



HAPPASU-Better water management of acid sulphate soils in the water catchment area of the river Eurajoki



Anna Tuovinen, Pyhäjärvi Institute anna.tuovinen@pji.fi 2.10.2024

Animation on acid sulfate soils





Risks with AS-soils

- Fish deaths
- Fish reproduction
- Disruption of ecosystem balance
- Bioavailability of nutrients affected -> plant growth
- Metal content in plants
- Precipitation of metals -> blocked subsurface drains
- Infrastucture: corrosion
- More metals from AS soils to waterbodies than from all the Finnish industry together
- Neurotoxic metals: MS-disease

Fältmarsch, R. M., Åström, M. E. & Vuori, K. M. 2008. environmental risks of metals mobilised from acid sulphate soils in Finland: a literature review. Boreal environment research 13: 444–456 Sutela, T. & Vehanen, T. 2017. The effects of acidity and aluminium leached from acidsulphate soils on riverine fish assemblages. Boreal Environment Research 22: 385–391 Åström, Mats E. & Roos, Per M. 2022. Geochemistry of multiple sclerosis in Finland. The Science of the total environment, 2022-10, Vol.841, p.156672, Article 156672



yle Etusivu Ve

Venäjän hyökkäys Yhdysvaltain presidentinvaalit Abitreenit

() Artikkeli on yli 5 vuotta vanha

Eurajoki

Kaloja kuolee Eurajoessa – syynä joen happamoituminen

Kalakuolemien taustalla on pelloilta valuva hapan kuormitus, kertoo Varsinais-Suomen ely-keskus.



Eurajoesta on löytynyt kuolleita kaloja, mm. lahnoja. Kuva: Ely-keskus

ANTTI LAAKSO

14.12.2018 16:19 · Päivitetty 14.12.2018 16:52

Satakunnassa virtaavassa Eurajoessa on havaittu kalakuolemia. Joessa sijaitsevasta Pappilankoskesta on löytynyt noin sata kiloa kuolleita kaloja.

Kalakuolemien syynä on Varsinais-Suomen ely-keskuksen mukaan joen matalaksi muuttunut pH-arvo. Eurajoen pH-arvo oli perjantaina jopa alle viisi.

AS-soil Occurrence in Finland

← → C ≌ gtkdata.gtk.fi/hasu/



Eden, P., Boman, A., Mattback, S., Auri, J., Yli-Halla, M. & Österholm, P. 2023. Mapping, impacts, characterization and extent of acid sulfate soils in Finland. Bulletin of the Geological Society of Finland, Vol. 95, 2023, pp 135–160



- Geological Survey of Finland (GTK): AS-soil occurrence in Finland
- > 2009-2021
- 23 000 sites on area of over 5 000 000 ha
- 7500 chemical analyses
- 40 000 samples incubated and measured for pH
- 1 000 000 ha of AS-soils on coast of Baltic Sea



The JOKIprogramme



- Water protection programme that covers the river Eurajoki drainage basin
- AS-soils as one of the focus areas in strategy
- Water quality control since 2017
- Results used as basis for HAPPASU-project

Drainage water monitoring







Koskelanoja





- Project time: 12.4.2022 31.10.2024
- Project management: Pyhäjärvi institute
- Budget: 214 175 €
- Background: Acid and metal loading from acid sulfate soils is one of the most significant factors deteriorating the water quality of the Eurajoki River
 - fish deaths & effects on fish fry production
 - The chemical status is worse than good because of high Niconcentration
- Project objectives:
- 1. Reduce the impact of acid sulphate soils on the water quality and biocommunity of the river Eurajoki
- Produce a risk management plan to reduce the environmental damage caused by sulphate soils in the subcatchment area of Retkioja
- 3. By means of pilot projects and advice, raise awareness about acid sulphate soils and the strategies of risk management.



Acid sulfate soil probability of occurrence in Eurajoki drainage basin (Source: GTK).

Targeted risk assesment

- Drainage water monitoring:
 - Water samples
 - > pH ja electric conductivity measurements
- Further mapping of AS-soils
 - Soil sampling from fields 0-3 meters
 - Analysing depth of oxidized horizon
 - Analysing potential sulfidic acidity
 - → Potential risk



häiärvi-instituutti

Pilot projects

- Controlled drainage system
- Drainage water neutralisation: coarse (5-35 mm) limestone







Risk management plan 1/2





Risk management plan 2/2





- Introduction
 - Formation of AS-soils
 - Distribution of AS-soils in river Eurajoki drainage basin
 - History of land use
 - How does changes in climate and weather affect the risks from AS-soils
 - Data from drainage water control and soil analyses
 - Describing Retkioja drainage basin
 - Drainage association
 - Distribution of AS-soils
 - Recognising risks
 - Risk management
 - General advice
 - Water management plan

Future monitoring



- Drainage water control: new monitoring point for the future
- Soil monitoring







How to succeed?



- Do not hesitate to contact the landowner
 - Discuss even small details with interested parties. Trust is easily lost.

enran

aari

- Put yourself in landowner's shoes. What questions would you like to have answers to? What would make you hesitate?
- Be prepared! Make sure you know the objectives, benefits and risks.
- The benefits to landowner
 - Be clear with the facts
 - Be open about possible risks → have a plan on how to manage risks
- You should never be in too big a hurry to exchange few words.
 - Meeting lanowners in person build the relationships and cooperation.



Good practices in landowner cooperation

- Make use of the contacts you already have
 - Communicating information to key figures in the area is an effective way to spread information on eg. seminars.
 - The most effective way to reach people is when landowners share good experiences to their peers.
- Don't neglect to use more traditional channels of communication
 - You can't reach everyone by social media
- Know when to let things be
 - If the initial reaction is highly critical and negative it is unlikely that you can change that
 - Be sensitive and have empathy: recognize situations where anything extra to think about is too much to deal with
- Schedule enough time and contact interested parties early in the project
 - Note the busy seasons eg. sowing and harvest times
 - Short term leases, estates, local drainage associations etc.





HAPPAMIEN SULFAATTIMAIDEN PAREMPAA VESIENHALLINTAA

HAPPASU -hankkeen loppuwebinaari

29.10.2024 klo 13-15.30

Katso lisätietoja ja ilmoittaudu mukaan: pyhajarvi-instituutti.fi/tapahtuma/happamien-sulfaattimaiden-parempaa-vesienhallintaa-webinaari/





Thank you!