

Overview - WLE events & activities

Events/activities

Stakeholder meetings:

- October 14 - Jokkmokk
- October 15 - Gällivare
- October 21 - Kiruna

Targeted groups/invited stakeholders:

- Sámi communities
- Tourism entrepreneurs
- Hunting and fishing associations
- Extraction companies (forestry, mining and hydropower)
- Public authorities
- Commercial fisheries
- Environmental agencies/organisations
- Fisheries enforcement officers

Main goals:

- To inform participants about the WLE project
- To identify key players
- To collect input on current fisheries management and policy
- To single out issues to address in upcoming meetings

Lessons learned/bottlenecks:

- Environmental sustainability and law enforcement are the most important issues to all stakeholders, yet policy instruments often fail to make the connection between resource management and regional development.
- Negotiations with Sámi communities are impeded by litigations over hunting and fishing rights (Supreme Court adjudgment expected before Christmas). However, there might be upsides to the lawsuit, e.g. increased stakeholder involvement (interest group representation) and media outreach.

- Only two interest groups failed to attend the meetings on every occasion: the extraction companies and the environmental organisations. How do we create incentives for those involved in natural resource exploitation and nature protection?
- Local communities feel deprived when exceptional lakes and streams for fishing are highlighted by management authorities and made available to the general public/foreign visitors. Are local shares a possible way forward? Is EU legislation a problem?
- Tourism entrepreneurs want exclusivity (control over visitor numbers) for marketing purposes, but also better digital information (translated into more languages), and sales tools to lessen administrative burdens.
- Need for adaptive management (locally) when visitor numbers increase. This will increase the administrative burden of management authorities. The WLE project will build expectations among stakeholders, but can it deliver results? Digital tools are only part of the solution.
- Interdisciplinary collaboration efforts between public authorities and departments are required to mitigate problems with e.g. off-road vehicles and littering.
- Reindeer husbandry laws and regulations were not developed to facilitate regional development in terms of tourism. Sámi villages veto many initiatives made by local entrepreneurs and municipalities. Sámi communities are struggling to see the mutual benefits. Will a WLE approach change this perception?

Webinar

- October 24 - Eco-tourism in riverside territories, Interreg Europe Policy Learning Platform

Media coverage (outreach)

- August 24 – P4 Norrbotten
<https://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=98&artikel=7284204&fbclid=IwAR3UJ7OsqYj13uKVGpi1vDKdT6fNgqV2-78xEjlU8osctlgbZGXimW1XrJ8>
- September 2 – Fiskejournalen
<https://www.fiskejournalen.se/sa-satsar-lansstyrelsen-for-att-fa-fler-fiskare-till-fjallen/>
- September 20 – SVT Norrbotten
<https://www.svtplay.se/video/23738914/lokala-nyheter-norrbotten/svt-nyheter-norrbotten-20-sep-08-05-2>

David Bell
County Administrative Board of Norrbotten
Sweden

- October 14 – Sameradion & SVT Sapmi
<https://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=2327&artikel=7321143>
- October 14 – Oddasat
https://www.svtplay.se/video/21848758/oddasat/oddasat-18-okt-17-30-3?start=auto&fbclid=IwAR3H9nb7AA2HOO5DkRMW2w5VrQ_bmcFT3Z68PswHE7R2wtGDrDRs4_-N7CQ
- October 18 – FishEco
<http://www.fisheco.se/news.php?modulID=2&newsID=14525>
- October 22 – NSD
<https://www.nsd.se/nyheter/en-fena-pa-fiske-da-ar-det-har-natt-for-dig-nm5231837.aspx>