Recreation Monitoring and Research in Finland

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Content of the presentation:

- Short history of recreation research
- National recreation monitoring
- Specific research topics
- Research Program HYV
- Future challenges
History of Recreation Research

Assessments and evaluations of research needs:

Research topics of 1970-99

- Urban forest recreation, urban forest management and landscape research:
  
  Jaatinen, E. 1973. FoliaFor. 186


Recreation economics since 1996

- **Valuation research**
  - CVM: Ovaskainen, V. et al. 2001
  - TCM: Ovaskainen, V. et al. 2001
  - HP: Tyrväinen et al. 1998, 1999

- **Regional economic impact studies**
Visitor monitoring since 1990

Several visitor surveys in national parks and recreation areas (1992, 1993, 1999….)

Manual for visitor counting, 1997 (Horne, P. et al.)

Kajala et al. 2007. Visitor monitoring in nature areas – a manual for the Nordic and Baltic countries.
Visitor monitoring on state land by Metsähallitus

Standardized visitor survey questionnaire since 2000
Systematic, harmonized methodology across whole country on state land

Volume of visitation
- continuously in most national parks and hiking areas
- number of visits

Visitor information
- visitor profiles: visit motivation, socioeconomic information, area of residence etc.
- status of service satisfaction
- money spending

Metsähallitus established a visitor information database ASTA in 2006
## Number of visits in national parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of national parks</th>
<th>Number of visits, all</th>
<th>Number of visits, mean</th>
<th>% of growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,586,700</td>
<td>46,668</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,493,000</td>
<td>43,912</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,410,000</td>
<td>41,471</td>
<td>18,2</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,153,900</td>
<td>33,938</td>
<td>2,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>1,123,200</td>
<td>33,035</td>
<td>9,9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>1,012,000</td>
<td>31,625</td>
<td>15,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>851,800</td>
<td>28,393</td>
<td>2,2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
National Recreation Demand Inventory (LVVI)

- **LVVI 1**
  - Metla was the responsible agency and coordinated the work with partnership of universities and research institutes
    - Financed by 5 ministries
  - Data collection in 1998-2000 with Statistics Finland
    - Combined telephone & postal questionnaire survey
    - Data collection in 12 samples over 24 months
    - Whole population 15-74 years
    - Sample size 12 000
    - Response rate 84 %/ 65 %
National Recreation Demand Inventory (LVVI)

- Products
  - Outdoor recreation statistics, all Finland 2001
    - 62 tables
  - Regional outdoor recreation statistics 2002
    - 15 regions
    - 62 tables for each region
Ulkoutilutilastot

Uusimaa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ulkoutilutilastot (pdf-muodossa)</th>
<th>Selitykset</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ulkoiluun osallistuminen</td>
<td>Muuttujat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harrastuksiin osallistuminen</td>
<td>Muuttujat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ryhmä 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ryhmä 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ryhmä 3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ryhmä 4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ryhmä 5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lähiulkoilu</td>
<td>Muuttujat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Väestön luontomatkat</td>
<td>Muuttujat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maakuntaankohdistuvat luontomatkat</td>
<td>Muuttujat</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


9.2.2009
OUTDOOR RECREATION STATISTICS

- Participation rate was 96.5%
- Average number of occasions was 2-3 times a week

E:\esitelmät\Participation in outdoor activities.ppt
National Recreation Demand Inventory (LVVI 1)

- **LVVI** – specific research topics 2002-2008
  - Profiles of recreationists; recreation behavior research
    - wild berry pickers
    - wild mushroom pickers
    - boaters
    - recreation home users
    - differences between generations
  - Recreational use of state owned land
  - Regional differences of recreational behavior among Finns
  - Close-to home outdoor recreation natur-based tourism
    - choice of nature trip destination
    - spending on nature trip
  - Barriers for recreation participation
  - Prognosis and trends
  - Climate change and outdoor recreation
Skiing

- 46 % participate
  * 38 % in cross-country, 19 times per winter
  * 15 % in downhill, 8 times per winter
- 1,5 km to the nearest groomed trail
- skills:
  * 94 % cross-country ski
  * 56 % downhill ski
Cross-country skiing participation rate, %

- more than 40
- 30-40
- less than 30
Picking wild berries and mushrooms

- 56 % pick **wild berries**
  - 8 times per season
  - 4,3 km to nearest site
  - 91 % have the skill
- 38 % pick **mushrooms**
  - 7 times per season
  - 4,3 km to nearest site
  - 73 % have the skill
Logit model:
Participation in berry picking by different population groups

portion of pickers smaller

portion of pickers larger

- Southern Finland
- Central and Northern Finland
- Under 10 000 inhabitants
- 10 000–99 999 inhabitants
- Over 100 000 inhabitants
- Student
- Manual worker
- Farmer, entrepreneur
- Unemployed, laid off
- Pensioner
- White collar employee
- Over 64 years
- 35–64 years
- Under 35 years
- Male
- Female

0 1 2 3
Multiple correspondence model of boaters and their recreation participation profiles
Close-to home visits in Helsinki: expected frequencies related to supply factors; results based on Logit-model

- Green area 60% distance 0 km
- Green area 60% distance 0.5 km
- Green area 30% distance 1 km
- Green area 25% distance 2 km

Frequency of participation/week

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Participation in outdoor recreation in future
Recreation Scenarios and Trends

Trend based

osallistumisosuus %


kävelylenkkeily
marjastus
hiihto
veneily
retkeily

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Participation in outdoor recreation in future
Prognosis based on changes in population

Model based

- kävelylenkkeily
- marjastus
- veneily
- hihto
- sienestys
- retkeily
- laskettelu
- moottorikelkkailu

[Graph showing participation in various outdoor activities from 1998-2000 to 2080, with projections for 2020 and 2050.]
Scenarios of Cross-country Skiing and Changing Climate

Cross-country skiing

1. Participants, million/year
   - Present: 10
   - Near term: 15
   - Mid-term: 20
   - Long term: 25

2. Participation days, million/year
   - Present: 30
   - Near term: 25
   - Mid-term: 20
   - Long term: 15
Main publications of LVVI 1 2002-2008

- Profiles of recreationists
  - Berry pickers (Society & Natural Resources 2006)
  - Mushroom pickers (Jap. Society of Forest Planning 2004)
  - Boaters (Liikunta ja Tiede 2003, Hall & Härkönen 2006)
  - Recreation home users (Scan.J. of Tourism and Hosp., 2007)

- Land use and resources
  - Recreational use of public lands (Metsätieteen aikakauskirja 2004)
  - Recreation demand for agricultural lands (Agricultural and Food Science 2007)
  - Regional differences in recreation (Terra 2003)
  - Close-to-home recreation (Urban Forestry & Urban Greening, 2007)

- Nature tourism
  - Choice of destination for a nature trip (Terra 2002, 2004)
  - Determinants of nature trip expenditures (Scan. J. of Tourism and Hosp. 2006)
  - Nature tourists and nature trips (Terra 2002)

- Wellbeing and outdoor recreation
  - Recreation constraints (Liikunta ja tiede 2004, 2005)

- Recreation benefits

- Changes in Environment and recreation
  - Adaptation to climate change and recreation (FinAdapt report 2005)
  - Skiing and climate change (in process)
Second home and amenity migration issues

- The meaning of place, land and landscape in contemporary society
- The sense of place in tourism

- Qualitative approach: 1) qualitative interviews among second home and time-share owners in Finnish Lapland, and 2) writing competition on second homes
Emerging trends:

- Second home far from home
- Well equipped from the beginning (possibility to stay throughout the year)
- Beautiful place nearby national parks etc.
- No former social bonds to the region
- **Three seasonal homes:**
  - 1) permanent residence
  - 2) summer cottage beside lake
  - 3) apartment or cottage (or time-share) in the mountains, in ski resorts or abroad (e.g. Spain, Thailand)

Nature and human health and wellbeing issues:

The importance of nature to Finns  Relationship between use of nature, perceived health  and restorative experiences (2005-2007)

• to study the relationship between the use of nature and self-reported health and well-being
• investigate the differences between population groups in the restorative benefits of different kind of green areas

Data:

a mail survey conducted autumn 2005
a random sample of 3000 residents in Helsinki and Tampere
respondents 15-75 years old

Response rate: 42.6 (1273 responses)

Tyrväinen, Korpela· Silvennoinen & Ylen
Favourite places in Helsinki and Tampere

Tyrväinen et al. 2008
Classification of inhabitants in Helsinki & Tampere

True nature people (19 %)
Common nature people (21 %)
Urban nature people (8 %)
True urbans (5 %)
Common urbans (22 %)
No class (25 %)

Tyrväinen et al. 2008)
National park visitation and rural communities 2006-2010

- to assess the economic and social impacts of national park visitation to the rural communities surrounding the national park

- to understand factors which relates to the number of visits and the intention for revisit in the national park

- to identify factors which explain social and economic impacts on local population, entrepreneurs and other local actors

Liisa Tyrväinen, prof. (nature tourism)
Major research fields of ‘Welfare impacts of forests – research program

• Forest recreation
• Nature tourism
• New products and services
• Integrating different forest uses
Aims of the program

- to study the amenity benefits of forests
- to study social and cultural sustainability of forest uses
- to develop tools for integration of different forest uses.
- to study commercial development potentials of non-wood forests products and services.
Nature-based tourism research themes

- social and economic impacts of nature-based tourism on regional and local economies.
- motives and factors affecting the destination choice (quality criteria for tourism environments)
- demand for nature tourism services,
- developing new nature tourism services and products;
- needs of SME’s in nature-based tourism
- Environmental impacts of nature tourism.
Forest recreation

- demand for forest recreation (LVVI 2)
- impacts of use of nature on heath and well-being,
- patterns of and motives for recreational uses,
- environmental preferences of visitors
- management of urban forests and other recreation areas,
- social values and meanings of forests
Integration of different forest uses

- participatory approaches and tools in planning and decision-making;
- optimization of different forest uses at regional level (multiple-use forestry);
- landscape management and design;
- conflict resolution and management
Improving employment and opportunities for SME’s

- markets for non-wood forest products services and their guidance;
- improving statistics for NWFP&S;
- Legal rights for using forests in entrepreneurship (vs. ‘everyman’s right);
- new innovations of products and services;
- financial systems including support and subsidy schemes to promote SME’s.
National Outdoor Recreation Demand Inventory LVVI 2 in 2008-2011

- Updated outdoor recreation statistics
- Theme study issues concern changes in society and environment
  - Adaptation for climate change and other environmental issues
- Rural development, nature-based tourism, recreation homes
- Recreational use of coastal areas (Baltic sea)
  - EU Integrated Coastal Zone Management Program
  - Finland’s Coastal Strategy
Design for data collection

- Web survey supported by mail questionnaire
- Sample 24,000; divided into 6 sub-samples
- Expected response rate 40%
  - 25% in web + 15% by mail

- Data collection period 2009-2010 over 24 months
  - First data collection starts in January 2009

- Statistics Finland
National policy programs and other documents

- Program for developing recreation and nature tourism 2003
- National Forestry Program 2008
International co-operation

- COST E33 (Forests for recreation and tourism) > follow up projects
- COST E39 (Forests, Trees & Health and Human Well-being) > follow up projects
- IUFRO Task Force of Forest and Health
- COST E45 (Economic valuation of forest externalities, FOREX)
- Urban Forestry Baltic & Nordic network (CarForUs)/SNS
- National Recreation Surveys (USDA Forest Service)
International co-operation

- COST E33 and COST E39 in 2004-2008
  - need for Europe wide outdoor recreation statistics
  - need for comparable indicators, e.g. indicators to monitor sustainable forestry and tourism
  - Harmonization on methodologies across Europe
    - Visitor information
    - Outdoor recreation statistics

- Planning proposals for EU projects
Thank You