

Study trip to Norway for specialists from Estonian Environmental Board and State Forest Management Centre

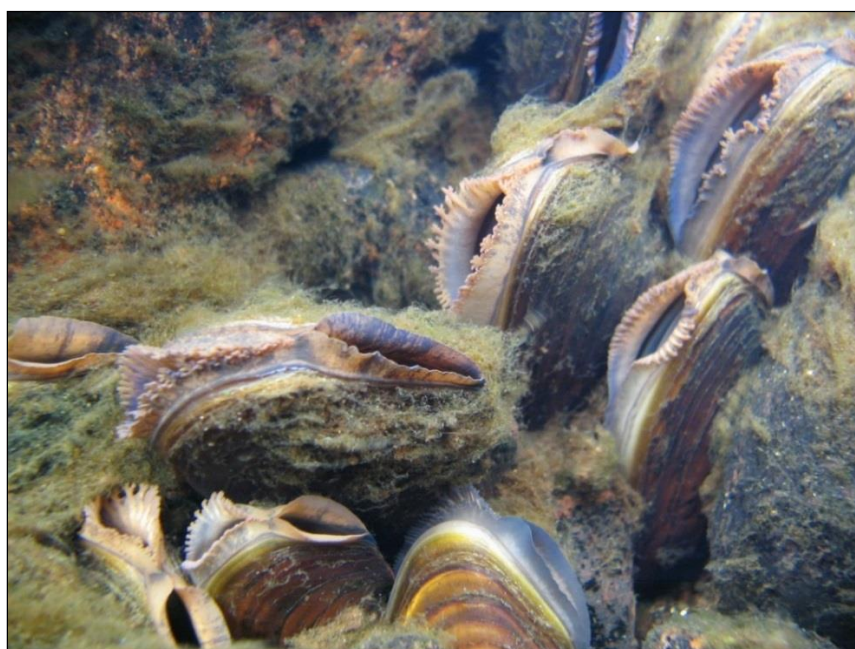
8-13 June 2015

Preliminary program

Bergen – Trondheim - Steinkjer

Participants:

Name	Institution
Maili Lehtpuu	Estonian Environmental Board
Maret Vildak	Estonian Environmental Board
Liisa Rennel	Estonian Environmental Board
Henn Timm	Estonian Environmental Board
Leevi Krumm	State Forest Management Centre Estonia
Sigrid Skoglund	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research
Bjørn Mejdell Larsen	Norwegian Institute for Nature Research



Look at this as a preliminary program! It may be necessary to make changes in the timetable due to weather conditions and water flow.

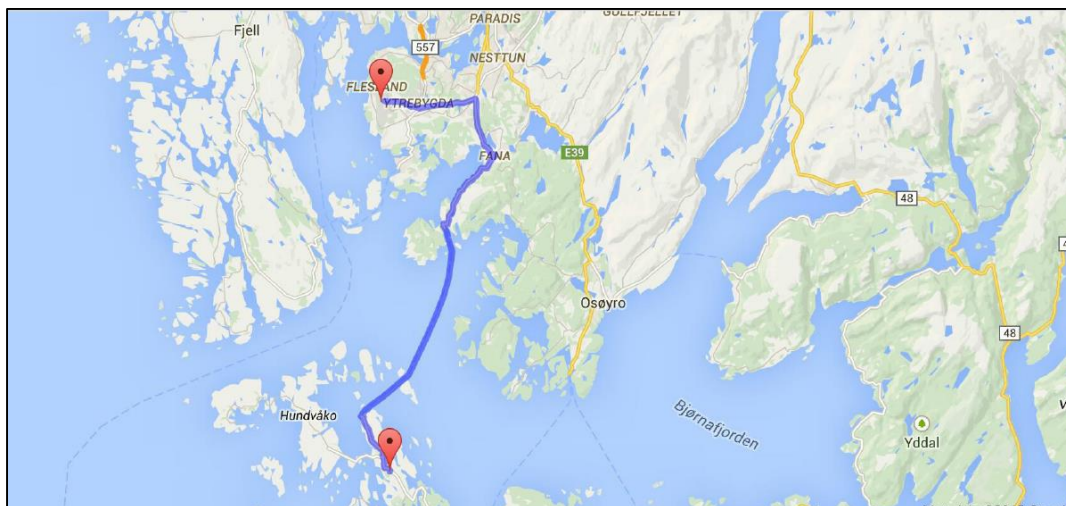


8 June

Arrival Flesland airport, Bergen 10:00 with plane from Tallinn (06:55) to Oslo (07:30) and from Oslo (09:10) to Bergen (10:00). Staff from NINA will meet you at the airport.

We drive (rental car) from Flesland to Storebø at Austevoll. Travel time one and a half hour including the ferry trip Krokeide-Hufthamar (35-40 minutes).

Ferry leaves from Krokeide at 10:55 (hopefully we will reach it)!



Arriving Austevoll and the cultivation station approximately 11:45.

We plan a short introduction and lunch 12:00-13:30. More detailed information will be given about the work and the facilities at Austevoll by Per Jakobsen and his staff 13:30-17:00.





Austevoll municipality has just under 4,500 residents and have an industry that directs towards fisheries and aquaculture. We will stay at Kolbeinshavn in a rental apartment overlooking the local harbour and pier.



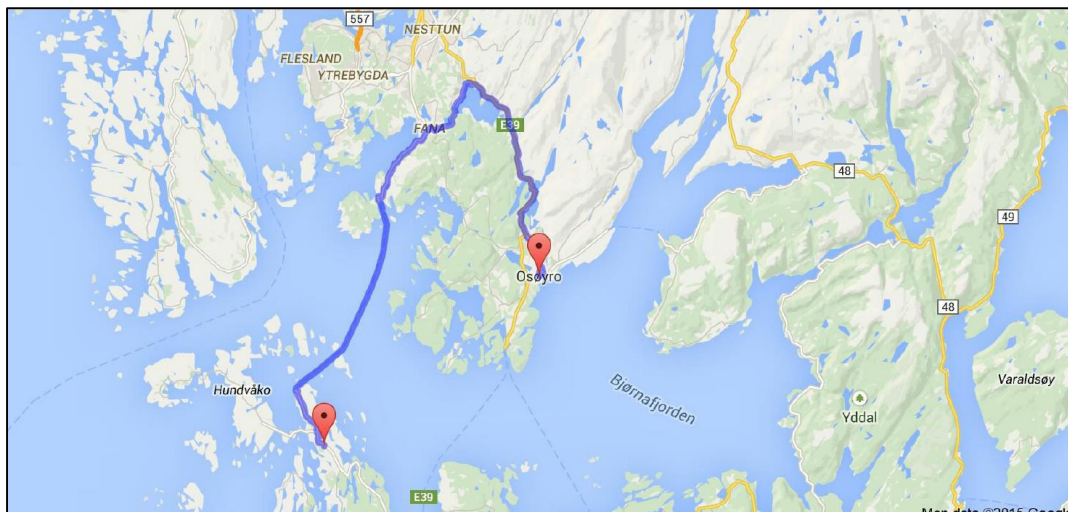
Dinner at Bekkjarvik Gjestgiveri 19:30. The historic hotel situated in the harbour of Bekkjarvik features a restaurant with a seasonal menu designed by award-winning chefs.

9 June

We arrange our own breakfast in the apartment at Kolbeinshavn (07:30-08:30).

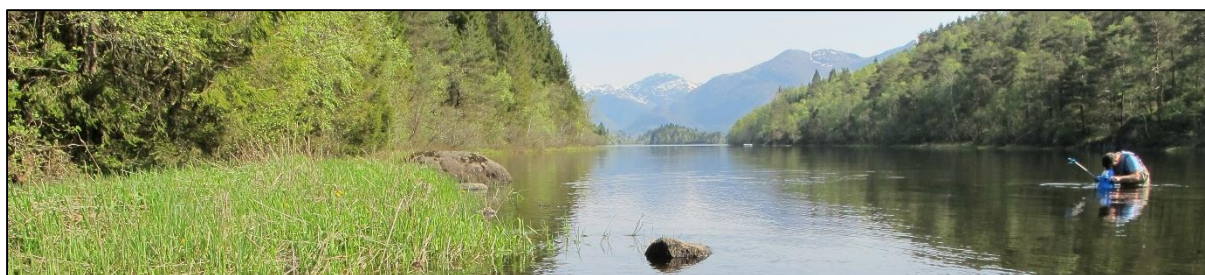
Right after breakfast we will drive from Kolbeinshavn at Austevoll to Osøyro (travel time between one and a half and two hours including the ferry trip Hufthamar-Krokeide)

Ferry leaves from Hufthamar at 08:55!

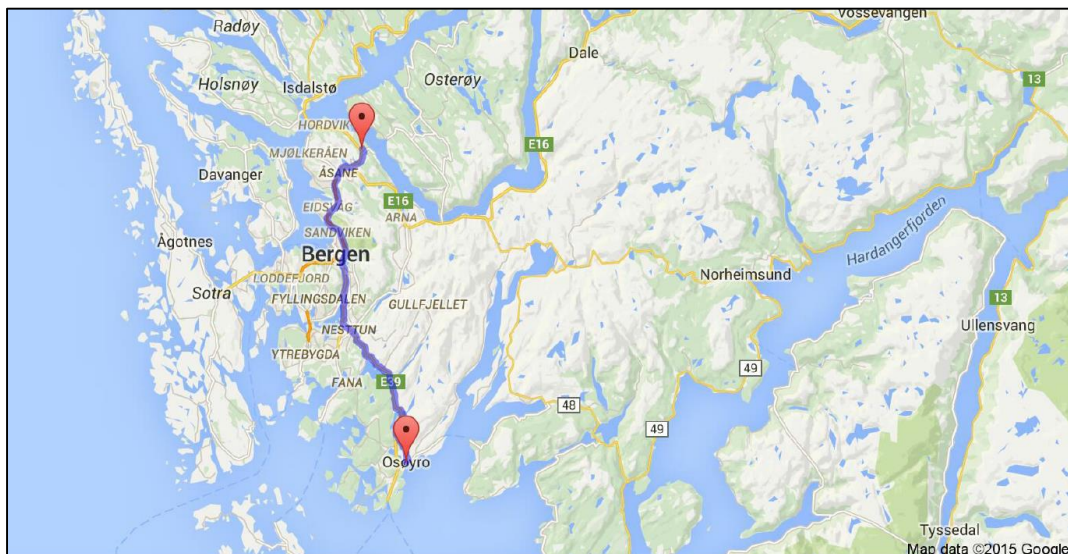


Visit River Oselva – one of the rivers in the Norwegian monitoring programme – 11:00-14:00 – including lunchtime.

Magnus Johan Steinsvåg from the County Governor of Hordaland (Climate and Environmental Department) will be with us and inform about measures made in River Oselva; dialogue with local farmers and environmental grants to improve living conditions for the freshwater pearl mussel.



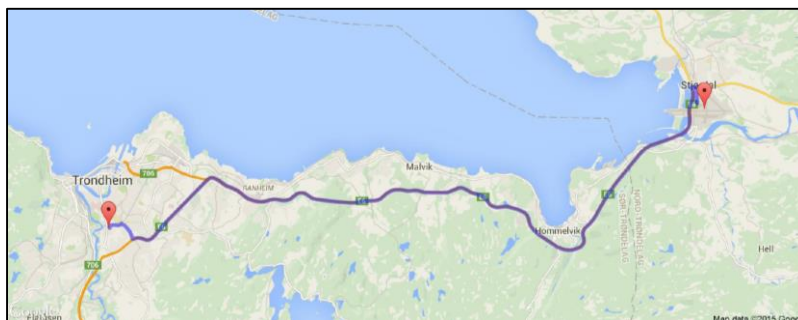
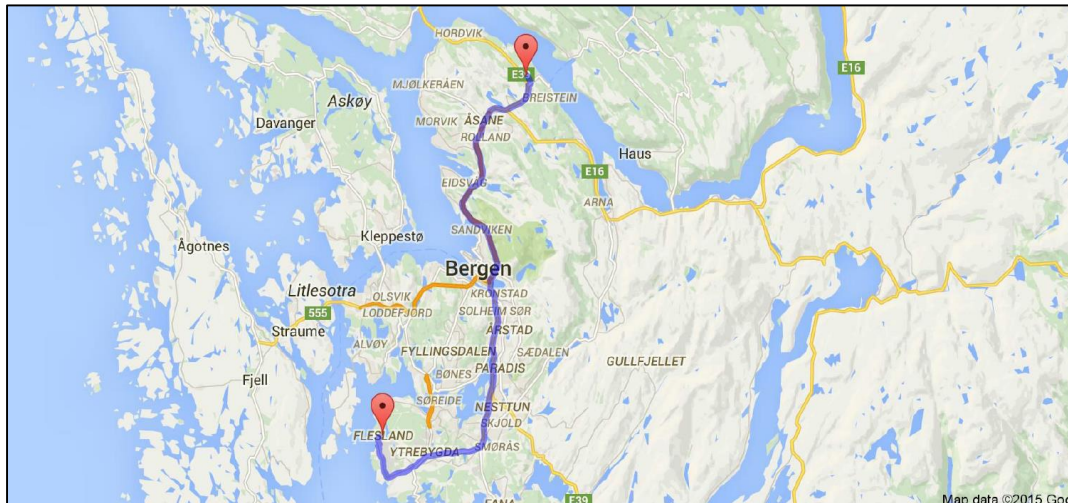
We drive from Osøyro to Haukås (travel time about an hour – depending on traffic conditions through the city of Bergen).



Visit River Haukåsvassdraget (15:00-17:00). Håvard Bjordal from the Bergen municipality will be with us and inform about measures and challenges to save the freshwater pearl mussel in the river.



We return from Haukås and drive back to the city center of Bergen(?) Dinner 17:30-19:00. Continuing to Flesland airport, Bergen with arrival at 20:00 (latest). Plane from Bergen (21:30) to Trondheim (22:30).



Driving from Værnes airport, Stjørdal to Trondheim. Travel time will be about half an hour. This means that it will be quite late until we reach our hotel – let us hope that we will have our rooms before midnight.

We will stay at Scandic Lerkendal hotel. At 75 meters, the Scandic Lerkendal hotel is Norway's tallest building outside of Oslo. The hotel is in close proximity to Lerkendal football stadium and NINA in Trondheim.



10 June

We will start the day quietly and have a long and good breakfast....

We plan to visit NINA's head office in Trondheim - centrally located at Campus NTNU Gløshaugen. It is only a ten minutes' walk from the hotel. The Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, NINA, is an independent foundation focusing on environmental research emphasizing the interaction between human society, natural resources and biodiversity.

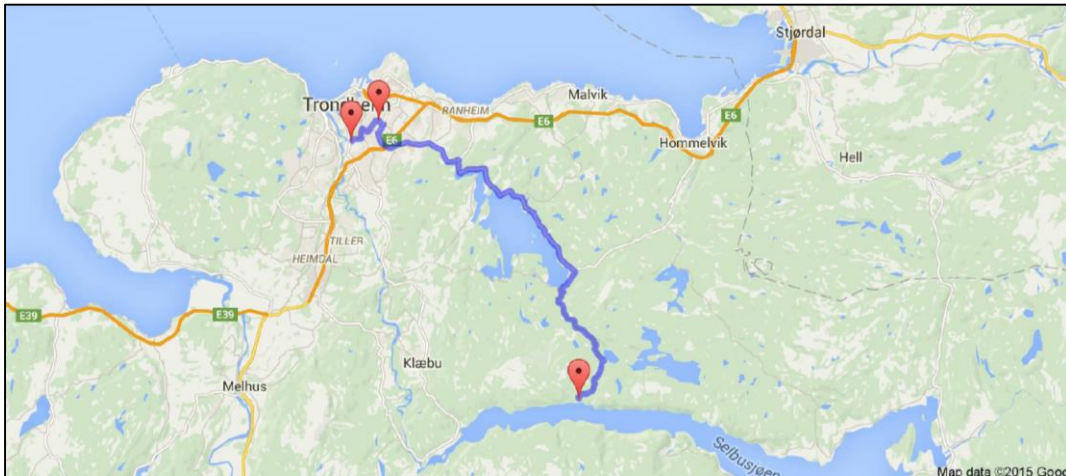
10:00-11:30 - We will give you a short tour in the house and Research Director Ingeborg Palm Helland will give you some information about our work at NINA.



Walking back to the hotel and drive some 15 minutes for lunch at the Egon Tower (12:00). 74 meters above the ground, you can enjoy your meal. In the Tower restaurant, the floor rotates slowly around so you can see the entire Trondheim during one hour (at least when the weather conditions are good).



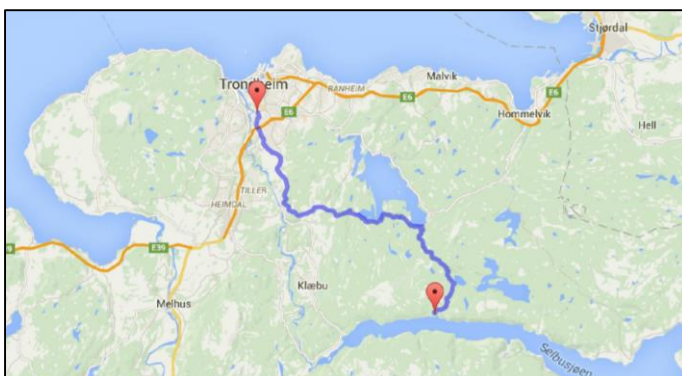
Good and hearty we will drive further from Egon Tower to Draksten outside Trondheim (about three quarter of an hour driving).



Visit River Drakstelva 14:30-16:30. Fish biologist Hans Mack Berger will join us by the river and inform us about the work and actions taken in the river to restore the freshwater pearl mussel population.



After leaving Drakstelva we will drive from Draksten and back to Scandic Lerkendal hotel (about three quarter of an hour driving).

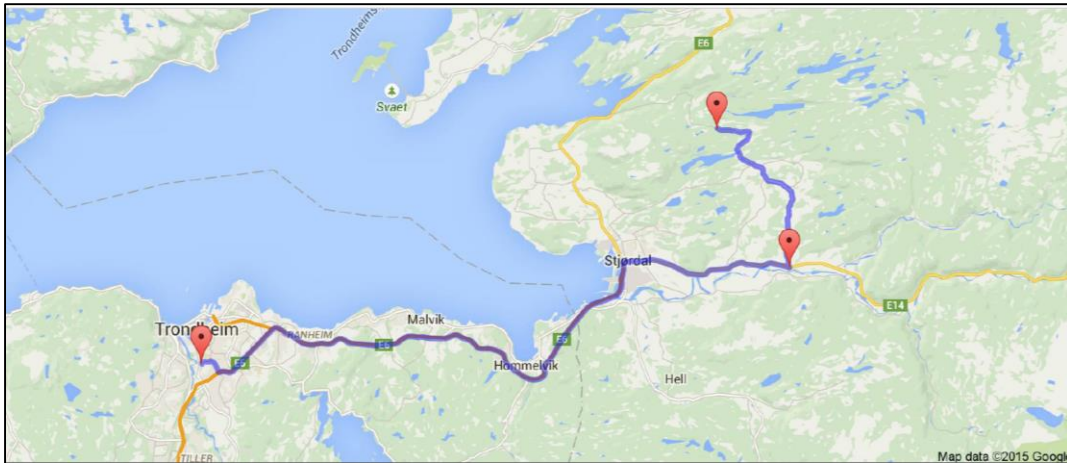


[When driving back to the hotel we will pass another little mussel brook, River Hammerbekken. We can make a short stop by the brook if you want. The brook has been stocked with brown trout infested by mussel larvae in an attempt to restore the mussel population.]

Planned arrival at the hotel latest at 18:00. Evening to free disposal. A city walk and dinner?

11 June

After breakfast (about 09:00), we will leave the hotel and drive from Scandic Lerkendal hotel to Borrås (about 60 kilometer and nearly an hour driving).

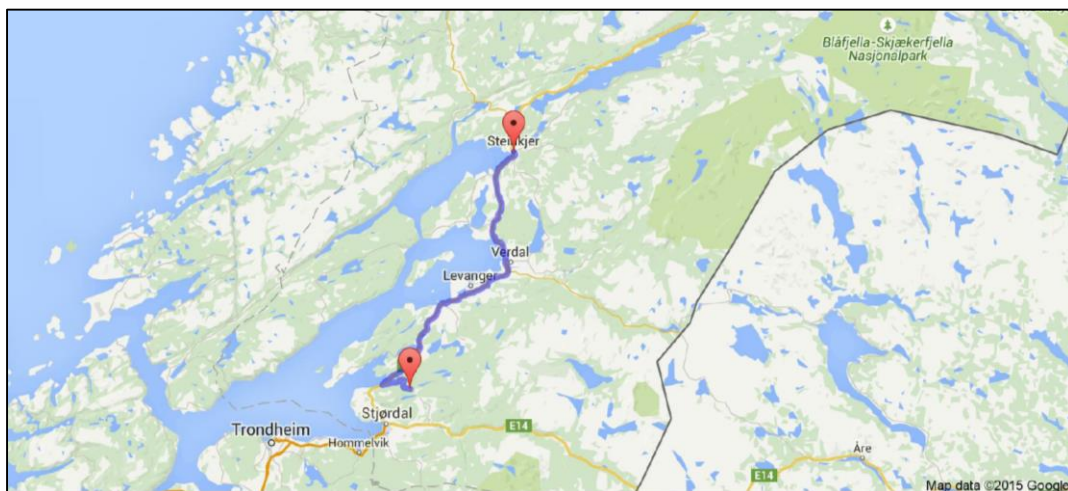


Visit River Borråselva – one of the other rivers in the Norwegian monitoring programme – 10:00-15:00 – including lunchtime. Monitoring freshwater pearl mussel at two sites in the river. Electrofishing and look for mussel larvae on the gills of the host fish, density of mussels (counting mussels in transects (use of chains) and time restricted counts), length distribution including young mussel inventory from river sediment (digging in substrate), measuring redox potential (?)





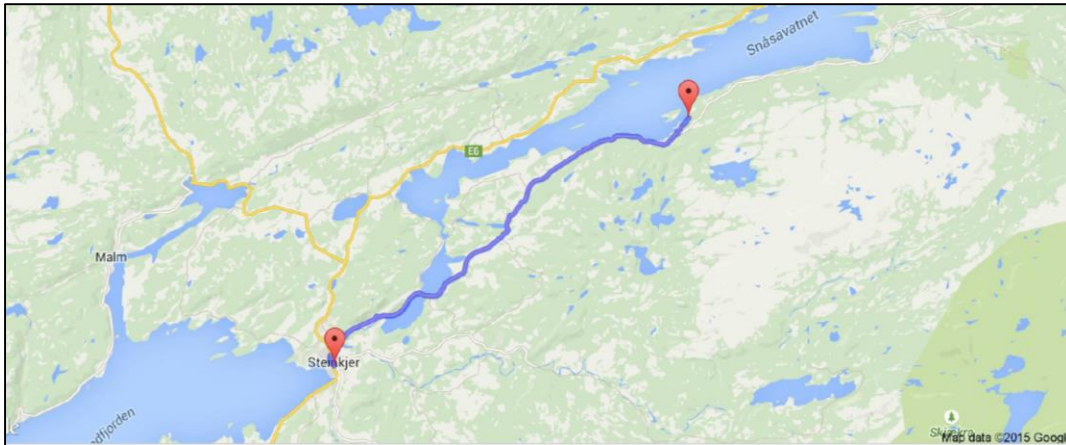
Back to the car and drive off from Borrås to Steinkjer. Travel time will be about an hour and half.



Scheduled arrival at Steinkjer will be 17:00. We will stay at Quality Hotel Grand, a conference hotel in the city center. Evening to free disposal. A city walk and dinner?

12 June

After breakfast (about 09:00), we will leave the hotel and drive from Quality Hotel Grand to Snåsa (about three quarter of an hour driving).

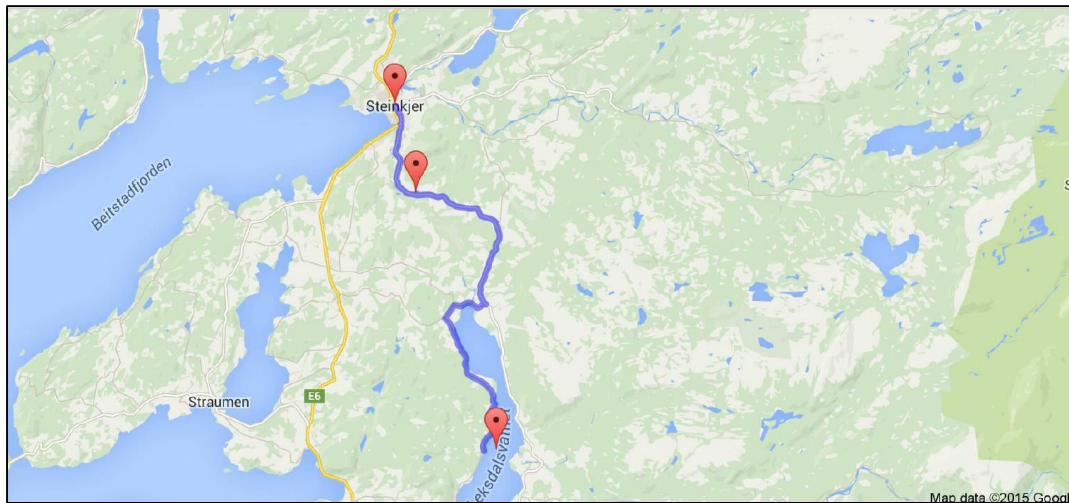


Our stop at Bøla by the Lake Snåsavatnet has little to do with pearl mussels. Still it tells us a little bit about our history, changes in landscape and sea level. We will visit a site with petroglyphs showing reindeer and other animals (10:00-11:30).

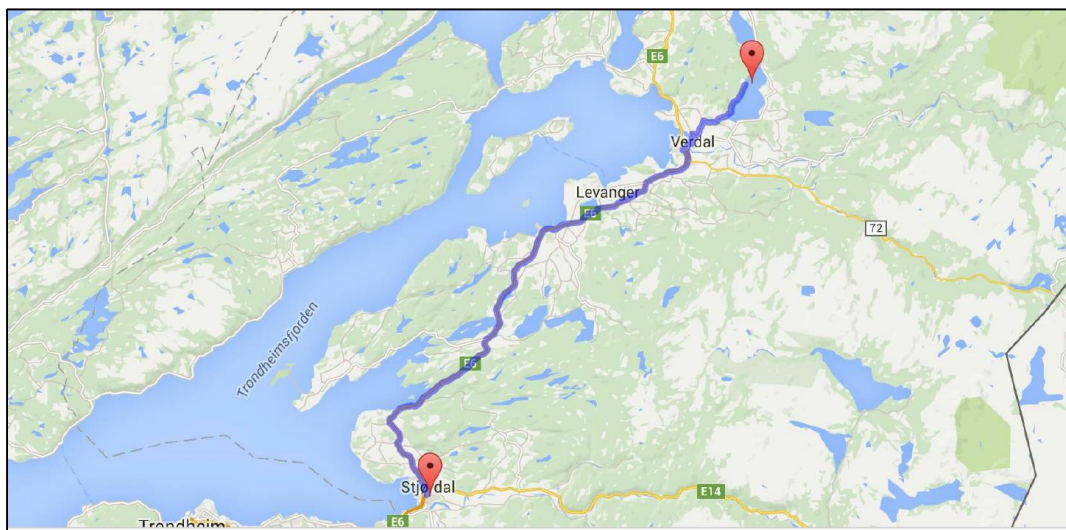


Returning to Steinkjer (about three quarter of an hour driving) and the County Governor of Nord-Trøndelag. There we will meet Anton Rikstad at the Climate and Environmental Department. He is coordinating the work with the Action Plan for the freshwater pearl mussel in Norway. 12:00-14:00 including lunchtime.

In the afternoon, we plan to visit River Figga (14:00-17:00+). This mussel river has approximately six million mussels (or more) and we will experience dense layers of mussels in the river. Afterwards, we continue to Lake Leksdalsvatnet, one of very few lakes in Norway where we have found the freshwater pearl mussel.



We continue from Lake Leksdalsvatnet to Værnes (Trondheim) Airport Stjørdal (about an hour driving).



We will stay at Radisson Blu Hotel near the airport. Dinner at the hotel.



13 June

Early breakfast before leaving back to Estonia.

Walking distance to the airport terminal building. From Trondheim airport (Værnes) (07:15) with plane to Oslo (08:10) and from Oslo (09:15) to Tallinn (11:40).

