

A Workshop on Forest Disturbances held on Hiiumaa Island, Estonia

A workshop "Natural disturbances dynamics as component of ecosystem management planning" was held on the Island of Hiiumaa, Estonia, on August 1-4, 2002. The workshop was organised by the Forest Research Institute of the Estonian Agricultural University in collaboration with the SNS, the Nordic Forest Research Co-operation Committee.

A plenary lecture "Between wind and water: gap dynamics on the Kõpu Peninsula, Hiiumaa" was presented by Ms. Floor Vodde (Netherlands). Dr. Kalev Jõgiste (Estonia) in his presentation gave startpoint formulations for planning the network "Natural disturbances dynamics as a component of ecosystem management planning". Dr. Timo Kuuluvainen (Finland) introduced the research on forest disturbances in Finland. The extended volume of *Silva Fennica* (vol. 36 (1), 2002) was demonstrated as an example of profound

research basis for disturbance dynamics topic. Ms. Kaili Viilma (Estonia) gave an overview about Estonian forest conservation area network and commented the videofilm "Old-growth forest: ancient treasure". 22 researchers from Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania and Netherlands participated in group works and discussions about the network activities. Field trips to the Kassari Peninsula, Kõpu National Park, Luidja black alder stand and to the study sites in the pine forests of the Hiiumaa Island took place. The formation of wind gaps and dynamic trends in old pine stands and possible management scenarios were discussed.

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