



Salmon, seals & hydropower

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Menu

- Who we are?
- What is fishing now in Finland?
- What we do in the EU level?
- What we do at home in 2008?
- Seals – Finnish speciality
- Hydropower – common problem
- Is there any hope?



Finnish Association for Nature Conservation

- 70 years and still going strong!
- 33 000 members
- 200 local clubs
- 15 regional offices
- staff 30
- FISH, CCB, EEB



Fishing in Finland

- Baltic Sea, lakes, big rivers
- no big business but one of most popular hobbies
- FI could be progressive in the EU in IUU, Cod etc. - but it is not!
- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, not the Ministry of Environment
- political coalition



EU fish work

- Baltic Sea RAC member (28.2.07)
- Salmon and Sea Trout WG
- Public consultations of the European Commission
- No ENGOS in NOP monitoring committee
- We don't have yet seat in Finnish coordination committee for Council (AGRI/FISH) items!



National fish work

- Salmon Act was a failure: we need pressure from the EU!
- Fishing Act and Water Act revisions are beginning
- Co-operation with anglers and other NGOs (Natur och Miljö, WWF etc.) e.g. certification (MSC)



Seals – our speciality

- Finland has started hunting also with Ringed Seal with special licences in breeding season 2008
- FANC has written to ministers and Supreme Administrative Court
- Finland pays now compensations for fishermen for Seal damages
- Campaign to replace nets with other traps in Saimen seal areas



Hydropower - a problem

- New fight for old protected waters:
 - Kemihaara mires (Natura 2000) – revival of Vuotos dam plan with ecoenergy and floods prevention
 - Iijoki river – Kollaja “lake” plan
- National court cases in many rivers
- Water Framework Directive plans
- New FANC ecoelectricity criteria



Problems in the Baltic

- Higher price of food and the end of set-aside rules: higher nutrient flow
- ENGOs have claimed for more efficient agrienvironment in RD (also CAP Health Check)
- WFD statement round in autumn
- Nord Stream pipeline project



What we need?

- Activate the Ministry
- Pressure from EU and international co-operation (information flow, background papers, checklists, best practices...)
- More media and lobbying work
- Possible formal complaints to the EU?



Credo

- Before the EU it was easier for MoAF to make fisheries policy without ENGOs
- Only with professional fishermen
- with old political backup
- we are making progress - slowly, but firmly, step by step



Let's keep on contact!

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