



Biodiversity is the basis of sustainable forestry in Finland



Finnish Forest Industries

Biodiversity is safeguarded in multiple ways



The Finnish forest sector promotes voluntary forest protection and biodiversity programmes, which play an important role in safeguarding biodiversity in Finland.



Finnish forest industry sustainability commitments 2025

We promote the nature management of commercial forests and the voluntary protection of forests and peatlands with the aim of reversing the decline of endangered forest species.”

Finnish commercial forests are multi-use forests:

- natural tree species
- cultivated and natural seedlings complement each other
- biodiversity, fresh air, fresh water, recreation, trees, natural products

The protected area grows every year

The area of protected forests has increased five-fold since the 1980s.



Source: The Natural Resources Institute of Finland

13%

of the total area of forests in Finland are protected.

Source: The Natural Resources Institute of Finland

Nature management is part of everyday forestry



Nature management measures in commercial forests are functional and have positive impacts on biodiversity. The impacts are visible in endangered and demanding forest species especially in the long run. It is possible to significantly boost existing nature management measures, increase the protection of forests and, simultaneously, produce timber for the needs of the forest industry.”

The Natural Resources Institute of Finland and the Finnish Environment Institute 2019

Forest Environment Programme since 2016

The Forest Environment Programme is a joint research and development project in the forest industry sector. The target is to improve the forest industry operations related to forest environment matters.

Forest certification improves

- the ecological
- social
- and economic sustainability of forest management and use.

93%

of the Finnish commercial forest area is certified.

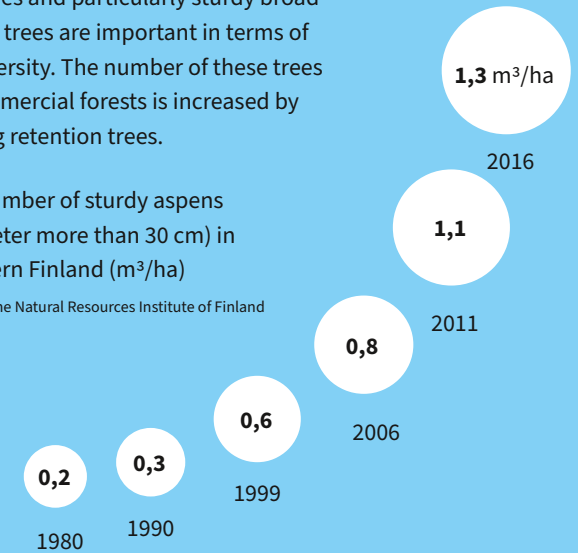
Source: PEFC Finland and FSC Finland

More broad-leaved trees

Old trees and particularly sturdy broad-leaved trees are important in terms of biodiversity. The number of these trees in commercial forests is increased by leaving retention trees.

The number of sturdy aspens (diameter more than 30 cm) in southern Finland (m³/ha)

Source: The Natural Resources Institute of Finland

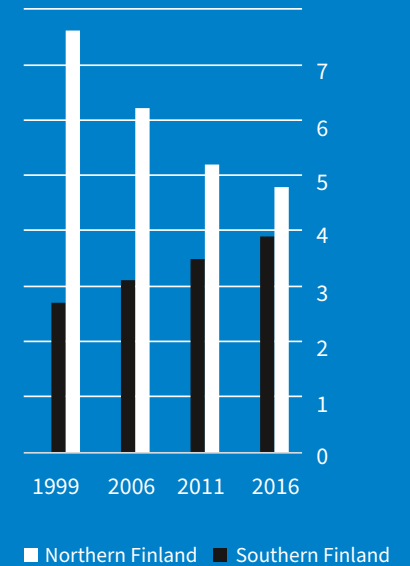


This must be promoted!

More decaying wood for commercial forests

Nearly 25 % of forest species are dependent on decaying wood. Therefore, their impact on the biodiversity of forest is great.

The number of decaying wood (m³/ha) in commercial forests.



Source: The Natural Resources Institute of Finland



Biodiversity is the basis of sustainable forestry

All forest management is based on biodiversity and diverse forests. The promotion of forest biodiversity safeguards tree growth and health, protects water systems and improves recreational opportunities.

In forestry, volunteer actions aimed at protecting biodiversity and curbing the number of endangered species play an important role.



Biodiversity is safeguarded in multiple ways

Several different means are required to protect biodiversity in forests, such as forest management methods that are suitable for different forests as well as a mosaic of forests consisting of diverse forests of different ages.

Different joint research and development projects in the sector are also important to further improve the means to safeguard biodiversity. The Finnish Forest Industries Federation has launched, for example, the Grove management action programme and the More decaying wood to commercial forests programme.

Studies have shown that the nature management measures are functional. However, some of the developments are visible in forest nature only in the long term, especially among the most endangered species. Active cooperation for the benefit of biodiversity continues.



Nature management is part of everyday forestry

Biodiversity is promoted in practice through the nature management of commercial forests and by protecting areas especially valuable for biodiversity where, for example, the range of species is wide.

Forest certification promotes the sustainable use of forests. The certification incorporates nature management into everyday forest management. Saving retention trees and decaying wood as well as buffer zones of water systems are examples of established nature management practices. Of all the commercial forests in Finland, 93% are certified, which is the highest percentage in the EU.