

# METSO

---



# Collection of basic information on nature conservation areas

---



- **The objective of the inventory project is to produce comprehensive, comparable and up-to-date data about all the state-owned nature conservation areas, wilderness areas and recreation areas in Finland**
- **During the project, between the years 2001-2006, about 550 000 hectares will be inventoried**
- **The data will be stored in the GIS of Metsähallitus**



# Collection of basic information on nature conservation areas

---



The data collected includes e.g.:

- *vegetation class (also botanical vegetation type in some habitats)*
- *Natura 2000 habitat and its representativeness*
- *the amount and average size of trees by species (as in normal forest survey)*
- *the amount of dead wood by tree species and decay class*
- *the amount of bushes by species (certain habitat types)*
- *fertility of mires*
- *mire complex type*
- *topographical and geomorphologic data*
- *habitat restoration and management needs*



# Collection of basic information on nature conservation areas

---



The data can be used e.g.

- *to describe the habitat types of the protected areas*
- *to describe the status of the habitats and the reserves*
- *for management planning and habitat restoration planning purposes*
- *for the follow-up of Natura 2000 areas and habitats*
- *for research purposes*
- *for nature interpretation and education.*

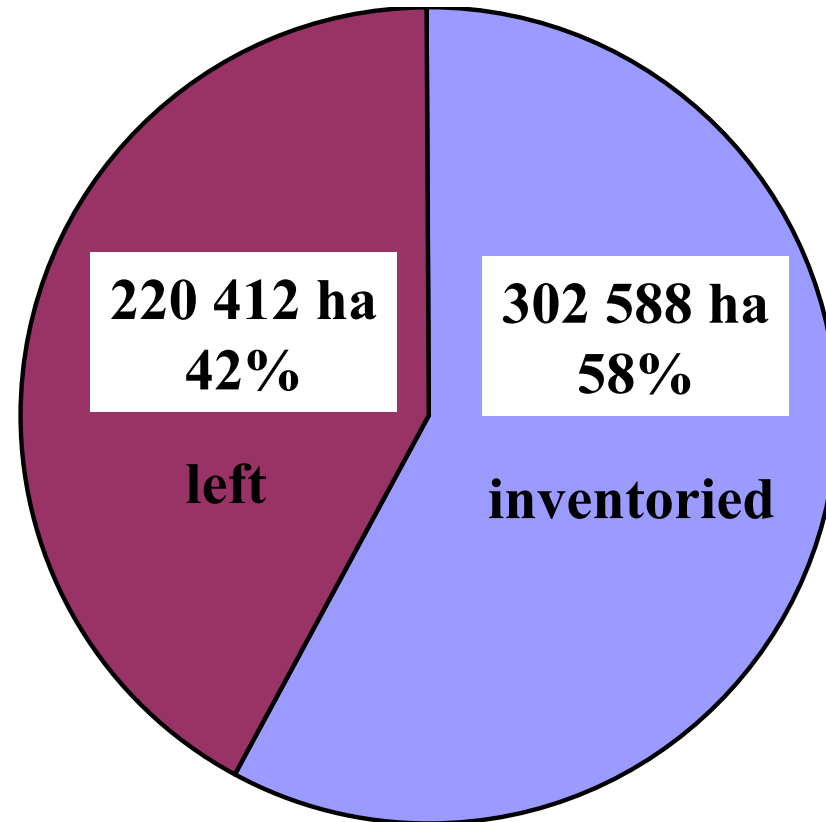


# Collection of basic information on nature conservation areas

---



## Situation on November, 2004



# Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas



- **Finland's boreal forests have been influenced by man for centuries**
- **Only small part of the forests and peatland in the nature conservation areas in southern Finland and Ostrobothnia are in their natural state**
- **Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas are important elements in developing their biodiversity**
- **The objective of the restoration of habitats is to restore habitats altered by human actions to a state that is as close as possible to their nature state**



# Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas

---



- **Restoration is needed when natural recovery is too slow or uncertain**
- **Most of the restoration measures are one-off actions, but their aim is to initiate long-term natural processes such as stand succession with eventual emergence of dead and decaying trees or paludification**
- **Ecosystem management is the term for measures which maintain or improve biodiversity without restoring the natural forest structure or processes e.g.**
  - *maintenance of wooded pastures, wooded meadows and other traditional rural biotopes.*



# Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas

---



- **During the METSO programme about 33 000 ha will be restored and about 900 ha wooded rural biotopes will be managed**
- **In forests on mineral soil restoration aim involves burning certain areas of forest (960 hectares), allowing for more dead and decaying trees (10 500 hectares) and creating small gaps inside the homogenous stand (5 200 ha)**



# Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas

---



- **There is a total of about 16 600 hectares of peatland which needs restoring**
- **At the end of November 2900 hectares forests and 3000 hectares mires have been restored during METSO programme and 1500 hectares habitats have been managed**



# Restoration and management of habitats in nature conservation areas



## Habitats restoration and management areas in 2003 and 2004

