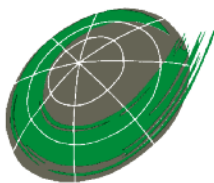


Scandinavian Youth Empowerment and Forest Campaign Strategy Week

Årrenjarka, Sweden, August 22 – 28, 2005



- Official Workshops Booklet -



Taiga Rescue Network



norden

Nordic Council of Ministers

Please Note: During the camp all participants, trainers, facilitators and organizers are not to use any drugs or alcohol. This is to enable everyone to participate in a safe and comfortable learning environment. Please keep in mind that some people may not feel comfortable with others using alcohol/drugs - respect this for everyone's convenience.

Tuesday

Presentation of our organizations,

One representative from each organization is asked to present information about their respective organization. Questions that each representative should be prepared to answer:

- How does the forest situation look like in your country?
- What kind of activities do you have and how are they connected to the forest situation?
- How many active members, age?
- What area does the organization cover? Is it local, regional or national?
- How do you get your finances?

Forest Ecology, Different Biotypes

What kind of forests do we have in the boreal zone? This workshop will give a brief overview of different forest types. Participants will address important questions such as "How to recognize biologically valuable forest?" and "What is the difference between natural and managed forest?" Participants will also learn how to recognize valuable elements of natural forests.

Trainer: Juho Kytömäki is a 26 years old nature activist from southern Finland. He has been involved with nature conservation issues in Finland and a little bit in Russian Karelia since 1998. Kytömäki has worked as a volunteer in Finnish Nature League and Finnish Association for Nature Conservation. From January 2005 he has worked for Finnish Nature League as a forest campaigner. Kytömäki's main interest is old-growth forests, but swamps are also dear to him. He studies practical biology and loves music (guitar is traveling along).

Certification and Forestry Methods

We will look at forest certification systems in participating countries and the rest of the world. Participants will get to know different certification systems, why they exist, how they influence forest nature, forestry and forest protection. We will have discussion on advantages and disadvantages of forest certification regarding forest conservation work.

This session will familiarize participants in forestry and logging methods in boreal forests and reveal alternatives to clearcutting-based forestry. Is it possible to take forest biodiversity and recreational values better into account on forestry? How much would it help? Why is forestry implemented in its current form, and can be changed?

Trainer: Juho Kytömäki

Legal Issues in Russia (по-русски)

Workshop delivered in Russian. Includes a survey of tools and methods used for legal protection of forests by Greenpeace Russia and other NGOs, public participation in forest management plans environmental assessment, appeals and court suits about forest information access and inappropriate forest management. The workshop also touches on field control of forest management practice, ancient forest conservation, and public participation in national legislation (new forest code) and Forest Law. We will look at the present-day state of reserved areas in Karelia, and present-day state and perspectives of old growth forest (OGF) in Karelia.

Some sample documents that will accompany the workshop include the Manual on Forest Management control, Manual on Environmental Court Suits etc. (in Russian). Some materials on ancient forest conservation (in English) and the same information on floppy disks.

Trainer: Guslyana Kartyushova, Greenpeace, Russia

Media Workshop

What is a press release? Why should we write it, and what is the most effective way? During this interactive workshop you will create your own press release and be able to discuss difficulties and get feedback from others.

Trainers: Kristina Johansson, Jouni Nissinen

Wednesday

Basic Wilderness Survival

As some campaigns require people to be in the forest for varying periods of time, a basic level of awareness could help avoid traumatic situations, and to know what to do when an accident occurs. This workshop introduces participants to basic techniques of living in backcountry forest and, in the worst case, *surviving* an accident in remote situations. Topics will include prevention of accidents, basic techniques to get found when lost, watching for signs of health problems, and basic materials that everyone should have while in the forest.

Trainer: Damien Lee, from Canada, has received multiple levels of training in wilderness first aid and wilderness survival and has lived and worked in backcountry situations.

Hike – Red Listed Species

Getting to know animal, -plant and fungus species in the forests that are endangered or threatened. Participants will learn to identify and to look for species that are dependent on old growth forests and especially those that are red-listed. Participants will get an overview on the various species and get the basic knowledge to start learning more about them. Also on field excursions during the camp there is a possibility to get to know north boreal red-listed species.

Trainer: Olli Manninen has made a 7-year career as a forest activist in the Finnish Nature League (FNL), four years of which as the chairman of FNL Forest Group. He has spent altogether more than a year in the field doing forest inventories all over Finland and Russian Karelia. He is a self-educated biologist and one of the best polypore experts in Finland..

Hike lead by Linda Nordström.

Basic Climbing Workshop

Climbing with professional equipment can be used for different spectacular actions in forest protection campaigns such as hanging of big banners, and tree sitting. In the climbing workshop participants can try basic rope climbing techniques on trees to get some experience under supervision of trainers, and there will be some demonstrations of action climbing. The aim of the workshop is to give participants an introduction to the techniques and purpose of tree climbing in campaign situations. Please note that this is an introduction only, and that responsible tree climbing needs more complex and proper training.

Trainers: Antje, Heiko and Tobias, from Germany, are experienced action climbing trainers and work with different environmental and social organizations like Attac and Robin Wood.

Legal Issues in Russia (in English)

Workshop delivered in English. Includes a survey of tools and methods used for legal protection of forests by Greenpeace Russia and other NGOs, public participation in forest management plans environmental assessment, appeals and court suits about forest information access and inappropriate forest management. The workshop also touches on field control of forest management practice, ancient forest conservation, and public participation in national legislation (new forest code) and Forest Law. We will look at the present-day state of reserved areas in Karelia, and present-day state and perspectives of old growth forest (OGF) in Karelia.

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Trainer: Guslyana Kartyushova, Greenpeace, Russia

Thursday

Grassroots Participation

Yes, it can be fun, but that's not the reason why we do it. Non-violent direct action will be applied only after all else fails. Breaking law is never intention, but sometimes it can help preventing even bigger crimes. Direct action should always be non-violent – neither people nor property should be harmed. This can't be stressed enough. The other important issue with Direct Action is that it is done openly, with your own name and face. If you cannot bear the consequences, do not do it. Civil disobedience is a basic right and so is the freedom of speech and opinion. This workshop underlines again and again the importance of non-violence and transparency in demonstrations and direct actions.

Trainers: Juho Kytömäki has been involved in various non-violent direct actions, in the forests, urban areas & the sea.

Forest Companies

The Nordic forest companies are among the most important forest companies in the world. They produce much of the world's pulp, paper and timber; in order to do this they consume a lot of forests. Sadly enough, forest companies every now and then operate in totally wrong forests - old-growth forests of the north and rainforests in the tropics. Sometimes forest management in commercial forests goes wrong. Also, it is valuable to bear in mind why the companies are being destructive: the consumption of paper and wood products in the western world is at very high levels. This workshop concentrates on the Nordic forest giants Stora Enso and UPM-Kymmene and their bad behaviour in different countries.

Trainer: Annina Käppi is a shareholder of Stora Enso and UPM-Kymmene and is actively trying to change the way her companies work.

Social and Cultural Aspects of the Forest

You will meet a person from the local Sami village that will speak about their work with reindeer and how forestry is affecting their livelihood. You will hear what they think about forestry today. The Sami are the indigenous people living in the northern Scandinavia.

Trainer: Karin Kouljok

Democracy Workshop

The topic of this workshop is democracy and debating techniques. We're going to learn the five ruling techniques and a brief history of different forms of debating. Different forms of discussion and some practises are included in the workshop.

Trainer: Tove Eriksson, Democracy secretary in the national board of Fältbiologerna (Nature and Youth, Sweden).

Friday

Cyber Activity

If there isn't a forest nearby for you to protect, don't worry! You can save forests also in virtual reality. There are websites for more information about forests, emails to be sent to decision makers, web cards, cyber alerts etc. And if you cannot find what you need on the Internet, you can also do it yourself. Participants in this workshop will be acquainted with current techniques used in developing and implementing heart stopping cyber actions.

Trainer: Annina Käppi, from Finland, has been managing the Finnish Nature League (Luontoliitto) website for ages and is cyber active also otherwise. See: <http://www.luontoliitto.fi/forest/>

Lobbying Strategies

This workshop tries to give brief initial answers to questions like: What is lobbying? How should I lobby (e-mail, phone, meetings)? Who should I lobby (local, national, international level)? Cooperation in lobbying – why and with whom? What are the characteristics of a good lobbyist or a good lobbying organization? Different tasks in lobbying. How to present oneself and one's message effectively? We will also do a practice presentation for discussion and to get feedback about our own way of presenting key messages to the public.

Trainer: Jouni Nissinen is the International Coordinator of Taiga Rescue Network. He has a long experience in environmental protection and activism both as an activist and as a professional worker. His main areas of activism have been forest protection, problems of oil extraction, and sustainable production and consumption.

Ecological Philosophy

An introduction to using ecophilosophy/ecosophy in looking at the world from new perspectives. Is it something in the nature of our culture that has led to today's development, with all its good and bad sides, or is it something in mankind itself? Where is the border between society's and the individual's responsibility?

Trainer: Linda Nordström, Ecological Philosophy student and active in Fältbiologerna (Nature and Youth, Sweden)

Forest Inventory Methods

Participants will learn about basic forest inventory methods and practices in the field as well as best practices before and after any field trip. Key focal areas include:

- How to prepare for the forest inventory: acquiring background information, maps and inventory equipment
- Information collecting methods, and what to search for. Taking notes, photographing, marking the points of interest.
- Preparing an inventory report and making the information as useful as possible. Applying your results.

Trainer: Juho Kytömäki

Saturday

Campaigning: Examples of Successful Campaigns

Many different types of successful campaigns in different countries will be presented. Participants will hear and see examples of methods to use for forest protection. After that there will be discussion on how to choose efficient campaign methods. The idea is to realize how many different ways forest activism can be done and to hear about and maybe even invent new methods.

Optional campaigning presentations “The use of campaigns, aim, did you succeed?” (people who want to present campaigns register with Elisabeth Lindvall).

- Is it a common way of working?
- How was it structured?
- How many organized it?
- How many participated?
- What level, regional, national or local?
- Timeframe?

Trainers: Elisabeth Lindvall

Fundraising Workshop

This workshop aims to give a brief overview of different kinds of funding possibilities on a general level without going to country-level specifics. The workshop includes a brief look at corporate funding, public sector funding, and private funding and the pros and cons of these different sectors. Also, I try to give an overview of where to look for potential funders. Finally, we look at how to approach a particular funder and how to present your case to them.

Taking care of your finances is an elementary part of fundraising and running the finances of your organization. In order to report back to your funders, your receipts and financial statements must be understandable to you and acceptable to your funder. In this part of the workshop you will learn how to achieve this.

The exact content of the workshop will be affected by the questions that the participants have in the beginning.

Trainer: Jouni Nissinen – see bio under the Lobbying Strategies workshop.

Thank you!

The Scandinavian Youth Empowerment and Forest Campaign Strategy Week is funded by the Nordic Council of Ministers, The Barents Regional Youth Programme 2005 and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. It has been developed in collaboration with Nature and Youth, Sweden, Nature and Youth, Norway, Finnish Nature League, Finland.

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