

Advancing geography and geographical learning

# Evolution of ecosystem services in the frame of pastoral functional categories

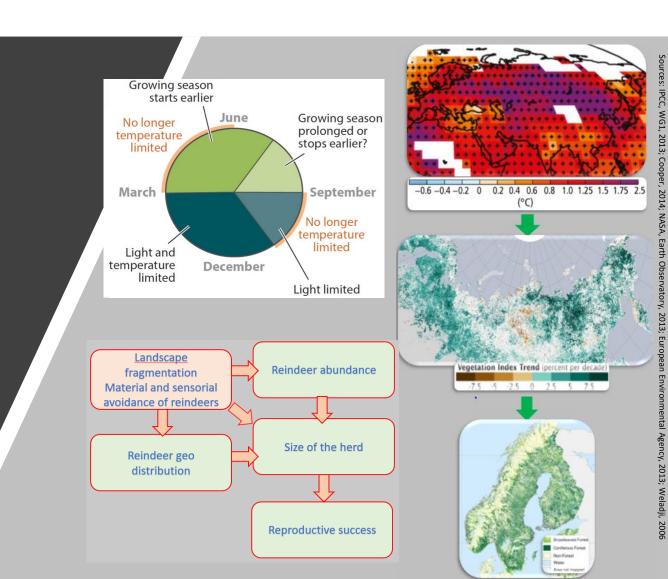
A study case in Swedish Lapland

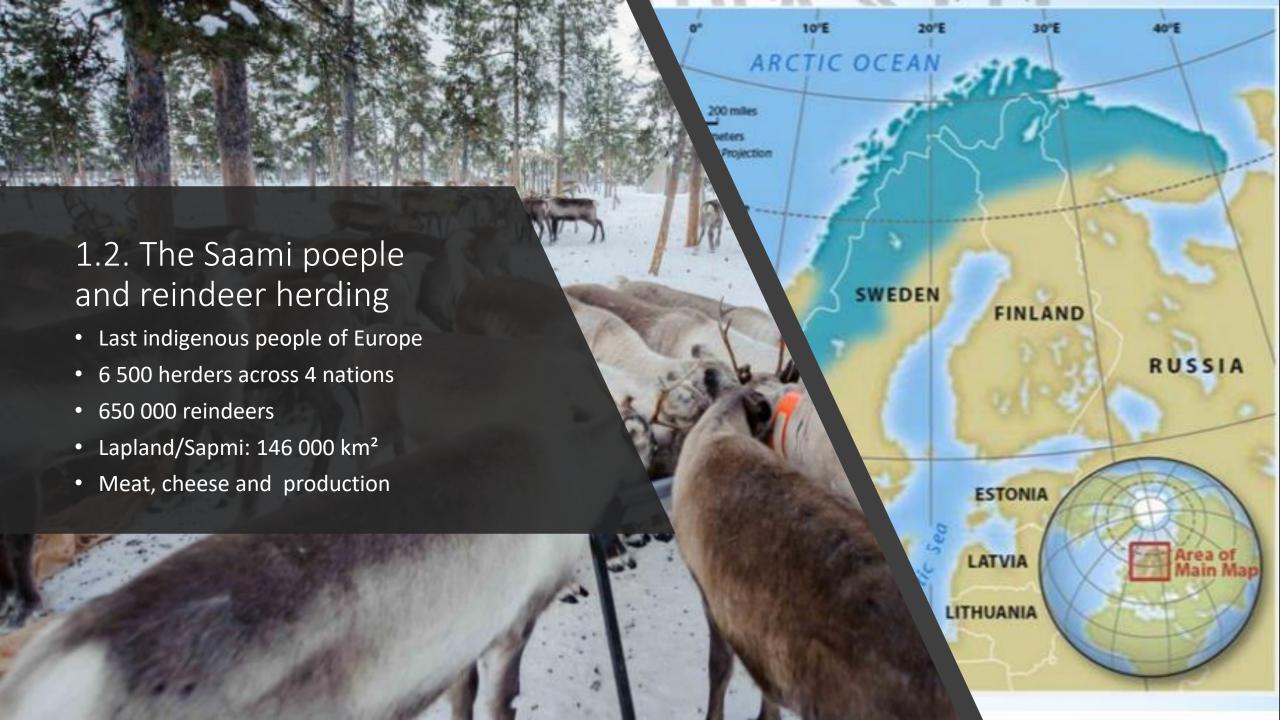
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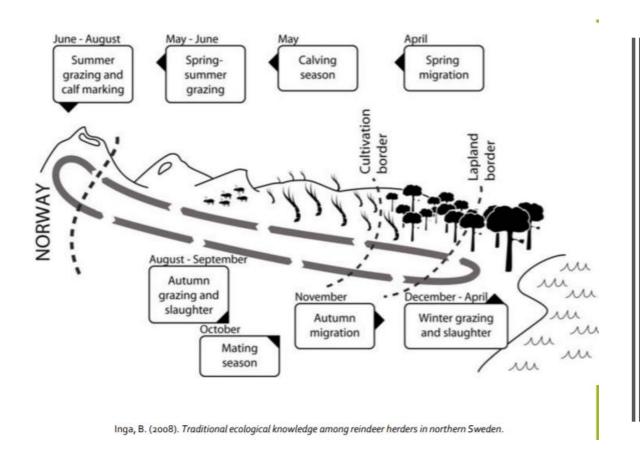
#### 1.1. Global change and its effects on subarctic (socio-) ecosystems

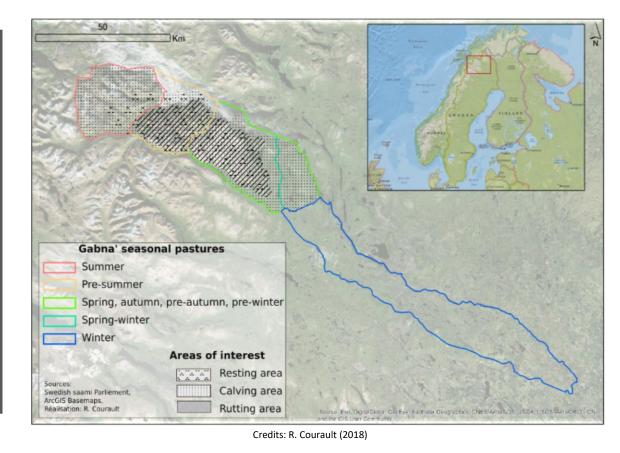
- Arctic and subarctic socio ecosystems: sentinels of climate change and its impacts at various geo/temporal scales
- In particular studying reindeer *Rangifer tarandus* and associated pastoralism is meaningful
- Plant distribution modification (e.g. « borealization of ecosystems »;
   « shrubification ») : loss of pastures?
- Economical activities increasing, landscape fragmentation and reindeer avoiding strategies





# 1.3. Study area: Gabna community (Northern Sweden)





## 1.4. Ecosystem services applied to reindeer pastoralism

#### Ecosystem services:

« the benefits human populations derive, directly or indirectly, from ecosystem functions » (Constanza et al. 1997 in Fisher et al., 2007)

Vihervaara, Kumpula et al. (2010):

- a. Supporting
- b. Provisionning
- c. Regulating
- d. Cultural services
- $\Rightarrow$ How apply it in the Swedish context?
- ⇒How it might evolve during time?

		Industries/cities	<b>Coniferous forests</b>
Provisioning values	Reindeer	0	20
	Game	0	20
	Fish	0	10
	Berries, mushroom	0	20
	Fodder	0	20
	Medecine	0	20
	Wood	0	20
	Water	0	10
	Energy	0	20
	Genetic resources	0	20
Regulating values	Local and regional	0	20
	climate		
	Carbon sequestration	0	20
	Pollination	10	10
	Flood prevention	20	10
	Erosion prevention	10	20
	<b>Nutrient sequestration</b>	20	0
Cultural values	Local and Sami culture	10	20
	Esthetic landscapes	0	20
	Intrinsic value of	0	20
	nature		
	Recreation	0	20
Supporting values	Phtosythesis	0	20
	Nutrient cycling	0	20
	Soil formation	0	20

Source: Vihervaara, Kumpula et al., Ecosystem services: - A tool for sustainable management of human-environment systems.

Case study Finnish Forest Lapland, *Ecological Complexity* 7 (2010) 410-420

### 3.1. Results: Linguistic categories ≠ ecological categories!

Saami terminology	English translation	Biogeographical scale	Interpretation (CLC and SW maps)
Beahcevuovdi	Pine forest	Landscape + specie	Coniferous forest
Duottar	Tundra, hill, treeless mountain	Landscape	Sparsely vegetated areas; bare rocks
Lageš	Montane birch	Specie	Broadleaved forest
Hàika	Old pine	Specie + dynamics	Cold and humid conifer forests
Meahcci	Open country, pasture land, wilderness	Landscape	Moors and heathlands
Sitnu	Grasses	Familia / genera	Grasslands

## 2.1. Material and methods:

- 1) Acquiring and preprocessing Landsat imagery
- 2) Training samples for the supervised classification
- 3) Classification and computation of the confusion matrix/validation
- 4) Land cover maps, mixing « occidental » categories and traditional categories
- 5) Reclassing land cover maps to ecosystem services ones
- 6) Areas calculation for the two scales of analysis (Gabna' community and seasonal pastures)

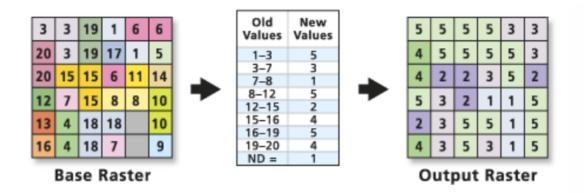
#### Training samples



Confusion matrix / Kappa accuracy

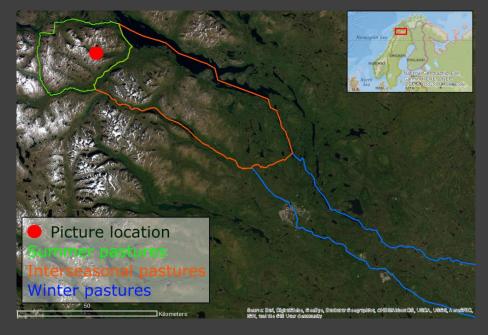
$$k = \frac{p_o - p_e}{1 - p_e}$$

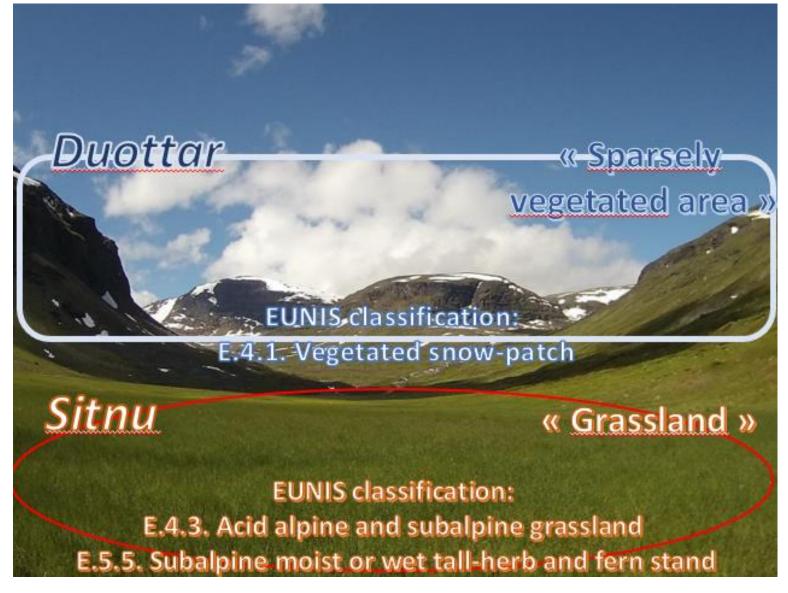
## Reclass land cover classification to ecosystem services



Source: ESRI website

- 3.2 Quick interpretation of landscape using herders' ecological categories
- Mountainous area: summer pastures
- Glacial valley of Gorsajohka (Abisko valley)

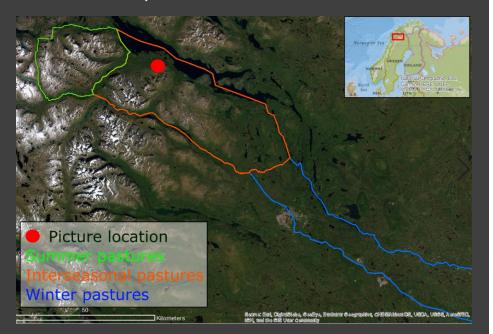




Credits: R. Courault (2016, 2019)

3.2 Quick interpretation of landscape using herders' ecological categories

- Above treeline (~600 m)
- Near from the Torneträske lake, Abisko



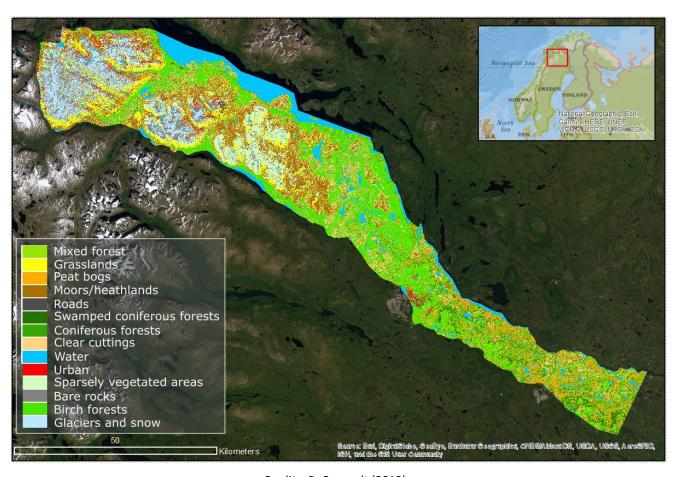


Credits: R. Courault (2016, 2019)

# 4.2. Results: Evolution of land cover (1990-2017)

- At Gabna' herders community scale
- « Clear cuttings » are slightly increasing (+3%), as well as « urban » and « roads » (+1.7% and +0.3%)
- « Bare rocks/Duottar » areas are decreasing (-1.8%) while « Grassland / Sitnu » increases (+ 3.2%)
- For seasonal pastures :
- Winter pastures are the most affected by the infrastructure development (Kiruna..)
- Summer pastures presents the strongest numbers for natural vegetation shifts

## Gabna' reindeer herders community land cover in July 1990

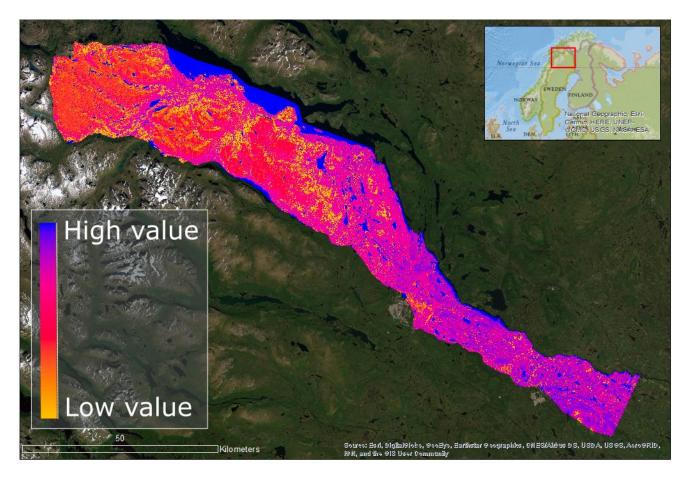


Credits: R. Courault (2019)

#### 4.3. Results: Evolution of ecosytem services (1990-2017)

- Low ranked land cover (e.g. roads, urban...) are mecanically increasing at the Gabna' community scale
- High valued ones (forests...) does not show any specific trend between 1990 and 2017
- High variability between seasons

## Gabna' reindeer herders community ecosytem services in July 2017



# 5. Conclusion and perspectives

Uses of local / indigenous taxonomy: brings ecological informations and allow discussion with stakeholders

But watch for generalization abuses/misinterpretation!

=> Here need for feedbacks fieldwork (talk with native speakers/herders and linguists)

Evolution of Gabnas' landscapes and associated ecosystem services: landscape fragmentation and vegetation shifts

=> Supervised classification: fair performances (for now), to enhance with more accurate imagery

=> Focusing the ranking of ecosystem services specifically on Rangifer tarandus ecology (e.g. "Providing" values)



# Thank you for your attention!