



# A climate policy and work program for the Swedish Forest Agency

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# The Swedish Forest Agency



Swedish Forest Agency is the Government's expert authority on forests and forest policy under the Ministry of Enterprise and Innovation



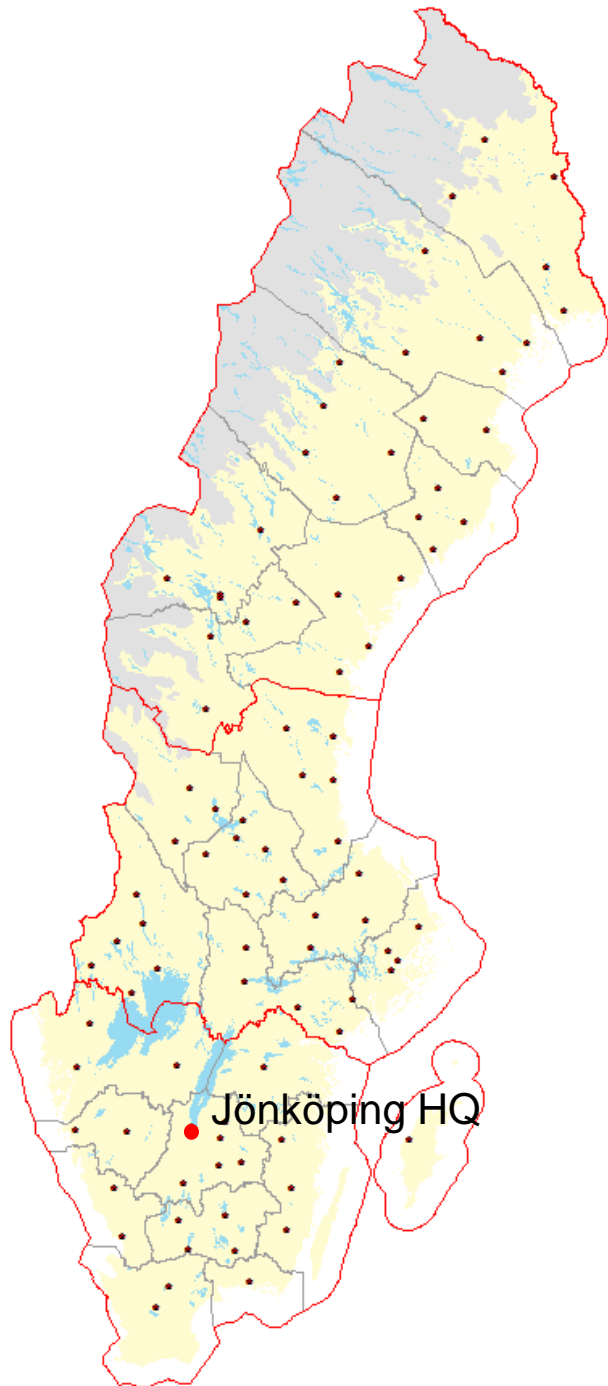
Mr. Herman Sundqvist  
Director General



Mr. Sven-Erik Bucht  
Minister for Rural Affairs

# Swedish Forest Agency

- Decentralised  
field organisation all over Sweden
- 24 districts (80 offices)
- 800 employees



# Swedish forest administrative structure

- Authority task:
  - Swedish Forest Agency
- Forest management of State forests:
  - Sveaskog (state-owned forest company)
- Research and development:
  - University (SLU), SkogForsk



# A climate change policy for the Swedish Forest Agency (SFA)

- First version in 2003 – mostly on role of forests for mitigation
- Second version 2009 – more on effects on forests and adaptation
- Third version coming soon (2017)
  - More science behind conclusions
  - “State-of-the-art report 2016 “Effects of climate change on forest and the need of adaptation in forestry”

# Purpose of the climate change policy

To communicate our conclusions on:

- potential effects of climate change,
- suitable adaptive measures, and
- role of SWE forests for climate change mitigation

# Role of forest for climate change mitigation

- Potential benefits: substitution as well as carbon stock increase
  - In the short term (< c. 30 yr): similar effect of utilising or not utilising forest
  - In the longer term: steadily growing higher effect of substitution
  - At present in Sweden:
    - Forest energy 30 % of total energy consumption
    - Wood products help avoiding large emissions from cement and steel production (and plastic products)
    - C stock increase in forest – probably some more decades
- Use of forest and wood for the benefit of climate shall be utilised sustainably
  - SFM – forestry shall not contribute to further loss of species, damage life in waters, etc
  - Certain actions/changes still needed to reach the Swedish environmental objectives “sustainable forests”
- New drainage systems for increased forest production often give net emissions
  - Only minor scale since 1992

# Climate change effects on forests

- Climate change:
  - Milder winters/longer growth seasons
  - More rain annually, yet less water availability in southern and eastern Swe in *summers*
  - Only minor changes in storm frequency
- Effects, some examples:
  - Higher growth
  - More storm-felling
  - More insect damage (also some pathogens)
  - Softer soils for heavy vehicles
    - Negative for life in streams





# Climate change adaptation

Some important examples:

- Better spreading of risks for less damage costs
  - Better game management
- Silviculture for less storm felling
- Better technologies and planning for transportation without damaging soil and water at moist sites
- More variation in forestry (continuous-cover forestry)

*However, difficult trade-off between costs for actions and reduced production and costs for future damage*

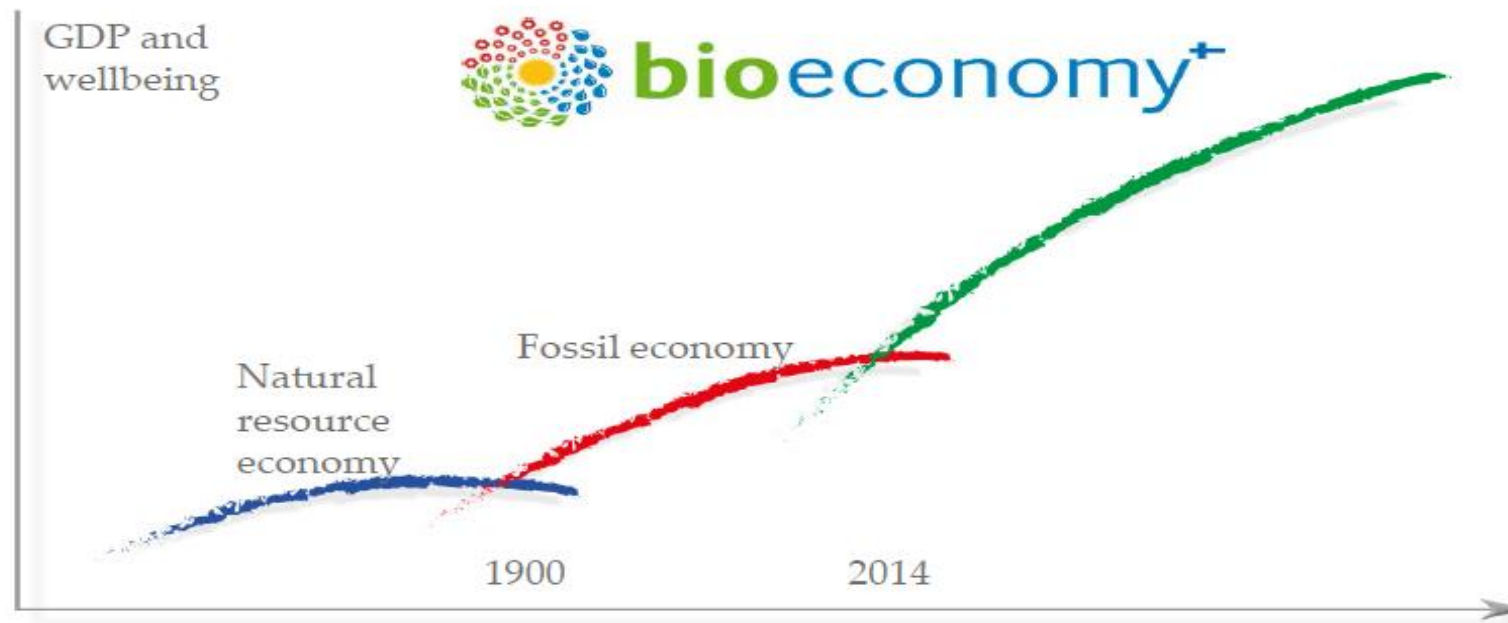
# SFA Climate change action plan 2017-2018

- New climate policy – internal education
- Development of quantified goals for adaptive measures and future state of forest
  - together with sector representatives
- Information campaign – ”More variation in forestry”
- Training on ”soil erosion risk and forestry in a changing climate”
- Better information sharing on on-going insect and pathogen pests within Europe

Climate change adaption will be essential to optimize the forestry contribution to emission reductions and the development of an Bioeconomy.



## Bioeconomy: The next wave of economy; renaissance of the natural resource economy (saving the mankind)



Thank you for your attention!