species.

Source of information: WWF Finland.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, Metsäliitto

PM-6. Rilankorpi, Orivesi

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored.

Thinning of 2-3 hectares of ornithologically valuable old spruce forest in the

spring of 2000. The logging affected the living conditions of the regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) and goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*); a bird expert predicts the future nesting success of the species very uncertain. Or-

nithologists contacted the land-owner, the logger and the forestry authorities prior to the logging with no success.

Source of information: WWF Finland.

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto

PM-7. Susitörmänmaa, Kuru

Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed.

In March 2000 the Forest and Park Service logged a mating area of the bird capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) in the area of

Susitörmänmaa. Capercaillie needs structures common to old forests in its habitat and it is indeed a species indicating conservation value. The FPS was informed on the location of the mating area in advance, but stated that the area had to be logged because the need for wood was so acute.

Source of information: local ornithologists, article in newspaper Helsingin Sanomat 28 May, 2000

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, UPM-Kymmene

PM-8 Pääjärvi, Ikaalinen

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored

Logging in a habitat of the threatened flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*). Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) has also inhab-

ited the area. Forestry and environmental authorities were informed on the presence of the flying squirrel which resulted in parts of the forest being spared in earlier logging in 1996-1998. However, in the beginning of 2001 logging began in the remaining parts of the forest.

Source of information: local contacts

Buyer of the timber: UPM-Kymmene (information source: the Pirkanmaa Forestry Centre)

PM-9. Suolijärvi, Kuru

Finding: logging planned in a forest of high conservation value

Large-scale logging of state-owned old spruce forests of high conservation value by the Forest and Park Service began on January 15, 2001. Approximately 250 hectares of the 400 hectare forest have been protected in the Natura 2000 - programme but the rest of the valuable area

remains susceptible to logging.

A total of 36 hectares of the old spruce forests have been planned to be clearcut in several parts. This will fragment the area severely.

Many important biotopes such as swamp forests can be found in the area. There are several territories of the endangered flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*) and the regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) in the area.

The nearly threatened capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*) lives in the area, as well as the old forest indicating goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*).

Source of information: field trips, local ornithologists, FPS's notifications

Probable buyer of the timber: Metsäliitto, UPM-Kymmene

PM-10. Läämänneva, Kuru

Finding: logging planned in a forest of high conservation value

The Forest and Park Service is planning to log in a state-owned forest of high conservation value. The forest has been classified as a "forest of special environmental value" in which forestry operations

are claimed to aim at the enhancement of biodiversity.

The logging will take place in old spruce forests inhabited by the regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*). Other characteristics of semi-natural old forests can also be found, for example the lichen species *Lobaria pulmonaria*. Logging is planned for the winter

of 2001. Environmental NGOs and ornithologists have expressed their concerns on the logging.

Source of information: field trips, local ornithologists, FPS's notifications, FPS timber catalogue 66.

Probable buyer of the timber: Metsäliitto, UPM-Kymmene



The certificate for Kainuu Forestry Centre in eastern Finland was issued in September 2000.

K-1. Hammasvaara, Kuhmo

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

Hammasvaara is a state-owned old-growth forest area situated in the eastern border zone between Finland and Russia. A logging plan of about 10 hectares has been made for the spring of 2001. The

landscape ecological plan carried out by the Forest and Park Service (FPS) protects less than half of the old-growth forest area from logging. The preserved forest consists of small fragments spread over a large area. The most recent logging took place in the spring of 2000 and was criticized by the regional environmental authorities for destroying the ecological connections. The

planned logging will cause further fragmentation.

Source of information: the FPS Timber Catalogue 38, logging maps by the FPS, field trips.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, StoraEnso.

K-2. Iso-Kolkko, Kuhmo

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

An FPS logging plan of about 10 hectares of old-growth forest by a small lake. The site has been marked to be clearcut right to the lake leaving no or a very narrow buffer zone. Most of the forest is old

spruce forest with abundant beard lichens (*Usneaceae*) and huge, hundreds of years old fallen pines. Several willows (*Salix caprea*) bear the lichen *Lobaria pulmonaria* which is considered an indicator of old-growth forest. Also a threatened bracket fungus *Postia lateritia* grows in the forest.

Source of information: field trip in 2000, discussions with FPS officials in 2000.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, StoraEnso.

K-3. Alannesuo-Raatevaara, Suomussalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

When the old-growth forest conservation program for northern Finland⁴ was prepared in 1998, the forests of Alannesuo-Raatevaara were classified as 'A-sites'⁵ by the Finnish Government. In other words,

they should be protected in the landscape ecological planning. However, over half of the old-growth forest in the area was later designated by the FPS for commercial use. According to a report by the FPS itself, "the inventory area has so called classical old-growth forests with abundant dead wood, the structure of the forest is multi-layered and dense... observations of the flying squirrel..."⁶ In the winter of 2001, two

areas of about 15 hectares in total will be clearcut.

Source of information: the FPS Timber Catalogue 35.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, StoraEnso.



The forest on the background is planned to be clearcut. A temporary road will be constructed through the fen on the foreground.

K-4. Saarijärvi, Suomussalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

A logging plan covers possibly as much as 20 hectares of clearcut on a forest

island surrounded by a large treeless fen. The area is situated right next to an old-growth forest protection area and was classified an "A-site"⁵ when the old-growth forest protection program was prepared. A threatened bracket fungus *Postia lateritia*

grows in the forest.

Source of information: field trip, discussions with FPS officials.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, StoraEnso.

K-5. Lapinlamminvaara, Suomussalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

The Lapinlamminvaara forest was classified as an "A-site"⁵ when the old-growth forest protection program was prepared. In the landscape ecological plan-

ning scattered forest patches covering only about half of the total area were protected. Now dozens of hectares of old-growth forests are planned to be logged in the winter of 2001, including very small forest islands in the middle of peatlands. Almost all of the area is situated in the eastern border zone between Finland and Russia.

Source of information: discussions with

FPS officials.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, StoraEnso.

⁴ Protection of old-growth forests in northern Finland; report III by the working group for protection of old-growth forests, the Finnish Ministry of Environment, Helsinki 1996.

⁵ The proposal for protection of old-growth forests included both areas that should be protected by the Nature Conservation Act and areas that should be protected by regional landscape ecological planning. The 'A-sites' are areas that were to be protected by means of landscape ecological planning.

⁶ The Näljänkä landscape ecological plan, the Forest and Park Service, Kainuu district, 2000.

K-6. Karsikkojärvi, Kuivajärvi; Suomussalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned, cultural and scenic values destroyed.

Over 40 hectares of old-growth forest clearcut and planned to be clearcut by the FPS. Some of the logging was completed in October 2000 and the rest has been planned to be logged in the winter of

2000/2001.

The logging takes place in an area that has been proposed to become a "Scenic Area" as a part of the planned Kalevala Park. The FPS logged a part of the forests while the local people prepared an official proposal of the "Scenic Area" in co-operation with the regional council of Kainuu.

The village of Kuivajärvi belongs to the so-called Viena Karelian Folklore Villages and holds major cultural value.

Source of information: discussions with the FPS in 2000, minutes of the provincial government, local contacts.

Documented buyer of the timber: StoraEnso, photos of the labelled log piles.

Probable buyer of the timber: UPM-Kymmene.

WWW: The Viena Karelian Folklore Villages in English. <http://www.juminkeko.fi/viena/en/kuivajarvi.html>



Old-growth logs of the forest giant StoraEnso labelled for the Kemi-mills. The clearcut, made in a proposed Scenic Area, represents the average logging style of the Forest and Park Service in the Kainuu district.

K-7. The area of Kukkuri, Hyrynsalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

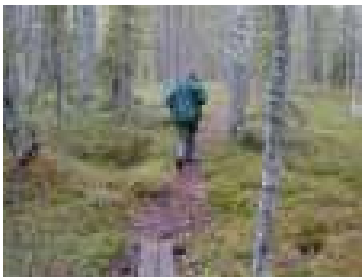
There are logging plans for winter 2000/2001, but no exact information available. According to studies ordered by the FPS and performed by environmental au-

thorities⁶, the area is considered to be of exceptional value for threatened species. Dozens of threatened and near-threatened species were found in the area. Parts of the area have been found to be a habitat for the threatened flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*). The flying squirrel is a species specially protected by the European Union. In the conclusions of the studies

the fragmentation of the area by logging is considered to have extensive negative impact. The most recent logging by the FPS took place in the winter of 2000.

Source of information: discussions with the FPS, reports by environmental authorities⁷.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene.



K-8. Pieni Tuomivaara - Ukko-Halla, Hyrynsalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

Parts of the Pieni Tuomivaara - Ukko-Halla old-growth forest have been found to be a habitat for flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*). Forestry road construction into the forest is planned to start in 2001. Once the

road construction is finished the area will be fragmented by clearcutting and thinning. Pieni Tuomivaara - Ukko-Halla is also an important recreation area being situated next to the centre of Hyrynsalmi and the skiing resort of Ukko-Halla: the UKK Hiking Trail and cross-country skiing trails pass through the area. The local nature conservation association has expressed their concern on the planned logging and they

consider these forests important for nature-oriented tourism.

Source of information: discussions with the FPS, the regional radio channel Kainuun Radio and the newspaper Kainuun Sanomat in November 2000, local contacts.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene.

⁷ Inventory on the lichens of the Kukkuri area, Mr. Sampsa Lommi, Kainuu Regional Environment Centre, 1999.

Report on the fungi of the Kukkuri area, Mr. Olli Turunen, Ms. Maiju Pasanen, Kainuu Regional Environment Centre, 1999.

K-9. Rehvelinjärvi, Hyrynsalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed.

Approximately 15 hectares of old-growth forest was clearcut by the FPS dur-

ing the summer and winter of 2000. Some of the logged forests were earlier defined as ecological corridors by the FPS itself. In a study commissioned by the Kainuu District of the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation it was found that the ecological landscape planning had left valuable forests containing several threatened

species open for logging⁸.

Source of information: discussions with the FPS, field trips, the landscape ecological plan of the area⁹.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene.

K-10. Malahvia, Suomussalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

A clearcut plan of almost 20 hectares in the southern part of the famous area of Malahvia. In the studies ordered by the FPS and performed by environmental authorities the area was found to be exceptionally valuable¹⁰. The studies concluded

that the biological values of the area can be preserved only by preventing further fragmentation of the area that would be caused by logging. Local people oppose to logging: a petition with a hundred signatures of local people was submitted to the Ministry of the Environment in February 2000. Several threatened and near-threatened species live in the forests now planned to be logged.

Source of information: field trip, FPS's no-

tification, reports by environmental authorities¹⁰.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene. StoraEnso bought the wood from the earlier logging in the area.

More information available: a summary of the inventory reports¹⁰ (Appendix 5.)

K-11 Vattuvaara, Kuhmo

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed, presence of threatened species ignored; violation of the PEFC criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for waterways and small waterbodies.

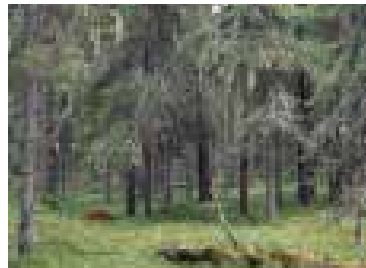
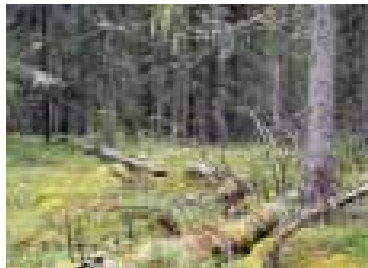
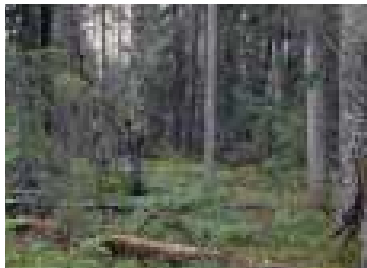
Extensive logging of 60 hectares next

to an old-growth forest belonging to the Natura 2000 program. Some of the area was logged in December 1999 and the rest in September 2000. Over a year before the logging the FPS was informed about the results of the species inventory performed in the area. However, at least 28 occurrences of threatened (VU) or near-threatened (NT) species of bracket fungi were

destroyed in the logging, as well as the edge forest of a brook. A winter lair of a brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) was surrounded by clearcuts.

Source of information: field trips, FPS's notification.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene, Kuhmo.



Photographs of the same spots before and after logging, in the autumn of 1999 and the autumn of 2000. Note the lichens hanging from the trees and decaying wood on the ground - these are characteristics of old-growth forests.

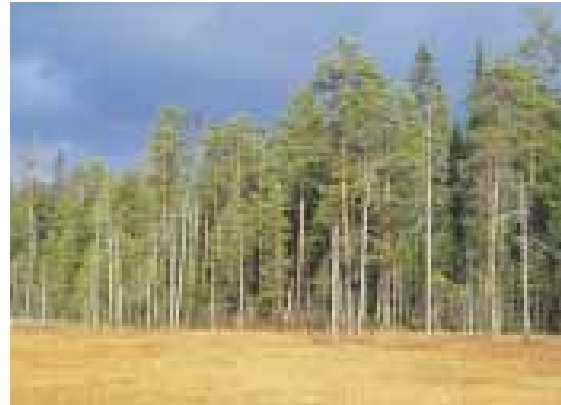
⁸ Evaluation of the Hyry landscape ecological plan from the perspective of species conservation, Mr. Olli Turunen, Ms. Emma Vitikainen, 2000.

⁹ The Hyry landscape ecological plan, the Kainuu district of the Forest and Park Service, 1999.

¹⁰ Inventory of the beetle species of the Malahvia area, Kainuu Regional Environment Centre, 1999.

Inventory of the lichen species of the Malahvia area, Kainuu Regional Environment Centre, 1999.

Inventory of the butterfly species of the Malahvia area, Kainuu Regional Environment Centre, 1999.



K-12. The forests south of Elimyssalo, Kuhmo

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned.

Clearcut plans concerning dozens of hectares of old-growth forest south of the nature reserve of Elimyssalo. Extensive logging took place already in the winter of 1999/2000 and in the spring of 2000.

Source of information: field trips, FPS's notification.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene, Kuhmo, Vapo Timber.



K-13. Petro, Hyrynsalmi

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed

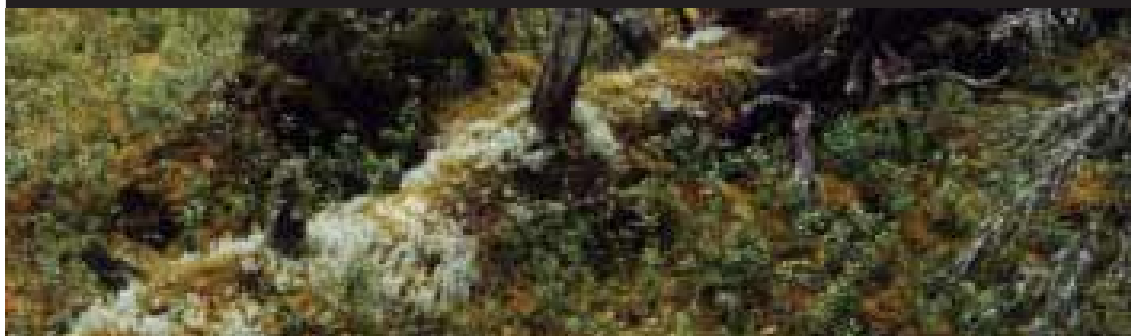
In January 2001, the Forest and Park Service clearcut over 10 hectares of old-growth forest in the area of Petro. The forest was surrounded by mires and waterways in a natural state. A very narrow buffer zone, less than 10 metres in width, was left on the banks of the river. Hundreds of years old Scots pines were discovered standing on the clearcut site as well as in the log piles.

Sources of information: local contact, field trip

Buyers of the timber: StoraEnso (photos of labelled log piles), UPM-Kymmene (a timber truck photographed and followed from the logging site to the Kajaani mill)



NORTH KARELIA



The certificate for North Karelia Forestry Centre in eastern Finland was issued in November 1999.

NK-1. Raesärkkä, Nurmes

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

Road construction and logging plans in a state-owned Natura 2000 area. The area of Raesärkkä is an important recrea-

tion area with scenic forests and clear lakes surrounded by natural peatlands. Local people have collected a petition for protecting the forests. Logging may start in the autumn of 2001.

Source of information: FPS's notification, newspapers (Helsingin Sanomat, Kar-

jalainen) in October 2000, TV report 19 November 2000, local contacts.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene, Vapo Timber.

More information available: English translation of a TV report in Nov 19, 2000 in Environment News. (Appendix 6.)

NK-2. Rasvasuo, Lieksa

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

Logging plans in a state-owned Natura 2000 area. Scenic old-growth pine for-

ests in the middle of a large peatland protection area are threatened by logging in the winter of 2000/2001. Dozens of occurrences of threatened fungal species have been found in the area, among them the endangered *Amyloporia crassa*, four vul-

nerable species and five near-threatened fungus species.

Source of information: field trips, FPS's notification.

Probable buyers of the timber: StoraEnso, UPM-Kymmene, Vapo Timber.



NK-3. Pyytivaara, Kontiolahti

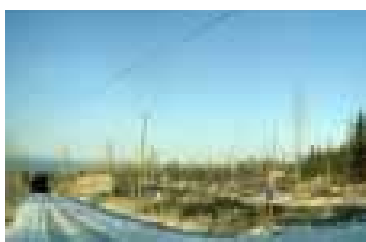
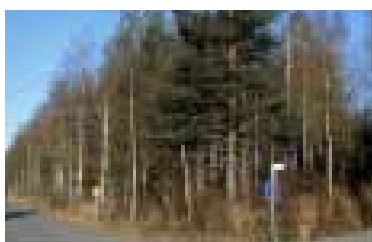
Finding: violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation

of the PEFC criterion 20: Retention trees are left on regeneration areas.

A privately owned old birch forest with slash-and-burn history was clearcut in the autumn of 1999. The logging of

4-5 hectares also affected the small waterways in the area. Retention trees were felled in 2000 (see the photographs).

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



The photographs represent the forest before and after logging in the autumn of 1999. The photograph on the farthest right was taken in the autumn of 2000 after the retention trees had been felled.

NK-4. Kalattomanpuro, Kontiolahti

Finding: violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for waterways and small waterbodies.

The flow of a brook and the natural

state of the herb-rich swamp forest by the brook were seriously damaged in this privately owned forest area by heavy harvesters in 1999 or 2000 during logging practices.

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

NK-5. Ahola, Kontiolahti

Finding: violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for waterways and small waterbodies.

A privately owned, herb-rich forest surrounding a brook and a spring was clearcut in 1999 or 2000.

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



The Forest Act prescribes that the special features of key habitats such as streams, brooks and springs must be preserved during forestry operations. In this case the surroundings of a stream were logged leaving no buffer zone.

NK-6. Angerpuro, Kontiolahti

Finding: violation of the FFCS criterion 10: Preservation of key biotopes, violation of the FFCS criterion 28: Buffer zones for

waterways and small waterbodies.

A privately owned, herb-rich forest surrounding a brook was clearcut leaving no or a very narrow buffer zone. The forests around two smaller brooks flowing to the major brook were also clearcut in the

winter of 1999/2000.

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

LAPLAND



The Forestry Centre of Lapland was the first to receive an FFCS certificate, in November 1999. There are particular problems in Lapland due to the conflicting interests of forestry and reindeer herding and the indigenous Sámi living in the northernmost parts of Lapland. For background information on the situation in Lapland, please refer to Chapter 3 of this

report.

The sites L1-L7 in this report are situated in the Sámi area, in the municipality of Inari. The information on these sites is based on the interviews of the reindeer herders and on visits to the sites made by Mr. Jarmo Pyykkö from the Finnish Nature League.

Site L-8 is situated in the municipal-

ity of Salla, where reindeer are herded by the Finns. In all cases L1-L8, the name of the reindeer herding co-operative, which uses the site as reindeer pasture, is mentioned, because the conflict between reindeer herding and forestry is an essential element in all of the following cases.

L-1. Several sites, Muotkatunturi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

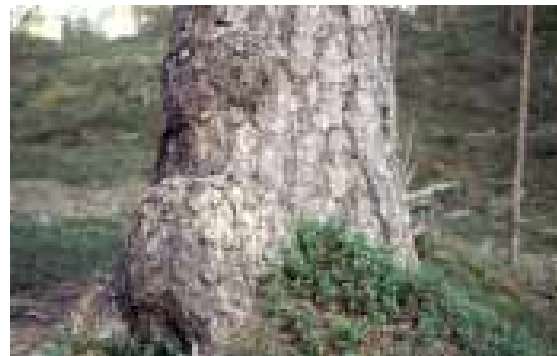
Despite the opposition of the reindeer herding co-operative, Forest and Park Service has several logging plans in the

area. The co-operative has in several occasions publicly stated that it cannot accept any Forest and Park Service (FPS) logging in its area. The co-operative has taken the dispute to the United Nations Human Rights Committee in 2000. The FPS has not waited for the decision of the Committee but -without the consent of the reindeer herders - logging began in November 2000. The area is an important winter grazing pasture for the reindeer

and it is situated in an otherwise already logged part of the co-operative's area.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews with the locals and FPS officials, field trips to the area.

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber



L-2. Menesjärvi, Hammastunturi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned; potential violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

The reindeer of Menesjärvi use the forests surrounded by high, treeless hills, fjells -as their winter pasture. Due to continuous and intense logging since the 1970's, the winter pastures are being de-

pleted. Currently the forest landscape in Menesjärvi is severely fragmented. Only two larger forest areas remain. The FPS has declared this year that it will start logging in one of them. There is logging planned for over 100 hectares in the Tivivaara and Kynsileikkaamanniemi forests, both of which are old-growth forests in their natural state. Local reindeer herders have unanimously appealed to the FPS to save the area. The logging is planned for February 2001.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews and field trips.

More information available: Translated article from the newspaper Helsingin Sanomat November 2, 2000: "Logging row flares up again behind Hammastunturi fjell. Forest and Park Service does not negotiate with reindeer herders as it should." (Appendix 7.). An announcement of the Hammastunturi Reindeer Herders to the Forest and Park Service October 26, 2000 (Appendix 8.).

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-3. Paksupetäjäjärvi area, Hammastunturi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

In the spring of 2000 the FPS logged in the area without properly informing, let alone negotiating with, the reindeer herders. However, the crucial importance of the area as a winter pasture for the reindeer has been agreed upon on several occasions with the Forest and Park Service.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature

League, interviews and field trips
Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-4 Kessi, Paatsjoki reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

The Forest and Park Service has logged the forests of Kessi for years despite the opposition of the reindeer herders and other users of the area. Currently the FPS is planning to log also in a part of Kessi

that has been included in the Wilderness Areas of the Wilderness Act (Vätsäri Wilderness Area).

In the autumn of 2000 the FPS started a road construction towards the easternmost parts of the area without giving the herders proper notice. These forests have been described even in the inventories of the FPS itself as being entirely in their natural state. Also without any prior notice, another access road was constructed to the western part of the Kessi

area, which is a winter pasture of the reindeer. In addition, soil scarification has been carried out - including areas rich with ground lichen - without any preceding consultation with the herders.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews and field trips

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-5. Kirakka, Hammastunturi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

The Kirakka forest is directly at-

tached to the Hammastunturi Wilderness Area. The FPS is planning to log both inside the Wilderness Area and outside it in Kirakka. Logging has taken place in Kirakka since the mid-1990's despite of the opposition of the reindeer herders. In the spring of 2000 the FPS conducted several loggings in an area covering hundreds of hectares of important winter pastures.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews and field trips

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-6. Pyhävaara, Muddusjärvi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

The last remaining winter pastures of Muddusjärvi reindeer herding co-oper-

ative are situated in a landscape severely fragmented by intensive forest management. During the year 2000 the FPS has logged two sites within the important winter pastures. The southern part of Pyhävaara area was logged in the summer of 2000. The northern part has been reported to be logged during the winter of 2000-2001. The reindeer herders say they have been ignored by the FPS throughout

the years. The logging has proceeded in the winter pasture forests as planned by the FPS.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews and field trips

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-7. Pekantupavaara, Muddusjärvi reindeer herding co-operative

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned; violation of FFCS criterion 36: Safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture.

This winter pasture is situated along the shores of Lake Inari. Muddusjärvi reindeer herding co-operative as well as the

predecessor of the Sámi Parliament appealed already in 1995 to the FPS to save the area. Despite this, the Forest and Park Service has continued to log the area to date. Now the planned logging and road construction to the heart of the forests is on hold due to found occurrences of several threatened species. Forest and Park Service has not announced its plans for the future, but in the light of the past cases, it is unlikely that the occurrences of threat-

ened species would stop the logging from taking place. The latest logging took place in the Spring of 2000 in the eastern corner of the area.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League, interviews and field trips

Probable buyers of the timber: Metsäliitto, StoraEnso, Vapo Timber

L-8. Aitatsivaara, municipality of Salla, Pohjois-Salla reindeer herding co-operative

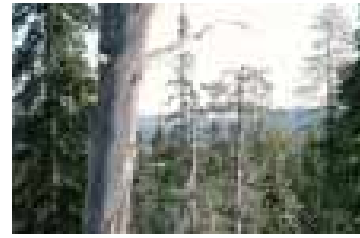
Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed and planned

The forests of Aitatsivaara are old-growth forests situated in high altitude areas (over 300 metres above the sea level). Logging in high altitude forests has been criticized widely by researchers and specialists because the regeneration of the for-

est in such conditions is uncertain. Tens of hectares in Aitatsivaara were logged (in February-March 2000), and more logging is due in the winter of 2000-2001 by the FPS. Local reindeer herders oppose the logging.

Source of information: The Finnish Nature League field trips and discussions with reindeer herders and other local people, information given by the FPS, newspapers and local radio stations.

More information available: An announcement of the Northern Salla Rein-



deer Herders to the Forest and Park Service opposing the planned loggings in the Naruska-Tuntsa - area June 22, 1998 (Appendix 9).

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso

L-9. Karhujupukka, Kolari

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

In the fall of 2000, the FPS clearcut

20 hectares of forests surrounding a peatland protection area. A regionally threatened bracket fungi *Haploporus odoros* was found on a retention tree left on the clearcut.

Source of information: Field trip, information given by the FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso



L-10. Kurtakko, Kolari

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed

In early 2000 the FPS clearcut a 10 hectare old-growth forest situated next to a protected old-growth area. The forest was pine-dominated, with large amounts

of standing dead trees.

Source of information: Field trip, information given by the FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso

L-11. Siikalaminpalo, Rovaniemi mlk

Finding: forestry operations allowed in an old-growth forest

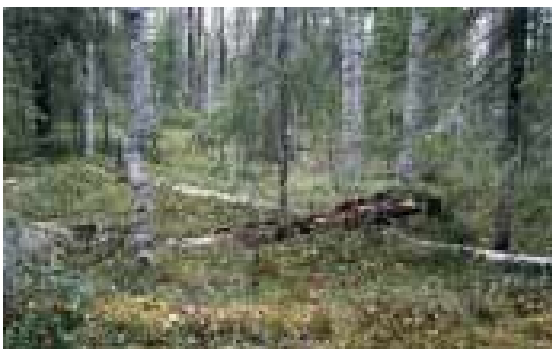
Windthrows were taken away in the summer of 2000. The area is a natural-like,

post-fire forest. The forest has been classified in the FPS inventories as valuable old-growth forest. The site is a so-called "A-site"⁵, that was supposed to be protected in the landscape ecological planning of the FPS. However, only half of the site will be protected in the landscape ecological plan. The

natural structure of the forest was disturbed by taking away the windthrows. The fallen trees also included large, rotten birches, which are important for biodiversity.

Source of information: Field trip, information given by FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso



Windthrows are important to several threatened and endangered species that require decaying wood. The amount of decaying wood in Finnish forests has been estimated to have decreased by as much as 90% after the forests have lost their natural state.

⁵ The proposal for protection of old-growth forests included both areas that should be protected by the Nature Conservation Act and areas that should be protected by regional landscape ecological planning. The 'A-sites' are areas that were expected to be protected by landscape ecological planning.

L-12. Aihkipetsi, Salla

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed

Between the summer of 1999 and the spring of 2000 the Forest and Park

Service logged tens of hectares of old-growth forest around the mire-protection area of Löytöjätkä. Surroundings of the popular UKK-hiking trail were also logged thus impairing recreational values. Forests containing trees over 500 years of age were

logged.

Source of information: information given by the FPS, citizen contacts (letters from hikers)

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso

L-13. Hangaskumpu and Niitselysjoki, Salla

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed

In February – March 2000 the FPS clearcut over 150 hectares of old-growth

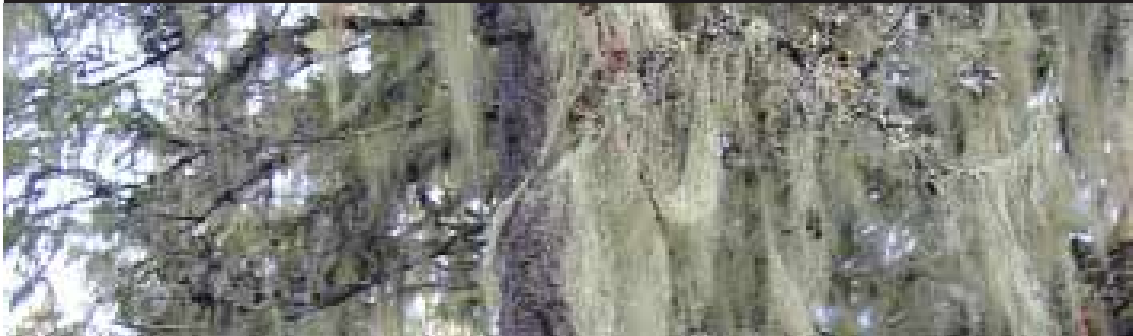
forest in the areas of Hangaskumpu and Niitselysjoki some kilometres north from the Oulanka National Park. In the old-growth forest inventory carried out by the FPS the areas were considered to be conservationally valuable, and thus were classified as "A-sites"⁵. Several clearcuts, some

over 15 hectares in size, were made side by side. The area was severely fragmented.

Source of information: information given by the FPS, field trip

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso

OSTROBOTHNIA



The certificate for Ostrobothnia Forestry Centre was issued in November 2000.

O-1 Forests surrounding Lauttasuo Natura 2000 area, Taivalkoski

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed.

Tens of hectares of state-owned forests were logged in the autumn 2000. In the old-growth forest inventory carried out by

the Forest and Park Service in mid-1990's the area was considered to be conservationally valuable. The Lauttasuo Protected Area, which has also been proposed for the Natura 2000 network, is situated in the middle of the site. The forests surrounding the protected area which have characteristics similar to the protected forests were not given any special status in the

landscape ecological planning carried out by the FPS. The logging of these patches has reduced the vitality of the protected forest as well as that of its ecological connections.

Source of information: inventory reports and logging maps given by the FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: StoraEnso

O-2. Koivuvaara, Taivalkoski

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

A state-owned 700 hectare, unfragmented old-growth forest was fragmented with 50-100 hectare logging in the summer of 2000. In addition, several kilome-

tres of access road was constructed into the forest. In the old-growth forest inventory by the Forest and Park Service the area was considered to be valuable from a conservation perspective, and classified as an 'A-site'⁵ that should be protected by landscape ecological planning. A threatened old-growth forest bird species, red-

flanked bluetail (*Tarsinger cyanurus*), has been observed in the area, as well as at least four other species classified as near-threatened or vulnerable.

Source of information: inventory reports and logging maps given by the FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: Stora Enso

⁵ The proposal for protection of old-growth forests included both areas that should be protected by the Nature Conservation Act and areas that should be protected by regional landscape ecological planning. The 'A-sites' are areas that were expected to be protected by landscape ecological planning.

O-3. Kylkivaara, Taivalkoski

Finding: old-growth forest logging allowed.

In the old-growth forest inventory carried out by the Forest and Park Service

the area was considered to be conservationally valuable. However, it was not given any special status in the landscape ecological planning carried out by the FPS. The forest was old-growth, and contained both indicator species and threatened species,

e.g. the vulnerable bracket fungus *Phlebia centrifuga*.

Source of information: inventory reports and logging maps given by the FPS

Probable buyer of the timber: Stora Enso

O-4 Extension to the Jännessuo Natura 2000 area, Kuivaniemi

Finding: old-growth forest logging planned.

In the old-growth forest inventory carried out by the Forest and Park Service the area was considered to be of high con-

servation value. The area has been classified as an 'A-site'²⁵, that should be protected by landscape ecological planning. However, less than half of it is going to be protected now that the landscape ecological plan has been completed. The area is part of the Natura 2000 network proposed by the Ministry of the Environment. Despite of that, the FPS is planning to log

10-30 hectares in the area. The Regional Environment Centre has not given their support to the logging. Two near-threatened and one vulnerable fungi species have been observed in the area.

Source of information: information given by the FPS and the Regional Environment Centre

Probable buyer of the timber: Stora Enso

OTHER FORESTRY CENTRES: HÄME-UUSIMAA



The area of the Forestry Centre of Häme-Uusimaa in southern Finland was certified in December 2000.

HU-1. Evo, Lammi

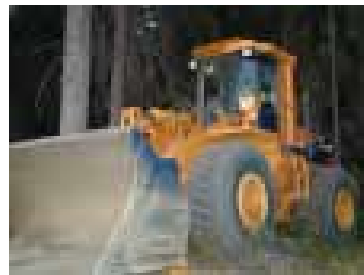
Finding: Logging planned in a forest of high conservation value.

A clearcut plan of about 20 hectares in old forests of high conservation value in a state-owned Natura 2000 area. The logging by the Forest and Park Service is planned to take place in between two protection areas. An access road was prepared for logging in September 2000.

A report on the need for forest protection in southern Finland was published in September 2000 (Appendix 2). The evaluation was done by a working group

of authorities and specialists, and the forests of Evo are mentioned in the report as an example of an area where the forest protection network should be developed. Particularly the forests next to existing protection areas are considered to be primary supplementary areas for protection. The regionally threatened three-toed woodpecker (*Picoides tridactylus*) and red-breasted flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*) nest in the planned clearcut area; regionally threatened and near-threatened bracket fungi have also been found.

Source of information: FPS's notification, discussions with the FPS, discussions with



University of Helsinki researches, field trips.

Probable buyers of the timber: UPM-Kymmene, Metsäliitto

HU-2. Huljala, Hämeenkoski

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored.

Clearcutting in the territory of the threatened flying squirrel (*Pteromys vol-*

ans) in the autumn of 2000. The nesting tree of the flying squirrel had been especially pointed out to the logger but it was felled in the logging.

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

CENTRAL FINLAND

The area of the Forestry Centre of Central Finland was certified in November 1999.

CF-1. Miilukangas, Pylkönmäki

Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

Clearcuts and clearcutting plans of dozens of hectares of state-owned forest by

the Forest and Park Service. The area hosts siberian jay (*Perisoreus infaustus*) which is a threatened species in southern Finland and declining in the whole country. According to the local ornithological association (The Pirkanmaa Ornithological Association) the area is valuable also for old-growth forest-dwelling species.

Source of information: FPS's notification, field trips.

More information available: statement on the biological values of the area by the Ornithological Association of Suomenselkä (Appendix 10).

CF-2. Heinä-Suvanto, Viitasaari

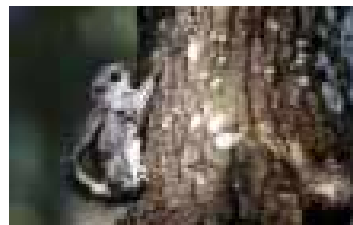
Finding: logging in a forest of high conservation value allowed, presence of threatened species ignored.

Large clearcuts were conducted in a state-owned mature spruce forest by the Forest and Park Service in the early winter of 2000. About 45 hectares of forests next

to a Natura 2000 reserve were clearcut. The area was inhabited by threatened red-breasted flycatcher (*Ficedula parva*) and flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*), as well as by three-toed woodpecker (*Picooides tridactylus*), pygmy owl (*Clauvidium passerinum*), great grey owl (*Strix nebulosa*) and greenish warbler (*Phylloscopus trochiloides*).

Source of information: The Finnish Associ-

ation for Nature Conservation, field trips, discussions with the Regional Environment Centre.



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SOUTH SAVO

The area of the Forestry Centre of South Savo in southern Finland was certified in November 1999.

SS-1. Rastikenkut, Savonranta

Finding: logging planned in an area important for developing the forest protec-

tion network in southern Finland.

Clearcut plans of about 10 hectares of state-owned mature forests next to a small old-growth forest protection area. The logging will affect the ecological func-

tions of the small protection area and destroy possibilities of enlargement.

Source of information: field trip, the FPS Timber Catalogue 79.



SS-2. Kokkolansalo, Sulkava

Finding: logging of an area important for developing the forest protection network

in southern Finland.

Clearcutting of state-owned forests by a small old-growth forest protection area in March 2000. The logging affected

ecological functions of the small protection area and the possibilities of enlargement.

Source of information: field trips.



SS-3. Tervanen-Leikko, Pieksämäki mlk

Finding: logging planned in an area important for developing the forest protection network in southern Finland.

A logging plan of 10 hectares in a

high conservation value, state-owned forest area. Several threatened species live in the area, among them the flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*). Finnish environmental NGOs consider the area valuable for supplementary protection of the forests in southern Finland. Logging will take place

in the winter of 2001.

Source of information: field trips, FPS's notifications.

SOUTH OSTROBOTHNIA

The area of the Forestry Centre of South Ostrobothnia in southern Finland was certified in November 1999.

SO-1. Vuorenkangas, Lestijärvi

Finding: logging planned in an area important for developing the forest protection network in southern Finland.

A clearcutting plan of state-owned mature forests between two small old-growth forest protection areas. The logging will affect the ecological functions of the small protection area and eliminate possibilities of enlargement. Logging will

take place in the spring of 2001.

Source of information: The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, field trip, the FPS Timber Catalogue 30.

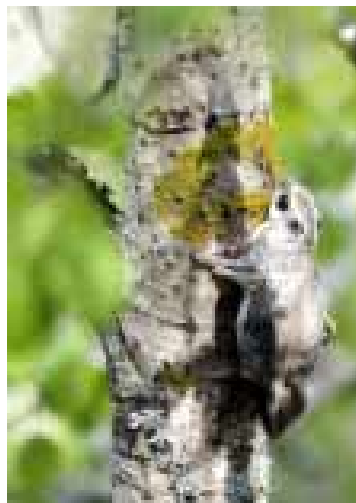
SO-2. Panttila, Kurikka

Finding: presence of threatened species ignored.

A forest inhabited by the threatened flying squirrel (*Pteromys volans*) was clearcut. The regional forestry centre and the logger Metsäliitto were informed about the nesting site of the flying squirrel, but only 6-8 trees were left standing in the clearcut area of a couple of hectares.

Source of information: the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, the regional newspaper Ilkka in Nov 16, 2000.

Documented logger and buyer of the timber: Metsäliitto.



A flying squirrel is a species endangered by forestry. Finland is the only country in the EU where flying squirrels can be found.

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CHAPTER 3. Conflicts between forestry and reindeer herding in the Sámi area

By Jarmo Pyykkö

Reindeer herding is a central part of the culture of the indigenous people of northernmost Europe, the Sámi. Sámi people live in the northernmost parts of Norway, Sweden, Finland and on the Kola Peninsula of Russia. In Finland, Finns also herd reindeer. However, in the Sámi area of the northernmost parts of Finnish Lapland, the majority of the reindeer herders are Sámi.

Reindeer herding is done everywhere in northernmost Finland, not just on the land owned by the individual herders. Reindeer herding is conducted jointly in herding co-operatives (paliskunta in Finnish). Each co-operative operates in a specified area. In the Sámi area, where 90% of the land is owned by the state, reindeer herding is greatly dependent on the way the state forestry enterprise, the Forest and Park Service, manages state forests.

The right to herd reindeer and to preserve the Sámi culture are protected by law in Finland. According to the law, land use management in the Sámi area must be conducted with respect to the Sámi culture, including traditional livelihoods such

as reindeer herding. The Forest and Park Service is obliged to negotiate with the Sámi representatives as well as with reindeer herders on issues concerning land use planning. In addition to the legislation, the FPS has developed a system of participatory planning, in which the FPS emphasises the importance of allowing all locals and representatives of different livelihoods to participate in the planning of the use of state forests in Finland.¹

Herding and old-growth forests

Old forests with ground and arboreal lichen (arboreal = growing on trees) are crucial winter pastures for reindeer. Especially during late winter, when the snow cover is thick and hard, reindeer are almost entirely dependent on habitats containing arboreal lichen as several studies show². These pastures consist mostly of old-growth forests.

Unfortunately, state forests have been managed very intensively in the Sámi area, as in most other parts of Finland. Since the 1950's, extensive clearcuts together with other large-scale projects, such as the

building of water reservoirs and tourist resorts, have considerably affected land use in the Sámi area. The pressure inflicted on reindeer herding by these modern forms of land use has been studied and documented most thoroughly in the southern part of the Sámi area.³

In the Inari municipality, some 40% of forests have been protected, and all over the Sámi area the management practices of the FPS have been claimed to have changed during the past decade. However, despite the high percentage of protected areas, all of the most important winter pastures are not protected. All new loggings will cause further deterioration of the crucial winter pastures. The most important winter pastures situated in unprotected old-growth forests have been documented in the "Last of the Last" map published by the Taiga Rescue Network in 2000⁴.

In the 1990's reindeer herders started demanding logging moratoria on the late winter grazing forests of reindeer. During the past decade, there have been several lawsuits initiated by the herders. Herders have even filed appeals to the United Nations' Human Rights Committee. How-

¹ Loikkanen, T., Simojoki, T. & Wallenius, P. 1999. Participatory Approach to Natural Resource Management. A Guide Book. Forest and Park Service.

² See e.g.

- Sipilä, Pekka; Magga, Hannu; Aikio, Pekka 2000: Luppoa etsimässä. Lapin paliskunta. In Finnish with English summary: Inventory of grazing grounds with arboreal lichen within the district of the Lapin paliskunta-reindeer herders' association in 1999–2000.
- Kumpulainen, Jouko et al. 1997: Suomen poronhoitoalueen talvilaidunvarat. Kala- ja riistaraportteja nro 93. RKTL. In Finnish with English summary: The Winter Pasture Resources of the Finnish Reindeer Management Area. Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute 1997.
- Danell, Öje and Nieminen, Mauri 1997: Poro ja laidun. In: Warenberg, Kristina et al. 1997: Porolaidunten kasvillisuus, pp. 19–30. Pohjoismainen porontutkimuselin (NOR) and A/S Landbruksforlaget.
- Danell, Öje and Nieminen, Mauri 1997: Reindeer and Pasture. In: Warenberg et al. 1997: The vegetation of reindeer pastures. In Finnish.
- Mattila, E. 1979: Characteristics of the mineral soil forests with arboreal lichens in the Finnish reindeer management area (in Finnish with English summary). *Folia Forestalia* 417:1–39.
- Eriksson, O. 1975: Silvicultural practices and reindeer grazing in Sweden. In: Luick, J.R. et al. (eds.): Proceedings of the 1st International Reindeer/Caribou Symposium, Fairbanks 1972. *Biological Papers of the University of Alaska, Special Report* 1:108–121.

³ See e.g.

- Sipilä, Pekka; Magga, Hannu; Aikio, Pekka 2000: Luppoa etsimässä. Lapin paliskunta. In Finnish with English summary: Inventory of grazing grounds with arboreal lichen within the district of the Lapin paliskunta-reindeer herders' association in 1999–2000.
- Burgess, Philip 1999: Human Environmental Interactions in Upper Lapland, Finland. *Arctic Centre Reports* no. 27.
- Lehtinen, Ari Aukusti 1991: Northern Natures. A study of the question emerging within the timber-line conflict in Finland. Reprint from *Fennia* 169:1, pp. 57–169. Geographical Society of Finland. Helsinki.
- Aikio, Pekka 1978: The breakdown of a Lappish Ecosystem in Northern Finland. In: Papers of the Symposium on Unexpected Consequences of Economic Change in Circumpolar Regions at the 34th Annual Meeting of the Society for Applied Anthropology in Amsterdam, March 19–22 1975. Boreal Institute for Northern Studies. The University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Occasional publication #14, January 1978.

⁴ The Last of the Last: The old-growth forests of boreal Europe, Taiga Rescue Network, 1999. The maps implied here are based on on-site inventories and interviews of the herders carried out by the Nature League representative Mr. Jarmo Pyykkö.

ever, these lawsuits have not yielded intended results, mainly due to the fact that the courts have considered each logging conflict individually, instead of looking at the total effect of forestry on reindeer herding in each co-operative. However, in its decision concerning the appeal by the Muotkatunturi co-operative, the UN Human Rights Committee concluded that any additional logging in the co-operative's area could be considered a violation of the Sámi indigenous rights⁵. As the loggings on state land have been expanded in 2000, the co-operative has made a new appeal to the Committee (see Lapland case studies, L-1).

Certification

Lapland has been FFCS-certified for a year now. There are two FFCS criteria that should be applied when reindeer herding and Sámi cultural aspects are involved. Firstly, FFCS criterion 36 concerning the safeguarding of the Sámi people's traditional means of livelihood and culture states that In the Sámi homelands the management, use and protection of natural resources administrated by the Forest and Park Service is harmonised in cooperation with Sámi representatives such that the conditions for the practising of traditional livelihoods and the Sámi culture are maintained.

However, according to the reindeer herders interviewed for this study, FFCS certification has not improved FPS management or planning practices. The so-called negotiations between the herders and the FPS are not considered by the herders to be real negotiations between equals. The FPS will not cancel planned loggings unless the herders take the issue to the courts. Case studies presented in this report show that the FFCS certification does not in practice stop further deterioration of the Sámi reindeer herding. Therefore, the Sámi Parliament, an official body representing the Sámi, stated in November 2000 that the requirements mentioned in the criterion 36 are not currently met – due to FPS forestry practices and several other shortcomings. The Parliament also stated that the FPS does not carry out its statutory task to negotiate on these matters with the Sámi Parliament and the relevant herding co-operatives. (See Appendix 11.) It must be noted also, that the Sámi Parliament demanded already in 1998 that forest management in the Sámi area be conducted in accordance with the principles and criteria of FSC certification instead⁶.

The other relevant criterion (37) - integration of reindeer husbandry and forestry states that The Forest and Park Service should cooperate with the representatives of reindeer husbandry when carrying out such measures that might have a signifi-

cant effect on reindeer farming. The need for cooperation is determined by both parties together for ensuring adequate and appropriate participation and harmonisation. It is obvious in the light of herder interviews that even this criterion, although less demanding than criterion 36, is not met to a sufficient extent in all of the cases. It is equally alarming that the criterion was entirely formulated without the involvement of reindeer herding representatives in the first place.⁷

Question of land use control

In addition to the particular conflicts between reindeer herding and forestry, it also needs to be pointed out that general issues of land use control and questions of the legal land ownership remain unsettled between the state and the Sámi people. As Finland currently is looking for ways to ratify the ILO Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal People, there are processes going on to find solutions to the land question. In an official report published by the Ministry of Justice 8 in 2000, it is also suggested that reindeer herding, as an integral part of the Sámi culture, should be given a significantly stronger status in issues concerning land use in the Sámi area. So far no significant practical steps have been taken in this direction.



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⁵ Human Rights Committee 1995: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. Communication No. 671/1995.

⁶ Saamelaiskäräjät 1998: Lausunto Metsähallituksen metsärajan läheisten mäntymetsien käsittelyohjeita koskevasta luonnoksesta 4.2.1998. The Sámi Parliament 1998: An announcement on the Forest and Park Service's guideline draft concerning the management of pine-dominated forests of high areas 4.2.1998. In Finnish.

⁷ The Association of Reindeer Herding Cooperatives 2000: Memo to the national forest certification council on 17.1.2000. In Finnish.

⁸ Vihervuori, Pekka 1999: Maahan, veteen ja luonnonvaroihin sekä perinteisiin elinkeinoihin kohdistuvat oikeudet saamelaisten kotiseutualueella. ILO:n alkuperäis- ja heimokansoja koskevan yleisopin edellyttämät saamelaisten maahan ja vesiin kohdistuvia oikeuksia koskevat muutosehdotukset.

Vihervuori, Pekka 1999: Rights to land, water and traditional means of livelihood in the Sámi area. In Finnish.

Chapter 4. Appendices

Appendix 1. The significance of protected area network for forest-dwelling species... A report by Finnish Environment Institute 200, publication number 440 in The Finnish Environment - series. A map from page 65.

Appendix 2. Forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia. A report by official working group, published by Ministry of the Environment 2000 in The Finnish Environment series, number 437. Annex 2, "Extracts from the abstract of the report" (translated by the Ministry of the Environment) and "Objectives of the working group" (translated and summarised by the Finnish Nature League).

Appendix 3. Violations of FFCS-criteria reported by independent certification companies DNV and SFS, November 30, 2000. List of violations for each forestry centre.

Appendix 4. "Familiar shortcomings came up in the monitoring audit of the North Karelia region forest certification criteria." Article on newspaper Karjalainen November 30, 2000. Translated by authors of this report.

Appendix 5. The summary of the species inventories of the Malahvia-area. Translated and summarised by the authors of this report.

Appendix 6. English translation of a TV report in November 19, 2000 in Environment News. Translated by the authors of this report.

Appendix 7. "Logging row flares up again behind Hammastunturi fell. "The Forest and Park Service does not negotiate with reindeer herdsman as it should' ". Article on newspaper Helsingin Sanomat November 3, 2000. Translated by authors of this report.

Appendix 8. An announcement of the Hammastunturi Reindeer Herders to the Forest and Park Service October 26, 2000. Translated by the authors of this report.

Appendix 9. An announcement of the Northern Salla Reindeer Herders to the Forest and Park Service opposing the planned loggings in Naruska-Tuntsa – area June 22, 1998. Translated by the authors of this report.

Appendix 10. Statement on the natural values of the Miilukangas-area by the Ornithological Association of Suomenselkä. Translated by authors of this report.

Appendix 11. Announcement on the implementation of the [FFCS] criterion 36. The Sámi Parliament November 3, 2000.

Appendix 12. Joint press release by Finnish environmental NGOs on FFCS, October 1998.

Appendix 1.

The significance of protected area network for forest-dwelling species... A report by the Finnish Environment Institute, 2000, publication number 440 of The Finnish Environment - series. A map from the page 65 of the report.

Translated by the authors of this report

Figure 1.

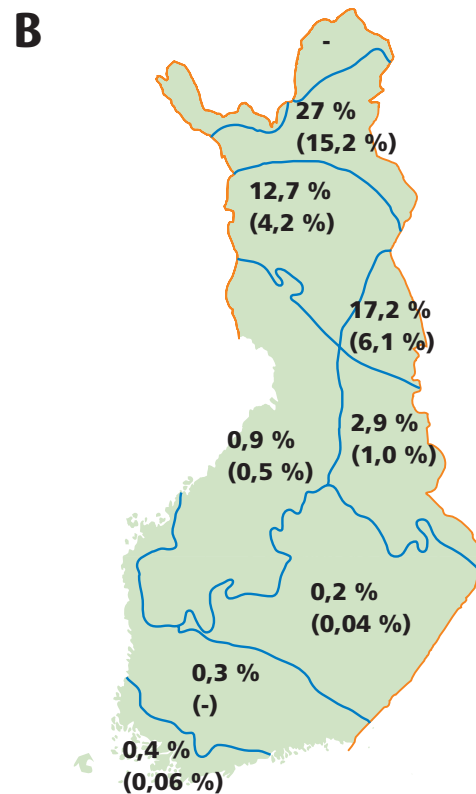
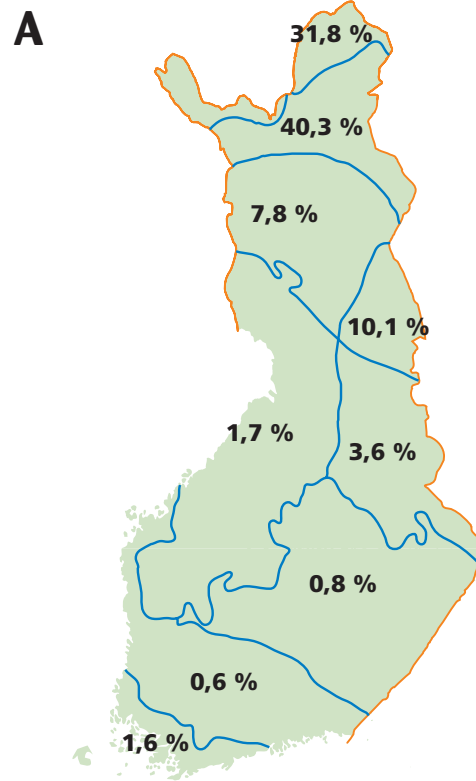
A = The proportion of protected forest land by forest vegetation zones and their sub-sections.

Northern boreal: 16,9%
 Middle boreal: 2,4%
 Southern boreal: 0,7%
 Hemi boreal: 1,6%

B = The proportion of forests resembling forests in a natural state (age of the tree stock exceeds 140 years; damages indicating a natural state can be found) in total forest land.

The respective proportion of protected forests resembling a natural state (according to the eight inventory of the state's forests, Virkkala et al. 2000) is presented in brackets.

The island of Åland is not included in the study.



Appendix 2.

Forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia

Published by the Finnish Ministry of the Environment, September 2000

Authors: The working group on the need for forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia.

Extracts from the abstract of the report (translated by the Ministry of the Environment):

The working group on the need for forest protection in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia investigated the state of forest protection in the south of Finland and in the south and southwest of the Oulu and Lapland provinces, and has suggested ways to improve protection.

(...)

The working group believes that threatened forest species and forest species with declining populations, whose natural distribution is concentrated in the hemi-boreal, south-boreal or mid-boreal zones, are not protected by the present network of protected areas in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia. In these parts of Finland, additional protection is needed, especially for herb-rich forests, rich heath forests, hardwood swamps, forests in a natural or semi-natural state, and species dependent on these habitats.

(...)

Objectives presented by the working group (translated and summarised by the Authors of this report):

New protection areas and more coherent protection networks should be established.

The present protection areas should be complemented and expanded by the addition of rare or valuable areas, especially in the vicinity of present protection areas.

The living conditions of declining species should be enhanced, especially in managed forests surrounding protection areas.

In the long run, extensive and coherent protection networks should be established around the present core areas using new protection areas, supportive areas, buffer zones and ecological connections.

Appendix 3.

Violations (nonconformities in PEFC-text) of certificate criteria observed in the 1999-2000 audits of the following forestry centres -reported in November 2000 by the independent certification companies SFS and DNV:

Central Finland:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats/key biotopes in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)
- 4.Commitment (A2)

South-Savo:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)

South-Ostrobothnia:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)

Pirkanmaa:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)

Kainuu:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Forest road network master plan (Criterion 23)
- 4.Study on biological and environmental values in forest road network plans (Criterion 24)
- 5.Water body protection planning in the drain maintenance plan (Criterion 27)

North-Ostrobothnia:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Preservation of the conservation value of protection areas (Criterion 19)
- 4.Study on biological and environmental values in forest road network plans (Criterion 24)
- 5.No first-time drainage in peatlands in a natural state (Criterion 25)

North-Savo:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)
4. Avoiding of harvesting damages (Criterion 30)

Coast:

- 1.Sustainable forestry objective programme (Criterion 1)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Preservation of the conservation value of protection areas (Criterion 19)
- 4.Study on biological and environmental values in forest road network plans (Criterion 24)
- 5.Water body protection planning in the drain maintenance plan (Criterion 27)

Häme-Uusimaa:

- 1.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 2.Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
- 3.Forest road network master plan (Criterion 23)
- 4.Avoiding of harvesting damages (Criterion 30)

Kymi:

- 1.Silvicultural recommendations for sustainable forest management (Criterion 2)
- 2.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 3.Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
- 4.Single valuable trees are spared (Criterion 21)
5. Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)

Lapland 1999:

1. Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
2. Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
3. Entrepreneurs used adhere to legisla-

- tion and agreements (Criterion 17)
4. Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)
5. Rights of the Sámi people (Criterion 36)

Lapland 2000 monitoring audit / re-evaluation:

1. Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
2. Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)

Southwest-Finland:

- 1.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 2.Monitoring system for harvesting damage (Criterion 12)
- 3.Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
- 4.Entrepreneurs used adhere to legislation and agreements (Criterion 17)

North-Karelia 1999:

- 1.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 2.Monitoring system for harvesting damage (Criterion 12)
- 3.Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
- 4.Entrepreneurs used adhere to legislation and agreements (Criterion 17)
- 5.Forest management plans include areas of special conservational or recreational value (Criterion 18)
- 6.Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)

North-Karelia 2000/ monitoring audit:

- 1.Preservation of valuable habitats in managed forests (Criterion 10)
- 2.Monitoring system for harvesting damage (Criterion 12)
- 3.Habitat care monitoring system (Criterion 13)
- 4.Buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies (Criterion 28)
- 5.Culturally valuable landscape complexities area preserved (Criterion 35)

Appendix 4.

The Karjalainen – Newspaper / November 30th, 2000

Translated by the authors of this report

HEADLINE: Familiar shortcomings came up in the monitoring audit of the North Karelia region forest certification criteria.

Forest owners were granted the right to use the PEFC-logo.

*by Sirkka-Liisa Salmela
Joensuu*

The North Karelian Union of Forest Management Associations has been granted the right to use the PEFC-logo as the first of the certification regions. The licence was issued by the Finnish Forest Certification Council.

The forests of North Karelia were given the certificate last fall. In this fall's monitoring audit of the region, the certification company SFS-Certification Oy observed five slight violations of the criteria. In the audit carried out last year, seven violations were found. In this year's monitoring audit, special attention was paid to the criteria which were not completely met in last year's audit.

According to the remarks included in the monitoring audit report, there is still a

need for improvement in the methods of preserving valuable habitats during harvesting. Shortcomings were also observed in the establishment of buffer zones of waterways and minor water bodies.

– The sample sizes of the systems for monitoring harvesting damages and the quality of habitat care are too small. Besides, some actors lack comprehensive recommendations on how to operate in valuable landscape areas, states the monitoring audit report.

Matti Saramäki, the executive director of the North Karelia Union of Forest Management Associations, says that even minor certification violations are annoying because of their recurrence. According to Mr. Saramäki, the violations include a couple of permanent issues, such as the treatment of valuable habitats and buffer zones of water bodies.

According to the executive director, there is also a need to increase the amount of autonomic monitoring of the quality of harvesting and preservation of nature.

More prescribed burning

– More effective training of the personnel and forest owners is required in order to correct the violations. This also requires help from the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry. The ministry should direct more

funds to the Forestry centres, so that more control monitoring could be carried out, demands Mr. Saramäki.

He also says that in order to form a reliable picture of the situation, information concerning sites of special importance must be made more accessible, control of the management of logged sites more effective and information from different parties combined. He anticipates that most problems will be faced concerning prescribed burning and the management of sapling stands.

– In the future, the realisation of sapling stand management operations and an increase in prescribed burning will require more effective effort. Such small amounts of forest have been burned in North Karelia that the schedule will be tight. Only 16 hectares were burned last year, while the requirement was almost 100 hectares. Prescribed burning should become a habit on privately owned land also.

Appendix 5.

A summary of the species inventory reports of the Malahvia-area

Translated and summarised by the authors of this report.

Inventory of the Beetle species of the Malahvia area, Suomussalmi

Harri Lappalainen
Kainuu Regional Environment Centre
Research Centre of the Friendship Park
28.10.1999

Extracts:

Thirteen nationally threatened insect species, including ten beetle species, were found in the area studied during the field inventory season of 1999. In addition, 20 rare or quite rare beetle species of at least 30 frequency points (Silfverberg 1992 index), and one rare Scots pine-occupying Haradus - species were found. Out of the threatened species one is classified as Vulnerable (VU) and twelve as Near threatened (NT).

It is evident that the entire observed area of Malahvia sustains and supports a rich array of species.

The most serious threat to the biodiversity of the Malahvia area is fragmentation of habitats brought on by logging. Even soft logging methods accelerate the unfavourable process.

It is reasonable to say that Malahvia is nationally a very important forest area. The threatened species and biodiversity of insects found in the area can only be sustained, if the fragmentation of the forest continues no further.

The Bird species of eastern Kainuu and their protection

Ari Rajasärkkä
Forest and Park Service 1999

One of the methods to assess the [biological] value of a research site is to compare the number of hole nesting birds to the total number of bird species. In natural environments that have no artificial nests for birds the number of hole nesting birds is a useful indicator of how close to a natural state the forest is. This method placed Malahvia at the very top of the list of important forest areas of the eastern Kainuu region.

The results of the research show that 11 examination areas in eastern Kainuu fulfil the international Important Bird Area -criteria (IBA). Malahvia is one of these, and first in order of importance.

Ten biomic boreal species were found in the Malahvia area, out of which nine on the transect line. This result is the cause of Malahvia's top placement.

The Malahvia area fulfills the IBA -criteria although the research area and bird sample size are exceptionally small. This provides further proof of Malahvia's status as an exceptionally important bird area.

Inventory of the Lichen species of the Malahvia area

Report 28.10.1999
Mr. Sampsa Lommi
Kainuu Regional Environmental Centre
Research Centre of the Friendship Park

Extract:

Two occurrences of the nationally threatened lichen Evernia divaricata (NT) were found at a distance of approximately two kilometres from each other. The occurrence of the species at the Jäkäläaho site is exceptionally abundant. Both occurrences are located in the vicinity of a natural state stream. In order to preserve the species at these sites the humidity and tree stock conditions must remain unchanged.

Inventory of the Butterfly species of the Malahvia area

Forest and Park Service
Kainuu Regional Environmental Centre
Mr. Reima Leinonen, 1999

Extracts:

The species found represent typical old-growth forest species.

Judging by the butterfly species found in the area Malahvia it is an inseparable part of the Green Belt. To ensure the existence of old-growth forest species it is important that the area is not logged.

Appendix 6.

Logging plans in a Natura-area caused a stir in Nurmes (a TV-report in November 19, 2000 in Environment News)

Translated by the authors of this report

In North Karelia, the actions of the Forest and Park Service in the Raesärkät Natura-area in Nurmes are being questioned. The Forest and Park Service intended to clearcut the old-growth forest area of Raesärkät, and had not even notified the Northern Karelia Regional Environment Centre about it.

After widespread protests by the inhabitants of Nurmes, the FPS postponed its plans for the following winter. The Raesärkät area is becoming a precedent for the application of the Nature Conservation Act in Natura-areas not protected by nature conservation legislation.

The beautiful ridge area of Raesärkät is, with its lakes, swamps and old-growth forests, a rare exception in the forest landscape of Nurmes. Due to the infamous Nurmes-plan of the 1970s, the Nurmes region contains what is probably the largest

coherent forest area in Finland to be totally ruined by logging, poisoning, plowing and draining. The FPS logging plans in the Natura-area of Raesärkät and Rumakokangas, one of the last natural forests left in the region, thus came as a shock to the locals.

”This came as a great surprise, and it is very regrettable that the FPS has made such a decision. They should already know the importance of the area both to the local population and to conservation”, says Nurmes resident Kirsi Korhonen.

The FPS, with the support of the municipal administration, is attempting to produce a new logging plan for next spring, when the logging ban should be lifted. The inhabitants of Nurmes are not pleased by the actions of the FPS, as they would like to preserve the area untouched.

According to Sirkka Hakalisto, a biologist working for the Northern Karelia Environment Centre, the logic of the FPS is flawed. For example, the FPS has not notified the Environment Centre about logging plans in the Natura-area. This is illegal, even though the mode of conservation of the area was left open in the Natura-decision.

The Environment Centre will presumably halt at least those of the FPS's plans that concern the Rumakokongas old-growth forest in a letter to be sent soon.

Ismo Tuormaa

Appendix 7.

The Helsingin Sanomat Newspaper / November 3rd, 2000

Translated by the authors of this report

HEADLINE: Logging row flares up again behind Hammastunturi fell

”The Forest and Park Service does not negotiate with reindeer herdsman as it should”

by Ritva Liikkanen

HELSINGIN SANOMAT (3.11.2000)

The Forest and Park Service (FPS) and a group of Lappish reindeer herdsman have clashed once again. The FPS intends to log the area between the Hammastunturi wilderness area and Menesjärvi. The reindeer herdsman's cooperative is opposed to this as the felling of forests containing beard lichen will reduce the amount of food available to the reindeer.

The situation is the same as it has been many times in the past. The FPS feels it has negotiated with the reindeer herdsman with regard to the details of the project, while the herdsman feel that the luke-warm contacts made by the FPS can hardly be called genuine negotiation.

”The FPS's employees spread a finished map out before us. We are only allowed to decide where the logging will start, and what will be left out,” complains reindeer herdsman Petri Mattus.

”It is the same as asking a condemned man to choose between the gas chamber, hanging or the electric chair. We have not received a logging map covering the next few years.”

As all other reindeer, the reindeer belonging to Mattus's reindeer herdsman's

cooperative eat beard lichen, which grows attached to trees. The cooperative now has only two large intact tracts of forest containing beard lichen left. The area the FPS intends to log - covering several dozen hectares - is the larger of these areas.

The FPS intends to start logging in the beginning of February. The reindeer herdsman have called on the FPS to stop loggings and site preparations in the area altogether.

Mattus says that the FPS was supposed to cease logging even previously logged areas for at least 20 years, in order to enable the old logging residue to rot, and a young stand three to four metres in height to develop. This would prevent hardening of the snow”. It takes at least 150 years for trees carrying beard lichen to grow.

Over 4,000 hectares have already been logged in the reindeer herdsman's cooperative's area.

According to the FPS's classification, the Tiivivaara, Menesmukanvaara and Kynsileikkaamaniemi areas are managed (commercial) forests. Pertti Veijola, head of the FPS's Northern Lapland District for Wilderness Management, says that field personnel do not have the authority to cease cutting.

”We are obliged to do a lot of work to ensure that the State's basic forestry mechanism keeps running, and that its beneficial effect on employment is safeguarded.”

”Aren't our jobs important, then?” queries Mattus. ”Providing reindeer with a diet supplement costs money.”

Pekka Aikio, president of the Sámi Court, criticises the FPS's way of negotiating.

Aikio feels that in everyday language ”negotiating” means an equal-sided discussion, the result of which is not a foregone conclusion. There has been no negotiation now.

”Reindeer husbandry in Lapland is clearly cast in the role of the cry of a pauper” says Aikio. Negotiations with the Sámi Court can only concern projects that will have a major adverse effect on the Sámi people.

”It has now been proposed that even ”slight major harm” should not be caused to Sámi livelihoods without listening to what they have to say. The way this has been formulated has horrified the municipalities in the Sámi region,” relates Aikio.

A petition against the intention to log is circulating. Environmental activists and summer house owners feel the area should be spared due to the presence of large numbers of capercaillies having their lekking sites in untouched old growth forests. Three rare species of bracket fungi have also been discovered in the affected area.

The FPS's opponents consider that the FPS's Northern Lapland District for Wilderness Management's logging intentions and profit targets should be scaled down. In defence, Veijola points out that the FPS is not logging due to profit targets. ”It is our social duty to practice forestry.”

Appendix 8.

An announcement of the Hammastunturi Reindeer Herders to the Forest and Park Service / Menesjärvi, 26.10.2000

Translated by the authors of this report

Forest and Park Service

We, the undersigned representatives of the Hammastunturi Association of Reindeer Herders, have gotten acquainted with the Tiivivaara, Menesmukanvaara and Kynsileikkaamaniemi -logging plans of the forestry-department of Forest and Park Service's Northern Lapland district and following thorough consideration have unanimously come to a conclusion that the loggings and the preparation of soil in question would seriously hamper reindeer herding currently and in the future and that FPS must renounce the plans.

Loggings in the 1970s already destroyed lichen heaths in the area concerned.

The area of Kynsileikkaamaniemi is one of the very last natural state forests rich in beard lichen in the area of the Menesjärvi Reindeer Herding Municipality. Thus the forest is of vital importance to reindeers in the winter.

For example, in the last two winter seasons, the snow cover has been too thick for the reindeers to find lichen. The fact that the reindeers can utilize the beard lichen of the logged trees "during the logging winter" as was pointed out in the logging plan journal of FPS, will not help the reindeers in the future.

Preparation of soil destroys lichen and hinders its regeneration. The methods of soil preparation in use are tough in relation to the conditions of the North.

The disadvantages being of this magnitude, the case must be negotiated with the Sámi Parliament. We also disapprove of the loggings being transferred to another site in our reindeer herding area.

Appendix 9.

A response to the planned loggings in the Naruska-Tuntsa area

Translated by the authors of this report

The North Salla reindeer herding co-operative has taken up a negative attitude towards the Naruska-Tuntsa loggings.

Justifications:

There are around 5000 winter grazing reindeer in the co-operative, out of which some 300 (6% of the total herd) receive supplementary feeding. Most of the reindeer obtain their food from natural pastures all year long. The reindeer herding of the collective is based on the use of natural pastures. In late winter, about 2/3 of the reindeer (...) graze in the concerned spruce forests of the Tuntsa area.

(...)

The beard-lichen containing spruce forests of the Tuntsa area are located in the Kuusivaara-Auermavaara-Moukavaara area. Beard lichen are also found in the east, in the spruce forests along the slopes of Sorsatunturi and Kuusikoiva-Saapakoiva-Kaunisoiva, in the areas of Palovuonnelo and Tornevuonnelo, as well as in Aitatsivaara and Siuloiva.

The loggings of these areas endanger the natural grazing cycle of the reindeer, and make it more difficult for them to find food in the spring.

It is desirable that the loggings be concentrated in already managed areas such as Ritavaara-Petäjävaara-Suoltijoki, young pine forests, and naturally regenerating sapling stands.

Significant tracts of forest within the area of the co-operative have already been managed, and their capacity for regeneration has been weak, especially in the Tuntsa area. Furthermore, the Tuntsa forest fire area is a good example of forest regeneration in the region.

Salla, 22.6.1998

The board of the North Salla reindeer herding co-operative

Appendix 10.

Statement on the values of nature of the Miilukangas-area by the Ornithological Association of Suomenselkä

Translated by the authors of this report.

Statement

The old forests of Miilukangas, Pylkönmäki:

During our visit (15.1.2000) to Miilukangas and other parts of Pylkömäki we found, in the areas now being discussed, relatively old forests significantly more valuable than the normal forests of the region. It is difficult to say anything about Miilukangas itself, as it has been shattered by loggings during the winter.

A short trip by ski revealed the area closeby to contain populations of both siberian jay and *Haploporus odorus* fungi, neither of which is found in normal forests of the region. Already this says much about the value of these areas. In the same forest section bordered by managed forests we found also capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), treecreeper (*Certhia familiaris*) and crested tit (*Parus cristatus*), which are all species preferring old forests.

The forests on the moor west of Miilukangas, as those at Lepikkokangas and the forest patch west of Mäkelänkytö, are relatively old, mixed forests dominated by coniferous trees. The areas contain moderate amounts of dead trees, single standing dead trees, large burnt standing tree stubs and a ground layer of trees. Sufficient time has passed from the previous fellings or other forestry activities that no traces of these can be found, at least not in winter. All of the above areas are rapidly developing into even more valuable natural forests.

Forests such as these have a great significance for, among other things, the old-growth favouring bird fauna of the region. Together, the areas form a quite coherent entity, which due to its size might even ensure the preservation of the siberian jay in the area. Preserving forests like these should today be self-evident.

We therefore state that the old-growth areas in question should be left outside economic forest management procedures.

Risto Sulkava, birdlife protection officer of the Suomenselkä Ornithological Association

Appendix 11.

The Sámi Parliament 3.11.2000

To the Union of Forest Management Associations of northern Finland

Announcement on the implementation of the [FFCS] criterion 36

Translated by the authors of this report.

The Finnish constitution enacts (17.3 §) that the Sámi as an indigenous people have a right to maintain and develop their own language and culture. According to the grounds of the proposal HE 309/1993 vp of the Finnish government, the form of the Sámi culture safeguarded by the basic rights provision includes the traditional livelihoods of the Sámi such as reindeer herding.

The forest certification criterion 36 implies that in the Sámi homelands the management, use and protection of the natural resources administered by the Forest and Park Service is harmonised in cooperation with Sámi representatives such that the conditions for the practising of traditional livelihoods and the Sámi culture are maintained.

According to the 6 § of the Law on the Sámi Parliament the Sámi Parliament represents the Sámi in national and international matters that are included in the functions assigned to it.

The Sámi Parliament states

that the requirements mentioned in the criterion 36 are not met because the Forest and Park Service does not negotiate with the Sámi Parliament and the related reindeer herding co-operatives and harmonise measures that have significant effects on the traditional livelihoods of the Sámi, such as the Forest and Park Service Wilderness area plans and the lodging services, selling and leasing of land and land operations of the Wild North. As an example of the disadvantages of forest management operations to reindeer herding the Sámi Parliament refers to the letter of the Hammastunturi reindeer herding co-operative addressed to the Forest and Park Service on 26.10.2000 and to the letter of the Muotkatunturi reindeer herding co-operative to the Forest and Park Service in which the abovementioned co-operative points out to the Forest and Park Service that the Forest and Park Service has not met its statutory duty prescribed to state authorities by the Reindeer Herding Law (53 §) to negotiate when planning operations that significantly affect reindeer herding as every forest logging operation does.

The Sámi Parliament considers that the Forest and Park Service does not sufficiently pay attention to the legislative position of the Sámi and does not harmonise forest logging and management operations in co-operation with the Sámi and the reindeer herding co-operatives in the manner implied by the forest certification criterion 36.

In addition to the aforementioned the Sámi Parliament refers to the announcement given to the Forest and Park Service on 4.2.1998 on the Forest and Park Service's draft of guidelines on the management of pine-dominated forests of high areas.

Deputy chairman Irja Seurujärvi-Kari

Presenter Siiri Jomppanen

Appendix 12.

Joint press release by Finnish environmental NGOs on FFCS, October 1998

October 27, 1998, at 9 a.m.

FINNISH ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANISATIONS DO NOT SUPPORT THE CERTIFICATION INITIATIVE PROMOTED BY FOREST INDUSTRY AND PRIVATE FOREST OWNERS

The level of standards in the Finnish self-certification initiative inadequate for environmental NGOs

The forest certification initiative developed by the Finnish forest industry and MTK (The Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners) being presented tomorrow in Helsinki fails to satisfy the most significant environmental organisations in Finland.

The primary goal of environmental NGOs is to develop a certification system which significantly improves the conservation of biodiversity in managed forests. Several Finnish environmental NGOs together with numerous other European organisations have signed a declaration, in which the characteristics of a credible certification system are listed. The declaration states that so far FSC is the only certification system to meet these demands.

There are some 700 endangered forest-dwelling species in Finland. Forest protection alone is not enough to save these species: changes need to take place also in the management of commercial forests. To this end Finnish NGOs find the following points of particular importance in forest certification:

- that old-growth forests and other key habitats remain unlogged also in managed forest areas
- that the area of forests permanently left unlogged is increased
- that the amount of deciduous trees in managed forests is increased
- that the number of individual trees retained in both thinnings and final fellings is increased

Finnish environmental NGOs hope that it would still be possible to develop a national FSC standard in Finland. The development of a national FSC standard requires that there be a working group consisting of people from various environmental, social and economic interest groups supporting FSC.

The task of such a working group is to develop a standard according to the principles of FSC. The standard should also be in compliance with FSC standards approved in neighbouring countries with similar circumstances.

Numerous organisations in Europe give their support to FSC.

Numerous European NGOs have signed a declaration on the requirements of a credible forest certification system. In this declaration, signed also by many Finnish NGOs, it is stated that a forest certificate should comprise two components: forest auditing, which makes sure that the loggings and other management activities comply with the specific certification standards and product certification with a chain-of-custody monitoring of a timber product from the forest to the customer, which makes possible product labelling.

In addition a credible certification system has to fulfil e.g. the following basic requirements:

- to improve forest management and ensure market access for certified wood products
- to provide a standard with internationally applicable and comparable as well as objective and measurable criteria.
- the system should be acceptable to a large range of involved parties and be credible to both consumers and NGOs.

While it is recognised that a range of initiatives can make positive contributions towards more sustainable forest management, the undersigned organisations consider FSC to currently offer the only frame-

work to meet the basic requirements of a good certification system.

The Finnish Nature League

WWF Finland

Natur och Miljö

Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

Greenpeace Nordic

Birdlife Finland

95% of Finnish forests have been certified according to the Pan-European Forest Certification scheme PEFC. Several Finnish forestry companies have been assigned the right to use the PEFC logo in their products and the first PEFC-labelled products for the market were shipped from Finland to the Netherlands on November 22 2000. Mr Ben Gunneberg, Secretary General of the PEFC council, commented on the assignment of the first PEFC logo rights: "This is a great day for the consumers wishing to do their bit for the environment...more importantly this is a great day for the forest environment, which, through certification, will be maintained and enhanced for current and future generations to enjoy and benefit from". Yet, PEFC is not supported by any environmental organisation.

Greenpeace Nordic and the Finnish Nature League studied PEFC-certified forestry in Finland in the autumn of 2000 and the beginning of year 2001. The report *Anything goes?* published in January 2001 examines the ecological reliability of the PEFC certificate through concrete examples documented by the organisations. The report presents over 50 cases of ecologically detrimental logging or logging plans in valuable forest areas. It also presents several cases in which possibilities to herd reindeer have been harmed by logging or the rights of the indigenous Sámi people have not been respected in forestry operations. It is evident that logging of forests of high conservation value continues to be an everyday practice of Finnish PEFC certified forestry. Conflicts between forestry and reindeer herding remain unsolved. The vague ecological and social criteria of the PEFC have not made a change towards more sustainable forestry.



A three-toed woodpecker looking out of its nest hollow while a forest machine is working on the background. The habitat of this threatened bird was clearcut by the state enterprise Forest and Park Service in a PEFC-certified region in southern Finland in the summer of 2000. Case study PM-3 on page 10.

3,6% of productive forest land in Finland is protected. Populations of forest species are declining all over the country. According to most recent studies by environmental authorities and researchers, the number and total area of protected areas is insufficient to preserve the biodiversity of Finnish forests.

Finland's share of the world's paper and board exports is almost 15 %. The most important market area is the EU, absorbing about two thirds of the exports of Finnish forest industry. The most important single export countries include Germany, the UK, France, Belgium, Spain and the Netherlands.