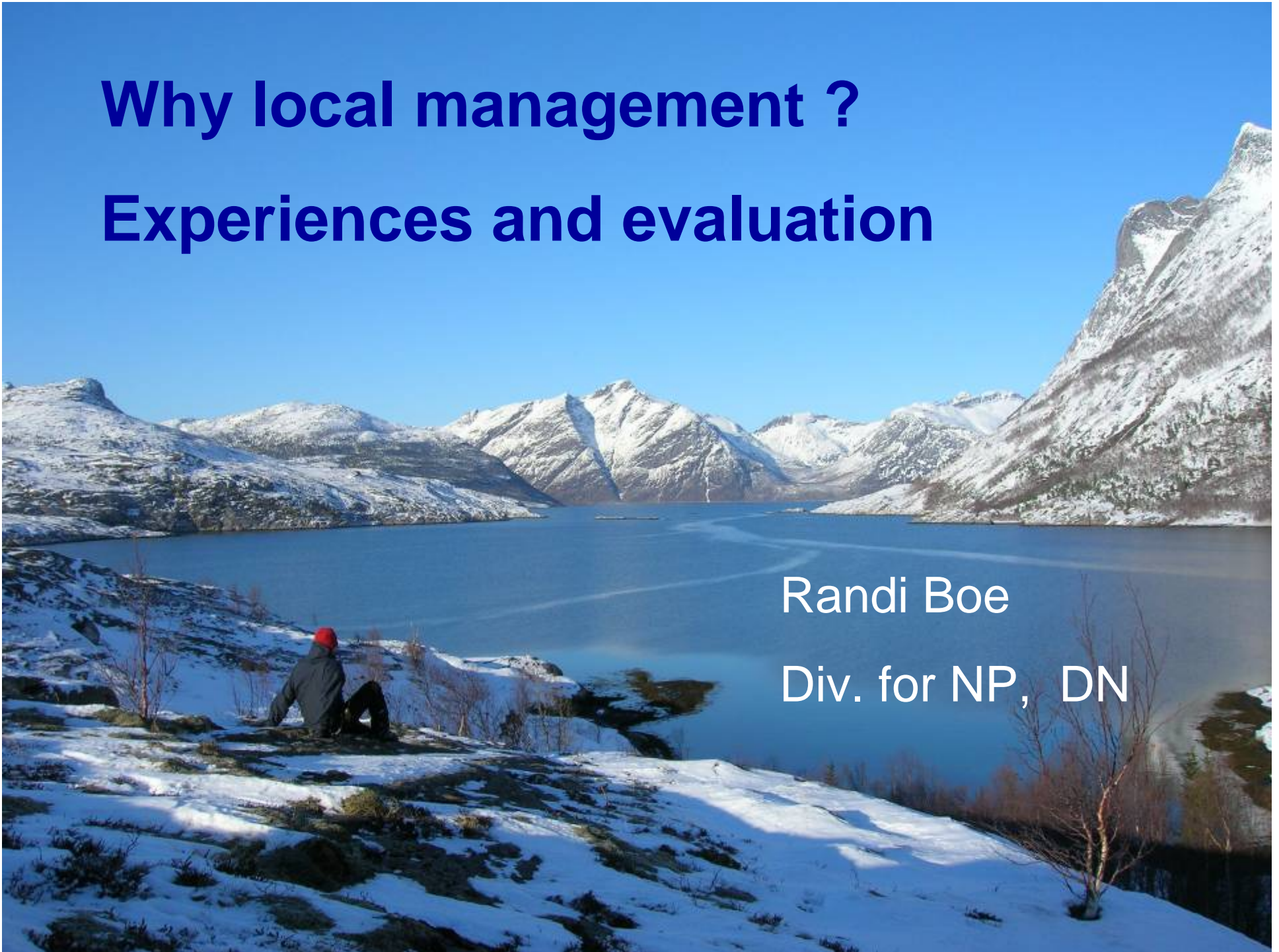


Why local management ?

Experiences and evaluation

Randi Boe

Div. for NP, DN





Management authority I

- DN has the overall responsibility for the management of all the protected areas (PAs) in Norway
- Delegated to the County Governor (Environmental dep.) since 1984
- Most of the NPs have advisory boards with representatives from the municipalities, stakeholder organisations etc.
- The Norwegian Nature Inspectorate (SNO) is responsible for control and inspection in the PAs





Management authority II

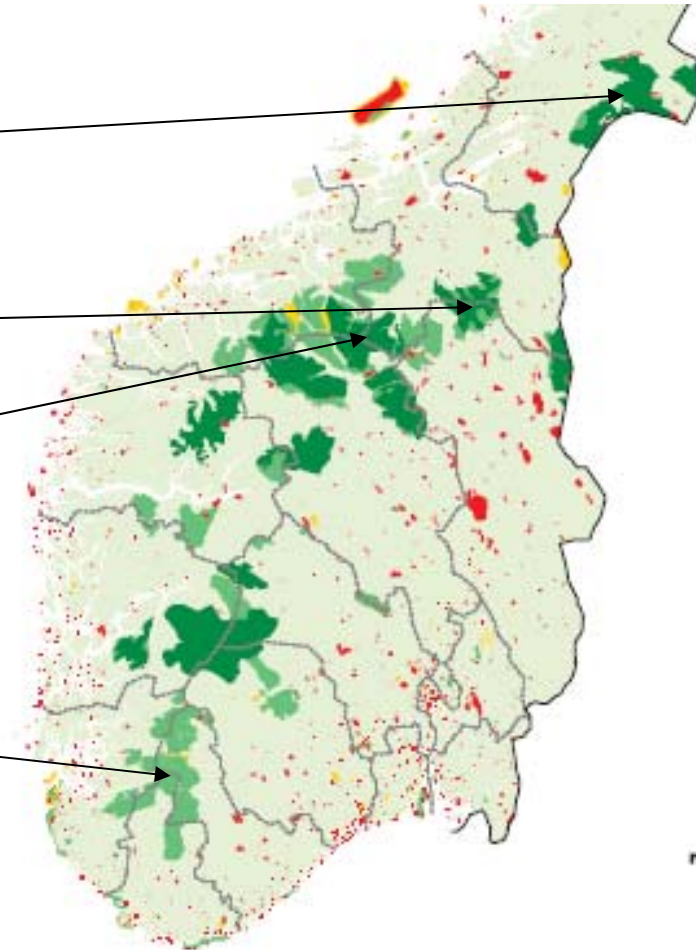
- In 1998 the municipalities were offered management authority of the PAs, apart from NPs and Ramsar areas
- Management authority of Nature Reserves and Landscape PAs has been delegated to 70 municipalities (of 400)
- In 1996 the Parliament initiated pilot trials of more local political participation in the management of NPs, including review of these trials after 5 years.
- *This presentation is based on external reviews and the experiences of DN as the superior authority.*





4 pilot trials

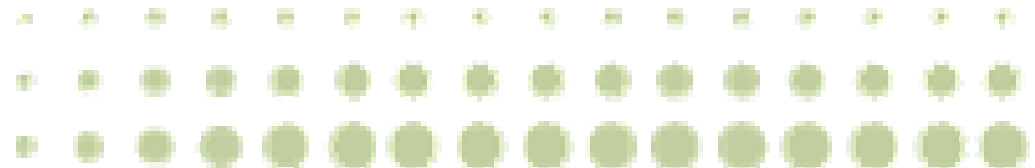
- Blåfjella-Skjækerfjella NP
- Forollhogna NP+LPA
- Dovrefjell area NP+LPA
- Setesdal Vesthei – Ryfylkeheiane LPA





Parliament and Ministry of Environment aims

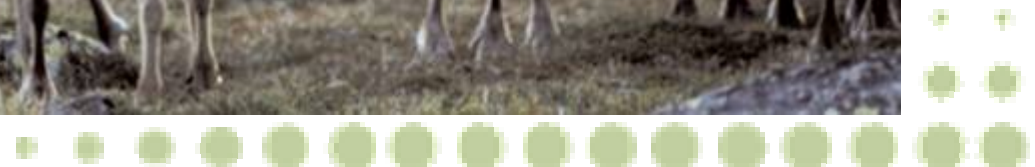
- Avoid alienation
- Foster support for nature conservation
- Develop local political participation
- Reduce tension and strengthen cooperation between local and national government
- Develop a wide scientific competence





Requirement

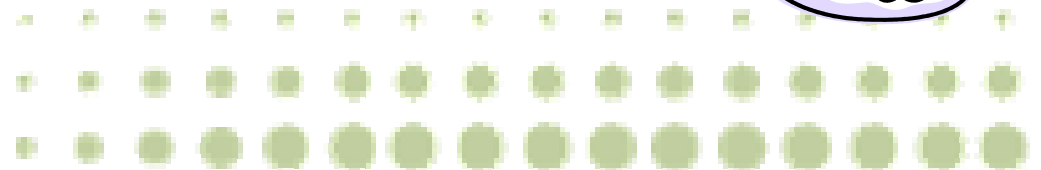
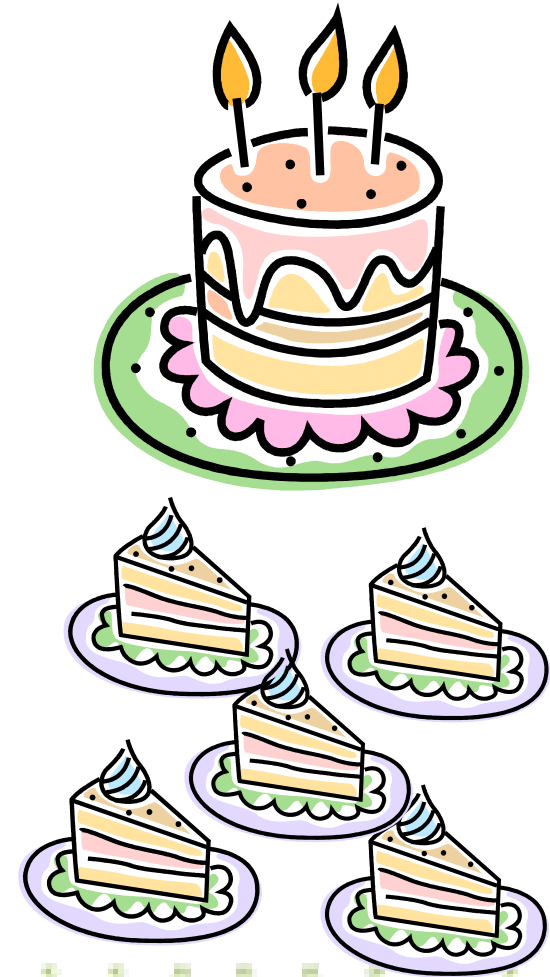
To manage the PA in accordance with the purpose of the conservation, the legislation of the PA, and national guidelines.





Experiences from the pilot trials

- **“Pie chart”**: each municipality (5-8) manage their own part of the PA
- All the PAs have advisory boards, mainly represented by the mayors.
- In Dovrefjell this board is the management authority for the NP.
- **Challenge**; how to manage the PA as an entity, not several sub-entities
- In other words; with an ecosystem approach with inter-municipal coordination and joint strategies, and not only as a result of municipal self-determination.





Experiences

Local politicians versus the local administration

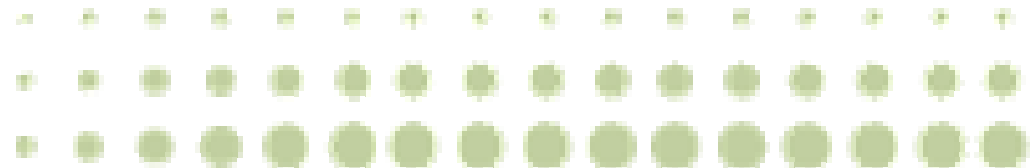
- The local politicians decide the amount and character of resources the municipality shall invest in the management.
- They also have a strong influence on the management policy - the border between use and conservation.
- Some PA adm. are free to manage the PA in accordance with the management plan, national purposes and legislation, but not necessarily all!
→ Depending on the overall local political attitude and adapted approaches to nature management in general.





In practice this makes totally different regimes, even the legislation is the same, i.e.:

- Exemptions for driving snowmobile to one private cottage, from 2 trips per year in some PAs, to free driving in others.
- Exemptions for building new hunting cottages, from 0 per year in most of the PAs, to 1-3 in the most liberal PA.

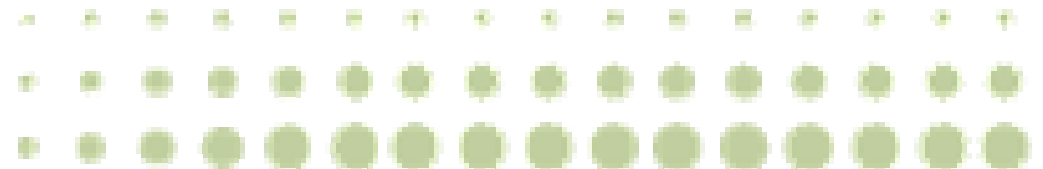




Experiences

Scientific competence of the local authorities

- Varying from very good to nearly none.
- In large PAs the combined competence can be sufficient if the inter-municipal collaboration is good, but such collaboration is one of the weakest points in most of the trials.
- Turnover of the administrative staff.
- **Challenge**; how to secure sufficient scientific competence with administrative capacity and continuity?





Experiences ...

The functions of a secretariat

- In two trials there is a full time employed secretary, and in the two others there are 30-50% positions.
- The secretary has a key-function in making the agenda for the local authority, the intensity of the inter-municipal collaboration, and following up administrative systems and cooperation with other authorities.
- Best practice in PAs where there are full time secretary with scientific competence.

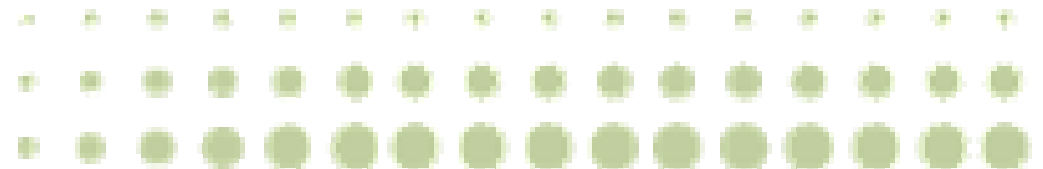




The challenge for large PAs

How to find models for a management authority;

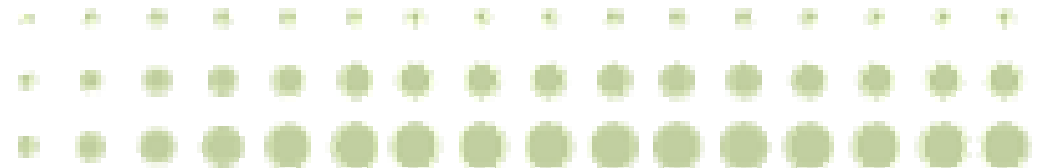
- with scientific competence
- with an ecosystem approach, as one unit
- managing in accordance with purposes of the conservation and the legislation
- where the local interests and stakeholders are involved





DNs recommendation

- Full time secretariat (or NP-manager) with scientific competence, processing the PA
- Located beside nature inspectors and nature info-centers for making competence-pools, and good communication between important actors
- Formalised inter-municipal collaboration, securing the involvement of local politicians, Sami people and other stakeholders





The model provides;

- Economical incentives, like the trials (= five to ten times more than the CGs are receiving today)
- National monitoring and reporting systems.



For life in nature and nature in life

Thank you for your attention!

