

Natural Disturbance Dynamics Analysis for Ecosystem Based Management (FORDISMAN)

Bringing together the research people around the World



Photo: Participants of the FORDISMAN conference / Ahto Kangur

Preparations and planning

The global change is forcing us to focus at the key indicators of the natural conditions around the World. The human impact is overwhelming and the universal methods and indicators are difficult to find. The common understanding is an aim the research community in forest ecology.

FORDISMAN-PRIFOR conference

International scientific conference „Forest landscape mosaics: disturbance, restoration and management at times of global change” took place on August 11–14, 2014 in Tartu, Estonia.

The initiative for the conference came from two working groups of EFINORD-SNS: the Nordic Working Group on the Ecology of Primeval Boreal Forests (PRIFOR) and the network Natural Disturbance Dynamics Analysis for Forest Ecosystem Management (FORDISMAN).

The conference also served as a meeting platform for IAVS (International Association for Vegetation Science), FURN (Forest Ungulate Research Network) and IUFRO networks. Together with the mentioned EFINORD-SNS networks, which are dealing with different aspects of forest disturbances and restoration, a substantial set of research institutes was represented.

The conference brought together scientists, practitioners and experts to share experiences about forest disturbances, restoration and management at times of global change, and to evaluate past, present and future application and implementation of research findings from the scientific community. Major themes of the conference related to the conservation and sustainable use of forests as natural resources in the face of global environmental change. The conference also addressed how global environmental change and political decisions alter natural and human disturbances.

Altogether about 150 people from 22 countries participated in the conference. During three days of presentations, keynote speeches were given by Prof. K. Jõgiste, Dr. S. Gauthier, Dr. K. Junninen, Prof. S. Sugita, Dr. E. Shorohova and Dr. W.K. Moser. In addition, distributed over 8 sessions covering the major topics, 81 oral presentations, were delivered complemented by a poster session.

On the second day three different Mid-

Conference Excursions were organized, where participants visited either Järvselja, Endla-Kassinurme, or Kiidjärve-Taevaskoja. During the excursions guides, researchers and practitioners gave an overview of the history and natural conditions of the visited sites.

After the conference those had an opportunity to join the post-conference excursion, which took the participants to West-Estonia, and the islands Hiiumaa and Saaremaa.

More information can be found on conference webpage:

<http://www.forestdisturbances.com/>.

Next workshops

The CCF, FORDISMAN and PRIFOR joint workshop “Forest ecosystem services – the role of old-growth forests and continuous cover forestry in the light of climate change” will take place in June 2015, in Krakow (Poland).

The workshop “Long term change of land utilization and novel ecosystem” is planned for October 2015 in cooperation with the University of Tallinn, in North-East Estonia.

NB Forest Policy and Research Briefs

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Published September 2, 2013

N2014-10 Network “FORDIS_Natural Disturbance Dynamics Analysis for Ecosystem Based Management” Nordic Forest Research (SNS) www.nordicforestresearch.org



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