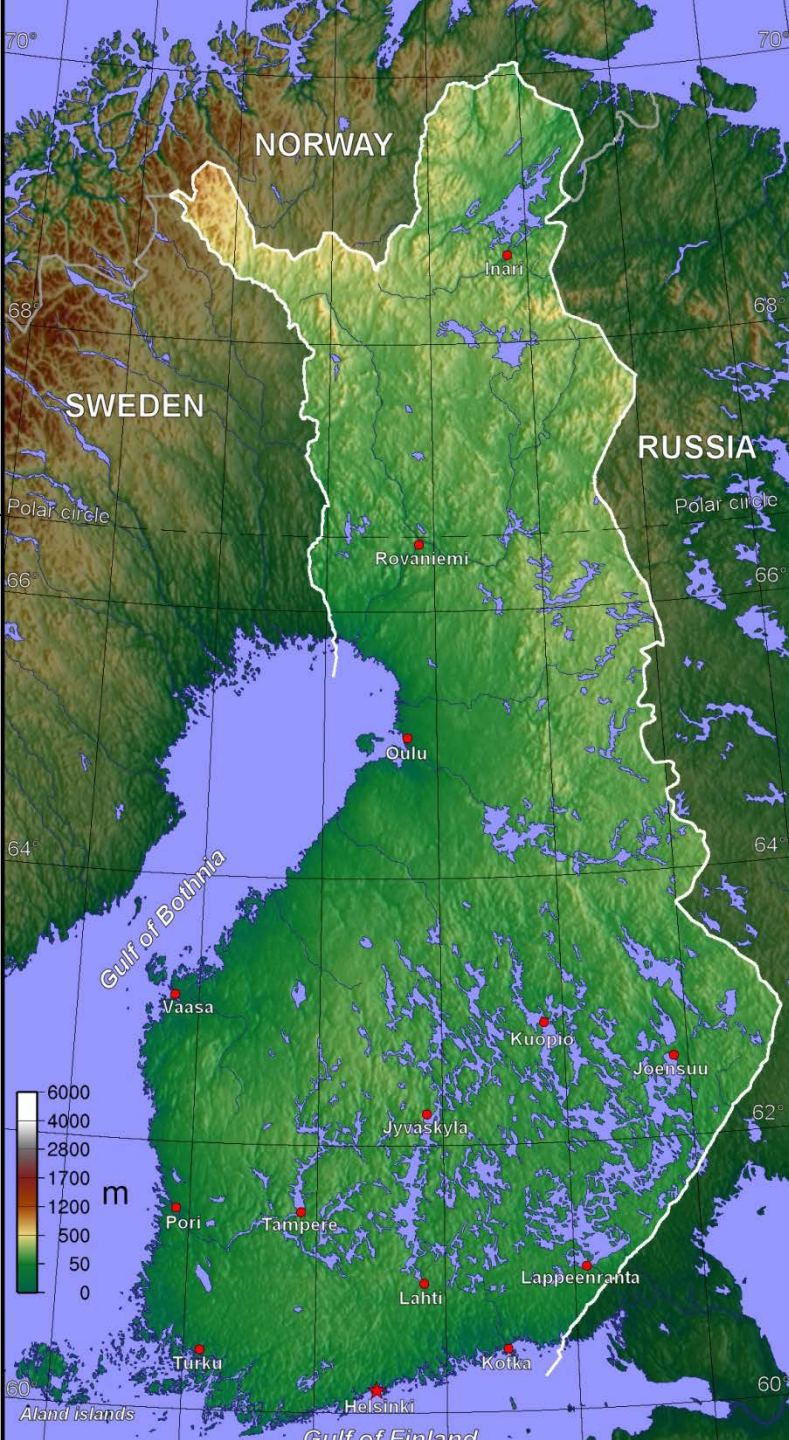


Sustainable Wildlife Management in Finland

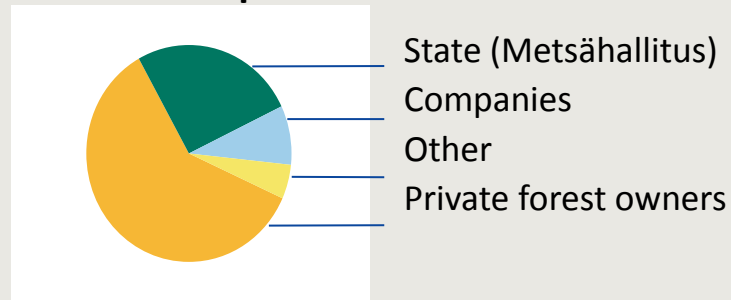
Madeleine Nyman
14.11.2014 Sydney



Finland in a nutshell

- Population around 5.5 million
- most sparsely populated in EU
- majority living in southern regions
- country of thousands of lakes and islands
- Landscape mostly (86%) forests, little cultivated land.

Ownership of forest land in Finland

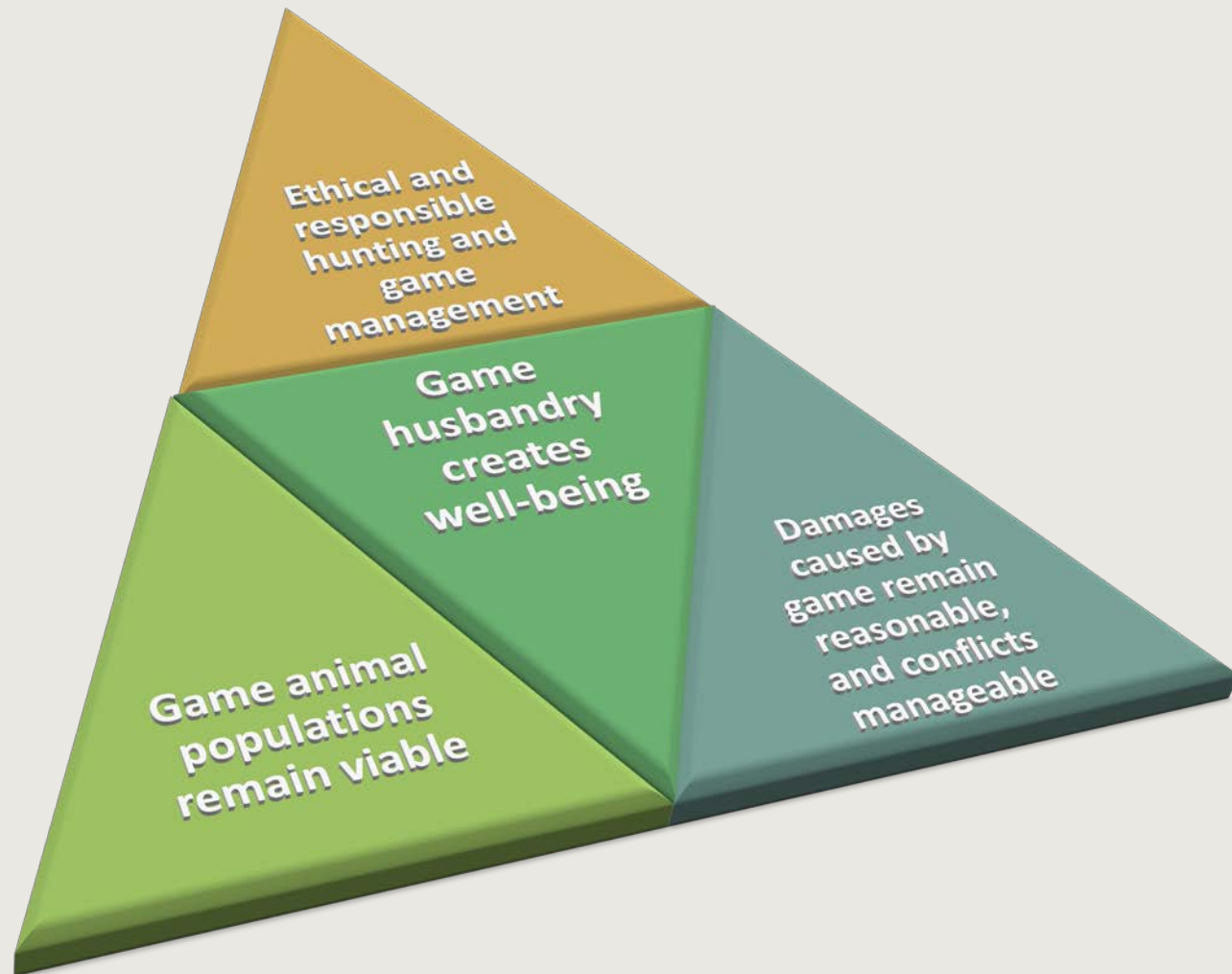


Game management in a nutshell

- AIM: sustainable adaptive wildlife management, which takes into account the local socioeconomic aspects (Saami people in Lapland)
- Long tradition of hunting management through legal frameworks, policy recommendations and best practice
- Implemented through a cooperation between public and private sector



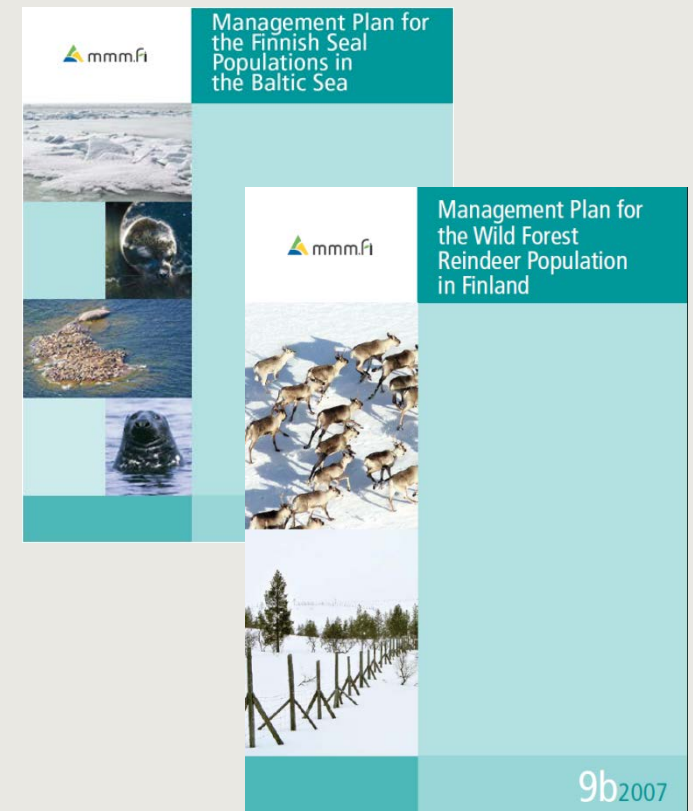
Game management goals in Finland



Management Plans for game species or habitats

- Prepared on scientific basis of the biology and ecological requirements of the game species
- Aim to maintain the *favorable conservation status* of the species, and ensure that the species will be a permanent part of the Finnish ecosystems in the future
- Are updated and revised as necessary

The implementation of the management plans and the impacts of the measures are being monitored



New wetlands for waterfowl :



- New use of peat bogs
- Post usage of fish farming ponds
- Re-use of beaver ponds
- Construction of new wetlands along drained lowlands





Large carnivore hunting

Minimizing damage,
increasing tolerance of
locals, mitigating conflicts



Moose hunting

Rigorous monitoring and
harvest regimes for
ungulates and large
carnivores



Small game hunting

Specific tools for
estimating annual bags,
reintroduction of
individuals in new habitats

A man with long, light-colored hair, wearing camouflage clothing, is sitting in a forest. He is focused on preparing food, possibly a small animal, in his hands. The background is filled with dense green foliage and trees.

Hunters in Finland

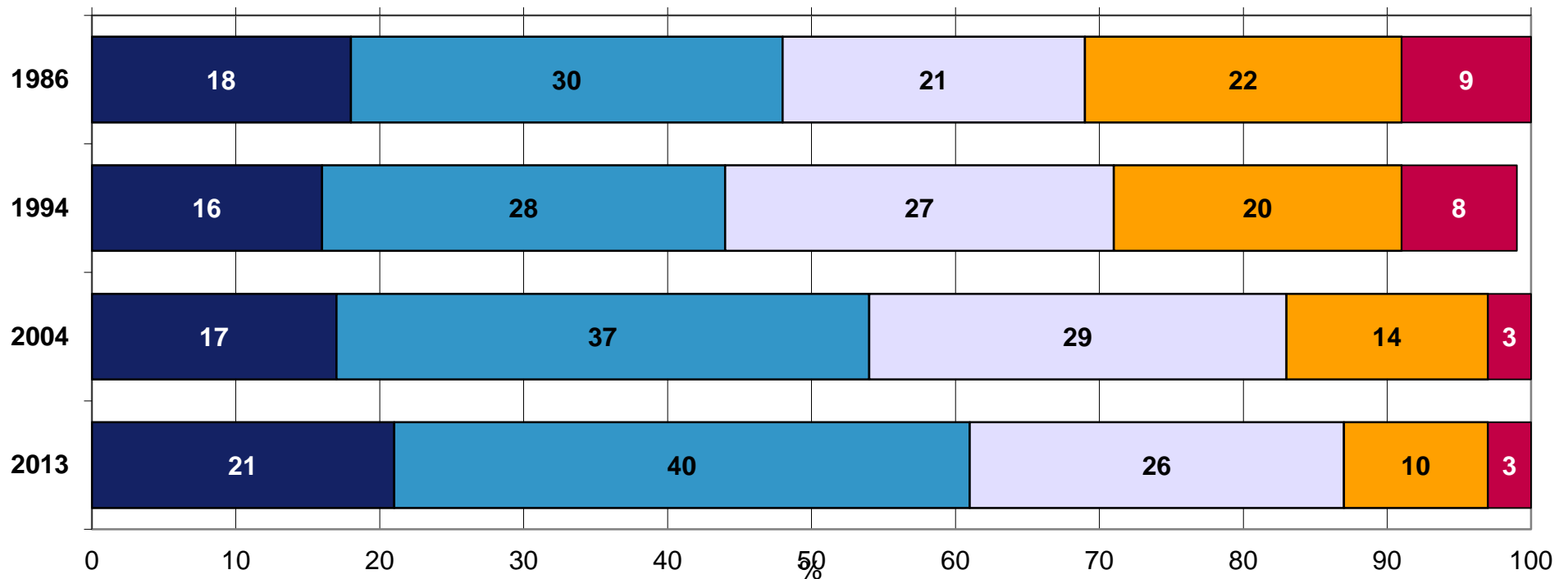
- 310,000 hunters
 - The number is high in relation to overall population, when compared to other European countries
- 7,000 - 8,000 new hunters per year
 - 18 % are women
- 4 500 Hunting clubs
- Very popular
 - Game management fee is 33 euro

Hunting is possible for everyone.

Hunting in Finland: Finns' attitudes

The survey in 2013 consisted of interviews with 15-79 year old Finns,
13 per cent of whom had some experience of hunting.

Very positive / Quite positive / Neutral / Quite negative / Very negative



Use of game meat



- more than 10 million kilos of game meat annually
- Game meat is valued and game dishes are the pride of Finnish cuisine
- A substantial "eco" food resource for many families, also distributed to land owners and friends
- Small part is sold to the local market

Sámi culture and reindeer herding

- Three most northern communes is composed of Same Homeland



- Citizens living in northern communes can hunt freely in state land within their home commune (Hunting Act 8 §).
- the Sámi people have a constitutional self-government in the spheres of language and culture.



- Hunting provides delicious game meat, recreation and exercise.
- Wildlife management carried out by the hunters is a valuable ecosystem service to nature and society
- Hunting is not an important source of income, but an important part of the cultural heritage and enhances the wellbeing of both humans and the environment

Thank you for your attention!

