

International Volunteering Seminar 5-7 October 2011

Welcome to Finland!

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Finland



METSÄHALLITUS

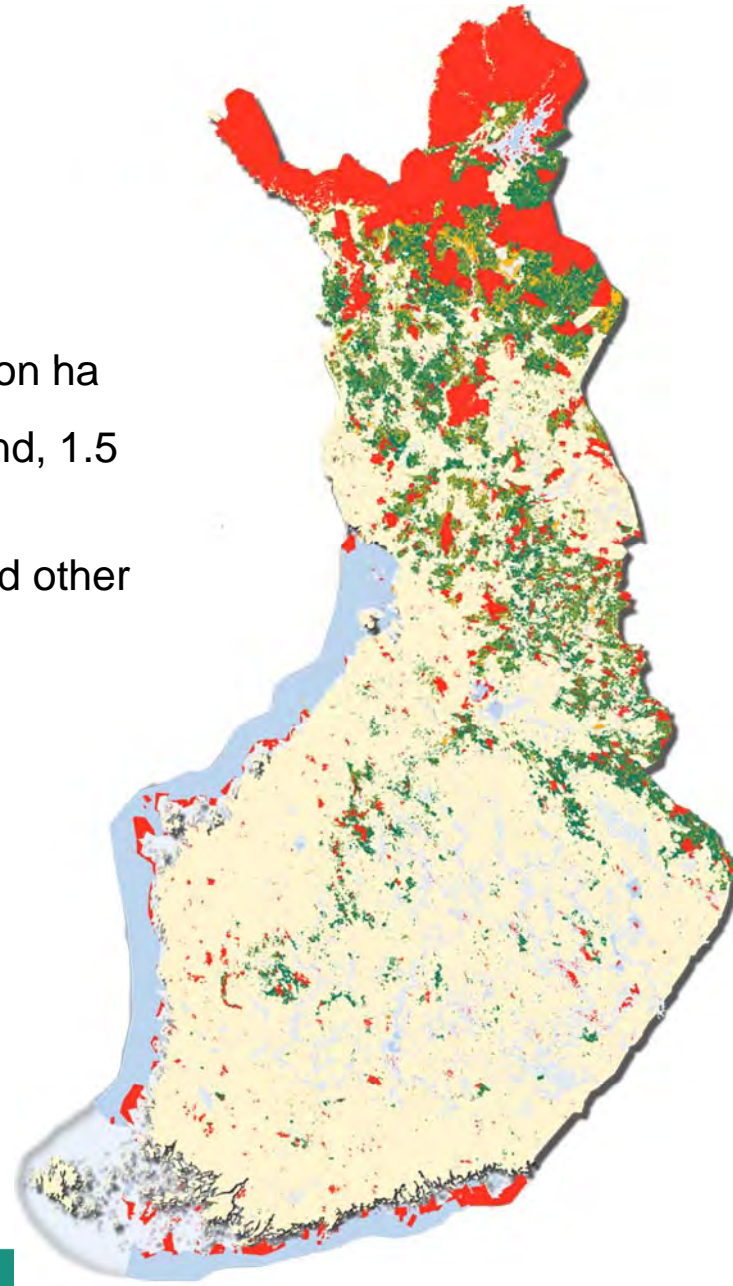
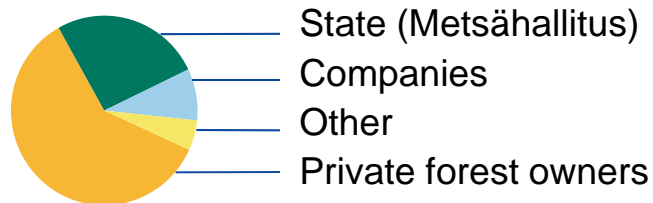
Protected areas in Finland

- Mostly wildernesses, owned by the state and managed as a PA system by Metsähallitus
- No inhabitants, no agriculture, no forestry

Lands and waters of Metsähallitus

- Forest land in managed forests, 3.5 million ha
 - Poorly productive and non-productive land, 1.5 million ha (excluded from forestry)
 - Protected areas, wilderness reserves and other areas, 4.0 million ha
 - Water areas, 3.4 million ha
 - Public water areas
- In total 12.4 million ha

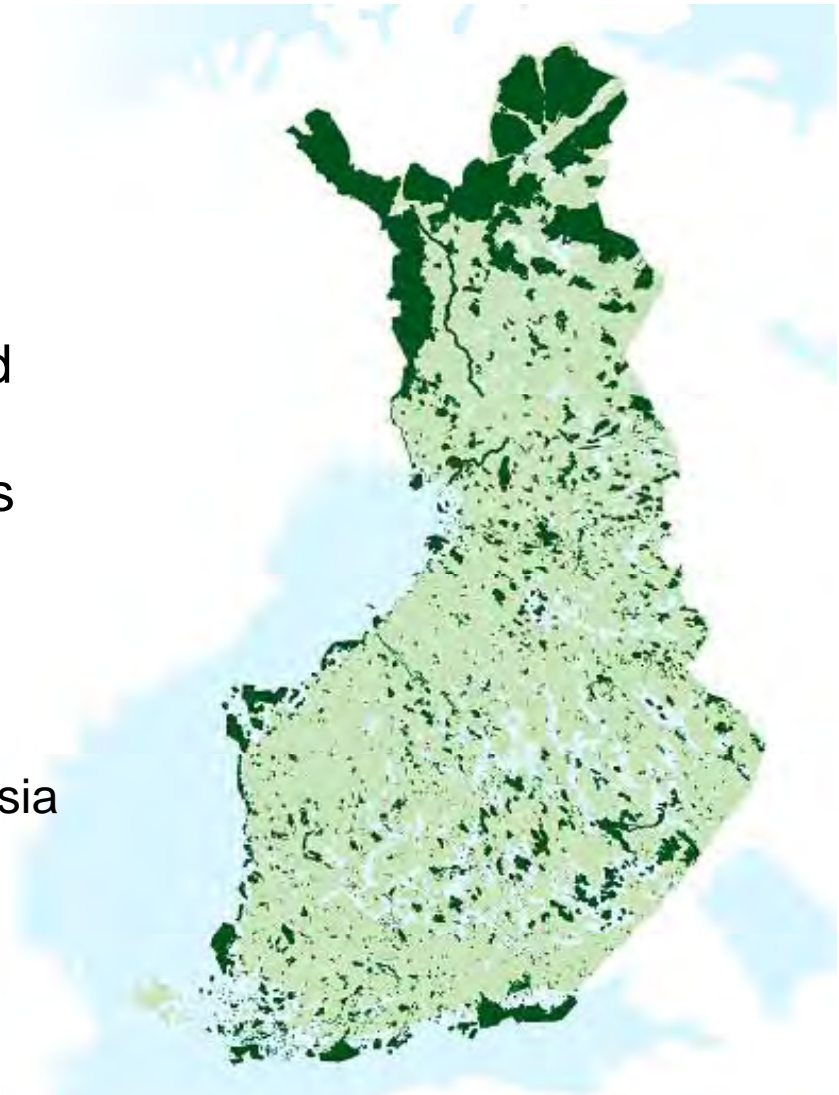
Ownership of forest land in Finland



Finnish PAs as part of the global PA network

- 10% of Finnish land area protected
- 13% EU25 Natura network in Finland
- 16% Baltic BSPA network
- 49 Ramsar areas, 2 biosphere areas
- 1 + 7 World Heritage Areas

- CBD PoWPAs
- Regional and transboundary cooperation with Nordic and Baltic countries and Russia
- International organisations and networks: EUROPARC, IUCN Eurosite, CIC, PANParks, ENCA etc.



National Parks of Finland

- A total of 37 NPs
- Covering 8 950 sq.km
- 1,8 million visits in 2010
- IUCN management cat. II



Volunteering – loving them for life



- Key for everyman´s heart: love + action (Ed Gillespie)
- Positive messages
- Caring for natural and cultural heritage
- Health and social welfare
- Friends and social capital

Volunteering – an effective tool in park managers' toolbox



- Stakeholders seeking for legitimacy – doing good is socially valued
- Nature enthusiasts (birdwatchers, botanists, entomologists etc.) – key target groups based on the legislation and management plans
- (Retired) professionals (scientists, teachers, parks managers etc.) – willing to do more
- Public at large - green holidays and payback
- And more ...

Engagement - to nature and its values

- Message to PA managers: engaging people is the key – not so much administrative managing which may alienate people from the parks (Alan Watson, Aldo Leopold Institute)

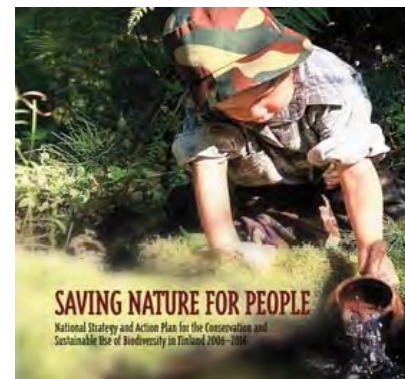
European Slogans

- EN Volunteer! Make a difference
- BG Стани доброволец! Дай своя принос!
- DA Bliv frivillig, og gør en forskel!
- DE Freiwillig. Etwas bewegen!
- ET Hakka vabatahtlikuks! Muuda maailma
- FI Vapaaehtoisena vaikutat
- IT Volontari! Facciamo la differenza!
- LV Esi brīvprātīgais! Uzdrošīniet izmaiņi!
- SV Gör skillnad - engagera dig
- IS



Loving the real thing


- Connection to the unique nature strengthens both the PA message and the messenger (volunteer)
 - PA managers and the PAs will have more contributors, a wider constituency
 - Strong impact, both to the public opinion and to PA management
- Experience and own contact to labour and nature provide multiple benefits to the volunteers themselves
 - New friends among foreigners, youth, seniors and social minorities



Vision for the future



- Professionals and laymen working together for the natural and cultural heritage for the benefit of PAs
- Volunteering as a practical method for diverse social contributions for the nature
- Businesses showing their social responsibility by contributions for volunteering
- Volunteering in PAs as an alternative tool for public health and social sector services
- Volunteering contributing to personal learning and growth
- Value of the voluntary work recognized in the budgeting

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- Hope we can build on the Finnish communal ‘talkoo’ tradition
 - Thank you and best wishes for an innovative, successful seminar!