

Report of the working group on the future of reindeer husbandry – Measures and recommendations proposed

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Vipuvoimaa
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Pasture management plans

- New planning tool for districts; in piloting phase
- Aims: advance the sustainable use of pastures, optimize reindeer grazing to improve biodiversity



Better state of the environment

Securing pastures for the future

Reducing conflicts with other land uses



Pasture management plans

- Maximum allowed reindeer numbers do not change, but every district needs to select two of these:
 - decrease reindeer numbers by 7% (compared to max)
 - early slaughter
 - measures to advance the condition of winter pastures
 - developing the summer pasture rotation
 - developing collaboration between districts
- Open question: what about the role of other land uses in the state of the pastures?
- We are interested to hear about comparable tools in other countries



Better negotiation power for the livelihood

- Collaboration / new producer organization for selling the meat and negotiating the prices?



Photo: Minna Turunen

Uncoupling subsidies from the meat production

- Options discussed and decisions made before 2028



Photo: Minna Turunen

Stronger emphasis on cultural aspect in reindeer herding

- Developing the subsidies so that they better support the traditional Sámi herding
- Research on subsidies / financial tools and decisions before 2026

...but acknowledging the cultural significance of the livelihood within the whole reindeer management area in Finland



Photo: Jouko Kumpula

Climate change adaptation needs planning

- Reindeer herding is practiced in a changing climate - constant adaptation needed
- From reactive to planned adaptation at the herding district level?
- Climate roadmap for the whole livelihood?
- Better monitoring of and communication about harmful weather-related conditions and reindeer diseases needed



Photo: Ilari Lehtonen

New tools for coping with difficult natural conditions

To prevent large reindeer losses occurring:

- Legislation needs development
- District level preparedness needed (know-how, financial preparedness)

Sweden and Norway have good practices



Photo: Minna Turunen

Solutions to secure healthy environment for reindeer, and conserve endangered fjell habitats

- New foundation, which aims to improve the condition of fjell habitats??
 - Biodiversity, mitigating the harmful impacts of climate change
- Nature restoration aims are in line with reindeer herding needs (forest and wetland environments)



How to take important areas for herding better into account in the land use planning?

- The quality of consultations/negotiations between land-use projects and reindeer herding varies a lot.
- Developing the joint knowledge base about important areas and better dialogue needed (one tool: the pasture management plans)



Also mentioned:

Predation;

Well-being of
herders



Photo: Samuli Lehtonen



Thank you!



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