



Liaskogen

Liaskogen is one of Örebro county's most valuable fen woodland areas, containing many threatened plants, fungi and birds that require special attention.

The flatland is characterised by a mosaic of low, marshy areas and higher islets of more solid ground. The forest is dominated by deciduous trees, mainly alder, downy birch and aspen, but spruce is also found on more solid ground. Most of the forest in the nature reserve has grown since Lake Väringen was lowered at the end of the 19th century, and is around 90 years old. The oldest trees are about 140 years old, and comprise pine, spruce and aspen that grow on hillocks that were islands before the lake level was lowered. Particularly valuable are the old giant aspens.

Deciduous trees dominate in the nature reserve because spruce cannot tolerate immersion in water for longer periods, which occurs in some years. During periods without flooding, the number of spruce trees increases. The last major flood took place in 1977, also killing birch trees, thereby giving wood-eating insects some golden years. It also benefitted the woodpeckers that ate the insects.

Birds, lichens, mosses and fungi

After the water level was lowered, and after a period of woodland pasture, Liaskogen has been almost

completely undisturbed and unaffected by modern forestry. Consequently, there is a high proportion of deciduous trees and plenty of dead and dying trees. This benefits a large number of animal and plant species that require the habitats offered by the rare native forest. Many unusual lichens, mosses and fungi grow in the nature reserve, including tree lungwort, *Nephroma laevigatum*, aspen brittle-moss, *Antitrichia curtispindula*, as well as *Phellinus ferrugineofuscus* and *Pycnoporellus fulgens*.

The area also has a rich birdlife, with species such as the red-breasted flycatcher and the wood warbler. You can also find several species of woodpecker, such as the lesser-spotted woodpecker, green woodpecker and black woodpecker. The white-backed woodpecker, almost extinct in Sweden, had one of its final outposts here before it became extinct in the county in the 1980s. The species disappeared because of the forestry industry's effective removal of deciduous trees from the county's forests. The osprey can be diving for fish in Lake Väringen.

Nature path

The distance from the car park to the nature reserve is about 800 metres. There is a 2-km path in Liaskogen forest, and a picnic spot halfway round on the shore of Lake Väringen.



Black woodpecker:
Niklas Johansson



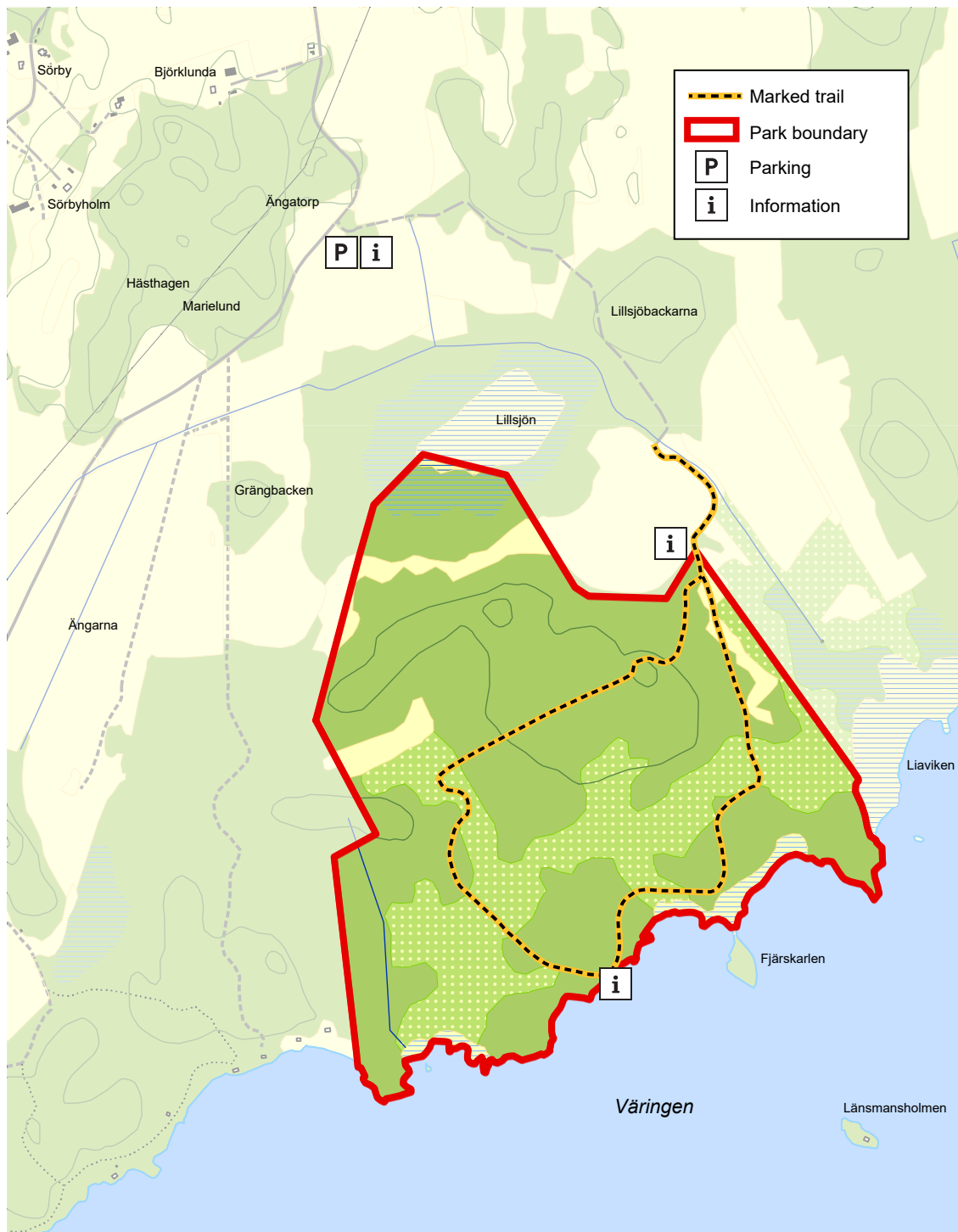
Lesser-spotted woodpecker:
Niklas Johansson



Green woodpecker:
Niklas Johansson



Länsstyrelsen
Örebro län



§ In the nature reserve, you are not permitted to:

- remove branches, cut down or damage in any way living or dead trees and bushes
- pick mosses, lichens and wood-decay fungi
- drive motor vehicles or cycle
- light fires
- camp
- Set up orienteering control points or mark trails with paper strips

How to get there

There is a sign to the nature reserve on the road between Frövi and Ervalla, immediately west of Frövi.

Facts about the nature reserve

Established: 1998

Area: 83 ha

Landowner: Swedish Environmental Protection Agency

Managed by: County Administrative Board

Established by: County Administrative Board