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Nordic Forest Research
Co-operation Committee (SNS)

*Send the report to SNS-secretary Katrine Hahn Kristensen
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FINAL NETWORK REPORT for 2009

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. Aktivitetens 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 2009 and ended 31/Dec 2009 However, the network was initiated from Jan 2007 and continues during 2010
5. Cost	SNS-grant: 208 300 SEK Total activity cost (estimate): 201 900 SEK (SNS grant) >110 000 SEK external funding, + facilities provided by Norwegian Forest and Landscape Institute during the “Dendroweek” and many hours of work labor for activities...

<p>6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)</p>	<p><i>4th Nordic Dendroweek</i> – This PhD-course was held 16-22 August and included 20 participants from 9 countries. Teachers were from US, Sweden, and Norway. A home page for the course is available at http://www.skogoglandskap.no/artikler/2009/dendroweek. The course focused on teaching methods for forest stand reconstruction and dynamics, forest fire history, and dendrochronological dating of historic buildings and included hands-on sampling, measurements and analyses of the data.</p> <p><i>Symposium at ECCB2009</i> – The network will hosted and arranged a symposium within the second European congress in conservation biology, in Prague 1-5 September. Ten speakers was been invited to present and discuss the potential to use the natural range of variability as a guide for sustainable forest management. In addition to several of the network researchers five North American speakers are invited (Lee Frelich, Yves Bergeron, Nathan Stephenson, Marc-André Villard and Shawn Fraver). Information on the symposium is available at http://www.eccb2009.org/index.php/symposium.</p> <p><i>Field excursion to Tver region, Russia</i> – Back to back with the ECCB2009 meeting an excursion to Russia will take place, during 6 – 12 September. The excursion is hosted by Dr. Denis Mirin and presented some of the major forest types of the western Russian boreal forest. It was located in one of the last large primeval plain southern boreal forest in Europe, the Central Forest Biosphere Reserve, in the Tver region.</p> <p><i>Planning for large conference 2010 on the topic “Northern primeval forests: ecology, conservation, management”</i> – The work on next years large conference has been initiated. At present external funding is secured, a highly qualified scientific committee established, a web-page including registration is ready (www.prior2010.org) and several advertisement initiative taken. The conference will be jointly organized by Prifor, the European Section of the Society for Conservation Biology and the Boreal disturbance network of the International Association for Vegetation Science. Joining forces with other organizations will secure a wide participation of people from many forest regions. The meeting is further scientifically supported by the IUFRO. Currently the planning number is 300 participants. Dates for the conference are set to August 9-13, 2010.</p> <p><i>Special issue of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research</i> – A number of the reviews from the meeting held in Latvia December 2008 will be published. The editorial work of the network is finished and all papers has been peer reviewed, revised and submitted to the journal editor (February 2010). The issue will most likely be printed mid 2010.</p> <p><i>Bi-lateral meeting – SLU Umeå – University of Liverpool</i>. A shorter visit of researchers from Umeå in Sweden to network members in Liverpool occurred in February 2009. The purpose was to strengthen cooperation and to write on a common paper for the special issue of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research.</p>
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7. Evt. publication/ communication	Special issue of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research published in 2010 Webpage updated regularly (www.miun.se/nat/prifor) Webpage of the 2010 conference available (www.prifor2010.org)
8. Activity summary (about 1/3 page) for possible use in the News & Views section of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research	<p>The Nordic working group on the ecology of primeval boreal forests (PRIFOR) is by the end of its third year an active network. Starting from a relatively small group, the network now comprises 50 persons from 11 countries representing 16 research groups. During its third year, two major activities have been preformed. A PhD-course in dendrochronological methods was arranged in Norway. This provided students with hands on training in using tree rings as an archive of past forest history. The network arranged and financed a symposium on the natural range of variability as a guide for sustainable forest management during the second European Congress of Conservation Biology in Prague (ECCB2009). Here ten researchers from North America and Europe presented studies and reflections on this important topic.</p> <p>The network further arranged and excursion to western Russian boreal forest in one of the last large primeval plain southern boreal forest in Europe, the Central Forest Biosphere Reserve, in the Tver region</p> <p>The Planning for a larger conference in 2010 (Northern Primeval Forests; Ecology, Management and Conservation) has continued and with secured funding, an excellent line up of invited plenary speakers we expect in the range of 300 participants.</p>
9. Date and signature	Date: Sundsvall, February 25, 2010 Signature of project leader/coordinator: