LUND UNIVERSITY

Knowledge brokering and the historical legitimization of mechanized forestry

Jönsson, Jimmy; Priebe, Janina

2024

Document Version:
Förlagets slutgiltiga version

Link to publication

Citation for published version (APA):
Jönsson, J., & Priebe, J. (2024). *Knowledge brokering and the historical legitimization of mechanized forestry*. 1. Poster presenterad vid 26th IUFRO World Congress, Stockholm, Sverige.

Total number of authors:
2

Creative Commons License:
Ospecificerad

General rights
Unless other specific re-use rights are stated the following general rights apply:
Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.
• Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
• You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
• You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Read more about Creative commons licenses: https://creativecommons.org/licenses/

Take down policy
If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

LUND UNIVERSITY

PO Box 117
221 00 Lund
+46 46-222 00 00

Download date: 14. Nov. 2026

Knowledge Brokering and the Historical Legitimization of Mechanized Forestry

Jimmy Jönsson and Janina Priebe

LUND UNIVERSITY

Knowledge brokering helped legitimize the Swedish transition to mechanized forestry in the 1950s and 1960s

Policymakers can learn from the mechanization of forestry by combining top-down policy instruments with bottom-up means of knowledge brokering

Image on the right and left below: SLU Forestry Photo Archive

Transition to mechanized forestry

- How do we engage small-scale forest owners in the climate transition?
- Aiming to learn from the past, we studied the Swedish transition to mechanized forestry in the 1950s and 1960s
- In the 1950s, the Swedish state initiated a transition in the forestry sector to exclusevily high sustainable yields
- The shift was secured by a forestry law and supported by technical innovations such as the chainsaw
- Half of Sweden's forest land was owned by small-scale owners; many were primarily farmers and sceptical towards mechanization and sustainable-yields forestry

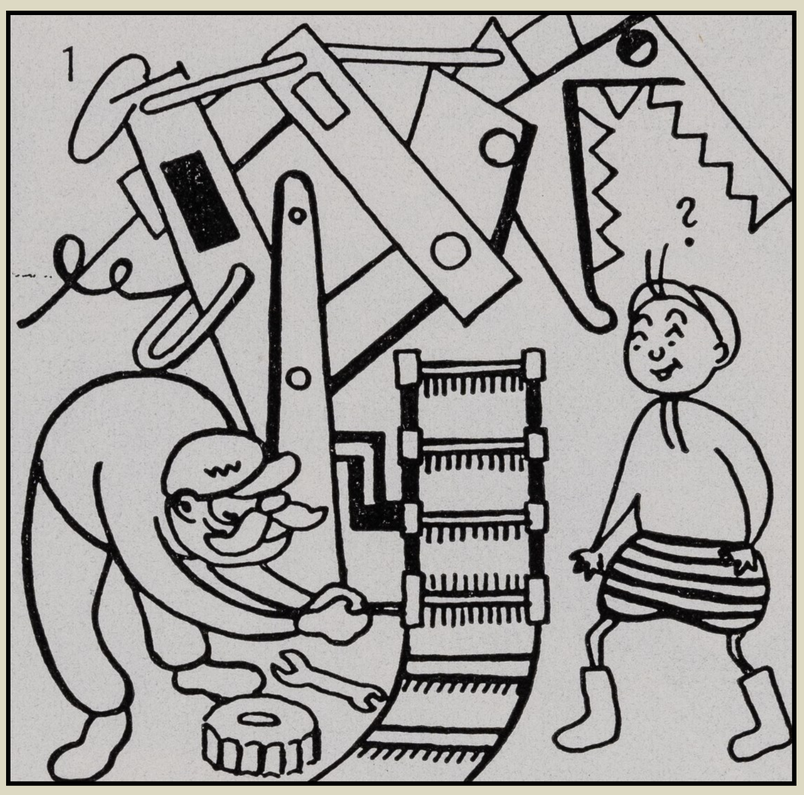
Image to the right: Jerdén S, 1960. Fritte 134, *Skogsägaren* 36

Knowledge brokering

- In the 1950s and 1960s, the forest owner association SSR launched knowledge campaigns to support forest owners adjusting to mechanization
- The campaigns included contests, technology trials, and participant-led study circle courses where forest owners learned in small groups
- We analysed the campaigns, viewing SSR as a "knowledge broker" mediating between policymakers and forest owners

Conclusions

- Knowledge brokering provided forest owners with a multimedia knowledge society, technical know-how, educational structures, new identities, and critical perspectives
- Ultimately, knowledge brokering provided a bottom-up legitimization of mechanzation
- Climate transiton policymakers can learn from this by combining top-down policy instruments with the bottom-up means of knowledge brokering



Lund University
Jimmy Jönsson
PhD, History of Ideas and Sciences
Department of Arts and Cultural Sciences
Helgonavägen 3, Lund, Sweden
Box 192, 221 00, Lund, Sweden

E-mail: jimmy.jonsson@kultur.lu.se
Web: www.kultur.lu.se
The study was funded by Formas (2021-02145) and conducted as part of the project "Route to Paris."