

# Nordic forestry CAR-ES

## Minutes, kick-off meeting 29. – 30. September 2005

Place: *Forest & Landscape Denmark, Hørsholm Kongevej 11, 2970 Hørsholm.*

Conveener: Per Gundersen, Forest & Landscape Denmark

Participants: Core group, network scientists and steering committee. Complete list in Table 2.

Programme:

### Thursday 29. September

- 11:00 Welcome and opening of the meeting by Per Gundersen.
- 11:30 Environmental services (ES) – setting the scene  
Presentations by theme co-ordinators  
  
*Water protection Per Gundersen*
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:00 Environmental services continued.  
*Biodiversity Jan-Olov Weslien*  
*Carbon sequestration. Bjarni Sigurdsson*
- 13:30 Each country/participant give a short overview on ES activities in their country/institute (15 min.). All.
- 15:30 Visit Vestskoven – a “new” forest area where investigations of ES was combined.

### Friday 30. September

- 10:00 The environmental services matrix
- 10:30 Discussion of ways to combine projects, ideas and clusters of projects within themes and across themes
- 11:30 Homepage and communication within the centre (Ingeborg Callesen)
- 13:00 Public relations activities – ways to create awareness of environmental services and sustainable forest management in the public.
- 14.30 Closing of the meeting.

## **Minutes of the meeting**

Statement of the group:

### *Nordic forestry CAR-ES*

It's a virtual research centre – the main activity is to network and link forest ecology research activities between the Nordic and Baltic countries.

Forests deliver environmental services.

Forest management can increase the value of environmental services and reduce effects of external pressures from climate change and air pollution.

CAR-ES will synthesise research within carbon sequestration, water protection and biodiversity.

CAR-ES will deliver a knowledge base of environmental services for decision support in sustainable forest management.

CAR-ES is a unique virtual research centre

- no other network seeks to integrate carbon sequestration, water and biodiversity and channel it to end-users through national forest research institutes. All though this research is carried out also by environmental research institutes, the contact with end-users is unique. It is our task to create the paths for communication of ES knowledge to end-users.
- The network covers a geographical region with contrasting geography in terms of physiography, natural forest vegetation, landscape history, current environmental pressures, and goals of forest management. This is a challenge in structuring and communicating knowledge to be used in sustainable forest management.

### *Types of deliverables:*

- Network and knowledge communicated via www: We will gather information on participating researchers interests, project portfolio, and publication lists.
- A research proposal
- Synthesis papers – a pilot review on effects of buffer zones is planned.
- An open seminar on environmental services

### *Organisation*

The CAR is run by a core-group of scientists consisting Per Gundersen, Jan-Olov Weslien and Bjarni Sigurdsson. The network is open to all scientists. We aim at connecting people within the three subjects within each country to the network. A matrix of key persons, themes and institutes will be created.

### *Activities in Nordic forestry CAR-ES*

Year	Type	Date	Place	Conveener	Document
2005	Core-group meeting				Minutes
2005	Kick-off meeting	29. – 30. sept	Hørsholm Denmark	Forest & Landscape Denmark	Minutes
2006	Work meeting	May 18.-19.	Finland	Metla	Create the management- ES-effect- matrix
2006	Topic meeting	Week 40 (October 5. – 6.)	?		
2007	Work meeting		Iceland		
2008					

#### *Future activities*

In 2006 there will be a spring meeting hosted by Metla in Joensuu or Vantaa, Finland. A second Also Iceland and Skogforsk Norway offered to host meetings during the years 2005 – 2009.

It was decided to have to types of meetings. Work group meetings and open invited seminars with external speakers.

It will be decided at the next meeting if we are ready for having 2 meetings in 2006. An if so how to arrange such a seminar and with which team.

Bjani suggested to combine meetings with other activities/meetings/workshops to save money and time.

#### *Follow-ups and general business.*

Contact Metsäteho and ask about their current status and if they will participate in the project. (Hannu).

The Affordnord meeting in Iceland, June 2005 will produce proceedings, and we sent a poster. Some pages on the CAR-ES here would be good. (PGU).

Per Ståhl suggested that all CAR have a joint meeting for exchanging ideas of organising and knowledge sharing.

Ingeborg will set-up the homepage for external use in the beginning of 2006.

*Excerpts of conceptual discussions during the meeting – directions to take and structure of the work.*

Ways to structure the work into a matrix of forest management activities, stand age, physical and chemical environment, and effects and interactions were discussed. The core-group will continue this work based on the discussions we had during the meeting.

### **Biodiversity – theme presentation and discussion**

Presentation by J-O Weslien.

Why is biodiversity an environmental service - is there a definition of this term ?

Magne Sætersdal: Biodiversity is a broad term and species richness is just one aspect. We could step back and talk about species richness. Two types of indicator species – species richness (difficult), and plant communities (easier). Ivar Gjerde has activities on conservation biology, indicators, in relation to forest history in Norway. Hannu Ilvesniemi presented current Finnish research programmes on biodiversity.

**Discussions:** Scale – ecological scale, time scale and spatial scale.

**Management:** Forest reserves versus general protection.

Certification systems (like FSC) are consensus approaches – contain tools to assess biodiversity – can we examine these in relation to current knowledge ?

### **Water – theme presentation and discussion**

Presentations by Per Gundersen and Leena Finer.

Magne Sætersdal: NIVA takes care of water quality research in Norway.

**Discussions:**

Disturbance and other stochastic impacts. Landscape structure: buffer zones – effects on biodiversity and water protection. This topic was suggested for a pilot-review in 2006 across all countries.

### **Carbon– theme presentation and discussion**

Presentations by Bjarni Sigurdsson and Hannu Ilvesniemi

**Discussion:** Other greenhouse gases than CO<sub>2</sub> such as nitrous oxides should be included in the work. By afforestation, the new so-called Kyoto-forests are now created (HI). Belowground processes in the C-cycle including leaching of DOC are still a knowledge gap.

Dan Åmlid (Norway): Current projects focus on processes in moist soils and on root respiration (Janne Kjønnås). Petter Nielsen does research on aboveground C.

Hannu Ilvesniemi: Soil biodiversity is not given enough attention.

Bjarni DS: A common meeting with the SNS project on biomass expansion functions (BEF) would be a good network opportunity.

Soil biodiversity could be a theme that would link all 3 services.

The matrix – very raw sketch inputs during the meeting –from the whiteboard. *We still have some work to do on this – core group !*

Management option	Physical environment	Soil
Land use change		
Silviculture		
Choice of species		
Soil preparation	road ditch	
Chemical environment		
Liming&fertilisation		
Age		
Harvest intensity/method		

Table 2. Participants in the meeting

Persons	Institute	Mail	Telephone
<i>Core group</i>			
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