

Algal toxin probable cause of fish kill on the Oder River

On 19 August 22, the Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB) announced that mass development of a toxic brackish water algae had taken place in the Oder River. The researchers still do not assume that this is a natural phenomenon, because the algae species *Prymnesium parvum* does not occur massively in the affected sections of the Oder under natural conditions. For mass occurrence, it is dependent on salinity levels in this area, which can only occur through industrial discharges. The mass development of this alga, which has never been observed before in the Oder River, was probably made possible by "salt discharges, abundant nutrients, high water temperatures and long residence times in barrages and in the developed river", emphasises IGB scientist Dr Jan Köhler, head of the Photosynthesis and Growth of Algae and Macrophytes working group.

"We were able to detect a subspecies of the algal toxin, the so-called 'prymnesine', beyond doubt and indeed in significant amounts in Oder River samples from different sites," scientist Dr Elisabeth Varga from the University of Vienna confirmed the IGB results. A direct connection with the mortality of fish and molluscs can be assumed.

The press release online: <https://www.igb-berlin.de/news/verdacht-erhaertet-sich-algengift-einerbrackwasser-art-oderwasser-nachgewiesen>

The IGB recommends, among other things, reconnecting tributaries such as oxbow lakes to the main course so that the animals find better retreat possibilities during extreme and pollution events.

Setback for the sturgeon reintroduction programme

Since 2006, the Oder has been a priority area for the reintroduction of the Baltic sturgeon. The sturgeon is on the Red List of the World Conservation Union (IUCN); no group of animals is more endangered today than sturgeons. Sturgeon migrate to the Baltic Sea at the age of one to three years, grow up there and only return to their native river to spawn when they are 14 to 16 years old. It is very likely that most of the more than 1,000 young sturgeon that were released into the river this spring have fallen victim to the disaster. However, according to current knowledge, the fish kill also affected fish that were up to three years old and up to 90 cm in size. Two nurseries with a total of about 20,000 juvenile sturgeon were also hit by the disaster. At the same time, it is to be feared that the only population of Baltic Goldeneye in Germany did not survive the catastrophe.

In the medium term, it is above all important to increase the supply of spawning and breeding nursery areas in the Odra River in order to provide the sturgeon - and with it many typical river fish species - with better starting conditions for successful self-reproduction, which will stabilise the stocks. "Many of these fish species native to the Oder spawn on gravel. If you had more gravel areas, the recovery process would be faster. recovery process would be faster," explains IGB researcher Christian Wolter, who has been studying the fish fish communities in the Oder for many years.

Source: <https://www.igb-berlin.de/news/nach-der-oder-katastrophe-gibt-es-hoffnung-fuer-den-stoer-undseinen-habitat>

Notice of planned Oder actions on 3 and 4 September 2022

On the occasion of the opening of the Europe Bridge Neurüdnitz-Siekierki on 3 September 2022, the Kienitz citizens' initiative SAVE ODER DIE together with the Polish artists' collective "Siostry Rzeki" will start an action to save the Oder at 11:00 am. "We want to set a symbol of unity with regard to the preservation of near-natural river systems, especially the Oder. The action is also intended to lay a foundation for long-term, cross-border cooperation between the citizens' initiatives. On 4 September, 3 p.m., we all want to stand by the Oder together with a decentralised concert on its banks. Actions are already planned at the following locations: Aurith; Frankfurt (Oder); Kienitz; Groß Neuendorf; Zollbrücke; Schwedt; Hohensaaten.

Hashtags: #SAVEODERDIE and #saveor

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100084924579178>

Email: action@saveoderdie.net

Website: <https://saveoder.org/>

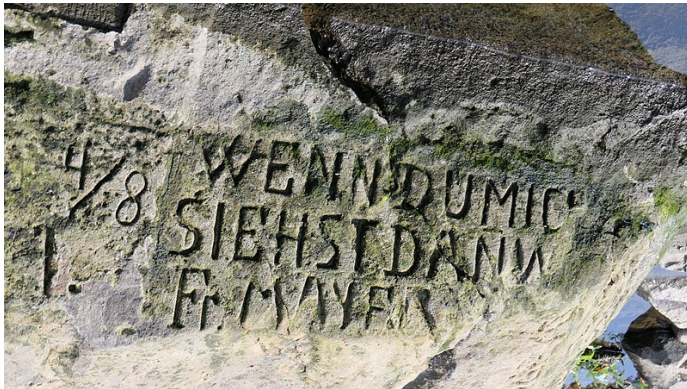
BUND Info Point Oderbruch: www.uferloos.de/bund-infopunkt-oderbruch/

Steffi and Norbert Bartel from the Uferloos nature experience site on the Oder in Kienitz (Oderbruch) have launched a petition against the further expansion of the Oder:

Petition: <https://innn.it/Fischsterben> (copy link if necessary R)

Famine stones: Warning of famines and droughts

The first famine stones were erected in Central Europe from the 15th century onwards, particularly on the Elbe in Germany. These hydrological markers for low water levels commemorate or warn of famines. They were erected during major droughts to warn of the collapse of agricultural production due to lack of rainfall or irrigation capacity.



(Photo: Dr. Bernd Gross)

The famine stones usually bear the dates of the famines (1417, 1473, ..., 2018, 2022), but also some writing. On the stone in Decin in the Czech Republic, for example, it says: "When you see me, weep". This was particularly famous and became a monument after 1900. After a very dry summer, the Elbe River carried so little water in August 2018 that these stones were exposed. The international non-governmental organisation Greenpeace decided to write on one of the stones in Magdeburg: "If you see me, it's a climate crisis". August 2018". Even after the historically dry summer this year, the Hunger Stones were visible in the Elbe, Rhine and Weser rivers. The stones are also a signal of poor inland navigation conditions.

Dinosaur tracks discovered in the riverbed of the Paluxy River, Texas

Due to the severe drought this summer, the Paluxy River in Texas (USA) has dried up completely. Under these conditions, about 140 dinosaur tracks were discovered in the riverbed in August 2022, 60 of which were from Acrocanthosaurus. These tracks could be up to 113

million years old. They are almost untouched by erosion thanks to the sediments that completely fill and cover them, they have remained virtually untouched by erosion.

For more information on this topic, see:

<https://www.npr.org/2022/08/25/1119331502/dinosaur-tracks-texas-drought?t=1661515457308>

UN Water Conference 2023

The President of the UN General Assembly will hold a preparatory meeting for the UN Water Conference on 25 October 2022 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. This will discuss the interactive dialogues on Water for Health, Water for Development, Water for Climate, Resilience and Environment, Water for Cooperation and the Decade of Action on Water. A stakeholder consultation will be held prior to the conference on 24 October 2022.

More information on the next UN Water Conference in 2023 can be found here:

<https://sdgs.un.org/conferences/water2023>

Learn more about the interactive dialogues here:

<https://sdgs.un.org/news/announcementproposal-co-hosts-themes-interactive-dialogues-un-2023-water-conference-48298>

Action Network Small Water Bodies - Dialogue Events in Berlin

Within the framework of the Action Network Small Water Bodies, two dialogue events will take place in September 2022. As many small and large bodies of water in Berlin are in poor condition, the network aims to promote measures to restore and protect them.

<https://bln-berlin.de/aktionsnetz-kleingewaesser/>

On Saturday, 10.09.2022 (14:00 - 17:00) - Panke:

Meeting point: 14:00 Ossietzkystr./Majakowskiring

B90/GRÜNE in cooperation with BUND Berlin e.V. and Aktionsnetzwerk Kleingewässer organise an excursion along the Panke. The aim of the walk along the approximately 2 km long watercourse is to gain an overview of the watercourse. Investigations will be carried out at selected sections and ecological features and challenges will be identified. In addition, the requirements and measures of water protection will be addressed in order to jointly discuss solutions for the upgrading of the "Blue Pearl" and other small water bodies in Pankow.

Further information can be found here:

<https://www.bund-berlin.de/service/termine/detail/event/dialogveranstaltung-blaue-perlen-in-pankowie-role-of-small-waters-for-berlin/>

On Sunday, 11.09.2022 (10:00 - 13:00) - Karower Teiche:

Meeting point: 10:00 a.m. at the Pankgrafen Bridge

Children, young people and adults will explore the Panke in its flowing area at the level of the Karower Teiche together at this dialogue event with the Aktionsnetz Kleingewässer. First, we will get an overview of the ecosystem of the wetlands, and then we will thoroughly investigate the small fauna of the Panke. We also want to carry out a biological determination of water quality. Physico-chemical analyses will complement the investigation of the water quality.

As support, we use technical possibilities for the determination of animal and plant species in addition to identification literature. of animal and plant species.

Further information and the flyer can be found here: <http://bln-berlin.de/wpcontent/uploads/2022/07/Flyer11.09.pdf>

Registration at the Museum für Naturkunde at wissensfluss@mfn.berlin

European Rivers Summit 2022 in Brussels

From 29 September to 1 October 22, the European Rivers Summit 2022 will take place in Brussels. The Summit aims to promote the restoration and protection of European rivers, prevent new dams for hydropower and irrigation, and remove outdated barriers to achieve the goals of the European Green Deal and the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030. achieved. This is an opportunity for river activists to engage with policy makers in Brussels. Brussels.

The event will be divided into a two-day conference and a third day, which will include a visit to a river restoration site. Speakers from various organisations such as RiverWatch, World Fish Migration Foundation or WWF will participate.

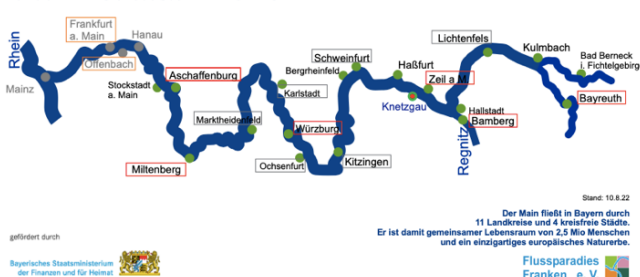
You can register via this link: <https://riverssummit.org>

River Film Festival at the European Rivers Summit

For the River Film Festival on the evening of 29 September 2022 we can look forward to the world premiere of the film "DamBusters - the Start of the Riverlution " (70 min.). The screening will be accompanied by a number of short films and a discussion. A trailer for the DamBusters film is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hH-CiRD31mI>

Where: Cinema Galleries in the centre of Brussels. Galerie de la Reine 28, 1000 Bruxelles.
When : 29/09/2022 - 19:30 - 22 hrs.

1. Main FlussFilmFest 14. - 26. März 2023



Advance notice: 1st Main FlussFilmFest in March 2023

In 2023, for the very first time, a river film festival will take place on the Main. And not just in one city but in several cinemas along the course of the river from its source to its mouth. In this way, it will become clear that the Main River connects people over 500 km and is our common responsibility.

The 1st Main FlussFilmFest will be organised in March 2023 by Flussparadies Franken e.V. and Netzwerk Main in cooperation with the Living Rivers Foundation and other partners. The opening will take place in Bayreuth on 14 March 23, the International Day of Action against Dams and for Rivers, Water and Life (World Dam Day). The event will conclude with a matinee in Frankfurt am Main on 26 March. An international selection of environmental and outdoor short films.

Let's celebrate free rivers, clean water and freshwater life! More about the programmes and locations coming soon on : <https://www.riverfilmfest.eu> and www.netzwerkmain.de

Dates preview 2022 International :

23 August – 1 September 2022 Stockholm, Sweden	World Water Week 2022 https://www.worldwaterweek.org
25 September 2022	International Day of Rivers www.worldriversday.com/about/
29 September – 1 October 2022	European River Summit www.riverssummit.org
Thursday 29 September 2022 19:30 pm – 22:00 pm Galerie de la Reine 28 Brussel / Belgium	Riverfilmfest on the European River Summit DamBusters – The Start of the Riverlution + Short movies and Discussion; afterwards: Reception. Registration via riverssummit
5 – 6 October 2022	3rd Symposium “Vital waters in Baden-Württemberg” www.vitale-gewaesser-bw.de
Friday 28 Oktober 2022 (online)	Water protection forum of the environmental associations with river film event (Advance notice)
5 – 17 Dec. 2022 Montréal, Canada	UN Biodiversity Conference (COP15) https://www.unep.org/events/conference/un-biodiversity-conference-cop-15
6 – 8 December 2022 Paris, France	UN- Water Summit for Groundwater https://www.un-igrac.org/agenda/un-water-summit-groundwater
14 March 2023	World Dam Day (International Day of Action Against Dams and for Rivers, Water and Life) https://worldday.de/international-day-of-actionagainst-dams-world-dam-day/
Wednesday, 22 March 2023	World Water Day
14 – 26 March 2023 Cinemas on the Main River	Main FlussFilmFest www.riverfilmfest.eu
22 March – 24 March 2023	United Nations 2023 Water Conference https://sdgs.un.org/un-2023-conference-water-action-decade

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The responsibility for the content of this publication lies with the authors.