



Invasive Alien Plant Species – The Best Practices Seminar on 18.8.2020

CoastNet LIFE - Restoring the Baltic coastal habitat networks
Finvasive LIFE - Awareness building, surveying and controlling invasive alien species (IAS)
in Finland

Schedule

- Klo 12.00 Welcome/Introduction round
- Klo 12.10 Agenda of the day
- Klo 12.15 Presentation of CoastNet and Finvasive projects
- Klo 12.30 Best practice presentations + discussions

Eike Tammekänd: Invasive Alien Species management in Estonia (Estonia Environmental Board)

(**Leila Roininen:** Eradication of Himalayan Balsam in the INSPECT-project (City of Vaasa))

Markus Seppälä: Eradication of Giant Hogweed in Southwest Finland (Finnish Association for Nature Conservation)

Jussi Roiniola: Invasive Alien Species management in Turku (City of Turku)

Esko Tainio: Combating Rugosa Rose in the Archipelago Sea (Metsähallitus)

Lise-Lotte Flemming (Marko Takala): Combating Rugosa Rose in the Valassaaret Archipelago (Ostrobothnia Australis)

Panu Kunttu: Eradication of Rugosa Rose - sharing the experiences (WWF)

Klo 14.15 A short brake (5 minutes)

Markus Seppälä: Eradication of Himalayan Balsam with volunteers (FANC)

Tarja Ylitalo: Combating Himalayan Balsam with sheep grazing (City of Jyväskylä)

Päivi Sundman: Eradication of Himalayan Balsam in Riihimäki (City of Riihimäki)

Klo 15.00 The seminar ends



VieKas LIFE



Suomen  luonnonsuojeluliitto

Finvasive LIFE (LIFE17 NAT/FI/000528)

- Project focuses entirely on invasive alien plant species
- The aim is to map, eradicate and spread knowledge about IAS in Finland
- The target species of eradication are: Giant Hogweed, Himalayan Balsam and American Skunk-Cabbage
- Activities around Finland (Uusimaa, Southwest Finland, South Karelia, Southern Savonia, Northern Savonia, Central Finland).
- Coordinating beneficiary: Finnish Association for Nature Conservation, 6 partner organizations
- Budget: 2,47 M €, duration 5,5 years (2018-2023)
- Webpage: www.sll.fi/viekas-life



Project Partners & main actions

Finnish Association for Nature Conservation is building citizen scientist and volunteer activity around eradication of Himalayan Balsam (50 sites), combats Giant Hogweed in Southwest Finland and tries to get all known American Skunk-Cabbage sites eradicated in Finland ("early response").

Finnish Museum of Natural History (LUOMUS) is developing a citizen science portal through which citizens can report IAS sightings with location information and log their own eradication actions.

The Martha Organization trains voluntary "Gardener Marthas" who then organize IAS information sharing and eradication events to members of local Martha clubs (almost 50 000 members) and wider public.



Nature League trains school visitors to visit schools to educate children and youth about the IAS species and their effects on the ecosystems and society. The target is to reach at least 7000 children during the project.

Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE) conducts research regarding new eradication solutions. The aim is to find safer and more environmentally friendly alternatives for synthetic herbicides.

City of Riihimäki combats Himalayan Balsam with the help of unemployed persons and volunteers. In addition permanent staff eradicates Giant Hogweed during the project.

City of Jyväskylä tests sheep grazing as an eradication method for Himalayan Balsam.