

Workshop 14

The Wilderness Value in Protected Areas

Laponia, World Heritage Site

Anna von Sydow
Swedish Environmental protection Agency

I'm going to talk about:

- What is Lapponia
- Management organisation
- Challenge– living wilderness and traditional land use with expanding visitation

A night-time photograph of a snowy mountain landscape under a dark blue sky. The aurora borealis is visible in the upper left, showing vibrant green and blue light patterns. The foreground is a snow-covered field with sparse, dark trees. A large, semi-transparent circular graphic with a spiral pattern is overlaid on the center of the image.

World Heritage - Laponia

LAPONIA

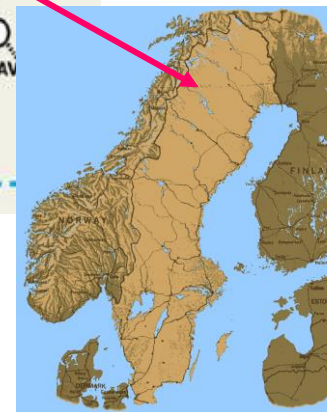
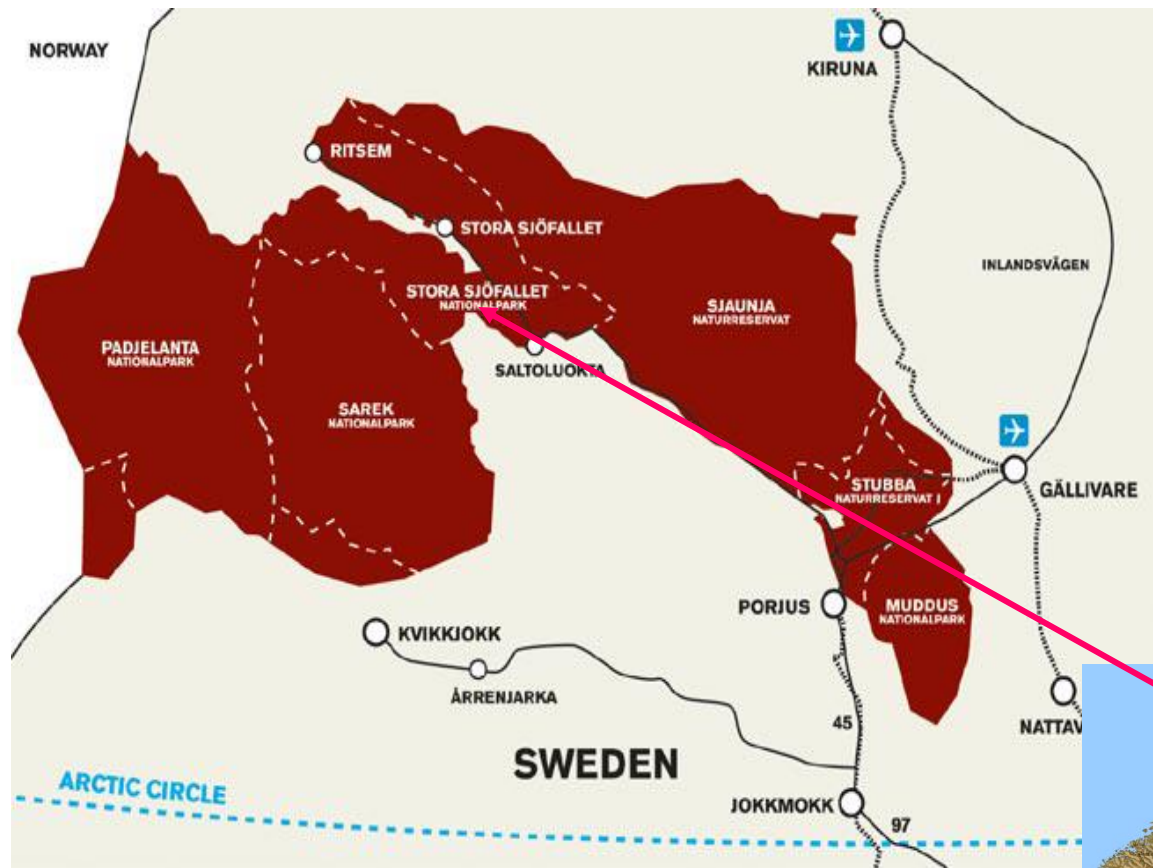
WORLD HERITAGE IN SWEDISH LAPLAND

Laponia



World Heritage in Swedish Lapland

- Nominated as a world heritage site by UNESCO in 1996 that combined natural and cultural heritage
- 9400 km²
- Contains 83% of Sweden's National Park area
- 4 National Parks and 2 Natur Reservs
- Sami core area with 9 Sami village
- About 65 000 reindeer
- More than 300 reindeer herding-company



The World Heritage criteria is the foundation of the world heritage

- There are five criteria that describe the Outstanding Universal Values in the World heritage Laponia
- Three of the criteria have the values of nature
- Two have culture values

Decision, UNESCO 1996

- The discussion about the management of the World Heritage started in 1999
- Common joint venture
- Request to the government 2006
- So-called "Process of Laponia"

Government Decisions

- The Government decided about the "Laponia Regulation" June 2011
- Laponiajuottjudus gets the task to manage the World Heritage in 3 years from 2012 until 2014 followed by an evaluation, now extended to 2016
- A high-level decision group of the stakeholders as well as a Board was appointed and has begun the work

Laponiatjuottjudus - Management organisation

Council - the political level

Board - the controlling/governing level

Management - the operational level;

What the administration is working with?

- Administers and manages Lapponia according to the management plan
- Manages facilities and trails within Lapponia
- Perform an inventory of predators
- Information and knowledge sharing
- Visitor center

Laponiatjuottjudus do not work with the official practice §§



The Wild Lapponia

Sweden´s most spectacular landscape with:

- High mountains with glaciers
- Alpine heaths
- Marshlands
- Forests
- Big lakes and rivers
- Lynx, bears, wolverine.....birds and so on....

Laponia – a big area of wilderness?

A wilderness is an area governed by natural processes. It is composed of native habitats and species, and large enough for the effective ecological functioning of natural processes. It is unmodified or only slightly modified and without intrusive or extractive human activity, settlements, infrastructure or visual disturbance.

Photos from Laponia:

- Rapaättno in Laponia, Sarek National Park, 197.000 one of two biggest national park with the highest mountains and deepest valleys and without any infrastructure for tourists (some bridges). No ways, no settlements just nature!
- Muddus /Muttos National park, a park with 49340ha primeval forests and swamps! Lakes and waterfalls!

Challenge –

Living wilderness

Traditional land use

Expanding visitation

Traditional land use

- Reindeer husbandry has been ongoing for many hundreds of years probably for thousand year
- The natural Resources have been used different on different times
- Today it is a more modern reindeer herding

Photos of the reindeer and reindeer:

- Fishing! Also for sale, but only for the Reindeer herding.
- Meat production, without any agricultural or farming activities just extensive husbandry of reindeer. A way of living in a nature landscape.
- The reindeer comes up in the mountain area in the Spring/Summer and go down to the forest in the winter.
- Temporary settlement during work with reindeer
- Snowmobiles are necessary in reindeer herding work. Modern reindeer herding also with the help of helicopters and motorcycles

Expanding nature tourism

- In more than a hundred years it has been tourism in this area
- Now it expanding in the hole Sweden

Visitor center - Laponia





Photos over tourism

- The hiking bridge over the river Vuojatätno, Padjelanta/Badjelánnda NP. 198 400 ha the largest NP in Sweden (Sarek is 197 000ha). This national park consists of plateaus with alpine meadows and large lakes on the border to Norway. It is flowery and has a rich birdlife.
- Arasuokta in Padjelanta National park. A few site where the sami people are situated in the summer time. A small cross on the roof of the cot. Showing that there is a church use in the summer!

Reflexions about Laponia

- The Laponia process – which began with “*A Common value*” is important for the future sustainable conservation management
- The value of *local participation* for Laponia
- The value of getting along *traditional knowledge*

But is this amazing area wilderness?

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Thank you for your attention

