

# A five-year EU project for Swedish forests

- 14 County Administrative Boards are involved in the project.
- Between 2015 and 2019 some 120 controlled burning events will be undertaken.
- All controlled burning events will take place in so called Natura 2000 sites.
- Life Taiga, financed by the EU and the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency, is one of the largest of its kind and has a budget of € 11,2 million.



Life Taiga restores and preserves a unique type of habitat that is important for several endangered species.

## This is how it works when we burn

The burning season is from May to the middle of September, the weather and the wind are factors which decide whether it is possible to undertake a burning event as planned and without risking safety.

The area to be burned will always have clear boundaries, such as a lake, roads or specially cleared fire-breaks, which stop the fire from spreading.

Those in charge of lighting the fire, do so along the ground in narrow strips within the secured boundaries. One strip should burn out before the next one is lit. In this way, the speed and intensity of the fire can be regulated and it is possible to decide exactly what effect the fire will have in a specific area.



## Länsstyrelserna

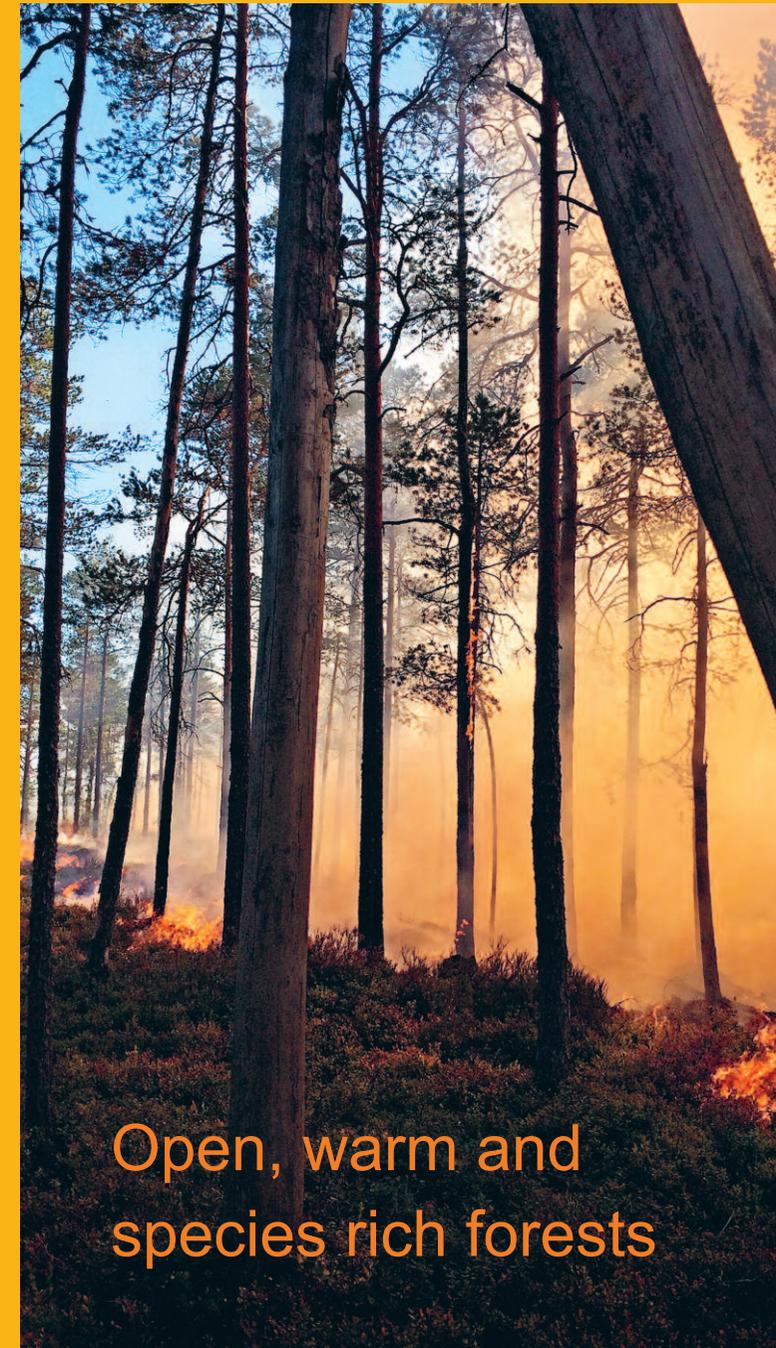
Norrbottn • Västerbotten • Jämtland  
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Värmland • Örebro • Västmanland  
Södermanland • Östergötland  
Jönköping • Kronoberg • Kalmar

[www.lifetaiga.se](http://www.lifetaiga.se)



The measures in the project financed by the EU LIFE Nature and Environmental Protection Agency. The program's purpose is to protect and nurture the areas included in Natura 2000.

# LIFE Taiga



Open, warm and species rich forests

# Controlled burning in forests is a way to take care of nature

## They benefit from fires

Approximately 100 species are directly dependent on forest fires in order to survive. Other species benefit indirectly, for example birds that live on insects in the burned tree trunks.

**Many plants, fungi and animals** are threatened today because fires occur too rarely and in too few places in the forest compared to the past. Fire is necessary to conserve and restore biodiversity.

**No one wants fires** that are out of control. This is why great efforts are made to put any fires that occur out. Controlled burning for nature conservation provides the same benefits for species as an unwanted fire.

**The most important difference** is that burning for nature conservation is managed and controlled by nature conservation staff trained in fire management.



*Picoides tridactylus*



*Geranium bohemicum*



*Tricholoma matsutake*