



**Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee**

**Network no: N 2010-10**

*Send the report to SNS-secretary Katrine Hahn Kristensen  
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## REPORT NETWORK ACTIVITY (meeting, conference etc.)

Please notice that the size of text sections in the form can be adjusted if needed.

**The length of the final report should not exceed 3 pages.** Supplementary information can be attached.

1. Aktivitetsens titel	Managing Forestry's Impact on the mercury contamination in fish: Does the varying sensitivity of different catchments to harvest impacts hold the key to more effective mitigation
2. Activity title	<b>Nordic Forest Water Mercury Network – NorForM</b>
3. Coordinator /contact person (name, address, telephone, telefax. e-mail)	Prof. Kevin Bishop SLU, Inst för vatten och miljö Box 7050, 750 07 Uppsala Tel +46-18-673131 Fax +46-18-673156 Kevin.bishop@slu.se
4. Duration	The activity started 1/1/2010 and ended 31/12/2010
5. Cost	SNS-grant 13.000 Euro Total activity cost (estimate): 13.000 Euro
6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)	Mercury in fish remains both a major environmental problem and a scientific puzzle. Research from Sweden, Canada and Finland all indicate a connection between forestry operations and the input of mercury/methylmercury to aquatic ecosystems. As more studies are completed, large differences are appearing in the magnitude of the Hg response. Understanding these differences may be a key to more effective mitigation. The Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee (SNS) has funded an international workshop to understand why there are such great differences in the sensitivity of catchments to forest operations (harvest, site preparation, drainage, drain-blocking) with respect to leakage and bioaccumulation of methylmercury. The first day of this workshop was a public seminar to provide forest companies, managers, responsible government authorities and NGO's a chance to learn about the latest developments in the understanding of the relationship between forestry and the mercury problem from some of the world's leading mercury researchers who will present an overview of what is known, how this knowledge can be used, and directions for future work.

<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>This was reported by SNS in News and Views 2011 – 6</p> <p>The KSLA Web page also posted summaries of all the speakers presentations.</p> <p>Kevin Bishop also organized a special session on the topic at the International Conference on Mercury as Global Pollutant in Canada, July 2011. Several of the speakers from the Nordic Forestry Mercury Network made presentations there.</p>
<p>8. Activity summary (about 1/3 page) for possible use in the News &amp; Views section of Scandinavian Journal of Forest Research</p>	<p>Mercury in fish remains both a major environmental problem and a scientific puzzle. Research from Sweden, Canada and Finland all indicate a. 20 researchers gathered at KSLA on Nov 22 to present the latest research findings on the issue of the connection between forestry operations and the input of mercury/methylmercury to aquatic ecosystems. The presentations revealed large differences in the magnitude of the aquatic Hg response to forest operations. There was a lively discussion about hypotheses to explain these differences that continued on into Tuesday November 23 as the meeting continued at another venue. The participants at the meeting were subsequently successful in being awarded one of a limited number of special sessions at the next International Conference on Mercury as Global Pollutant in Canada, July 2011. That special session will be on the connection between forestry and mercury problems, and can be seen as a direct follow up to the 2010 meeting at KSLA. An invited presentation summarizing the results of the meeting at KSLA also be made at the conference. Research cooperation to synthesize many of the results presented at the KSLA conference is ongoing.</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: 2012-12-17</p> <p>Signature of project leader/coordinator:</p> 