

Partnership for Living Forests

Four joint projects in 2011–2013
between Sveaskog and WWF




SVEASKOG

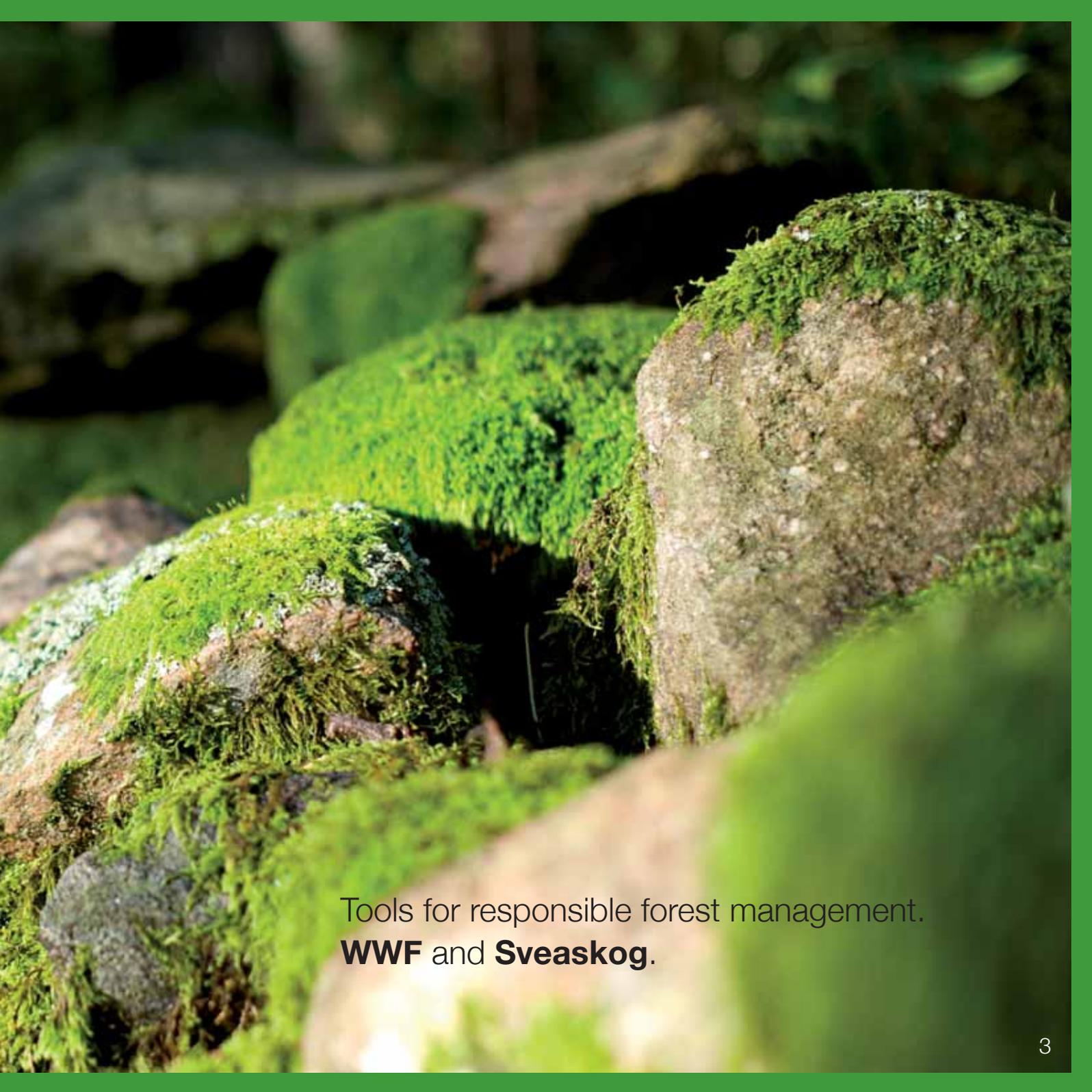


Sveaskog and WWF work for responsible forestry in Sweden and Europe.

Sveaskog is a leading forest company and the largest owner of forest land in Sweden. Sveaskog's vision is to lead the way in promoting and developing forest values. Sveaskog has set itself ambitious targets with respect to production, the environment and nature conservation to ensure that both economic and ecological values are preserved for future generations. The company aims to be at the forefront of responsible forest management.

WWF for its part has a thorough knowledge of and is actively engaged in work for the protection and responsible use of the forest in Sweden and worldwide. WWF maintains a valuable global network that makes it one of the most influential NGOs in the world for environmental and nature conservation issues.

Together, Sveaskog and WWF develop knowledge and tools for responsible forest management. We are engaged in a partnership centring on long-term projects. The ongoing projects for 2011–2013 are briefly described in this folder.



Tools for responsible forest management.
WWF and **Sveaskog**.



Project 1

Living Forest Waters

WATER MEANS LIFE

Forests are not only green. They are blue as well. The blue parts of the landscape are forest waters: marshes, bogs, streams, rivers and lakes. Thousands of water-dependent plant and animal species enrich the biodiversity of the forest. They are also of considerable value as they perform ecological services in the environment. Micro-organisms living in water and wetlands break down organic matter, absorb excess nitrogen and then become food themselves for many water organisms. Thus forest wetlands act as nature's own purification plant, cleaning the water before it runs out into the sea via streams, rivers and lakes. Preserving and protecting forest waters is therefore a natural part of the conservation effort.

TOOLS FOR THE CARE OF AQUATIC ENVIRONMENTS

So far in this project we have worked to develop tools for including water-related issues in forest management planning. One such tool is a method for making an inventory of the values of aquatic environments in the forest landscape. This method is used together with so-called blue target classification* where the forest owner identifies a level of ambition for care of aquatic environments – the blue environments in the forest. This provides a basis for priorities and planning of protection and care of aquatic environments and these plans can easily be realized in practice. In Living Forest Waters we have also shown how natural aquatic environments can



We develop water-related issues
in a **landscape perspective**.

Photo: Carl Johan Erikson

be recreated in a practical manner, for instance by filling in old ditches.

SAFEGUARDING WATER ISSUES

IN A LANDSCAPE PERSPECTIVE

The knowledge we have acquired during the project will now be passed on to other actors in Swedish forestry via seminars and other information activities. Using the concept “Toolkit for care of aquatic environments” we seek to encourage a broader use of the new tools which make living forest waters a reality.

In the Living Forests Waters project we wish to further raise the significance of aquatic issues for responsible forest management by developing

work on forest waters in a landscape perspective. Sveaskog will create aquatic landscapes with special values linked to water on its own land.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to raise awareness of these issues in order to create better conditions for biodiversity in aquatic forest environments and better water quality in efficiently managed forests. At the same time this will contribute to the achievement both of Sweden’s environmental quality objectives and of the goals outlined in the EU’s Water Framework Directive.

* See glossary on back page.

Project 2

Sustainable landscapes

There are **thresholds** for how
much ecosystems **tolerate**.

INCREASED COMPETITION FOR NATURAL RESOURCES

When many different actors and sector stakeholders lay claim to the landscape's natural resources, the pressure on biodiversity and the landscape ecosystems becomes too intense. Different sectors plan their share of land and water usage without sufficient coordination and attention to each other or the overall impact on the environment.

There are thresholds for the level and intensity of exploitation that nature and ecosystems can tolerate. In some cases there is competition between the different industries' claims on these limited resources. How this can be managed is a key question for work with sustainable landscapes.

SUSTAINABLE UTILIZATION IN A LANDSCAPE PERSPECTIVE

The project focuses on ecologically sustainable use of land and water in a landscape perspective. We take an holistic approach to the effects of different industries' claims on the landscape, nature and each other.

A model landscape is a geographically defined area where WWF tests and develops ideas for ecologically sustainable use of land and water at a landscape level through tangible projects and cooperation processes. Several projects can be included in one model landscape. The aim is that a model landscape will be developed into a demonstration area for sustainable management of natural resources.

METHOD FOR LANDSCAPE-BASED MANAGEMENT

In a model landscape WWF has the role of a catalyst to start processes, contribute with a holistic approach to projects and dialogue, and exert influence at policy level.

The work starts with an inventory of the landscape's natural values, threshold values in the ecosystem and the claims, impact and objectives of different sectors. This provides a basis for analysis of why the landscape looks like it does today. In the next stage cooperation is initiated between stakeholders in order to create conditions for sustainable utilization and management of the resources in the model landscape. Based on these analyses, tangible efforts can then be started designed to preserve and develop high nature conservation values and well-functioning ecosystems.

The Sustainable Landscapes project makes good use of the experiences and lessons learned and disseminates these through demonstration areas and reports. Where the process has identified a need for changed guidelines, controls and incentives, these are included in WWF's overall lobbying activities for sustainable landscapes.

One model landscape included in the project is the inland area of Västerbotten, where Sveaskog has a large landholding. Here we will use the knowledge and tools from the Living Forest Waters project to manage water resources at a landscape level.

* See glossary on back page.



Project 3

Effect 20

BALANCING ENVIRONMENT AND PRODUCTION

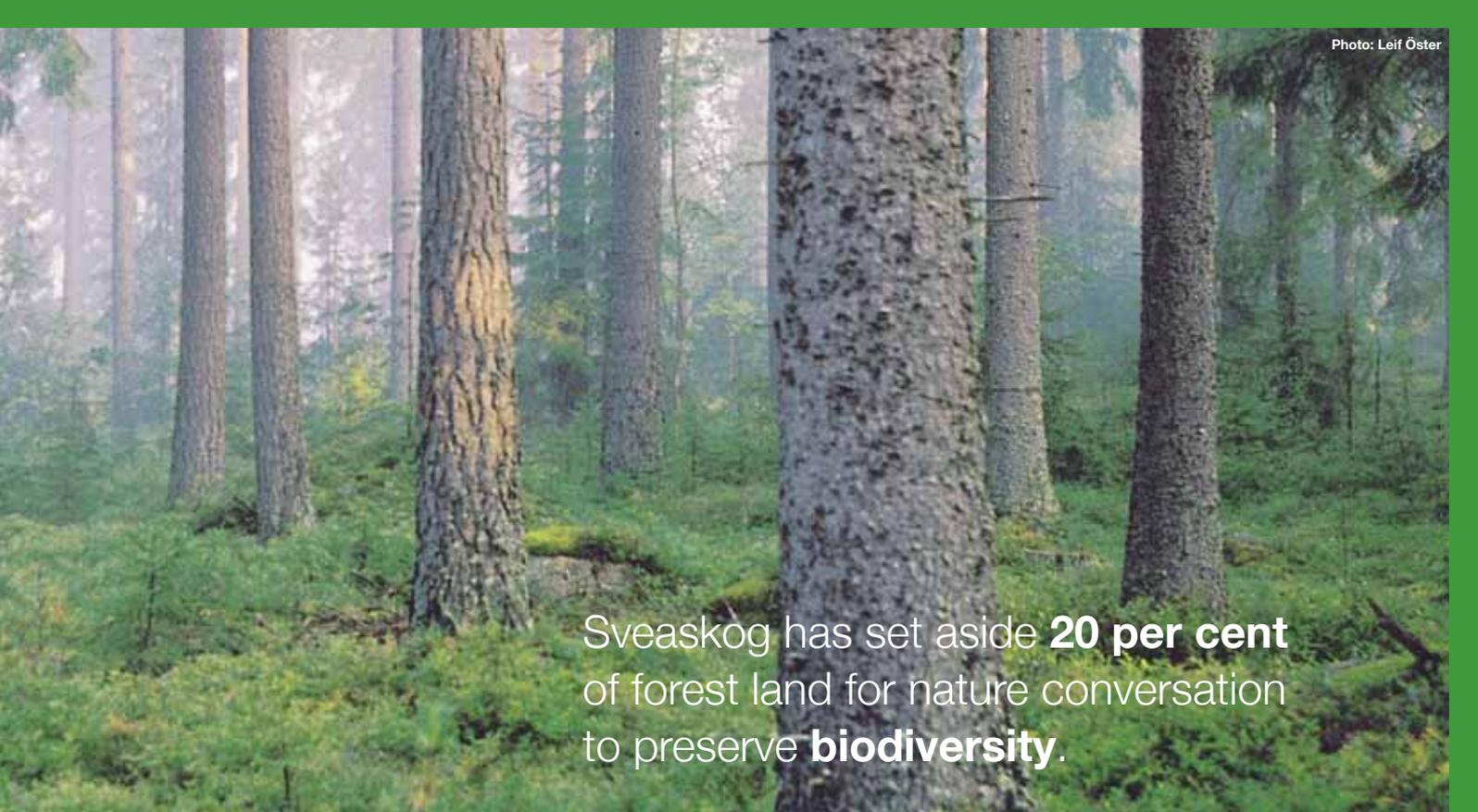
The Swedish parliament has decided to accord the environment goal* and the production goal* in Swedish forest policy equal status, i.e. the same priority. How can forest management achieve this balance? How are we to care for the natural environment and preserve the forest's biodiversity* while at the same time pursuing efficient forest management that is economically viable? In Sweden, we set aside national parks, nature reserves and voluntary protected forests for nature conservation purposes. We also take nature into

consideration when harvesting by adapting forest management practices to the ecological conditions present in each forest area.

A 20 PER CENT ENVIRONMENT TARGET

Research shows that 20 per cent of forest land must be set aside if we are to preserve biodiversity in our forests. Under Sveaskog's environment policy, 20 per cent of productive forest land in each forest region will be used for nature conservation and environment protection purposes.

The conservation measures vary and range from



Sveaskog has set aside **20 per cent** of forest land for nature conservation to preserve **biodiversity**.

saving individual trees or areas during felling to setting aside extensive landscapes, such as Sveaskog's ecoparks*. Ecoparks are large, contiguous forest landscapes in which nature conservation is the prime concern and yield demands are adapted to the specific ecological and culture values present there.

WHAT EFFECT WILL CONSERVATION HAVE ?

So what will be the impact of Sveaskog's nature conservation work? This is the pivotal question in the joint project, Effect 20. The project is a

pioneering initiative focusing on natural values from a landscape perspective. This long-term project is mainly concerned with monitoring birdlife and insects in forest landscapes, using a method developed in a previous WWF project. Sveaskog is funding the project and running it jointly with WWF.

* See glossary on back page.

Project 4

Responsible production and trade with forest products

RESPONSIBLE TIMBER TRADE WITH THE BALTIC STATES

The Baltic forests contain very high natural values. At the same time, they are a vital source of export income for the Baltic countries. The Swedish forest industry has a strong presence in the region and exports pulpwood, biofuels and wood products to other countries in the Baltic region.

The private, smaller forest owners play an important role in the region's timber trade. Here there is a need for greater knowledge about sustainable forest management, so that the high natural values can be given the protection they need.

The forest sector in the Baltic states is also operated by a large number of small and medium-sized actors who need to do more for the environment and the social role of the forest. Economic crime is found in the forest sector, including money laundering, illegal logging and corruption. Legislation, monitoring and awareness of responsible forest management are under way but were set back extensively during the economic crisis.

TRACING TIMBER SOURCES

The Swedish forest industry can assist with the development of responsible forestry in the Baltic states, among other things by ensuring that the

timber does not come from controversial sources. This can be done by increasing the proportion of FSC®-certified raw material and increased use of traceability systems. Sveaskog's imports from Latvia come mainly from its subsidiary Sveaskog Baltfor SIA, which holds an FSC® traceability certificate. Where Sveaskog buys timber from other countries, the company makes every effort to check and ensure traceability.

OPINION-MAKING AND DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE

The sub-project Responsible Timber Trade with the Baltic States involves WWF and its partner organizations in the region continuing to act as opinion-makers, promoting responsible forestry, monitoring developments and proactively combating the illegal timber trade. Roundtable discussions and other fora are attended by a range of actors, including public authorities, the forest sector, environmental organizations and banks. Sveaskog plays an active role in this project, both as a financier and as a participant in various projects.

RESPONSIBLE PRODUCTION AND TRADE WITH BIOFUELS

WWF works actively at EU level and globally to



encourage sustainable development within the field of bioenergy. Over the next few years we will monitor and influence the development of policies and reporting for liquid biofuels within the framework of the EU Directive for Renewable Energy*. The voluntary requirements for solid biofuels will probably be a key area for continued discussion and development. Our aim is to work to achieve a harmonized, ambitious sustainability system for biofuels at EU level, instead of 27 different national systems.

GLOBAL FOREST AND TRADE NETWORK, GFTN

WWF's international corporate network, the Global Forest and Trade Network, GFTN*, includes some 300 companies that produce and trade in wood-

based products. GFTN's members work to achieve responsible management of the world's forests. In a systematic manner the network's membership rules ensure that the wood raw material comes from forests that are managed responsibly and contribute to an increased proportion of verified and credibly certified sources in the supply chain.

Sveaskog is one of ten member companies in Sweden. During the project period Sveaskog will develop origin checks and work to increase the proportion of credibly certified raw material in its timber trade activities.

* See glossary on the back page.

Brief glossary

BIODIVERSITY

Biological diversity, or biodiversity, refers to the wide variation in living species of all origins and to the ecological systems of these organisms are a part. The term applies to diversity within and between species, and in ecosystems.

BLUE TARGET CLASSIFICATION

Blue target classification is a method for planning care of the aquatic environment in forestry. A blue target classification expresses the level of ambition for care of a specific aquatic environment, such as part of a waterway, wetlands or lakes. The term aquatic environment also includes an ecologically functional riparian buffer zone. Setting target classifications for forest management activities around different aquatic areas allows their ecological status to be preserved and/or further developed.

ECOPARK

Ecoparks are large, contiguous forest landscapes with high natural values which are managed so that they can function as a source for spreading biodiversity. In an ecopark ecology takes precedence over economy.

ENVIRONMENT GOAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY OBJECTIVES

The Swedish parliament has adopted a number of environmental quality objectives describing a desirable future environment in Sweden in a number of different spheres. In pursuing these objectives, the overall goal of Swedish environmental policy is to be achieved: to pass on to the next generation a sustainable society in which the major environmental problems have been solved.

EU DIRECTIVE FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

The EU directive on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources (2009/28/EC). The directive includes mandatory requirements for Sweden to achieve a proportion of at least 49 per cent renewable energy by 2020.

EU'S WATER DIRECTIVE

The Water Directive is a popular name for the EU directive the Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) which was adopted in December 2000 and is to be implemented by 2015 at the latest. The directive provides a framework for all water planning and water conservation measures in the EU. It applies to all waters except the open sea and is intended to preserve or improve both water quality and the aquatic environment.

FSC®

Forest Stewardship Council®, FSC®, is an international organisation that has developed guidelines for environmentally appropriate, socially beneficial and economically viable forest management. The FSC® trademark is used on products from certified forestry. In Sweden, FSC® certified products include charcoal and garden furniture. www.fsc-sverige.org www.fsc.org

GLOBAL FOREST AND TRADE NETWORK, GFTN

Global Forest and Trade Network, GFTN, is WWF's international corporate network for purchasers of wood products and forest managers which aims to promote sustainable forestry and trade with products from responsible forest management. www.gftn.panda.org

PRODUCTION AND ENVIRONMENT GOALS OF FOREST POLICY

Swedish forest policy has twin objectives of equal importance – the production goal and the environment goal. This means that forests and forest land are to be managed efficiently and responsibly so as to ensure high, profitable yields while preserving natural values.



SVEASKOG

www.sveaskog.se

info@sveaskog.se

Sveaskog's telephone: +46 771 787 000

Sveaskog's customer centre: +46 771 787 100



WWF

www.wwf.se

www.panda.org

info@wwf.se

WWF telephone: +46 8 624 74 00