Expert Group on Adaptation to Climate Change

First meeting, 6—7 September 2017

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How do you contribute with your work in your country/organization to climate change adaptation activities?

- We have compiled in a report (2016):
  - relevant *climate model output* based on RCP 4.5 (and 8.5)
  - knowledge and well-based hypothesis about how continued climate change may *affect* Swedish *forests*
  - analyses of potential *climate adaptation* actions
- We inform forest owners (c. 300 000) and forest officials
  - Campaigns (courses, forest meetings, individually)
    - At present: "More variation in forestry"
  - Films, book, brochures, articles - free
  - Web-based advisory system
- Cooperation with other authorities and with researchers
  - Erosion, forest fires, water quality, forecasting, etc.

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Please describe a successful example of climate change adaptation measures implemented in your country/by your organization

EU funded campaigns:

"Forestry in a changing climate" and "The forest owner and the climate"

> Reached c. 24 000 out of 300 000 forest owners, well received and appreciated according to evaluations

"Information project" – innovative channels for reaching out

> Films, book, brochures, articles - free
>
> => *More awareness*

⇒ Effects in the forest?

⇒ Reduced rotation periods for Norway spruce in S Sweden, improved road maintenance, tree species interest?, avoiding track formation?, etc.

Genetic improvement for better growth

Is there a national strategy (does your organization have a strategy) on adaptation of forests to climate change?

Not really, but

The Swedish Forest Agency have a climate policy (presently being revised) and an action plan for 2017-2018

Climate policy: effects from climate change, suitable adaptation, conclusions on role of forest for climate change mitigation

Action plan: discussion about indicators and target values for these, gathers temporary (non-ordinary) activities that include promotion for adaptation

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What are major challenges related to climate change and forests in your country/organization?

Some major challenges:

- To determine what quantitative changes "we" hope to see in the forest (tree species composition, etc.) and forestry activities
    - > 80% of industrial value from *Picea abies* and *Pinus sylvestris*
    - to get a more resistant forest in 30-100 years – i.e. what adaptation is socioeconomically optimal (and do not threaten sustainability further)?
- To solve the game availability/plant browsing "knot"
    - too high deer/moose populations strongly reduce potential for adaptation through higher variation in tree species
- To reduce increased risks for large-scale storm-felling, insects and pathogens
    - the risk for subsequent spruce beetle infection probably increase multifold in 50 yrs

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