

Enhancing protection and conservation of geological structures in Latvia and Lithuania

GEOSITES

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Interreg



Co-funded by
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LATVIAN INSTITUTE OF AQUATIC ECOLOGY, AGENCY OF DAUGAVPILS UNIVERSITY

KURZEME PLANNING REGION

ŽEMAITIJA NATIONAL PARK DIRECTORATE



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The project's **aim** is to enhance the protection, management, and sustainable preservation of geological heritage in Latvia and Lithuania.

Project duration: 01/03/25 - 28/02/27

Project budget: 696 877 EUR, ERDF co-financing 557 501 EUR

Inventory & management of Geosites

Terrestrial geologic sites in *Kurzeme* (LV) and *Žemaitija* (LT)

- Gather information from various databases about terrestrial geological structures (Caves, Rock outcrops, Waterfalls, Coastal cliffs, Springs, Stones, etc.);
- Develop criteria to categorize the geological structures from different points of view (management needs, protection status, etc.);
- Carry out an on-site inventory of terrestrial geological sites;
- Create a GIS database with information.
- Create *Geosites'* interactive map for regional and local authorities



Inventory & management of Geosites

Underwater geological heritage: mapping, research, and recommendations for the management plan in **Plateliai Lake (LT)**

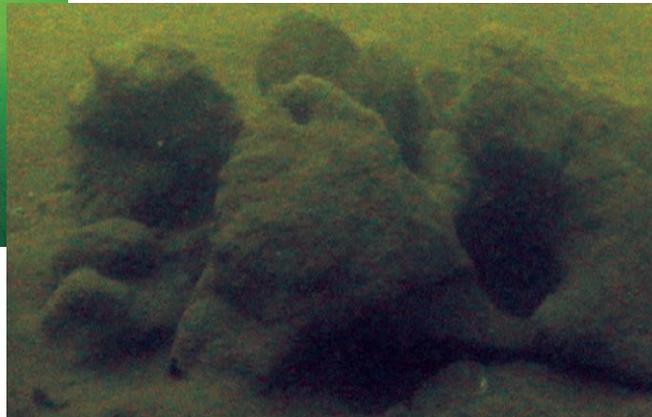


- The largest and deepest Žemaitija's lake, famous for its natural, cultural and landscape values

- Area 1205 ha,
- average depth 10.5 m,
- the deepest point ~50 m.

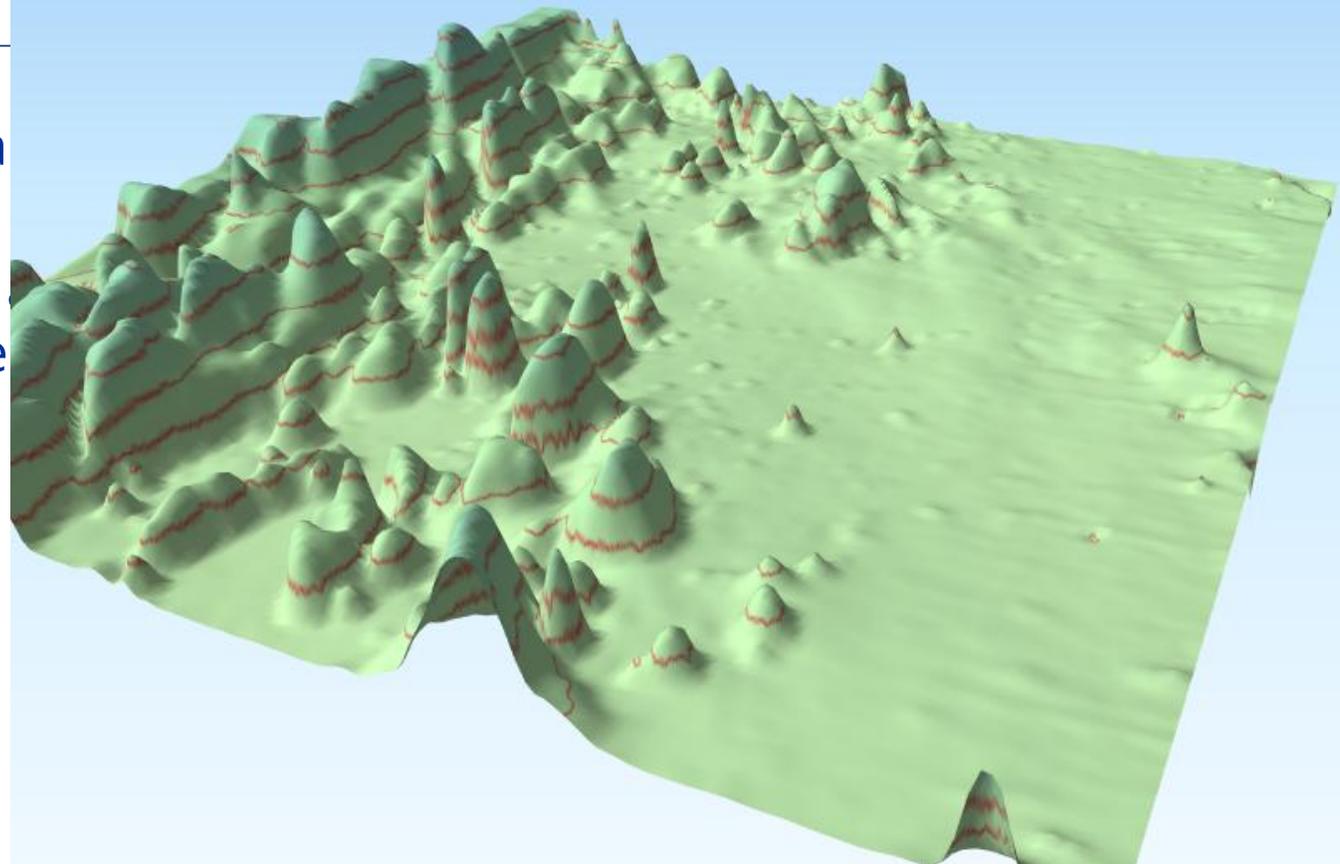


- Unique geological formations - the Gitija formations from the Merkinė interglacial period have been discovered



Underwater geology
recommendations for the

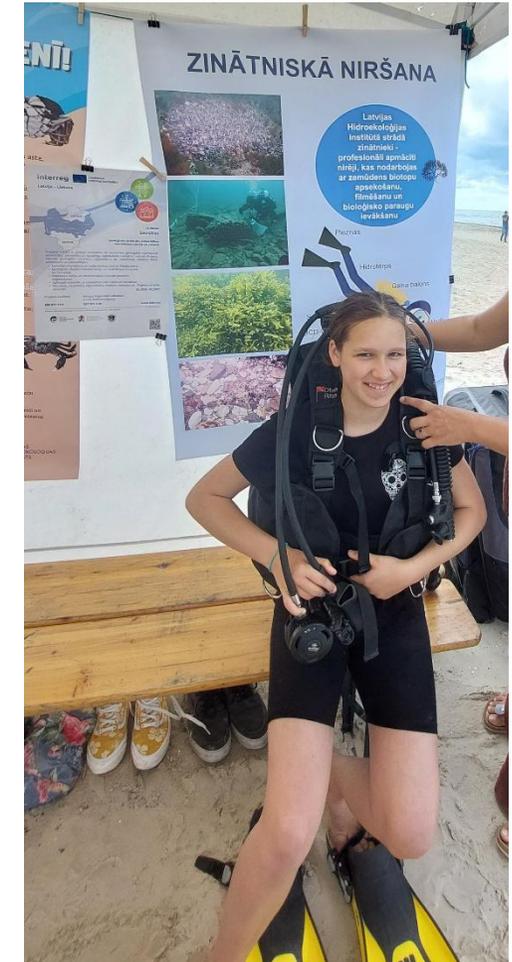
- MPA area in Latvian EEZ "Alki Ba
- (Kurzeme region).
- Rocky shoals are fragmented areas – form Reef (1170) biotope



- Uncovered the unique, large hard bottom sea structures - moraine outcrops

Educational activities & publicity

- Development of education showcase models - terrestrial geo-model -physical models; digital models;
- Final Conference
- Educational and awareness raising campaign



THANK YOU!

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