

Subsidies for maintaining biodiversity

Location

Country: Norway

Scale: National

Region:

Compensated /improved ecosystem services

- Biodiversity

Management

Forest owners are eligible for grants for forest management plans with environmental registrations. Forest management includes both active commercial use of the forest resources as well as the forest owner's responsibility for the protection of biological diversity, landscapes, recreation and cultural values in the forest. Providing an inventory of forest resources and environmental values on the property is a precondition for the allocation of grants. Important areas for biological diversity are inventoried on the basis of knowledge about species and their habitat requirements. The environmental inventories developed through the forest management planning process are made publicly available. The forest owner must ensure that all activities in the forest are carried out in compliance with laws and regulations. Under the Forestry Act, each forest owner must have an overall view of the environmental values and pay regard to them when carrying out activities in the forest.

Stakeholders

Sellers or service providers:

- Forest owners may, by making some changes in their silviculture, improve the forests' biodiversity. The forest owners are both private persons and public authority.

Buyers and beneficiaries of services:

- As this is a measure to protect biodiversity, most people are likely to benefit from it.

Knowledge providers:

- The forest owners' federations, researchers at NIBIO (Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research), etc.

Donors – funding agencies or sponsors:

- Government

Intermediaries:

- Forestry associations, forest/agriculture advisers in the municipalities, forestry planners, ecologists, biologists, etc.

Timeline

Establishment year: Registration of key habitats was integrated in the forestry planning in 2001

Time horizon: Long term

Status of PES: Active

Availability of economic data

Between 2010-2018 NOK 9,9 million are disbursed.

References / Source of information

Information on registration of key habitats (Norwegian language only):

<https://www.landbruksdirektoratet.no/no/eiendom-og-skog/skog-og-miljoregistreringer/miljoregistreringer#om-miljoeregistrering-i-skog-> and <https://www.pefc.no/var-standard/norsk-pefc-skogstandard>

Information on voluntary protection of areas (Norwegian language only): <https://frivilligvern.no>