



LIFE09 NAT/SE/000344 "Management of the invasive raccoon dog (*Nyctereutes procyonoides*) in the north-European countries"

Newsletter april-september-2011

22 telephone meetings with the national project leaders have been conducted, normally on Tuesdays.

13-14 April: Telemetry education with personal from Followit. 13 project staff from Sweden and 3 from Denmark participated.

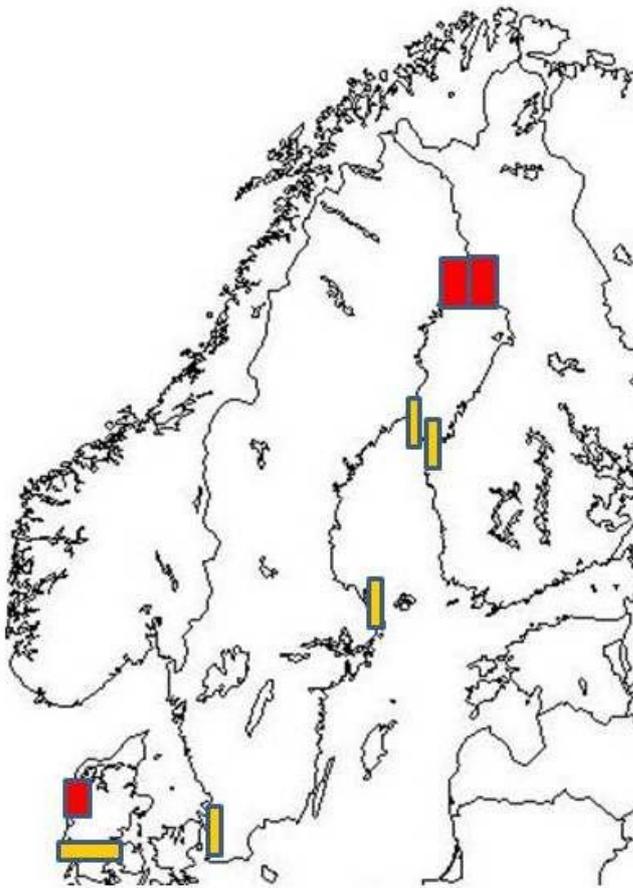
20-21 September: Data base meeting with 2 Swedish, 2 Finnish, 1 Danish and 2 Norwegian project workers.

Sweden

27-28-29 April: Training of project workers dogs. 3 Swedish field staff and one teacher participated.

6-7 April: Education of 6 Swedish fee employments RD observation controllers. One project officer conducted the training.

- 351 observations of raccoon dogs (RD) have been reported, 16 of them have been confirmed. 9 alive and 7 killed.
- 16 RD have been live captured, sterilized, equipped with GPS/SMS collars and released.
- 1 Judas animal has been killed by hunters.
- EWS-system is up and running, mean number of 2 RD is caught by the primary EWS camera system (150 cameras) per system check (once / month).
- 1 meeting for training and education of local hunters with a total of 30 hunters has been conducted.
- 2 different lectures about the project and general raccoon dog ecology has been conducted at Swedish University of Agricultural Science.
- Active management with catching and culling is in progress with good results.



Map of Swedish EWS-system

Finland:

- 306 Raccoon dogs (RD) has been terminated (since the start of the project).
- 22 RD have been live captured sterilized, equipped with GPS/SMS collars and released.
- 30 different meetings for training and education of local hunters with a total of 700 hunters has been conducted.
- National television has covered the project in 3 different reports.
- National radio has covered the project in 20 different reports.
- The EWS-system is checked 4 times, average 5000 pictures / check. 500 pictures of animals caught.
- The test of "soft-catch" traps on Bergö is up and running.
- The EWS-system on Valsörarna is up and running, no RD confirmed so far.
- DNA from Finnish RD is gathered at the moment.
- Active management with catching and culling is in progress with good results.
- Evaluation of different lures effectiveness is in progress in Åland.
- All project traps is placed out in the nature the catch of RD is continuously ongoing.

Denmark:

- 12 RD have been live captured since April and released as GPS animals. Four of them were puppies from this summer and they were big enough to be equipped with GPS/SMS collars and released.
1 of the GPS RD has been run over and the GPS were broken.
- About 40 killed RD is confirmed in Denmark up to this date, where half of them were small puppies. 7 of the killed RD are roadkills.
- The EWS-system near the German border is now in position and running. There have still been no pictures of RD on these cameras. 10 cameras of the EWS in the north-western part of Denmark have been installed and the process of finding places for the rest of the cameras is in progress.
- Active management with catching and culling is in progress with good results.

Norway:

- From April 9th until October 26th there are reported 60 different “observations” of raccoon dog, most of these report are from Mid-Norway. Most of these observations (grey circles) are uncertain, white circles are error reports, and one observation are considered as probable (outlined grey) in Finnmark.



- 6 cameras are put out in the area around the probable observation, but no positive result so far. Other “migrating” cameras are put in to action irregularly at different sites.
- One raccoon was observed and killed in Southern Norway (Åseral municipality in the county of Vest-Agder) 22-10-11. (Probably a runaway from an illegal husbandry)