



Nordic Forest Research Cooperation Committee

Network no: N 2012-05


Send the report to SNS-secretary Katrine Hahn Kristensen  
(hahn@life.ku.dk)

## 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 1/1/2012 and ended 31/12/2012
5. Cost	SNS-grant 13 500 € 114 113 SEK plus 18 498 SEK Surplus from 2011 Total activity cost (estimate): 149 416 SEK
6. Description of activity (incl. objectives, results, conclusions)	Research from Sweden, Canada and Finland all indicate a connection between forestry operations and mercury in aquatic ecosystems, but there are large differences in the Hg response found by different studies. Understanding these differences may be a key to more effective mitigation. SNS has funded two major network activities in 2012. One was participation by half a dozen Nordic researchers in the PhD defense of Ida Tjerngren's PhD Thesis "Formation and degradation of methyl mercury before and after restoration of boreal wetlands" on 120217 in Umeå. The second was sponsoring a workshop The Fate of Hg in Boreal Landscapes on 121019 in Uppsala, following Karin Eklöf's PhD defense (Effects of Stump Harvesting and Site Preparation on Mercury) on Oct. 18. The workshop had 14 speakers, including NorForm members from Finland, Sweden and Norway, as well as from Canada and the US. Some 50 people attended. The workshop concluded with 12 people taking a 2 day field trip in Northern Sweden Oct 20-21 at the Vindeln Research forests to view Hg field study sites.

<p>7. Evt. publication/ communication</p>	<p>Kevin Bishop has organized a special session on the topic at the International Conference on Mercury as Global Pollutant to be held in Scotland in July 2013 based on the content of the workshop in 2012. Several of the speakers from the Nordic Forestry Mercury Network will make 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. Two PhDs on the subject were presented in 2012, one by Ida Tjerngren “Formation and degradation of methyl mercury before and after restoration of boreal wetlands”, and the other by Karin Eklöf “Effects of Stump Harvesting and Site Preparation on Mercury and other aspects of Water Quality” NorForm members were out in force for both defences. NorForm also organized a workshop “The Fate of Hg in Boreal Landscapes on October 19<sup>th</sup> in Uppsala, which had 14 speakers, including NorForm members from Finland, Sweden and Norway, as well as guest speakers from Canada and the US. Some 50 people attended. The workshop concluded with 12 people taking a 2 day field trip in Northern Sweden Oct 20-21 at the Vindeln Research forests to view Hg field study sites. As an outcome of these activities in 2012, NorForm presented a proposal for a special session entitled Clear cutting, Swidden and Sustainable forestry: Watershed-scale Impacts on Hg dynamics for the 11th International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant (ICMGP) to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland July 29 August 2<sup>nd</sup> . The proposal was accepted.</p>
<p>9. Date and signature</p>	<p>Date: 2013-02-17 Signature of project leader/coordinator: </p>