

East Finland Flag

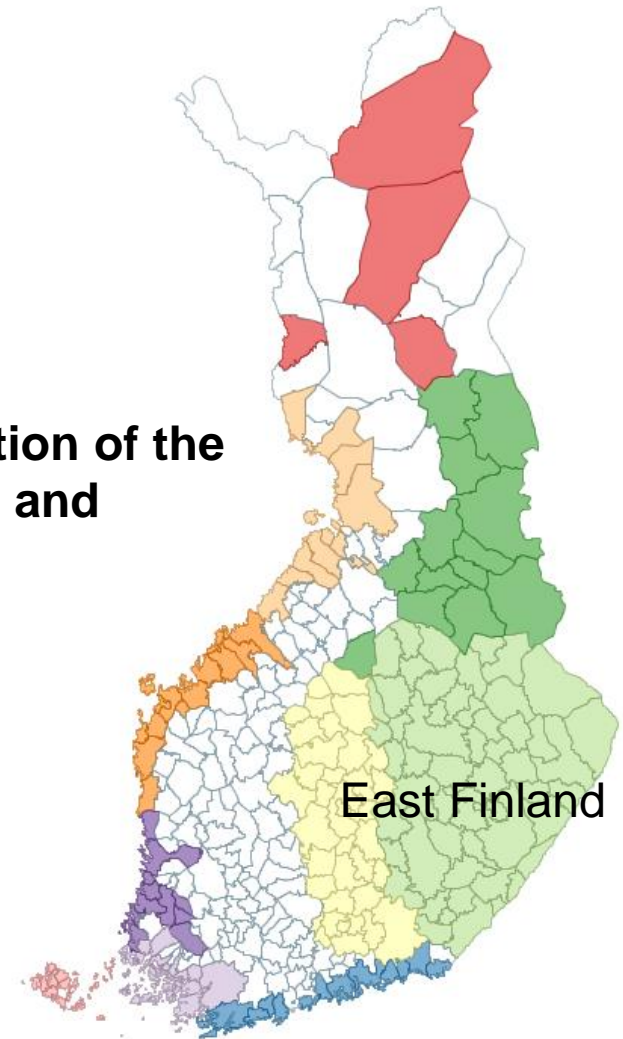
Resilient coastal communities

17.11.2021

Population	Area (km ²)	Water area (km ²)
666 600	68 000	13 760

Our strategy: Fishing Industry Development, Promotion of Fishing Tourism and Diversification of the Use of Water Areas. Sustainability at all levels and actions

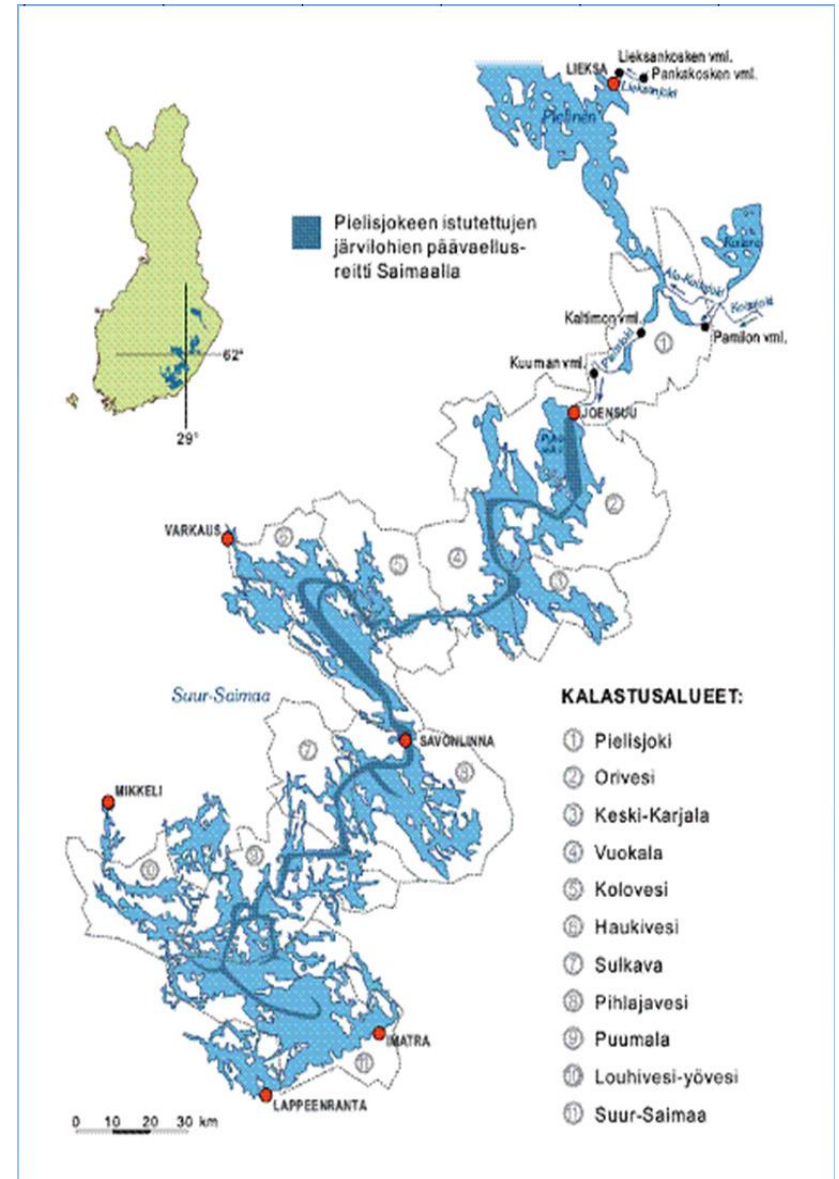
- 105 commercial fishermen
- 40 fishing tourism entrepreneur, fishing guides
- Growing tourism
- Good water quality and biodiversity
- Environmental issues:
 - By-catch problem of endangered species Saimaa ringed seal and landlocked salmon
 - The impact of global warming on fishing and fish stocks



LANDLOCKED SALMON

- Restored spawning grounds and improved fry production of salmonid
- Vendace is the most important inland fish species in commercial fishery
- Annual catch 3 – 5 million kg, 70 % from East Finland
- Estimated ecologically sustainable yield 8 – 13 mill kg
- Trawl and seine fishing most effective and specific method
- No other environmental effects (bottom disturbances etc.)
- By-catch problems of endangered salmonids (young land-locked salmon, brown trout and arctic char)
- Conflicts between water owners and recreational fishing

Improving the selectivity of trawl fishing

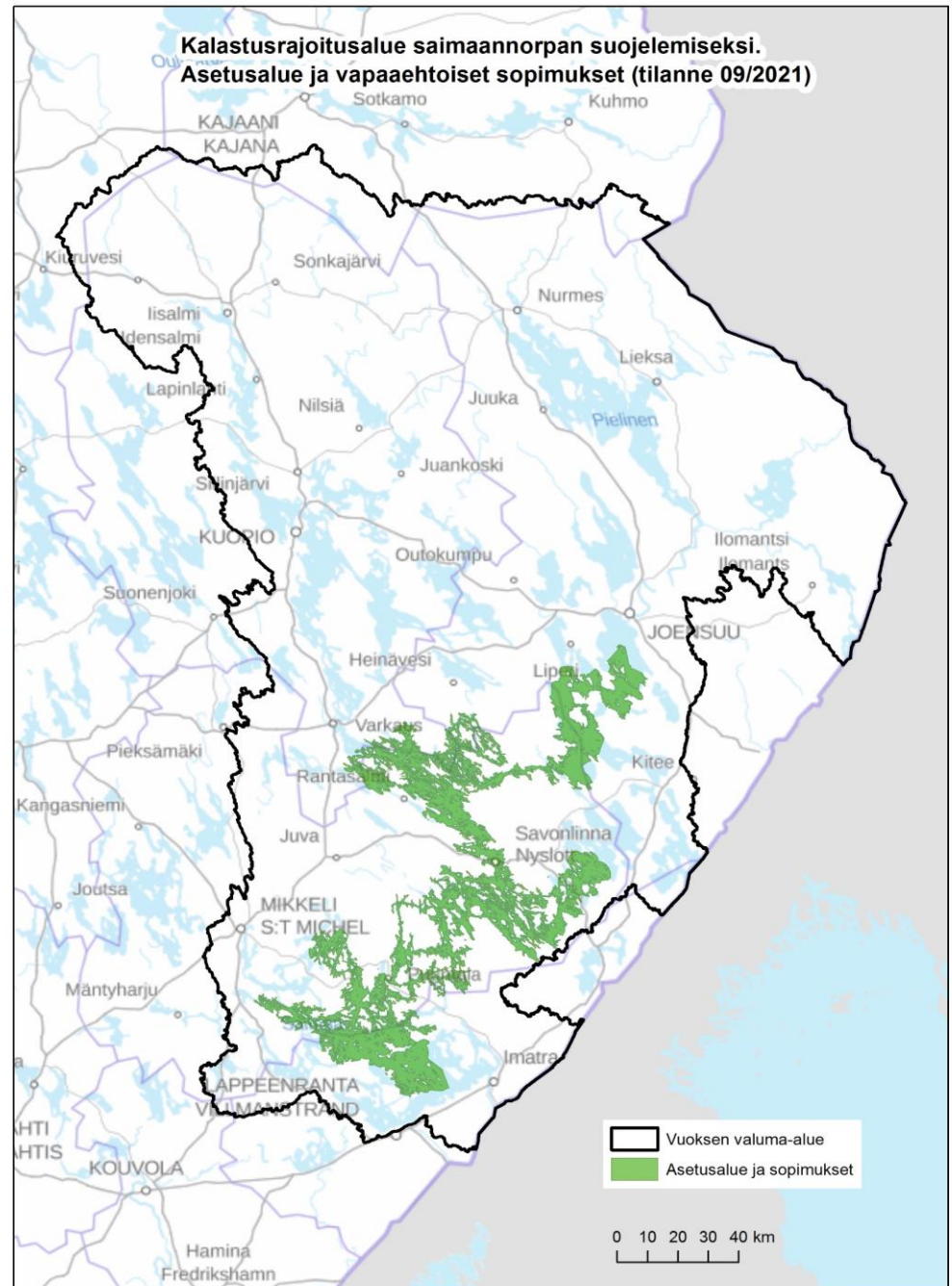


SAIMAA RINGED SEAL

(one of the most endangered in the world)

- Pikeperch second most important fish species
- 44 % of inland annual catch from East Finland
- Sustainable fishing
- Gilnet fishing most effective and cheap method
- Reducing by-catch deaths is important
- Strict fishing restrictions, especially in gilnet fishing

Development of Seal-safe trap net



FLAGS ROLE:

- **Commercial fishermen want to make fishing method more sustainable**
- **Study projects by FLAG**
- **Meetings, beginning of co-operation with researchers, conservationist, fishing gear manufacturers, funders and commercial fishermen**
- **Support from other funds (axis 3. of the EFF)**

- **Promoting of fishing and use of Cyprinids such as roach and bream.**
 - **Relatively underutilized fish**
 - **One of the most sustainable sources of animal proteins**
 - **Improving water quality**

RESULTS:

- **Co-operation with fishermen**
- **Focus on solutions which are easy to use for fishermen**
- **Good resources, under water cameras, etc.**
- **New type of sustainable fishing gear**
- **Reductions in strict fishing restrictions**
- **More fishing licences**

- **many ecological and economic benefits involved in catching them.**
- **cooperation of fishermen in logistics, improve sorting etc.**
- **Target to create a market-driven value chain for these species.**

Thank you!

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