



THE GOALS

#1 Gather
500+ flying squirrel droppings across Finland.

#2 Create
new **genetic monitoring tools** for the Siberian flying squirrel.



Learn more at
biodiversitygenomics.org

Project manager
ANGELIKA KIEBLER

✉ angelika.kiebler@oulu.fi

HOW DO I KNOW IF THERE ARE FLYING SQUIRRELS NEARBY?

Look up and register observations on **laji.fi** → or apps like **iNaturalist**.



WHY DROPPINGS?

Poop is a non-invasive source of DNA. For flying squirrels, they are the main indicator in routine monitoring practices and they are easy to collect without disturbing the animal.

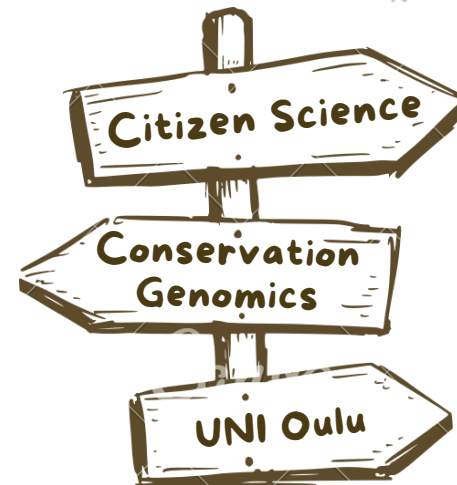
WHY DO WE NEED SO MANY?

No two individuals share the same genetic blueprint. To make sure our tools work reliably, we need DNA samples from all across the country.

HOW DOES GENETIC MONITORING WORK?

By analyzing specific locations, patterns, and mutations in the genome we can answer management-relevant questions:

- Is the flying squirrel male or female?
- What did it eat?
- How are the flying squirrels in a population related/connected?
- Are there barriers or corridors for flying squirrel movement
 - ... in forests?
 - ... in urban areas?





Flying squirrel Citizen Science Project

Help us gather flying squirrel DNA from all over Finland & learn more about conservation research!

1. **Contact us** via Instagram, Facebook, or e-mail. We will send a **sampling kit*** to your address.

2. Go to the tree with the flying squirrel droppings and put on a pair of **clean rubber gloves**.



3. Use your gloved hand to place about 20 droppings into the **collection bag**.



4. **Note down** information about the sample and area. Store bags cool and dry.



5. **Send** all filled sample bags back to the lab at Oulu University.



Found flying squirrel droppings?

Contact us!



INSTAGRAM
@liito.orava.research

FACEBOOK
eLiito-orava Citizen Science



 liito.orava oulu@gmail.com

 **UNIVERSITY OF OULU**
Biodiversity Genomics Group

*Sampling kit

- > detailed instructions (Finnish or English)
- > for each sample: 1x pair of clean rubber gloves, and 1x collection bag
- > a trash bag for used equipment

Look up the results!

All participants **get access** to the findings that we gather from their samples!
(e.g. gender, diet, relationship between individuals)

