

Hirsijarvi presentation

for Collective approach to agrienvironmental contracts

Thematic Working Group 4
Delivery Mechanism of the EU Rural Development policy
7th Meeting

15th April 2011, Brussels

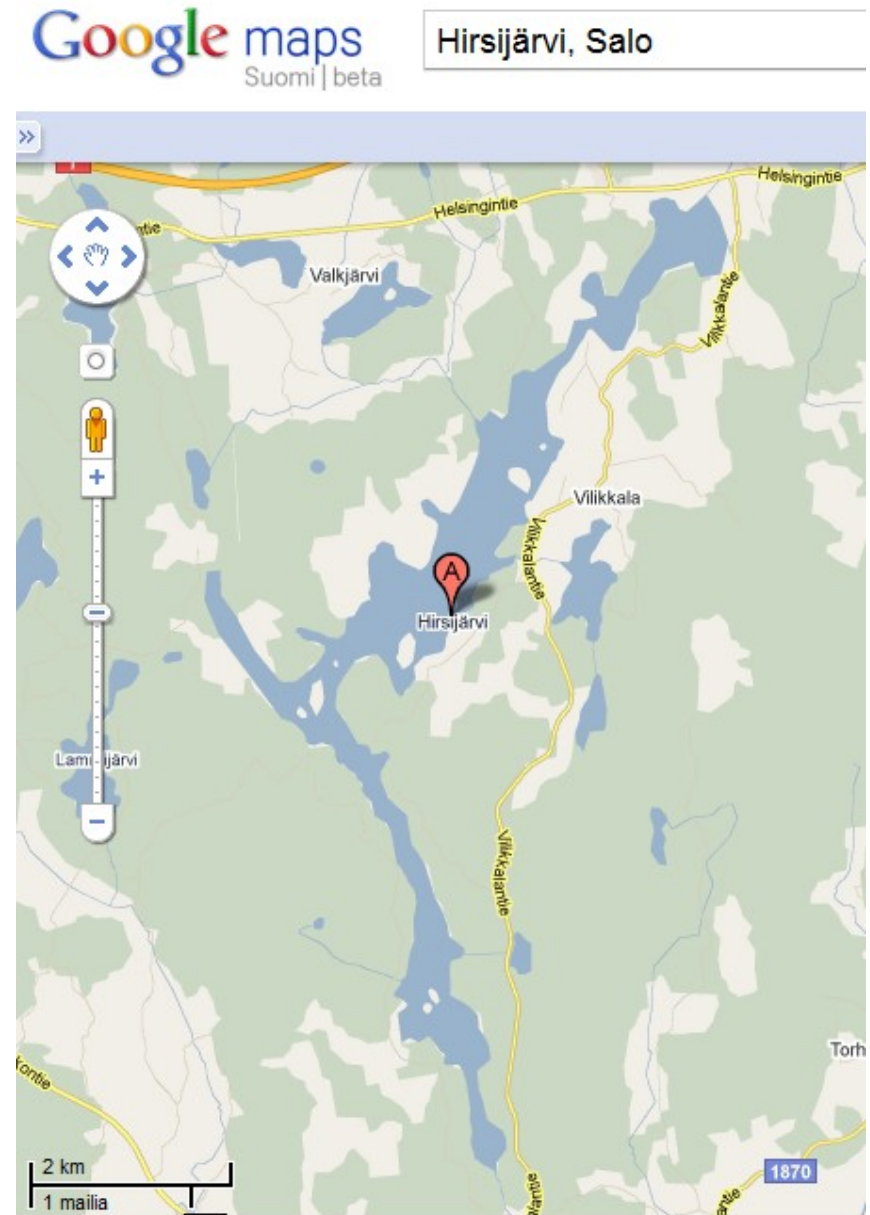
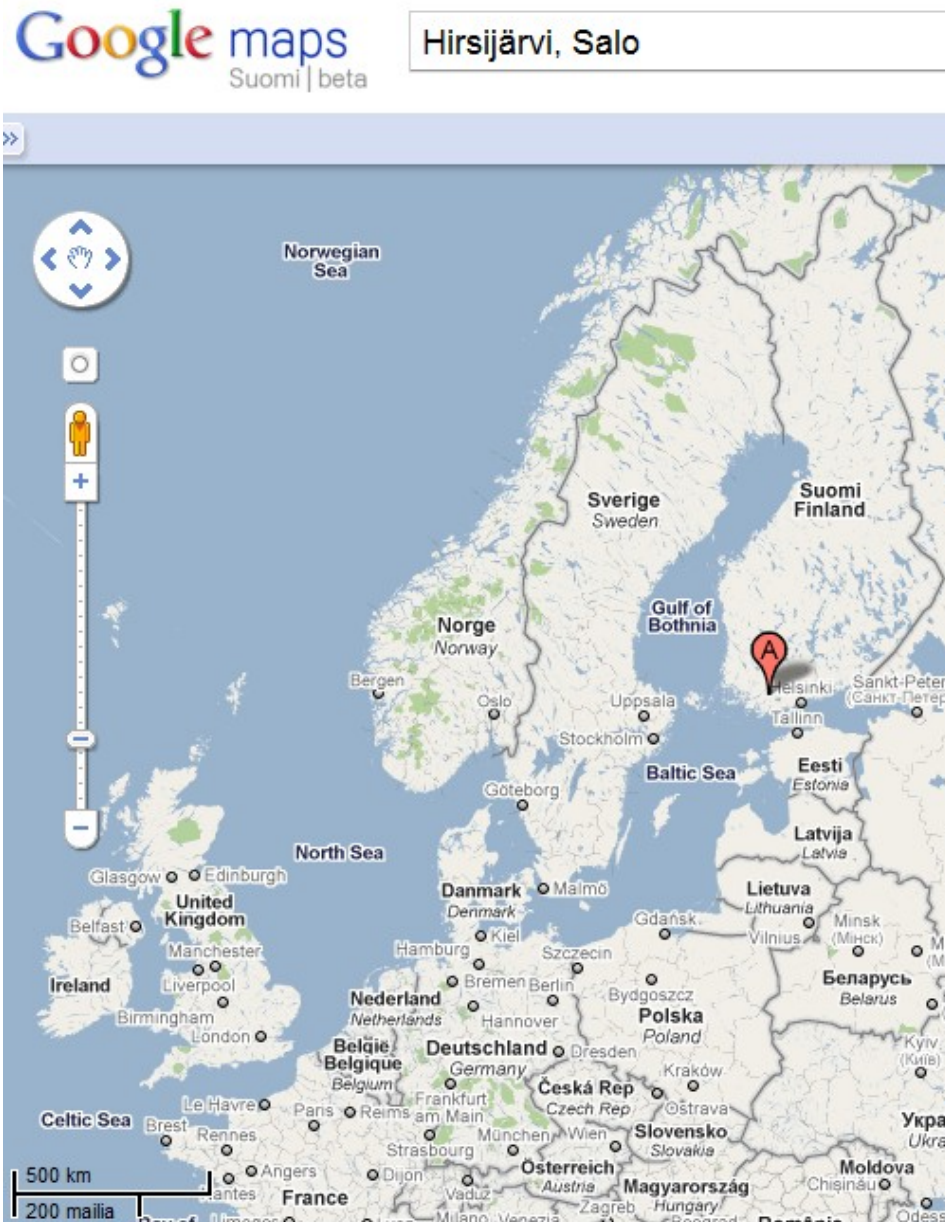
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Hirsijärvi



Hirsijarvi basics

- SouthWest Finland, between Helsinki & Turku
- 16km long, but only 530+ hectares
- Large, shallow bay-like areas
- Approx 50 farmers
- Approx 50 households
- Approx 300 'Summer Cottages'
- Legal decision power / lake water area ownership divided into 10+ collectives

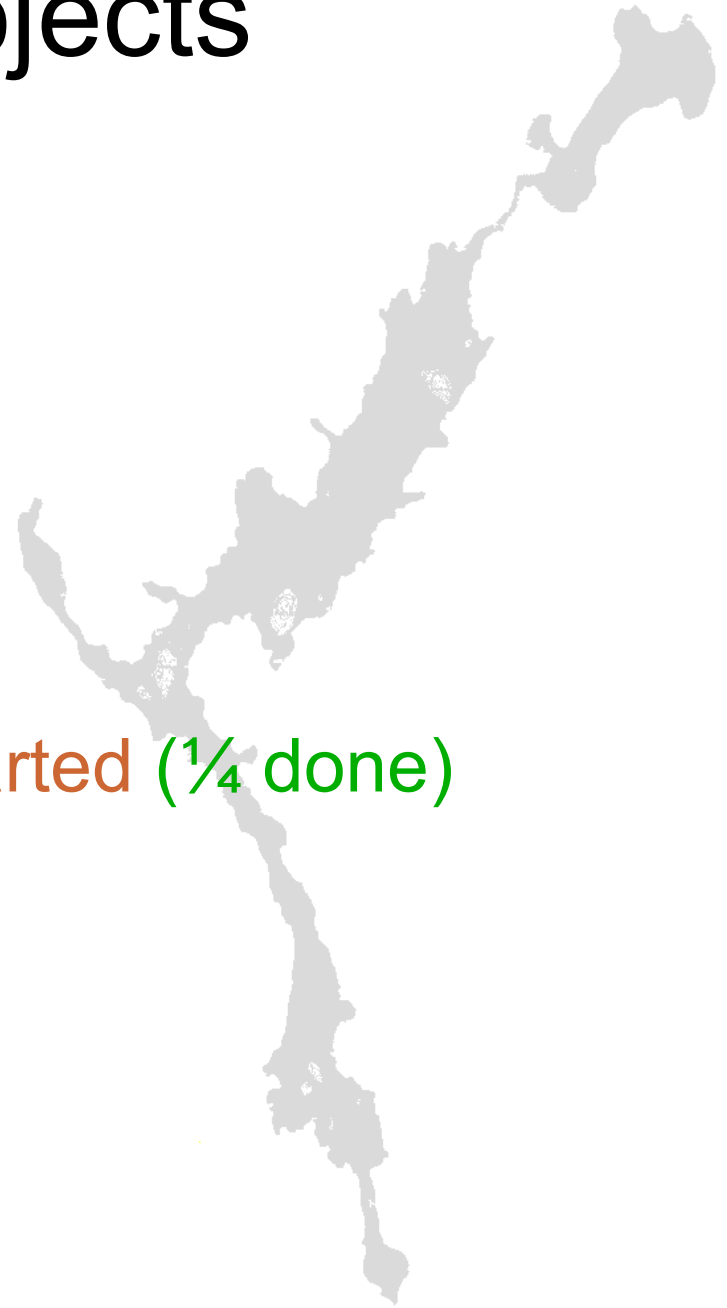
Hirsijarvi Lake Association

- Founded 2003
- Water & fish analysis 2004
--> action plan 2004
- Load Control
- Targeting for more natural state for the whole lake
- External load control first
Then internal load control



Hirsijarvi Projects

- Water Analysis – done
- Fish Analysis – done
- Action Plan - done
- Load control
 - External load / wetlands – started (1/4 done)
 - Internal load / fishing
- Lake surface regulation
- Fish route



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Association
initiated
projects

ELY
initiated
projects

Project 1: Load Control

- It took us 6 years to get the first wetland done
- Limitations to EU support in Finland:
 - Wetland / Catchment area ratio min. 0,5%
 - Lake association shall pay all money first, then EU support may be available after applying
- These are impossible limitations to associations

Project 1: Load Control

- Lake association could not proceed on it's own
 - 5 years trying without visible results
 - Land owners were getting unhappy
- 2009: WWF started activity in Southern Finland
- Forward going activity: WWF really wants to make positive actions and WWF shows it
- We had readily contacts between all involved
 - Land owners in key-role

Project 1: Load Control

- Achievement:

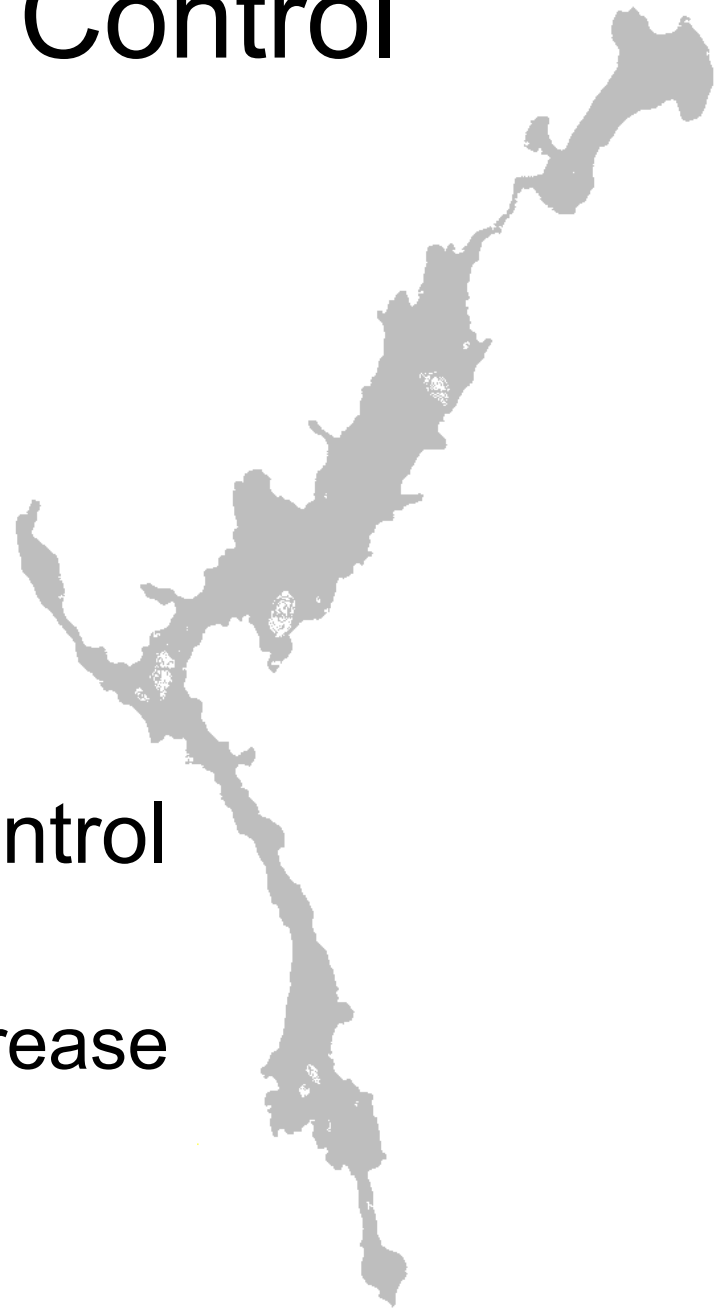


Wetland made by Cooperation

- WWF
 - Project overall coordination, wetland design + costs 30%
- Lake association
 - Initiative, long-term persistent proposal generator
 - Sharing the thinking with the land-owners
- ELY acts as the local authority
 - Invaluable in discussing with some land-owners
 - ELY brings in also legal reviewing capability + costs 70%
- Land owners
 - Positive attitude, local knowledge
 - Giving up some benefits

Project 1: Load Control

- Current status:
 - Little visibility for continuing making the wetlands
 - WWF is active
- Next phase would be fish control
 - Analysis results exist
Relative predator amount increase
 - Action plan as such exists



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 - Little visibility for continuing making the wetlands
 - WWF is active
- Next phase would be fish control
 - Analysis results exist
Relative predator amount increase
 - Action plan as such exists
- Expenses outside association's capabilities

Hirsijarvi Projects

- Water Analysis – done
- Fish Analysis – done
- Action Plan - done
- Load control
 - External load / wetlands – started (¼ done)
 - Internal load / fishing – no visibility how to
- Lake surface regulation
- Fish route

Project 2: Lake surface regulation

- ELY project
- Started positively with a questionnaire to land-owners about their requirements, wishes and understanding of the current status

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- ELY receiving a lot of negative feedback

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- ELY project
- Started positively with a questionnaire to land-owners about their requirements, wishes and understanding of the current status
- Project unclear due to direct activities to disregard the land-owners' requirements
- ELY receiving a lot of negative feedback
- Lake association drives the interests of the land-owners in this project – they own the lake

Project 2: Lake surface regulation

- Local people point-of-view is clear



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- The lake would suffer big damage if ELY would do what they have been telling they want to do
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- Local people point-of-view is clear
- The lake would suffer big damage if ELY would do what they have been telling they want to do
- Shallow bay areas would maybe vanish, at least damaging spawning areas
- Creates difficulties to keep street credibility in the good project

Project 2: Lake surface regulation

- Lake association message to ELY:

Take into account the local people requirements and wishes as per the conducted questionnaire

Hirsijarvi Projects

- Water Analysis – done
- Fish Analysis – done
- Action Plan - done
- Load control
 - External load / wetlands – started (¼ done)
 - Internal load / fishing – no visibility how to
- Lake surface regulation – currently **non-positive**
- Fish route

Project 3: Fish route from Sea

- ELY Fisheries department project
- Local people point-of-view is clear also for this
- Announced target would be to run 2m³/s
- Lake surface would drop more than 100cm in the Summer – bay depths ca 50 cm
- No local support for this – ELY keeps on driving
- Damages PR to a level we may have difficulties in getting the good projects done

Project 3: Fish route from Sea

- Lake association message to ELY:

Stop the fish route project
regarding Hirsijärvi



Hirsijarvi Projects

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- Fish Analysis – done
- Action Plan - done
- Load control
 - External load / wetlands – started (¼ done)
 - Internal load / fishing – no visibility how to
- Lake surface regulation – currently non-positive
- Fish route - negative impact

Hirsijarvi Summary

- One **good** project
 - WWF + ELY funded
 - ELY cooperation is positive + invaluable
 - Land-owners gave their own land to the project
 - Direct negative financial impact to farmer's economy
 - Gave up CAP LFA support and crop cultivation on area
- Two not-so-good projects driven by EU/ ELY
 - Creating difficulties for the good projects

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It is our task and duty to
preserve the lake and
its surrounding
natural purity and vitality
in order to
give our children
a possibility
to experience the same
decades from now
We owe them this

