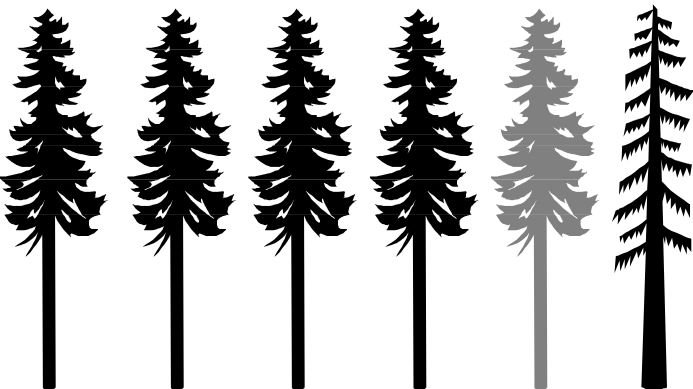




Impact of gender on forest management in contemporary Swedish family forestry

Lina Holmgren
SLU, Umeå
Dep of Forest Resource Management



Forest ownership

Research shows that gender (*i.e. cultural and social constructions of being man or woman*) has an impact on Swedish NIPF ownership considering:

- **Who, owns the forest**
 - whether an heir has taken over the property or not; sons inherit forest properties to a larger extent than daughters

- **How, the forest is owned**
 - whether the forest estate is singly or jointly owned; men inherit to a larger extent as a single owner

- **What, with reference to size of the property**
 - men owns larger properties



Forest management

- Previous studies shows that there are differences in male and female Swedish forest owners' management behaviour
 - In Sweden, male owners do harvest and silviculture on their properties more often than female owners
 - It has also been shown that female forest owners have less sales revenue per hectare from their forest ownership compared to male owners
 - It is often claimed that women practise a more environmental friendly or ecological style of resource management. However research on Swedish forest owners does not bring about an unambiguous picture, which complicates this picture



Consequently we may ask if the differences in management behaviour - just like the situation in property size and ownership distribution - also are a result of the cultural and social constructions of being man or woman?

- Is it so that:
 - female forest owners felling activity, not only is a result of inheritance of smaller properties often together with relatives, but also a result of that they inherit less productive forest land compared to men?
 - and/or do female forest owners have a different relationship to nature and to natural resource management?

- More specific:
 - the *aim* with this research project is to examine why female forest owners harvest less timber compared to male forest owners.



The aim will be accomplished by testing the following hypotheses:

- I) The forest yield conditions are poorer on female owned forest holdings
 - That is, female owners have e.g., worse site productivity, worse forest land layout when it comes to e.g. division of forest land form and location to each other, and less share of mature forest.

- II) Female forest owners have another incentive structure when it comes to fellings, as a result of their inheritance position
 - previous research indicates that women take over their properties as legacy to a greater extent. This may provide fewer motives for female forest owners to undertake felling.

- III) Female forest owners are more inclined than male owners to produce other forest values than industrial roundwood



Method - Hypothesis I

- **Hypothesis I will be tested using The National Forest Inventory (NFI) data.**
 - The National Forest Inventory is one of the compartments of the nationwide inventory of forests and soils in Sweden, the Swedish National Inventory of Forests. The Department of Forest Resource Management at SLU is responsible
 - The NFI gathers information on status and changes concerning; land use, growing stock and growth, forest age and structure, condition of forest sites and vegetation, harvesting and other forestry measures, as well as prerequisites for biodiversity. The inventory is performed on permanent and temporary tracts and a solid statistical design assures the quality of the data
 - Coordinates for the plots are used in order to identify ownership categories of the properties represented by the coordinates. The same procedure is now planned for this research, but with focus on NIPF owners and complementary background variables such as sex - in order to compare forest yield conditions a on female and male owned holdings



Method - Hypothesis II

- **Hypothesis II will be tested by means of studying a large number of conveyances in order to identify if the transaction pattern of properties differs between female and male owners.**
 - There exists a number of ways to receive data, e.g., through the district courts, the land registration service, and via the land registry at Lantmäteriet.
 - The forms for conveyances that can pertain are e.g., inheritance, gift, purchase and relative purchase. These can generate different financial incentives and in turn provide motives for a particular course of action on the forest property.



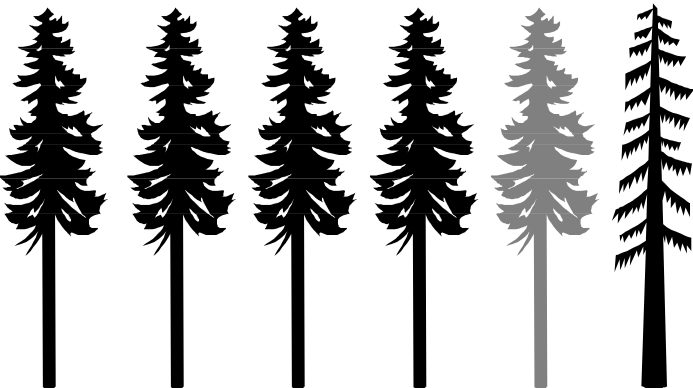
Method – hypothesis III

- **Hypothesis III will also be tested using National Forest Inventory data**
 - The NFI includes special objects that indicate biodiversity, such as woodconks and traces of woodpecker existence
 - As a complement to NFI data, a questionnaire survey based on a nationwide selection of forest owners will be undertaken in order to surround the ownership categories view on production of environmental values



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The research group - including me, Gun Lidestav and Siv Nyquist (the department of Law, Umeå University) – will present results from this research within one and a half year...



Thank You for Your Attention



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