



**Master's thesis/Exjobb:  
The importance of Sveaskog's Ecoparks on saproxylic  
beetles**

Sveaskog is the biggest forest owner in Sweden with a vision to be the leading organization in increasing the value of forests. Sveaskog have high ambitions in production, environment and nature values – to manage both economic and ecological values of forests for future generations. Together with WWF has Sveaskog formed a *partnership for living forests*. We offer a master thesis opportunity in a large project (Effekt 20) managed by Sveaskog and WWF.

The Effekt 20 project aims to answer questions related to the goal of setting aside 20 % of the productive forest land for nature conservation and improved nature consideration. Many of these set-asides are located within so called Ecoparks. Ecoparks are large continuous landscapes, where nature values are given the highest priority and production goals are adjusted according to natural, social and cultural values. In Ecoparks, at least 50 % of the productive forest land is set-aside for conservation and nature consideration. Recent debate around the management of Ecoparks has raised questions of the benefits of these areas to biodiversity.

The Master student will work with the saproxylic beetle data collected from high stumps located in Ecoparks and reference areas. The main goal is to assess the importance of Ecoparks on saproxylic species communities. The specific study questions can be adjusted according to the students own interests. The student will mostly independently do fieldwork during the summer 2018 to collect environmental data (tree stand structure) from the study areas.

We are looking for an ambitious and hardworking student capable of handling large data with Excel and analyzing the given data with R. Background knowledge of R is very much appreciated. To be able to do the required fieldwork, a driver's license is needed. For laudably completed work in the project, a grant of 10 000-30 000 SEK can be awarded afterwards.

If you got interested, please contact:  
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