

EASTERN FINLAND

Large carnivores - and all the rest

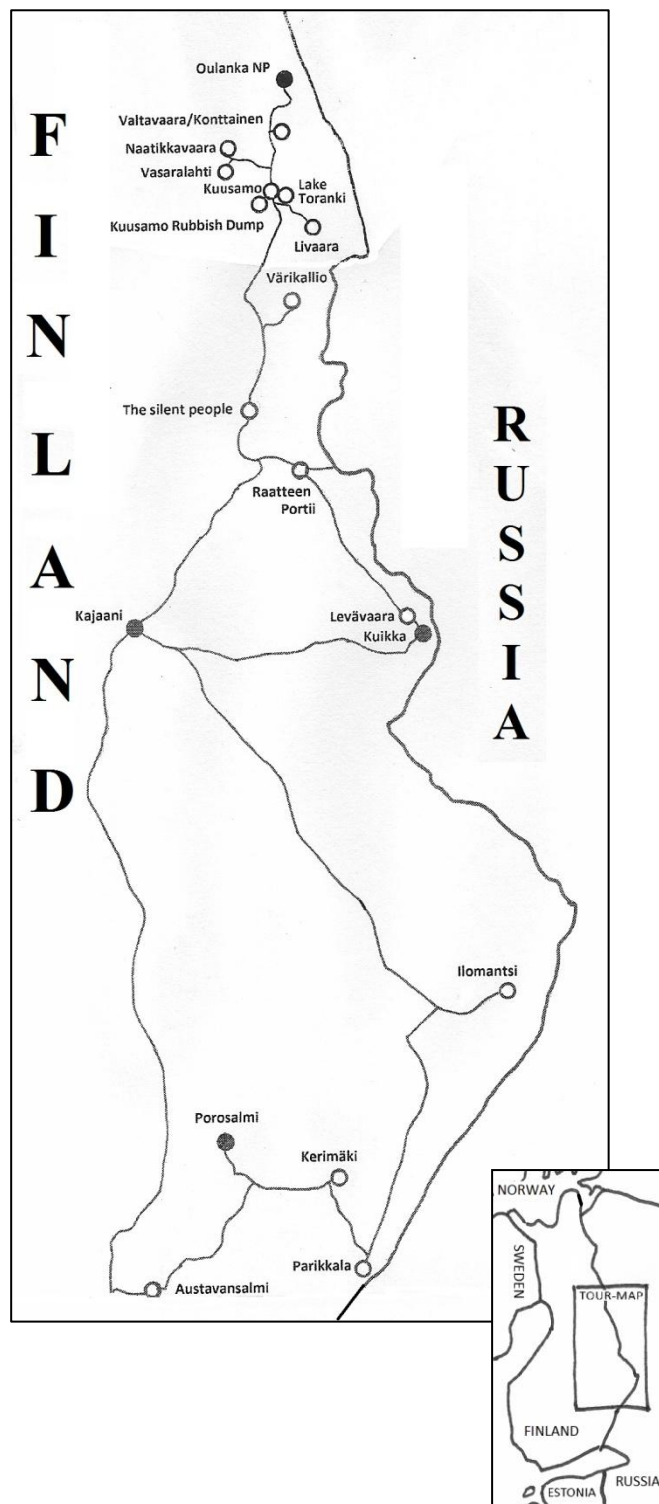


Uffe Gjøl Sørensen & Hans Jørgen Bruun Pedersen, 2012[©]

Itinerary

- 24/6 Flight Estonian Air from Copenhagen to Tallin 20.35-23.10. Flight Estonian Air from Tallin 23.45-
25/6 Arrival Kajaani 00.55. Hertz Car waiting and we started drive to Kuikka. Stop 01.30-02.30 at Kajaani. Few stops en route. Breakfast and provisioning in Kuhmo. Few hours sleep. 'Parking Hide' 18.05-24.00.
26/6 Parking Hide 00.00-07.30. Levävaara 10.00-11.45. Few hours sleep. 'Caravan'-hide 18.35-24.00
27/6 'Caravan-hide' 00.00-05.00. Levävaara 06.00-07.45. Slept 09-15. Lake-side hide 18.30-24.00
28/6 Lake-side hide 00.00-07.00. Sleep 09-12. Starts driving north. Stop at Raatteen Portti – memorial for the Winter-war (1939-40). Drove the Raatteen-road to the border 16.00-17.00 with stops at the various war-time sites. Continued north with stop at 'The silent people' and walk to Stone-age rock paintings at Värrikallio (20 km E of main-road; walk Lihapyörre-Värrikallio 18.30-21.00). Drive to Oulanka NP with arrival 23.00.
29/6 All day north of Kuusamo: During the afternoon visits to the lakes Ala-Kitka and Vasaralahti and young forest around Naatikkavaara. Evening and early night-visit to Konttainen/Valtavaara. Slept from 23.45-
30/6 Slept to 02.30. Early start with visit Lake Toranki-area and forest below Valtavaara. Overcast and rain so back to camp for more sleep. Afternoon/evening visit to Kuusamo Rubbish Dump and lake Toranki. Returned to camp in rain – short walk in Oulanka for orchids.
1/7 Rain during all morning so we didn't start very early. Returned to Naatikkavaara 07.45-10.15. Afterwards a brief stop at Little Bunting-site by Lake Toranki and a revisit to Rubbish Dump. Then start of southbound drive with detour to Livaara 14.30-16.00. From here straight to Kajaani Airport, where HJBP had flight to Tallin (21.55-23.00). UGS made another attempt for flying squirrel - in vain 21.00-00.15.
2/7 HJBP had flight from Tallin to Copenhagen. UGS had long drive to Astuvansalmi where walk to famous stone-age rock paintings 16.00-19.00. Drive to Porosalmi 19.00-21.15 and magnificent boat-trip on Lake Saima 21.25-00.25 for the Saima Seal.
3/7 Drive from Porosalmi to Parikkala with stop by large wooden church in Kerimäki. Visit to Siikalahti Bird Sanctuary in Parikkala 12.00-13.30. Start of north-bound drive with short stop by bird tower near Tarnala. Detour to Ilomantsi for the large Orthodox Church but back in Kajaani by 22.00 and now for a successful search for flying squirrel 22.05-00.05.

- 4/7 Delivered car to the airport. Flight Estonian Air from Kajaani to Tallin 06.00-07.05 and from Tallin to Copenhagen 12.55-13.35.



Introduction

This report deals with notes on mammals, birds, dragonflies, butterflies and a few orchids from a visit to eastern Finland during the period 25/6 to 4/7 2012.

Exactly 33 years – even by dates - since my only visit to eastern Finland it was about time for a revisit. Hans Jørgen decided to join and as this was his first visit ever our combined goals were straightforward: The new opportunities for seeing the large European mammalian predators combined with a determined effort to find as many of the characteristic taiga-birds and other mammals as possible.

The mammal experiences were fabulous: Three nights in hides in or near no-man's-land on the border to Russia produced 7 different bears (around 20 observations in total), 2 wolves (five observations) and one wolverine. It's a kind of inverted world to watch the predators from a hide: You almost feel being part of one of the great nature programme on TV – everything takes place right in front of you – but this time you are the one inside the television looking out! Many visitors to Kuikka are photographers but obviously it is an excellent place also if you are more a dedicated mammal-watcher. Add to this a fine observation of a Forest Reindeer in the same area. At the end of the trip two other mammal-highlights: Close-up encounter with a Saima-seal and finally brief but cracking view of two Russian Flying Squirrels.

Birds also came in very much as wanted despite only 2½ days around the Kuusamo/Oulanka area. A number of the prolific taiga/northern/eastern species: Capercaillie (2), Hazel Grouse (several incl. female with flying chicks), Black Grouse (4), Smew (11), Black Kite (1), Heuglin's Gull (2), Siberian Jay (7), Bohemian Waxwing (4), Siberian Bluetail (9; on four sites), Greenish Warbler (2), Pine Grosbeak (2-3), Little Bunting (2) and Rustic Bunting (2). Obvious misses were Willow Grouse, Three-toed Woodpecker and Siberian Tit. Not a single owl or buzzard seen in the taiga must reflect a low season for rodents this year. Bird-song activities seemed low throughout – probably influenced by weather but probably also indicating that a trip immediately after mid-summer is late in the season.

Weather was rather miserable during the first week. Mostly overcast, occasional showers every day and in the north with low temperature (once below 5°C). Only the afternoon/evening of 29th the sky was clear – with sun and decent temperatures. We recorded only very few butterflies and dragonflies in the north, but including Baltic Grayling (1). Final two days in SE Finland were with fine and warm weather. Butterflies and dragonflies were active including several eastern species like the butterflies Poplar Admiral, Scarce Fritillary and Chestnut Heath and the dragonfly Lilypad Whiteface.

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Practicalities

Flight: Estonian Air had an excellent offer for flight Copenhagen-Kajaani via Tallin (1300 DKK/app. 175 €). Shortly after the booking our planned return flight was cancelled. This forced HJBP to leave eight hours earlier than planned (incl. spending a night in Tallin) while UGS made an extension of another two days. Otherwise the flights worked fine including the brief only 35 min. long stop-over in Tallin on the way out.

Vehicle: A car with free mileage was booked through Hertz and we had it delivered at our arrival at 01 p.m. Total driving: 2883 km.

Predator watching at Kuikka: Three nights in hides in or near no-man's-land at the border-area with Russia was booked at Lassi Rautanen's wonderful place Kuikka, east of Kuhmo. Lassi has 16 hides placed at various sites both on the

fringes of bogs, lakes and in mature forest. The carnivores are attracted by carcasses of mainly pigs (but also moose or other animals available) and - as the only place we know of - his site is regularly visited by all three large predators: Brown Bear, Grey Wolves and Wolverine. The Kuikka area offers other opportunities, e.g. the Levävaara forest to the NW holds fine forest birds (incl. Siberian Bluetail) and there is also a good chance of wild Forest Reindeer. The experience in the hides is second to none. The large predators steal the scene whenever around, but to sit quietly and alert for up to 13 hours and watch changing activities throughout night is a great experience, e.g. the ravens coming and leaving their night-roost. Up to four sea-eagles at the same time, black kite seen twice etc. added to the entertainment. While at Kuikka, the weather was changeable: First night perfect with sun and no rain except for a squally shower in nearby Russia providing a beautiful rainbow over the dead trees with night-roosting ravens and sea-eagle. We saw 4-5 bears and 2 wolves. Next night experienced dense fog but luckily for us, our hide for this night was in mature forest where one doesn't need the far view anyway and the fog had only little impact (less light, however). 5 bears and one wolverine made the show. Last night was with almost constant rain and this became the night with least activities. Two bears and one wolf passed by.

Kuusamo-area: After Kuikka we went north to the Kuusamo-area and our bird-activities were guided by the information in David Gosney's *Finding Birds in South Finland*. (Easybirder, 2010). For three nights, we had a cabin at the well-working camp-site by the entrance to Oulanka NP. One reason for ending here was the chance for Calypso orchids but by end June these are faded and just about to vanish completely – their absences was partly compensated by Lady's Slippers in full blossom. Except for the afternoon/evening of 29th with pleasant sun and no wind, the weather throughout our days in the north was mostly chilly (down to below 5C), often overcast and frequently with rain.

SE-Finland: The extension by UGS had two vital goals: Saima Seal and rock paintings at Astuvansalmi. This implied a lot of driving and too little time for other activities. A couple of extra days to cover good bird sites in SE Finland would have been nice. I had made contact to Jari Heisaken at Porosalmi - nearby one of the areas of the lake protected for the seal, the Linnaansaari National Park. Jari took me on a most memorable boat-trip around midnight – under the full moon on a quite night – and we had one seal located.

Mosquitoes: In the north mosquitoes were numerous and at times very annoying. Don't forget to bring an efficient repellent. Gloves and at times a mosquito-net to cover the head is highly appreciated.



Useful addresses

Wild taiga with large carnivores: We strongly recommend to contact Lassi Rautanen, see further information and prices at his web-site www.articmedia.fi.

Boat-rip for Saima-seal: Contact Jari Heisaken tel. (00 358) 46 548 45 93 (mobile) or (00 358) 40 556 01 19 (home). Boat-trips starts at holiday resort Lomakylä Järvisydän in Porosalmi (9 km N of Rantasalmi). Jari speaks good English and German and he knows the lake better than any. If Jari is difficult to get contact to (phone connection is not always good) then Elina Enho from 'Trillivikla' is helpful. Check out the web-site: www.trillivikla.fi/saimaa-seal-spotting/

MAMMALS - PATTEDYR

1. **Western Hedgehog** (Vestligt Pindsvin) *Erinaceus europaeus*. 28/6 1 road-kill near Soumussalmi, 2/7 1 road-kill S of Kajaani.
2. **Common Shrew** (Almindelig Spidsmus) *Sorex araneus*. 30/6 1 crossing road N of Ruka.
3. **Common Mole** (Muldvarp) *Talpa europaea*. 2/7 molehills seen along forest road Astuvansalmi (Riistina),
4. **Brown Hare** (Hare) *Lepus europaeus*. 25/6 2 Kajaani, 3/7 1 road-kill Parikkala, 1 drive Parikkala-Kajaani.
5. **Mountain Hare** (Snehare) *Lepus timidus*. 25/6 2 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 1 near Oulanka NP, 30/6 2 near Oulanka NP, 4 Lake Toranki, 1 N of Ruka, 1 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 3 (incl. a small juvenile) Oulanka-Juuma, 3/7 1 drive Parikkala-Kajaani, 2 Kajaani.
6. ***Red Squirrel** (Egern) *Sciurus vulgaris*. 25/6 1 Kajaani, 1 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 1 juvenile Oulanka NP, 2 (one running on power line btw houses)+ 4 road kills driving around Kuusamo, 1/7 3 road-kills Oulanka-Kajaani, 2/7 2 road-kills Kajaani-Astuvansalmi, 3/7 3 road-kills Parikkala to Kajaani.

7. **Russian Flying Squirrel** (Flyve-egern) *Pteromys volans*. 3/7 2 seen (23.13-23.15) Kajaani.
The location is the forest-clad slope by the river – just opposite the ruins of the Kajaani castle. A good number of nest-boxes for the squirrel are found here. Without information on exactly which box(es) were occupied this year, I slowly walked the public paths in the area (22.05-00.05) and hit jackpot at 23.13: A squirrel was seen in a long glide (later paced out to 18 m) from a birch to the base of a large conifer. It rested shortly before disappearing up the tree. Seconds after another squirrel landed in exactly the same place giving an even better look before it also vanished. One of the two was seen in a short glide to a nearby aspen. I never found the animals up the trees and did not see any more. In light mid-summer nights this usually nocturnal species seems to have a short activity period only in the darkest hours.
Right after our arrival on 25/6 we checked out a nearby site in Kajaani by a nest-hole known to be occupied last year - but no observations (01.30-02.30; probably far too late in the morning). I checked the site again on 1-2/7 (21.00-00.15) where I placed myself with a direct view to the same tree and to the nearest stand of Aspen trees (their favourite food in summer) – again no observations.

Pine-tree with nest-box and natural hole used by Flying Squirrel, but none seen at the site this year



8. **American Beaver** (Canadisk Bæver) *Castor canadensis*. 2/7 fresh feeding tracks Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
9. **Muskrat** (Bisamrotte) *Ondatra zibethicus*. 25/6 2 huts (lake Ryttilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 1 hut Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).
10. ***Wolf** (Ulv) *Canis lupus*. 26/6 2 (alpha female and male) (morning) Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27/6 2 faeces Levävaara, 28/6 1(alpha female) Lake Hide (Kuikka). *The one faeces at Levävaara was packed with coarse hair from a moose. See more comments below under 'Notes on the large carnivores'*
11. **Red Fox** (Rød Ræv) *Vulpes vulpes*. 30/6 1 near Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
12. ***Brown Bear** (Brun Bjørn) *Ursus arctos*. 26/6 4 (morning) Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 26-27/6 4-5 Caravan-hide, 28/6 2 Lake Hide (Kuikka). *See comments below under 'Notes on the large carnivores'.*

13. **Pine Marten** (Skovmår) *Martes martes*. 2/7 1 road-kill Kajaani-Astuvansalmi.
14. ***Wolverine** (Järv) *Gulo gulo*. 26/6 tracks (morning) near Caravan Hide, 27/6 1 seen very well Caravan-hide (Kuikka). *See comments below under 'Notes on the large carnivores'*
15. ***Badger** (Grävling) *Meles meles*. 2/7 1 road-kill N of Kuopio, 3/7 1 road-kill N of Parikkala.
16. ***Saima Seal** (Saima Sæl) *Phoca hispida saimensis*. 2/7 1 Boat-trip from Porosalmi, see photo below. *The seal was resting on a rock next to the bank of a forest clad island. Jari Heisaken located the seal from the boat while it was still quite far away. Because of following wind we could not get near the animal by boat. Instead we made a landing on the island and approached the seal by foot - carefully and without any disturbance. A great experience.*
The Saima Seal is highly threatened – less than 300 are living in the entire lake Saima, where this subspecies has developed during the last 8-9000 years. Jari finds it in 3 out of 5 attempts. Lake Saima is a complex of more than 120 connecting lakes comprising a total surface of 4790 km² and the Saima Seal - being a subspecies of the more or less solitary Ringed Seal - is no easy find among the thousands of bays and narrow passages between forest-clad islands and islets.



17. ***Moose** (Elg) *Alces alces*. 26-27/6 faeces Levävaara, 28/6 1 S of Soumussalmi, 2/7 fresh tracks Island in Lake Saima.
18. ***Forest reindeer** (Skovren) *Rangifer tarandus fennicus*. 26/6 1 female – likely to have lost its calf - E of Kuikka, see photo above. *The Forest Reindeer became extinct in Finland by the end of 19th century. Straggles began to be seen in the 1940s and in the 1960s it re-colonized the Kuhmo-area from a small population having survived in Russian Karelia. The population is up to a 1000 animals today. The subspecies have separate winter and summer feeding areas. In winter the population is concentrated around Lake Lentua (N of Kuhmo) in summer it is dispersed in small flocks in the forests further east. Compared to Domestic Reindeers there are a number of differences: The Forest Reindeer is taller, more long-legged, has a longer and a narrower skull besides some differences in the antlers, the fur is browner and darker. Today the number of Forest Reindeer may be restricted by the increasing number of wolves.*

***Domestic Reindeer** (Tamren) *Rangifer tarandus tarandus*. Reindeer Husbandry can be met with all over Northern Finland, i.e. free roaming reindeer can be found everywhere along the roads (and in the town of Kuusamo!) and pose an extra risk for the traffic. 28/6 2 along road S of Kuusamo, 3 Oulanka NP, 29/6 22 + 1 + 5 + 2 driving around Kuusamo, 30/6 2 + 7 Kuusamo, 2 N of Ruka, 11 btw Ruka and Kuusamo, 1/7 1 Oulanka-Juuma, 1 + 1 + 3 + 1 + 4 Kuusamo-Soumussalmi. Today many are today neck-collared.

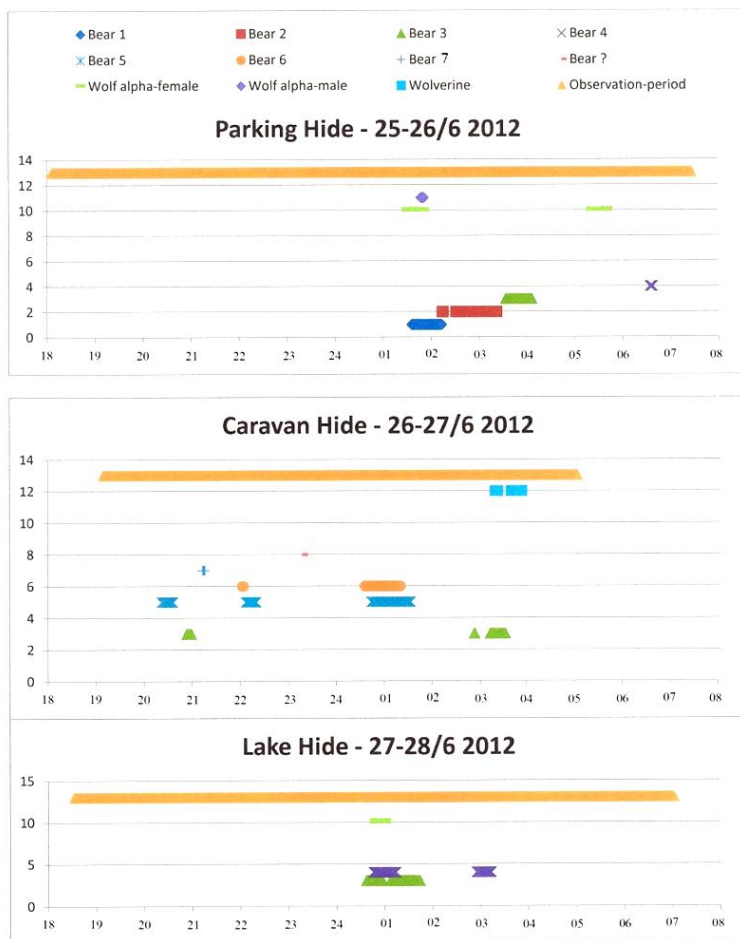


NOTES ON THE LARGE CARNIVORES

All observations of brown bear, wolf and wolverine is summarized in the figures below. The time scale is following summer-time in Finland (i.e. GMT + 3h).

At least 7 different bears (1-7) were seen, see next page. A small bear seen once and very briefly at the Caravan Hide was possibly bear no. 6. Only two wolves made up our 5 wolf-contacts; the characteristic light alpha-female was seen three times the first night and once during the last night while another grey wolf was seen briefly on the first night only. The one wolverine seen was appearing very briefly twice before it made a final and prolonged show.

Most observations of the carnivores were from the hours right after midnight. There are significant differences in the timing between the three nights this could be explained by the weather and/or habitat.



Legends

Identified (7) and unidentified bears (1), wolves (2) and wolverine (1) have all been given a specific number and colour-code used in the figures.

25-26/6 - Parking Hide

A few short rain-showers early evening (20-21 hours) but otherwise sun and mostly clear sky except for the short twilight hours around 24-02. The predators came late this night and most were recorded btw. 01.30 and 04.05 (two wolves, 3 bears). After this, one wolf returned 05.20-30 (and again shortly 05.40). A very late bear came shortly 06.34-06.37.

26-27/6 - Caravan Hide

A night with fog, i.e. dull light and reduced visibility. The first bear appeared very early at 20.20 and bears came regularly throughout the night up to 03.29. In total 4-5 different bears of which three appeared 2-3 times. At the end of the bear-show a wolverine was glimpsed and only 8 min after the last bear had left the wolverine made its entry on the scene 03.37-03.50.

27-28/6 - Lake Hide

This was a night of rain – drizzle most of the time but with some showers from time to time. This night was fairly quiet with two bears and one wolf in the twilight period 00.35-01.42 and one bear reappearing for a short period 02.53-03.11.

Differences in habitats around the hides are probably influences the occurrence of the animals. The hides used the first and last night are in open habitat on the fringe of bogs/lakes ('Parking Hide' and 'Lake Hide'), while the 'Caravan Hide' is at a glade in dense, mature forest ('Caravan Hide'). It is probable that the carnivores are more reluctant to visit the open habitats during the light hours.

Bears

One of the seven was a younger animal, but the rest was all older animals. No females with cubs seen.

We recorded one bear at all three hides (3), one was seen at two hides (4) and 5 bears were only seen at one hide. Distances between the hides are not long (Caravan/Parking 4 km, Caravan/Lake 3.1 km, and Lake/Parking 0,85 km.) - the bears can easily walk from one to the other during a night.



Bear 1

The darkest of all bears seen. Rather small. Left hind leg was a little stiff which was noticeable both when it was walking and in particular when running. Probably a female. Only seen from Parking Hide on the first night - from 01.35-02.22.



Bear 2

Uniform brown with a little light cast on the back. Had a diffuse, dark line across the snout. Probably a male. Only seen from Parking Hide on the first night - from 02.12-02.22 and 02.30-03.21.



Bear 3

Uniform brown. Large. Had a wound on the left side of the head and some weak marks on top of the snout. Seen all three nights. From Parking Hide 03.32-04.05, from Caravan hide 20.52-20.58, 02.50-02.51, 03.10-03.17 and 03.20-03.29, and finally from Lake Hide 00.35-00.55 and 01.04-01.42.



Bear 4

Brown with a narrow pale neck collar. Large. This bear is easily recognizable because of a scar above the right eye. Seen briefly late in morning from the Parking Hide during the first night – from 06.34-06.37. Seen again on the last night from the Lake Hide – from 00.43-01.12 and 02.53-03.11.



Bear 5

A large brown bear with a distinct golden-brown 'scarf' around the neck in contrast to dark hump. Seen three time at the Caravan Hide – from 20.20-20.35, 22.05-22.18 and 00.42-01.32



Bear 6

A small, younger bear with golden tone in fur in contrast to brown legs and a dark hump. Large ears. Seen at the Caravan Hide – 22.01-22.02, 00.34-00.42, 00.45-01.07 and 01.10-01.19.



Bear 7

A rather uniform, dark bear. Faint pale line on right side. Only seen very briefly from the Caravan Hide – 23.16-23.17.

No photo

Bear 8?

Seen briefly from Caravan Hide 21.10-21.13. A small brownish bear with dark hump. Perhaps bear 6.

In general only one bear was present at a time and they seemed to dislike being close to each other. Perhaps this is a summer-time characteristic: Food is plenty and regular so there is no reason to argue about it? A number of times one bear left immediately or shortly before another arrived. The bears have a strong sense of smell and no doubt notice each other long before they are in visual contact.

Direct antagonistic interactions between two bears were noted twice when two bears were present over longer periods. Both occasions showed an obvious hieratic relationship:

- (a) At the Caravan Hide no 6 was seen approaching (22.01.22.02) but all of a sudden turned round and disappeared. Shortly after bear 5 emerged from the forest and entered the scene. Later no. 6 returned and was feeding alone 00.34-00.42. When also no. 5 reappeared, no. 6 immediately left but only to return at 00.45. No. 6 was engrossed in massive intake of a pig-carcass while no. 5 systematically searched supplementary food spread on the bilberry clad slope. 00.52 no. 6 switches to this as well but when they get close within a few meters the significantly smaller no. 5 immediately runs around the place and reappears at a safer distance at the other end of the slope. 01.19 no 5 leaves and no 6 follows 01.32.
- (b) At the Lake Hide bear no. 3 arrives from east at 00.35 and moves along the lake to a fresh carcass and starts feeding. At 00.43 bear no. 4 arrives. It starts feeding on an older carcass but at 00.55 it moves towards the fresh carcass. No. 4 immediately retreats and vanishes in the bushes – but only to be back by the lake again at 01.04. Seemingly to have given up the carrion no. 4 starts slowly to move off in the direction where it originally arrived from. At 01.12 something scares off no. 5 which very rapidly runs away and disappears. No. 4 is obviously not being scared and seeing the other bear disappear it immediately responds and returns straight to the fresh carcass where it feeds intensively 00.16-00.37. It then leaves and walks off slowly - disappearing on the forest clad slope south of the lake at 00.42.

Another interaction between two bears was probably an indication of late June being the start of the mating season. Our very first bear (1) was a rather small, all dark animal. We believe it was a female. It was feeding alone for a while, when it suddenly became alert, stopped feeding and ran away. Shortly after a seemingly aroused male bear (2) came on to the scene. Not only did this bear walk with open mouth and dripping saliva but a couple of times it also walked over small pine-trees in a manner which could be called rather inappropriate (!). The presumed female had hidden in the vegetation but after a while she suddenly ran across the open bog – and shortly after the presumed male followed the exactly the same track – briefly they were both out in the open at the same time but soon they both disappeared in the forest.

As one sits quietly in the hides there is no reaction at all from the carnivores to one's presence. But still we had one obvious instance showing how alert the bears are. As mentioned, something obviously scared off bear no. 4 from the carrion by the Lake Hide as it all of sudden left at high speed. When the bear re-appeared later the same night, it was interesting to see when it materialized among the bushes where it had disappeared 1 hour 41 minutes earlier. Only after careful sniffing in all directions it slowly left the bushes and approached the carcass to resume feeding.

Wolf

We saw two wolves – one only briefly but the alpha female in her pale summer-coat was seen well, see photo. Twice she was seen at a slow pace crossing the open bog: All ears and observant. The first time she suddenly became very alert and dropped to the ground leaving only two cautious ears protruding from the high grass. Soon after a bear (our first) came out of the forest. The wolf waited motionless but as soon as the bear had passed at a fairly short distance, it jumped up and ran up behind the bear: Quickly, alert and seemingly in full control. The alpha-female was fairly close to feeding bears on both nights. When leaving the scene at the Lake Hide she was carrying quite a big lump of carrion – probably indicating cubs waiting at the den?



Wolverine

Wolverine is the kid-brother in the threesome of taiga-scavengers – and for good reasons it doesn't like the larger two. We were told a wolverine would refrain from a visit to a carcass until at least 30 minutes after a bear or wolf had left. It wasn't that strict. At the Caravan Hide, we had the first glimpse of the wolverine while the last bear was leaving at 03.17. At 03.20 the wolverine went straight for food but as the bear returned it disappeared just as quickly as it came. At 03.29 the bear suddenly stopped eating and ran off. Only 8 minutes later at 03.37 the wolverine was back and did justice to the food. While a bear is calm relying on its size, a wolf is alert relying on its superior attitudes then a wolverine is an energy-bomb on the forest floor – soon here, soon there, looking, sniffing and listening intently in all directions and at the same time wolfing the food down. It was very entertaining to see this amazing street-kid in the remote taiga. When it jumped off at 03.50 it was with a good lunch-package in the mouth – probably for the pups in a nearby den.



BIRDS

1. ***Hazel Grouse** (Hjerpe) *Tetrastes bonasia*. 26/6 1 heard Levävaara, 27/6 1 Levävaara, 28/6 1 female 3+ pullus near Kuikka, 1/7 1 heard Naatikkavaara, 1 female playing sick Livaara.
2. ***Western Capercaillie** (Tjur) *Tetrao urogallus*. 28/6 faeces Väräkallio, 29/6 1 male (crossing road, late evening, see photo) near Oulanka NP, 30/6 1 male Oulanka NP.



3. ***Black Grouse** (Urfugl) *Lyrurus tetrix*. 26/6 1 male (crossing road) near Kuikka, 2 females (see photo of one) E of Kuikka, 27/6 2 females E of Kuikka, 28/6 1 male near entrance Oulanka NP.
4. ***Whooper Swan** (Sangsvane) *Cygnus cygnus*. 25/6 5 + 1 pair with 3+ cygnets (lake Rytilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 2 Lake Ala-Kitka, 2 Lake Vasaraperä, 30/6 2 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 3/7 1 with 4 cygnets Siikalahti (Parikalla).
5. **Eurasian Wigeon** (Pibeand) *Anas penelope*. 29/6 1 Lake Ala-Kitka, 37 lake 2, 3076 + Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 3/7 3 females with pullus Siikalahti (Parikalla).
6. ***Mallard** (Gråand) *Anas platyrhynchos*. 25/6 1 (lake Rytilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 26/6 1 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27- 28/6 2 females with pullus (9, 2) + 2 females Lake Hide (Kuikka), 1/7 3 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
7. **Northern Shoveler** (Skeand) *Anas clypeata*. 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
8. **Northern Pintail** (Spidsand) *Anas acuta*. 2/7 1 drive Kajaani-Mikkeli.
9. **Eurasian Teal** (Krikand) *Anas crecca*. 25/6 4 (lake Rytilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 4 Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 6 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 10 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
10. ***Common Pochard** (Taffeland) *Aythya ferina*. 3/7 2 females with pullus Siikalahti (Parikalla).
11. ***Tufted Duck** (Troidand) *Aythya fuligula*. 25/6 6 + 1 female 8 pullus (lake Rytilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 25 Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 125 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 25 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 15 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
12. **Velvet Scoter** (Fløjlsand) *Melanitta fusca*. 29/6 1 male roadside lake, 30/6 2 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).
13. ***Common Goldeneye** (Hvinand) *Bucephala clangula*. 25/6 3 (lake Rytilampi) females with pullus drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 27/6 2 Kuikka-area, 28/6 2 Väräkallio, 30/6 50 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 25 (incl 3 clutches) Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 10 (incl. 1 clutch) Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
14. ***Smew** (Lille Skallesluger) *Mergellus albellus*. 29/6 2 Lake Ala-Kitka, 4-5 roadside lake, 30/6 5 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).

15. **Common Merganser** (Stor Skallesluger) *Mergus merganser*. 2/7 1 female Porosalmi.
16. **Red-breasted Merganser** (Toppet Skallesluger) *Mergus serrator*. 29/6 2 Lake Ala-Kitka, 1 Lake Vasaraperä, 1/7 1 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
17. ***Black-throated Loon** (Storstrubet Lom) *Gavia arctica*. 27/6 2 flying over Kuikka-area, 29/6 2 ad 1 pullus lake by Valtavaara, 30/6 2 ad without pullus lake by Valtavaara, 1 N of Ruka, 2/7 1 Porosalmi.
18. **Red-necked Grebe** (Gråstrubet Lappedykker) *Podiceps grisegena*. 29/6 1 + 1 heard Lake Vasaraperä, 30/6 1 S of Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 2/7 2 (pair) Porosalmi, 3/7 2 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
19. **Great Crested Grebe** (Toppet Lappedykker) *Podiceps cristatus*. 3/7 2 pairs with pullus Siikalahti (Parikalla).
20. **Western Osprey** (Fiskeørn) *Pandion haliaetus*. 25/6 1 by nest in pylon (lake Iso-Kilmamen) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 30/6 1 Käyla, 2/7 1 by nest on rock Porosalmi, 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
21. ***Black Kite** (Sort Glente) *Milvus migrans*. 25/6 1 flew E Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27/6 1 flew N (19.47-19.48; see photo) Lake Hide (Kuikka). *A broken primary indicated it was the same bird seen twice.*



22. ***White-tailed Eagle** (Havørn) *Haliaeetus albicilla*. 25-26/6 3 (1 adult, 1 (5K, 1 2K) Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 28/6 4 (1 ad, 2 5K, 1 2K) Lake Hide (Kuikka), 1/7 1 ad Kuusamo Rubbish Dump. *Two of the eagles were colour-ringed – both with Finnish rings (B. Helander in litt.). The second calendar-year bird: Left leg with small ring – lower half red. Right leg with high ring – red top (D2) and black bottom (83). One of the fifth calendar-year birds: Left leg with large ring – metal top (33 or 39) and red bottom (30). Right small ring – metal top, red bottom. This ring was corroded and difficult to read. Detail on exact origin no received yet.*
23. **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** (Spurvehøg) *Accipiter nisus*. 28/6 1 road from Värkallio, 29/6 1 Ruka.
24. **Northern Goshawk** (Duehøg) *Accipiter gentilis*. 28/6 1 road to Värkallio.
25. **Common Buzzard** (Musvåge) *Buteo buteo*. 2/7 1 possibly this species drove Kajaani-Mikkeli, 1 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
26. **Common Kestrel** (Tårnfalk) *Falco tinnunculus*. 25/6 1 near Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 26/6 3+ Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 1 Kuikka-area, 28/6 1 near Lake Hide (Kuikka).
27. **Eurasian Hobby** (Lærkefalk) *Falco subbuteo*. 25-26/6 1 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area).
28. **Eurasian Coot** (Blishøne) *Fulica atra*. 3/7 20+ Siikalahti (Parikalla).
29. ***Common Crane** (Trane) *Grus grus*. 28/6 2 SW of Kuikka, 29/6 1 Lake Vasaraperä, 2 roadside lake.
30. **Northern Lapwing** (Vibe) *Vanellus vanellus*. 25/6 2+ near Kajaani, 25-26/6 1 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 28/6 2 Soumussalmi, 1/7 4 Kajaani Airport, 3/7 20 around Parikkala, 15 drive Parikkala-Kajaani.

31. ***European Golden Plover** (Hjejle) *Pluvialis apricaria*. 26/6 3 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27/6 1 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 28/6 2 near Levävaara.



32. **Eurasian Woodcock** (Skovsneppe) *Scolopax rusticola*. 3/7 4 display drive Ilomantsi-Kajaani, 1 display Kajaani.
33. **Common Snipe** (Dobbeltbekkasin) *Gallinago gallinago*. 25/6 2 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 1 heard Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 1 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 4/7 2 + 1 display Kajaani Airport.
34. ***Whimbrel** (Lille Regnspove) *Numenius phaeopus*. 25/6 1 heard Kajaani Airport, 26/6 4 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27/6 1 Kuikka-area, 1/7 4 Kajaani Airport, 4/7 2 heard Kajaani airport.
35. **Eurasian Curlew** (Stor Regnspove) *Numenius arquata*. 25/6 2 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 30/6 h HJBP?.
36. ***Common Greenshank** (Hvidklire) *Tringa nebularia*. 25-26/6 up to 5 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 26/6 3 Kuikka-area, 27-28/6 up to 4 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 29/6 1 Lake Vasaraperä.
37. **Green Sandpiper** (Svaleklire) *Tringa ochropus*. 26/6 1 Kuikka-area.
38. **Wood Sandpiper** (Tinksmed) *Tringa glareola*. 30/6 1 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 1/7 heard Livaara.
39. **Common Sandpiper** (Mudderklire) *Actitis hypoleucos*. 25/6 2 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 2 a3, 26/6 1 a3, 28/6 1 Värrikallio, 29/6 1 Oulanka NP Visitors Centre, 29/6 5+ all day, 30/6 +, 1/7 +.
40. ***Black-headed Gull** (Hættemåge) *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-26/6 max. 37 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27-28/6 up to 20 (incl. 2K bird) Lake Hide (Kuikka), 29/6 5 Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 5 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 250+ Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 100+ Siikalahti (Parikalla).
41. **Little Gull** (Dvärgmåge) *Hydrocoloeus minutus*. 25/6 30 (lake Iso-Sapsö-j) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 1 ad Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 6 adult Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).
42. ***Mew Gull** (Stormmåge) *Larus canus*. Seen daily in small numbers, including 25-26/6 max 16 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27/6 2 (both long-billed) Caravan-hide, 27-28/6 up to 30 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 30/6 2 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 5 N of Ruka, 30 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump. *The two birds attracted to the feeding station in dense forest by the Caravan hide was marked long-billed, i.e. a character indicating eastern influence in their genetics. Both normal and slightly long-billed birds were seen at the other hides including birds with marked yellow legs. Malling Olsen & Larsson (2003) indicates that Western Russia is an area of integration between ssp. canus in the west and ssp. heinei further east. This could also apply to eastern Finland.*



43. ***European Herring Gull** (Sølvmåge) *Larus argentatus*. 25-26/6 max 4 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27-28/6 up to 2 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 30/6 100+ Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 75+ Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.

44. ***Lesser Black-backed Gull** (Sildemåge) *Larus fuscus*. 25-26/6 max. 5 Parking Hide (Kuikka-area), 27-28/6 up to 4 (incl. some fuscus/intermedius) Lake Hide (Kuikka), 29/6 1 overflying Valtavaara, 30/6 60 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 50+ Kuusamo Rubbish Dump. *Some of the LB-bG coming to the Lake Hide were large, strong-billed and square headed & with blackish outer primaries in slight contrast to rest of dark slaty upperwing/back. In Denmark such a bird would probably be called ssp. intermedius. Perhaps these gulls have been dark ssp. heuglini?*



45. ***Heuglin's Gull** (Sibirisk Måge) *Larus [fuscus] heuglini*. 1/7 2 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump. *Compared to all ssp. fuscus at the dump these two birds were markedly different with their slaty back/wings. See photo.*

46. **Common Tern** (Fjordterne) *Sterna hirundo*. 25/6 1 near Kuikka, 1/7 4 Kajaani, 2/7 4 Boat-trip from Porosalmi, 3/7 20+ Siikalahti (Parikkala).

47. **Arctic Tern** (Havterne) *Sterna paradisaea*. 29/6 5 Lake Ala-Kitka, 30/6 12 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).

48. **Common Wood Pigeon** (Ringdue) *Columba palumbus*. 25/6 4 drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 2 Kuikka, 28/6 2 Kuikka, 28/6 5 roads around Kuusamo, 29/6 1 all day, 30/6 3 N of Ruka, 6 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 5 Kuusamo, 1/7 4 Oulanka-Juuma, 4 Kuusamo-Kajaani.

49. **Common Cuckoo** (Gøg) *Cuculus canorus*. 25/6 heard drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 3 near Kuikka, 25-26/6 1 + heard, 27/6 1 Kuikka-area, 29/6 1 heard Black Grouse lek-site, 30/6 1 Konttinen.

50. **European Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus*. 25/6 1 near Kajaani.

51. **Common Swift** (Mursejler) *Apus apus*. 25-28/6 at least one pair breeding (in pine) Kuikka, 25-26/6 seen Parking hide, 29/6 1 Oulanka NP, 1/7 20 Kajaani Airport, + Kajaani, 2-3/7 common in the few cities visited in the SE.

52. ***Great Spotted Woodpecker** (Stor Flaspætte) *Dendrocopos major*. 25-28/6 Seen in Kuikka-area incl. Kuikka and Parking hide, 28/6 1 pair by nest with young Värrikallio, 29/6 heard Naatikkavaara, 1 Valtavaara, 1/7 1 Naatikkavaara.

A possible White-backed Woodpecker *Dendrocopos leucotos*:. 2/7 1 flying over from one island to another was probably this species – appeared more broad-winged than a Great Spotted Woodpecker.

53. **Black Woodpecker** (Sortspætte) *Dryocopus martius*. 29/6 1 heard E of Konttinen (site with lek for Black grouse).

54. ***Siberian Jay** (Lavskrige) *Perisoreus infaustus*. 26/6 1 Levävaara, 1/7 5 Oulanka-Juuma, 1 (see photo) Naatikkavaara,

55. **Eurasian Jay** (Skovskade) *Garrulus glandarius*. 29/6 1 Naatikkavaara, 1/7 1 Oulanka-Juuma, 1 Naatikkavaara.



56. ***Eurasian Magpie** (Husskade) *Pica pica*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-26/6 2 Parking-hide, 28/6 4 drive Kuikka to Oulanka, 29/6 1 E of Valtavaara, 30/6 1 Virkkula, +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.

57. **Western Jackdaw** (Allike) *Coloeus monedula*. 2-3/7 seen along the road, in cities and by lake Siikalahti (Parikkala).

58. ***Hooded Crow** (Gråkrage) *Corvus cornix*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-26/6 up to 3 Parking Hide (Kuikka), 28/6 1 Värkallio, 29/6 1 Oulanka NP Visitors Centre, 28/6 2 drive Kuikka to Oulanka, 29/6 1 N of Ruka, 30/6 15+ Kuusamo, 30 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 5 N of Ruka, 40 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
59. ***Northern Raven** (Ravn) *Corvus corax*. First seen around Kuikka where widespread. Maximum: 25-26/6 up to 85 Parking-hide, 27-28/6 up to 27 Lake Hide (Kuikka). Otherwise only few records: 30/6 heard Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 15 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 + Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, heard Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 3/7 1 drive Parikkala-Ilomantsi .
60. ***Bohemian Waxwing** (Silkehaale) *Bombycilla garrulous*. 25/6 1 N of Levävaara, 26/6 1 near Levävaara, 28/6 1 heard Memorial, 30/6 1 heard Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).
61. **Willow Tit** (Fyrremejse) *Poecile montanus*. 25/6 1 family group (lake Iso-Kilmamen) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 30/6 2 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 2 Lake Turanki (Kuusamo), 2/7 4 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
62. **Coal Tit** (Sortmejse) *Periparus ater*. 25/6 1 + heard (lake Iso-Kilmamen) drive Kajaani to Kuikka.
63. **Great Tit** (Musvit) *Parus major*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-26/6 2-3 Parking-hide, 28/6 2 Raatteen Portti, 2 Värkallio, 29/6 1 Oulanka Information Centre, 1 Konttinen, 30/6 1 Konttinen, 1/7 2 Naatikkavaara.
64. **Eurasian Blue Tit** (Blåmejse) *Cyanistes caeruleus*. 30/6 2 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 1/7 1 Oulanka Visitors Centre, 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
65. **Eurasian Skylark** (Sanglærke) *Alauda arvensis*. 1/7 singing Kajaani Airport, 4/7 singing Kajaani Airport.
66. **Sand Martin** (Digesvale) *Riparia riparia*. 28/6 1 btw. Kuikka and Soumussalmi, 1/7 10+ Kuusamo Rubbish Dump.
67. **Barn Swallow** (Landsvale) *Hirundo rustica*. Seen daily in low numbers. *Additional notes: 25/6 breeding Kuikka, 25-26/6 2 Parking Hide (Kuikka), 27-28/6 2 by nest with 6 eggs (+ 1 old nest) Lake Hide (Kuikka). At Kuikka, this species was breeding in the Lake Hide but this being situated in the middle of extensive forests on sandy soils intermixed with bogs gives the swallows no access to clay/mud for nest-construction. The two nests seen were fragile constructions made of peat (and nicely lined with moulted duck-feathers). See photo.*
68. **Common House Martin** (Bysvale) *Delichon urbicum*. 25-28/6 breeding Kuikka, 1/7 +, 3/7 +.
69. **Willow Warbler** (Løvsanger) *Phylloscopus trochilus*. Recorded daily in low numbers.
70. **Wood Warbler** (Skovsanger) *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*. 26/6 1 singing near Levävaara (Kuikka).
71. **Greenish Warbler** (Lundsanger) *Phylloscopus trochiloides*. 28/6 1 heard Värkallio, 1/7 1 Naatikkavaara.
72. **Sedge Warbler** (Sivsanger) *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*. 25/6 1 singing (lake Rytilampi) drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 3/7 2 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
73. **Eurasian Reed Warbler** (Rørsanger) *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*. 3/7 1 singing Siikalahti (Parikalla).
74. **Eurasian Blackcap** (Munk) *Sylvia atricapilla*. 25/6 1 singing (stop near Kajaani) drive Kajaani to Kuikka.
75. **Garden Warbler** (Havesanger) *Sylvia borin*. 1/7 1 singing Lake Turanki (Kuusamo).
76. **Lesser Whitethroat** (Gærdesanger) *Sylvia curruca*. 1/7 1 Naatikkavaara.
77. **Common Whitethroat** (Tornsanger) *Sylvia communis*. 3/7 5 singing Siikalahti (Parikalla).



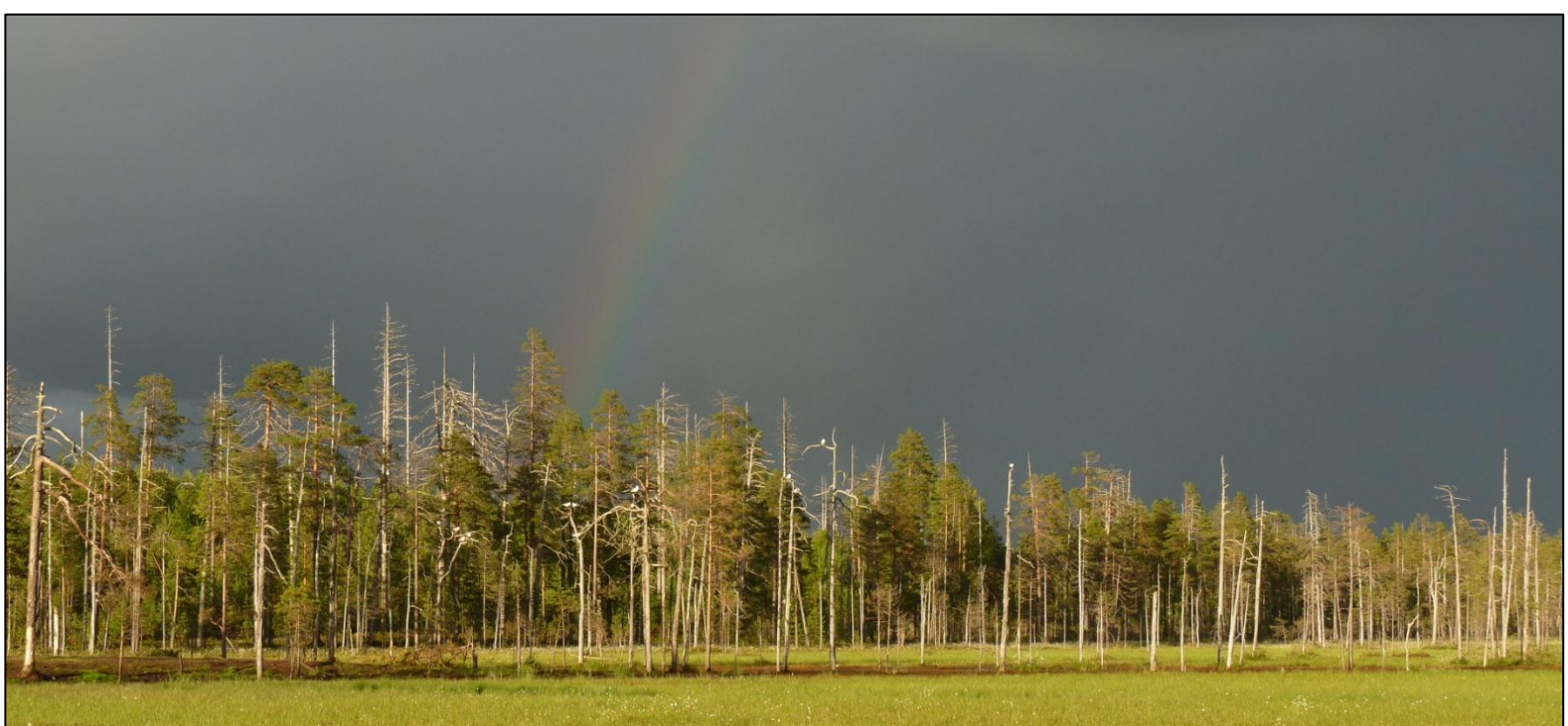
78. **Goldcrest** (Fuglekonge) *Regulus regulus*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 26/6 heard Levävaara, 27/6 2 singing Levävaara, 29/6 1 singing Valtavaara, 30/6 1 singing near Konttainen, 1/7 1 singing Livaara.
79. **Eurasian Wren** (Gærdesmutte) *Troglodytes troglodytes*. 1/7 1 singing Naatikkavaara.
80. **Common Blackbird** (Solsort) *Turdus merula*. 26/6 1 N of Levävaara, 27/6 4 N of Levävaara.
81. ***Fieldfare** (Sjagger) *Turdus pilaris*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-28/6 breeding Kuikka, 27-28/6 up to 2 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 28/6 +, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
82. **Redwing** (Vindrossel) *Turdus iliacus*. 25/6 heard Kajaani Airport, + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 27/6 1 singing N of Levävaara, 29/6 +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
83. **Song Thrush** (Sangdrossel) *Turdus philomelos*. 26-28/6 around Kuikka-area, incl. 27/6 one bring food to nest at Caravan hide, 28/6 +, 1 singing Oulanka cam site, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
84. **Mistle Thrush** (Misteldrossel) *Turdus viscivorus*. 25/6 3 near Kajaani, 26/6 3 near Levävaara (Kuikka), 27/6 1 singing Lake Hide (Kuikka).
85. **European Robin** (Rødhals) *Erithacus rubecula*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-28/6 + Kuikka-area, 29/6 1 singing Konttainen, 30/6 2 Valtavaara (lower slope), 1/7 2 singing Naatikkavaara, 3/7 2 singing Kajaani.
86. ***Red-flanked Bluetail** (Blåstjert) *Tarsiger cyanurus*. 26/6 1 female-type warning N of Levävaara (Kuikka), 27/6 3 singing Levävaara (Kuikka), 29/6 2 singing Valtavaara, 1/7 1 immature. male singing (see photo) + 2 singing Livaara.
87. **Common Redstart** (Rødstjert) *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*. 25-28/6 + Kuikka-area incl. Kuikka, Parking hide, Levävaara, Lake Hide (Kuikka), 30/6 1 Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 1 singing Valtavaara (lower slope), 1 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 1 pair warning Lake Turanki (Kuusamo), heard Livaara.
88. **Whinchat** (Bynkefugl) *Saxicola rubetra*. 25/6 1 drive Kajaani to Kuikka.
89. **Northern Wheatear** (Stenpikker) *Oenanthe oenanthe*. 27/6 1 Kuikka-area.
90. ***Spotted Flycatcher** (Grå Fluesnapper) *Muscicapa striata*. 25-28/6 breeding Kuikka, 29/6 1 Oulanka Visitors Centre, 29/6 1 Oulanka Information Centre, 3/7 1 family-flock Ilomantsi.
91. **European Pied Flycatcher** (Broget Fluesnapper) *Ficedula hypoleuca*. 25/6 + Kajaani, 25-28/6 2+ nest boxes occupied around Kuikka, 29/6 1 female Lake Ala-Kitka.
92. **House Sparrow** (Gråspurv) *Passer domesticus*. 28/6 3 Soumussalmi, 1/7 1 Kajaani Airport.
93. **Dunnock** (Jernspurv) *Prunella modularis*. 29/6 1 singing Konttainen, 1 Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 4 singing Naatikkavaara.
94. **Western Yellow Wagtail** (Gul Vipstjert) *Motacilla flava*. 26/6 heard? Parking hide (Kuikka), 30/6 1 near Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 4/7 2 heard Kajaani Airport.
95. **White Wagtail** (Hvid Vipstjert) *Motacilla alba*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-28/6 Kuikka-area incl. breeding Kuikka, 27-28/6 up to 3 Lake Hide (Kuikka), 28/6 +, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
96. ***Tree Pipit** (Skovpiber) *Anthus trivialis*. 25/6 1 singing near Kuikka, 26/6 2 N of Levävaara (Kuikka), 1/7 2 Naatikkavaara.



Red-flanked Bluetail

97. **Meadow Pipit** (Engpiber) *Anthus pratensis*. 1/7 1 singing Kajaani Airport, 3/7 1 singing Kajaani Airport.
98. ***Common Chaffinch** (Bogfinke) *Fringilla coelebs*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 25-28/6 Kuikka-area incl. breeding Kuikka, 28/6 +, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +, 2/7 +, 3/7 +.
99. **Brambling** (Kvækerfinke) *Fringilla montifringilla*. 25-28/6 few heard Kuikka, 28/6 3 (incl. ad feeding juvenile) Värrikallio, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +.
100. **European Greenfinch** (Grønirisk) *Chloris chloris*. 25-28/6 Kuikka-area incl. up to 6 Kuikka.
101. ***Eurasian Siskin** (Grønsisken) *Carduelis spinus*. 25-28/6 Kuikka-area incl. feeding juveniles Kuikka, 28/6 20 Värrikallio, + drive, 29/6 +, 30/6 +, 1/7 +, 3/7 + Siikalahti (Parikalla).
102. **Pine Grosbeak** (Krognæb) *Pinicola enucleator*. 28/6 2-3 heard Värrikallio.
103. **Parrot Crossbill** (Stor Korsnæb) *Loxia pytyopsittacus*. 28/6 1 + heard Raatteen Portti.
104. **Red Crossbill** (Lille Korsnæb) *Loxia curvirostra*. 26/6 heard Levävaara (Kuikka), 27/6 3 Levävaara (Kuikka), 30/6 1 female near Kuusamo Rubbish Dump, 1/7 heard Livaara.
105. **Common Rosefinch** (Karmindompap) *Carpodacus roseus*. 4/7 1 singing Kajaani Airport
106. **Eurasian Bullfinch** (Dompap) *Pyrrhula pyrrhula*. 26/6 1 male N of Levävaara (Kuikka), 28/6 1 Raatteen Portti, 1/7 8 Oulanka-Juuma, 3/7 2 N of Parikalla.
107. **Yellowhammer** (Gulspurv) *Emberiza citronella*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka.
108. **Little Bunting** (Dværgværling) *Emberiza pusilla*. 30/6 2 singing Lake Toranki (Kuusamo). One bird distant and one bird nearby. Only heard. The site was visited again 1/7 but none heard.
109. **Rustic Bunting** (Pileværling) *Emberiza rustica*. 29/6 1 Lake Vasaraperä, 30/6 1 singing Lake Toranki (Kuusamo).
110. **Common Reed Bunting** (Rørspurv) *Emberiza schoeniclus*. 25/6 + drive Kajaani to Kuikka, 29/6 2 singing Lake Ala-Kitka, 1 singing Lake Vasaraperä, 26/6 5 singing Lake Toranki (Kuusamo), 1/7 1 singing Lake Turanki (Kuusamo), 4/7 1 singing Kajaani Airport.

Rainbow over no-man's-land, June 25th 2012



DRAGONFLIES (Guldsmede) *Odonata*

1. ***Spearhead Bluet** (Spyd-Vandnymfe) *Coenagrion hastulatum*. 29/6 + Lake Ala-Kitka, 3/7 + Siikalahti (Parikalla).
2. ***Dark Bluet** (Hue-Vandnymfe) *Coenagrion armatum*. 3/7 2 (male&female) Siikalahti (Parikalla), see photo below to the right.
3. ***Common Bluet** (Almindelig Vandnymfe) *Enallagma cyathigerum*. 3/7 + Siikalahti (Parikalla).
4. **Brilliant Emerald** (Glinsende Smaragdlibel) *Somatochlora metallica*. 2/7 3 Astuvansalmi (Riistina),
5. ***Yellow-spotted Emerald** (Plettet Smaragdlibel) *Somatochlora flavomaculata*. 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
6. ***Four-spotted Chaser** (Firplettet Libel) *Libellula quadrimaculata*. 29/6 5 Lake Ala-Kitka, 3/7 1 Tantala.
7. ***Lilypad Whiteface** (Åkande-Kærguldsmed) *Leucorrhinia caudalis*. 3/7 2 Siikalahti (Parikalla), see photo below to the left.
8. ***Ruby Whiteface** (Nordisk Kærguldsmed) *Leucorrhinia rubicunda*. 29/6 4 Lake Ala-Kitka, 3/7 3 Siikalahti (Parikalla).



Lilypad Whiteface



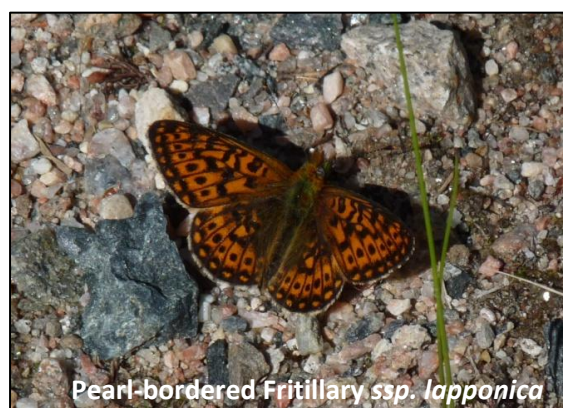
Dark Bluet

BUTTERFLIES (Sommerfugle) *Lepidoptera*

1. ***Black-veined White** (Sortåret Hvidvinge) *Aporia crataegi*. 2/7 common drive Kuopio-Mikkeli, 50 Astuvansalmi (Riistina), 3/7 30 drive Parikkala-Kajaani.
2. ***Green-veined White** (Grønåret Kålsommerfugl) *Pieris napi*. 3/7 1 Tarnala.
3. ***Green Hairstreak** (Grøn Busksommerfugl) *Callophrys rubi*. 29/6 5+ Lake Ala-Kitka, + Lake Vasaraperä.
4. ***Silver-studded Blue** (Argus Blåfugl) *Plebejus argus*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
5. ***Idas Blue** (Foranderlig Blåfugl) *Plebejus idas*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
6. ***Poplar Admiral** (Poppelsommerfugl) *Limenitis populi*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
7. **Mourning cloak** (Sørgekåbe) *Nymphalis antiopa*. 29/6 1 Naatikkavaara.
8. ***High Brown Fritillary** (Skovperlemorssommerfugl) *Argynnis adippe*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
9. ***Pearl-bordered Fritillary** (Rødlig Perlemorsommerfugl) *Boloria euphrosyne*. 29/6 2 Lake Ala-Kitka. Ssp. lapponica.



Poplar Admiral



Pearl-bordered Fritillary ssp. lapponica

10. ***Scarce Fritillary** (Askepletvinge) *Euphydryas maturna*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
11. ***Heath Fritillary** (Brun Pletvinge) *Melitaea athalia*. 2/7 15 Astuvansalmi (Riistina).
12. **Ringlet** (Engstrandøje) *Aphantopus hyperantus*. 2/7 1 road-stop, 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina), 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
13. ***Chestnut heath** (Kastanjebrunt Randøje) *Coenonympha glycerion*. 3/7 4 Tarnala.
14. ***Northern Wall Brown** (Bjergvejrandøje) *Lasiommata petropolitana*. 2/7 common Astuvansalmi (Riistina), 3/7 2 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
15. ***Large Wall Brown** (Skov-vejrandøje) *Lasiommata maera*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina), 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).
16. ***Baltic Grayling** (Jutta Randøje) *Oeneis jutta*. 1/7 1 Lake Turanki (Kuusamo).
17. **Large Skipper** (Stor Bredpande) *Ochlodes venata*. 2/7 2 Astuvansalmi (Riistina), 3/7 1 Siikalahti (Parikalla).



ORCHIDS (Orkideer)

1. **Calypso** (Norne) *Calypso bulbosa*. 29/6 25+ (faded) Oulanka NP.
2. **Lady's Slipper Orchid** (Fruesko) *Cypripedium calceolus* 30/6 65+ in full blossom Oulanka NP.
3. **Heath-spotted Orchid** (Plettet Gøgeurt) *Dactylorhiza maculata* Widespread – from road-sides to fringes of bogs.



Photographs

During the trip we managed to get photos of 8 mammals, 33 birds, 7 dragonflies, 14 butterflies and 3 orchids. For the species in question this is indicated by an * in front of the name.

Hans Jørgen: page 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19 and 20.

Uffe: 1, 4, 5, 6, 8, 14, 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Below: Young Red Squirrel, Oulanka NP (HJBP), Rock painting at Värrikallio (UGS)

Back page: Bear no. 2 scratching back (HJBP)

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