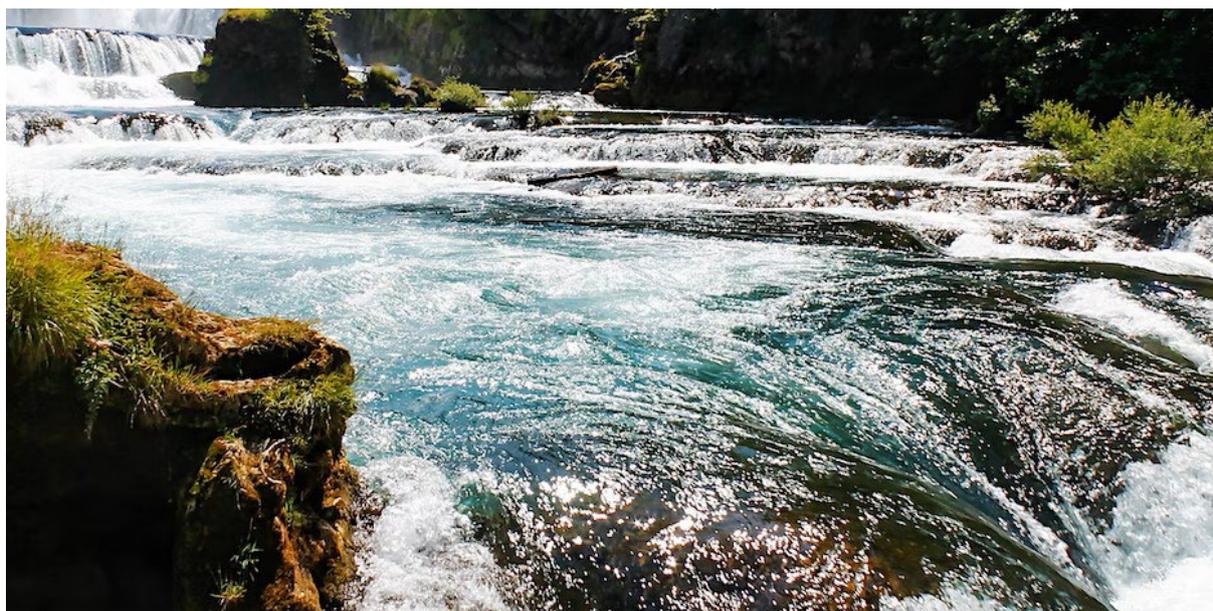




Freshwater fishes in the context of the EU Biodiversity Strategy

Final Programme

Brussels, Committee of the Regions and online



24-25 November 2022

Organised by the Living Rivers Europe and the European Commission

Networking Event, Biogeographical Process



**Living
Rivers
Europe**



eaa
European
Anglers Alliance



Wetlands
INTERNATIONAL

**The Nature
Conservancy**



Opening Seminar on Fish and Rivers

24 November – 09:00-12:30 CET

Note: the first number of the 'Meeting Room' refers to the floor in the building

Plenary session MEETING ROOM JDE51		
Time (CET)	Topic	Speaker
Chair:	Peter Gammeltoft (Danube Sturgeon Task Force)	
8.45-9.00	Opening online channel for participants to test access to the session	
9.00-9.05	Welcome, short introduction Setting of the workshop	Chair
9.05-9.10	Opening and welcome	Roby Biver (Committee of the Regions)
9:10-9:20	Housekeeping	Team supporting the Natura 2000 biogeographical process
9.20-9.35	Setting the scene: rivers & fish	Sibylle Schroer (Scientific Coordinator Sustainability Research, Leibniz Inst. of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries)
9.35-9.45	EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 targets and the pledge and review process	Frank Vassen (DG-ENV D3)
9.45-10.00	Q&A Mentimeter	Chair & Frank Vassen (DG-ENV)
10.00-10.15	Status and trends, IUCN and Habitats Directive data on freshwater fishes, the red list for freshwater fishes, and what should the protected area target focus on?	Jörg Freyhof (IUCN Freshwater Fish Species Specialist Group)
10.15-10.30	Status and trends of rivers, dams, and river continuity	Carlos Garcia-De Leaniz (Prof. of Aquatic BioSciences & Director of the Centre for Sustainable Aquatic Research (CSAR), Swansea University)
10.30-10.45	Q&A	Chair
10.45-11.00	Coffee-tea break	
11.00-11.05	Opening	Team BGP
11.05-11.15	The Grayling as an example species: pressures affecting Grayling populations in Europe	Niels Jepsen (DTU-Aqua/ DK)
11.15-11.25	The Grayling as an example species: River restoration at times of multiple stressors. Are populations recovering?	Kurt Pinter (BOKU Vienna/ AT)
11.25-11.35	The importance of healthy fish stocks for the ecological quality of rivers	Prof. Dr. Carola Winkelmann (Univ. Koblenz-Landau/ DE)
11.35-11.45	Strategies for rivers and fish to cope with change – climate buffers	Frank Hoffmann (Naturmonumenten)
11.45-12.00	Transnational strategic actions the management of invasive alien freshwater fishes in the Iberian Peninsula	Frederic Casals - INVASAQUA (https://lifeinvasaqua.com/en/)
12.00-12.10	Q&A	Chair
12.10-12.20	The process of developing the pledges from a Member State perspective - Belgium	Carl De Schepper (Agentschap Natuur en Bos, Flemish Region)
12.20-12.30	Discussion and wrap-up	Chair
12.30-13.30	LUNCH – in the Atrium (other side of the building)	

24 November – 13:30-16:30 CET - Parallel Session A

Session A: Pledges for strict protection of freshwater ecosystems in the context of the EU Biodiversity Strategy

Parallel session A MEETING ROOM JDE51		
Time (CET)	Speaker	Topic
Chair: Frank Vassen (DG-Environment)		
13.30-13.35	Chair	Welcome; Explanation of the work process
13.35-13.50	Tobias Schäfer (WWF Germany)	The need for strict site protection in the context of freshwater ecosystems
13.50-14.05	Marina Piria, Univ. of Zagreb	Is recreational fishing compatible with strict site protection?
14.05-14.10	Short break	
14.10-16.00	Facilitated workshop Subgroup 1: MEETING ROOM JDE51 subgroup 2: JDE4253	
16.00-16.10	Short break; back to plenary	

24 November – 13:30-16:30 CET - Parallel Session B,

Sustainable use of fish populations listed on Annex V of the Habitats Directive

Parallel session B MEETING ROOM JDE3253		
Time (CET)	Speaker	Topic
Chair: Peter Gammeltoft		
13.30-13.35	Chair	Welcome; Explanation of the work process
13.35-13.50	Niels Jepsen (DTU-Aqua/ DK)	Recreational freshwater fishing and conservation of Salmon and Grayling: the Danish example
13.50-14.05	Jacco van Rijssel, Wageningen Marine Research/Naturalis	Research, trends and fisheries impact on Annex V species in the Netherlands
14.05-14.10	Short break	
14.10-16.00	Facilitated workshop Subgroup 1: MEETING ROOM JDE3253 subgroup 2: JDE7162	
16.00-16.10	Short break; back to plenary	

Plenary session MEETING ROOM JDE51	
Time (CET)	Topic
Chair: Claire Baffert	
16.10-16.20	<i>Report back to plenary, group(s) Session A</i>
16.20-16.30	<i>Report back to plenary group(s) Session B</i>
16.30	<i>Closure of the session</i>
<i>16.30-18.00 - Networking drink Location: Hotel Bar - Aloft Brussels Schuman, Place Jean Rey (300 m from venue)</i>	

25 November – 09:00-12:30 CET - Parallel Session C

The importance of connectivity for migratory fish species and ecosystem processes

Parallel session C MEETING ROOM JDE53		
Time (CET)	Speaker	Topic
Chair: Szabolcs Nagy		
9.00-9.05	Chair	Welcome; Explanation of the programme
9.05-9.15	Herman Wanningen, (World Fish Migration Foundation) (online)	Dam removal to restore connectivity
9.15-9.30	Peter Gammeltoft (Danube Sturgeon Task Force)	Migration Corridors for Sturgeons - Breaking the Silos
9.30-9.40	Sibylle Schroer, (Sustainability Research, Leibniz Institute on Freshwater ecology and Inland Fisheries)	Fish mortality at hydropower plants
9.40-9.55	Peter Philipsen, Nature at Work (Rijkswaterstaat NL)	The GIS based National Fish roadmap, a road network to help fish migrate (and navigate) highly fragmented and densely populated areas
9.55-10.00	Short break	
10.00-11.30	Facilitated workshop Subgroup 1: MEETING ROOM JDE53 subgroup 2: JDE4253	
11.30-11.40	Short break, back to plenary	

25 November – 09:00-12:30 CET - Parallel Session D

Main drivers of decline of the 'forgotten' fish species – what do we know? Prioritising actions

Parallel session D MEETING ROOM JDE2253		
Time	Speaker	Topic
Moderator: Sergiy Moroz		
9.00-9.05	Chair	Welcome; Programme and work process
9.05-9.20	Carlos Romão (European Environment Agency) (online)	Major pressures on freshwater fish species
9.20-9.35	Lynne Barratt (NEEMO monitor/LIFE program)	Restoration measures and overview of LIFE projects targeting freshwater fish species
9.35-9.40	Short break	
9.40-11.30	Facilitated workshop Subgroup 1: MEETING ROOM JDE2253 subgroup 2: JDE7162	
11.30-11.40	Short break, back to plenary	

Plenary session MEETING ROOM JDE53	
Time (CET)	Topic
11.40-11.55	Report back in plenary Session C
11.55-12.10	Report back in plenary Session D
12.10-12.25	Discussion, further steps and concluding remarks
12.25-12.30	Closure of the workshop: Living Rivers Europe – Jan Kappel European Commission – Frank Vassen