



Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee

Network no: N 2011-01

Send the report to SNS-secretary Katrine Hahn Kristensen
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REPORT NETWORK ACTIVITY (meeting, conference etc.)

Please notice that the size of text sections in the form can be adjusted if needed.

The length of the final report should not exceed 3 pages. Supplementary information can be attached.

1. Aktivitetsens titel	Nordiska arbetsgruppen för boreala naturskogars historia - PRIFOR
2. Activity title	Nordic working group on the ecology of primeval boreal forests (PRIFOR)
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax. e- mail)	Bengt Gunnar Jonsson Institutionen för Naturvetenskap, Mittuniversitetet 851 70 Sundsvall, Sverige +46-60-148941 (tel),+46-60-148802 (fax) bengt-gunnar.jonsson@miun.se
4. Duration	The activity started 1/Jan 2011 and ended 31/Dec 2011
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 165.000 DKK Total activity cost (estimate): 254 000 SEK have been paid directly from the network account. In addition participants have covered a large share of their travel and accommodation costs. Funding directly towards the workshop at University of Jyväskylä has been provided and significant in-kind contribution in the form of work hours as well as use of University facilities has been provided.

<p>6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)</p>	<p><i>Progress report 2011</i></p> <p>During the network's fifth year, several activities have taken place</p> <p>Participation in the symposium "<i>International symposium on the dynamics and ecological services of dead wood in forest ecosystems</i>" held in Ryoun-Noranda, Quebec, Canada May 2011 – Although not an activity sponsored by the network itself, several network members contributed by presenting ongoing North European research. This included specific reference to the network and acknowledging the support from SNS. Some minor financial contribution from the network covered parts of the participation.</p> <p><i>The ecological effects of boreal forest restoration, Jyväskylä, Finland, 15th to 19th August 2011</i> – Finland is among the leading countries considering restoration of natural characteristics in boreal forests. The meeting took place in the heart of Finland, the university town of Jyväskylä. Participants were exposed to a range of Finnish forest restoration activities. It included two days of field trips, and a large, open-access seminar on the topic. In addition, there were smaller opening and closing network sessions before and after the field trips and seminar. Besides network scientists and PhD-students, the seminar include, by invitation, a larger group of Finnish biologists and forest officers working with forest restoration. In total 47 persons participated representing 7 countries</p> <p><i>Fifth Nordic Dendroecological Field-week, Sundsvall Sweden 25th September to 2nd October</i> – This course was a field-week that will give participants (PhD- and Masters students as well as researchers) a thorough introduction to dendroecological methods, including both field and lab skills. The course covered the following areas: sampling methods (coring and sampling with chain-saw), sample preparation in the lab, cross-dating methods, and data analysis. In addition, we provided a range of lectures on major dendrochronological topics (including dendroclimatology, forest history reconstructions, and statistical methods). In total 15 "students" participated and 5 teachers provided the training</p> <p><i>Bilateral exchange</i> – During two weeks in May one researcher (Julia Rauchfuss) from Mid Sweden University spent a period at SLU Alnarp. The purpose of the visit was to jointly analyze a larger collection of fire scar samples and to discuss methodological approaches to fire scar dating. The visit also included preparation for the dendrochronological field-week held later in 2011.</p>
<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p><i>Publication of a special issue</i> – A special issue of <i>Silva Fennica</i> based on presentations given at the Prifor2010 conference is being published as the last issue 2011 of the journal. The network has covered cost for complimentary issues to contributing authors and key note presenters as a part of the agreement with Silva Fennica.</p> <p>(During 2011, the Supplement of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research of the "Early classics studies of forest ecology in Northern Europe" was finally published. It includes 10 selected papers from our workshop held in Latvia December 2008)</p>

<p>8. Activity summary (about 1/3 page) for possible use in the News & Views section of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research</p>	<p>The Nordic working group on the ecology of primeval boreal forests (PRIFOR) remains by the end of its fifth year a very active network. Starting from a relatively small group, the network now comprises more than 60 persons from 13 countries representing around 20 research groups. During its fifth year, two major activities have been preformed.</p> <p>A workshop addressing active restoration of natural values as a mean to improve the conditions for boreal biodiversity was held and hosted by the University of Jyväskylä during a week in August. A total 47 persons participated, representing students, researchers as well as forest managers. Participants were exposed to ongoing restoration projects in the field and an open seminar was held in association to the workshop.</p> <p>Following a tradition in the Nordic countries the network arranged the Fifth Nordic Dendroecological Field-week, in Sundsvall Sweden. Aiming to teach and explore the use of tree ring data as a tool to understand past forest history and climate conditions, the participants learned the basic of dendrochronology. The course included 15 students and 5 teachers representing different sub-disciplines.</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: Sundsvall 2012-01-30</p> <p>Signature of project leader/coordinator:</p>