



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES Active management (conservation thinning)

Aspanäs



Click on the image to browse through two photo series showing minimal intervention management using conservation thinning.

The first photo series (Aspanäs) shows, at the start, a closed-canopy mixed forest with oaks, aspen, birch, scattered Norway spruce, and a subcanopy of hazel. After conservation thinning, some of the older oaks become visible (2003) and then the field layer starts to develop (2006). Initially at this site, browsing by deer and moose held back the regrowth, but after six more years (2013) hazel and trees have grown back and start shading the oak stems again. What would the forest look like in 2020?

The second series (Sandviksås, follows directly after the first) is from an oak-spruce forest, with patches of birch and aspen. The photos show, at the start, dense spruce-birch, then after conservation thinning oaks and other trees are visible in the plot (2003), and by 2013 regeneration by spruce is visible (rarely browsed by deer and moose, which forage intensively on deciduous trees at this site). In parts of the plot at least, spruce is a likely "winner", but may be harvested again after 30-40 years.

Photos: Frank Götmark.





Sandviksås





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