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Interim Report

C.4 Campaigns for increasing the use of seal-safe fishing gear Covering the project activities from 01/09/2020 to 30/09/2022

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Our Saimaa Seal LIFE

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Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



Table of contents

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	3
2. INTRODUCTION	4
3. TECHNICAL PART.....	5
3.1. SEAL-SAFE SAIMAA FISH TRAP WORKHOPS.....	5
3.2. FISH TRAP EVENTS.....	14
3.3. INFORMATION MATERIAL AND COMMUNICATION	23
3.4. MATERIALS FOR THE SEAL-SAFE SAIMAA FISH TRAPS.....	34
4. ANALYSIS OF BENEFITS.....	35
ANNEXES.....	37



1. Executive Summary

The Saimaa ringed seal is one of the most endangered seals in the world, with only some 420–430 individuals left in Lake Saimaa. By-catch mortality caused by fishing gear such as fishing nets is one of the key threats to the Saimaa ringed seals.

The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (henceforth FANC) offers recreational fishermen an easy and low-cost alternative to the dangerous fishing nets, by organizing workshops for building seal-safe “Saimaa” fish traps. Additionally, fish trap workshops are organized for various other audiences, such as the public, volunteers, school groups and other, e.g. hobby, groups.

FANC has organized 4 fish trap workshops for members of water district owners' associations, 17 workshops for the public, 7 workshops for school groups (also part of action E.2) and 6 workshops for other groups. Additionally, FANC's Saimaa ringed seal volunteers and project employees held some 55 solo workshops. In total, some 413 people took part in the fish trap workshops for various audiences, and the amount of fish traps built was 363.

For the workshops, FANC produced a slideshow about the Saimaa ringed seal and the use of seal-safe fish traps in Finnish and English. Similarly, FANC produced a brochure about seal-safe fishing and instructions for building the fish trap in Finnish, English and Russian. The brochures are available online and in print.

At the workshops for the water district owners associations, fishermen were asked about their attitudes towards the seals and their fishing habits via questionnaires. Similarly, a questionnaire about the fish trap workshop was produced school children. In total, 30 responses were received in the aforementioned questionnaires.

Some 220 fish traps, built by volunteers, were distributed to the Lake Saimaa region recreational fishermen free of charge in the four “Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps” events. In exchange, the fishermen signed a contract, promising to refrain from fishing with nets on Lake Saimaa henceforth. Additionally, some 130 kilos of obsolete fishing nets were received from fishermen at these events.

FANC also organized or took part in 6 public events, in which FANC promoted seal-safe fishing methods and showcased the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap. At these events, FANC reached some 1070 people.

FANC issued 8 press releases, three online news articles and one blog post about seal-safe fishing and the dangers of fishing nets on the Saimaa ringed seal. Additionally, these themes were frequently discussed on FANC's Saimaa ringed seal newsletters and social media channels. FANC's work to promote seal-safe fishing received visibility in the media, both locally and internationally, with 32 media hits in total.



2. Introduction

The Saimaa ringed seal is one of the most endangered seals in the world, with only some 420–430 individuals. The Saimaa ringed seal is a subspecies of seals, and only lives in Lake Saimaa in Finland. One of the key threats to the Saimaa ringed seals is by-catch mortality caused by dangerous fishing gear such as fishing nets.

Despite the several regulations to diminish the negative effects of fishing, the use of dangerous fishing nets and the fishing-induced mortality still poses a key threat to the endangered Saimaa ringed seal. The use of fishing nets is still popular especially among recreational fishermen.

There are about 40 000 houses or cottages on the shores of lake Saimaa. Inhabitants and holiday residents around the Saimaa district are interested in the Saimaa ringed seal and its practical conservation work. Many of them want to do something to save the seal and take part in the conservation actions.

During the Our Saimaa seal LIFE project, The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation (henceforth FANC) promotes the use of seal-safe fishing methods on Lake Saimaa. FANC organizes workshops for building seal-safe fish traps for various audiences, such as fishermen, water district owners, local residents, summer cottage owners, volunteers, school children and the general public. At these workshops, FANC conducts interviews with fishermen in order to examine their attitudes towards seal safe fishing methods and seal protection, as well as their readiness to change their fishing habits.

FANC encourages recreational fishermen to replace their dangerous fishing nets with seal safe fish traps in various fishing-related events. Annually, FANC organizes at least one “Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps” event, in which seal-safe fish traps are given to the Saimaa area recreational fishermen free of charge. In exchange, the fishermen are asked to promise to refrain from fishing with nets on Lake Saimaa. The fish traps for these events are built by volunteers in various workshops. Additionally, FANC is showcasing the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap and promoting seal-safe fishing in other public events around Lake Saimaa.

FANC produces a brochure about seal-safe fishing, accompanied by instructions for building the Saimaa fish trap. The brochure is produced in Finnish, English and Russian, both online and in print, to further spread information about the seal-safe fish trap and encourage anyone to build one oneself. This will increase the transferability of the conservation activity to a broader audience and will possibly help in the conservation work of other seal subspecies as well.

In the longer term, replacing the dangerous fishing methods on Lake Saimaa with seal-safe fishing gear will directly reduce the Saimaa ringed seal bycatch mortality. This, in turn, will lead to an increase in the endangered Saimaa ringed seal population.



3. Technical part

3.1. Seal-safe Saimaa fish trap workshops

The fish trap used in this action is a model called the Saimaa fish trap ("Saimaa-katiska"), which is based on an old fish trap model and has been further developed and designed by professional fishermen in the Lake Saimaa district.

The main ideas and benefits of the fish trap are:

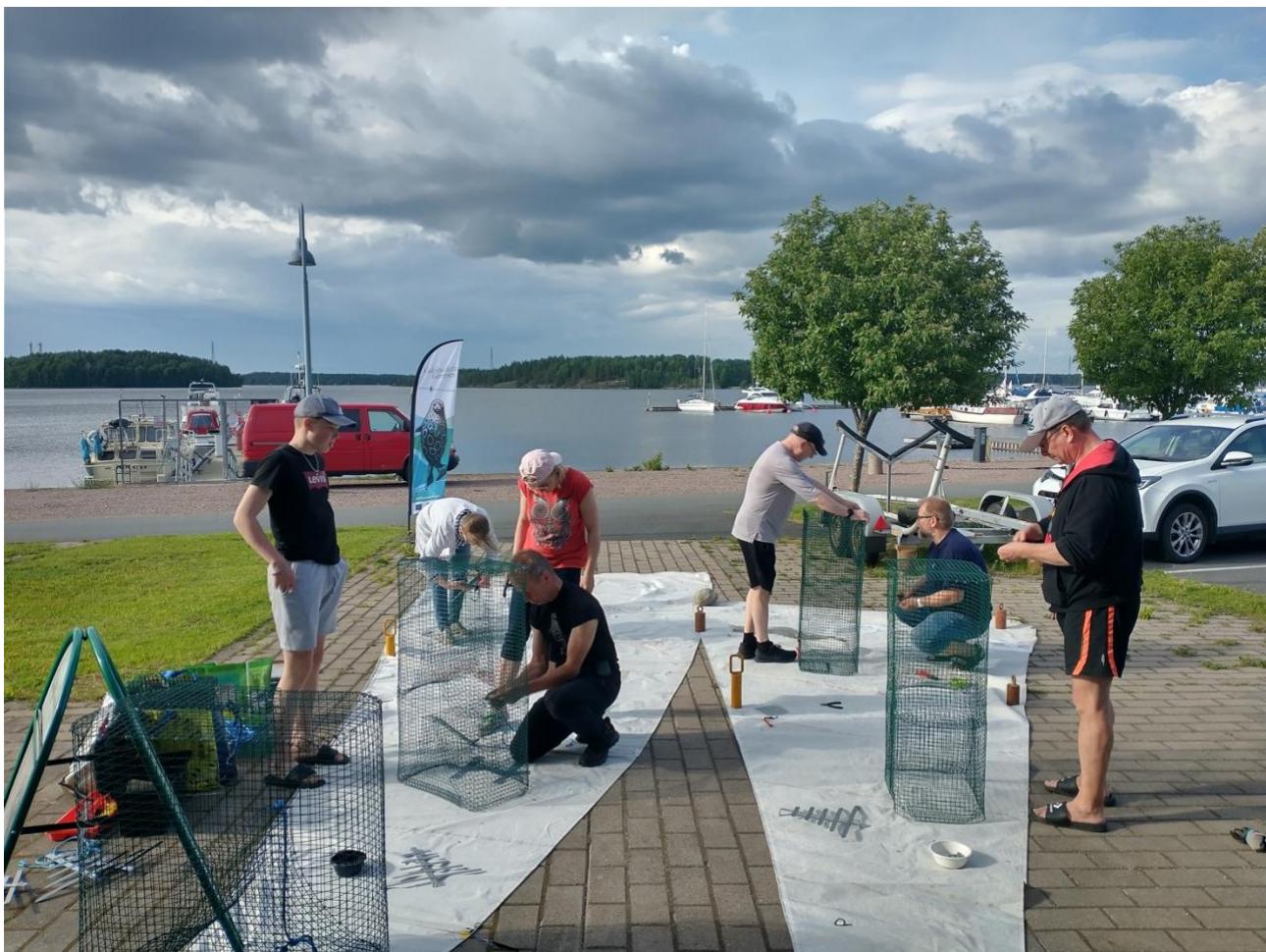
1. Seal safe (funnel width less than 15 cm with a safety wire)
2. Easy to make by oneself
3. Low-cost
4. Easy to handle, lightweight
5. Catchy gear
6. Durable.

The Saimaa fish trap model, however, is not readily available in stores, but instead has to be built by oneself. The FANC is organizing workshops for building Saimaa fish traps for various audiences in South Karelia and South Savo. These audiences include fishermen, water district owners, local residents, holiday homeowners, and school groups.

During the first year of the project, seal-safe fish trap workshops for the various audiences were, for the most part, delayed or postponed, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Since the start of the project, and mainly after the most acute Covid-19 pandemic, FANC has organized 17 public fish trap workshops for various audiences around the Lake Saimaa district. At these workshops, there have been a total of 114 participants.





Public fish trap workshop at the Lappeenranta Sailing Centre "Wilmanranta", 22.6.2022. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.

During 2021–2022, FANC has organized four (4) fish trap workshops for the fishermen and members of the water district owners' associations around the Lake Saimaa district. At these workshops, there have been 62 participants.

There has been a delay with respect to the target of 8 workshops for the water district owners' associations. This is largely due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which caused delays with respect to organizing events. Additionally, suitable associations are at times hard to come by, as there are changes in the organization of these associations, e.g. merges, the contact details are not always up-to-date, and the decision-making process in these associations can be quite slow, with only a few annual meetings, where decisions are made, organized.

However, in September 2022, an ad for the water district owners' association workshops was produced. Specific Lake Saimaa region and its water district owners' associations are then selected, one at a time, and fish trap workshops are offered to them. 11 water district owners' associations of a specific Lake Saimaa region in South Savo were contacted via email in September 2022, offering information about and the possibility for the "Saimaa" fish trap workshops for them. (Annex 1).





Fish trap workshop for the members of the "Heinoniemi" water district owners' association in Kitee, North Karelia, 30.11.2021. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.

FANC has also organized seven (7) fish trap workshops for school groups as part of the environmental education activities and school visits (E2 action). There have been a total of 149 participants at these workshops.





Fish trap workshop at the Vehkataipale school in Taipalsaari, South Karelia, 25.3.2022. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC

Additionally, upon request, FANC has organized fish trap workshops for other audiences, such as international trainees, hobby groups and employment project participants. In total six workshops have been organized for these other groups.



Fish trap workshop for the international trainees of the Allianssi Youth Exchange in Punkaharju, South Savo, 15.8.2022. Photo: Marjaana Kovanen / FANC.

Finally, the Saimaa ringed seal volunteers and project workers of the FANC in South Karelia and South Savo held so-called “solo workshops”, especially during the most acute Covid-19 pandemic. At the solo workshops, people have been building the Saimaa fish traps on their own, but under the guidance of and with the instructions provided by FANC. In total, 17 participants, both regions (South Karelia and South Savo) combined, have held these solo workshops on estimated 55 occasions, building one or two fish traps at a time.

All in all, in the aforementioned fish trap workshops there were 413 participants and some 363 fish traps in total were built. (TABLES 1 and 2)



TABLE 1 – Fish trap workshops

Date	Place / Venue	Workshop type	Specific participants	Participants	Fish traps built
2.11.2020	Saimaarium, Lappeenranta	public		20	5
2.6.2021	Moinsalmi, Savonlinna	public		4	2
17.7.2021	Lintusalo, Puumala	public		10	4
18.8.2021	Vitsilä, Mikkeli	public		6	4
27.10.2021	Kolomonen, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	1	1
30.10.2021	Anttola, Mikkeli	public		5	5
3.11.2021	Kolomonen, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	2	2
3.11.2021	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	public	volunteers	10	6
10.11.2021	Kolomonen, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	2	1
22.11.2021	Saimaarium, Lappeenranta	public		15	7
30.11.2021	Kotipirtti, Kitee	water district owners' association	Heinoniemi water district owners' association	21	17
13.12.2021	Lappeenranta University of Technology, Lappeenranta	school / student group	Student organization Tetra ry	42	14
1.1.– 31.12.2021	solo workshops x 50	volunteers	volunteers, employees	8	110
17.1.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	1	6
3.2.2022	Kimpisen lukio (high school), Lappeenranta	school / student group		14	5
12.2.2022	Koikkalan kylätalo, Juva	public		4	5
12.3.2022	Virmutjoki People's House, Puumala	water district owners' association	Itä-Puumala water district owners' association	5	8
15.3.2022	XAMK, Mikkeli	public		11	9
18.3.2022	Simpele school	school / student group		14	5
25.3.2022	Vehkataipale school, Taipalsaari	school / student group	5.–6.-luokka	22	8
26.3.2022	Vehkataipale People's House, Taipalsaari	water district owners' association	Kattelussaari water district owners' association	18	25
2.4.2022	Koikkala People's House, Juva	public		6	3
6.4.2022	FANC South Savo office "Kolomonen", Savonlinna	public	volunteers	2	2



	Vocational college Sampo, Lappeenranta	school / student group			
21.4.2022	Kolomonen, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	27	15
27.4.2022	Tirilä People's House, Lappeenranta	other	Garden Club	6	5
28.4.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	public	volunteers	12	9
18.5.2022	Mikkelipuisto, Mikkeli	other	Employment project	3	4
23.5.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	volunteers	volunteers	8	7
25.5.2022	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	2	3
6.6.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	volunteers	volunteers	10	6
15.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	2	4
17.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	1	5
18.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	1	3
22.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	1	1
22.6.2022	Sailing Centre Wilmanranta, Lappeenranta	public		7	4
2.7.2022	"Norppa" park, Puumala	water district owners' association	Itä-Puumala and Puumalan kirkonkylä water district owners' associations	18	10
4.7.2022	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	14	6
25.7.2022	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	15	7
15.8.2022	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	12	6
9.9.2022	Simpele school, Rautjärvi	school / student group		16	5
23.9.2022	Ruokolahti school, Ruokolahti	school / student group		14	7
26.9.2022	solo workshop	volunteers	volunteers	1	2
TOTAL				413	363



TABLE 2 – Planned and actual fish trap workshops for 09/2020–09/2022

Workshop type	Planned	Actual	Participants	Fish traps made
Seal safe fish trap workshops for fishermen and water district owners	8	4	62	60
Public seal safe fish trap workshops for volunteers, local inhabitants and holiday residents	8	17	114	69
Fish trap workshops for school groups (also part of the environmental education activities and school visits [E2 action])	(20 workshops and/or other events)	7	149	59
"Solo fish trap workshops" by volunteers, project employees and FANC's regional employees	0	some 55	17	some 134
Other workshops for hobby groups etc. (upon request)	0	6	71	41
TOTAL	16	89	413	363

With respect to the fish trap workshop flow and participant experience, collaboration was made with the Nature and Science Center Saimaarium in Lappeenranta. Saimaarium employee and service design student **Maria Selenius** examined the course of the fish trap workshop, with special focus on the customer expectations and experiences, as part of her studies and free of charge. She conducted interviews with several people, who had previously taken part in the workshops, and interviewed the project coordinator Hanne Kosonen and FANC South Karelia regional manager Jari Kiljunen, both of whom have organized and taken part in several fish trap workshops in the past.

Consequently, FANC received some valuable feedback anonymously from the participants, with respect to how to improve the workshops and the overall experience of the participants. In addition, FANC received some novel ideas on how to conduct the interviews of fishermen at the fish trap workshops.



**Tulokset
PALVELU**

KATISKAN RAKENTAMINEN

**Yksin rakentaminen
→ tarvitsee apua ohjaajilta, suositus työparista**

Ohjaajien määrä

Kuvallinen ohje, mitä työkaluja missäkin vaiheessa

**Norppa-vapaaehtoiset ohjaajiksi
Ohjeistusta uusitaan**

Slide from Selenius' Powerpoint presentation, offering feedback on how to improve the customer experience of the fish trap workshops.

Surveys, interviews

FANC has produced a questionnaire for the fish trap workshop participants. There are both [online version](#) and a printout version of the questionnaire available. These questionnaires are mainly targeted at the members of the water district associations. Questions have to do with e.g. the preferred fishing methods and catch, attitudes towards the protection of the Saimaa ringed seals, attitudes towards seal-safe fishing methods and the readiness to change fishing habits towards more seal-friendly methods. Thus far, 4 responses have been gathered online, and 16 responses have been received via the printout questionnaires.

Additionally, a short questionnaire about the Saimaa fish trap workshop was produced for the school children taking part in the workshops. The thoughts, attitudes, as well as overall feedback about the workshop flow, is hence gathered from the school workshop participants, in order to further develop the workshops. This questionnaire is available in printout form (Annex 2), and distributed at the workshops. The questionnaire was produced in September 2022 and has been presented at one workshop thus far. Hence, 10 responses have been received.

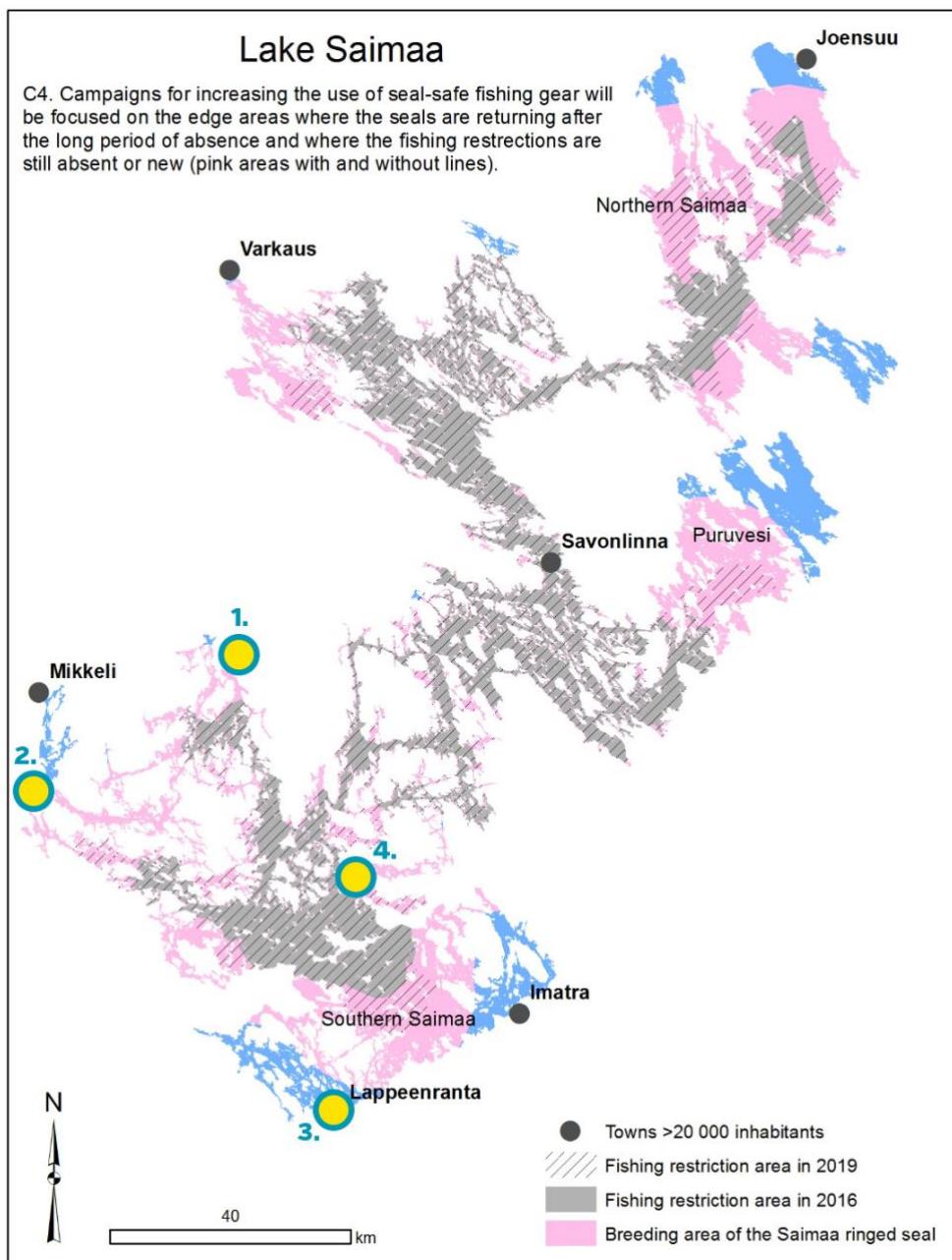
All in all, 30 responses have been received via the aforementioned questionnaires.



3.2. Fish trap events

Due to the large amount of seal-safe fish traps built in the various fish trap workshops, FANC has been able to organize four (4) "Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps" events. Below is a list and map of the locations of these events:

1. Ristiina, Mikkeli, South Savo, 12.6.2021 (69 fish traps delivered)
2. Koikkala, Juva, South Savo, 19.6.2021 (100 fish traps delivered)
3. Lappeenranta, South Karelia, 18.6.2022 (43 fish traps delivered)
4. Aidanpää, Puumala, South Savo, 16.7.2022 (7 fish traps delivered).



A Map of the Lake Saimaa region, showing the locations of FANC's "Replace fishing nets with fish traps" events in 2021 (1. & 2.) and 2022 (3. and 4.).



At these events, seal-safe Saimaa fish traps were handed out to recreational fishermen free of charge. In exchange, the fishermen signed a contract, stating that they will henceforth refrain from fishing with nets on Lake Saimaa (Annex 3). The contract is not legally binding, but rather symbolic and has to do with the question of conscience.

Additionally, fishermen had the possibility to bring their old fishing nets in exchange. All in all, FANC has received some 130 kilos of obsolete fishing nets, which were disposed of, and hence will not cause danger to the seals in the future.



"Replace fishing nets with fish traps" event in Ristiina, Mikkeli, South Savo on June 12, 2021. Photo: Kaarina Tiainen / FANC



"Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps" event in Koikkala, Juva, South Savo on June 19, 2021. Fisherman Juha Taskinen and actor, recreational fisherman Kari Hietalahti presenting the Saimaa fish trap to the audience. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC

In both 2021 and 2022, one of the events was the main event of the summer, offering a wider variety of program for the whole family, while the other event focused mainly on distributing the fish traps and information about seal-safe fishing for the fishermen. The main events were in Juva, 19.6.2021 and Lappeenranta, 18.6.2022.





"Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps" event in Lappeenranta, South Karelia, on June 18, 2022. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.

At the main event in Juva, South Savo in 2021, collaboration was made with documentarist and seal photographer turned professional fisherman **Juha Taskinen** and renowned actor and recreational fisherman **Kari Hietalahti**, who took part in the event, showcasing and promoting the professional seal-safe fyke and the seal-safe fishing methods to the public. At the event, there were also seal-themed activities for children.

At the event in Lappeenranta, South Karelia in 2022, fisherman Juha Taskinen and actor, recreational fisherman Kari Hietalahti were again presenting the Saimaa fish trap and a professional fyke net to the public. Moreover, Group Manager and Principal Scientist **Ari Leskelä** from the Natural Resources Institute Finland presented various smaller seal-safe fyke nets, which are suitable for the layman. During the event, FANC also organized seal-themed activities for children, with a seal-themed action point.

In total, some 220 fish traps have been distributed to recreational fishermen at the "Replace fishing nets with fish traps" events.

TABLE 3 – Project milestones

Milestone	Foreseen deadline	Actual deadline	Fish traps delivered
At minimum 100 seal safe fish trap distributed	07/2021	06/2021	170
At minimum 200 seal safe fish trap distributed	07/2022	06/2022	220

In addition to the aforementioned Replace fishing nets with fish traps events, FANC has organised or taken part in six public events, in which FANC presented the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap and built the fish traps for show. These events include:

- “Kangaslampi Days” event in Varkaus, North Savo, 3.7.2021
- “Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day” in Savonlinna, South Savo, 20.7.2021
- “Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day” in Anttola, South Savo, 22.7.2021
- World Environment Day event, Savonlinna, South Savo, 5.6.2022
- “Local food from Lake Saimaa with seal-safe gear”, Puumala, South Savo, 2.7.2022
- Seal-safe fish trap demo at the Savonlinna International Nature Film Festival, Savonlinna, South Savo, 19.8.2022.



“Kangaslampi Days” event in Kangaslampi, North Savo on July 3, 2021. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC



At these events, FANC was showcasing the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap and building the traps for show. Additionally, FANC offered information about the Saimaa ringed seals and seal-safe fishing, overall.

In total, FANC reached some 1070 people at these ten fish trap events.



Project employee Marjaana Kovanen is teaching how to build the Saimaa fish trap to two attendees at the Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day in Riihisaari, Savonlinna on July 20, 2021. Photo: Hanne Kosonen/FANC





"Local Food from Lake Saimaa with Seal-Safe Gear" event in Puumala, South Savo, 2.7.2022. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.



TABLE 4 – Fish trap events

Date	Name of event	Description	Place/venue	Number of participants
12.6.2021	Replace fishing nets with fish traps event “Vaihda verkot katiskaan” event	Handing out seal-safe fish traps to recreational fishermen who, in turn, promise to refrain from fishing with nets in the future	Ristiina, Mikkeli, South Savo	Some 150
19.6.2021	Replace fishing nets with fish traps event “Vaihda verkot katiskaan” event	Handing out seal-safe fish traps to recreational fishermen who, in turn, promise to refrain from fishing with nets in the future. Promoting seal-safe fyke net with fisherman Juha Taskinen and actor Kari Hietalahti. Additionally, seal-themed activities aimed at children.	Koikkala, Juva, South Savo	Some 200
3.7.2021	Kangaslampi Days “Kangaslampipäivät”	Program at FANC’s tent included promoting seal-safe fish traps, offering information about Saimaa ringed seals and seal-safe fishing	Kangaslampi, Varkaus, North Savo	Some 150
20.7.2021	Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day “Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä”	FANC’s activities incl. promoting seal-safe fish traps, information about seal-safe fishing and seal-themed activity point for children	Riihisaari, Savonlinna, South Savo	Some 130
22.7.2021	Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day “Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä”	FANC’s activities incl. promoting seal-safe fish traps, information about seal-safe fishing and seal information for children	Anttola, Mikkeli, South Savo	Some 60
5.6.2022	World Environment Day event	Showcasing seal-safe Saimaa fish traps	Koululahti, Savonlinna, South Savo	30

18.6.2022	"Replace Fish Nets with Seal-Safe Fish Traps"	Handing out seal-safe fish traps to recreational fishermen who, in turn, promise to refrain from fishing with nets in the future. Promoting seal-safe fyke net with fisherman Juha Taskinen, actor Kari Hietalahti and Group Manager, Principal Scientist Ari Leskelä from the Natural Resources Institute Finland. Additionally, seal-themed activities for at children.	Katariinantorii, Lappeenranta, South Karelia	some 70
2.7.2022	"Local food from Lake Saimaa with seal-safe gear"	Building seal-safe Saimaa fish traps, promoting seal-safe fishing (i.e. "Saimaa" fish traps and "NoTu" fyke nets)	Puumala harbour, Puumala, South Savo	some 170
16.7.2022	"Replace Fish Nets with Seal-Safe Fish Traps"	Handing out seal-safe fish traps to recreational fishermen who, in turn, promise to refrain from fishing with nets in the future.	Aidanpää, Puumala, South Savo	some 100
19.8.2022	Seal-safe fish trap demo (as part of the Savonlinna International Nature Film Festival, SINFF)	Showcasing and building Saimaa fish traps.	Kulttuurikellari, Savonlinna, South Savo	10
TOTAL				1070



3.3. Information material and communication

As discussed earlier, the Saimaa fish trap model used in this action is not available in stores, but instead has to be built by hand. Building the trap can be learned in aforementioned workshops organized by the FANC.

FANC has produced a brochure about seal-safe fishing, which also includes building instructions for the Saimaa fish trap. The brochure is available in Finnish, English and Russian:

- [Finnish version](#) (published 13.4.2022)
- [English version](#) (published 10.5.2022)
- [Russian version](#) (published 24.5.2022)

The online versions of the brochure in Finnish, English and Russian are also available for download on the FANC's Our Saimaa seal LIFE project webpage:

<https://www.sll.fi/mita-me-teemme/saimaannorppa/saimaannorppamme-life>

The printed versions of the brochures were published 9.6.2022.

Moreover, FANC has produced a slideshow for the fish trap workshops. This has been done to further disseminate information about the endangered Saimaa ringed seal, its threats, the Saimaa fish trap and the seal-friendly fishing methods. The slideshow is available in Finnish and English (Annex 4).

With respect to the fish trap brochure and slideshow, collaboration was made with a fishing expert, who was consulted about the contents of the materials.

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the brochure and the slideshow were not published in the schedule originally planned, or in the schedule presented during the monitoring visit in June 2021.

However, the delay did not affect the overall implementation of the project. Most public events, workshops and other occasions, in which the fish trap information material would have been distributed in 2021, were postponed due to Covid-19.



TABLE 5 – Project deliverables

Deliverable	Foreseen deadline	Actual deadline	Impact of the modification on other actions, baseline implementation program, project budget and time schedule	Communication about modification
Information material (brochure with the fish trap instructions and a slide show) on seal safe fishing will be produced and made available both online and in print	01/2021	SLIDESHOW: 19.11.2021 (Fin) 22.2.2022 (Eng) BROCHURE: Online versions: 13.4.2022 (Fin) 10.5.2022 (Eng) 24.5.2022 (Rus) Print versions 9.6.2022 (all)	No other effect beside the time schedule.	Monitoring day 6/2021 and the C.4 interim report 9/2021, Monitoring day 6/2022.

In addition to the aforementioned communication activities, FANC promoted seal-safe fishing through press releases, online news articles, blog texts, Saimaa ringed seal newsletter, social media communication and with a newspaper ad about the “Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps” event.

FANC has issued eight press releases about seal-safe fishing, fish trap events and the threats caused by fishing nets to the Saimaa ringed seal. The press releases are listed in the table below. Six of the press releases are available on the FANC web pages and two of the press releases were issued via email to the local press.



TABLE 6 – FANC press releases about seal-safe fishing and fish trap events

Headline	Date	Link
Vaihda verkot katiskaan Mikkelin Ristiinassa <i>Swap your fish nets for a fish trap in Ristiina, Mikkeli</i>	27.5.2021	https://www.sll.fi/etela-savo/2021/05/27/vaihda-verkot-katiskaan-ristiinassa/
Vaihda verkot katiskaan Juvan Koikkalassa <i>Swap your fish nets for a fish trap in Koikkala, Juva</i>	3.6.2021	https://www.sll.fi/etela-savo/2021/06/03/vaihda-verkot-katiskaan-koikkalassa/
Verkkokalastus uhkaa saimaannorppaa loppukesällä – Luonnon-suojeluliitto jakoi lähes 200 norppaturvallista katiskaa Etelä-Savossa <i>Saimaa Ringed Seal threatened by fishing nets in late summer – near 200 seal safe fish traps distributed by FANC in Southern Savo</i>	30.6.2021	https://www.sll.fi/2021/06/30/verkkokalastus-uhkaa-saimaanorppaa-loppukesalla-luonnonsuojeluliitto-jakoi-lahees-200-norppaturvallista-katiskaa-etela-savossa/
Vehkataipaleella rakennetaan norppaturvallisia Saimaa-katiskoja 25.–26.3.2022 <i>Seal-safe "Saimaa" fish traps are built in Vehkataipale 25.–26.3.2022</i>	21.3.2022	(Email to local media)
Verkkokalastusrajoitukset astuvat voimaan – norppaturvallinen kalastus suojelee saimaannorppaa <i>Restrictions on net fishing come into force – seal-safe fishing protects the Saimaa ringed seal</i>	14.4.2022	https://www.sll.fi/2022/04/14/verkkokalastusrajoitukset-astuvat-voimaan-norppaturvallinen-kalastus-suojelee-saimaanorppaa/

<p>Luonnonsuojeluliitto jakaa sata norppaturvallista katiskaa Lappeenrannassa – paikalla myös Juha ”Norppa” Taskinen ja Kari ”Hissu” Hietalahti</p> <p><i>The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation hands out a hundred seal-safe fish traps in Lappeenranta – Juha ”Norppa” Taskinen and Kari ”Hissu” Hietalahti will also be present</i></p>	9.6.2022	https://www.sll.fi/etela-karjala/2022/06/09/luonnonsuojeluliitto-jakaa-sata-norppaturvallista-katiskaa-lappeenrannassa-paikalla-myos-juha-norppa-taskinen-ja-kari-hissu-hietalahti/
<p>”Norppaturvallinen rysä kohoaa Katariinantorille lauantaina, kalastajille jaossa maksutta katiskoja – Juha Taskinen ja Kari Hietalahti opastavat kalastuksen saloihin”</p> <p><i>A seal-safe fyke net rises on the Katariinantor market place on Saturday, fish traps handed free of charge to fishermen – Juha Taskinen and Kari Hietalahti guide to the secrets of fishing</i></p>	15.6.2022	(Email to local media)
<p>Verkkokalastus uhkaa taas saimaannorppia – kaupassa ja ravintolassa on hyvä suosia norppaturvallisesti pyydettyä kalaa</p> <p><i>Fishing nets threaten the Saimaa ringed seals again – in the store and restaurant, it is good to favour fish caught with seal-friendly methods</i></p>	30.6.2022	https://www.sll.fi/2022/06/30/verkkokalastus-uhkaa-taas-saimaannorppia-kaupassa-ja-ravintolassa-on-hyva-suosia-norppaturvallisesti-pyydettya-kalaan/



Additionally, FANC published three online news articles and one blog post about seal-safe fishing:

- “Nearly 200 fishers were handed a seal-safe fish trap in South Savo”, 22.6.2021, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/2021/06/22/lahe-200-kalastajaa-sai-norppaturvallisen-katiskan-etela-savossa/>
- “Two days of building “Saimaa” fish traps on the southern shores of Lake Saimaa”, 31.3.2022, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/2022/03/31/saimaan-etelarannalla-rakennettiin-kaksi-paivaa-saimaa-katiskoja/>
- A superb day of seal-safe fishing in Lappeenranta, 21.6.2022, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/2022/06/21/norppaturvallisen-kalastuksen-superpaiva-lappeenrannassa/>
- "Net fishing must be banned and nesting caves must be dug for the seal in the shoreline cliffs" - children again at the seal camp in the Turponsaari island", 21.7.2022, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/2022/07/21/verkkokalastus-pitaa-kielaa-ja-norpalle-louhia-pesaluolia-rantakallioihin-lapset-taas-norppaleirilla-turponsaarella/>

FANC also communicated about threats that the fishing nets pose to the seals, as well as promoted seal-safe fishing, via various other channels, such as

- social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter)
- Saimaa ringed seal newsletters (sent to recipients via email and available also online at: <https://www.sll.fi/mita-me-teemme/saimaannorppa/toiminta-ja-saavutukset/>),
- FANC South Karelia mailing lists
- newspaper ad about the “Replace fishing nets with fish traps” event, 2021.





**Tuo meille vanhat kalaverkkosi,
saat tilalle norppaturvallisen
Saimaa-katiskan!**

**Katiskat varattava etukäteen
sll.fi/etela-savo tai
puh. 044 776 4230 (ark. 10–16)**



Newspaper ad for the "Replace fishing nets with fish traps" event in Juva, South Savo on June 19, 2021, in the local newspaper Juvan lehti prior to the event, on June 10th.



Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



The work to promote seal-safe fishing done by FANC and the “Replace fishing nets with fish traps” events also received visibility in the media locally and nationally, with 32 media hits in total. The media visibility is elaborated in the following table.

TABLE 8 – Media visibility of FANC’s work to promote seal-safe fishing

Media	Date	Headline	Link
Newspaper "Länsi-Savo"	11.6.2021	Katiskalla kalastaminen on norppaturvallista – Vaihda verkot katiskaan -tapahtuma tulee jälleen <i>Seal-safe fishing with fish trap – the “Replace fishing nets with fish trap” event is back</i>	https://www.lansi-savo.fi/paikalliset/4181011
Yle ("Finnish Broadcasting Company")	11.6.2021	Etelä-Savossa jaetaan norppaturvallisia katiskoja – Saimaa-katiskan saa, jos lupaa olla kalastamatta verkoilla <i>Seal-safe fishing traps to be distributed in South Savo – pledge to refrain from net fishing and you will get a Saimaa fish trap</i>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-11976546
Newspaper "Länsi-Savo"	13.6.2021	"Olen yleensä varovainen allekirjoittaessani sopimuksia, mutta tämä on poikkeus" – Mikkelin Ristiinassa jaettiin perinteisesti sata katiskaa kalastajille, jotka sitoutuivat lopettamaan verkkojen käytön <i>"I'm usually wary of signing contracts, but this is an exception" – A hundred fish traps distributed at traditional event in Ristiina, Mikkeli, to fishers who pledge to end net fishing</i>	https://www.lansi-savo.fi/paikalliset/4183312
Erä-lehti	15.6.2021	Katiskasopimus <i>Fish trap contract</i>	https://eralehti.fi/arinkalahusta/2021/06/15/katiskasopimus/
Newspaper "Juwan Lehti"	21.6.2021	Sattumus teki Juha Taskisesta kuuluisan Norppa-Taskisen – Hissu Hietalahden mielestä saimaannorpan pitäisi olla Suomen kansalliseläin <i>Juha Taskinen became the renowned “Seal Taskinen” after an incident – Hissu Hietalahti says the Saimaa ringed seal should be the national animal of Finland</i>	https://www.juvanlehti.fi/paikalliset/4194985



Newspaper "Warkauden Lehti"	4.7.2021	Kangaslampi-päivillä hymyilivät ja kisailivat isot ja pienet – Välivuoden jälkeen huomasi, miten tärkeää oman kylän juhla on <i>Big and small people smile and frolic at Kangaslampi Days – After a year off, it is easy to see the importance of your own village fête</i>	https://www.warkaudenlehti.fi/paikalliset/4212374
Various international media	7.7.2021	<i>Article about seals, fishing and FANC's fish trap event in various international media</i>	e.g.: https://phys.org/news/2021-07-finland-rallies-world-endangered.html , (A more thorough list of international media visibility is presented in Annex 5)
Newspaper "Itä-Savo"	19.7.2021	Riihisaaren piha-alueella vietetään tiistaina Saimaan saaristoluontopäivää – Asiaa muun muassa saimaannorposta, kansallispuistoista ja rakennusperinnön hoidosta <i>Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day is celebrated in the Riihisaari yard area on Tuesday – There is talk about the Saimaa ringed seal, national parks and management of architectural heritage, among others</i>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/paikalliset/4228430
Newspaper "Itä-Savo"	20.7.2021	Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä tarjosi norppaturvallisia katiskoja ja tietoa Saimaan saariston palveluista – "Miksi lähteä merta edemmäs kalaan?" <i>Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day provided seal-safe fish traps and information on services within Saimaa archipelago – "Why carry owls to Athens?"</i>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/paikalliset/4230525
Newspaper "Länsi-Savo"	20.7.2021	Anttolan satamatatorilla järjestetään torstaina Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä ¹ <i>Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day organized at Anttola Harbour Market on Thursday</i>	https://www.lansi-savo.fi/paikalliset/4230757

Yle ("Finnish Broadcastin g Company")	15.4.2022	Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12043017/64-3-70091
Uusimaa	15.4.2022	Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	https://www.uusimaa.fi/uutissuomalainen/4555048
Demokraatti	15.4.2022	Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan tänään <i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect today</i>	https://demokraatti.fi/saimaannorppaa-suojelevat-verkkokalastusrajoitukset-voimaan-tanaan
Salon Seudun Sanomat	15.4.2022	Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	https://www.sss.fi/2022/04/saimaannorppaa-suojelevat-verkkokalastusrajoitukset-voimaan/
Itä-Savo	15.4.2022	Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/uutissuomalainen/4555048
Karjalainen	15.4.2022	Yön uutiskooste: Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>News summary from the night: Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	https://www.karjalainen.fi/kotimaa/y%C3%B6n-uutiskooste-kansanedustaja-ilkkakanerva-on-kuollut-sairaanhoidopiireist%C3%A4-kannatusta-potilasturvalaille

Etelä-Suomen Sanomat	15.4.2022	Yön uutiskooste: Saimaannorppaan suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan <i>News summary from the night: Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i>	<u>https://www.ess.fi/uutissuo/malainen/4555071</u>
Yle	16.6.2022	Ylen kaupunkifestivaali Pointti näkyy ja kuuluu eri puolilla Lappeenrantaa – mukana Maltti ja Valtti, keskusteluja ja Puoli seitsemän <i>Yle's city festival Pointti can be seen and heard in different parts of Lappeenranta - featuring Maltti and Valtti, discussions and "Half Seven" program</i>	<u>https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12492022</u>
Yle	18.6.2022	Ammattikalastaja ja suojeleun kannattajat yhä erimielisiä saimaannorpan suojeleun tarpeellisuudesta – katso tästä keskustelu lajin tulevaisuudesta <i>Professional fisherman and conservationists still disagree on the necessity of protecting the Saimaa ringed seal – watch the discussion about the future of the species here</i>	<u>https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12498365</u>
Yle Radio Suomi Lappeenranta	18.6.2022	Radio Suomen lauantaitalkoot, 3. tunti, 18.6.2022, starting from 10.38 and ending on 18.28. <i>Information about seal-safe fishing and the FANC's 'Replace fishing nets with fish traps' event in Lappeenranta on June 18.</i>	<u>https://areena.yle.fi/audio/1-62535026</u>



Yle	30.6.2022	Saimaannorppaa uhkaa verkkokalastus, itämerennorppaa liian suuri metsästyskiintiö. <i>The Saimaa ringed seal is threatened by net fishing, the Baltic ringed seal by too large a hunting quota.</i>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12043017/64-3-89640
Kansan uutiset	30.6.2022	Luonnon suojeleliitto pyytää välttämään yhä verkkokalastusta Saimalla: Norppa kokee pitkän ja tuskallisen kuoleman verkossa. <i>The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation asks to avoid net fishing in Saimaa: The Saimaa ringed seal experiences a long and painful death in the net.</i>	https://www.ku.fi/artikkeli/4752170-luonnon suojeleliitto-pyytaa-valltamaan-yha-verkkokalastusta-saimalla-norppa-kokee-pitkan-ja-tuskallisen-kuoleman-verkossa
Yle	1.7.2022	Luonnon suojeleliitto kehottaa ihmisiä suosimaan norppaturvallista kalaa – ammattikalastajien mielestä verkot ovat jo riittävän norppaturvallisista. <i>The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation urges people to prefer fish that has been caught with seal-safe methods - professional fishermen think that the nets are already sufficiently safe for the seals.</i>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12518591

The fish trap event in Koikkala, Juva in 2021 also received high visibility in the international media. Present at the fish trap event in Juva was international journalist **Sam Kingsley** from the AFP. Kingsley interviewed the FANC's Saimaa ringed seal specialist Kaarina Tiainen about the current situation and threats to the endangered Saimaa ringed seal. The article about the Saimaa ringed seal and the fish trap event was published all over the world, e.g. in Bangkok Post, América Digital and France 24. (Annex 5).

Additionally, the AFP also produced a video about the Saimaa ringed seal, its threats and conservation work done by FANC. The video is available at the AFP YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ulz7Eaer7UY>



3.4. Materials for the seal-safe Saimaa fish traps

The plastic coated wired mesh used in the seal-safe Saimaa fish traps is a specific type of material, which often is not available in stores, but instead, has to be ordered from the importer through the local hardware stores. Previously, the local district organizations of FANC in South Karelia and South Savo have purchased the plastic coated wired mesh from local hardware stores for a competitive price.

At the start of the project in 2020, mesh material for the fish traps were purchased by FANC South Karelia from the local retailer in Lappeenranta, based on the competitive price and ease of purchase, i.e. good value for money. Similarly, in South Savo, the mesh material has been purchased from the local hardware store in Savonlinna, based on the low price and availability of the mesh material.

On February 12, 2021, a request for offer of the plastic coated wired mesh was sent to the manufacturer Cavatorta in Italy. However, the manufacturer informed that the material should be purchased from the importer and forwarded the request to the importer in Finland. The importer, in turn, referred the request to a local hardware store in Lappeenranta. Hence, the plastic coated wired mesh will be purchased from the local hardware stores in Lappeenranta and Savonlinna, by the local district organizations of FANC and the local or project employees.

Requests for offer were then sent to three retailers in Savonlinna, South Savo on July 26, 2021. In Savonlinna, South Savo, based on the two offers received, the mesh is purchased from the retailer offering the mesh for the lowest price. The purchase decision is based on both the availability and ease of purchase of the materials, as well as best value for money.

Similarly, requests for offer were sent to three retailers in Lappeenranta, South Karelia on 20.9.2021. Based on the offers received, the material is purchased from the retailer offering the lowest price.

Other smaller fish trap materials such as clamps, hooks and ropes are available at several local hardware stores. Hence, these materials are purchased by the district organizations and project employees directly from various local retailers, and the purchase decision is based on the availability and price of the materials, which offers best value for money.

The FANC's individual district organizations in South Karelia and South Savo invoice the Our Saimaa Seal LIFE project for the materials purchased on collected invoices once or twice a year.

The purchase procedure of the materials for the seal-friendly fish traps was presented in the monitoring report and discussed with the monitor on the monitoring visit on June 16, 2021. In the feedback letter from CINEA on July 28, 2021, it was acknowledged that the purchase of the materials was discussed on the



visit, and the process of purchasing the materials from the local hardware store is acceptable, if it fulfills the requirement of best value for money.

4. Analysis of benefits

During the first and second year of the project, FANC was able to meet – and exceed – the target of a minimum 200 seal-safe Saimaa fish traps built by volunteers, in spite of the Covid-19 pandemic causing some challenges and delays during the first year. Information about the seal-safe fish trap was hence distributed to a vast audience, with growing interest and requests for organising workshops for new participants.

With the four fish trap workshops organized for the water district owners' associations, FANC was able to reach the key target group, with respect to possibly changing their dangerous fishing habits towards more seal-safe methods. At these workshops, FANC gave the fish traps free of charge to the fishermen, thus offering a positive incentive to refrain from using fishing nets in the Saimaa ringed seal distribution areas in the future. This will possibly assist in the conservation work, as there may be fewer fishing nets on Lake Saimaa in the future, thus increasing the chances for survival of the seals.

Also, by visiting schools and organizing 7 fish trap workshops for school groups, FANC is helping to build the foundation for nature and seal friendly attitudes in children. This, in turn, may lead to a decrease in the use of dangerous fishing nets in the future, and an early adoption and broader use of seal-safe fishing methods among the younger generations.

Overall, the target of handing out a minimum of 200 seal-safe fish traps was exceeded, with some 220 fish traps given to the Saimaa region recreational fishermen in the four "Replace fishing nets with fish traps" events.

The four "Replace fishing nets with seal-safe fish traps" events were mainly organized on the edges of the Saimaa ringed seal distribution area. This strengthened the conservation of the subspecies in these areas, where the seal is attempting to return to, and where the fishing restrictions are not yet adequate.

By organizing four events in these regions, handing out seal-safe fish traps and receiving attention in the local media, FANC was able to reach new audiences locally and offer them alternative fishing methods, in order to protect the Saimaa ringed seals in the areas where the seal is gradually attempting to return to.

By showcasing the seal-friendly fyke nets in some of the fish trap events, FANC was able to educate the public of the fact that there are seal-friendly fishing methods for both recreational and professional fishermen.



Also, showcasing the seal-safe fish traps in different events has helped FANC attract more volunteers, who have joined FANC's volunteer mailing lists and are interested in helping with the work for the Saimaa ringed seal in several ways.

Additionally, by promoting the use of seal-safe fishing methods in various other events during the summers 2021 and 2022, communicating about seal-friendly fishing through press releases, online news articles, newsletters and social media, and receiving visibility in local, national and international media, FANC was able to promote seal-safe fishing methods for larger audiences and bring attention to the fact that not all fish traps or fishing methods are safe for the Saimaa ringed seals.

Promoting seal-safe fishing to a broad audience will assist in shaping the attitudes of the public, which will lead to the consumers demanding seal-friendly fish from the commercial fishermen. This, in turn, will lead to an increase in the use of seal-friendly fishing methods in the future and an increase in the Saimaa ringed seal population, as there will be fewer by-catch mortalities caused by dangerous fishing nets.



Annexes

Annex 1 – An ad for the water district owners' associations about the “Saimaa” fish trap workshops



OSAKASKUNNAN KATISKAPAJA

Kiinnostaako katiskakalastus? Onko porukassanne tarvetta käteville, ilmaisille, norppaturvallisille Saimaa-katiskoille? Tilatkaa Suomen luonnonsuojeluliiton Katiskapaja omalle kylätalollenne!

Pajassa osakaskuntanne jäsenet oppivat Saimaa-katiskojen rakentamisen. Hommaan kuluu ensikertaiselta vajaat kaksi tuntia. Työpajan osallistujat saavat rakentamansa katiskat maksutta mukaan, eikä pajasta tule kuluja myöskään osakaskunnalle.

Rakentaminen ei vaadi erityistaitoja. Luonnonsuojeluliiton työntekijät tulevat ohjaamaan pajan ja tuovat kaikki tarvikkeet ja työkalut mukanaan. Valmis katiska mahtuu helposti auton takapenkille.

Saimaa-katiska on norppaturvallinen, kaksipesäinen katiskamalli. Sen nielussa oleva turvalanka estää nielun levämisen yli 15 cm, joten saimaannorpan kuutti ei mahdu tunkeutumaan pyydykseen.

Työpajojen järjestämisen lisäksi Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto jakaa vuosittain sata talkoilla rakennettua katiskaa vapaa-ajan kalastajille Vaihda verkot katiskaan - tapahtumissa eri puolilla Saimaaata.

Katiskapajanne järjestely lähtee käyntiin, kun otatte yhteyttä hanketyöntekijä Marjaana Kovaseen, puh. 044 776 4230, marjaana.kovanen@sll.fi

Työpaja ja siinä valmistetut Saimaa-katiskat ovat osa Yhteinen saimaannorppamme LIFE -hanketta (Our Saimaa Seal LIFE, LIFE19 NAT/FI/000832). Hanke on saanut rahoitusta Euroopan unionin LIFE-ohjelmasta. Aineiston ja tapahtuman sisältö heijastlee sen tekijöiden näkemyksiä, eikä Euroopan komissio tai CINEA ole vastuussa aineiston sisältämien tietojen käytöstä.



Annex 2 – Copy of the fish trap workshop questionnaire for the school children

PALAUTTE: SAIMAA-KATISKAN RAKENNUSTYÖPAJA

Toivomme, että sinusta oli mukavaa päästää rakentamaan norppaturvallinen Saimaa-katiska. Haluaisimme kuulla mielipiteesi tästä työpajasta. Kiitos paljon!

	täysin samaa mieltä	samaa mieltä	ei samaa eikä eri mieltä	eri mieltä	täysin eri mieltä
Opin uutta saimaannorpista.					
Opin uutta norppaturvallisesta kalastuksesta.					
Minusta on tärkeää kalastaa norppaturvallisesti.					
Katiskan rakentaminen oli helppoa.					
Työkalujen käyttäminen oli helppoa.					
Katiskan rakentaminen oli mukavaa.					
Sain riittävästi ohjeita ja apuja katiskan rakentamiseen.					
Suosittelisin katiskan-rakennuspajaa muille.					
Lahjoitan rakentamani katiskan mieelläni Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitolle.					
Ymmärrän, miten ilmastonmuutos liittyy saimaannorppiin.					
Mielestäni saimaannorppia tulee suojella.					

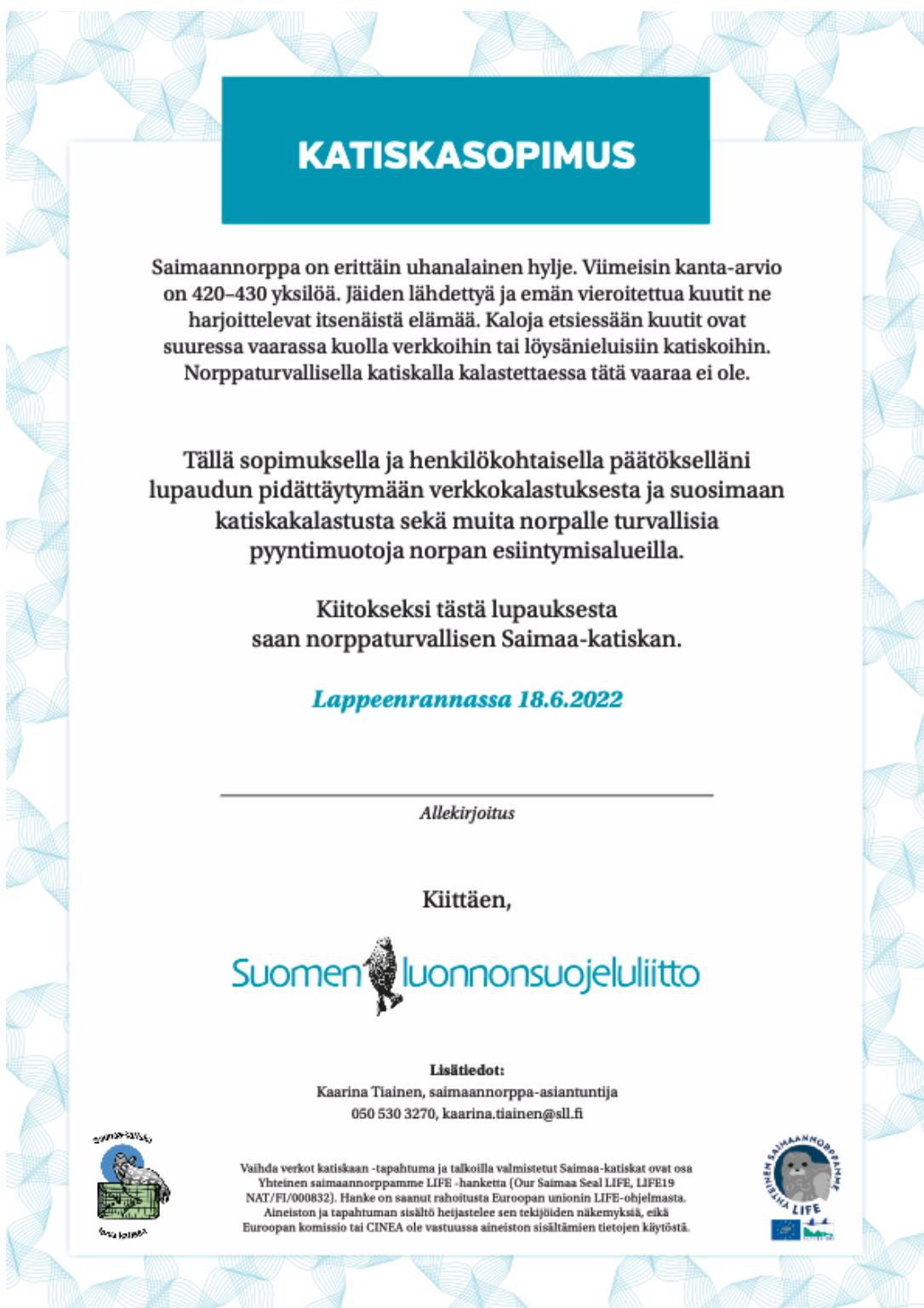
Kommentit:



Katiskatyöpaja ja kyselylomake ovat osa Yhteinen saimaannorppame LIFE -hanketta. Hanke on saanut rahoitusta Euroopan unionin LIFE-ohjelmasta. Aineiston sisältö heijastaa sen tekijöiden näkemyksiä, eikä Euroopan komissio tai CINEA ole vastuussa aineiston sisältämien tietojen käytöstä.



Annex 3 – Copy of the contract made by fishermen to refrain from using fishing nets, in exchange for receiving a seal-safe fish trap free of charge



Annex 4 – A few slides from the slideshow about seal-safe fishing for the workshops



Annex 5 – Visibility of FANC's work to promote seal-safe fishing in international media

English

- <https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20210707-finland-rallies-to-save-one-of-world-s-most-endangered-seals>
- <https://www.bangkokpost.com/world/2144927/finland-rallies-to-save-one-of-worlds-most-endangered-seals>
- <https://phys.org/visualstories/2021-07-finland-rallies-world-endangered.amp>
- <https://sg.news.yahoo.com/finland-rallies-save-one-worlds-060555611.html>
- <https://www.euronews.com/green/2021/07/07/humans-have-made-finland-s-rarest-seal-endangered-is-it-too-late-to-save-them>

French

- <https://www.nouvelobs.com/topnews/20210707.AFP0438/en-finlande-la-bataille-pour-sauver-les-phoques-les-plus-menaces-au-monde.html>
- <https://www.ouest-france.fr/leditiondusoir/2021-07-08/menaces-dextinction-ces-phoques-de-finlande-luttent-pour-leur-survie-bf4cfb5d-b04f-48c3-852a-f88497a3ed36>
- <https://www.msn.com/fr-fr/actualite/france/en-finlande-la-bataille-pour-sauver-les-phoques-les-plus-menac%C3%A9es-au-monde/ar-AALRRRE?li=BBoJlji&%2525253Bocid=wispr>

Spanish

- <https://www.americadigital.com/animales/foca-de-saimaa-la-lucha-de-finlandia-por-salvar-a-una-de-las-focas-mas-raras-y-amenazadas-del-mundo-148006>
- <https://www.infobae.com/america/perrosygatos/2021/07/25/como-es-la-lucha-de-finlandia-para-salvar-a-las-focas-mas-amenazadas-del-mundo/>

Portuguese

- <https://www.istoedinheiro.com.br/finlandia-luta-para-salvar-as-focas-mais-ameacadas-do-mundo/>
- https://www.em.com.br/app/noticia/internacional/2021/07/07/interna_internacional,1284305/finlandia-luta-para-salvar-as-focas-mais-ameacadas-do-mundo.shtml
- <https://www.msn.com/pt-br/noticias/meio-ambiente/finl%C3%A2ndia-luta-para-salvar-as-focas-mais-amea%C3%A7adas-do-mundo/ar-AALSXOY>

Arabic

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