

# Implementation of Finnish rabies co-financed programme in 2019

Standing Committee on  
Plants, Animals, Food and Feed  
Brussels  
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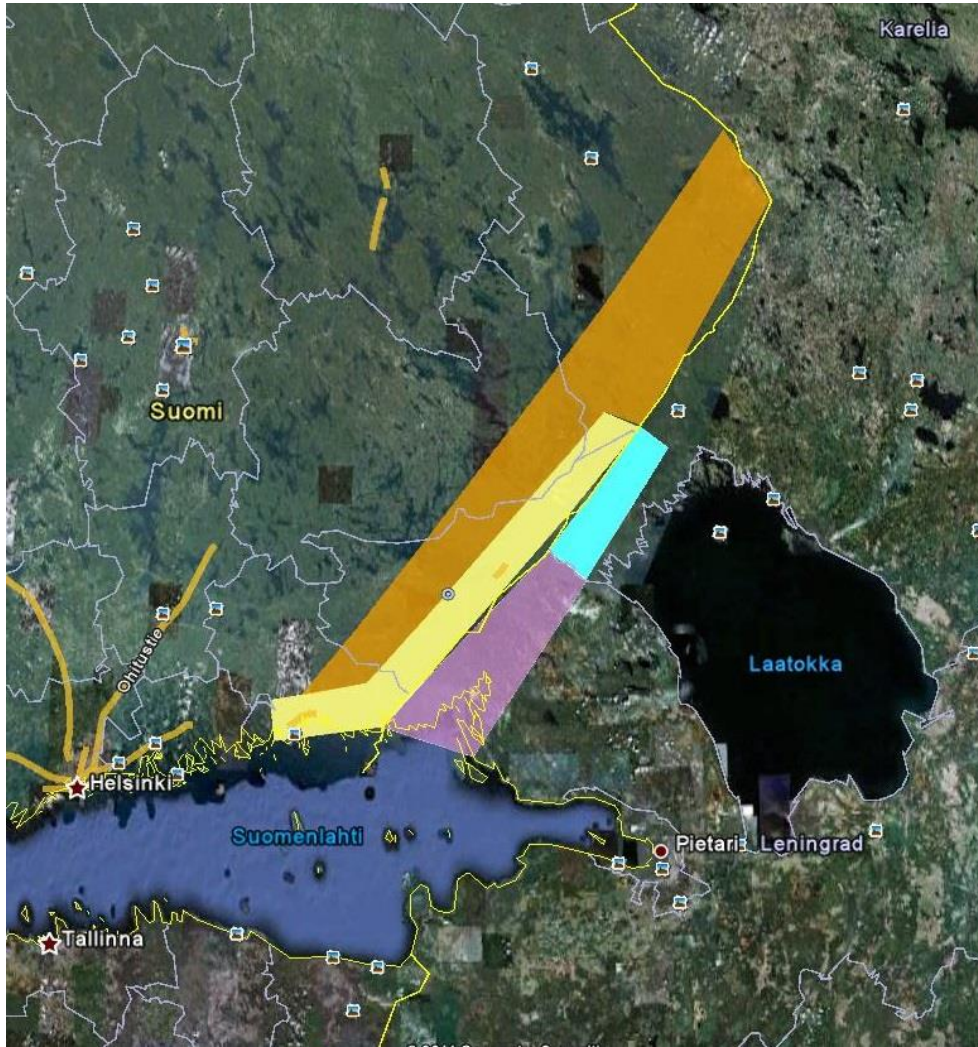


# Rabies situation and evolution in past years

- Finland has been rabies free since 1991
- No cases of rabies in neighbouring Karelia since 2011, one case in Leningrad close to the border with Novgorod in 2017
- The programme has remained the same since 2014



# Vaccination areas



Border vaccination  
in Finland and in Russia  
- to prevent incursions of rabies  
from Russia

## 1. Finland

- 10 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- North and South Karelia regions
- Southern Savonia region
- Kymenlaakso region

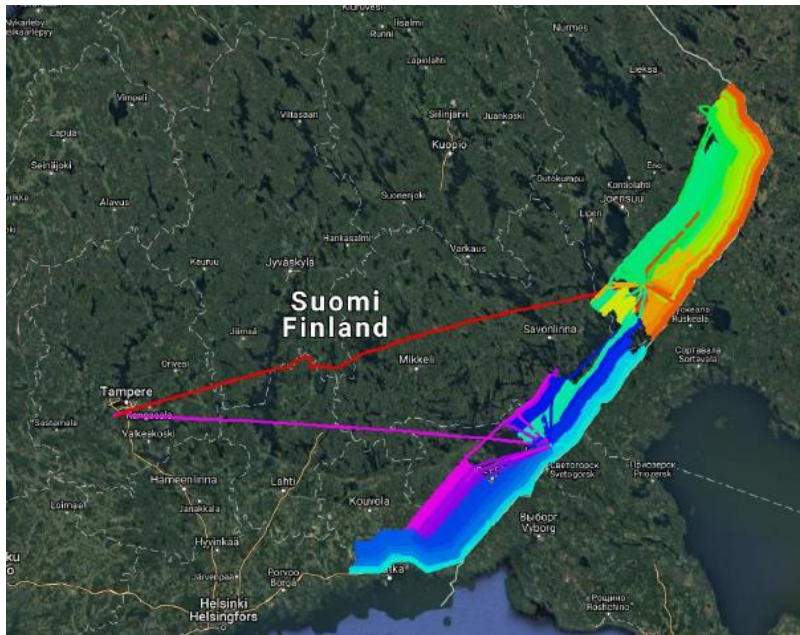
## 2. Russia

- Republic of Karelia (1238 km<sup>2</sup>)
- (Leningrad oblast, no EU financing requested)





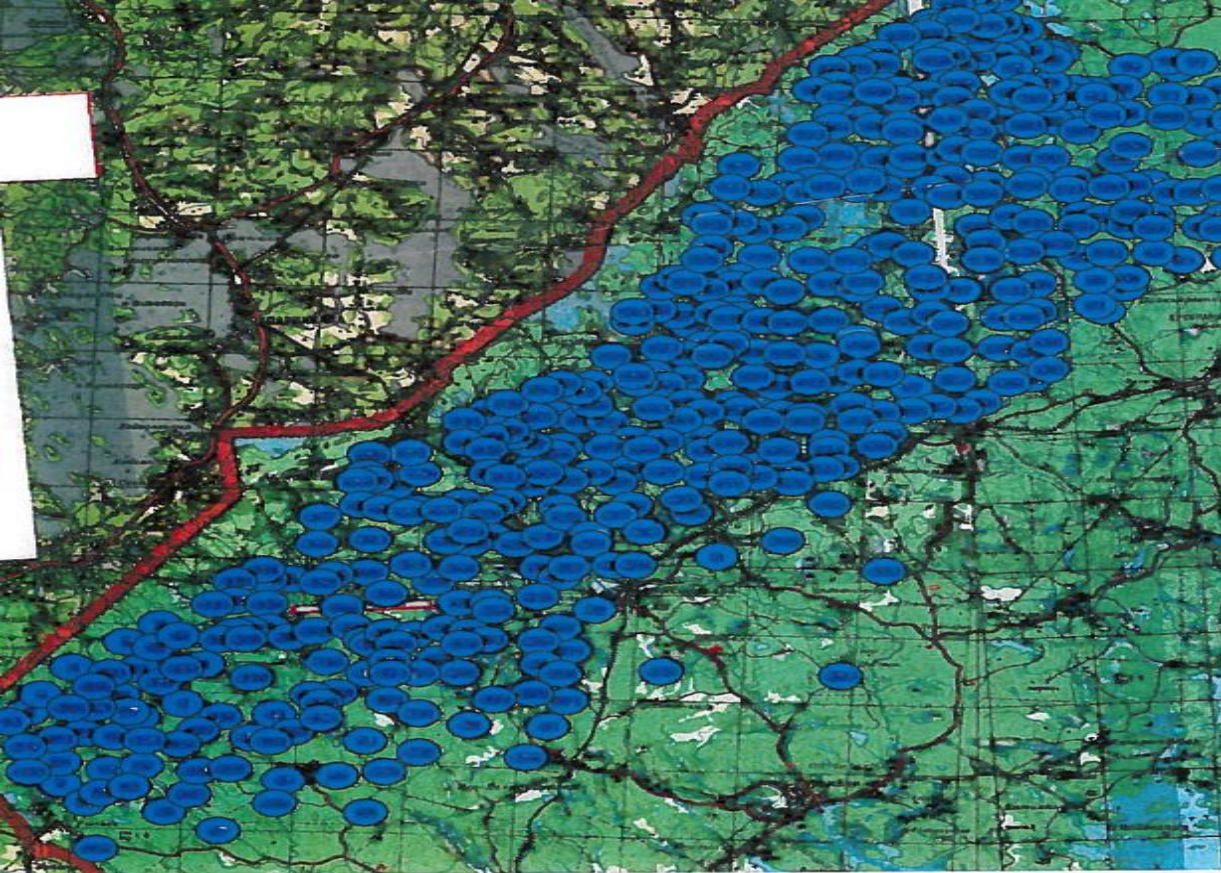
# South-east Eastern - Finland



- 180.000 vaccine baits
- *Rabitec* vaccine
- density of 20 baits / km<sup>2</sup>
- September - October 2019
- aerial distribution with the use of GPS



# Ladoga Karelia



- 30.970 vaccine baits
- *Rabistav*
- October 2019
  
- manual distribution





# Surveillance

## Finland

221 indicator animals for classical rabies  
of which 130 were wild (incl 40 bats) and 91 domestic

## Karelia

23 wolves, 4 foxes and 5 raccoon dog tested

All with negative results



# Monitoring of efficacy of vaccination campaign in Finland

## 1) Bait uptake

determination of TC biomarker  
fluorescence microscopy in mandible and tooth

(299 foxes and raccoon dogs - 72 % TC positive)

## 2) Herd immunity

detection of vaccine antibodies in blood samples

(251 foxes and raccoon dogs - 45 % seropositive)

Monitoring was also carried out in Karelia but the results were inconclusive.



# Main challenges

Finland

to receive sufficient numbers of wild indicator animals for surveillance

Karelia

surveillance and monitoring, samples and results





Thank you for your attention

