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**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE PROTECTION AND MANAGEMENT
OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL HABITATS
(CDPE)**

**Group of Specialists on Protected Areas
(PE-S-ZP)**

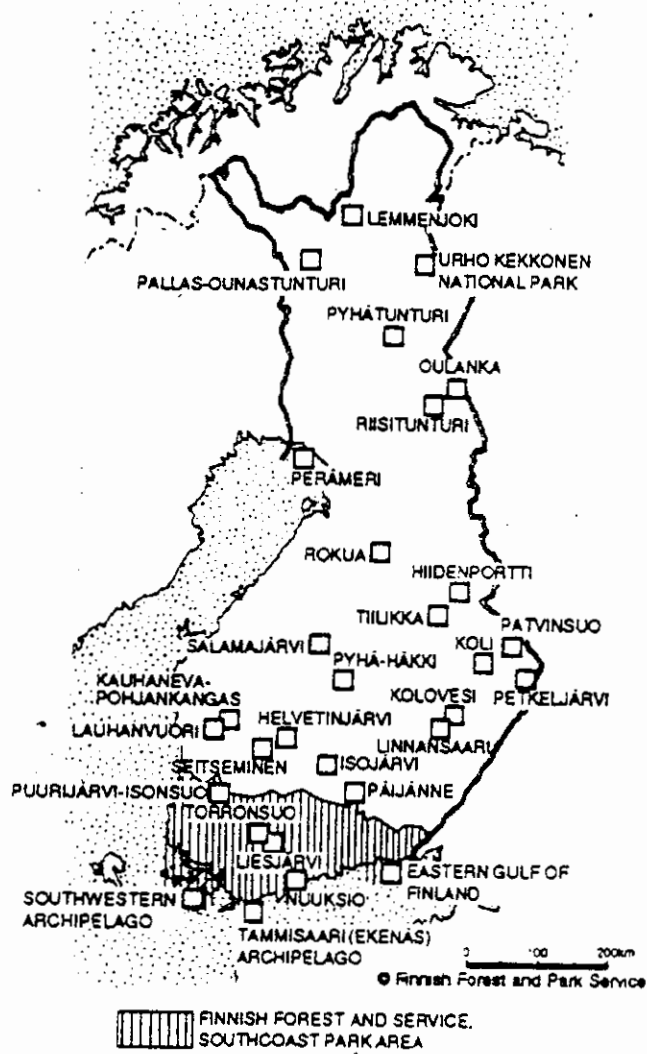
Strasbourg, 27 - 28 February, 1 March 1995

**TAMMISAARI ARCHIPELAGO
NATIONAL PARK
(Finland)**

Application for the European Diploma

Presented by the Finnish Government

**Tammisaari Archipelago National Park
Finnish Forest and Park Service
South Coast Park Area
PO Box 94
SF-01301 Vantaa
Finland**



The Finnish Forest and Park Service

4.1. 1995

**APPLICATION FOR THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA
FOR TAMMISAARI ARCHIPELAGO NATIONAL PARK**

Country: Finland
Name of the area: Tammisaari Archipelago National Park
Organization responsible
for its management: Finnish Forest and Park Service
South Coast Park Area

Address: P.O.Box 94, SF-01301 Vantaa
FINLAND

1. Type of area: National Park

2. Description of geographical location:

The Tammisaari Archipelago National Park is located in the western part of the Gulf of Finland, about 100 kilometer west of Helsinki and 15 kilometer south of the city of Tammisaari (59°50'N, 23°30'E). The National Park does not include any mainland, only islands and marine areas. A detailed map 1:50 000 is available at the Secretariat.

3. Characteristics and scientific, aesthetic, cultural and recreational values:

The Tammisaari Archipelago National Park covers an area of about 4800 hectares (about 500 hectares land areas and 4300 hectares marine areas). The land area consists of almost 200 islands and tiny islets.

The National Park has a wide variety of functions. The most important aim of the Park is nature protection, including both terrestrial and marine ecosystems. The National Park is also highly important for research, education and recreation.

The Park reaches from the inner archipelago to the so called marine zone with small islets close to the open sea. In the inner archipelago the islands are quite big, covered by forests and separated by narrow, shallow waters. Reed (*Phragmites australis*) is very common in these waters. The forests grow almost down to the waterline. The large island Älgö represents the inner archipelago in the National Park. The forests on Älgö are very similar to the forests on the mainland. There are also small mires and three lakes on the island. On the south side of Älgö is the old fishermen settlement Rödjan, which has been restored and now functions as the main information point within the Park.

The archipelago south of Älgö represents the outer archipelago. Here the islands are smaller but still covered with forests. The shores are, however, bare and rocky, in some places stony. The Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris*) dominates in the forests. The water areas are here wider and deeper than in the inner archipelago. The reed is also quite rare.

Closest to the open sea is the marine zone with small islands that usually are far from each other. The smallest rocky islets are totally treeless, on bigger ones there can be a group of Scots pines in the middle of the islet. The waters are deep in this part of the archipelago, the deepest point in the Park is almost 60 meters. The waters are also clearer here than closer to the coast. On the bottom some 1-5 meters below the water surface there is a thick vegetation mainly consisting of bladder wrack (*Fucus vesiculosus*). On deeper bottoms there is a lot of common mussels (*Mytilus edulis*). The waters in the Baltic Sea are brackish, within the National Park the saltcontent is about 6 per mille.

At the eastern rim of the Park is the large island of Jussarö. The western half of the island is part of the National Park. On Jussarö is one of the most untouched virgin forests in the Finnish archipelagos. At the northern shore of Jussarö there are small meadows and a restored, little cottage built in the 1850's.

The flora and fauna is very rich and varied in the National Park. In the forests of Älgö island there are species that are common in the forests on the mainland, too, such as the elk (*Alces alces*), white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), hare (*Lepus timidus*), badger (*Meles meles*) and fox (*Vulpes vulpes*). In the shallow bays on both the east and west side of Älgö the Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) and the Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*), among others, are nesting. Also certain rare bird species are nesting at Älgö, such as the Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*), Eurasian Eagle Owl (*Bubo bubo*) and Black-throated Diver (*Gavia arctica*).

The birdlife on the islets in the marine zone is very rich. Endangered or rare species nesting here are the Greylag Goose (*Anser anser*), Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*), Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*), Arctic Skua (*Stercorarius parasiticus*), Razorbill (*Alca torda*), Black Guillemot (*Cepphus grylle*) and Velvet Scoter (*Melanitta fusca*). The most common species here is the Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*).

In the virgin forest of Jussarö island there has been found several endangered fungus and lichens, and also rare insects living in dead trees.

The marine ecosystems in the Park are also very varied and representative for this part of the Gulf of Finland.

The National Park's marine areas form part of the Project Aqua area in the bay Pohjanpitäjänlahti and the associated sea area. Research has been carried out in this area since the beginning of this century. A research base is formed by the Tvärminne Zoological Station of the University of Helsinki located some 5 km west of the National Park. The establishment of the National Park has improved the conditions for carrying out studies in coastal waters and the archipelago.

The Lake Storträsket on Älgö island with its surrounding watershed is an area for integrated monitoring of the environment (part of an international program). The idea is to study the effects of airborne pollutants on the ecosystem.

The Forest and Park Service has made many inventories of the flora and fauna in the National Park, especially of birds, vascular plants and submarine ecosystems.

At the old fishermen settlement Rödjan on Älgö there are certain facilities for school classes, so that they can come out here and have field studies of the flora and fauna in the archipelago. Also students based at the Tvärminne Zoological Station visit the National Park during their field studies.

The recreational usage of the National Park is quite lively during the summer. The most popular boating route between Helsinki and Hanko goes through the park. There is a lot of sheltered bays and other natural harbours in the Park. During summer weekends almost 100 boats can stay overnight in the Park (people usually sleep in their boats). In 1994 there were about 5000 visitors at the main information point Rödjan.

4. European interest justifying the application:

The Tammisaari Archipelago National Park protects a unique sample of the islands and coastal waters of the Baltic Sea. It is especially important, that it covers an entire cross-section of the archipelago from the inner zone to the edge of the open sea. The region belongs to the Project Aqua and has been intensively studied and monitored since the beginning of this century. The park is also included in the Baltic Coastal Area Reserves Program under the provisions of the Helsinki Convention.

5. Ownership title:

The Tammisaari Archipelago National Park is owned by the Finnish State and managed by the Forest and Park Service.

6. Protection scheme:

Part of the National Park area was protected as a Strict Nature Reserve in 1956. The Strict Nature Reserve covered part of the islets in the southern part of the National Park of today.

The National Park was established by an Act of the Parliament in 1989 (485/1989). The National Park (= state-owned areas within the boundaries of the Park) covered at that time some 3900 hectares. The protection regulations of the Park are defined in a decree (243/1990).

The Ministry of Environment confirmed the master plan for the management and use of the National Park in 1991. Enclosed is an unofficial translation of the master plan in English.

The National Park now covers a total area of about 4800 hectares, of which water accounts for almost 4300 hectares. In 1995 the state-owned area within the boundaries of the Park will still be enlarged with some 400 hectares. After that almost the only private-owned parts within the Park's boundary are small plots with summer cottages (there are 18 of them). There is also a plan to extend the Park with almost 200 hectares (mainly on the northern part of Älgö island).

Efforts are also made to enclose the state-owned islets southwest of the Park's boundary to the Park. With that enlargement the National Park would form a much better ecological entirety than today.

7. Planning and management

Management and activities in the Tammissaari Archipelago National Park are based on the forementioned and enclosed master plan.

The information and recreation services have been developed and most of the planned facilities are already, or are about to be, ready. The information point Rödjan is open daily during the summer (June-August), when there is also a guide available. In the buildings of Rödjan there are exhibitions with nature- and cultural themes and in the surroundings a nature trail. There is a nature trail also on Modermagan island. It is possible to tent and have a campfire on tree different islands in the Park. Indoor accomodation is not available.

In April 1995 a new Visitor Center will be opened in the main harbour of the city of Tammissaari.

Two heritage landscapes with buildings and surrounding meadows have been restored: Rödjan on Älgö island and Kullakojan on Jussarö island. In summertime sheep are grazing at Rödjan.

Visitor's access is prohibited on many of the islets in the marine zone, in order to protect nesting seabirds. All of those places have been marked with special signs on the islets.

There is one park ranger working permanently with the National Park (he is also responsible for some other smaller Nature Reserves in the region). During the summers one half-time warden and two full time guides are working in the Park. When the new Visitor Center at the harbour in Tammissaari open, two guides will be working there about six months per year (at wintertime the Center will be open only 1-2 days per week).

8. Published descriptions:

The following printed matter has been published about the Tammissaari Archipelago National Park:

- Leaflets in Finnish, Swedish and English
- Booklet in Finnish and Swedish (in 1995 also in English) about the nature trail at Rödjan
- Reports and manuscripts mainly in Finnish about the flora and fauna in the Park

9. Photographs:

- A. A view from the central part of the Tammisaari Archipelago National Park, outer archipelago zone.
- B. A shallow, sheltered bay (so called "flada") on the east side of Älgö island, inner archipelago zone.
- C. The Lake Storträsket in the middle of Älgö island.
- D. Virgin forest on Jussarö island. Fallen trunks of Norway spruce (*Picea abies*).
- E. Barren bedrock on a small islet in the marine zone. *Lythrum salicaria* is in flower.
- F. A meadow on an islet in the marine zone.
- G. A very rare geological formation in the Park, ballgäbro.
- H. Sheep grazing at the old fishermen settlement Rödjan.
- I. The main building at Rödjan serves the visitors in the summertime.
- K. Boating is very popular in the Park.

Material mentioned under 8 and 9 is available from the Secretariat.

Decree

On Tammisaari National Park

Promulgated in Helsinki, on the 9th day of March 1990

On the basis of the Ministry of the Environment's presentation in compliance with Section 2, paragraph 2 of the Nature Conservation Act (71/23) promulgated on the 23rd day of February 1923, and Section 5 of the Act (485/89) on Tammisaari National Park promulgated on the 26th day of May 1989, the following is enacted:

Section 1 *Prohibitions*

In Tammisaari National Park it shall be forbidden to:

- 1) erect buildings or constructions or make roads;
- 2) extract land, damage soil or bedrock, or drain forest, peatland or other areas;
- 3) take or damage trees, bushes or other plants or parts thereof;
- 4) kill, catch or alarm wild vertebrate animals or destroy their nests, or catch or collect invertebrate animals; and
- 5) camp or light fires.

In the national park all other activities that might adversely affect the area's natural conditions, landscape or the preservation of animal or plant species are also prohibited.

Section 2 *Permitted activities*

In keeping with the purpose for its establishment, it shall be permitted within Tammisaari National Park:

- 1) for the purpose of managing, supervising and studying the area, as well as for public guidance, recreation and exploration of the area, to construct the necessary buildings, constructions and pathways;
- 2) to pick berries and edible fungi;
- 3) to fish as laid down more precisely in the park regulations;
- 4) by means of appropriate measures, to restore the area's natural state as required for natural progression;
- 5) to take the necessary steps to preserve environments affected by traditional forms of use of nature;
- 6) to restore and maintain buildings and constructions;
- 7) to engage in activities called for by the rescue service and fire control;
- 8) to map and carry out surveying work.

In places that are specified in the regulations it shall be permitted to camp in the national park on a temporary basis and to light camp fires.

Local inhabitants shall be permitted to hunt on the islands and islets to the south of the former Jussarö Strict Nature Reserve to the extent defined in more detail in the regulations.

Section 3

Activities permitted to the defense forces and border guard

In Tammisaari National Park, those activities shall be permitted which are necessary for regional surveillance by the defence forces and border guard and for their training, for the safety of the defence forces at sea, and for the maintenance of defence readiness.

Section 4

Activities permitted by permission of the Forest and Park Service

Without endangering the purpose for its establishment, within the Tammisaari National Park, by permission of the Forest and Park Service it shall be permitted:

- 1) for research or other scientific purposes, or for teaching purposes, to kill or catch animals, take geological samples and to a small extent to collect plants and their parts, the nests of animals and geological samples;
- 2) to reduce the numbers of a plant or animal species, if the species has increased too much or become harmful to others;
- 3) to collect cones and seeds from forest trees and to take plant parts necessary for forest tree breeding;
- 4) to carry out geological studies and prospect for ores;
- 5) to maintain thoroughfares, electricity and telephone lines and electricity and telephone equipment; and
- 6) to construct and maintain marine navigation equipment and navigation channel signs and light signals.

Section 5

Management and use plan

For the management and use of Tammisaari National Park a management and use plan shall be prepared. For the purpose of management and use the national park may be divided into different parts.

The principles of the management and use plan (*master plan*) shall be approved by the Ministry of the Environment. When approving the master plan the Ministry shall specify which *special plans* based on the master plan shall be required to be approved by the Ministry.

Section 6

Special provisions

Provisions on the basis of which the various activities in the Tammisaari National Park area shall be permitted shall not confer more extensive rights than otherwise held by the party.

The Ministry of the Environment may permit other than the activities referred to in Sections 2-4 which are in accordance with the purpose for establishing the national park and which its purposeful management or use shall call for.

Section 7

Management of Tammisaari National Park and the Advisory Board

Tammisaari National Park shall be administered and managed by the Forest and Park Service.

To promote the management and use of the national park an Advisory Board may be appointed as an aid to the Forest and Park Service. The Advisory Board shall comprise a chairperson, a deputy chairperson and six other members, each of whom shall have a personal substitute. The members and their personal substitutes shall be appointed by the Uusimaa provincial office for a four year term at a time. The Advisory Board shall include representatives from the provincial office, Forest and Park Service, defence forces, University of Helsinki, nature conservation organisations and local inhabitants engaged in professional fishing, in addition to two representatives from the town council of Tammisaari. Before members are nominated the people they will be representing must be allowed to air their views. In other respects the Advisory Board shall be subject to whatever shall be ruled by State committees.

Section 8

More detailed regulations

More detailed regulations for enforcing this decree shall be prescribed when necessary by the Ministry of the Environment.

Instructions for determining the boundaries of Tammisaari National Park will be issued by the National Board of Survey.

Section 9

Entry into force and transition provision

This decree shall come into force on the 1st day of April 1990.

Helsinki, the 9th day of March 1990

President of the Republic
MAUNO KOIVISTO

Minister of the Environment

FOREST AND PARK SERVICE

TAMMISAARI NATIONAL PARK REGULATIONS

The Forest and Park Service has, on the basis of the Nature Conservation Act 71/1923, Section 3 and 7, on 10.6.1992 laid down the regulations for Tammissaari National Park.

Tammissaari National Park has been established for the purpose of preserving a representative part of the archipelago and marine ecosystem, and to promote environmental research and nature study. The national park provides opportunities for boating, teaching and research.

Introduction

1. In the national park, activities changing the environment are prohibited, both on land and underwater. Disturbing, catching and killing animals, damaging the sea bed, soil, bedrock and vegetation, the taking of plants or parts thereof, littering, water pollution, activities disturbing other people, and letting dogs, cats and other domestic animals off the leash are prohibited. The damaging of constructions, information boards, ancient monuments and wrecks within the national park is prohibited.

Restrictions regarding movement

2. In the national park waters it is permitted to move about by rowing boat, motor yacht, motor boat, canoe or surfboard. Landing and movement on foot, and in winter on skis, is permitted on the islands, with the exception of the restricted parts specified in the appendix to these regulations. Provisions regarding movement within the restricted parts are given in the appendix.

Temporary restricted parts may also be designated at the Forest and Park Service's discretion.

Restricted parts and the regulations applying to them are indicated in the terrain.

Movement by snowmobile, hydrocopter and hovercraft is permitted along the official navigation channels while the ice is breaking up and while the sea is ice covered. The use of motorised transport other than that mentioned in Section 2 is expressly prohibited. Water skiing is also prohibited.

3. Movement by foreign nationals is, additionally, restricted in the land and water areas belonging to the Jussarö military protection area covered by the Council of State's resolution (723/ 1991).

Lighting fires and camping

4. Fire lighting is permitted only in the specified places at Älgö, Modernagan and Fladalandet. However, the use of open fires is not permitted when a general fire alert has been broadcast for the area. For making fires only the wood reserved for this or driftwood collected from the beach may be used. The use of camping stoves, grills, etc, is permitted elsewhere than at the places indicated for fire lighting.

5. Camping is permitted only at the specified camping sites on Älgö, Modernagan and Fladalandet. Sleeping on boats is permitted everywhere where boats are permitted.

Berry and mushroom picking

6. The picking of berries and edible wild mushrooms and the collection of driftwood are permitted provided the restrictions on movement or other regulations do not prevent this. In connection with driftwood collection, the regulations in Chapter 5, Section 97 of the Water Act (649/1976) must be obeyed.

Fishing

7. Rod and line fishing and fishing through a hole in the ice are permitted in accordance with Section 8, paragraph 1, and Section 9, paragraph 2 of the Fishing Act (286/1982) elsewhere than in the lakes on Älgö, in the bays between Mejfladan, Verkholm and Båtskär, and wherever the restrictions on movement prevent it. In the aforementioned places all forms of fishing are prohibited.

With the exception of rod and line fishing and fishing through a hole in the ice, other forms of recreation fishing, as well as fishing for household consumption and professional fishing, are only allowed under a written permit from the Forest and Park Service under the terms contained therein. For the water areas south of the navigation channel between Stora Rävharun and Gråharun, recreation fishing licences will only be issued for the period 1.9 - 31.3.

Hunting

8. The duck and seabird hunting referred to in Section 24 of the Hunting Act is permitted annually on the islets lying south of the former Jussarö Strict Nature Reserve under a written permit from the Forest and Park Service during the period 10.9 - 30.11, unless other regulations curtail the hunting season.

A hunting licence can only be granted to local inhabitants. When granting a licence, species that can be hunted may be excluded, if this is necessary from the protection perspective.

Miscellaneous regulations

9. The national park regulations do not prevent shipping movements, ambulance services, fire and oil spill control, rescue services, mapping and surveying work, or activities of the defence forces and border guard as described in the park's Decree (243/1990), Section 3.

10. The Forest and Park Service may grant a permit for activities described in the park's Decree (243/1990), Section 4, for movement inside the restricted areas, research, bird ringing, commercial activities connected with tourism or other interest, the arranging of public events, or other comparable activities within the national park. A permit for these, or other activities, deviating from the regulations must be applied for in writing to the South Coast Park Area office.

11. The provisions of the Decree (243/1990) applying to the national park, and the regulations included here in accordance with which certain activities within the national park are permitted, may not confer more extensive rights than are otherwise held by the party.

12. A person acting in a supervisory capacity in the national park may for the purpose of nature conservation draft regulations based on these regulations which must be obeyed by visitors to the park.

In accordance with the Act (485/1989) applying to the national park, the authority supervising nature conservation and a national park supervisor have the right to confiscate hunting, collecting or other equipment or gear which has been used, or which it is the intention to use, in contravention of the rules or regulations to be observed in the national park. The same right to confiscation also applies to illegally caught wild animals and illegally collected plants, as well as to everything else which it is forbidden to take away from, or use in, the national park.

13. Offences committed against the national park regulations or the conservation regulations referred to in the Nature Conservation Act will be punished in accordance with the said Nature Conservation Act (71/1923), unless more severe penalties are imposed for the offence by other Acts.

Further information

The regulations and further information on them are obtainable from the following location:

Forest and Park Service, South Coast Park Area,
postal address: P.O. Box 94, SF-01301 Vantaa, Finland
street address: Vernissakatu 4
enquiries: tel. 358-(9)0 857 841

APPENDIX Restricted parts of Tammissaari National Park

APPENDIX

Tammisaari National Park regulation 10.6.1992

In compliance with the regulation imposed on 10.6.1992, movement within the national park is restricted as follows:

Movement is entirely prohibited in both the land and the water areas all year round:

- in Verkviken and Verkfladan, and
- in Lågskär-Mellandet and
- in the areas in the vicinity of Hjortonskär-Äggöskär marked on the maps:

In Jussarö landing and moving about are permitted only in the company of a guide authorised by the Forest and Park Service.

Landing and movement onshore are prohibited at a distance of less than 200 metres from the shore on the following islands and islets and their unnamed promontories during the period 1.4 - 31.8 (professional fishermen may apply for a special permit):

- Innerskär
- Lilla Rävharun-Skyffelskär-Klovaskär-Mossklobben
- Måskobbarna-Hjortronskärsgrunden
- Äggharuna-Äggharukobbarna
- Tistronharuna-Estharun-Viharun-Drängharun
- Låggrundet

Landing and mooring on the shore are prohibited during the period 1.4 - 15.7 on the following islets and groups of islets:

- Näseörarna
- Klovaharun
- Blekharun

Movement on the following lakes is permitted only when they are ice-covered:

- Storträsket, with the exception of the southernmost bay of the lake, where swimming is permitted
- Lillträsket
- Näseträsket

In Mejfladan and the water area between Verkhölmén and Båtskär the use of motor boats is prohibited.

Under a Council of State resolution (723/1981) movement by foreigners and foreign vessels is restricted in the Jussarö protected area.

