



SUPPORTED BY THE EFF (European Fisheries Fund)

STOCKING SILVER EELS IN THE ELBE RIVER BASIN FOR FUTURE SUSTAINABILITY

This was a long term programme run over seven years to counteract the decline in the European eel population in the Elbe river basin, and to help to understand the parameters responsible for stock decrease in recent decades. The project is part of the German Eel Management Plan and is supported by the European Union and the State of Berlin.

According to various estimates, current glass eel levels are only about 2-9% of the maximum stock in the period 1960-1980 (ICES 2010).

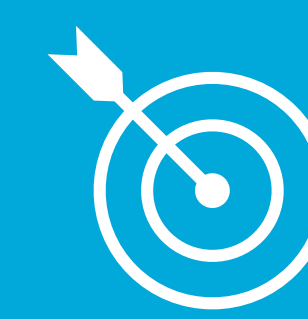
The aim of this operation was to stock young eels in the inland waters of the Elbe river basin, to increase the migration rate of eels down the rivers as well as the return rate of spawners. The stocking activities were accompanied by scientific monitoring e.g. random sampling of stocking material to determine sex ratios, body and health conditions etc., and surveys on migratory paths, periods/times, and speeds.

Website: <http://www.stadtentwicklung.berlin.de/umwelt/fischerei/fischereiamt/de/aalbesatz.shtml>



environment

RIVER ELBE, GERMANY



RESULTS (2005 - 2016):

Between 2005 and 2016, around 4.8 million young eels were placed in Berlin waters, this means an average of 0.4 million eels per year.



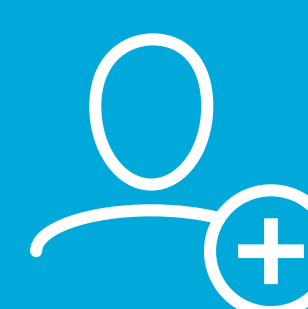
LESSONS LEARNED:

Through stocking and tracking eels, important eel migration patterns have been studied and established, resulting in a better understanding of their environmental needs and thus better future planning of strategies to conserve and increase the eel population.



TOTAL OPERATION COST:

Total budget: 1 158 122 €
Union contribution: 457 609 €



CONTACT DETAILS:

Senatsverwaltung für
Stadtentwicklung und Umwelt
Fischereiamt Berlin
(Senate Department for
Urban Development and
the Environment)