



Biodiversity Justice Against the Current

Monday 16 June

8.00 – 9.00 Breakfast (BYO or purchase at the train bistro)
9.00 – 10.30 Getting to know each other
10.51 – Arrival at Boden Central Station

11.00 – 12.00 Guided tour of Vattenfall's fish farm in Boden
13.00 – 14.00 Lunch at Hotel Storforsen
14.00 – 16.00 River restoration as a way to increase biodiversity at Storforsen with Emma Palmgren and Josefine Strand from the Country Administrative Board of Norrbotten
16.00 – 17.30 Transit Talk – TBD
18.00 – 19.00 Dinner at Hotel Jokkmokk
19.00 – 20.30 Opening Session: Introduction to the Summer School with the BIOrdinary Team and Jannete Hentati
21.00 – 22.30 Midnight excursion to Letsi dry riverbed (or sauna for the lazy ones)

Tuesday 17 June

7.00 – 8.00 Breakfast
8.00 – 12.00 Exploring Pärlälven (Pearl River) and the world of freshwater pearl mussels with Thomas Öberg
12.00 – 14.00 Lunch at Ájtte Swedish Mountain & Sami Museum
14.00 – 17.00 'Sami in Gállok – past and present' with Tor Tourda
17.00 – 18.00 Transit Talk – TBD
18.00 – 18.30 Quick visit to Harsprånget
18.30 – 19.15 Dinner in Porjus
20.30 – Arrival at Stora Sjöfallet Mountain Lodge

Wednesday 18 June

8.00 – 9.00 Breakfast
9.00 – 12.00 Optional outdoor activities: hiking, kayaking, and more (or less) in Stora Sjöfallet National Park
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
13.00 – 15.30 Walk 'n' Talk to the Sourva Dam
16.00 – 17.30 Afternoon Talk at Naturum Lapponia: Ulrika Karlsson about her research project 'Where Waters Fall'
18.00 – 19.00 Dinner
19.00 – 20.00 After Dinner Workshop: Biodiversity Justice

Thursday 19 June

8.00 – 9.00 Breakfast
9.00 – 10.00 Clean rooms and check out
10.00 – 12.00 Closing Session
12.00 – 13.00 Lunch
13.00 – 17.30 Leaving Stora Sjöfallet and travel by bus to Luleå

BIOrdinary Summer School 2025

Place: Norrbotten, Sweden

Date: 16–19th June

RESEARCH PROJECT

BIOrdinary

BIODIVERSITY DILEMMAS IN ORDINARY PLACES

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Luleälven (*Julevädno*)

The Lule River has been harnessed to provide the country with power and light. Names such as Harsprånget, Suorva, and Porjus are commonly synonymous with power plants. The river's 15 hydropower stations generate enough electricity to light up Sweden from north to south, day and night, all year round.

Storforsen (*Liggâ*)

When Europe's highest unbound rapids – Storforsen (the Great Rapids) – plunge down the Pite River, it thunders along the shore. The entire stretch of rapids is five kilometres long, but it's the last two kilometres where the river drops 60 meters that make up the actual Storforsen. While the Pite River is largely unregulated, Storforsen's riverbed is actually man-made, as it was used to transport timber from further inland down to the coast during the latter half of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century.

Ájtte Swedish Mountain and Sami Museum

Ájtte – Lule Sami for 'storehouse' – in Jokkmokk is the main museum in Sweden for the indigenous Sami culture and history. The mountains (fjällen) are often called "the last wilderness", neglecting the fact that these are working areas for a reindeer herding culture and lifestyle that has taken place since prehistoric times.

Porjus (*Bårjås*)

The history of Norrbotten's hydropower begins in Porjus. On 15 February 1915, the national newspaper *Dagens Nyheter* wrote: "A mighty monument has been erected in the wilderness—the Porjus power station—a symbol of Swedish engineering, Swedish determination, and Swedish enterprise". This, by the standards of the time, gigantic infrastructure project was constructed to supply electricity to the railway transporting iron ore from the mines in Malmberget and Kiruna to the ports in Narvik and Luleå.

Harsprånget (*Njoammelsasskam*)

The impressive Harsprånget waterfall – illustrated on page one – was first mentioned by Johannes Schefferus in 1673, who described the rapids as squeezed between two mountains so close together that a hare can jump from one to the other in one leap, hence the name. Harsprånget hydropower station was completed in 1952. Today, it is the largest in Sweden in terms of capacity.

Stora Sjöfallet (*Stuor Muorkke*)

Stora Sjöfallet (the Great Waterfall) became a national park in 1910 to protect the magnificent waterfall by the same name. Nine years later, however, the Swedish Government decided to regulate its rapids in order to tame the water and improve the efficiency of the newly built hydropower station in Porjus. Thus, the beauty of the falls became history, and the vast and silent Sourva Dam has since replaced the rumbling rapids of what was once called the Niagara Falls of the North.