Thank you for your interest in the *FishSizeProject* application. You are invited to join and contribute to the collection of data on the state of fish populations in Lithuania and all over the world. Hopefully, this app will help you plan your fishing or diving trips, create a fishing or observation checklist and a gallery and share your photos with the community. The *FishSizeProject* app is at the initial stage of development, so we would be grateful for your assistance in improving and adapting it to anglers' needs. If you come across any error or a functioning problem or have ideas about how to improve the app, please contact us by e-mail lydekaipaliepus@gamtc.lt.

Best regards
Asta Audzijonyte and Justas Dainys, Nature Research Centre

Rules of Use

The *FishSizeProject* app is being created by the Nature Research Centre, Lithuania. It can be downloaded from "AppStore" or "Google Play". The use of the app is free of charge, except for the usual mobile data charges. The data collected through the app will not be used for commercial purposes. By using this app you agree that your contributions to the app will be used for scientific purposes in investigating the status of fish populations.

The *FishSizeProject* app is a citizen science program. Program participants record fish that they have caught or otherwise observed, indicate the place and time, and attach fish photos. In this way you create notes of your fishing trips or fish observations, a gallery and statistics. The data that you contribute are used for scientific research and assessment of the status of fish. The users' personal data (e-mail address and user name) are stored in a safe database and are not publicly available. Only anonymised data are used in scientific research.

You can record your catches either by announcing them on a public page available to other app users or by storing them in your personal account only. When you share your catch publicly, your username, broad location category, if selected from the observation entry page (e.g. Neris), catch date and method of obtaining the observation will be visible near it. Publicly available information on the catch can at any time be removed by clicking the button "share" for the second time. Then the record will be deleted from the app's public page and be visible only to you.

FishSizeProject **will not disclose your secret fishing places.** The data collected will be generalised on the website www.lydekaipaliepus.lt, but the data about records that have not been made publicly available will be displayed only on a region or species scale.

Your contributions, together with other scientific data, will be used in various scientific studies seeking to assess the status of fish populations. For example, the data collected through *FishSizeProject* can help us assess changes in fish size, relative abundance, distribution of invasive species, fish diseases and parasites. Collection of sufficient data will facilitate more detailed recommendations related to fish stocking and fishing rules and allow better assessment of changes in Lithuanian aquatic ecosystems, driven by climate change or other environmental alterations.

The citizen science programs could be highly efficient; however, they are time-consuming and require an adequate number of users. Nevertheless, even a small contribution helps provide preliminary data on the status of fish populations, especially in water bodies where scientific investigations are scarce.

The Nature Research Centre is not obliged to use all data collected by this app for scientific research. If it is deemed that any data delivered may not be reliable, these data might be excluded from further analysis.

The users of *FishSizeProject* may modify or remove their records within two months of posting the record. After expiration of this two-month period, the record will be saved in a permanent database, and no record modification will be allowed. This requirement safeguards the integrity of scientific findings, as modification of initial data can affect final results. Upon deletion by the user of their personal account, all the user's personal data will be deleted, but depersonalised data about logged trips, catches and observations will remain available for scientific research.

You can contribute to the *FishSizeProject* app not only your fishing catches, but also other interesting events noticed in aquatic ecosystems that you would like to share with the scientific community. This could include previously unseen fish species, possible fish disease, parasites, etc.

To reduce the costs of data usage and storage the photos contributed to *FishSizeProject* will be downsized and stored in such format.

Inappropriate photos. Nature Research Centre reserves the right without prior notice to remove photos that are unfit for public use (if they are considered to be pornographic, indecent, promoting hatred or otherwise failing to comply with the purposes of the app and generally accepted norms). Nature Research Centre reserves the right to remove users who publicise unfit photos and to delete all their public records. Every *FishSizeProject* user can report public photos as inappropriate or indecent. This can be done by clicking on the menu under the photo in the public page. Once the photo has been reported, the photo and all other photos from the user who posted it will be temporarily removed from the public list until they are reviewed by administrators. The user who posted the photo will be temporarily banned from sharing other photos to the public list. If, after the review, the reported photo is found to be offensive or inappropriate, the user who posted the photo might be banned from the app. Users who mischievously flag appropriate photos as inappropriate may also be banned from the app.

Each user of *FishSizeProject* is responsible for the security of their username and password and for not sharing these. If you think that any person has illegally used your user account, please immediately notify us by e-mail lydekaipaliepus@gamtc.lt

FishSizeProject and the Nature Research Centre will make every effort to ensure efficient and uninterrupted performance of the app, although server maintenance and malfunctions may occasionally occur.

The *FishSizeProject* app, its design, logo and other attributes are protected by copyright and may not be used without written consent of the creators of the app (please apply by e-mail lydekaipaliepus@gamtc.lt). Nature Research Centre reserves the right to modify and supplement the rules for use of the *FishSizeProject* app.