



LIFE Project Number
LIFE19 NAT/FI/000832

Interim Report

C.4 Campaigns for increasing the use of seal-safe fishing gear Covering the project activities from 01/09/2020 to 30/09/2023

Reporting Date
30/09/2023

LIFE PROJECT NAME or Acronym
Our Saimaa Seal LIFE

Data Project

Project location:	Finland
Project start date:	01/09/2020
Project end date:	31/12/2025

Data Beneficiary

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Project is co-funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or CINEA. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



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1. Executive Summary

The Saimaa ringed seal is one of the most endangered seals in the world, with only some 430–440 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 9 fish trap workshops for members of water district owners' associations, 27 workshops for the public, 8 workshops for volunteers, 16 workshops for school groups (also part of action E.2) and 14 workshops for other groups. Additionally, FANC's Saimaa ringed seal volunteers and project employees held some 55 solo workshops. In total, some 841 people took part in the various fish trap workshops, and the amount of fish traps built was 570.

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 for school children. In total, 79 responses were received in the aforementioned questionnaires.

In total, some 330 fish traps, built by volunteers, were distributed to the Lake Saimaa region recreational fishermen free of charge in the annual “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 160 kilos of obsolete fishing nets were received from fishermen at these events.

FANC has organized five “Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps” event, and taken part in nine public events, in which FANC promoted seal-safe fishing methods and showcased the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap. At these events, FANC reached 1554 people.

FANC issued nine press releases and seven online news articles and/or blog posts 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 national and international media, with 51 media hits in total.



2. Introduction

The Saimaa ringed seal is one of the most endangered seals in the world, with only some 430–440 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, and 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. FANC is organizing workshops for building Saimaa fish traps for various audiences in the Lake Saimaa area, mainly 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.

During the reporting period, FANC has organized 74 workshops for building seal-safe "Saimaa" fish traps: 27 workshops for the public, 8 workshops for Saimaa ringed seal volunteer groups, 9 workshops for members of the water district owners' associations, 16 workshops for school groups (part of action E.2), and 14 workshops for other various audiences, such as Allianssi international trainees, hobby groups, Members of the Finnish Parliament, and employment project participants.

At these workshops, there have been a total of 841 participants, who have built 570 seal-safe "Saimaa" fish traps (Annex 1).





Fish trap workshop for the members of the "Nieminen-Venturi" water district owners' association in Rääkkylä, North Karelia, 29.3.2023. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.



Fish trap workshop for school camp in Rantasalmi, South Savo, 29.5.2023. Photo: Kaarina Tiainen / FANC.





Public fish trap workshop at the Riihilahti farm, South Karelia, 8.6.2023. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.



Fish trap workshop for the international trainees of the Allianssi Youth Exchange in Punkaharju, South Savo, 17.7.2023. Photo: Marjaana Kovanen / FANC.



With respect to the fish trap workshop flow and participant experience, collaboration was made with the since-ceased 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. 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.

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, 23 responses have been received.

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 also available [online](#) and in print. 56 responses have been received.

The aforementioned questionnaires are available in pdf format on the [FANC's Our Saimaa seal LIFE project web page](#).

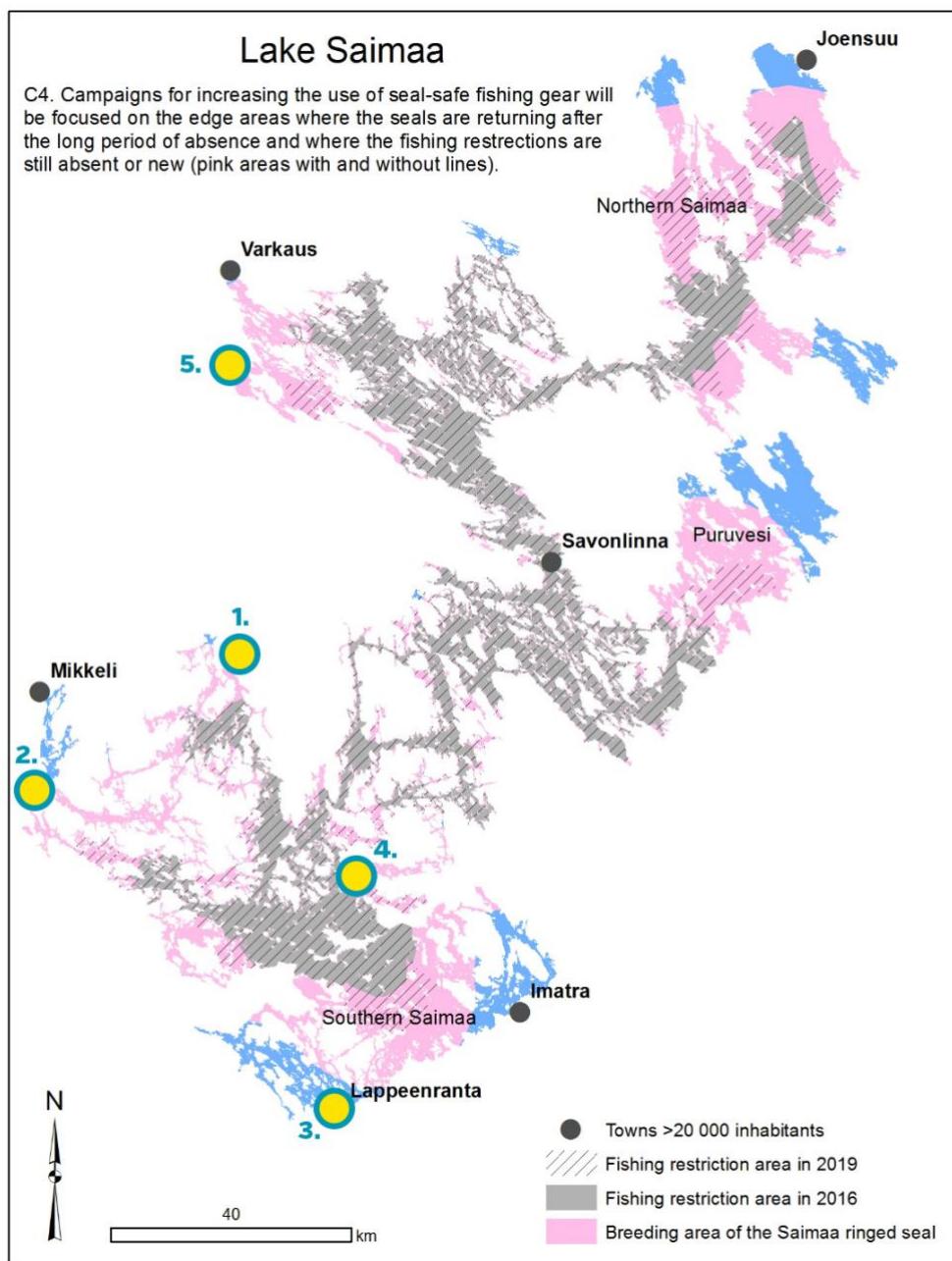
3.2. Fish trap events

Due to the large amount of seal-safe fish traps built in the various fish trap workshops, FANC has been able to organize five (5) "Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" events. Below is a table and map of the locations of these events:

TABLE 1 – "Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" events

No. on the map	Date	Place	Participants (approx.)	No. of fish traps handed over
1.	12.6.2021	Ristiina, Mikkeli, South Savo	150	70
2.	19.6.2021	Koikkala, Juva, South Savo	200	110
3.	18.6.2022	Lappeenranta, South Karelia	70	40
4.	16.7.2022	Puumala, South Savo	100	7
5.	17.6.2023	Joroinen, North Savo	160	106
TOTAL			680	333





A Map of the Lake Saimaa region, showing the locations of FANC's "Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" events in 2021 (1. & 2.), 2022 (3. and 4.) and 2023 (5.).

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 2). 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 160 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, June 12, 2021.
Photo: Kaarina Tiainen/FANC



"Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" event in Koikkala, Juva, South Savo, June 19, 2021.
Fisherman Juha Taskinen and actor, recreational fisherman Kari Hietalahti present the Saimaa fish trap to the audience. Photo: Hanne Kosonen/FANC





"Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" event in Lappeenranta, South Karelia, on June 18, 2022. Layman's seal-safe fyke net in the foreground. Photo: Hanne Kosonen/FANC.

At the main events, annually, collaboration was made with documentarist and seal photographer, professional fisherman **Juha Taskinen** and renowned actor, recreational fisherman **Kari Hietalahti**, who were showcasing and promoting the professional seal-safe fyke and the seal-safe fishing methods to the public. At the events, there were also seal-themed activities for children.

At the event in Lappeenranta, South Karelia in 2022, Group Manager and Principal Scientist **Ari Leskelä** from the Natural Resources Institute Finland also presented various smaller seal-safe fyke nets, which are suitable for the layman.



"Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps" event in Joroinen, North Savo, on June 17, 2023. Participants viewing the seal-safe fish traps, and a fisherman signing the contract. Photos: Hanne Kosonen/FANC.



In addition to the aforementioned five “Replace Fishing Nets with Fish Traps” events, FANC has taken part in nine public events, in which FANC presented the seal-safe Saimaa fish trap and built the fish traps for show.

TABLE 2 – Fish trap events participated by FANC

Date	Name of event	Description	Place/venue	No. of participants
3.7.2021	Kangaslampi Days “Kangaslampipäivät”	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”	Promoting seal-safe fish traps, information about seal-safe fishing, seal-themed activity point for children	Riihisari, Savonlinna, South Savo	Some 130
22.7.2021	Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day “Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä”	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
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
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
14.2.2023	“Valentine’s Day Event”	Sharing information about seal-safe fishing and building seal-safe “Saimaa” fish traps	Savonlinna Central Hospital, South Savo	52
1.7.2023	“Enonkoski Fish Fair”	Providing information about seal-safe fishing, building and showcasing the seal-safe “Saimaa” fish traps, presenting layman seal-safe fyke nets	Enonkoski, South Savo	122
5.8.2023	“The Day of Joy and Fish”	Providing information about the Saimaa ringed seals and seal-safe fishing, building and showcasing the seal-safe “Saimaa” fish traps	Kerimäki, South Savo	150
TOTAL				874

In total, FANC has reached 1554 people at these 14 fishing-themed events.





*"Valentine's Day Event" at the Central Hospital, Savonlinna, South Savo, 14.2.2023.
Photo: Marjaana Kovanen / FANC.*



"Enonkoski Fish Fair" in Enonkoski, South Savo, 1.7.2023. FANC's Marjaana Kovanen showcasing the seal-safe "Saimaa" fish trap. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.





"Enonkoski Fish Fair" in Enonkoski, South Savo, 1.7.2023. Group Manager Ari Leskelä of the Natural Resources Institute Finland presenting the layman's seal-safe fyke. Photo: Hanne Kosonen / FANC.



"The Day of Joy and Fish" in Kerimäki, Savonlinna, South Savo, 5.8.2023. Actor Kari Hietalahti and professional fisherman Juha Taskinen presenting the professional seal-safe fyke net. Photo: Kaarina Tiainen / FANC.



3.3. Information material and communication

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, or with the instructions provided by 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.

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.

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

All of the aforementioned information material is available on the [FANC's Our Saimaa Seal LIFE project webpage](#).

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

FANC has issued nine 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 three of the press releases were issued via email to the local press.



TABLE 3 – 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.sli.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.sli.fi/etela-savo/2021/06/03/vaihda-verkot-katiskaan-koikkalassa/
Verkkokalastus uhkaa saimaannorppaa loppukesällä – Luonnon suojojeluliitto 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.sli.fi/2021/06/30/verkkokalastus-uhkaa-saimaannorppaa-loppukesalla-luonnon suojojeluliitto-jakoi-lahe-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.sli.fi/2022/04/14/verkkokalastusrajoitukset-astuvat-voimaan-norppaturvallinen-kalastus-suojelee-saimaannorppaa/
Luonnon suojojeluliitto jakaa sata norppaturvallista katiskaa Lappeenrannassa – paikalla myös Juha "Norppa" Taskinen ja Kari "Hissu" Hietalahti <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>	9.6.2022	https://www.sli.fi/etela-karjala/2022/06/09/luonnon suojojeluliitto-jakaa-sata-norppaturvallista-katiskaa-lappeenrannassa-paikalla-myos-juha-norppa-taskinen-ja-kari-hissu-hietalahti/
"Norppaturvallinen rysä kohoaa Katariinantorille lauantaina, kalastajille jaossa maksutta katiskoja – Juha Taskinen ja Kari Hietalahti opastavat kalastuksen saloihin" <i>A seal-safe fyke net rises on the Katariinantori market place on Saturday, fish traps handed free of charge to fishermen – Juha Taskinen and Kari Hietalahti guide to the secrets of fishing</i>	15.6.2022	(Email to local media)
Verkkokalastus uhkaa taas saimaannorppia – kaupassa ja ravintolassa on hyvä suosia norppaturvallisesti pyydettyä kalaa <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>	30.6.2022	https://www.sli.fi/2022/06/30/verkkokalastus-uhkaa-taas-saimaannorppia-kaupassa-ja-ravintolassa-on-hyva-suosia-norppaturvallisesti-pyydettya-kalaa/
Norppaturvallisia katiskoja jaossa Suomen luonnon suojojeluliiton tapahtumassa Joroisissa – Juha Taskinen ja Kari Hietalahti esittelevät tapahtumassa myös norppaturvallista rysää <i>Seal-safe fish traps are distributed at the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation's event in Joroinen - Juha Taskinen and Kari Hietalahti also present a seal-safe fyke net at the event</i>	5.6.2023	(Email to local media)



Additionally, FANC published seven online news articles and/or blog posts (in Finnish) 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/>
- “International teams built seal-safe fish traps in Punkaharju”, 20.9.2022, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/etela-savo/2022/09/20/kansainvaliset-tiimit-rakensivat-norppaturvallisia-katiskoja-punkaharjulla/>
- “Seal-safe fish traps were built at Nieminen”, 1.4.2023, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/pohjois-karjala/2023/04/01/norppaturvallisia-katiskoita-valmistui-niemisessa/>
- “Commercial fisherman Tapani Kontinen stopped fishing with nets in order to help the Saimaa ringed seal”, 29.6.2023, available at: <https://www.sll.fi/2023/06/29/kaupallinen-kalastaja-tapani-kontinen-lopetti-verkkokalastuksen-auttaakseen-saimaannorppaa/>

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/X)
- Saimaa ringed seal newsletters (sent to recipients via email and available 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.



**VAIHDA VERKOT
KATISKAAN**

**Koikkalan
kylätalo,
Juva
la 19.6.
klo 11-14**

Mukana
Juha "Norppa"
Taskinen
ja Kari "Hissu"
Hietalahti

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

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

Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto

Lue lisää:
sli.fi/etela-savo/
tapahtumat






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.



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, nationally and internationally, with 51 media hits in total (Annexes 3 and 4).

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 4).

Additionally, the AFP also produced a video about the Saimaa ringed seal, its threats, and the conservation work done by FANC. The video is available at the [AFP YouTube channel](#).

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 reporting period, FANC was able to meet – and exceed – most of the targets regarding promoting seal-safe fishing, despite the Covid-19 pandemic causing some challenges and delays during the first year. Information about the seal-safe fish trap was distributed to a vast audience, with ever-growing interest and requests for organising workshops for new audiences.

By organizing fish trap workshops for 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 likely 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.

Moreover, fishermen's attitudes and readiness to change their fishing habits were examined with questionnaires at the workshops. This may further strengthen the idea of seal-safe fishing, and encourage the fishermen to adopt more seal-friendly fishing methods, and also disseminate information about the seal-safe fishing methods among their interest and peer groups.



By visiting schools and organizing 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 300 seal-safe fish traps was exceeded, with some 330 fish traps given to the Saimaa region recreational fishermen in the five "Replace fishing nets with fish traps" events.

The five "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 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, 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 endangered 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 – Workshops for building seal-safe “Saimaa” fish traps, organized by FANC

Date	Place / Venue	Workshop type	Specific participants	Number of 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	Vitsiälä, Mikkeli	public		6	4
27.10.2021	FANC South Savo office, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	1	1
30.10.2021	Anttola, Mikkeli	public		5	5
3.11.2021	FANC South Savo office, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	2	2
3.11.2021	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	public	volunteers	10	6
10.11.2021	FANC South Savo office, 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	Kimpinen high school, Lappeenranta	school / student group		14	5
12.2.2022	Koikkala People's House, 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	grades 5.–6.	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, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	2	2
21.4.2022	Vocational college Sampo, Lappeenranta	school / student group		27	15



27.4.2022	FANC South Savo office, Savonlinna	public	volunteers	6	5
28.4.2022	Tirilä People's House, Lappeenranta	other	Garden Club members	12	9
18.5.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	public	volunteers	3	4
23.5.2022	Mikkelipuisto, Mikkeli	other	Employment project	8	7
25.5.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	volunteers	volunteers	2	3
6.6.2022	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	10	6
15.6.2022	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	volunteers		2	4
17.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers		1	5
18.6.2022	solo workshop	volunteers		1	3
22.6.2022	solo workshop	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 kirkkonkylä 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		1	2
12.10.2022	FANC South Savo office, Savonlinna	public		1	1
13.10.2022	Lemi school, Lemi	school / student group	Grade 8	14	6
14.10.2022	Taipalsaari school, Taipalsaari	school / student group	Ukrainian children	4	2
23.11.2022	FANC South Savo office, Savonlinna	public		1	2
7.12.2022	Student House, LUT, Lappeenranta	other	Lappeenranta University of Technology students and members of student organization Tetra	50	19
11.1.2023	Kirjola school, Parikkala	school / student group		12	5
26.1.2023	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	other	Sampo adult students	8	3
9.2.2023	Parliament House, Helsinki	other	Members of the Finnish Parliament, employees and visitors of the Parliament House	30	6
14.2.2023	"Citizens' Marketplace", Savonlinna	public		52	4
15.2.2023	Lönnrot school, Lappeenranta	school / student group	Grade 5B	19	5



24.2.2023	Lappee school, Lappeenranta	school / student group	Grade 6A	24	8
21.3.2023	Kimpinen school, Lappeenranta	school / student group	Grades 5.-6.	9	3
22.3.2023	Vuoksenniska school, Imatra	school / student group	Grades 5.-7.	10	3
29.3.2023	People's House Nieminen, Rääkkylä	water district owners' association	Nieminen-Venturi water district owners' association	18	20
1.4.2023	Wanha Mannila, Punkaharju	water district owners' association	Vaahersalo eteläinen & Pihlajavesi itäinen water district owners' associations	12	20
15.4.2023	People's House Päiväkumpu, Ahvensalmi, Savonlinna	water district owners' association	Oravi & Multala water district owners' associations	7	10
22.4.2023	People's House Sampola, Vitsälä, Mikkeli	water district owners' association	Mikkeli water district owners' associations	6	8
25.4.2023	Rantasalmen kunnantalo, Rantasalmi	public	volunteers	5	6
2.5.2023	FANC South Karelia office, Lappeenranta	public	volunteers	1	1
24.5.2023	Uutta Elämää, Mikkeli	other	Employment project	8	8
29.5.2023	Saimaan Eräelämys, Rantasalmi	school / student group	school camp	25	8
8.6.2023	Riihilahti ranch, Lappeenranta	public		7	5
12.6.2023	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	11	9
12.6.2023	Vaahersalo, Punkaharju	water district owners' association	Vaahersalon eteläinen & Pihlajaveden itäinen water district owners' associations	6	5
1.7.2023	Fish Fair, Enonkoski	public		1	1
4.7.2023	Uutta Elämää, Mikkeli	other	Employment project	6	6
8.7.2023	Lintusalo, Puumala	public		6	5
15.7.2023	Urpola Nature Centre, Mikkeli	public			
17.7.2023	Itä-Karjala folk high school, Punkaharju	other	international Allianssi trainees	16	7
5.8.2023	"The Day of Joy and Fish", Kerimäki	public			
15.– 16.8.2023	Saimaan Eräelämys, Rantasalmi	school / student group	school camp	44	16
10.9.2023	Orilampi (Kouvola)	other	Members of FANC	15	5
TOTAL				841	570

Annex 2 – 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



Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto
The Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



Annex 3 – Visibility of FANC's work to promote seal-safe fishing in the Finnish media

Media	Date	Headline	Link
Newspaper "Länsi-Savo"	11.6.2021	Katiskalla kalastaminen on norppaturvallista – Vaihda verkot katskaan -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/418101_1
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/418331_2
Erä-lehti	15.6.2021	Katiskasopimus <i>Fish trap contract</i>	https://eralehti.fi/arinkalahusta/2021/06/15/katiskasopimus/
Newspaper "Juvan 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 – Väliuoden 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
Newspaper "Itä-Savo"	19.7.2021	Riihisaaren pihalaisella vietetään tiistaina Saimaan saaristoluontopäivää – Asiaa muun muassa saimaannorpasta, 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/422843_0
Newspaper "Itä-Savo"	20.7.2021	Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä tarjosi norppaturvallisia katiskoja ja tietoa Saimaan	https://www.ita-savo.fi/paikalliset/423052_5



		<p>saariston palveluista – "Miksi lähteä merta edemmäs kalaan?"</p> <p><i>Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day provided seal-safe fish traps and information on services within Saimaa archipelago – "Why carry owls to Athens?"</i></p>	
Newspaper "Länsi-Savo"	20.7.2021	<p>Anttolan satamatatorilla järjestetään torstaina Saimaan saaristoluontopäivä</p> <p><i>Saimaa Archipelago Nature Day organized at Anttola Harbour Market on Thursday</i></p>	https://www.lansi-savo.fi/paikalliset/423075
Yle ("Finnish Broadcasting Company")	15.4.2022	<p>Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12043017/64-3-70091
Uusimaa	15.4.2022	<p>Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://www.uusimaa.fi/uutissuomalainen/4555048
Demokraatti	15.4.2022	<p>Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan tänään</p> <p><i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect today</i></p>	https://demokraatti.fi/saimaannorppaa-suojelevat-verkkokalastusrajoitukset-voimaan-tanaan
Salon Seudun Sanomat	15.4.2022	<p>Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://www.sss.fi/2022/04/saimaannorppaa-suojelevat-verkkokalastusrajoitukset-voimaan/
Itä-Savo	15.4.2022	<p>Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/uutissuomalainen/4555048
Karjalainen	15.4.2022	<p>Yön uutiskooste: Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>News summary from the night: Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://www.karjalainen.fi/kotimaa/y%C3%B6n-uutiskooste-kansanedustaja-ilkkakanerva-on-kuollut-sairaanhoidopiireist%C3%A4-A4-kannatusta-potilasturvallaile
Etelä-Suomen Sanomat	15.4.2022	<p>Yön uutiskooste: Saimaannorppaa suojelevat verkkokalastusrajoitukset voimaan</p> <p><i>News summary from the night: Restrictions on net fishing to protect the Saimaa ringed seal into effect</i></p>	https://www.ess.fi/uutissuomalainen/4555071
Yle	16.6.2022	<p>Ylen kaupunkifestivaali Pointti näkyy ja kuuluu eri puolilla Lappeenrantaa – mukana Maltti ja Valtti,</p>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12492022



		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>	
Yle	18.6.2022	Ammattikalastaja ja suojelejan kannattajat yhä erimielisiä saimaannorpan suojelejan 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>	https://yle.fi/uutiset/3-12498365
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>	https://areena.yle.fi/audio/1-62535026
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 suojelejäliitto pyytää välttämään yhä verkkokalastusta Saimaalla: 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 suojelejäliitto-pyytaa-välttämään-yhä-verkkokalastusta-saimaalla-norppa-kokee-pitkan-ja-tuskallisen-kuoleman-verkossa
Yle	1.7.2022	Luonnon suojelejäliitto kehottaa ihmisiä suosimaan norppaturvallista kalaa – ammattikalastajien mielestä verhot ovat jo riittävästi turvallisissa. <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
Itä-Savo	22.2.2023	Saimaalla voi kalastaa norppaturvallisesti – mutta ei verkoilla <i>One can fish on Lake Saimaa with seal-safe methods - but not with fishing nets</i>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/paakirjoitus-mielipide/5740102
Koti-Karjala	31.3.2023 (online) 5.4.2023 (print)	Saimaa -katiskoita ilmaiseksi <i>Saimaa fish traps for free</i>	https://www.kotikarjala.fi/article-6.6.58945.76d33af393 https://www.kotikarjala.fi/article-6.10.58944.d86bc0cac1 (copy of newspaper)



Puruvesi	15.4.2023	Norppaturvalliset katiskat valmistuvat Vaahersalossa kevään vesille – Uusi osakaskunta järjesti talkoot ja opastuksen <i>Seal-safe fish traps were made in Vaahersalo for the spring waters - New water district owners' association organized workshop and guidance</i>	https://www.puruvesi.net/ paikalliset/5858434
Itä-Savo	17.4.2023	Näin valmistuvat norppaturvalliset katiskat Punkaharjun Vaahersalossa <i>This is how seal-safe fish traps were made in Punkaharju's Vaahersalo</i>	https://www.ita- savo.fi/paikalliset/585927 1
Työ terveys turvallisuus 3/2023	05/2023	Työkäytössä Saimaa-katiska <i>Saimaa fish trap in work use</i>	(Copy of article)
Iltalehti	25.5.2023	Laittomasta katiskasta paljastui raastava näky – Saimaannorppa sai surmansa <i>A gruesome sight was revealed from illegal fish trap - Saimaa ringed seal was killed</i>	https://www.iltalehti.fi/kot imaa/a/6339dec8-ca84- 49c2-b152-d251dc3f7641
Itä-Savo	31.5.2023	Kajakkirallia, kalastusta ja katiskantekoa – Viidesluokkalaiset irrottautuivat älypuhelimestaan kuin huomaamatta kahden päivän keväleirillä luonnon helmassa <i>Kayak rally, fishing and fish trap making - Fifth graders got rid of smartphones as if unnoticed during two-day spring camp in the heart of nature</i>	https://www.ita- savo.fi/paikalliset/596616 7
Joroisten Lehti	5.6.2023	Joroisissa jaetaan norppaturvallisia katiskoita <i>Seal-safe fish traps distributed in Joroinen</i>	https://www.joroistenleht i.fi/paikalliset/5978692
Warkauden Lehti	5.6.2023	Joroisissa jaetaan norppaturvallisia katiskoita <i>Seal-safe fish traps distributed in Joroinen</i>	https://www.warkaudenle hti.fi/paikalliset/5978692
Yle	15.6.2023	Haluatko ilmaisen norppaturvallisen katiskan? Suomen luonnonsuojeluliitto jakaa niitä Joroisissa lauantaina <i>Do you want a free seal-safe fish trap? Finnish Association for Nature Conservation will distribute them in Joroinen on Saturday</i>	https://yle.fi/a/74- 20035145
Iltalehti	19.6.2023	PS-valtuutettu saimaannorppien suojelesta: "Lajeja tulee ja menee" – Tässä on luonnonsuojelun asiantuntijan vastaus <i>Finns councilor on the protection of Saimaa ringed seal: "Species come and go" – This is the answer of a nature conservation expert</i>	https://www.iltalehti.fi/kot imaa/a/e2b4d985-f391- 4186-a21b-233389a3ca4d
Rantasalmen Lehti	21.6.2023	Tapani ja sata muuta kalastajaa vaihtoi verkot norppaystävälliseen katiskaan <i>Tapani and hundred other fishermen exchanged fishing nets for seal-friendly fish trap</i>	https://www.rantasalmenleht i.fi/artikkelite/tapani-ja- sata-muuta-kalastajaa- vaihtoi-verkot- norppaystavalliseen- katiskaan/
Maaseudun Tulevaisuus	30.6.2023	Luonnonsuojelujärjestöt vetoavat Saimalla kalastaviin verkkoihin pitämiseksi pois vesistä myös heinäkuussa <i>Nature conservation organizations appeal to those who fish in Saimaa to keep their nets out of waters also in July</i>	https://www.maaseudunt ulevaisuus.fi/metsa/dcd4 e6d4-c0bd-4cc8-a297- 26a9b6c8611a



Iltalehti	17.7.2023	Saimaannorpan kuutti kuoli verkkoihin – Epäily: Kalastaja yritti upottaa ruhon syvyyksiin <i>Saimaa ringed seal pup died in fishing nets - Suspicion: Fisherman tried to sink carcass into depths</i>	https://www.iltalehti.fi/kotimaa/a/57ee4cfb-d464-410e-8468-c8cc3af55f19
Itä-Savo	19.8.2023	Norppia, sarjakuvia ja yllätyksellistä taidetta – Luontoelokuvafestivaalien kolmas päivä alkoi pирteissä ja lämmintenhenkisissä tunnelmissa <i>Seals, cartoons and surprising art - Third day of Nature Film Festival started in cheerful and warm atmosphere</i>	https://www.ita-savo.fi/paikalliset/6152027



Annex 4 – 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-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
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