6th Natura 2000 Monitoring Workshop

Umeå, Sweden, 29 Sep - 02 Oct 2025

Final Event Programme

This event is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the contributors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Commission, nor can the European Commission be held responsible for them.

Event Venue:

Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Faculty of Forest Sciences
Skogmarksgränd 17, 907 36 Umeå, Sweden

Day 1 - Mon, 29 September 2025

09:30 - 10:00 *Registration*

10:00 Welcome & Housekeeping

10:40 **Keynote: Monitoring and mapping – biodiversity, vegetation and land cover in Sweden -** Mona Naeslund, Swedish Environment Protection Agency

11:30 **Keynote: Horizon Biodiversity Meets Data** - Niels Raes, Naturalis

12:00 Lunch

13:00 **Workshop Sessions 1, 2 and 3**

19:30 ***EuroCocktail****, Scandic Hotel Plaza*

Day 2 - Tue, 30 September 2025

09:15 Introduction

09:30 **Workshop Sessions 4 and 5**

12:30 Lunch

14:00 **Workshop Session 6**

16:00 - 18:30 ***5min pitches and Knowledge Market (Poster session)***

Day 3 - Wed, 1 October 2025

09:15 Introduction

09:30 **Workshop Sessions 7 and 8**

12:30 Lunch

14:00 - 17: 30 **Workshop Sessions 9 and 10**

Day 4 - Thu, 2 October 2025

09:30 **Workshop Session 11 and 12**

12:00 Lunch

13:00 **Field trip** to habitat restoration sites

18:00 Return to Umeå

Workshop Sessions

Day 1 - Mon, 29 September 2025

Room: Aula, P-0 Bäckströms sal, Floor 6. University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Umea

Time	Title	Description
13:00 - 14:30	**Session 1:** Marine and Coastal Monitoring	Chair and Introduction: Anna Allard, SLU • **Monitoring coastal marine shores** - *Hans Gardfjell, SLU* • **Remote sensing for monitoring underwater vegetation** - Carlos Paz von Friesen, County Board and Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management • **Monitoring marine environments using innovative ways – drones, sounding devices monitoring porpoises and more** – Alexandra Colbing, County Board of Gotland • **SeaMoreEco - Marine remote sensing, conservation and restoration across borders in the Baltic Sea** - Carlos Paz von Friesen, County Board and Swedish Agency for Marine and Water Management
15:00 - 17:00	**Session 2:** Biodiversity Meets Data	Chair: Wojciech Mróz, Eurosite • **Single Access Point for Biodiversity Data: User Stories Workshop -** Tami Wooldridge, Emma Bush, Royal Botanical Gardens Edimburgh
17:00 - 18: 30	**Session 3:** Monitoring Ecosystem Services	Chair and Introduction: Marina Skunca, Eurosite • **Digital Earth Sweden in connection to the natural world** - *Tobias Edman, RISE/Destination Sweden* • **Biodiversity data from National Inventories in Sweden, NILS** - *Henrik Hedenås, SLU Umeå* • ***Stakeholder Engagement Facility (SEF) support for EO uptake*** - *Geoff Smith, Specto Natura*

Day 2 - Tue, 30 September 2025 (morning)

Room: Aula, P-0 Bäckströms sal, Floor 6. University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Umea

Time	Title	Description
09:15 - 10:45	**Session 4:** Habitat and Vegetation Mapping	Chair: Anna Allard, SLU Introduction: Ruben Valbuena, SLU • **Mapping lichen grounds for reindeer winter grazing, combining data from satellite, drone and field** - Sven Adler, *SLU* • **Monitoring Lupinus polyphyllus and other invasive plants in the Krkonoše National Park using high-resolution UAS data. –** *Zaboj Hrazsky, Lucie Kupkova, Univerzita Karlova, Praha* • **ELEVATE – Improved efficiency in monitoring and change detection of alpine vegetation: Integration of advanced technologies with ongoing monitoring –** *Arvid Sjöberg, SLU* • ***The National Land Cover Database in Sweden, NMD*** – *Camilla Jönsson, SEPA*
11:15 - 12:30	**Session 5:** Habitat and Vegetation Mapping	Chair and Introduction: Henrik Hedenås, SLU • **Drones in Natura 2000 monitoring: fostering accessibility and collaboration** – Klaas Pauly, Grenspark Kalmthoutse Heide • **Monitoring early stages of forest damage using time series of UAV Hyperspectral data: A case study of bark beetle infestation** - *Lucie Kupkova, University Karlova Praha* • **The benefits of balanced sampling versus mapping efforts** – Anton Grafström, SLU

Workshop Sessions

Day 2 - Tue, 30 September 2025 (afternoon)

Room: Aula, P-0 Bäckströms sal, Floor 6. University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Umea

Time	Title	Description
14:00 - 15:30	**Session 6:** Neural Networks and Apps	Chair: Ruben Valbuena, SLU Introduction: Anna Allard, SLU • **Neural network models in NMD –** Johanna Skarpman, Metria • **Making Apps and interactive API between field staff, support team and analysts in national monitoring of biodiversity** - Marcus Andersson, SLU • **The EarthTrack app and future developments -** Sebastian Chognard, Institute for Environmental Sciences (ISE) of the University of Geneva • **Detection of Hunting Pits using Airborne Laser Scanning and Deep Learning** - William Lidberg, SLU

Day 3 - Wed, 01 October 2025

Room: Aula, P-0 Bäckströms sal, Floor 6. University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Umea

Time	Title	Description
09:15 - 10:45	**Session 7:** Integrating field and remote data	Chair: Anna Allard, SLU Introduction: Clive Hurford • **Integration of satellite, drone, and field data for neural network modelling in Swedish mountains** - Sven Adler, SLU • **Remote sensing and monitoring** – Ruben Valbuena, SLU • **Land characterisation for integrated monitoring: The EAGLE concept** - *Geoff Smith, Specto Natura*
11:15 - 12:30	**Session 8:** Integrating field and remote data	Chair: Clive Hurford • **Drone images to assess habitat mapping: challenges and opportunities** - Ricardo Diaz-Delgado, Spanish Space Agency • **Bat monitoring: endeavours in the dark** - Michael Schneider, County Board of Västerbotten
14:00 - 15:30	**Session 9:** Species Monitoring Case Studies	Chair: Michael Schneider, SLU • **Arctic Fox case study** - Malin Larm, County Board of Jämtland • **Monitoring birds of the tundra: How do Arctic palsa mires affect bird abundance** - *Mattias Finndin, Greensway, Uppsala* • **Bats** - Sofia Gylje Blank, Swedish Species Information Centre, SLU • **Plant surveillance case study** - Sebastian Sundberg, ArtDatabanken • **White-backed Woodpecker case study** - Malin König, County Board of Västerbotten
16:00 - 17: 30	**Session 10:** Horizon Biodiversity Meets Data	Chair: Wojciech Mróz, Eurosite • **Feedback from Day 1 Session 2 on stakeholder engagement** - *Tami Wooldrige, Royal Botanical Gardens of Edinburgh* • **Plug-and-play Demonstration** - Niels Raes, Laurens Hogeweg, Naturalis Biodiversity Centre

Workshop Sessions

Day 4 - Thu, 02 October 2025

Room: Aula, P-0 Bäckströms sal, Floor 6. University of Agricultural Sciences, SLU, Umea

Time	Title	Description
09:30 - 10:30	**Session 11:** Monitoring Habitat Management and Restoration	Chair: Anna Allard, SLU Introduction: Jonas Grahn, SLU • **Decision making for nature conservation monitoring** - Alan Brown • **Developing site-specific condition indicators -** Clive Hurford • **Wolverine case study** - Ellinor Sahlén, County Board of Västerbotten • **Monitoring the impact of management on the vegetation of montane meadows in the Krkonoše Mts** - Stanislav Brezina, KRNAP
11:00 - 12:00	**Session 12:** Monitoring Habitat Management and Restoration	Chair: Anna Allard, SLU • **EU Grassland Watch - A new operational EO-based service for habitat monitoring in Natura 2000 sites** - *Geoff Smith, Specto Natura* • **Wetland habitat restoration projects -** *Jonas Grahn, SLU*

Field Restoration Site Visit & Testing of monitoring Equipment
Habitat Restoration and Site Management in action!

The City of Umeå and the County Board of Västerbotten will show some of their sites, discussing what and why has been managed, what conflicts have arisen and what has been successful. Coffee and a traditional Swedish cinnamon bun will be served. The Horizon Biodiversity Meets Data project team will showcase some of their new technology and how to use it in the real-word.

Participants are advised to dress warmly and bring comfortable clothing.

Umeå, September
Mean day temperature: 10 °C
Sunset: 18:50

** The bus will return to SLU around 18h00 local time*

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