Expert input sheet

Conservation and management of Continental Rivers and Lakes in Poland

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Habitat(s):
3140 - Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of Chara spp.

Biogeographical region:
Continental

Member state:
Poland

Region(s) (if applicable):
Pomorskie province

Issues and pressures
• Disturbed qualitative and quantitative composition of fish fauna caused by improper operation of fishery management in the past;
• Wild swimming areas, trampling of the lake shore;
• Easy access to the area by providing forest roads to traffic and construction of forest parking lots;
• Leisure fishing – increase in eutrophication caused by the use of baits;
• Conducting improper fishery management, including intensive fish stocking;
• Fish poaching;
• Potential threats for future conservation: conducting improper fishery management, including intensive stocking; improperly conducted forestry in drainage basin;

Conservation requirements
• Conducting sustainable fishery management: stocking (only native species), using only habitat – friendly fishing equipment;
• Limiting human impact, maintain the natural character of the lake shores (elimination of wild swimming areas, restrictions on forest management in drainage basin);
• Obtaining the correct qualitative and quantitative composition of fish fauna by cyprinid fish catches, elimination of alien fish species, support local population of fish by stocking (in particular Coregonus albula, Coregonus lavaretus);
• Restrictions for anglers (for example prohibition of using baits);
• Restrictions on building the shores of lakes;
• Regulations for the prevention of pollution by sewage;
• Elimination of fish poaching.
Conservation management

• Limiting human impact, maintain the natural character of the lake shores (in “Bory Tucholskie” National Park – by restrictions in the use of the lakes);
• Obtaining the correct qualitative and quantitative composition of fish fauna by cyprinid fish catches, elimination of alien fish species, support stocking (in particular Coregonus albula, Coregonus lavaretus) - in “Bory Tucholskie” National Park, in accordance with the management plan for “Bory Tucholskie” National Park;
• Restrictions for anglers (in “Bory Tucholskie” National Park - for example prohibition of using baits, limitations on the number of people, limited period of time)

Species specific management:
No

Barriers and bottlenecks

• Long process of creating a management plan for Natura 2000 site;
• Uncooperative stakeholders;
• Problems in enforcing the restrictions (lack of proper control over the execution of the conservation measures);
• The difficulty of saving the necessary protective measures in the planning documents;
• Low awareness of the need to protect of the habitat.

Solutions and opportunities

• Real protection of the habitat is possible only with close cooperation various departments of nature protection (The State Forests National Forest Holding, national parks, directorates regional environment, landscapes parks etc), local goverment and tenants;
• More educational projects addressed to stakeholders, including tenants, local community and water management staff.

Cross cutting issues

• Promoting the protection of 3140 lakes as the habitat of economically valuable, rare species of fish (e.g. Coregonus lavaretus, Coregonus albula) and high quality holiday destination

Lessons learned / best practice

• Good practices are taken in “Bory Tucholskie” National Park by carrying out conservation measures (regulatory catchers, support stocking, elimination of wild swimming places etc) in accordance with the management plan for “Bory Tucholskie” National Park

Opportunities for joint action

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References