

IDEAL VS REAL FMMS

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What are ideal FMMs?

- There are many ideals, reflecting the diverse set of actors involved in forest management.
- But some are supported by powerful actors while others are very marginal.

Closely connected to the concept of paradigm:

*“A forest management paradigm embraces the underlying tenets of forestry, the totality of forest management **ideas shared by dominant forestry stakeholders in the region or country.**”*

- Example Sweden (the excursion with Södra): conifer plantation in line with the FSC standard, thinning and final-felling implemented to yield a good financial return and reduce the risk of storm felling.

What are real FMMs?

- **How forest management is conducted in practice.**
- Example Sweden: Private forest manage their conifer plantations with the clearcutting system. High share of certification.

But, precommercial thinning is often poorly conducted and rotations tend to be longer than the recommendations from the major industrial actors.

Why is there a deviation?

- Ideals are based on simplified assumptions and should have a normative effect (e.g. ideal stand growth patterns). But nature is not always so simple (e.g. pests, browsing, frost, wind, fire).
- Poor implementation (lack of knowledge, financial resources, interests etc.)
- Conflicting ideals (multi-objective forest owners, competing forest management philosophies).
- To unrealistic or outdated ideal

Why is this interesting?

- Highlights areas of tension and concerns.
- Highlights areas where improvements and policy intervention might be needed.
- Poor knowledge on how forest management actually is conducted.
- Overall better understanding on factors that shape forest management in practice.