



Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment

Maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea region 2013

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Ministerial Adviser
Seminar in Reykjavik 27.5.2013

Content of my presentation

1. MSP & EU policy context
2. Developing maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea area
 - HELCOM-VASAB MSP working group
 - EU preparatory action; Plan Bothnia pilot plan
3. Recent maritime spatial planning developments in Finland
 - Kymenlaakso maritime spatial plan
 - Underwater biodiversity research program VELMU

1. MSP & EU policy context

DG MARE (Maritime)

- 2007 The **integrated maritime policy IMP**
- 2008 “The MSP Roadmap” msp-principles and financing for preparatory actions
- 2013 European Commission adopted a **proposal for a Directive** on maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management

... MSP & EU policy context

MSP directive proposal aims to integrate EU policies:

- the Marine strategy framework directive,
- The Common fisheries policy 2014 -2020,
- The Renewable energy directive,
- The Motorways of the Sea initiative,
- The Habitats Directive,
- The Blue growth initiative, and

- Europe 2020 - A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth

- EU Baltic Sea Strategy

The proposal for a Directive on maritime spatial planning and integrated coastal zone management, March 2013

Objectives of the proposal

- Economic development (Blue growth, synergies)
- Stable investment climate (predictability)
- Cross border cooperation (infrastructure)
- Coordination (administration)
- Environmental protection (reduce pressures)

Member states should establish and implement MSP and ICZM:

- Nominate an authority
- Establish a process
- Establish and implement maritime plan/plans and a coastal strategy/strategies

Definitions

“...process or processes cover the full cycle of problem identification, information collection, planning, decision-making, management, monitoring of implementation, and stakeholder participation.”

Area of coastal strategies

- territorial waters and land

Area of msp plans

- EEZ and territorial waters

Objectives of msp-plans and strategies

- Apply ecosystem-based approach
- Secure energy supply,
- Promote marine transport,
- Foster the growth of fisheries and aquaculture,
- Ensure the protection and improvement of the environment
- Sustainable use of natural resources

Common requirements for maritime plans and coastal strategies

- Operational steps
- MSP plans and coastal strategies should be coordinated nationally and with neighboring countries
- Revised every 6th year

Specific requirements

for plans

- Mapping of actual, potential spatial and temporal distribution of all relevant maritime activities
- Consider at least energy, transport routes, cables and pipelines, fishing areas, sea farming sites, nature conservation sites

for coastal strategies

- Inventory of existing measures applied and evaluation of the need for new ones
- Consider at least natural resources, infrastructure, agriculture, industry, fishing, aquaculture, environment, climate change

MSP directive proposal

- Is without prejudice to member states competences for town and country planning
- MSP plans and coastal strategies should be done in three years after the entry of the directive and revised every 6th year
- The implementation of the directive should be reported to the Commission every 6th year

2. Developing maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea area

HELCOM; Convention on the Protection of the Marine Environment of the Baltic Sea Area (1974 Helsinki Convention).

- HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan

VASAB; Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea (1992)

- Long Term Perspective LTP

JointHELCOM-VASAB MSP WG 2010

- Baltic Sea States HELCOM and VASAB representatives, EU Commission, observers

EU Baltic Sea Strategy: Maritime spatial plan by 2020
EU Commission MSP communication 2008 requirement

HELCOM-VASAB MSP WG

So far the group has

- agreed on HELCOM-VASAB MSP and ICZM principles
- drafted a Legislative basis for msp –study
- drafted a paper Ecosystem approach in drafting a maritime spatial plan –study

HELCOM Ministerial meeting on October 2013 Copenhagen
VASAB Ministerial Meeting September 2014 Tallinn

2. Developing maritime spatial planning in the Baltic Sea area

The group needs now a new mandate for 2013-2016

Draft work plan 2013-2016:

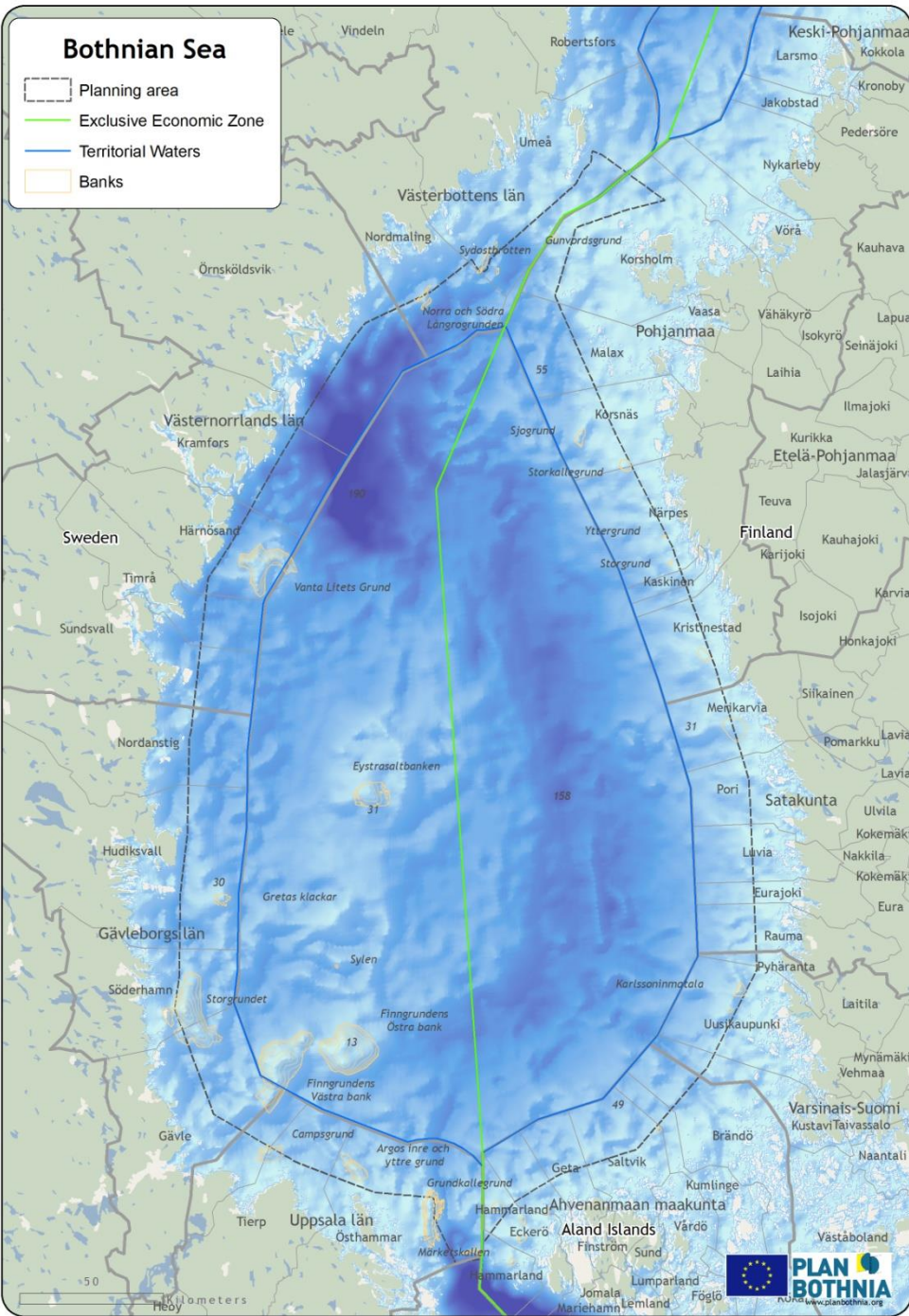
- Exchange of experience
- Framework
- MSP and MSFD
- MSP and ICZM
- Data
- EU Baltic Sea Strategy Horizontal Action Spatial planning leadership
- To create better understanding of the specific conditions and need for MSP in BSR in EU and to seek common approach to EU initiatives

Status of maritime spatial planning in Baltic Sea countries

- Germany – spatial planning on territorial waters and on EEZ based on legislation
- Poland – developing msp
- Lithuania – developing msp
- Latvia – developing msp
- Estonia – developing msp – drafting regional maritime plans
- Norway – maritime spatial planning – non binding management plans
- Denmark – not developing msp - no planning on sea
- Russia – developing msp – no legislation on msp
- Sweden – developing legislation
- Finland – land use planning and building act implemented on territorial waters, no planning legislation on EEZ

PLAN BOTHNIA - pilot plan project

- EU DG MARE MSP “preparatory action”
- Joint HELCOM-VASAB MSP principles
- The 10 EU MSP principles in Roadmap
- Testing joint transboundary spatial planning in the Bothnian Sea between Finland and Sweden
- 18 months, 500 000 €



PLAN BOTHNIA – a pilot plan

Phase I: Assessment

– Assessment document and GIS datasets (Spring-Autumn 2011)

Phase II: Spatial Plan

–Drafting of a MSP Pilot Plan (Winter 2011-2012)

- **No adoption** - test case and material for future Finland-Sweden dialogue
- Conference in Gothenburg 21-23 May 2012

Prospects for joint maritime spatial planning – extending spatial planning to the sea - starting points

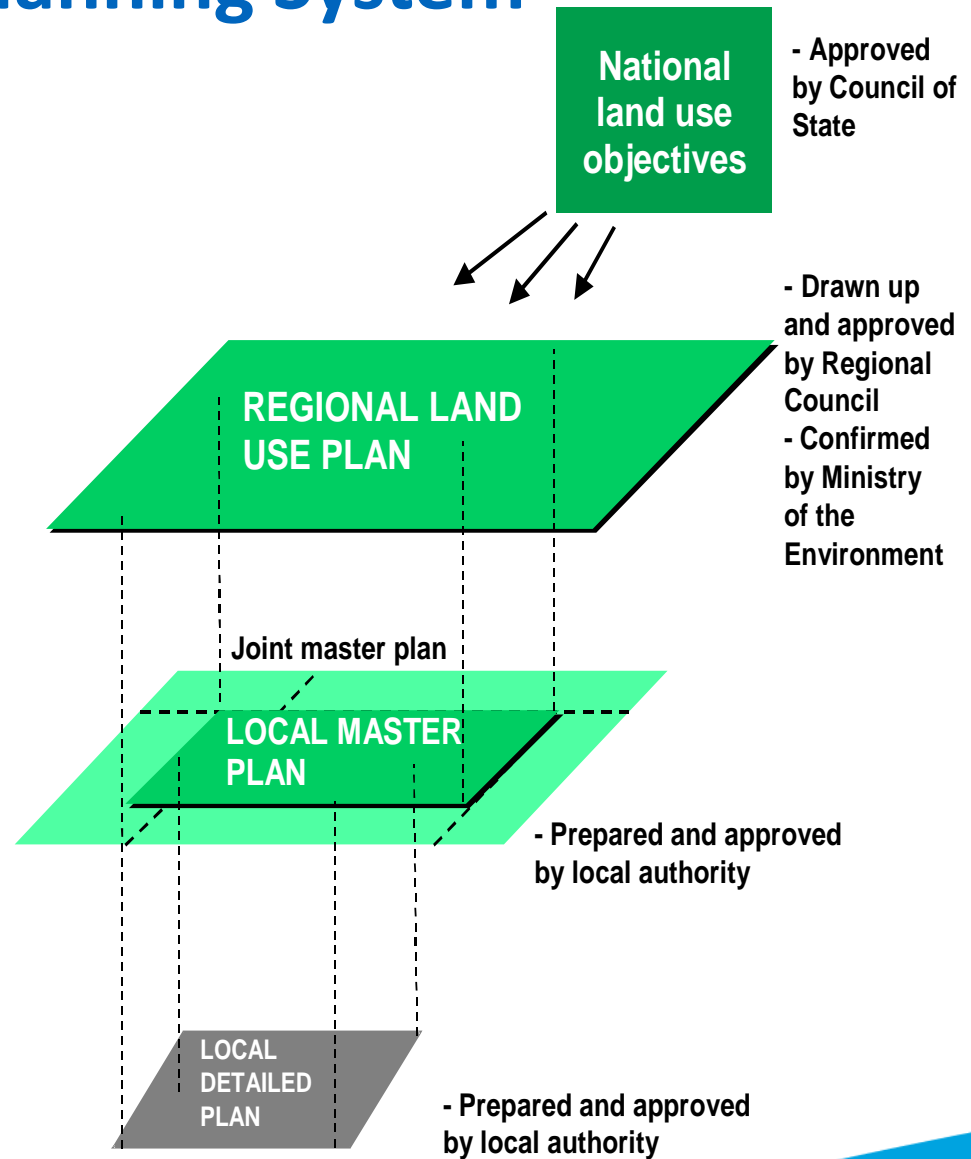
- Municipalities has the planning mandate also on territorial seas
- In Finland regional plans drafted by Regional Councils
- No spatial planning legislation on EEZ
- Act on the EEZ; government authorize activities on sectoral basis
- In Sweden also an Act on Continental Shelf
- Both countries have own systems for safeguarding national interests

...Prospects for joint maritime spatial planning - extending spatial planning to the sea - starting points

- Only few municipal plans covers also sea area both in Sweden and in Finland
- Finnish regional plans covers mainly coastal waters
- Sectoral planning – areal interests too
- International legislation

- Åland has its own spatial planning system

Finnish Land Use Planning System



A Regional land use plan

Sets out a general framework for the more detailed local plans

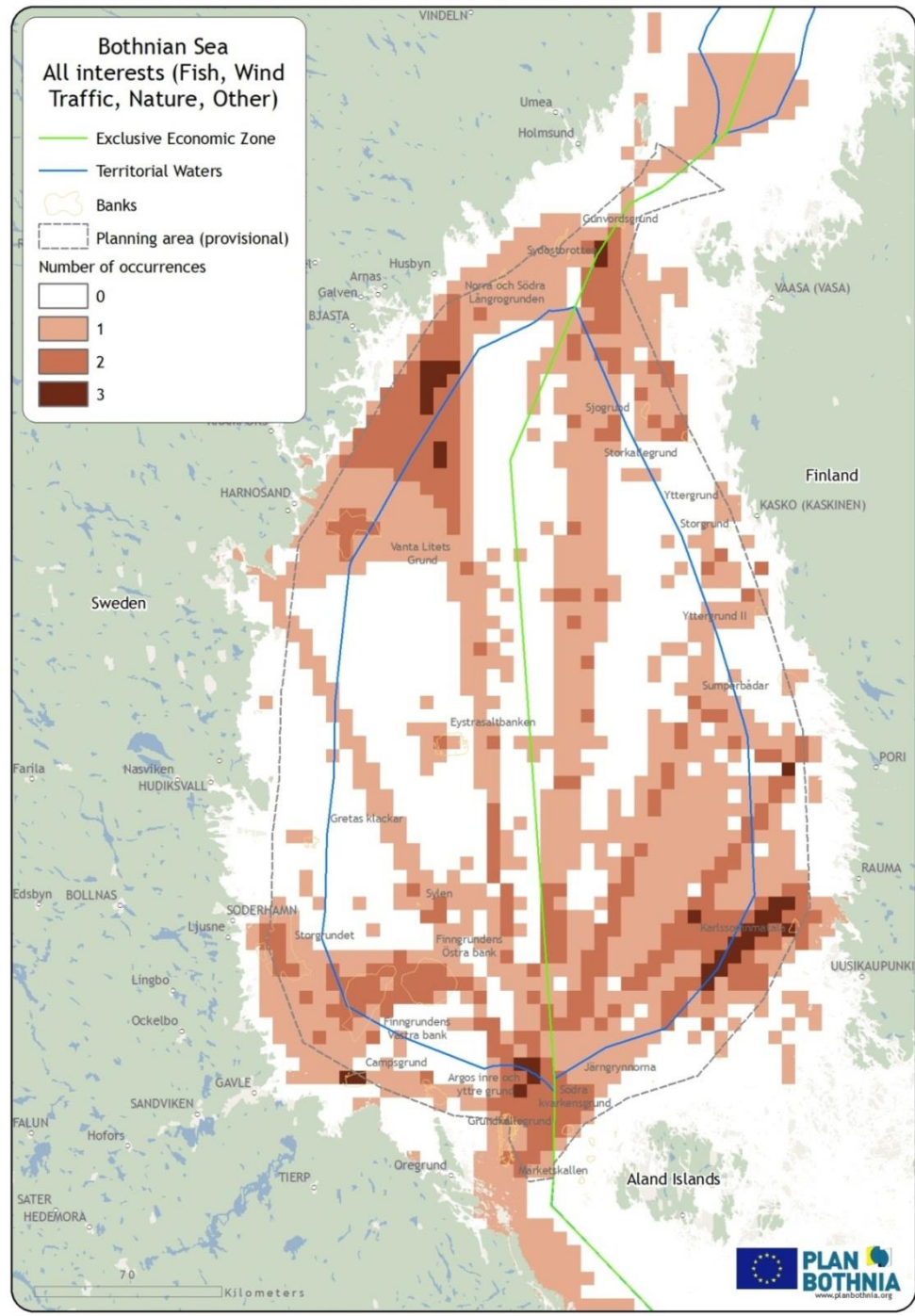
Must promote the implementation of the national land use guidelines

- Special attention is paid to:
 - **structure** of the region
 - **sustainability** of land use, transport, technical services, natural resources
 - **region's businesses**
 - **protection** of landscape, natural values, and cultural heritage
 - **recreation**

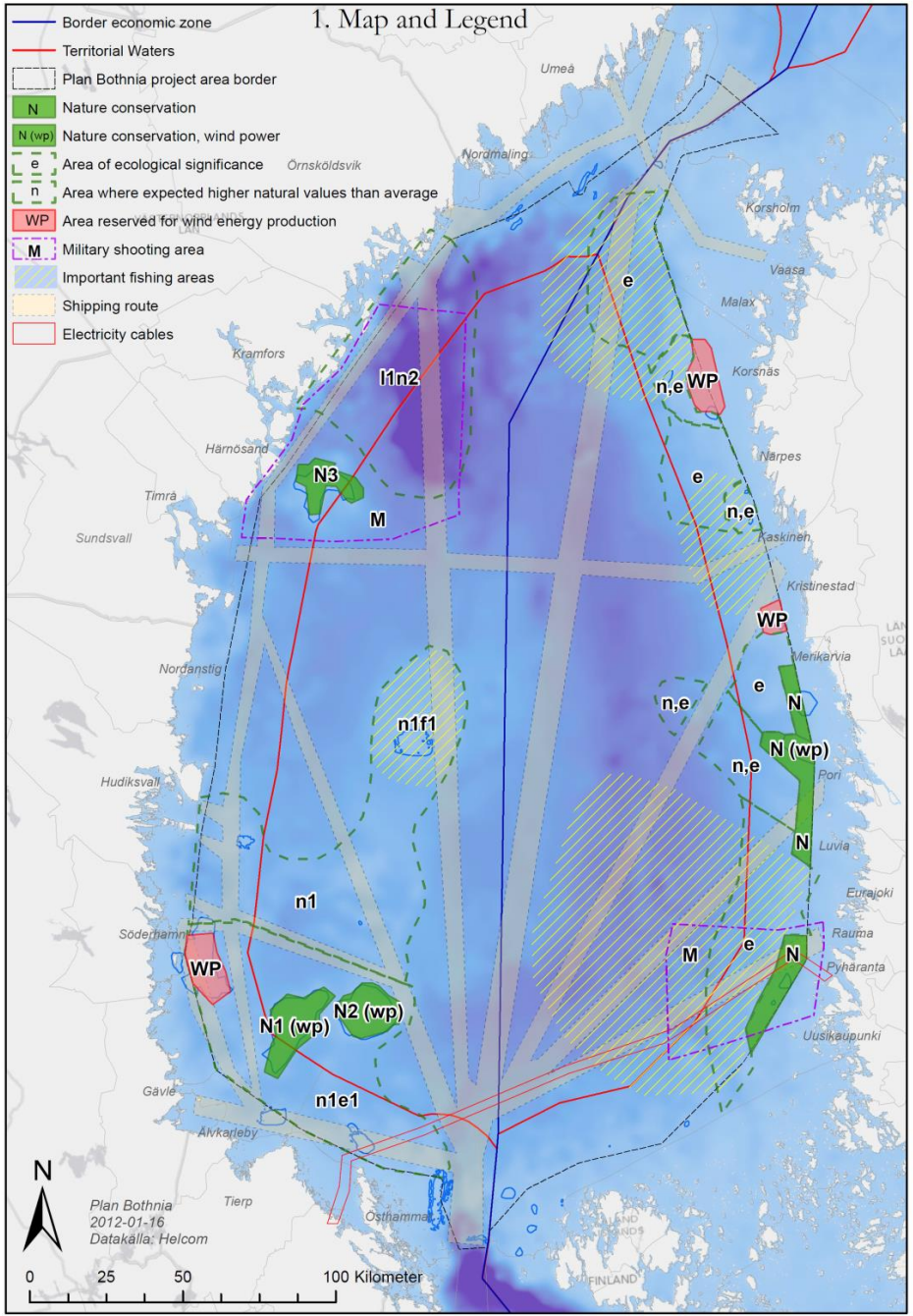
Finnish law on EEZ 2004/1058

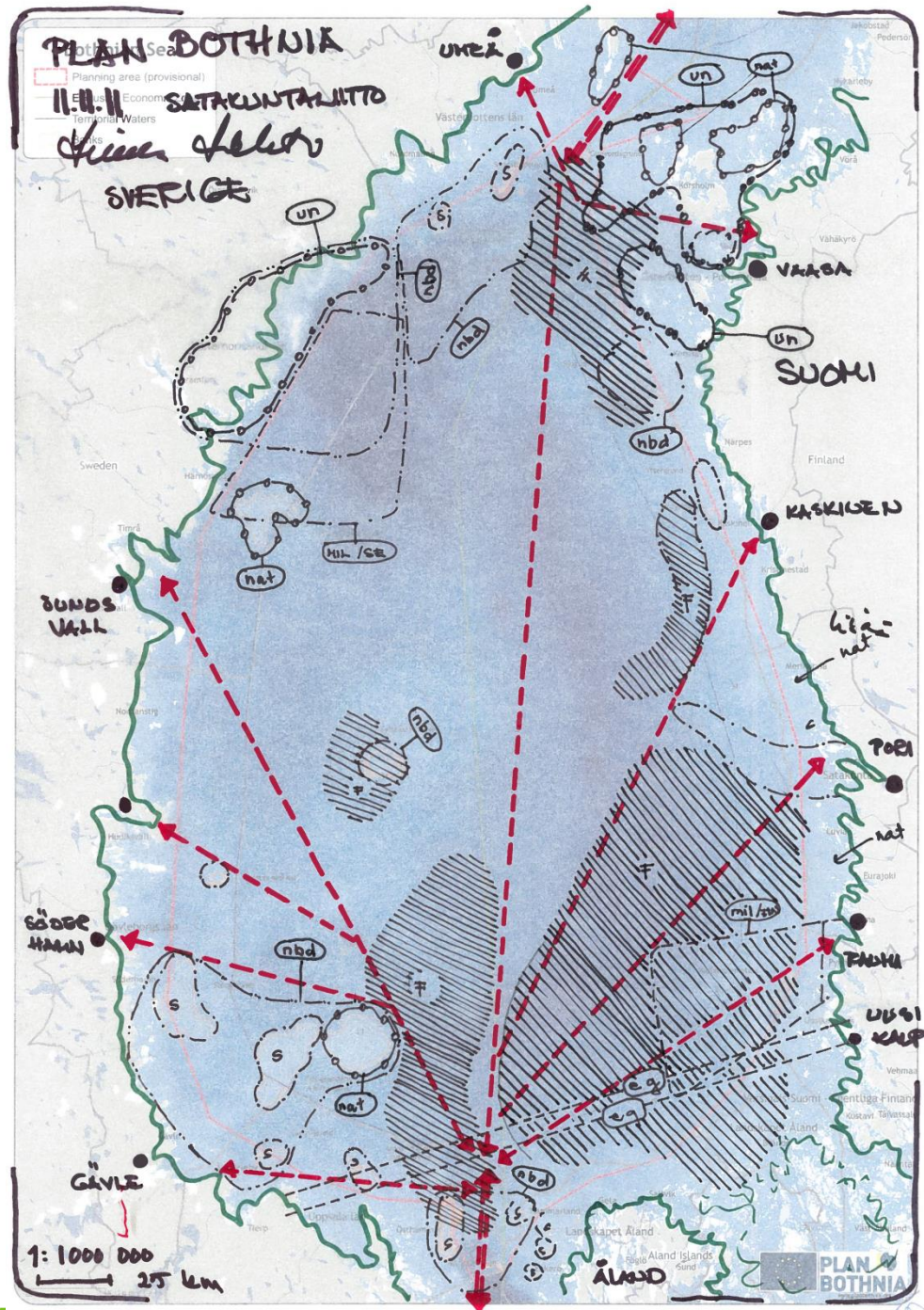
Rights and jurisdiction

- Right to make research, exploit, preserve, manage, and to carry out activities aiming to economic use and research
- Jurisdiction according to international law to built artificial islands, constructions and use them as well as to protect and research the marine environment



1. Map and Legend





Lessons learned

- Joint vision, goals and objectives needed
- A political decision and financing needed

Plan Bothnia vision:

“The Bothnian Sea will remain a place of unique natural beauty where maritime human activities are carried out within the boundaries of good ecological status, enable prosperous communities in the region and contribute to combating global climate change as a result of long term transboundary cooperation.”

The vision should be implemented by:

- a. Creating a basis framework to ensure the good status of ecosystems and their ecosystem services
- b. Ensuring a network of offshore nature protected areas
- c. Safeguarding maritime traffic
- d. Designating sufficient suitable areas for sea based energy
- e. Maintaining spawning, nursery and fishing areas necessary for maintaining a viable local fishery
- f. Highlighting/illustrating the importance of the sea to the coastal communities

...lessons learned

- Transboundary maritime spatial planning is possible and also an effective tool for realizing common goals for a shared regional sea
- Must be based on the governance structure of both countries to lay down legally effective recommendations or regulations in either country – also to safeguard the participation and rights to appeal
- MSP has role for laying down guidelines for the future appropriate use of larger sea areas and also solving conflicting interests

...lessons learned

- Is perhaps not the most suitable tool to manage activities that are to very high degree dependent on regulations based on EU or international legislation like fishery or shipping – still, influencing on such policies might be possible
- Which questions/problems can be solved by a plan
- Quality information for drafting a plan needed – common understanding of basic structure, functions and needs of protections are crucial

Experiences of Planbothnia

Drafting a plan for a sea area jointly with another country

- Bring up topical questions
- Increased knowledge and experience
- Was involving regions and planners
- Many similarities between SE and FI
- Planning culture: Finland has plans on three planning level, Sweden has detailed planning -> results in planning regulations, markings
- Future needs

Reflection on MSP principles and the Bothnian Sea

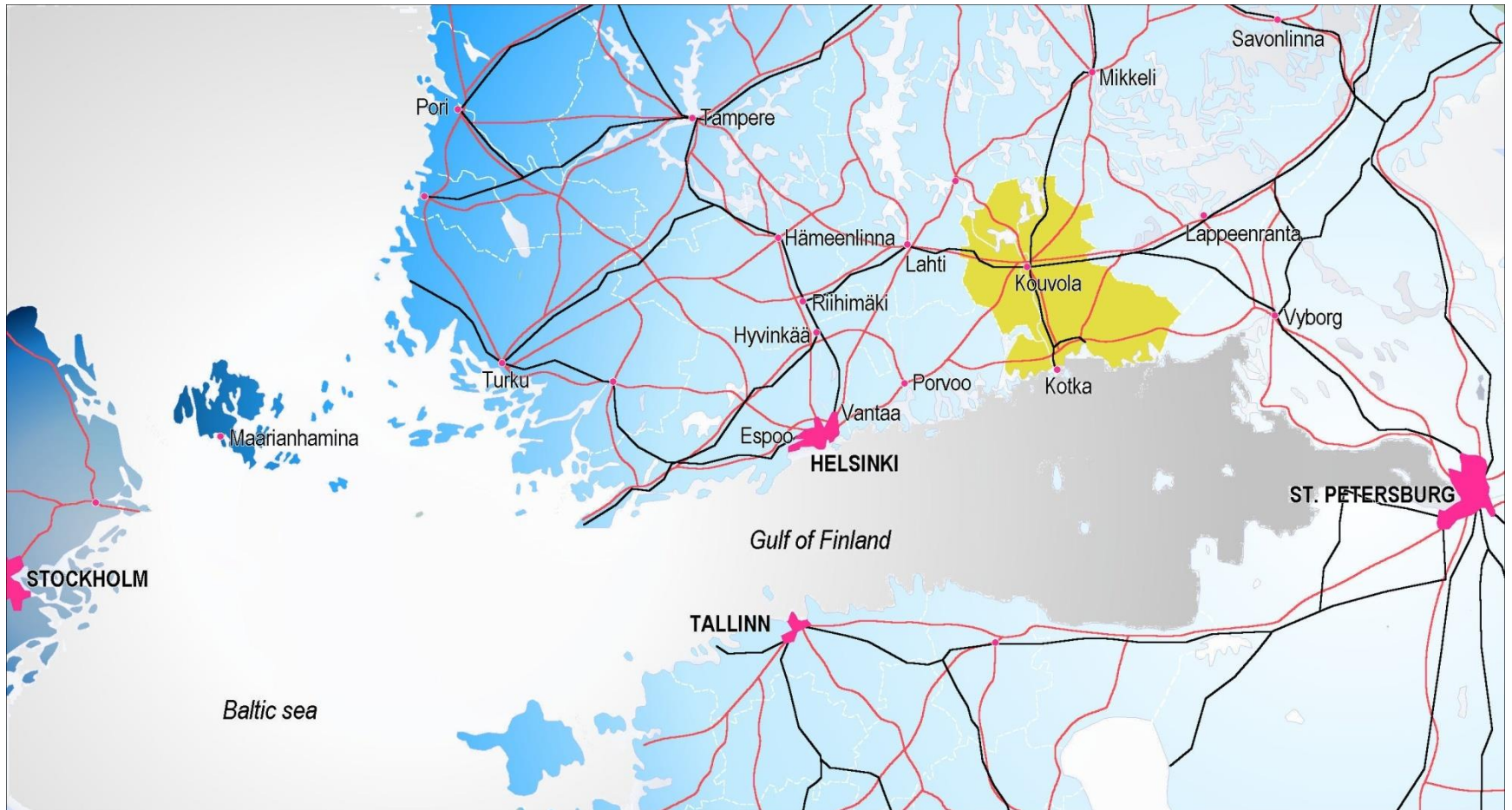
- Plan Bothnia is fulfilling successfully both EU and HELCOM-VASAB msp-principles

Maritime spatial planning in Kymenlaakso, Finland



Frank Hering
Environmental planner

Location



MSP in the Kymenlaakso region

- The Regional Council of Kymenlaakso decided in 2012 to elaborate a regional plan focusing on MSP / ICZM
- The regional plan of Kymenlaakso is among the first regional plans in Finland focussing on questions related to MSP / ICZM

Central topics

- Considering underwater bio- and geodiversity
- Improving the environmental state of the sea
- Developing tourism / recreation
- Managing structural changes of the defence forces in the archipelago
- Improving maritime safety
- Developing the sustainable use of natural resources (fish/ sand/ wind...)
- Enabling sustainable economic development...

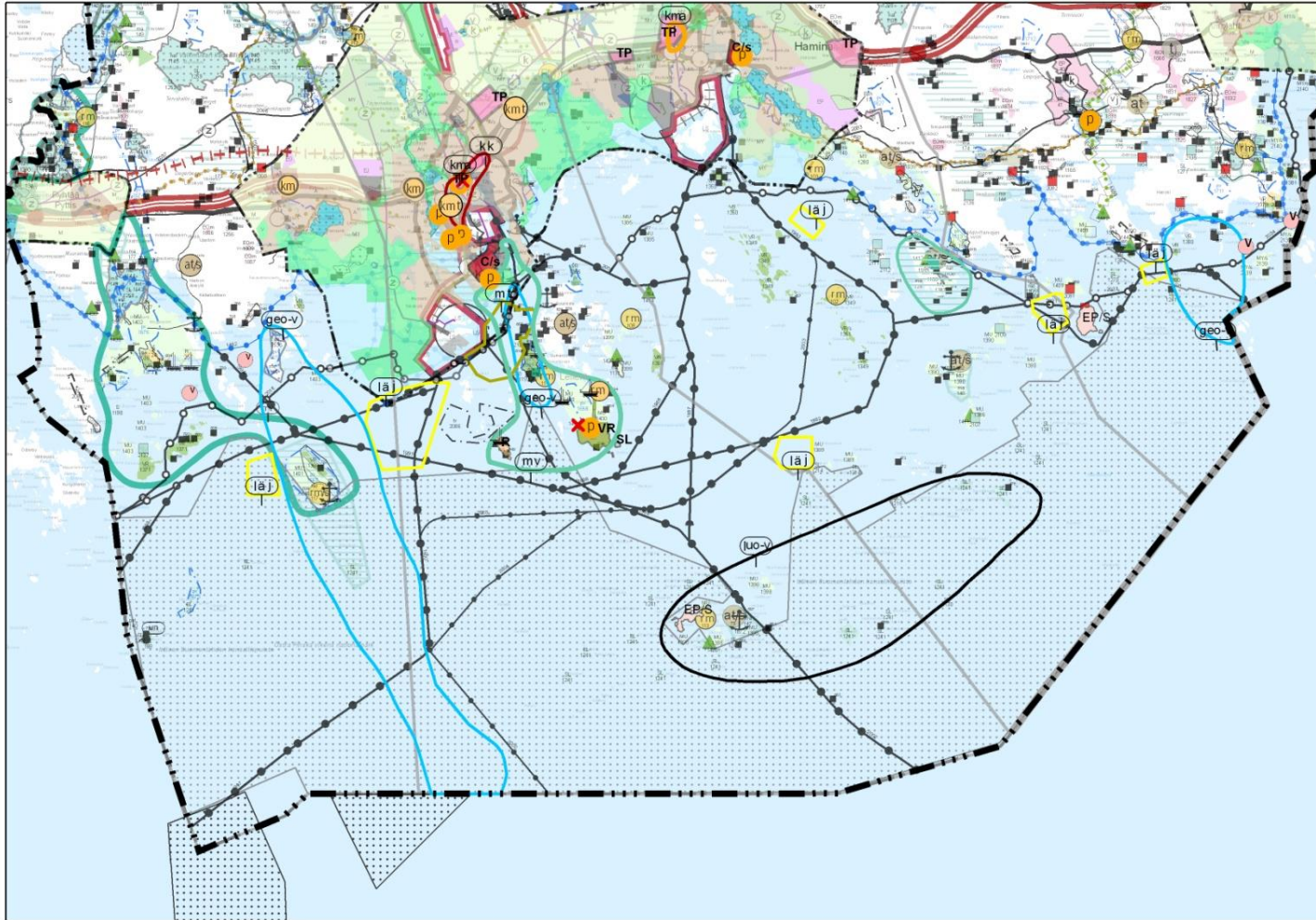
Permanent issues

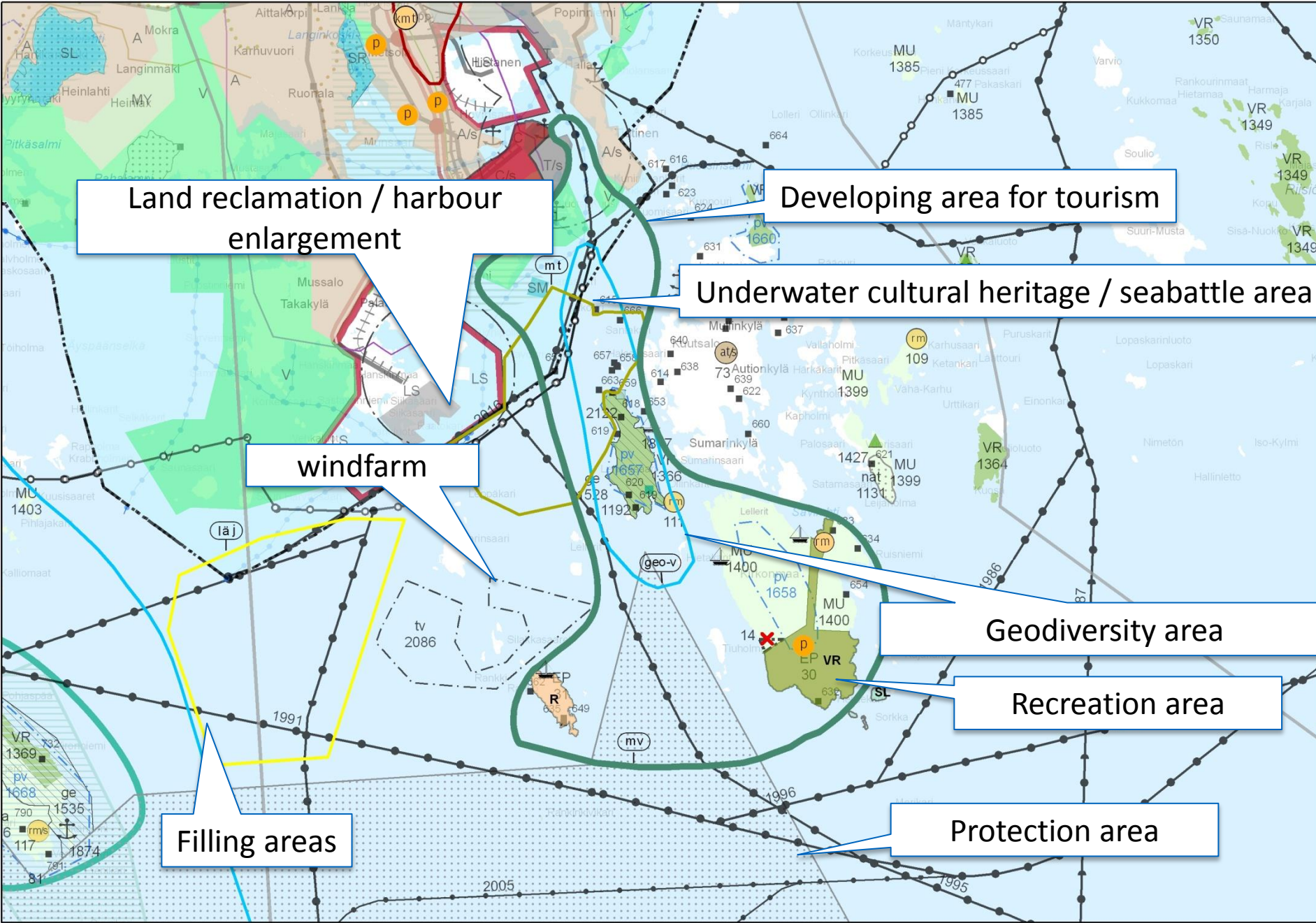
- Lack of resources...
- Lack of data...

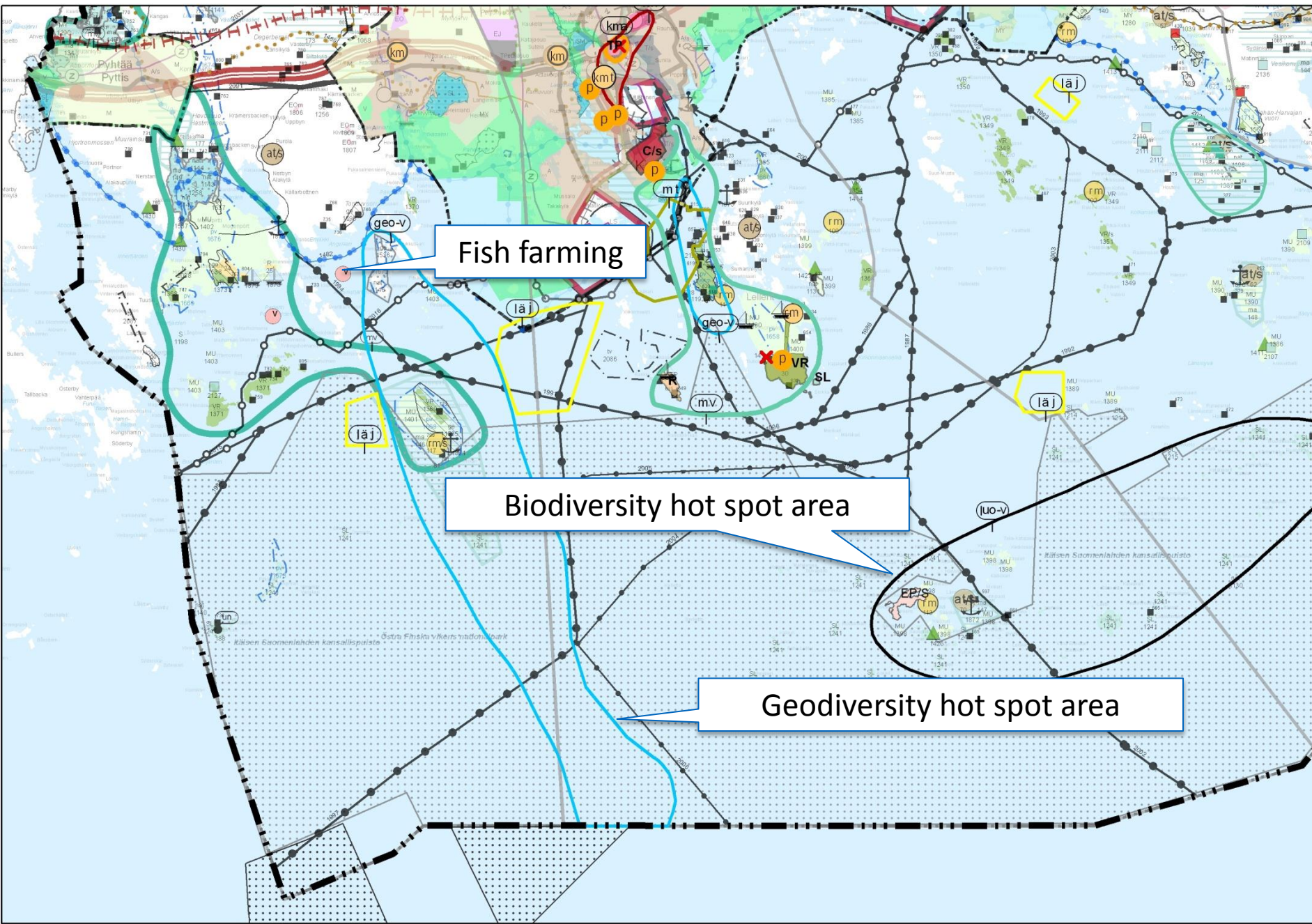
MSP and regional planning in Finland

- Didn't we already do MSP and ICZM in the past?
- Do we have to start from zero or do we just have to improve our existing planning schemes and methods?
- Can we afford? What is the benefit for the region?
- Where do we get data from?
- Is our legislation ready?
- How do we improve International cooperation?
- ...

Regional plan of Kymenlaakso



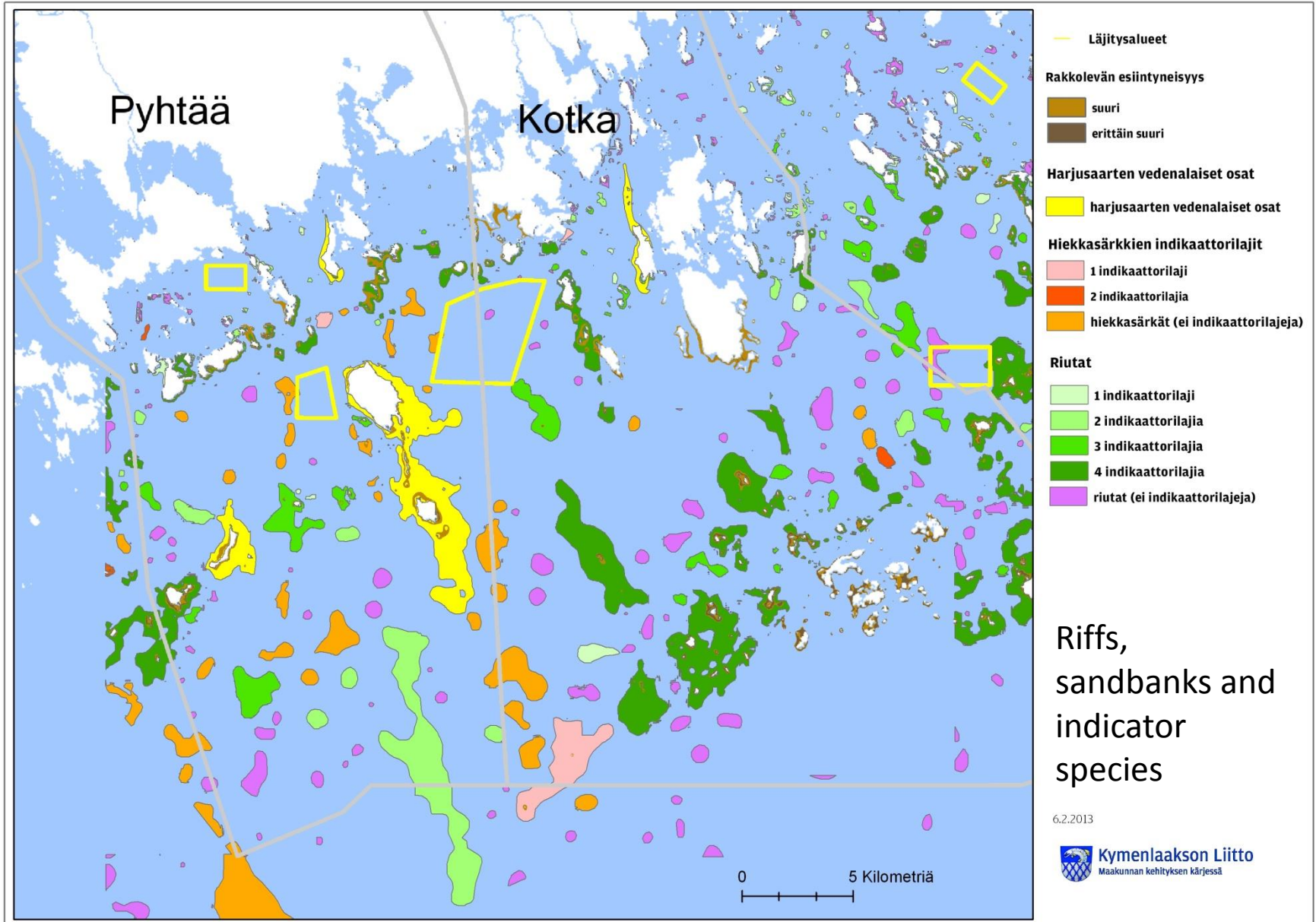




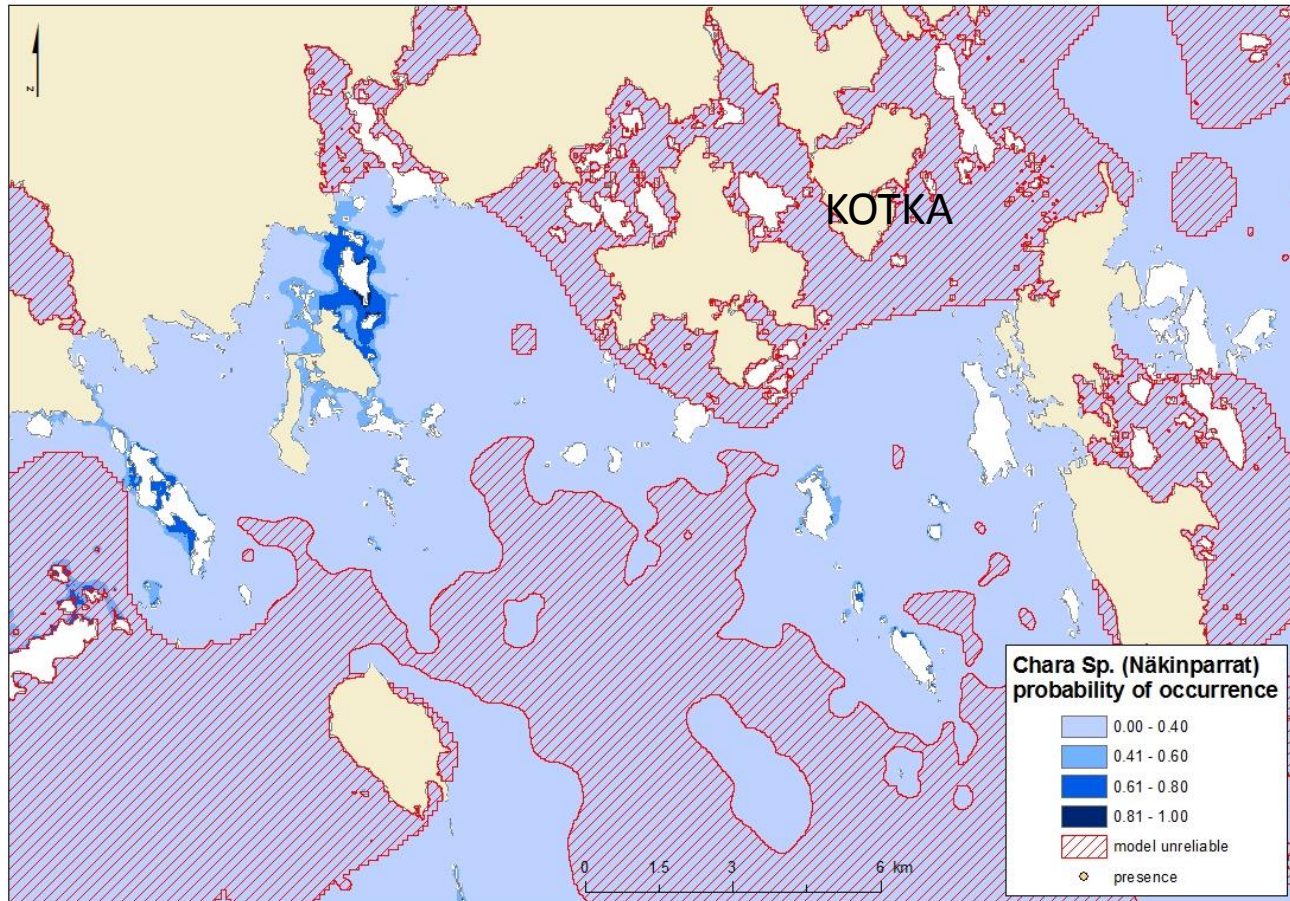
Fish farming

Biodiversity hot spot area

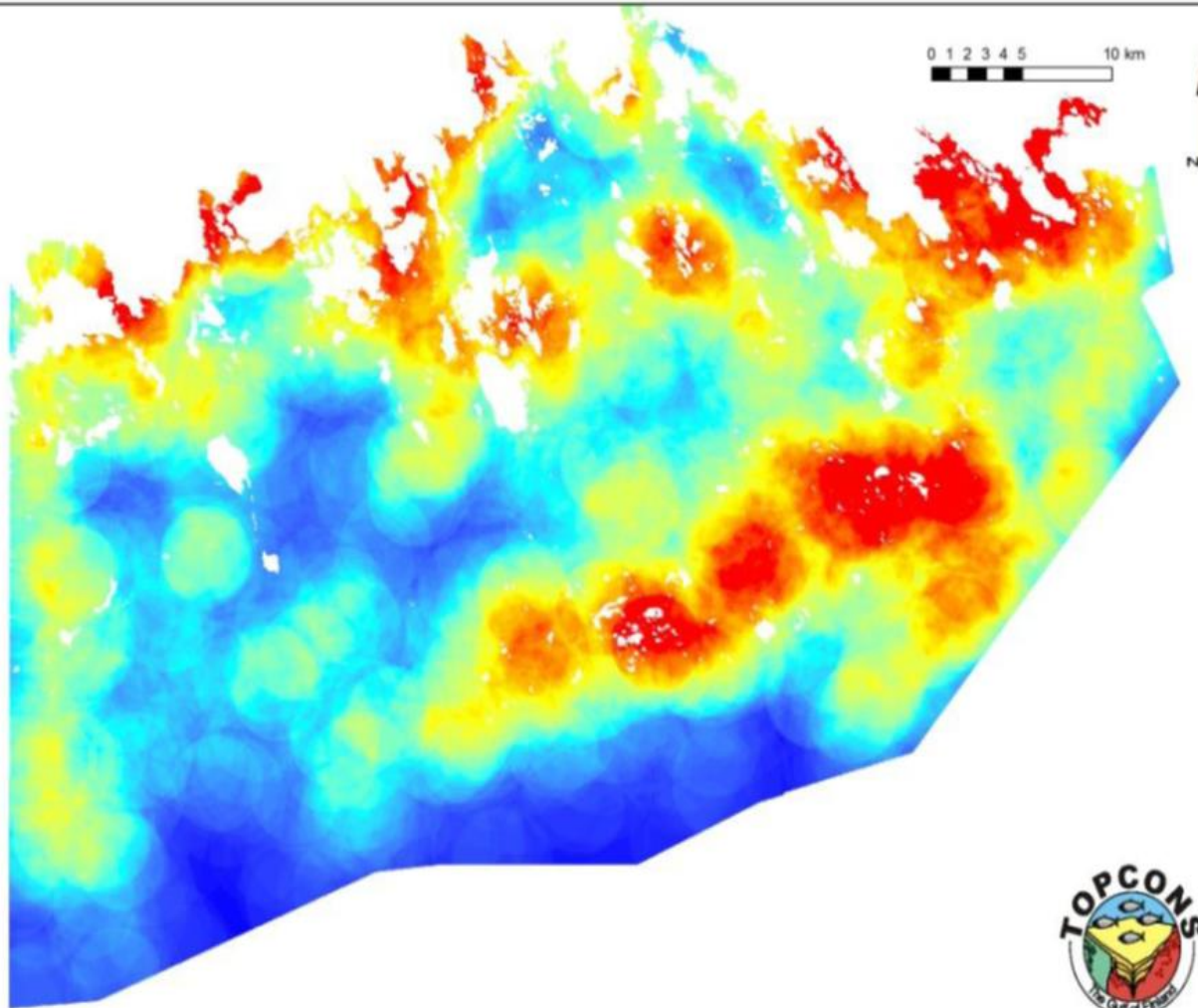
Geodiversity hot spot area



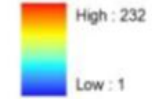
Modelling diversity



TOPCONS, Seabed structural diversity, Finnish part of the study area/draft 04.02.13



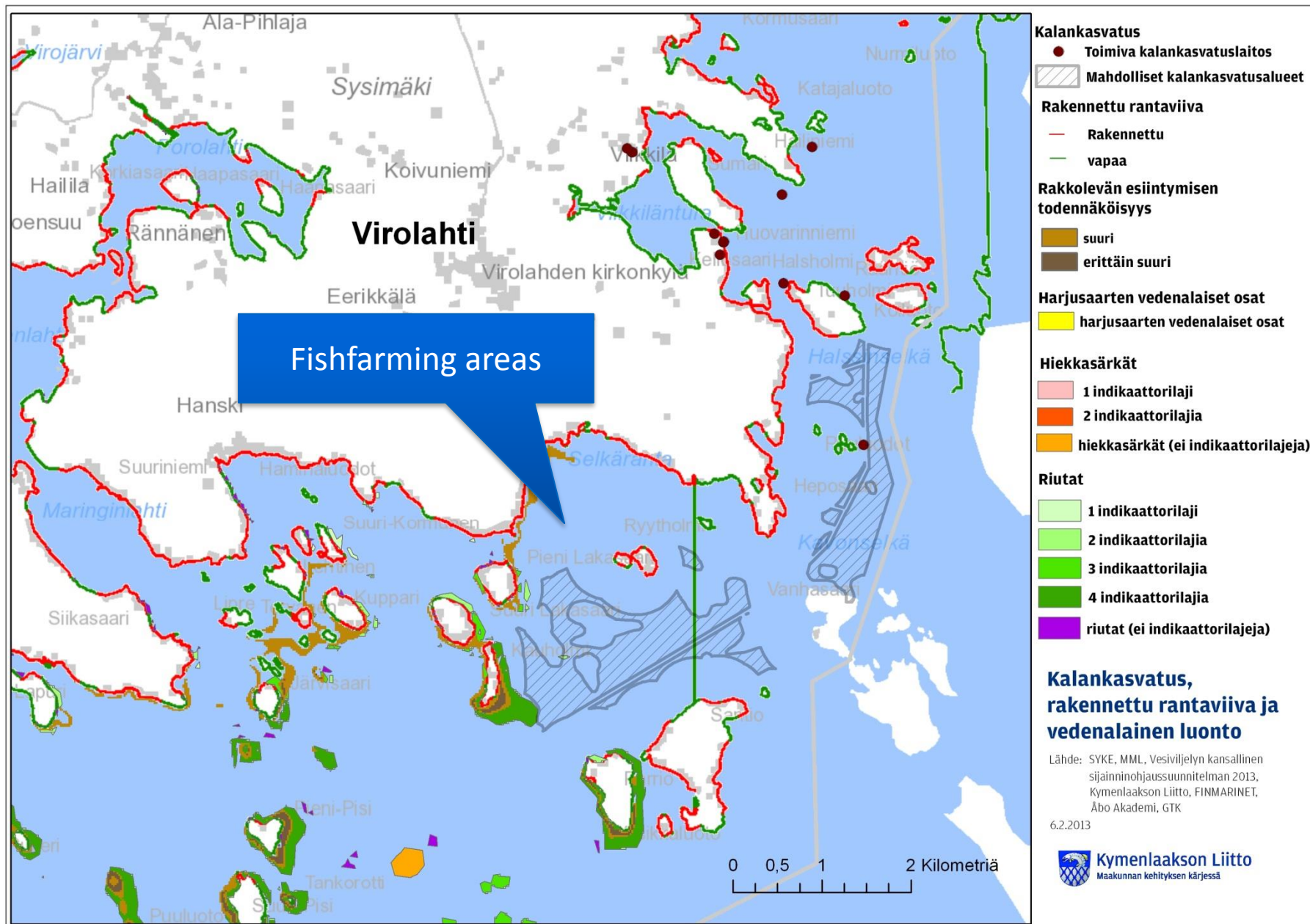
Topographical diversity

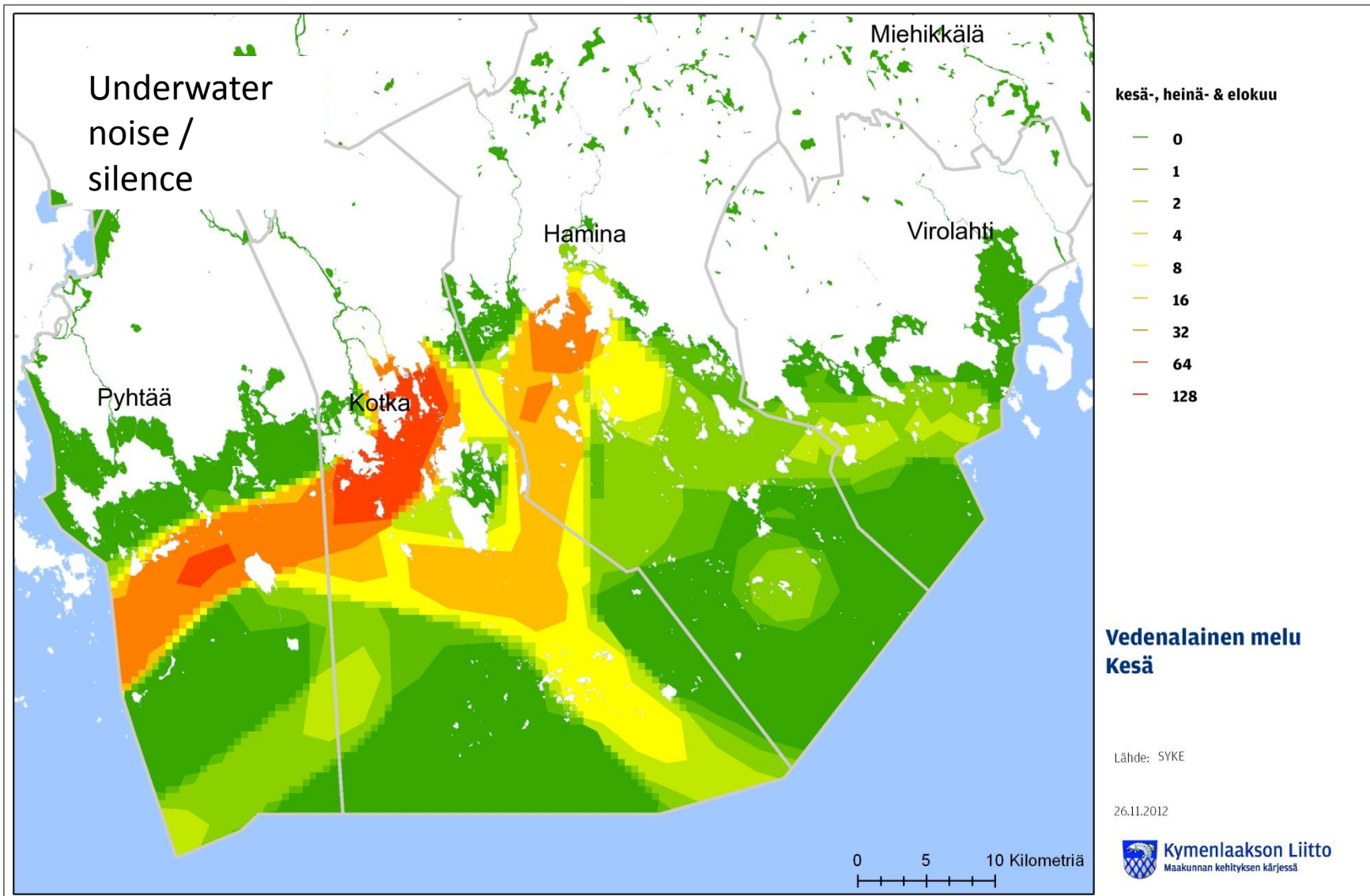


TOPCONS project produces tools for marine spatial planning and management to support decision making at an international, national and regional level. Project webpage: <http://www.merikotka.fi/topcons/>

TOPCONS seabed structural diversity identifies areas of high topographical diversity. These areas may reflect high underwater diversity, both geodiversity and biodiversity. This presentation is a draft and may change during the TOPCONS project. The TOPCONS partners give no warranty as to the quality or accuracy of the data or its suitability for any use or purpose. More info: TOPCONS report xxx Last update: 04.02.2013





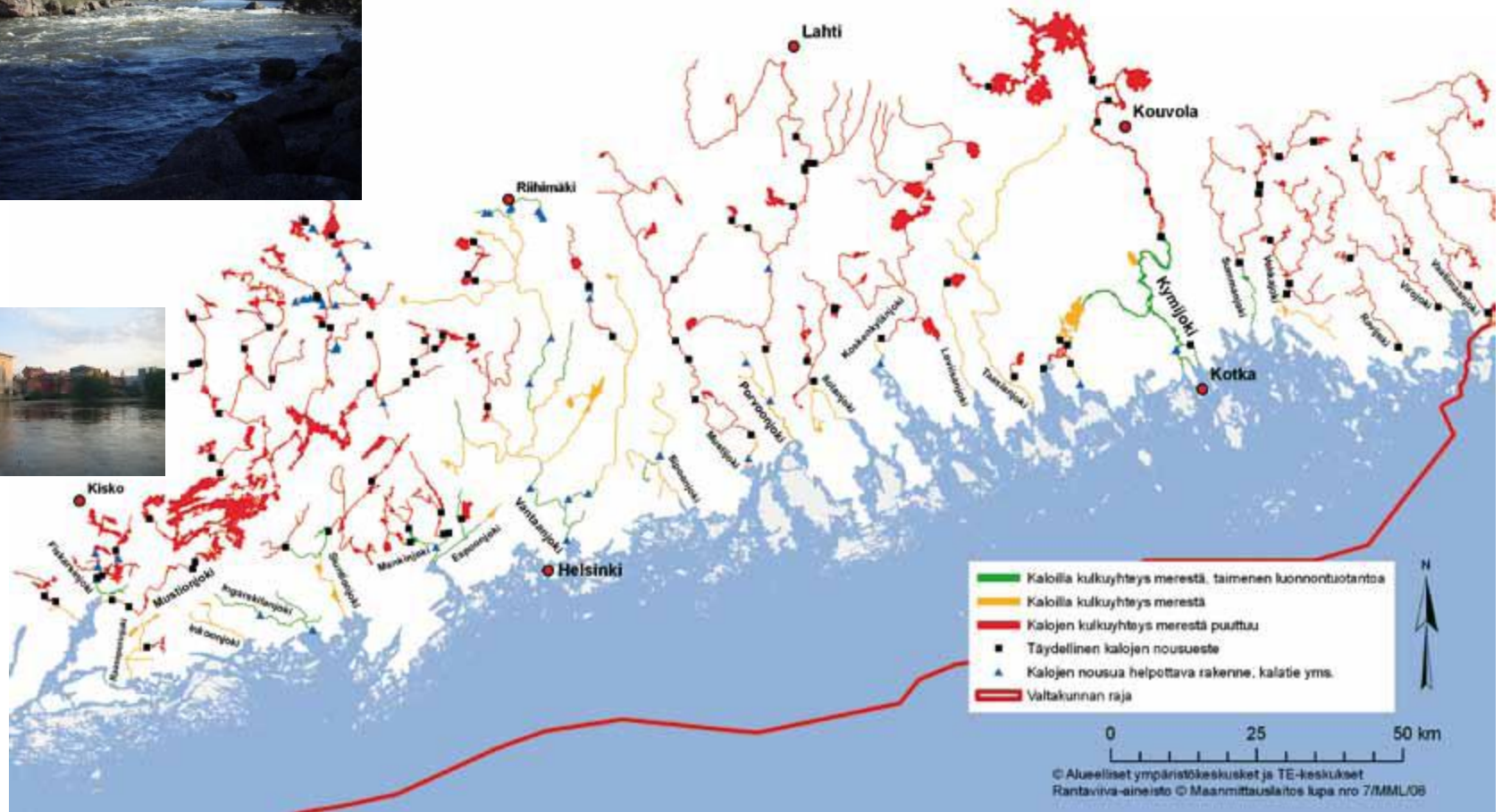


VELMU

– Underwater biodiversity research program



Vaelluskalat



Asiantuntijataho ja paikkatiedot: RKTL, Kaakkois-Suomen ELY-keskus / ympäristöhallinto

EIA Nordstream (minerisk areas etc.)



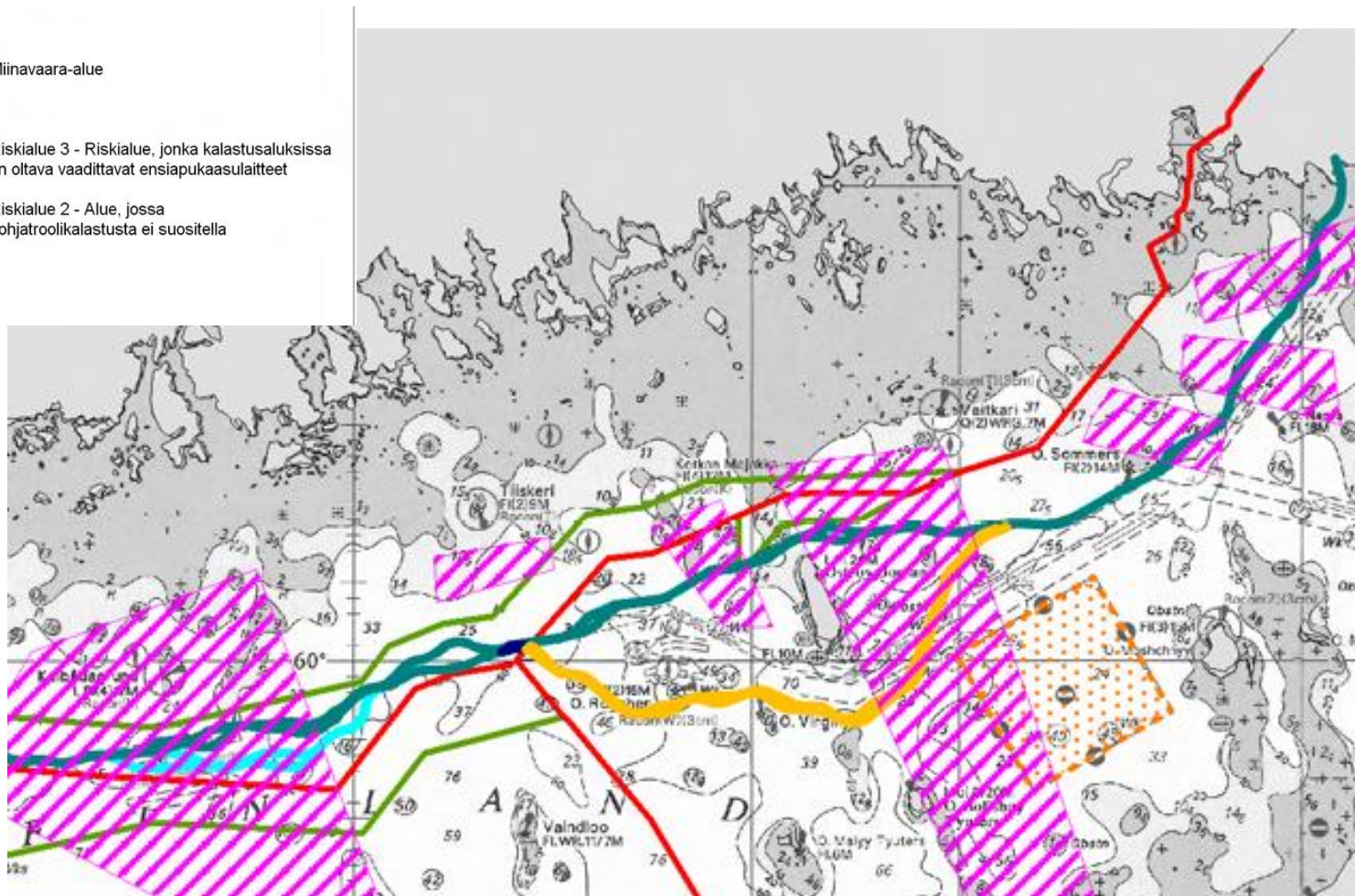
Miinavaara-alue



Riskialue 3 - Riskialue, jonka kalastusaluksissa on oltava vaadittavat ensiapukaasulaitteet



Riskialue 2 - Alue, jossa pohjatruolikalatusta ei suositella





Planning the marine conservation and sustainable use of marine resources: how underwater inventories can help?



Mats Westerborn

Markku Viitasalo, Finnish Environment Institute



The Finnish Inventory Programme for Underwater
Marine Environment

Uses of marine space are increasing



Oulunsalo-Hailuoto windmill park (Bothnian Bay) – planned for 2012-2018: 43-75 turbines (100 m high)

Source: Environment Impact Assessment, virtual image

Habitats

Habitats Directive Annex I:

- ✓ Sandbanks slightly covered by water
- ✓ Reefs
- ✓ Sea cliffs
- ✓ Shingle or stony beaches
- ✓ Mudflats and sandflats
- ✓ Coastal lagoons
- ✓ Large shallow inlets and bays
- ✓ Estuaries
- ✓ Boreal Baltic narrow inlets

Annex II: Species



Nature Heritage Services

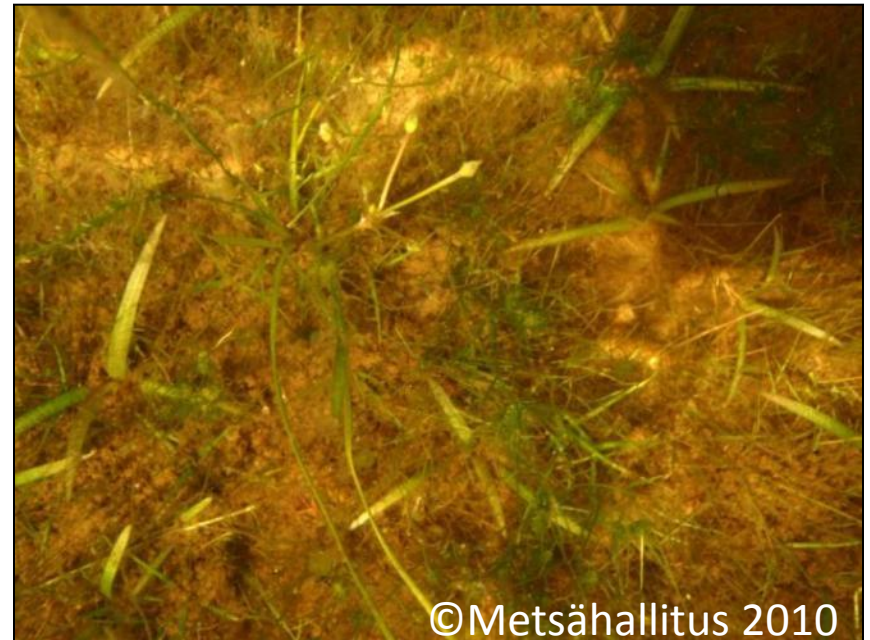
Species

Hippuris tetraphylla



- Within the EU occurs only in Finland
- The habitat directive demands Finland to protect its habitats

Alisma wahlenbergii



- An aquatic plant species endemic to the Baltic Sea
- Most of its occurrences found in Finland
- A species in need of "especial protection"



Convention on
Biological Diversity

The Convention

Cartagena Protocol

Nagoya Protocol



XI Conference of Parties
CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY
HYDERABAD INDIA 2012



CBD target:

10 % of World's marine areas efficiently protected until 2020

The Finnish Inventory Programme of Underwater Marine Environment

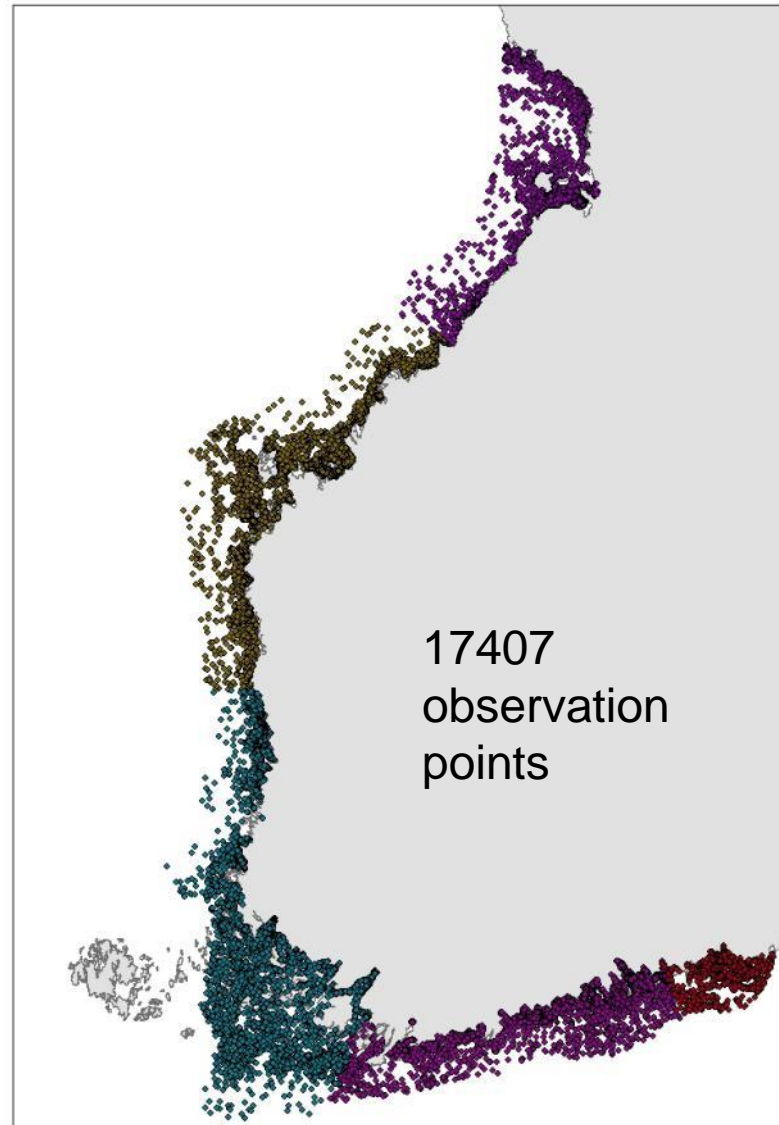


Heidi Piironen / HS

"The VELMU-programme secures the gain of information on marine underwater environment."

Government Program of the PM Jyrki Katainen, p. 70 (22.6.2011)

VELMU plan for 2012-2014



Some 24.000 points
have been done
earlier (since 2004)

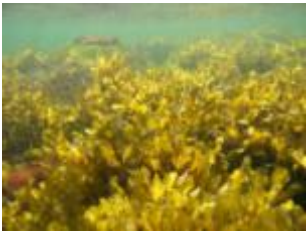
Most of them are in
"grids"

How are the observations made in practise?

Species and communities

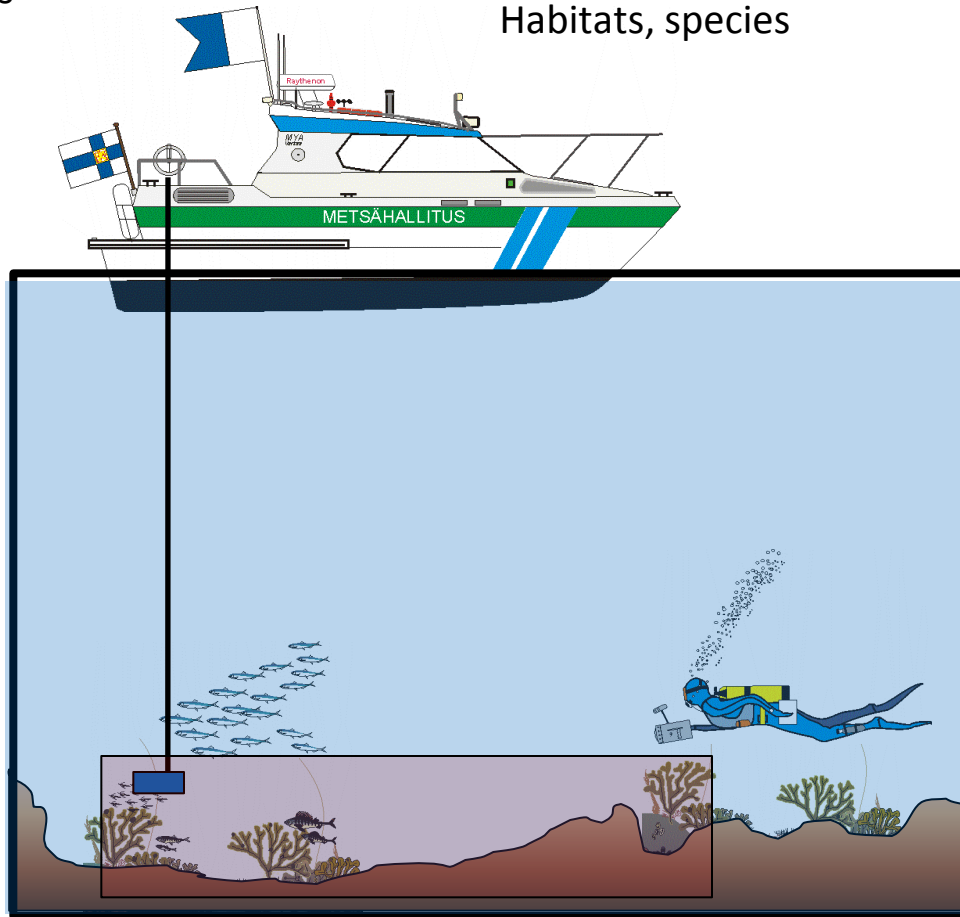
"Drop-video"

Habitats, large species



Scuba diving

Habitats, species



Benthic sampling

Benthic species



Metsähallitus, luontopalvelut

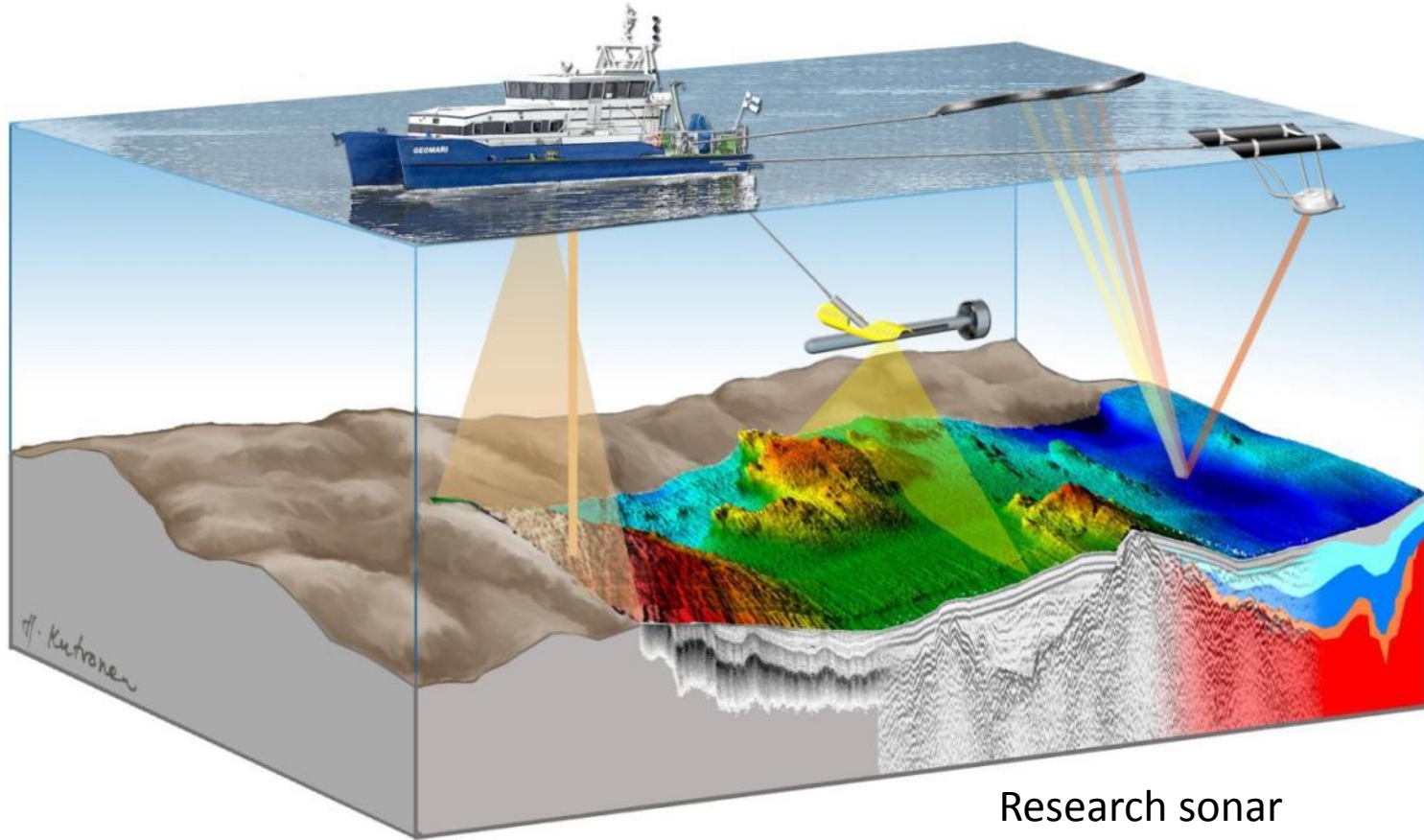
The new High Definition drop-video

DeepVision HD-
video camera,
Max. depth 70 m



Tiina Asp, Natural Heritage Services

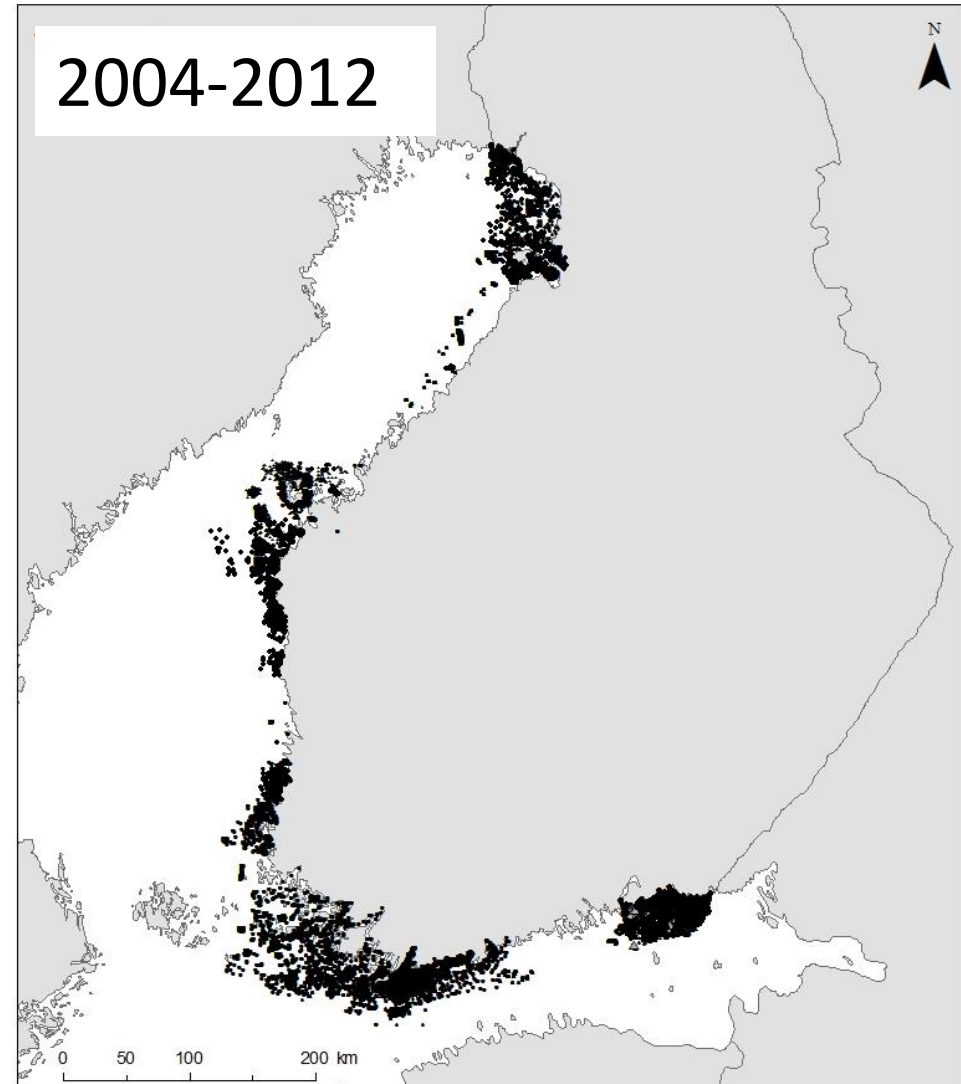
Geological inventories



Research sonar
Side scan sonar
Multibeam sonar
Seismic reflection profiler

Where are we today?

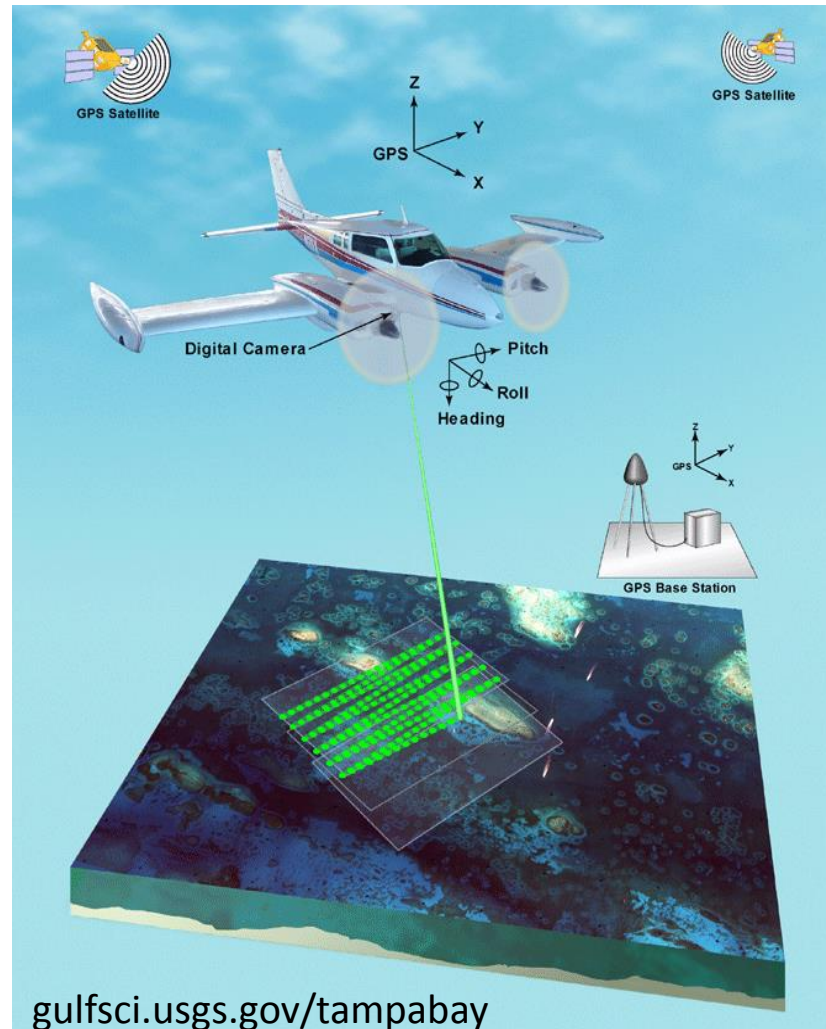
Biological inventories



Method development: Remote sensing of underwater geo- and biodiversity

LIDAR

Light Detection and Ranging



End products of VELMU (and related projects)

GIS data and maps on the distribution of species, communities and habitats

General maps of the distribution of hot-spots of biodiversity and human pressures

Biodiversity-indices

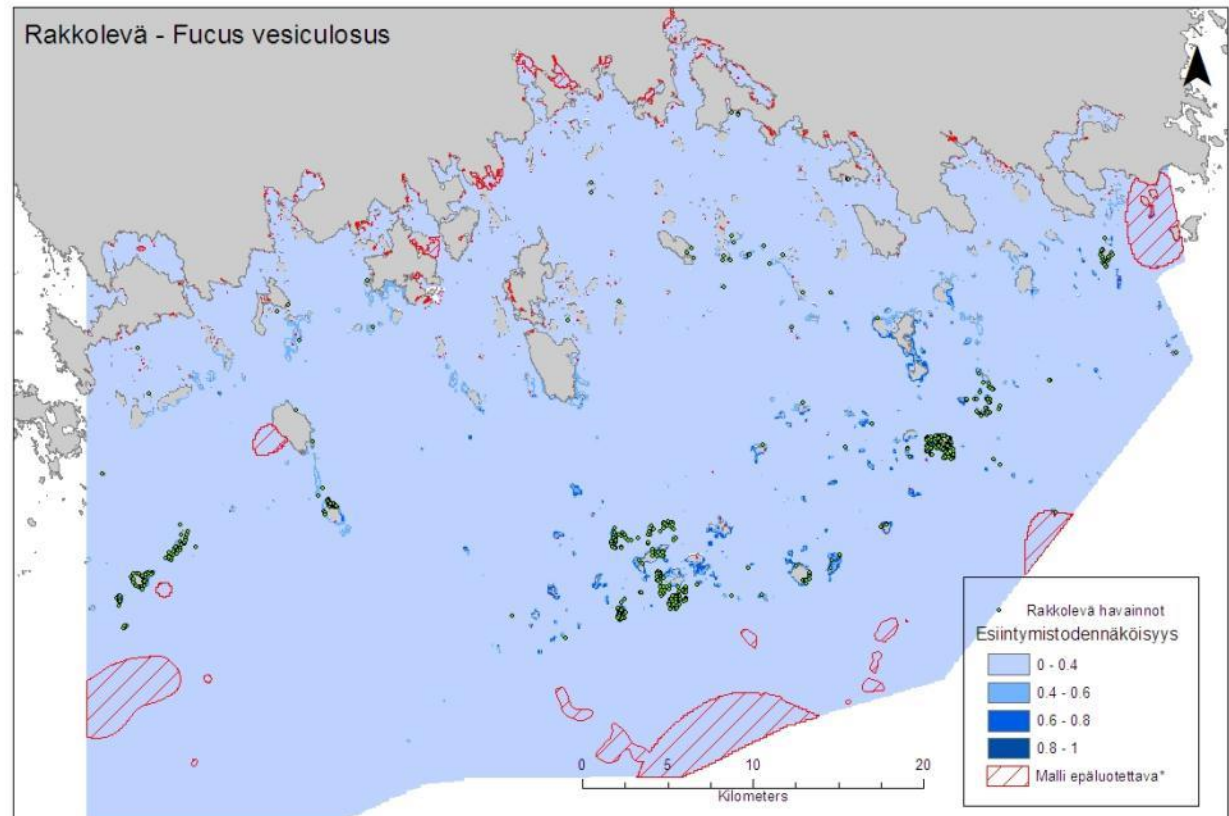
Finnish Marine Atlas

Modelling key species

Bladderwrack *Fucus vesiculosus*

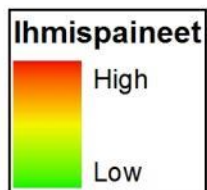
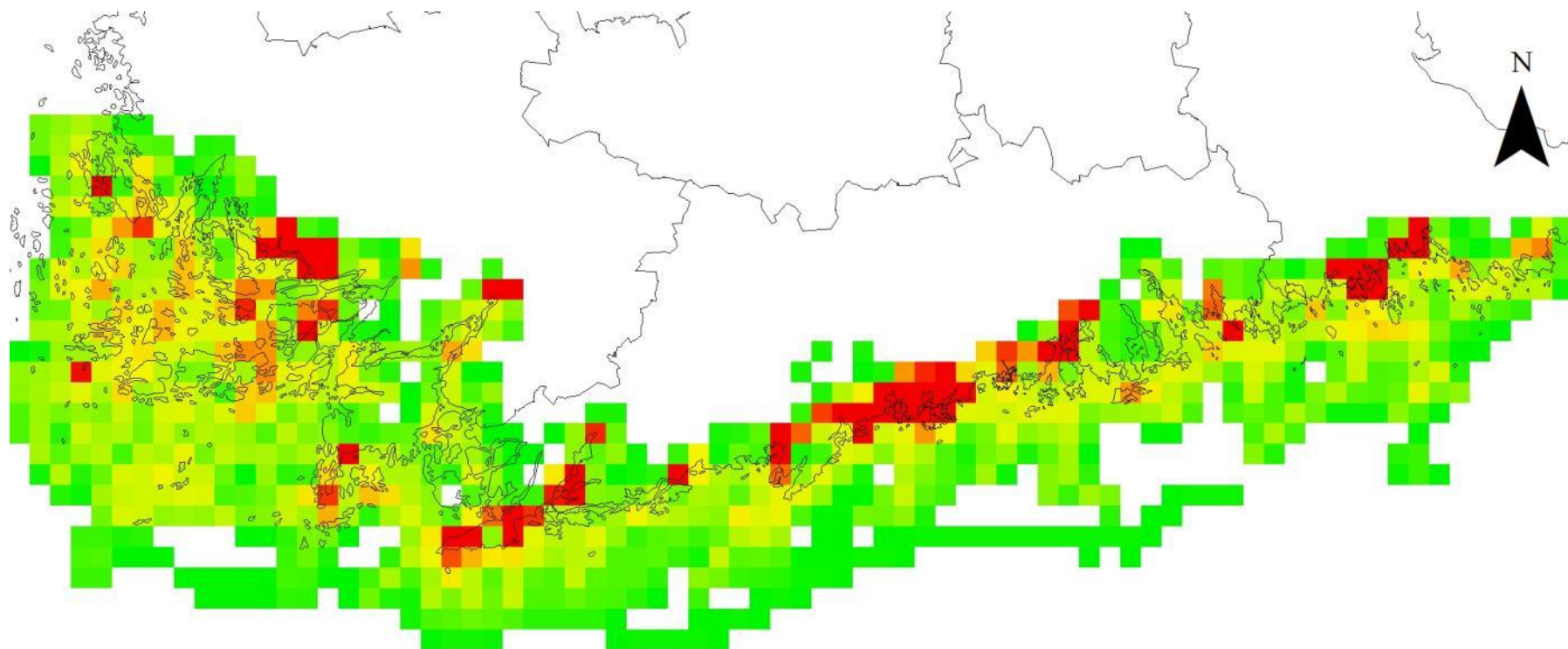


Henna Rinne, Åbo
akademi



*Malli ei ole luotettava alueilla, joilla yhden tai useamman ympäristömuuttujan arvot ovat niiden arvojen ulkopuolella, joita esiintyy tutkimuspisteillä.

GIS analysis of human pressures



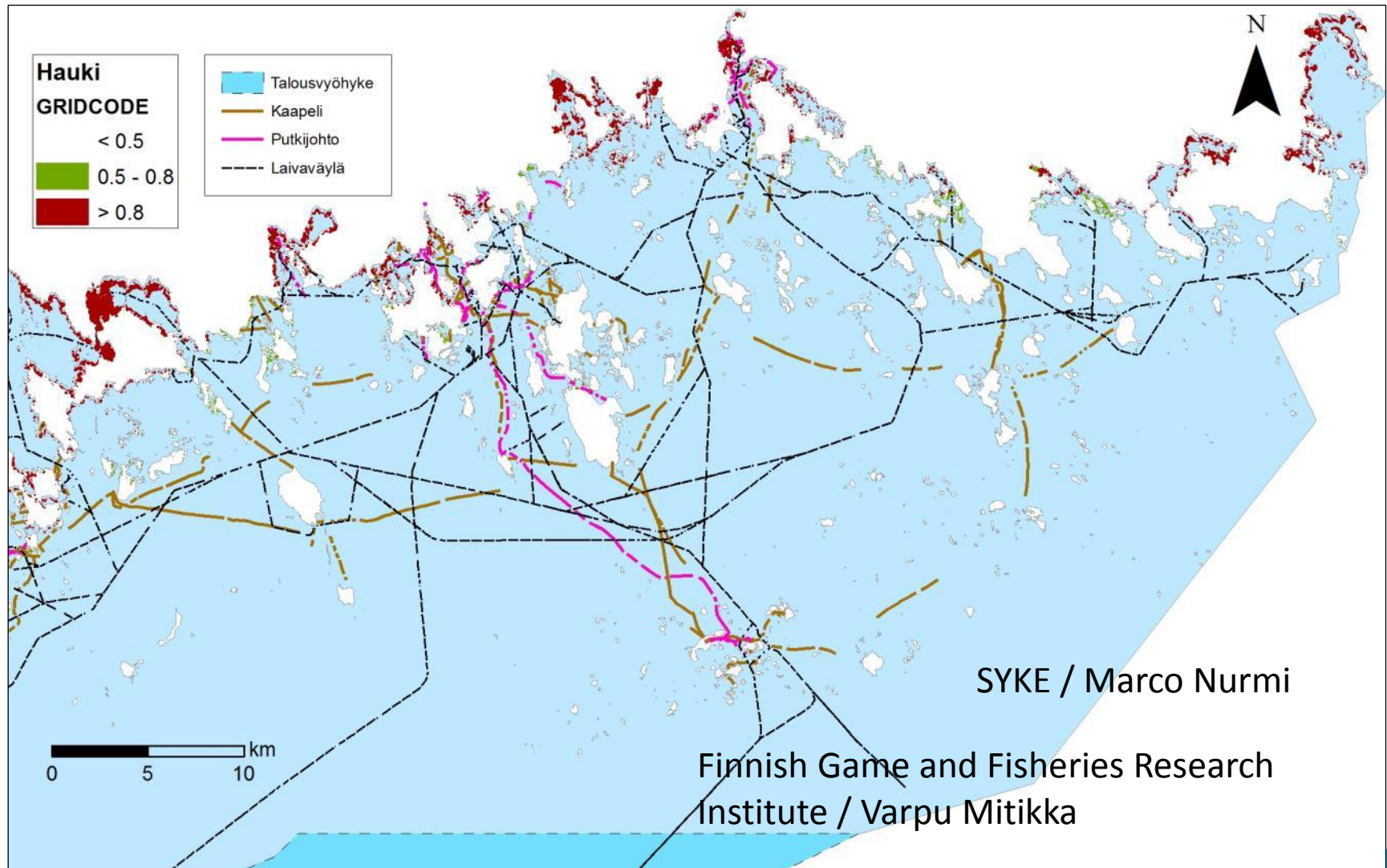
Preliminary analysis of human pressures on the S and SW coast of Finland (1 km grid cell)

MERIGIS-project / Marco Nurmi



Combining info on biota and human pressures

Example: pike, fairways, cables and other leads



Summary

- A great need for protecting marine space
- However, good data for species, habitats and environmental variables are lacking
- VELMU collects data to support protection and sustainable use of marine space





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Thank you for your attention

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