



Arjeplog - a guide to an angler's paradise

Imagine the possibilities!

Arjeplog offers fishing possibilities for everyone, ranging from family friendly perch angling in lakes to Arctic char and brown trout fly-fishing in the alpine mountain waters. Fishing with trolling gear has increased in popularity in the last decade and yearly tournaments are scheduled in the larger lakes in the community; such as Hornavan, Uddjaur and Tjeggelvas. Since the municipality covers a large region the maps and their respective characteristic have been separated into seven sub-areas.

In this folder, specific area descriptions and maps are presented to inform YOU, the visitor, about the fishing possibilities in Arjeplog.

As you can see, the presentation is quite descriptive since there are about 9000 lakes and more than

3000 km of rivers and streams in the region.

Site-specific and updated details about fishing possibilities can be obtained from the local tourist or travel agents, or by contacting

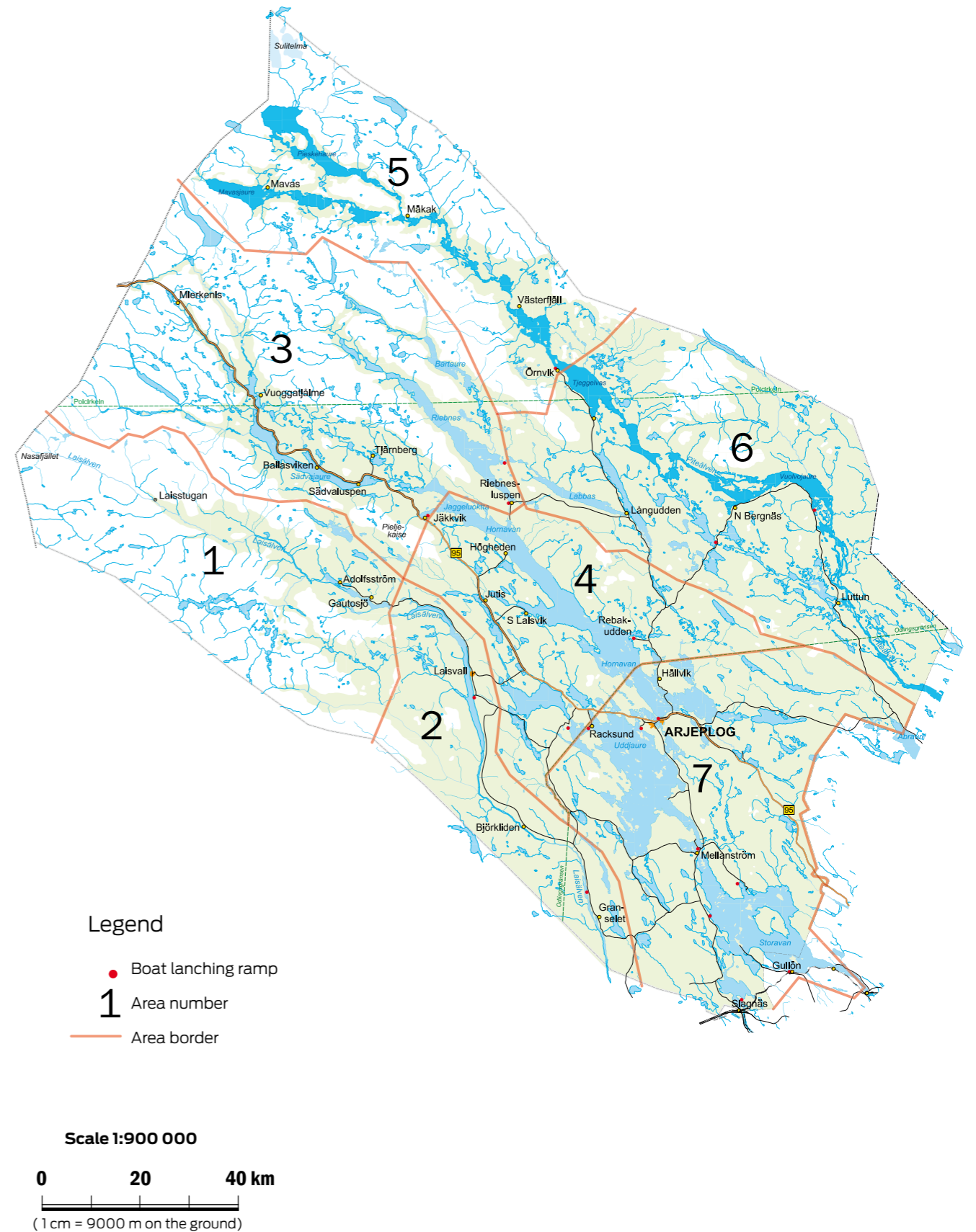
professional fishing guides. Another great way to learn about the local fishing opportunities is to talk to some of the local fishing fanatics in the area.

Arjeplog warmly welcomes you!



Photo: Johan Fjellström

The municipality of Arjeplog - general map



Area 1 The Upper Laisälven



Photo Johan Sandlund
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Flyfishing stretches

In Arjeplog Municipality there are eight stretches totalling 105 km which are reserved solely for fly fishers. Here, you can land a record-breaking fish while you experience breathtaking scenery. The Arjeplog permit applies on 7 of the stretches. In addition to these "special stretches", there are numerous other fine stretches of running water in Arjeplog which are also highly suitable for flyfishing. We shall tell you about just a few of them.

We feel it is self-evident that our guests respect rules regarding minimum length and other limitations to fishing. These rules are intended to keep and preferably improve the quality of the fishing. It is just as self-evident that you take home your refuse and do not litter the countryside. The golden rule among fly fishers is not to keep more fish than you can eat on the fishing trip.

(A) Dellik River
Total length c. 50 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 21 km
From Stigo to the Mattaurjåkkå influx. Varies between flowing water and rapids, interspersed with short and long calm stretches. In the upper reaches there are char, and lower down, trout. The area is far from the nearest road and is accessed by foot or by air.

(B) Viejeströmmen
Total length c. 11 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 7.5 km
From the outflow of Lutaure stream down to its influx into Lake Viejejaure, the stream runs through birch forest. A pleasant stream with an abundance of trout, but also char. Follow the hiking trail Kungsleden (the King's Trail) north from Adolfström (c. 6 km) to the outflow of Lutaure stream to get to the upper reaches of the stretch.

There are numerous other good waters that can give a fantastic angling experience, but which are not special flyfishing stretches.

Gently rolling, accessible countryside makes the Upper Laisälven Valley popular with hikers, bird watchers and anglers alike. Here the local flora is especially rich, as witness the Märkberget nature reserve at Gauto.

The Laisälven, fed by waters rising way up the Norwegian border, is the great artery of the region. Its beginnings are austere, and not until the Laisstugan cottage and the birchlands does it become more interesting to the angler. However, it is not until Blassa, where the water calms, that the river really begins to live up to its reputation.

Brown trout and arctic char
Above Märkfallet and Storlisan, trout and char are the river's sole species. To the south lies Mount Svaiipa, dominating a valley studied with lakes with a longstanding reputation as first-class char waters. Further south we come to the upper reaches of the Dellik, which, besides a 20-kilometre

fly-only stretch, offer much of interest to both summer and wintertime anglers. Some waters have been designated a protected zone for lesser white-fronted geese and are closed to anglers at all times. Indeed, wherever they are fishing, anglers must do their utmost not to disturb these rare birds.

Tjallas – a string of pearls
To the north lie the lakes of Vuoleb Tjallasjaure and Lutaure, a string of pearls holding large brown trout and char of first-rate quality. The fast-flowing waters between the lakes have been set aside as spawning grounds, and fishing of all types is prohibited. Viejeströmmen, flowing between Lutaure and Viejejaure and holding a good population of big trout, is an attractive flyfishing stretch. Anglers

looking for sport in the upper Laisälven valley are seldom disappointed, especially since accommodation and other services are readily available.

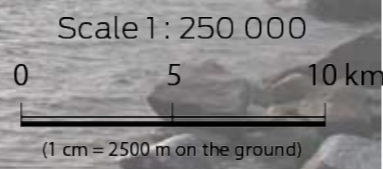


Photo Johan Sandlund
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Area 2 The LowerLaisälven

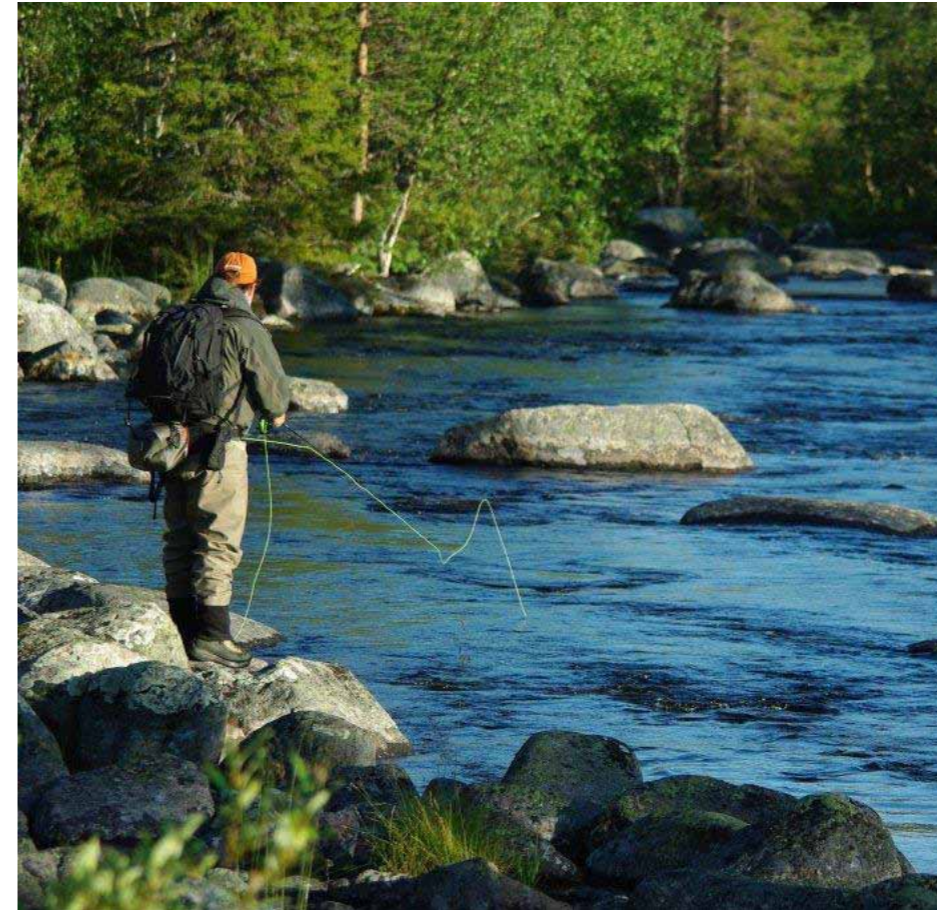
The community of Laisvall is the natural centre of this area, where the countryside is quite different from that of the upper reaches of the river.

Although the mountains are still gently rounded, this is conifer country, and new species of fish make their appearance in the river. Storlisan, the first lake we encounter, is over 30 km in length. Here, grayling, lavaret and perch can be found alongside a population of big brown trout and char.

The Storlisan is of special interest for the trolling enthusiast. But as yet it's downstream of the lake that the river is of the greatest interest to anglers, and the stretch of water leading down to the municipal border abounds in fish. Grayling is the dominant species, but there are also brown trout, some of them very large indeed. Stretches of calm alternate with fast-flowing water.

Traditional fishing area

In this region, angling traditions – and fly fishing in particular – go back to the beginning of the 20th century.



Photo; Håkan Sundström

Catch and release fishing

For most sport fisherman today, catch and release fishing is a common practice. Yet, fish survival after release is attributed to several factors with water temperature being the most important. At high temperatures many salmonids may be stressed as the concentration of lactic acids increases when being caught and handled. To prevent these negative effects handling and playing of the fish should be minimized. The location of where the fish is hooked should receive special attention as well. Fish hooked in the gills, eyes or throat may bleed severely and survival may be reduced after release. In these occasions it may be better to keep the fish rather than release it.

Things to keep in mind when practicing catch and release fishing:

- * When handling fish avoid lifting the fish out of the water and use a net.
- * Play the fish as little as possible and use a rod and fishing line that is not too light.
- * Use designed pliers or pincers to remove the hook from a fish and considering using a barbless hook.
- * If you need to grab a fish, use wetted hands to prevent unnecessary damage to the fish mucus acting as an "outer defense layer" from disease.
- * Any fish that is having problems staying upright in the water may need to be held in an upright position with its head facing upstream, or in a lake passing water over its gills.
- * Remember to handle and grab fish gently if the aim is to release it.



Photo: Johan Fjellström



Photo Johan Sandlund
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Area 3 The Upper Skellefteälven

Traversed as it is by the Silver Road, the through route to Norway, this area receives rather more visitors than others, especially during the early spring when its big angling attraction – pinking for char – is at its best.

Hiking is mostly easy; only towards the north does the terrain start to get rocky. Pieljekaise, Arjeplog's only national park, is in this area, which is also traversed by the Kungsleden hiking trail.

Feeder-streams

The upper reaches of the Skellefteälven are fed by a number of tributaries rising in Ikesjaure and Sieldutjåkkå, and emptying into Vuoggatjålmejaure. The best known of the feeders is perhaps Ruonekjåkkå.

Of the northern reaches, the most interesting from the angler's point of view are the stretches from Gardaure to Bartaure and Riebnes. The Maran valley has been set aside as a spawning ground.

The area as a whole boasts thousands of first-class trout and char waters, four of Arjeplog's eight fly-only stretches, and all waters

with quota-based fishing situated above the limit of cultivation - proof indeed of the excellence of the local fishing.

Facilities

The entire area from Jäckvik to the Norwegian border offers a variety of tourist facilities. Cabins are available for rent and there is a good network of marked hiking

trails. This, and the superb fishing, bring back anglers and outdoor enthusiasts year after year.



Photo: Calle Bredberg

Flyfishing stretches

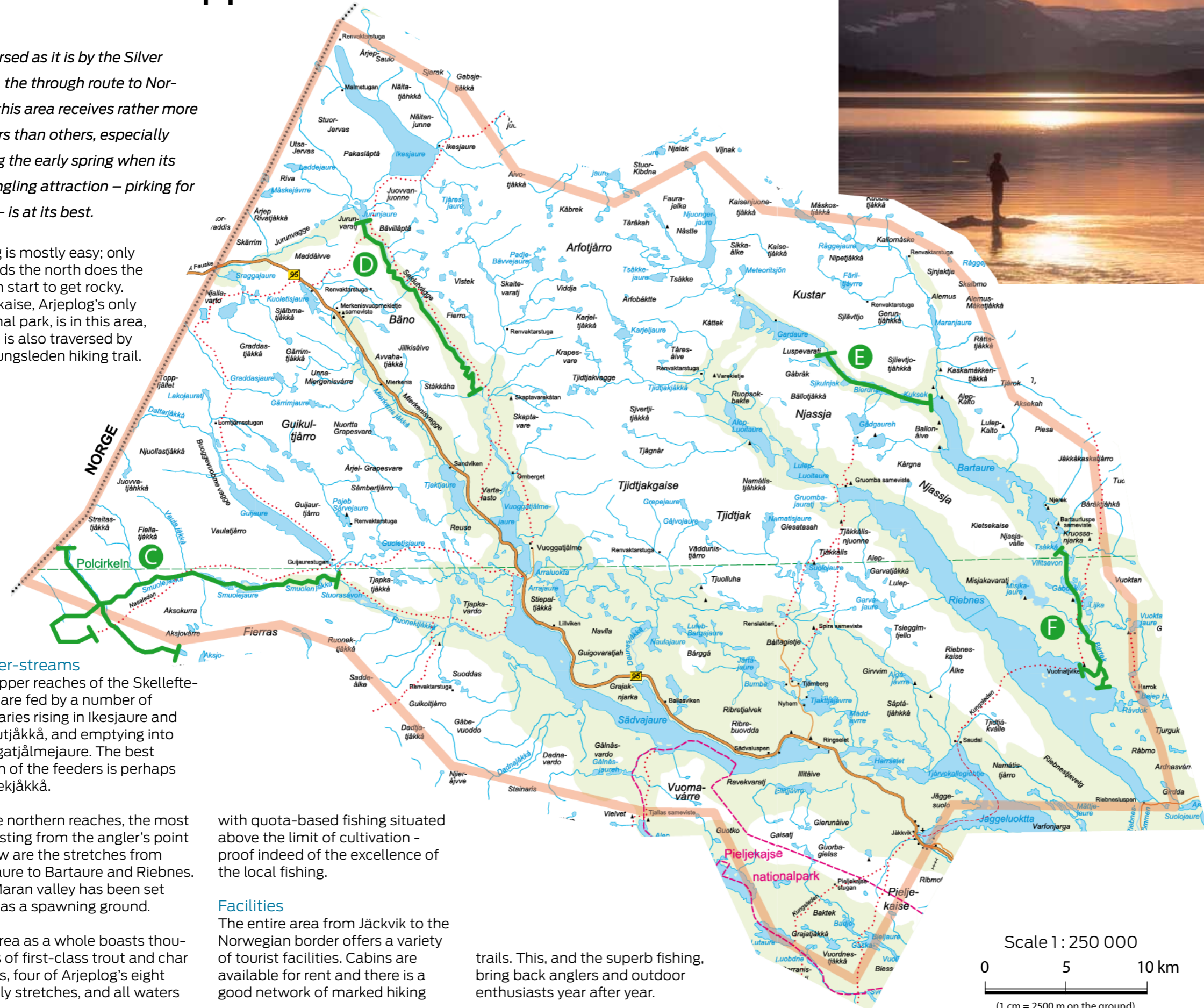
(C) Smuolejåkkå
Total length 20 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 20 km.
Starts on the treeless high fell southwest of the beautiful lake Guijaure and flows down to the birch forest where the water is relatively shallow. Cross Lake Sädvajaure by boat and then hike up alongside Ruonekjåkkå stream; or take a helicopter from Vuoggatjålme or Tjärnberg straight to the fishing spot.

(D) Sieldutjåkkå
Total length 22 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 15 km.
This stretch of flyfishing water is not for beginners. A dense rim of birch and willow makes strict demands on the angler's technique. Plenty of battling trout.

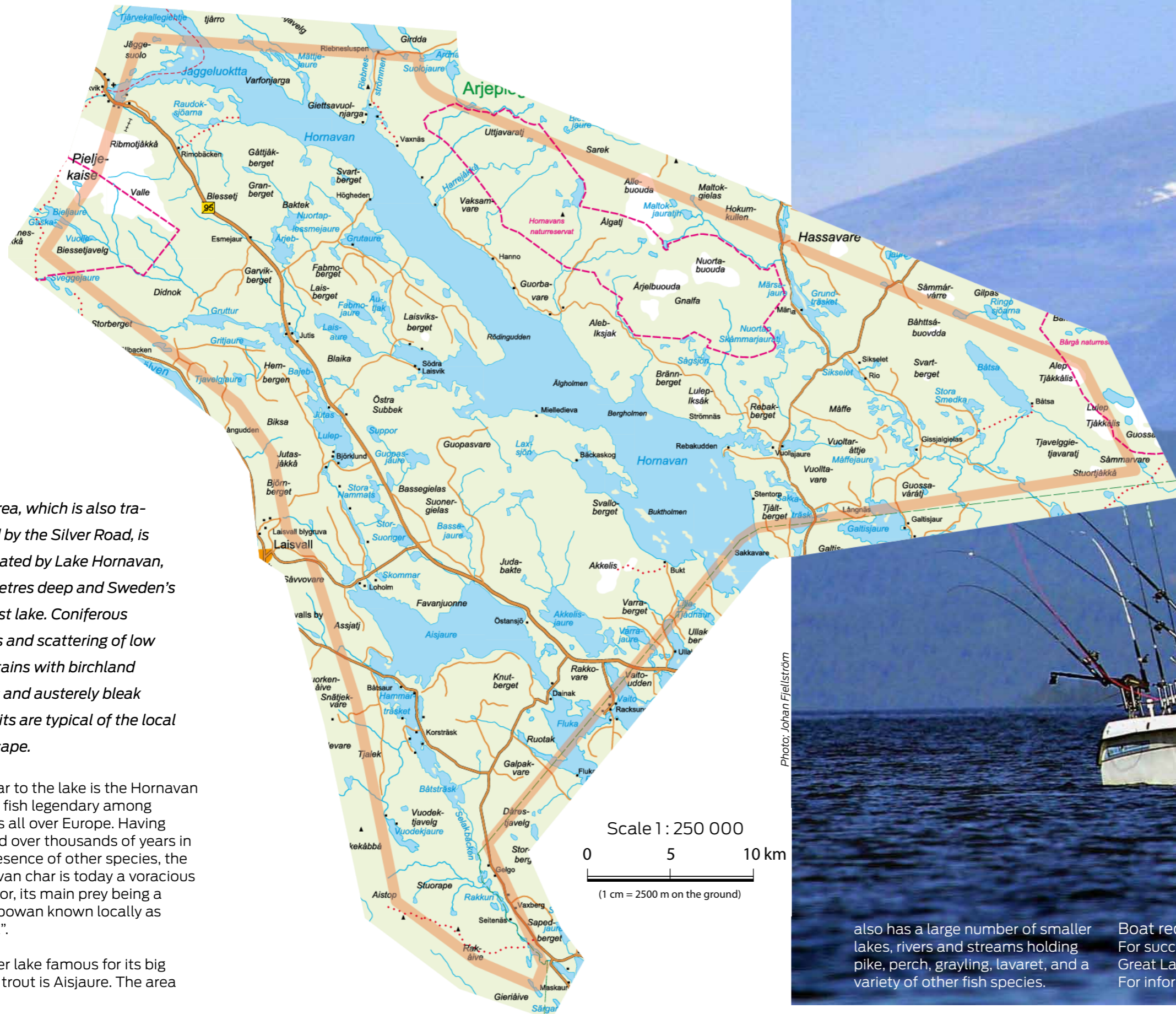
(E) Juimak-Kuksek with intermediate stretches of running water
Total length 9 km
Length of flyfishing stretch c. 8 km.
From the influx into Juimak to the outflow at lake Bartaure. This relatively newly established stretch is well worth a visit. There are trout in the flowing waters, and char in the lakes ... should be accessed by air, unless you enjoy punishment!

(F) Bartek
Total length 12 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 8 km.
From the bridge across the hiking trail Kungsleden (the King's Trail) to the outflow at Riebnes. Flows mainly through alpine birch forest, but closer to Riebnes, coniferous forest takes over. Along the stretch there are some lakes and calm stretches, where large-growth trout have been landed. The lakes also contained char. Travel by boat from Riebnesluspen to somewhere near the mouth.

Among the other flyfishing waters along Skellefte River, one can also mention Arjeplogsströmmarna, and we warmly recommend Bergnäs River for heavier flyfishing.



Area 4 The Lower Skellefteälven



This area, which is also traversed by the Silver Road, is dominated by Lake Hornavan, 226 metres deep and Sweden's deepest lake. Coniferous forests and scattering of low mountains with birchland slopes and austere bleak summits are typical of the local landscape.

Peculiar to the lake is the Hornavan char, a fish legendary among anglers all over Europe. Having evolved over thousands of years in the presence of other species, the Hornavan char is today a voracious predator, its main prey being a small powan known locally as "sellak".

Another lake famous for its big brown trout is Aisjaure. The area

Fisheries conservation practices

Whether we are fishing from a boat with trolling equipment, fly fishing, angling or ice fishing, we all have concerns to preserve or even improve our fishing possibilities for the future.

It is very important to remember our behaviour can influence future fishing possibilities. If the goal is to keep as much fish as possible, this may deplete the fish stocks. This applies to all of the species anglers target, including brown trout, grayling, char and pike.

By setting up restrictions on minimum fish-sizes, bag-limits and fishing periods the aim is to improve the fish stocks. Yet, there are limited resources to manage the fisheries impact and jurisdiction in such a vast area the regions of Arjeplog offers, which leaves a great deal of responsibility to all anglers! Be sure to find out and follow the rules that apply to your fishing area. This will improve the chances for future generations to experience memorable fishing in the future!

Photo: Johan Fjellström

also has a large number of smaller lakes, rivers and streams holding pike, perch, grayling, lavaret, and a variety of other fish species.

Boat required
For successful fishing in Arjeplog's Great Lake area, a boat is a must. For information about renting a

boat, contact the tourist office in Arjeplog. Cabins can be rented at several places round the lakes.

Area 5 The Upper Piteälven

This area, which stretches from the Norwegian border down to Örnvik at Tjeggelvas, is one of the bleaker of the river valleys. Indeed, rocks and stones abound. With its forests, waterfalls and glittering lakes, the countryside is fantastically beautiful.

Mountain birch grows along both the Pieske and Mavas branches of the valley, and it is not until downstream at Kuoddojaure that isolated pines can be found intermingled with the birch.

Two branches

The source rivers of the Piteälven form two different valleys, Mavas and Pieske, which come together at Alep Mäkek. From here down to Tjeggelvas, the river is made up of a chain of small lakes joined by short stretches of rapids. The fishing is excellent, and even though the Pieskejaure char are present in great numbers and are generally small in size, there are still plenty of big ones to give anglers the tussle of their life. Fish of 4-5 kg are taken every year. The area has two fly-only stretches, Pieskeströmmen and Sartajäkkå. Downstream of Sarta you can expect to find grayling, some of them very large indeed.

Big fish

This is something of an angler's paradise, since big char and trout abound. Accommodation may be rented in Mavas, Miekak and at the Tourist Office cabin at the western end of Lake Pieskejaure.

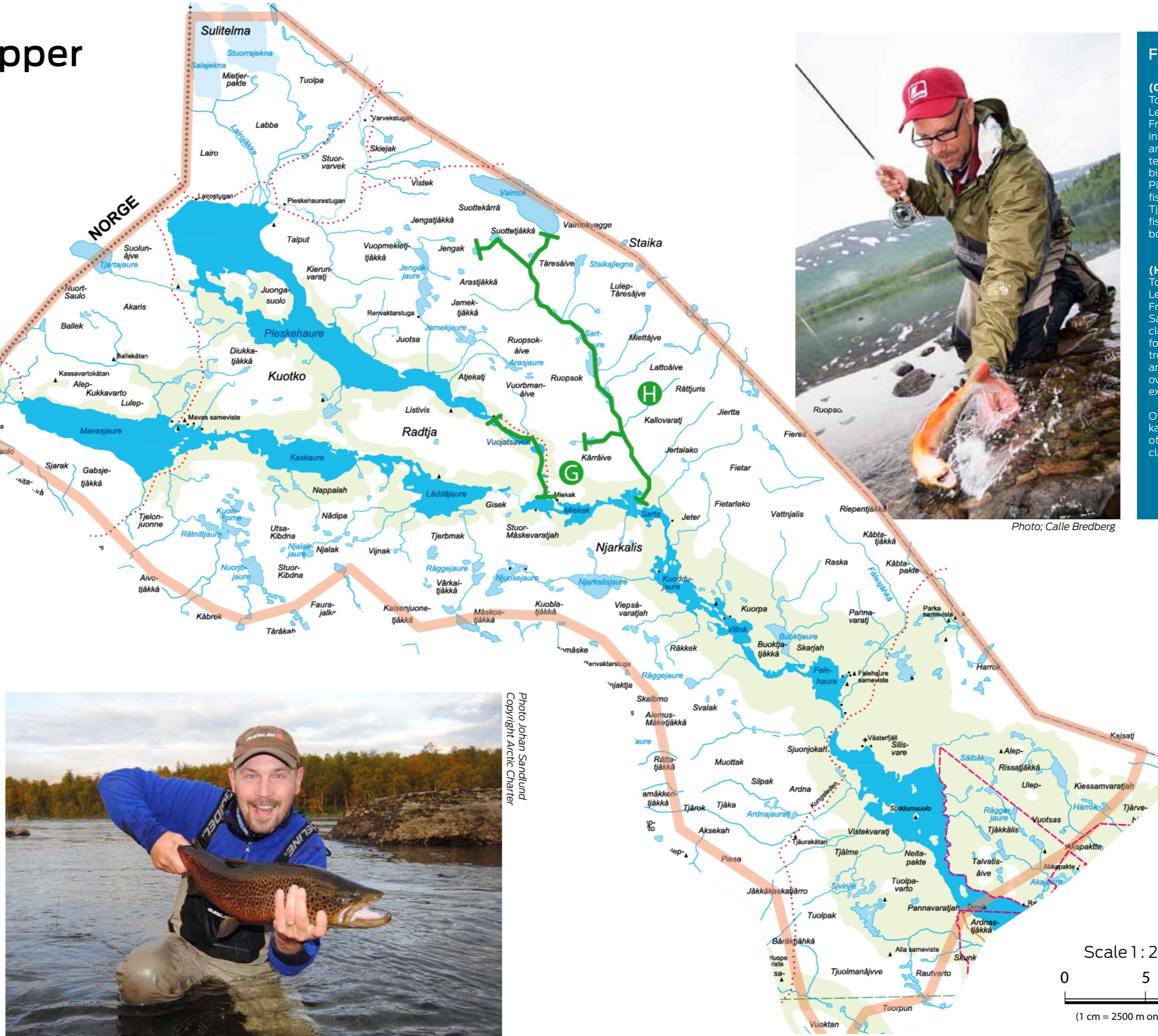


Photo: Calle Bredberg



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Flyfishing stretches

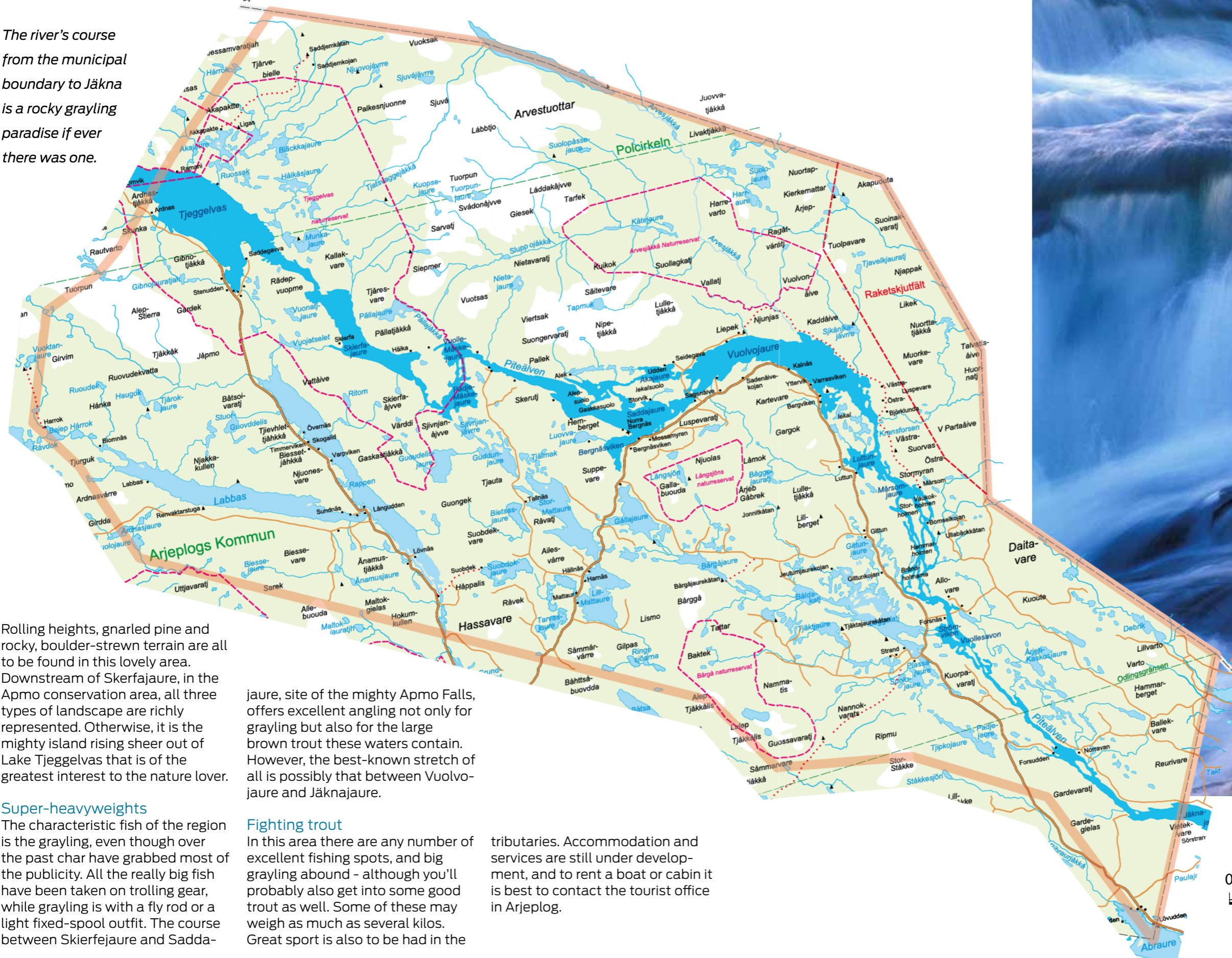
(G) Pieskeströmmen
Total length 5 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 5 km
From the outflow from Pieskehaure to the influx into Alep Mäkek. To many fly fishers, angling for large growth char in running water is the ultimate fishing experience. Your big chance is when the gnats are hatching. Pieskeströmmen is located inside Miekak fishing camp. You can fly by helicopter from Tjärnberg straight to the camp. A special fishing permits applies, which can be bought in the camp.

(H) Sartajäkkå
Total length 20 km
Length of flyfishing stretch 20 km
From the outflow from Vaimok down to Sarta. Is mostly on the bare mountain, and closer to the influx into the Pite River, birch forest takes over. Fishing here is usually for trout, since the stock is so good. The char are usually small, but occasionally a char over a kilo can bite. You can fly here, for example, from Tjärnberg.

Other areas worth mentioning are Heik-kaströmmarna and branches downstream of Mårsojjaure in the Pite River with world class grayling fishing.

Area 6 The Lower Piteälven

The river's course from the municipal boundary to Jäkna is a rocky grayling paradise if ever there was one.



Rolling heights, gnarled pine and rocky, boulder-strewn terrain are all to be found in this lovely area. Downstream of Skerfajaure, in the Apmo conservation area, all three types of landscape are richly represented. Otherwise, it is the mighty island rising sheer out of Lake Tjeggelvas that is of the greatest interest to the nature lover.

Super-heavyweights

The characteristic fish of the region is the grayling, even though over the past char have grabbed most of the publicity. All the really big fish have been taken on trolling gear, while grayling is with a fly rod or a light fixed-spool outfit. The course between Skierfejaure and Sadda-

jaure, site of the mighty Apmo Falls, offers excellent angling not only for grayling but also for the large brown trout these waters contain. However, the best-known stretch of all is possibly that between Vuolvojaure and Jäkna jaure.

Fighting trout

In this area there are any number of excellent fishing spots, and big grayling abound - although you'll probably also get into some good trout as well. Some of these may weigh as much as several kilos. Great sport is also to be had in the

tributaries. Accommodation and services are still under development, and to rent a boat or cabin it is best to contact the tourist office in Arjeplog.

What is a spawning water?

In Arjeplog Municipality, a number of watercourses have been designated spawning waters, in which fishing is forbidden. In most cases, when designating spawning waters, one has trout in mind. So what is meant by spawning waters?

Migrating trout use flowing water for mating and growth. Trout roe hatches, in a watercourse. The small trout stay there for three to five years, in that time growing to a length of approximately 20 centimetres. The trout (at this stage referred to as smolt) then migrate to the sea, where it is hoped they grow into large, strong and aggressive game fish. After a few more years, the circle is closed when the trout reaches maturity and returns to the watercourse which it originally left, in order to spawn.

An angler who takes a small trout before it has migrated to the sea is fooling him or herself. The fish is not really as attractive as a game fish until it has grown in size in the sea. It has then preferably had time to spawn, thus contributing to the survival of the stock.

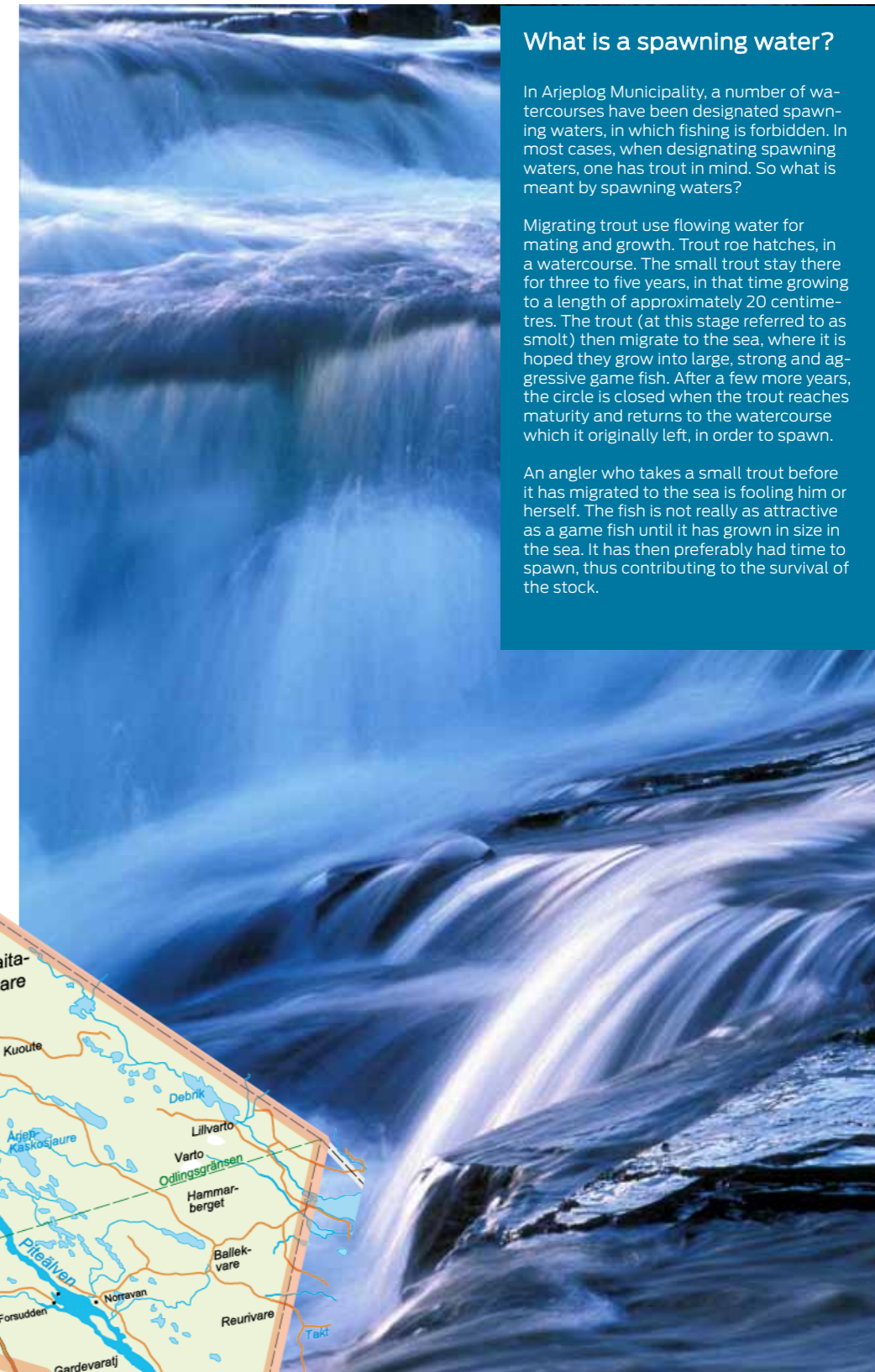
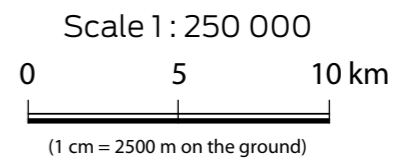
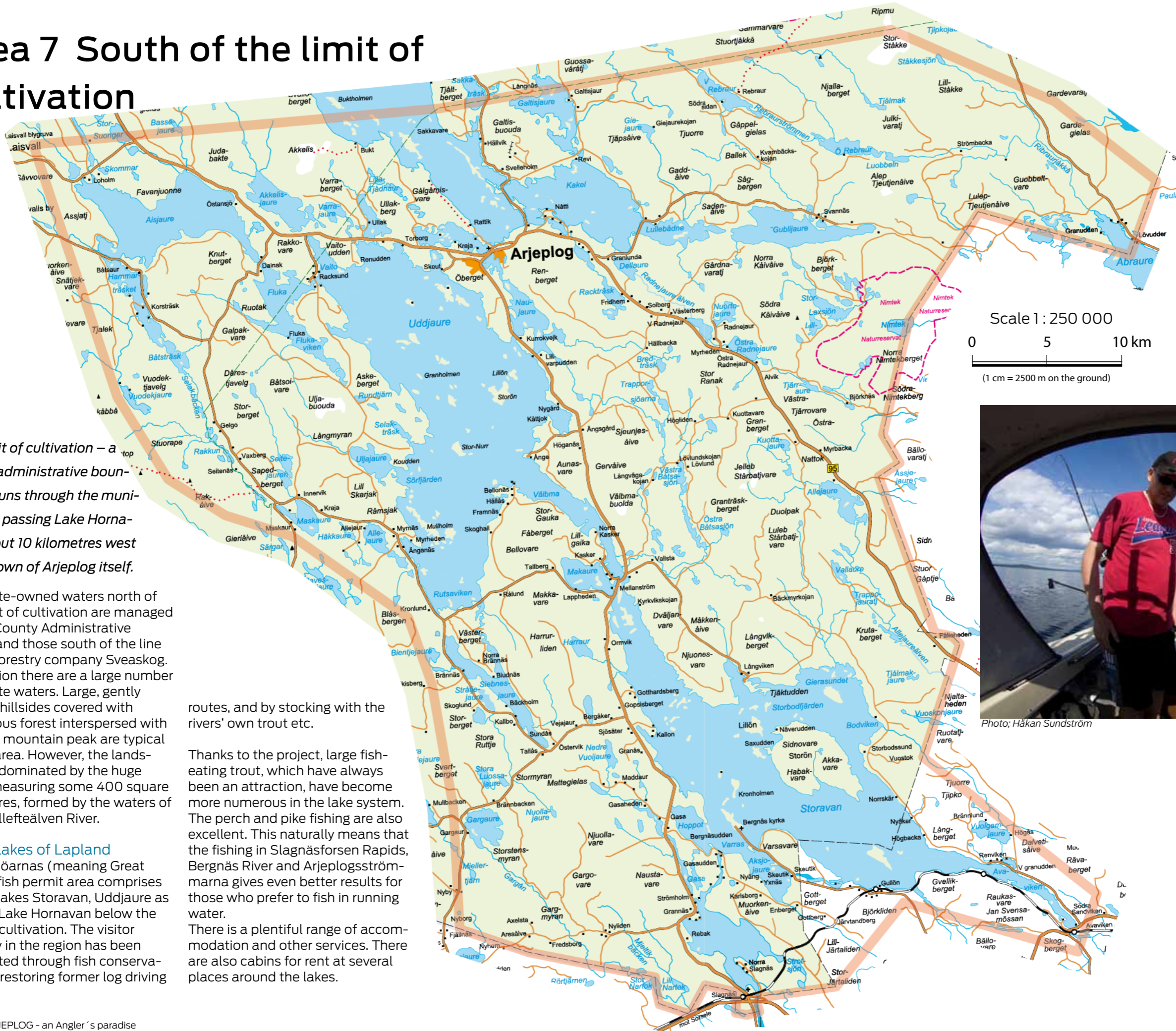


Photo: Calle Bredberg



Area 7 South of the limit of cultivation



Environmental awareness – if you pack it in, pack it out!

Do not leave garbage in the outdoors! Cans, plastic bags, cigarette butts, fishing lines etc. causes wildlife to suffer, and disturbs others hoping for a clean environment to recreate in. Therefore, we want you as a visitor to take all your garbage with you and don't litter. If you discover any garbage from previous visitors, please try and take it with you, or mention it to the flight companies or at the tourist office so we can arrange to have it removed. Thanks for your help in keeping our environment clean.

The limit of cultivation – a strictly administrative boundary – runs through the municipality, passing Lake Hornavan about 10 kilometres west of the town of Arjeplog itself.

The state-owned waters north of the limit of cultivation are managed by the County Administrative Board, and those south of the line by the forestry company Sveaskog. In addition there are a large number of private waters. Large, gently sloping hillsides covered with coniferous forest interspersed with the odd mountain peak are typical of this area. However, the landscape is dominated by the huge lakes, measuring some 400 square kilometres, formed by the waters of the Skellefteälven River.

Great Lakes of Lapland
Stora Sjöarnas (meaning Great Lakes) fish permit area comprises part of lakes Storavan, Uddjaure as well as Lake Hornavan below the limit of cultivation. The visitor industry in the region has been stimulated through fish conservation, by restoring former log driving

routes, and by stocking with the rivers' own trout etc.

Thanks to the project, large fish-eating trout, which have always been an attraction, have become more numerous in the lake system. The perch and pike fishing are also excellent. This naturally means that the fishing in Slagnäsforsen Rapids, Bergnäs River and Arjeplogsströmmarna gives even better results for those who prefer to fish in running water.

There is a plentiful range of accommodation and other services. There are also cabins for rent at several places around the lakes.

Scale 1 : 250 000
0 5 10 km
(1 cm = 2500 m on the ground)



Photo: Håkan Sundström



Photo: Bertil Sunkvist
Nyheter i norr

Guests in Sápmi - Sami-land

The municipality of Arjeplog is located in the northern part of Europe known as Sápmi - The land of Sami. For hundreds of years the Sami people in the area have been carrying on reindeer husbandry practices. The Sami traditions of hunting and fishing are even older, dating back thousands of years in time. As a visitor and fisherman in the Sami-land it is valuable to have basic awareness on the customs of reindeer husbandry in order to avoid possible misunderstandings and interference

Some may easily presume that the subarctic mountains and nearby forest regions in the Nordic region are not utilised by humans. Yet, these areas are traditionally used for reindeer husbandry where communities of herders collect, guard, move, tag and slaughter their reindeer at specific times throughout the year. In the municipality of Arjeplog there are six separate Sami-communities; Luokta-Mavas, Semisjaur-Njarg, Svaipa, Stokke, Västra Kikkejaure and Maskaure. The first three comprise the mountain areas, while the latter three are located in forest regions.

In early spring the reindeer are driven from areas close to the coast to their summer grazing regions along various river valleys.

At the calving period in May the reindeer show increased sensitivity to being disturbed as the females require a peaceful environment during their pregnancy. At this time there are specific restrictions against snowmobile traffic, and dogs must be kept on leash and not allowed to run free at calving sites. Keeping dogs from disturbing the reindeer is also important

throughout the year to prevent stress to the herds. From around midsummer to July-August the reindeer are collected into meadows where the calves are tagged by specific landowner marks. This work is usually intensive and carried out during the night as temperature drops to favourable conditions for an arctic animal such as the reindeer. The intensive, albeit short summer, in the region is vital for the reindeer calves to grow and assimilate essential food resources for the long winter.

In Sweden, reindeer husbandry is considered "extensive" as the animals roam freely in their natural habitats throughout most of the summer.

In late August some of the reindeer are slaughtered for meat production; this secures most of the income to Sami-communities,

while other sources of income are attributed to fishing and moose hunting.

In September and October after the reindeer mating period, which typically coincides with the first snowfall, the reindeer are driven up to 300 km towards the coast to their winter feeding areas.

Please avoid areas where the reindeers are being driven and collected into groups, and do not disturb the reindeer when they are grazing.

The mountain and forest region of Arjeplog community are important reindeer husbandry areas that also have several Sami cultural relics ranging from old settlements to modern reindeer enclosures. Please value all these structures!

You are warmly welcome to our beautiful community, a part of the Sápmi - Sami-land!



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Photos: Calle Bredberg, Johan Fjällström, Bertil Sundkvist Nyheter i Norr, Håkan Sundström, Johan Sandlund Arctic Charter and Pontus Lundberg

Picture of char on front page - Calle Bredberg

Maps: Pite älv ekonomisk förening