

## Advisory Board meeting of Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park

**Place and date:** Oulanka Visitor Centre, Kuusamo, Finland on September 5th, 2013

**Participants:**

**Russia**

Valentina Latyeva, Murmansk administration, Tourism section

Vladimir Krutsky, Murmansk administration

Viktor Kiriushkin, Municipality of Nikel

Vladimir Chizov, Pasvik zapovednik

**Norway**

Tiia Kalske, Office of the Finnmark County Governor

**Finland**

Jyrki Tolonen, Metsähallitus

Riina Tervo, Metsähallitus

Petri Haapala, Interpreter

**1. Opening of the meeting.**

Jyrki Tolonen opened the meeting at 10.00 am and welcomed the participants.

**2. Selection of the chair and secretary.**

Jyrki Tolonen was selected as the chair and Riina Tervo as secretary.

**3. Adoption of agenda.**

Agenda was accepted without changes.

**4. Signing of the protocol of the previous meeting.**

The protocol from the advisory board meeting held in Nikel on 28<sup>th</sup> of August was signed. It was summoned, that one of the representatives of the national park board, which is managing the Øvre-Pasvik National Park and Øvre-Pasvik Landscape Protection Area, will be a member of the advisory board.

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### 5. Fulfilling the targets in 2012 – 2013: report from the working group.

#### a. ABCGheritage -project.

Travelling exhibition about Green Belt of Fennoscandia is in making. Exhibition will have national copies, one for each country. It promotes the beautiful nature, culture and geology of the Green Belt of Fennoscandia, and possibilities of cross-border cooperation and nature based tourism. The target groups are school children and tourists. Exhibition consists of roll-ups and tv-screens. This year still the lay-out and contents are in making. Exhibition starts travelling in the nature centres, libraries and municipalities in spring of year 2014, coordinators in each country make the timetables.

Pasvik-Inari av-documents (multivisio) – 25-minutes-long document and 5-minutes-long advertisement are made by Russian Rec A Documentary Studio. Now all the permissions and passports are arranged, and film shooting starts this autumn first in Svanhovd, Norway and Rajakoski, Russia, later in Inari, Finland.

#### b. Re-Certification process.

Five years have passed since the certificate from the EUROPARC's transboundary park's programme was granted to our cooperation for the first time. The certification process is considered to support well our international cooperation. Verifier from Lithuania visited our trilateral park in June and interviewed managers of the nature protection areas and stakeholders. We expect to be re-certified. And when so, the re-certification award ceremony takes place in EUROPARC – conference in October 2013.

#### c. Database for publications.

The list of publications made about the nature reserves in all the three countries is put together, and it can be published in the internet.

#### d. A booklet of rare species in Pasvik-Inari area.

List of the rare species from the three countries was put together, and the texts have been written and photos collected. Map is undone and texts have to be edited.

#### e. Monitoring in 2013.

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Number of visitors in Pasvik-Inari TP is collected, starting from the year 2008. Both the core zone (the nature protection areas, visitor centres, specific sites) and the destination zone (border crossing stations etc.) are taken into account.

The annual waterfowl registrations were conducted in Norway and Russia. Bird watching event was arranged in June in all three countries and the observed species are published on internet. Golden eagle was monitored in Norway and in Finland: two territories with no chicken was found in Finland. In Norway no breeding activity was the result of the registrations in the two known territories in the Pasvik River valley.

Norwegian moose hunters have collected feces of brown bears, and those samples are analyzed.

Pasvik reserve continues the monitoring of mires. Research over small rodents is made, and the research document will be sent to Norway and Finland.

f. Europarc meetings.

Marina Trusova, Tiia Kalske and Riina Tervo attended the annual Europarc's TransParcNet –meeting arranged in Maas-Schwalm-Nette Natur Park in Germany and in Holland in June 2013. Themes were cultural differences in international cooperation, research made over climate change and planning of common international project for developing the network of transboundary nature protection areas. These meetings are considered to be good for networking and learning. Next meeting will be in Hainaut cross-border Nature Park (France/Belgium) in June 2014.

g. Oulanka-Paanajärvi visit.

It was summoned, that we have had a fine journey, and now we have finally seen this southern transboundary cooperation and two national parks in real life. Thank you to the Russian partners, who made the visit possible and were able to participate. Unfortunately there were many persons from Finland and Norway, who could not attend this journey. The Pasvik-Inari workgroup will collect the good ideas received from this visit, and they are analyzed: are there new actions to be added into our action plan, have we seen things which would solve challenges/problems in our current cooperation.

h. Action plan, summary table of actions.

There are over 50 actions in our action plan. They are categorized as accomplished

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or as continues and given priorities. The summary table is updated regularly. The document is sent via email to workgroup members for finalizing the current period.

### 6. New targets for the years 2013 – 2014

#### a. Completing ABCGheritage -project.

Project partners are devoted to the project. The products – exhibition and av-programmes, which are derived from the Pasvik-Inari action plan - and the project itself are surely finished well. There will be lots of reporting, marketing and dissemination work for the year 2014. Seminar of Green Belt of Fennoscandia and its development will be arranged in Svanhovd, Norway in October 2014.

#### b. Unesco's World Heritage Site.

Vladimir Chizov suggested, that the border areas and Pasvik-Inari TP could be part of Unesco's World Heritage Sites. Workgroup finds out, which are the national opinions in each country for this suggestion.

#### c. A seminar for conservation specialists in the area.

There will be Green Belt of Fennoscandia –seminar in Petrozavodsk in October 2013. The researchers from Pasvik zapovednik, Norway and Metsähallitus have planned to meet, discuss common issues and to do possibly a common field excursion in Pasvik-Inari TP in summer 2014.

#### d. Completing the booklet about rare species.

Russia coordinates the work, and printing of the booklet will be in 2014.

#### e. Monitoring in 2014 and 2015.

Monitoring of waterfowl is made like always.

Bear hair trap -research should be implemented in 2015, and this has to be planned in the end of the year 2014 in order for all three countries to secure enough funds to implement this. Norway takes responsibility to call for a planning meeting in the end of 2014, place Svanvik Norway.

Follow-up for the raccoon dog observations and meeting in April 2013 is that Norway can provide Pasvik Reserve with funds to purchase wild life cameras. Cameras would be placed in sights of interest for observing this invasive species and black listed species. County Governor and Pasvik Reserve will bilaterally agree on the funding issue.

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- f. A research program about the impact of reindeer and reindeer herding in Pasvik river valley.  
Vladimir Chizov presented shortly the project plan about reindeer herding impact on Pasvik River valley. The plan was given to Norwegian and Finnish participants for more detailed look.
- g. Co-operation with the power plants.  
Water regulation has strong impacts on Pasvik river valley's nature - discussion in different forums is needed. This important issue has been discussed in Norwegian-Finnish transboundary-water-commission last week too. Multi-use plan for River Pasvik covers the impacts of hydropower plants on nature. Norway is updating its share of this plan. The partners from the Pasvik-Inari Trilateral Park want to contact the commissions and be involved in the discussion. For example the monitoring of waterfowl has been troubled by low-waters: it has been difficult to travel by boat on the river.
- h. Co-operation with Samarskaja Luka National Park, Russia.  
Samarskaja NP has sent an invitation to visit them and they wish to pay a visit back and get to know Oulanka-Paanajärvi and Pasvik-Inari cooperations. It was suggested, that the travel to Samarskaja and the visit itself would cover maximum of six days and the visit could be in 23<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> of June 2014. So we are interested in the cooperation. The invitation will be sent to the other partners of Pasvik-Inari cooperation and absent members of steering group. And after that issue is decided.
- i. Expert meeting on wetlands and their bird fauna in Pasvik-Inari  
Seminar on research, monitoring and management of wetlands and their birds, Memorial symposium Anatoly Khoklov and 20<sup>th</sup>-year-anniversary of Pasvik nature reserves (NOR-RUS) is arranged in Bioforsk Svanhovd, Norway in 15.-16.10.2013. Speakers have been invited and the program is ready, invitations for guest of honor will be sent soon.

### **7. Information from the countries and participants.**

There will be business week and Murmansk's region tourism as a part of international tourism –seminar in Murmansk in November 2013. Valentina Latyeva will send information about it.

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Piilola trail was opened in 2009 and 5th-year-anniversary hike could be arranged in 2014.

Office of the Finnmark County Governor, National Park Board and Metsähallitus will discuss about the opportunity to arrange a guided hike.

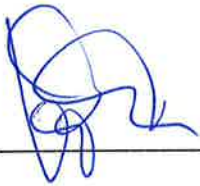
County Governor's webpages are reformed and when this work is done, the internal pages of Pasvik-Inari -cooperation will be updated. Pasvik-inari.net -pages will be updated too.

### 8. Date and place for the next meeting of the advisory board.

Next meeting will be on the last week of August 2014 (week 35), in Sør-Varanger municipality, Norway. The plan is to make an excursion to Grense Jakobselv or to Varlam Island.

### 9. Closing of the meeting.

Chair ended the meeting at 2.30 pm.



Jyrki Tolonen

Metsähallitus



Tiia Kalske

Office of the Finnmark County

Governor



Vladimir Chizhov

Pasvik State Nature Reserve