



River continuity Restoration in France: political framework

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Dam removal Goes Alp
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National framework

Law on Water and Aquatic Environments of 30 December 2006
([text of the law](#))

Transversal structure are public or privately owned

- Built before 20th century : no time limit to water rights;
- Built after : time limited water rights (up to 75 years);
- Built with no water abstraction purpose (> 50 cm) : no time limit;
- If no renewal of water rights: removal required

National framework

WFD implementation : Law on Water and Aquatic Environments of 30 December 2006 ([text of the law](#))

River classification in France, adapted to the WFD:

Regarding transversal structures , rivers are now classified in:

- **LISTE 1: rivers to preserve the river continuity NO NEW OBSTACLES ALLOWED:** it includes high ecological status rivers , migratory fish rivers and rivers acting as biological reservoirs: **30 % of river stretches;**
- **LISTE 2 : rivers to restore the river continuity:** where sediment transport and fish migration have to be ensured: **11% of rivers stretches , 24% of transversal structures**

Main public bodies involved

At national level

- Ministry of ecology ([MTES](#))
- [French biodiversity Agency](#) (OFB)



At basin level

- 6 [water](#) agencies

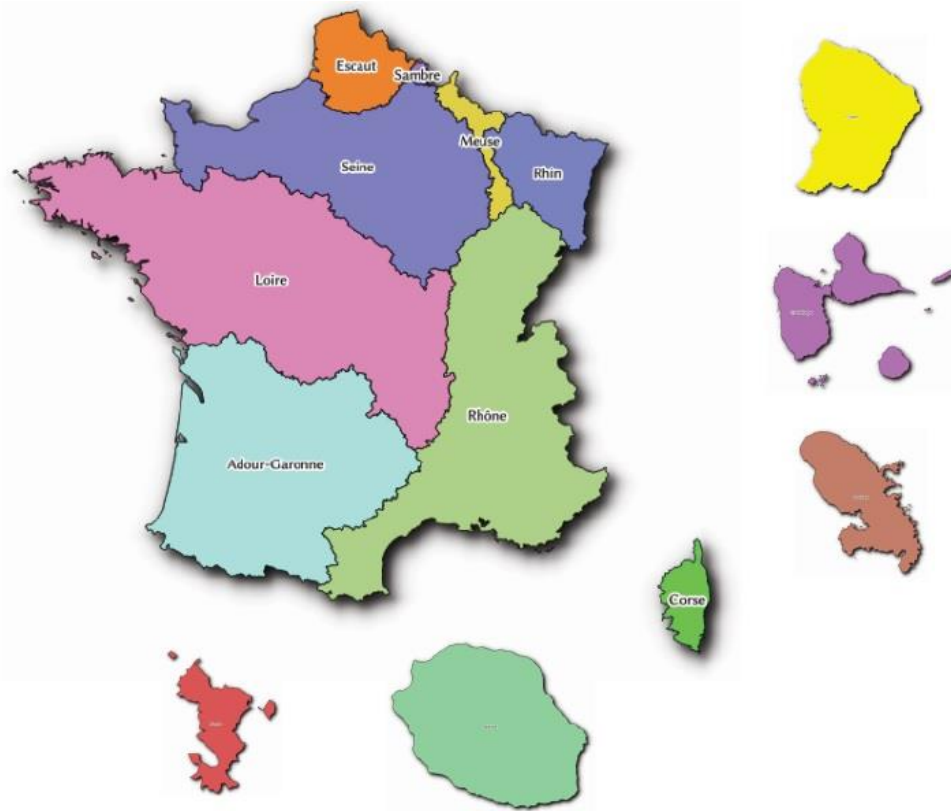


Main public bodies involved at local level

- Regional Directorate for Environment, Development and Housing ([DREAL](#))
- Departmental Territorial Directorate ([DDT](#))
- Local authorities (region, department, town..)

[more on website](#)

Organisation for WFD implementation: A decentralized management, by watersheds



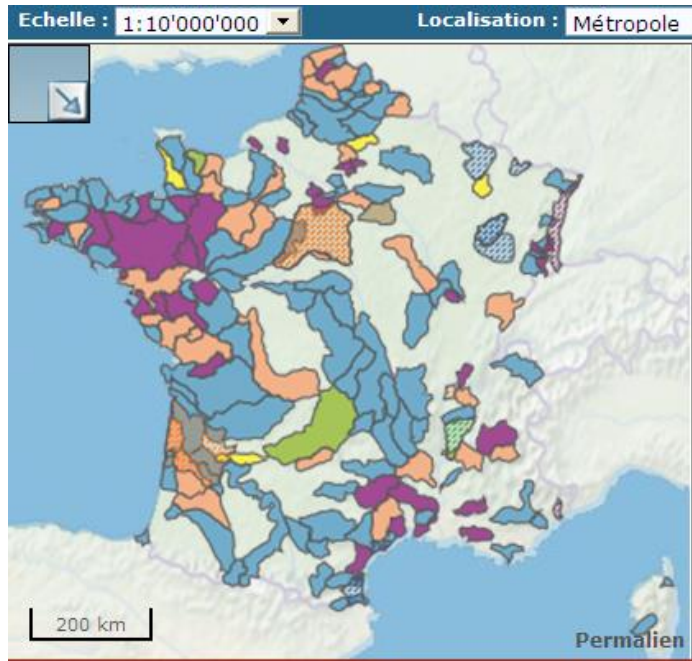
**14 watersheds/river
basins**

**12 basin committees
responsible for :**

- Assessing the state of the watershed
- Establishing the 6-years management plan, RBMPs (SDAGE) and Programme measures

at local level

- **“SAGE”**: local management plans



Status of SBMPs in France

- **Territorial contracts or and local or regional environmental contracts (river, lake, aquifer, bay...)**

Progress of existing contracts in France is available on the [Gest'eau website](#).

- Through these, river restoration project are implemented by local government, river syndicats

Funding for river aquatic environment

- Public funding for a project: up to 80 %
- from the Water agency, regional, departmental, local authorities, Europe, ..
- **Amendment been voted 7 april 2021 to prevent of removal of weirs !!!!**

Thank your attention

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