Jointly Owned Forests and Forest Land Consolidation in Finland

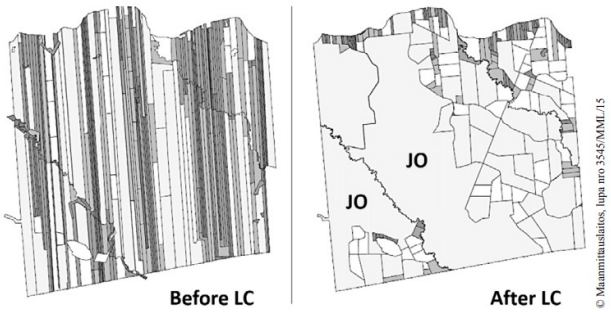


Figure 1. *Pahkakoski land consolidation project before and after land consolidation, with darker colours showing the lower suitability of parcels for forestry (Uimonen 2010). The two parcels of the new jointly owned forest are marked with JO. (Map © National Land Survey of Finland / Uimonen 2010).*

In Finnish legislation, a jointly owned forest is defined as an area that jointly belongs to several real properties and that is intended for practicing sustainable forestry to the benefit of the shareholders.

Fragmented ownership structure is one of the main challenges of wood mobilization in Europe. Small-sized, dispersed forest property with difficult access to forests results in high costs for timber harvesting per hectare. The joint forests have been established in Finland since the end of the 1800. In the beginning of 2019 there were 460 common forests in Finland. The establishment of the common forest and the incorporation to existing joint forests have recently become more widespread. The total area of common forests is growing and it is already more than 700 000 ha. There are about 25 000 stakeholder in the common forests of our country, and they include over 5% of the surface area of our private forest. The smallest common forest is less than 20 hectares, while the largest, Kuusamo common forest has over 90 000 hectares of territory. The largest common forests are in North-Eastern Finland.

Changes in the common forest law have facilitated the integration of common forests and the creation of new joint forests. The common forest can provide a good and workable solution to many objectives of modern forest ownership. The common forest is a shared forest area for operating sustainable forestry in favour of the shareholder forest estates. The common forests are privately owned and have no public-law character or obligation. According to the Common Forestry Act, common forest must be used primarily for operating sustainable forestry. Sustainable forestry includes economic, social and ecological sustainability. The shareholders of common forest decide how to emphasise the utilization of different areas for the purposes of sustainable forestry.

There is a need for raising awareness of the positive possibilities of forest consolidation, including:

- Bigger forest units with easier access to forest property
- More cost-efficiency in harvesting, smaller unit costs in work and supplies
- Ease of foundation and joining$Ease of owning forest

- Better forest management with constant profits
- Easier management and administration
- Tax relief, lower income taxation
- Better recreational possibilities
- Functional and democratic administration
- Simple and safe investment

DéTAILS

ORIGINE DU BOIS
Forêt

TYPE DE BOIS
Grume

TYPE DE BOIS CONCERNé
Stemwood, energy wood

IMPACT SUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT ET LA BIODIVERSITé
Positive through centralized wood storage and impact to environment

EFFET SUR LE REVENU
Positive

POTENTIEL D'EXPLOITATION
--

HUB
Pôle Nord

IMPACT éCONOMIQUE
Less costs of harvesting, easier access to forest property, easier management, tax relief

CONNAISSANCES SPéCIFIQUES REQUISES
Knowledge of possibilities of joint ownership, informing forest owners.

POTENTIEL DE MOBILISATION
High

POTENTIEL DE DURABILITé - VALEUR
--

FACILITé D'IMPLéMENTATION
Easy

FACILITé D'IMPLéMENTATION - ÉVALUATION
--

PRéREQUIS CLéS
Requires access to forest estate information.

TYPE D'éVéNEMENT Où CETTE ICPE A éTé PRéSENTéE
--

EFFET SUR L'EMPLOI
Positive

COûTS D'IMPLéMENTATION (EURO - €)
--

PLUS DE DéTAILS

DéFI CONCERNé

3. Dynamiser les propriétaires forestiers et la gestion forestière coopérative

DOMAINE

Propriété, coopération

TYPE DE SOLUTION

Réforme territoriale

MOTS-CLéS

--

SOLUTION DIGITALE

Non

INNOVATION

Non

PAYS D'ORIGINE

Finlande

ECHELLE D'APPLICATION

Nationale

DéBUT ET FIN D'ANNéE

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REFERENCES AND RESOURCES

SITE WEB PRINCIPAL

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SITE WEB DU PROJET

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RéFéRENCE DU PROJET

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RESSOURCES

Jointly owned forest for the good of forest owners and forests

Karin Kolis 2016. Scientific article

LOGO DE LA BONNE PRATIQUE

LOGO DE L'ORGANISATION PRINCIPALE

NLS NATIONAL LAND SURVEY OF FINLAND

PROJET SOUS LEQUEL CETTE FICHE D'INFORMATION A éTé CRééE

Rosewood

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