



Unesco Ref: CLT/WHC/EUR/22/13714

**Name of World Heritage property: Laponian Area**

**1. Executive Summary of the report**

Not applicable.

**2. Response to the Decision of the World Heritage Committee**

No current decision, see point 3.

**3. Other current conservation issues identified by the State(s)  
Party(ies) which may have an impact on the property's Outstanding  
Universal Value**

Exploitation concession examination under the Swedish Minerals Act  
in Gállok/Kallak

The recommendation to conduct a revised and extended impact assessment

Jokkmokk Iron Mines AB has requested a mining exploitation concession in Kallak (Gállok in Sami). It concerns a dossier that is currently under preparation before a forthcoming Government decision. Thus, it is not possible to pre-empt the decision that may be taken, nor comment on the specific circumstances under review. It should be emphasised, however, that the Government has taken careful note of the comments and recommendations received from the joint Technical Review Report by ICOMOS and IUCN.

An exploitation concession does not equate to a general approval – for the mining right to be exploited, the enterprise must also be granted the permits and exemptions required under the Swedish Environmental Code. A rejection of this kind of permit or exemption application therefore means that the mining right under an issued exploitation concession may not be used.

After the report was submitted, the Government Offices referred the report, as well as other relevant documentation, to the Sami Parliament, the National Union of the Swedish Sami People, affected property owners and reindeer herding communities (Jåhkågasska Tjiellde, Sirges, Tuorpon and Unna Tjerusj) for consultation.

The most recent administrative measure taken by the Government Offices, on 2–3 February 2022, was to provide Jokkmokk Iron Mines AB with an opportunity to submit a response to comments received from the Sami Parliament, property owners, Tuorpon reindeer herding community, the National Union of the Swedish Sami People, Jåhkågasska Tjiellde reindeer herding community, Sirges reindeer herding community and Unna Tjerusj reindeer herding community.

#### State of conservation of the Laponia World Heritage Site

At the moment, to the Government's knowledge, no activities are taking place on the Kallak site (not situated inside the borders of Laponia) other than possible investigative activities.

With regard to the existing protection of the natural environment, the following can be said:

In the Laponia World Heritage Site, there are various overlapping forms of protection. There are four national parks within Laponia. The 'national park' designation is a strong form of protection for an area and aims to preserve a large contiguous area of a certain type of landscape in its natural state or in substantially unchanged state (Chapter 7, Section 2 of the Swedish Environmental Code). There are also two areas within Laponia that are protected as nature reserves (Chapter 7, Section 4 of the Swedish Environmental Code). There are also large nature reserves beyond the Laponia borders, such as Kvikkjok-Kabla. In addition, almost all of Laponia is made up of sites protected as Natura 2000 sites (a special conservation area under

Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora). These Natura 2000 sites have conservation plans in accordance with the Section 17 of the Ordinance (1998:1252) on site protection under the Swedish Environmental Code, etc. In Laponia, three sites are also protected by the provisions in Chapter 4, Section 5 of the Swedish Environmental Code, which state that buildings and facilities may only be constructed if necessary for the reindeer industry, the resident population, scientific research or mobile outdoor pursuits and that other measures may only be taken if this can be done without affecting the character of the areas.

**4. In conformity with Paragraph 172 of the *Operational Guidelines*, describe any potential major restorations, alterations and/or new construction(s) intended within the property, the buffer zone(s) and/or corridors or other areas, where such developments may affect the Outstanding Universal Value of the property, including authenticity and integrity.**

Not applicable.

**5. Public access to the state of conservation report**

**6. Signature of the Authority**

  
Fredric Gemsjö  
Deputy Director