Introduction to Finnish private forestry

IFFA Workshop

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Sources: National Board of Taxes, Finnish Forest Research Institute and TTS
Family Forestry is characterised by

- Multiobjectivity
  - Family forestry incorporates multiple values and functions

- Over-generational thinking
  - The needs of future generations are constantly borne in mind and the forest holding is handed down to the next generation in a further improved condition

- Various benefits and services provided to the society
  - E.g. Everyman's Right - the forests and waters are free for everyone to visit and enjoy

Family forest owners’ priorities

MTK promotes sustainable family forestry in accordance with the following principles:

- Landowners' constitutional rights are respected
- Forest owners have the right and the opportunity to manage and use their forests in compliance with their objectives
- Forestry is economically profitable
- Forests are managed in compliance with the principles of sustainable forestry
- All forest owners regardless of the size and location of forest has to have access to advisory and management services
Organization of Private Forest Owners

Protection of forest owners’ interests at all levels:

- local
- regional, national & international

Members of Forest Management Associations: 345,000 Forest Holdings, which have 632,000 Forest Owners

Forest Management Associations: 81

Service provider to FO

Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners (MTK)

Political supervision
The role of FMAs

Forest owners' service organisation on local level:

- FMAs are working in a close co-operation with the forest owners in all matters related to forests:
  - forest management services (harvesting, regeneration, ditching etc.)
  - training and planning services
  - timber sales services
  - practical organiser of PEFC group certification
- 80% of the forest management activities in private forests are carried out by FMAs
- 70% of preliminary planning of timber sales
- Employ 1000 officials and 620 permanent forest workers
- Employ also high number of contractors and entrepreneurs
- Activities financed by voluntary forest management fee and business activities
- New FMA law (in force from 1.1.2015) is based on voluntariness and level playing field for all service providers
  Enables new models of cooperation between FMAs and forest industry
Share of preliminary timber selling plans prepared by FMAs from the total roundwood trade volume 1996 - 2014

Source: Annual report of FMAs

Share of letter of attorney sales from the total volume 1995 - 2014

Source: Annual report of FMAs
MTK - the Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners
It...
- was founded in 1917 under Russian rule
- supervises the interests of farmers, forest owners and rural entrepreneurs at national, EU and global level;
- represents its members and related industries that use renewable natural resources in a sustainable way; and
- has ca. 400 000 members.

MTK - the Central Union of Agricultural Producers and Forest Owners
- A national central organisation of private forest owners, ~ 100 workers
  • to influence forest policy legislation
  • to protect the interests of the Forest Management Associations
  • to look after the private forest owners' interests in timber trade
  • Strategic management of FO organisation
- MTK has no position to oblige FMAs – all co-operation is based on voluntariness
- 30 % of operating costs is covered by membership fees, 70 % by capital income
THE OFFICE OF THE CENTRAL UNION OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCERS AND FOREST OWNERS (MTK)
Maaseudun Tulevaisuus (Newspaper)

MTK Organisation

~400 000 members

FARMERS

RURAL ENTREPRENEURS

FOREST OWNERS

Local Farmers Associations (371)

Regional Farmers Unions (14)

Proagria Advisory Centres

Forest management associations (FMA) (81)

Fur Breeders’ Association

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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QUESTIONS / COMMENTS?

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