

DAM REMOVAL EUROPE

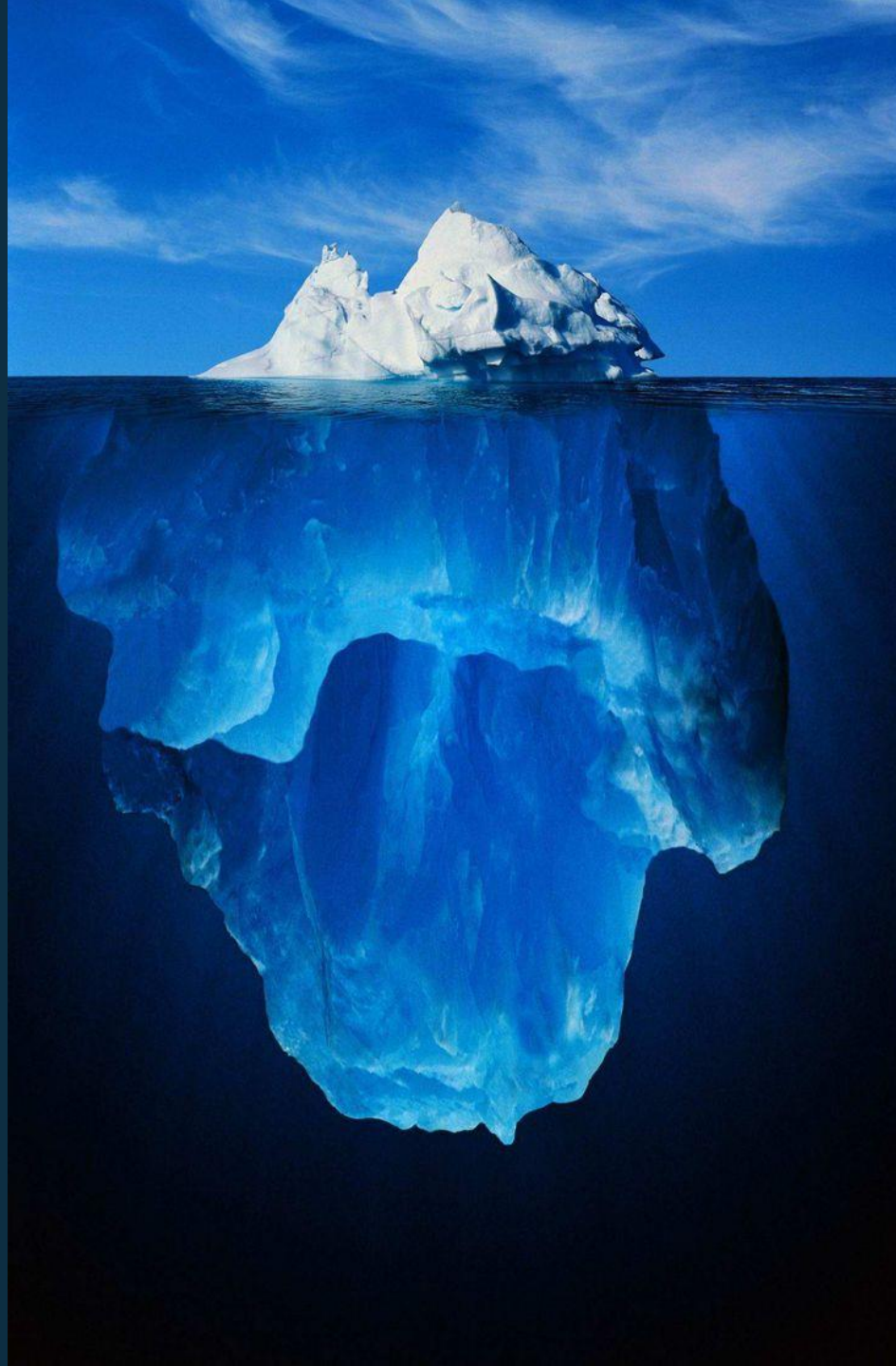
Over 20 years removing barriers in European countries:
Where? Who? Why?

Pao Fernández Garrido, World Fish Migration Foundation

International Conference

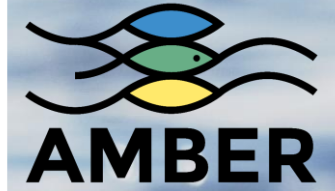
“Our waters - restoring the longitudinal connectivity of Romanian rivers”

Bucharest, Romania, 8th November 2023



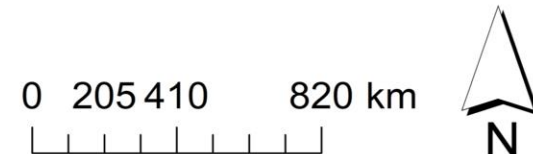
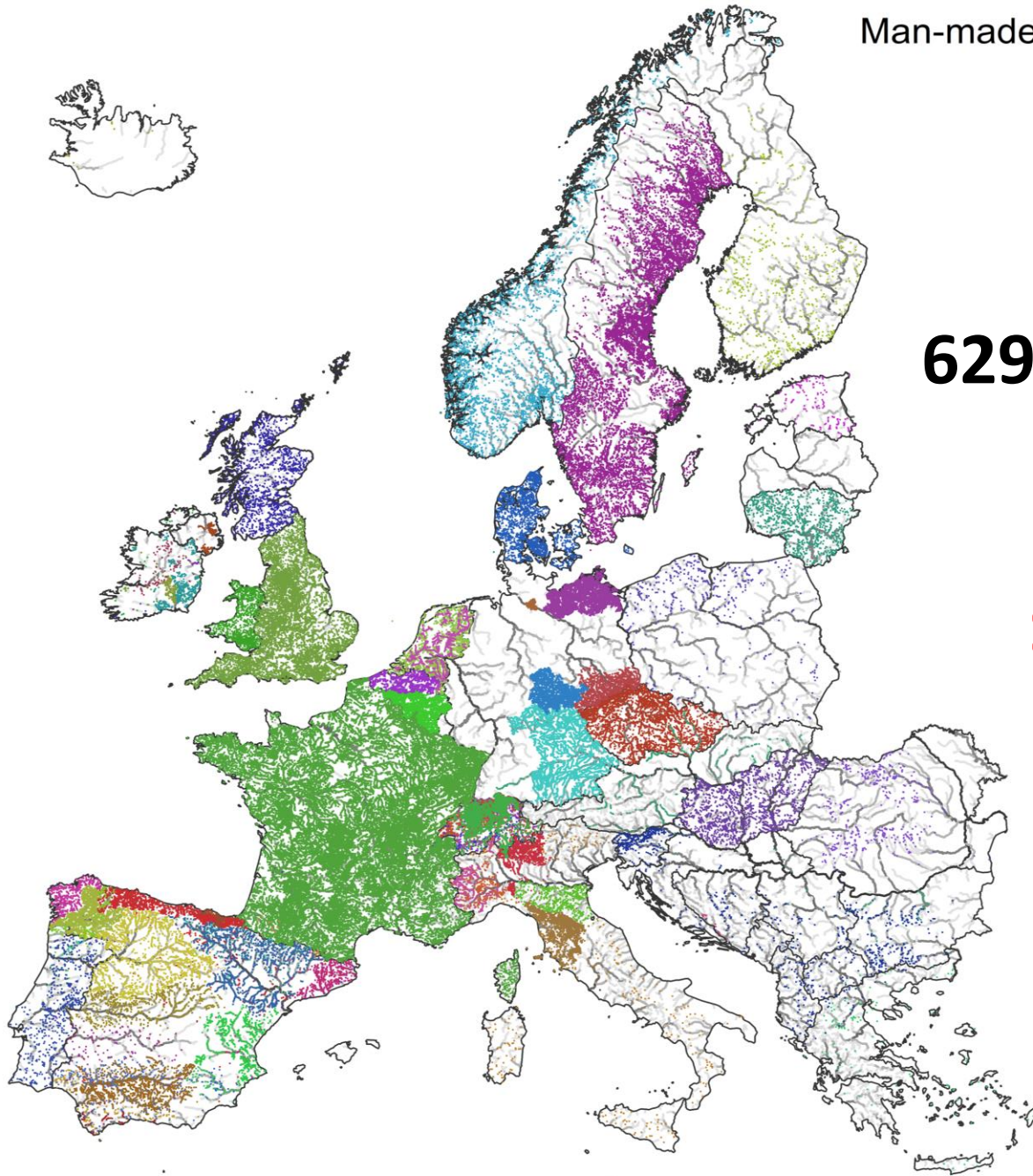
**7.000
barriers in Europe**

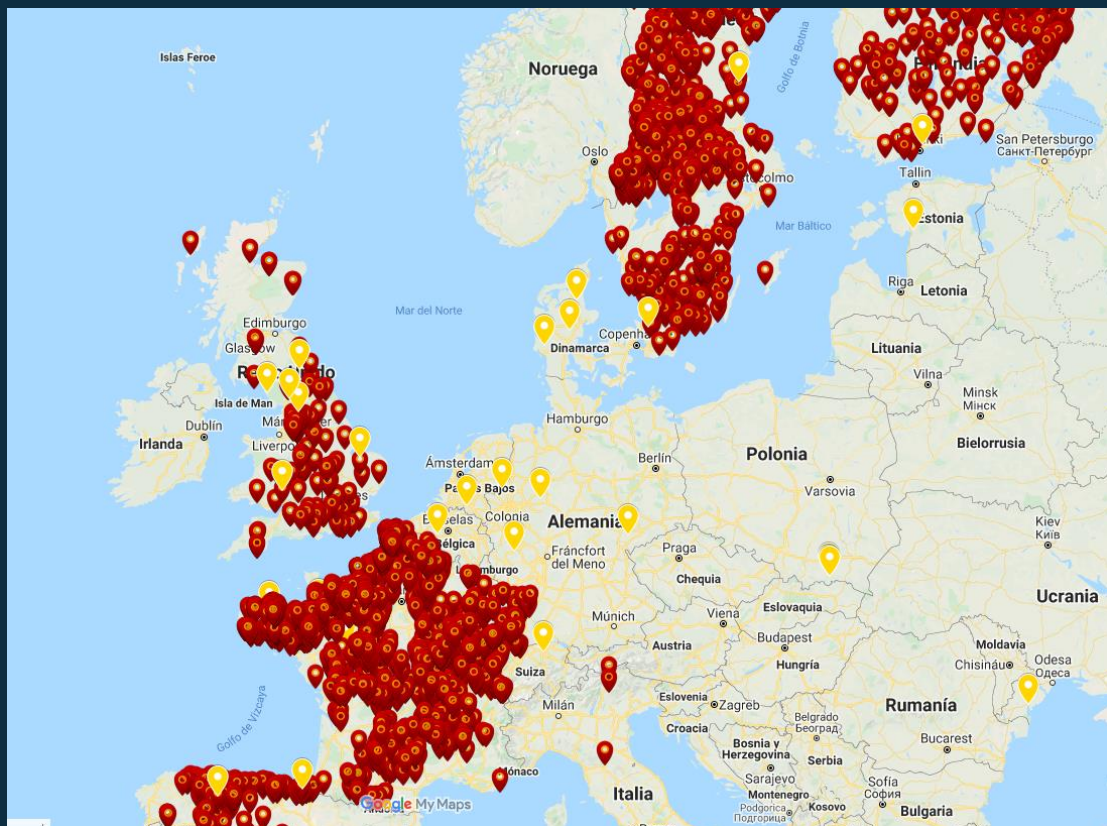
Man-made river barriers included in the AMBER Atlas



629.000 records compiled

**Reality:
>1.200.000 barriers**





Source: Dam Removal Europe map

FRANCE

>3.400*

DENMARK

>1.000**

SWEDEN

>600**

SPAIN

>550

FINLAND

>500

UK

>200

* Naturally removed + man removed

** Database being verified in this moment

Liability reasons

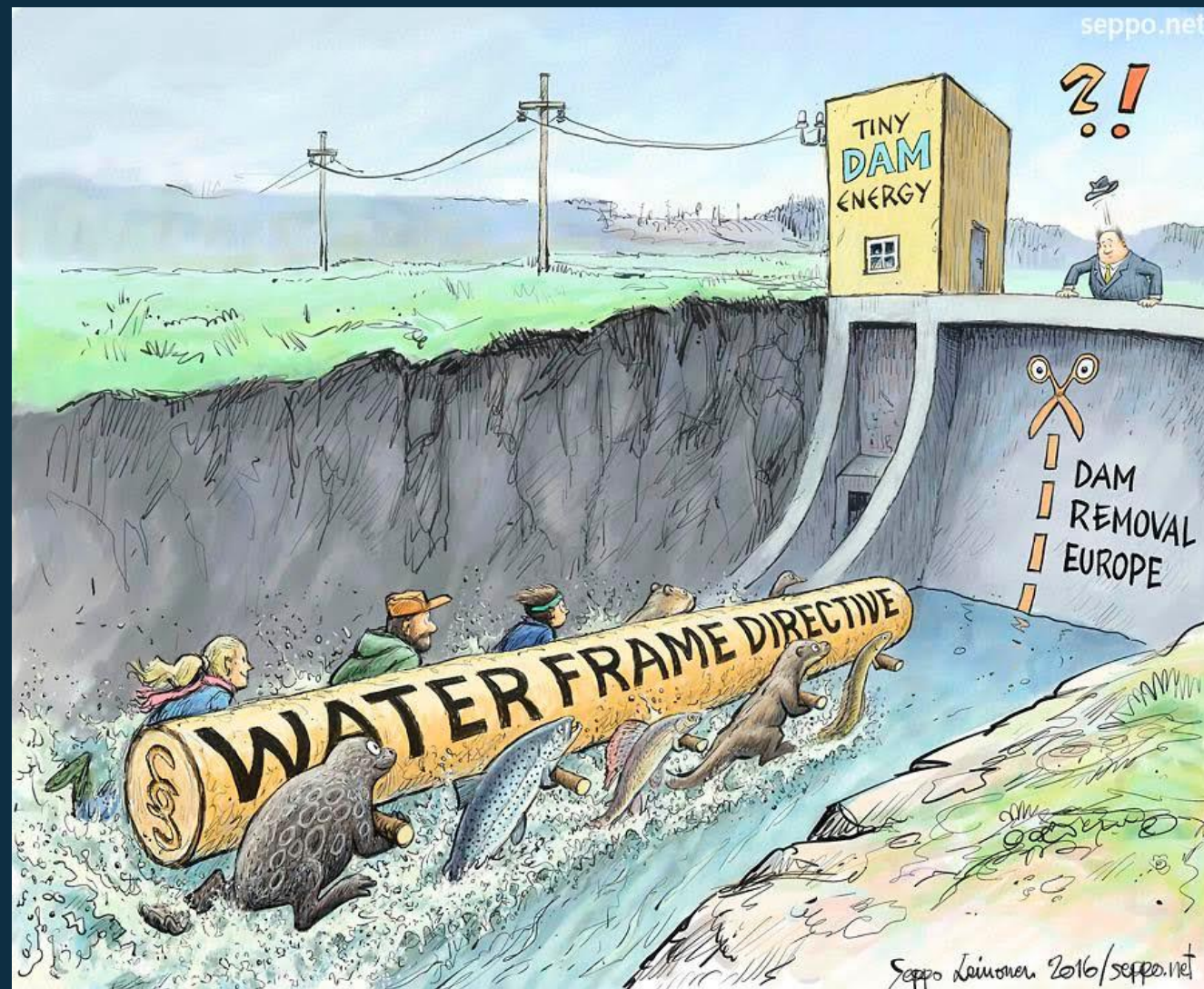
National Legislations



Duero River Basin Authority, Spain

Liability reasons

European legislations



KERNANSQUILLEC DAM, FRANCE



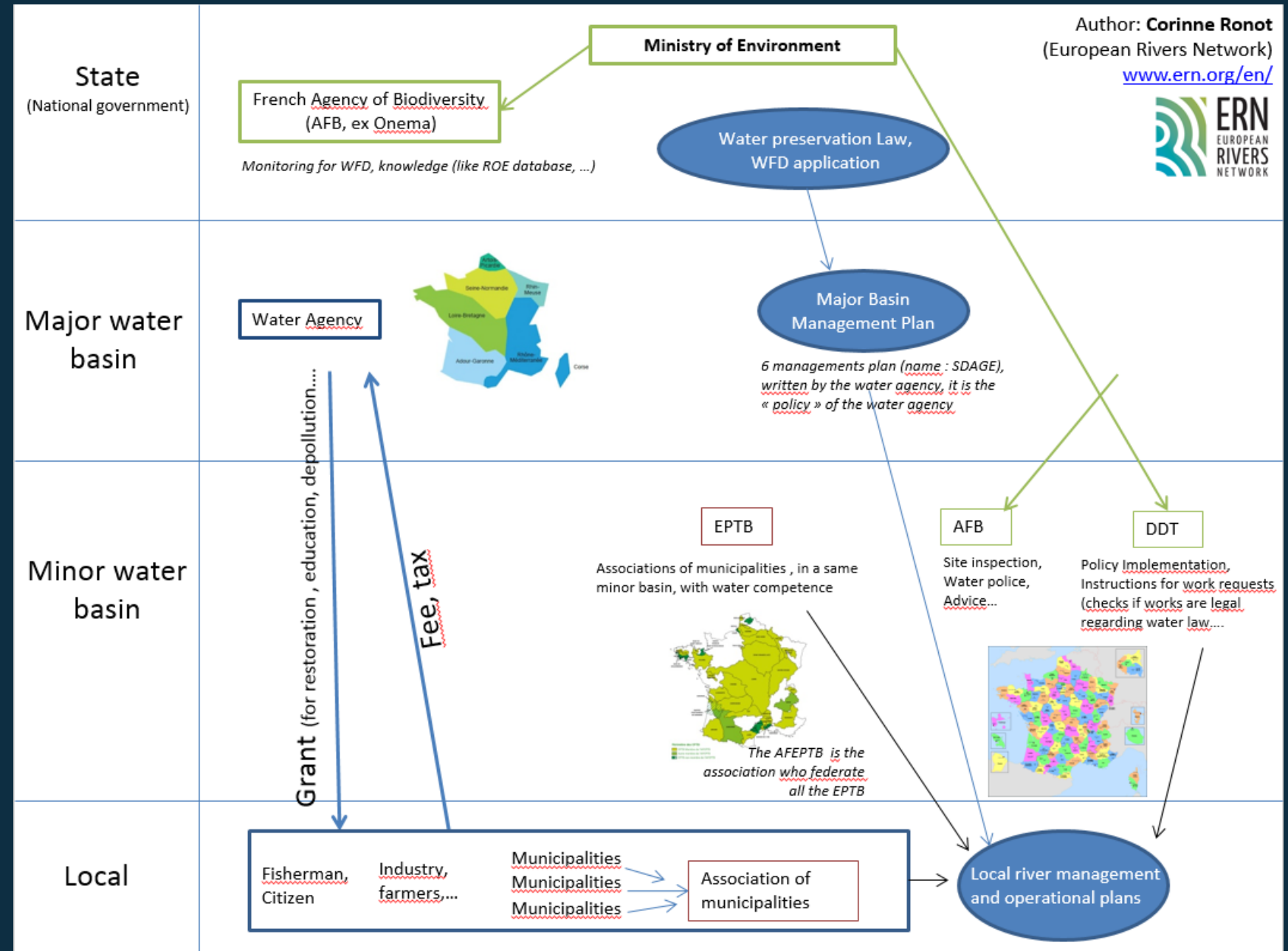
Photo: Michel Termet (1996)



Photo: Corinne Ronot, ERN (2009)

FRENCH ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

Author: Corinne Ronot, European River Network

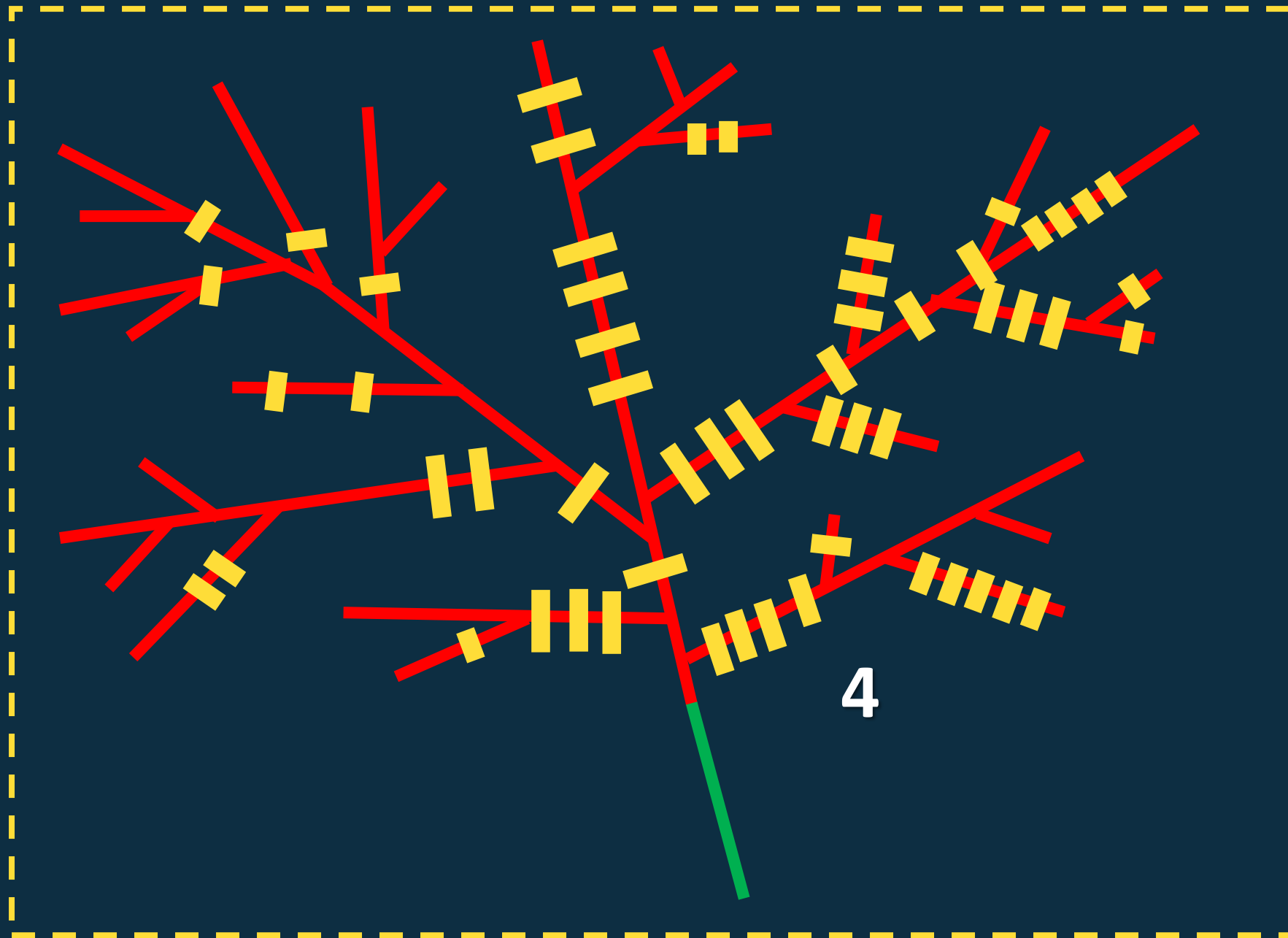


BRIVES-CHARENSAC DAM, FRANCE



Photo: Roberto Epple - European Rivers Network (2003-2004)

Fishways
DO NOT
solve the
problem



Safety reasons

- Infrastructures not maintained can **collapse**
- Small barriers can be ***“drowning in machines”***



Tragedia in Trebbia a San Salvatore, 26enne muore annegato FOTO **foto**

E' stato recuperato intorno alle 17 il corpo del giovane annegato in Trebbia a San Salvatore di Bobbio (Piacenza). Classe '89, il giovane era arrivato da Pontecurone in provincia di Alessandria

di Editore - 28 Giugno 2015 - 0:00

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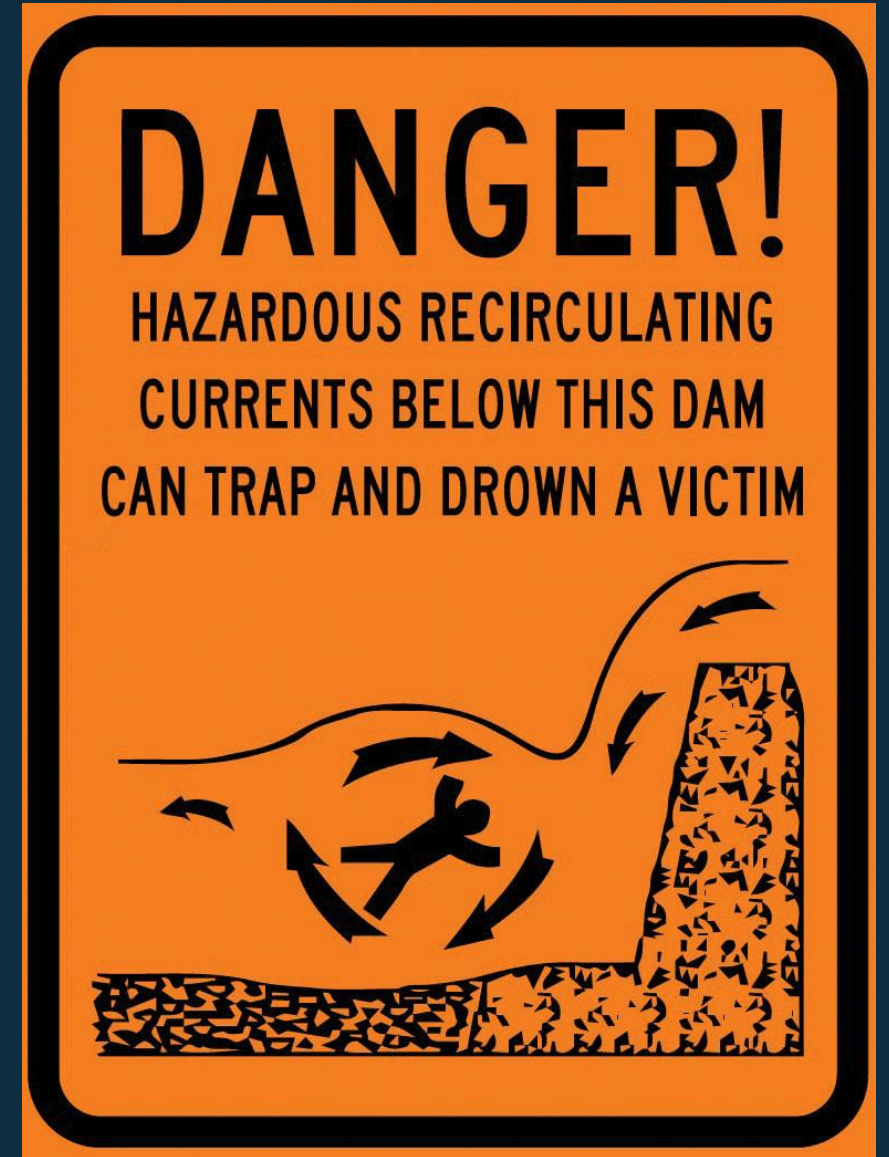
Tragedia in Trebbia, alla diga di San Salvatore di Bobbio (in provincia di Piacenza), dove nel pomeriggio di domenica 28 giugno un giovane di 26 anni, Dario Triglione, originario di Pontecurone, in provincia di Alessandria, è annegato nelle acque profonde del torrente. [in](#)

Safety reasons

- Infrastructures not maintained can collapse
- Small barriers can be “*drowning in machines*”



Source: The Beacon News. Article about Glenn Palm Dam fatalities (IL, USA)



Source: North Dakota State Water Commission

ROBLEDO DE CHAVELA DAM, SPAIN

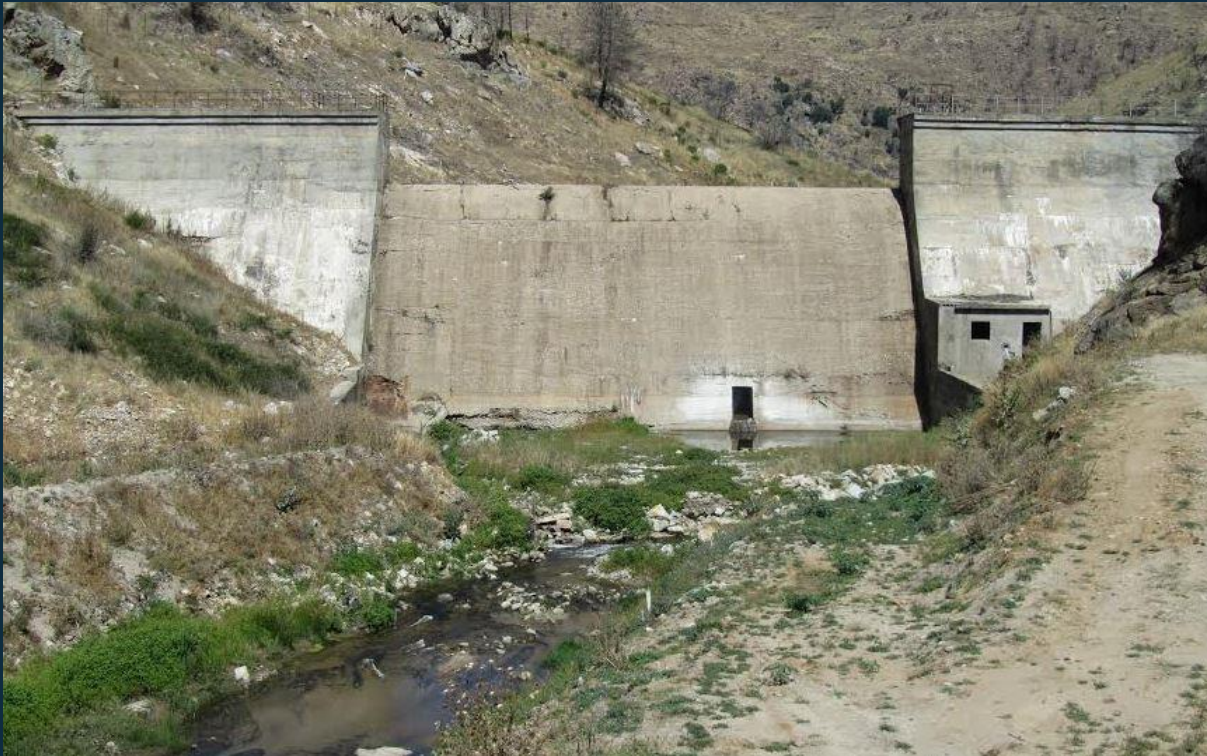


Photo: Tajo River Basin Authority (2014)



Photo: iAgua website (2015)

WHAT DO NATIONAL & REGIONAL GOVERNMENTS SAY?

“River connectivity is the key to ecosystem resilience.
So, dam removal is the best option for connectivity”,
Dr. Saja Koljonen (LUKE, Finland)



Photo from documentary [#DamBusters](#)

“There isn’t a bigger benefit with a lower cost”,
Ignacio Rodríguez Muñoz from Duero Basin
Authority (Spain)

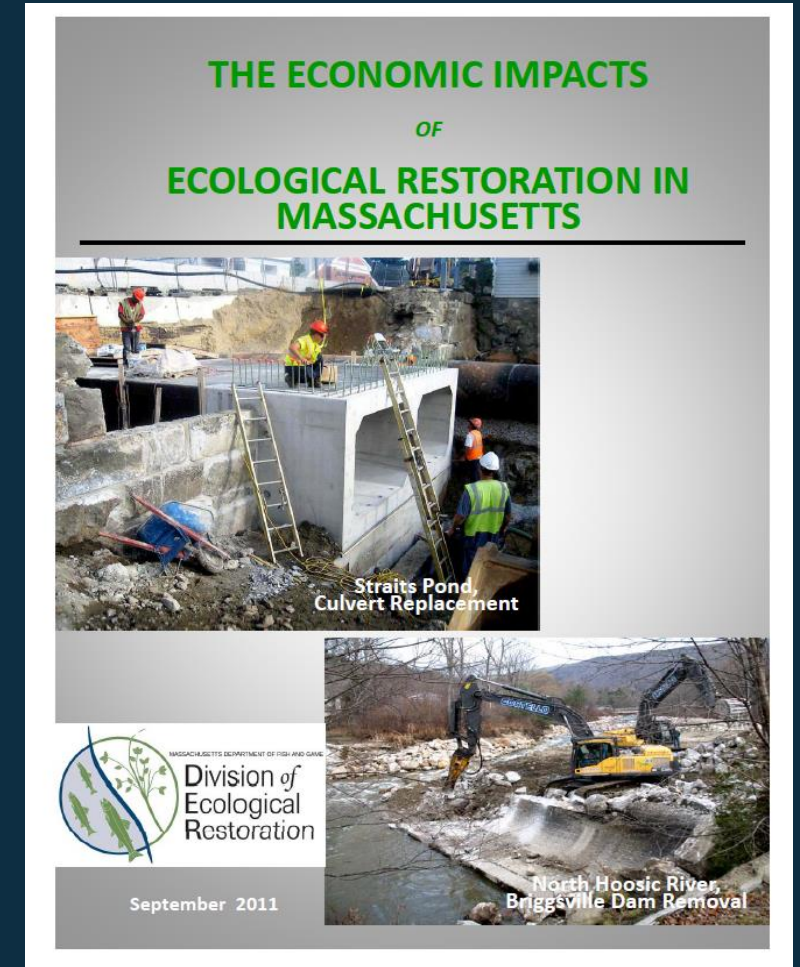



Photo from [Spanish International TV News channel](#)

Economic benefits

“Restoration economy”

Restoration projects generate equal to or greater economic benefits than other types of projects such as road and bridge construction”.



A black and white photograph of two men standing outdoors. The man on the left is in profile, wearing a cap and a light-colored sweater, carrying a very large fish over his shoulder. The man on the right is older, wearing a dark coat and cap, looking towards the camera. The background is a bright, open landscape.

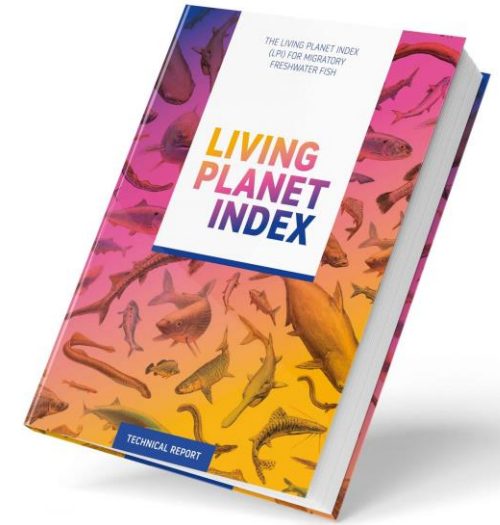
**We forgot how
productive our
rivers were**

**regain prosperity and
economic development.**

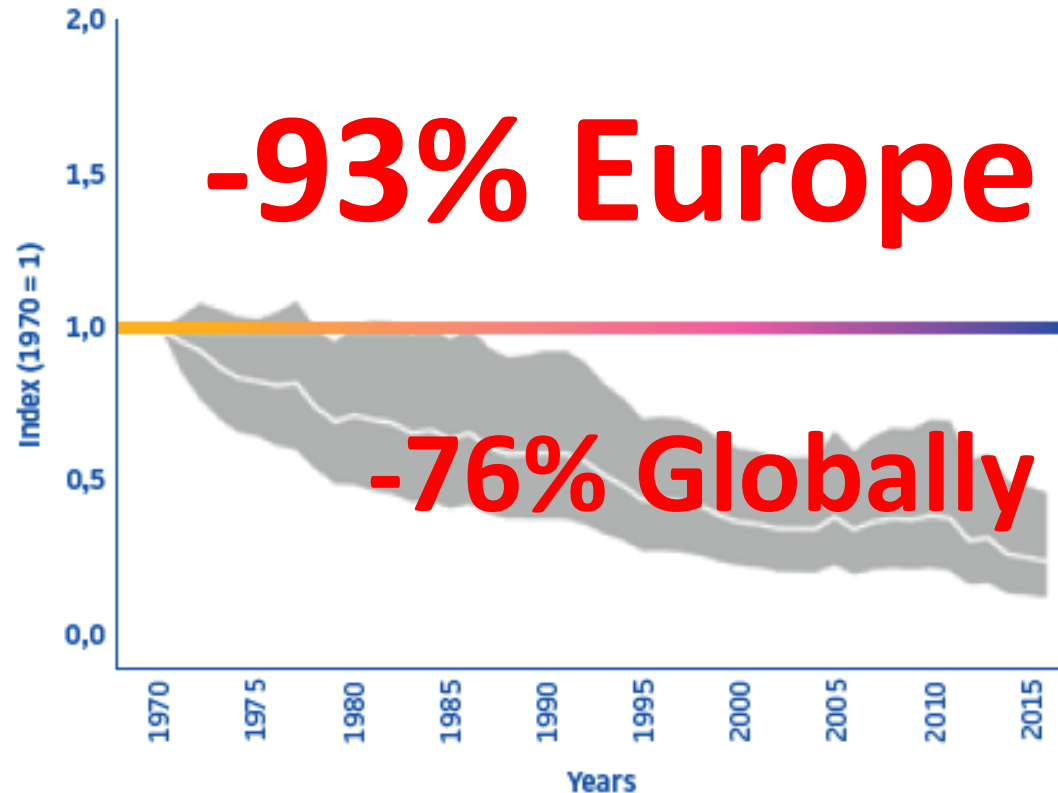


ZSL
INSTITUTE OF
ZOOLOGY

LIVING PLANET INDEX FRESHWATER MIGRATORY FISH



Cambridge
Conservation
Initiative



Download:

[worldfishmigrationfoundation.com
/living-planet-index-2020/](http://worldfishmigrationfoundation.com/living-planet-index-2020/)



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Salmon return to Stewartry burn after an absence of almost a century away

The removal of a barrier in a burn at the former Tarff Creamer at Twynholm has allowed the fish to return

By **Stephen Norris**
10:10, 9 MAR 2018 | UPDATED 10:25, 9 MAR 2018

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NEWS

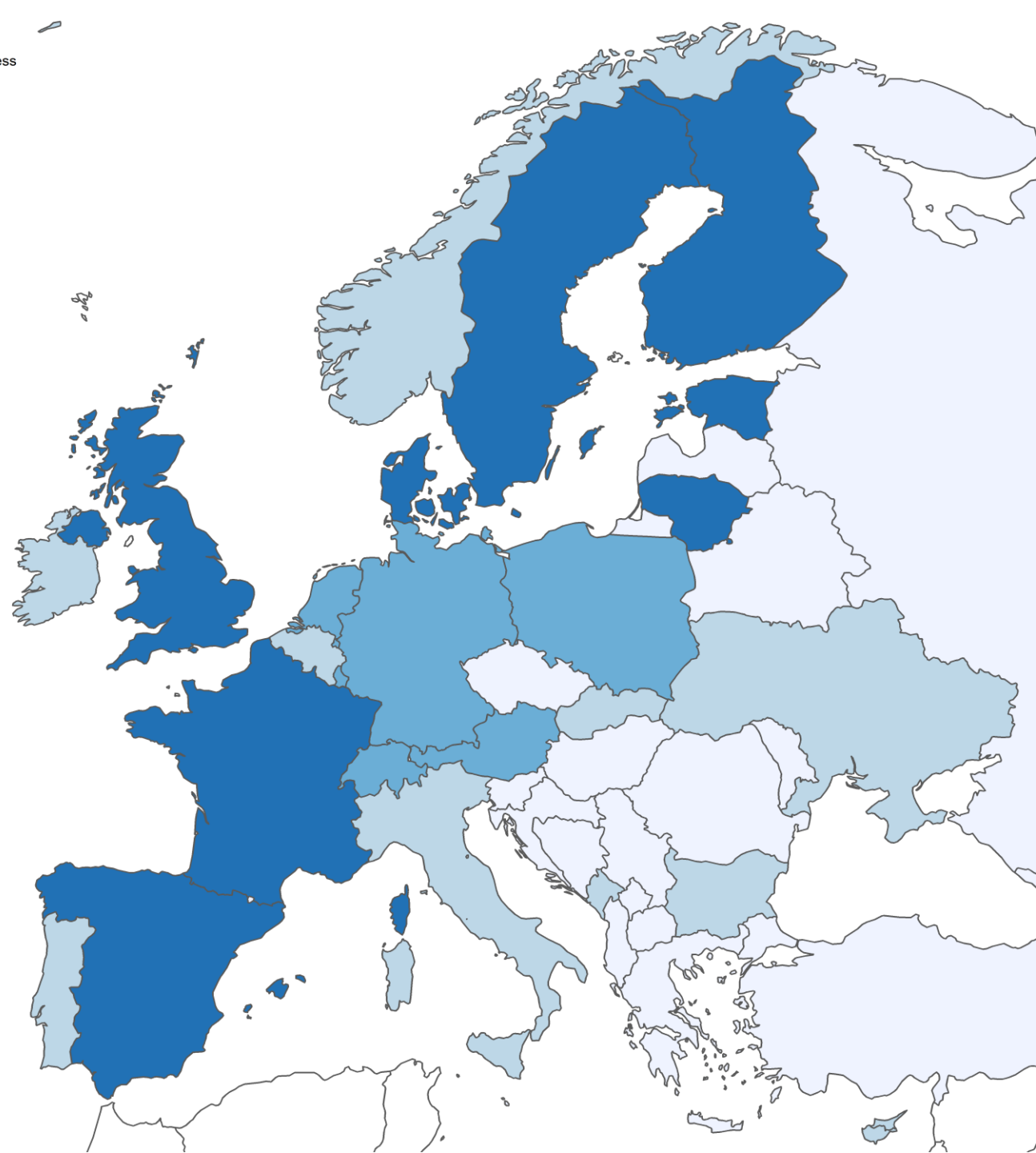


STATUS IMPLEMENTATION DAM REMOVAL

8 COUNTRIES

IMPLEMENTED DAM REMOVAL AS A RIVER RESTORATION TOOL

**WE AIM TO IMPLEMENT IT IN
ALL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES**





€42,5 millions to demolish weirs through Great Europe

Open Rivers Programme

Restoring endangered European rivers.

<https://openrivers.eu/>

Scale Up Dam Removal in South-eastern Europe

