

Forest and bird protection in Finland



N2000 network in Finland

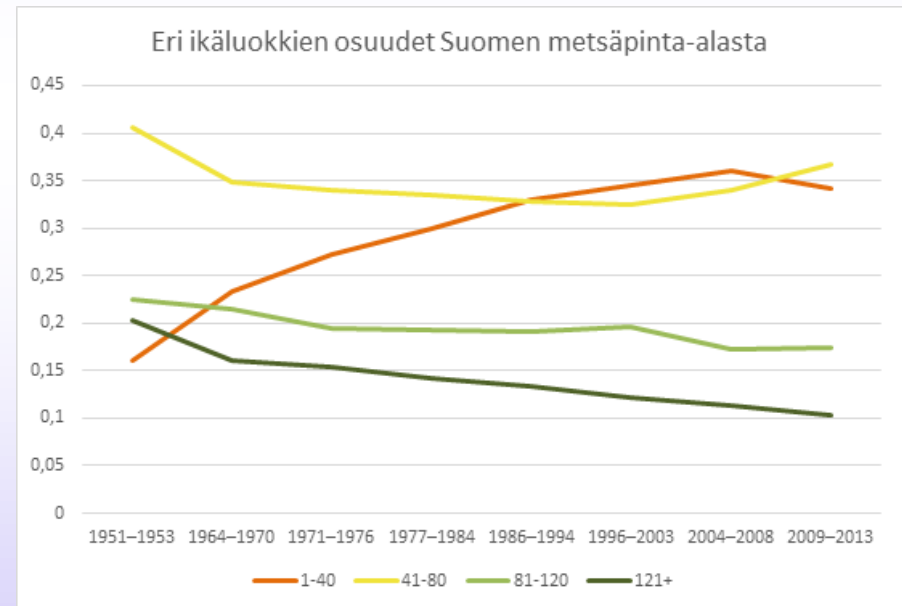
- 468 SPA areas (8% of land area)
- Mostly wetlands and archipelagos in the south
- Forest / mire / alpine areas in the north

- 1721 SAC areas (12%), much overlap with SPAs

- Most of the network (forests in particular) strictly protected by Nature Conservation Act
- Most of the areas were protected before joining the EU

Forest protection in Finland

- 200 000 km² productive forest land in Finland
- 10% of productive forest land strictly protected in Northern Finland
- Less than 3% in Southern Finland
- Most of the protected areas state-owned
- Protected by Nature Conservation Act, in addition woodland key habitats by Forest Act
- Annual cuttings ~65M m³ / yr, plans to increase to 80M



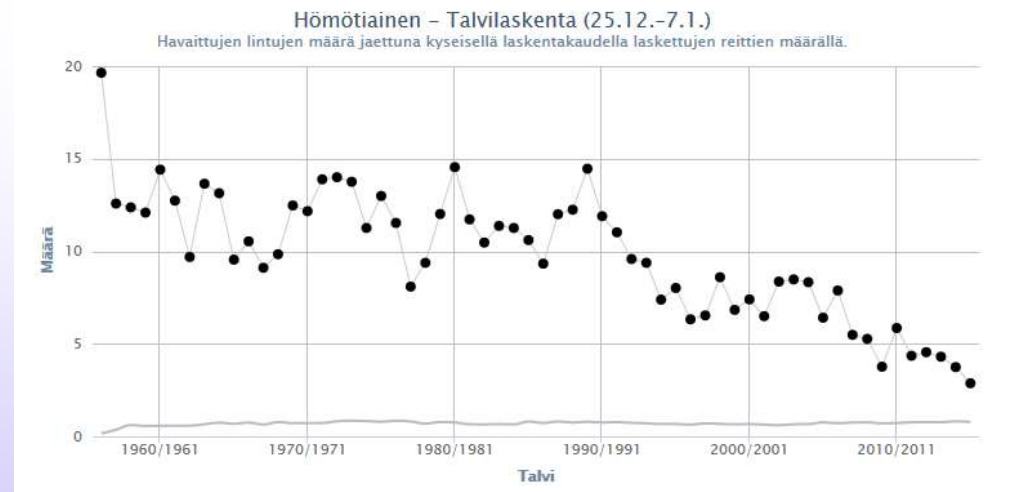
The change of age structure of Finnish forests 1950-2013

Species protection

- 60 Annex I species breed in Finland, 20 forest species
- Most of the Annex I forest species common and widespread, not concentrated to SPAs
- No specific means for achieving FCS
- Habitat protection of "specially protected species" in Nature Conservation Act (*e.g.* white-backed woodpecker)
- Deliberate disturbing and destroying nest prohibited by Nature Conservation Act (but doesn't apply for forestry and agriculture)
- Nest trees of large raptors protected by Nature Conservation Act, no buffer zones

State of forest birds in Finland

- Finnish Red List of birds 2015: 11 endangered forest birds
- Number still low compared to other habitats, but increasing
- New species on the list: crested tit (50% decline) and willow tit (40% decline), honey buzzard...
- In general, common forest birds have declined in 2000's (after slight increase in 1990's)
- Many species (such as grouse) declined already in 1950-1960s



The decline of Willow Tit in Finland (winter bird count data)