The challenge of bringing the forest sector into the picture while implementing the WFD

Elisabet Andersson
Swedish Forest Agency
Early thoughts about the WFD in the forest sector...

- Frustration
- Resignation
- Anger
- Lack of knowledge
- Uncertainty
- More administration
- Restrictions
Challenges

- Inform and engage the forest sector.
How?

- Information activities, seminars, conferences, workshops, field excursions, projects etc.
Challenges

• Inform and engage the forest sector.

• Get the forest sector to become a (natural) part of the water management and vice versa.
**National level**
National reference group (SFA, SEPA, RBDA, SBF, WWF, forest companies and forest associations).

SEPA and SFA (and other national authorities), project to develop guidelines for EQS in practice.

SFA national management group and RBD managers.

**RBD level**
Forest and water councils (SFA, forest companies and associations, RBDA, CAB).

Reference groups to the RBDA (sectoral or cross-sectoral).

**Regional/local level**
Local water councils.

International water council (Torne River catchment)
Challenges

• Inform and engage the forest sector.

• Get the forest sector to become a (natural) part of the water management and vice versa.

• Fulfil the demands according to the national water management regulations.
How?

- Information activities, seminars, conferences, workshops, field excursions, projects etc.

- Co-operation with the River Basin District Authorities, SEPA, County Administrative Boards, and the Sw Board of Fisheries. The forest sector can contribute and wants to be a part of the process.

- Complementary additions in the Forestry Act, best practice guidance, training courses and other measures.
The Forestry Act
Section 30, Environmental consideration

Present regulation on buffer zones

• Leave protective buffer zones with trees and shrubs along rivers, lakes, impediments, agricultural land... for consideration to flora and fauna, cultural values and the landscape view.

Suggested formulation

• Leave protective buffer zones with trees and shrubs along rivers, lakes, impediments, agricultural land... for consideration to flora and fauna, **water quality**, cultural values and the landscape view.
The Forestry Act
Section 30, Environmental consideration

About forest roads...

Suggested addition to regulation

- Water passages should be constructed in such a way that obstacles for migrating fresh water organisms are avoided.
Looking forward...

• Carry out training courses.
• Implement the changes in the Forestry Act, section 30.
• Develop and refine inventory methods/monitoring.
• Co-operation, network
• Research projects.
• Exchange experiences international projects (Sw, Fi, Po), and conferences.

Follow up and analyse in 2014.
To conclude...

- WFD, a trigger and a tool for integrating forestry and water.
- Follow up and analyse in 2014.
- Increase international cooperation, exchange experiences, deal with obstacles.