

2020–2024 REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN SWEDEN AND NORWAY

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Introduction

The national boundary on land between Sweden and Norway is about 1632 kilometres long and it is the longest national land boundary in Europe. It is marked by 641 boundary markers which are defining it. These markers are mainly about 1.5 metres high stone cairns and almost 300 of them were erected already during the 18th century. They are in that sense true cultural heritages.

During 2020–2024, a review of the boundary has been carried out. The Swedish and Norwegian governments appointed boundary commissions at Lantmäteriet and Kartverket respectively to carry out the review together. Practically, Sweden was responsible for the work on the northern part of the boundary and Norway on the southern part. All kind of boundary markers have been restored, painted and measured with GNSS (mainly network RTK). A five-metre-wide clearing has been secured (below the tree line) and made free of trees and shrubs. The documentation of the review, still in process to be confirmed, consists of 1447 pages including

- a report describing the review and the stretch of the boundary
- overview maps of the stretch of the boundary
- maps of the stretch of the boundary in lakes and watercourses
- descriptions of all 1095 boundary markers.

The main source for future use is however a digital file with all information of the boundary, together with coordinates and their positional uncertainties.



Figure 3: All boundary markers have been thoroughly restored and it have in some places been necessary to replace the central stone with a new one.



Figure 4: All boundary markers were surveyed with GNSS (mainly network RTK through SWEPOS or CPOS services). This boundary marker is a so-called utliggare.



Figure 1: Boundary marker no 3 is an original stone cairn from 1752.



Figure 5: Inspection of the five-metre-wide clearing by the boundary commissions.



Figure 2: The boundary is along some stretches in the south part drawn in lakes and following rivers and creeks, which is indicated by signs.

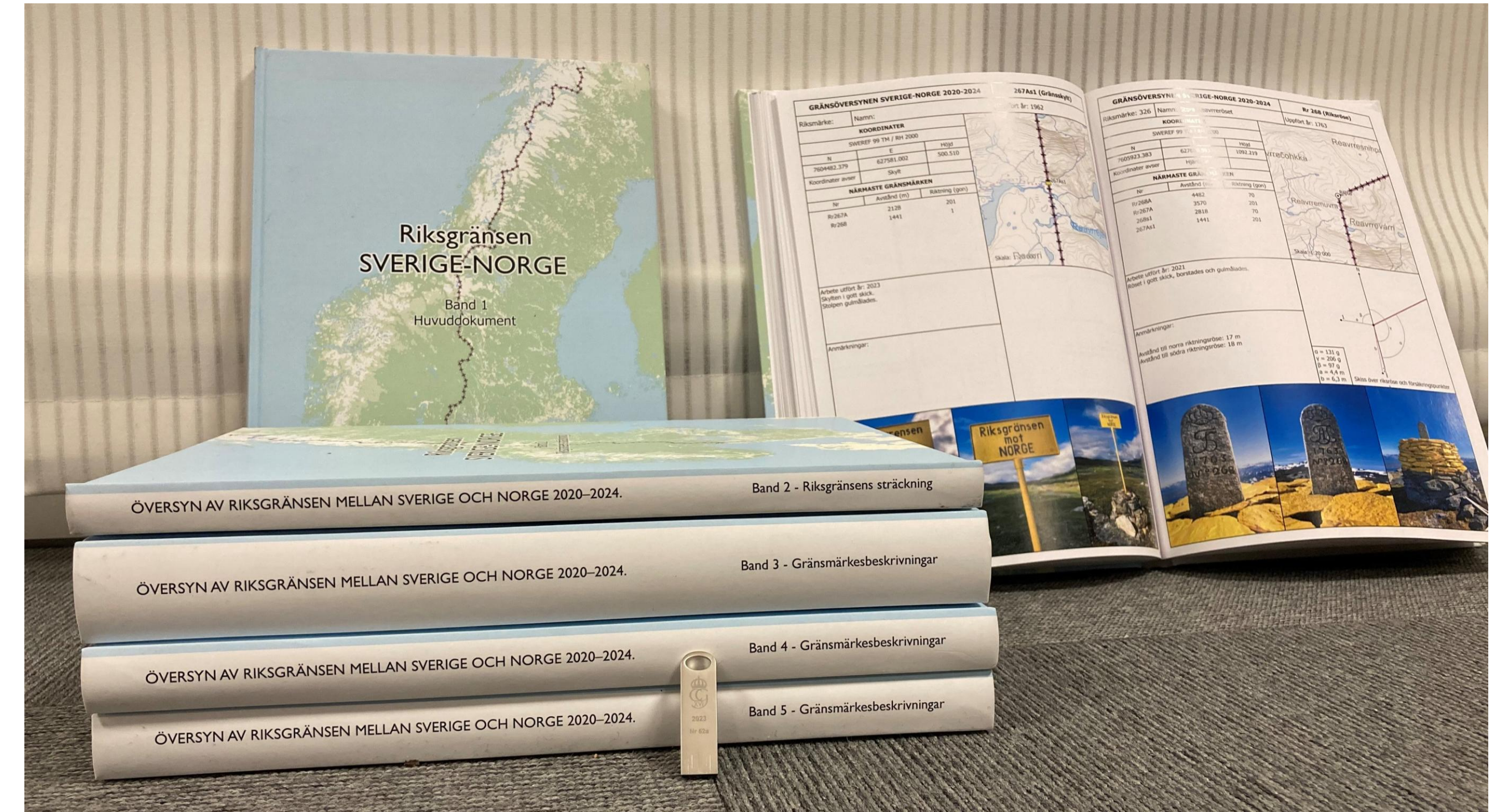


Figure 6: The documentation of the review was submitted during spring 2025, where the main source for future use is a digital file.