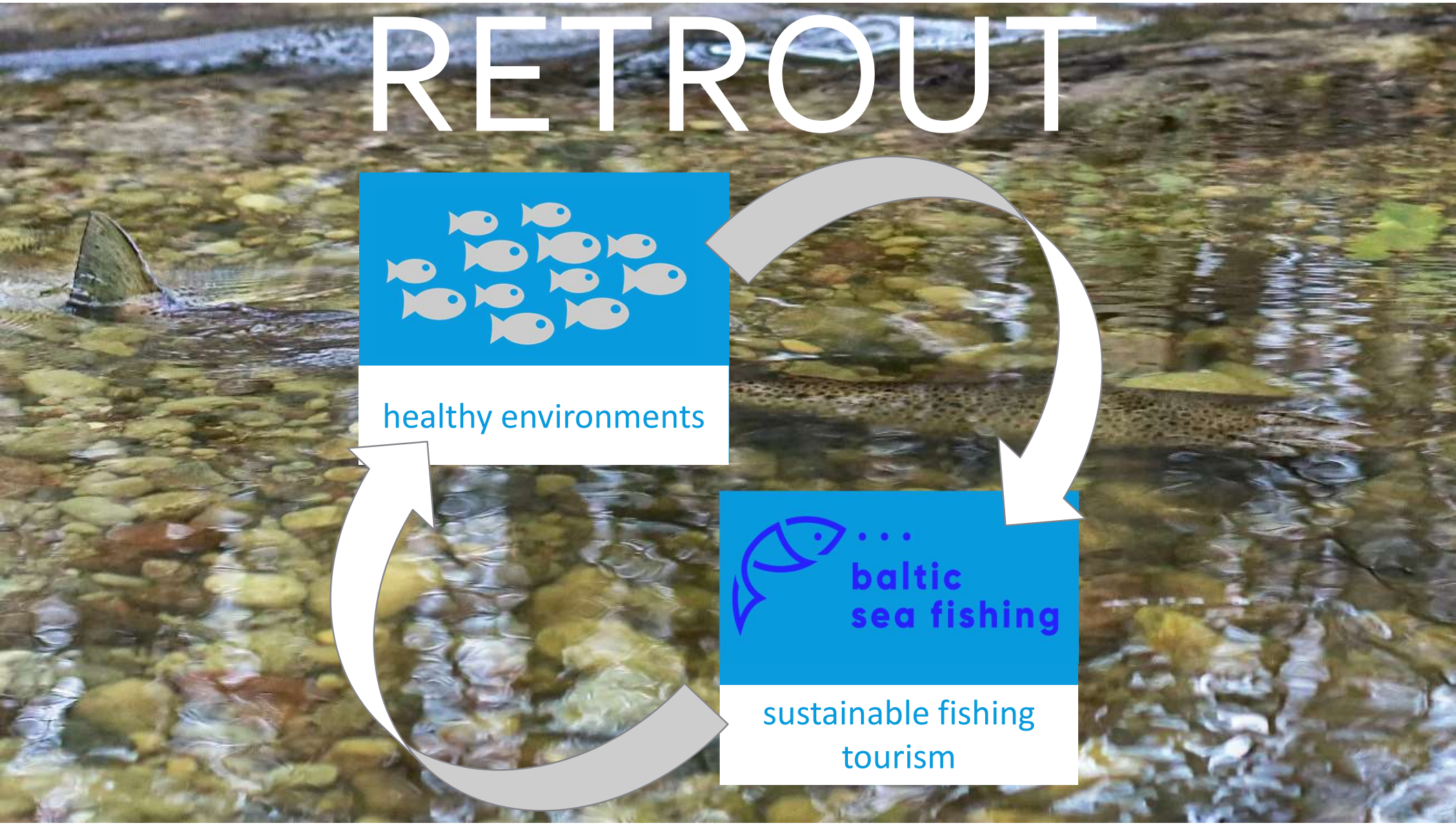
BEST PRACTICES FOR RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS

Main results from RETROUT

Henri Jokinen

Blue growthy in practice
online conference

17 February 2021


RETROUT
healthy environments
baltic
sea fishing
sustainable fishing
tourism

RETROUT WORK ON SEA TROUT POPULATIONS AND RIVER RESTORATIONS

What have we done?

- Assessment of Baltic Sea sea trout river and stock status (to be published)
- Methodologies for assessing and monitoring sea trout river and stock status (to be published)
- Study on river restoration success factors (to be published)
- River restoration demonstrations projects
- River restoration best practices and recommendations (to be published)

MONITORING METHODS

- River Habitat Survey (RHS)
- Trout Habitat Score (THS)
- Electrofishing for parr density estimation

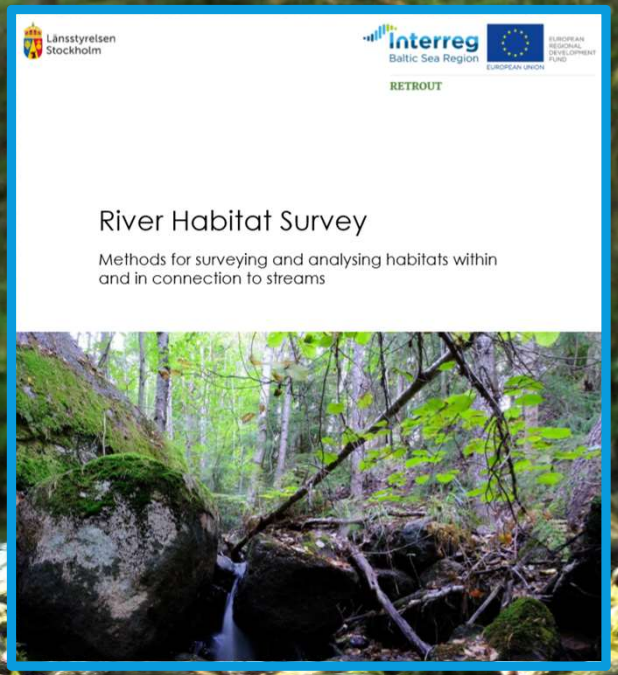


Photo Jānis Bajinskis

RESTORATION SUCCESS FACTORS

- 96 projects in 73 rivers
- Stakeholder interviews
- Qualitative analyses

RESTORATION DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS

- 15 projects in 11 rivers
- Planning and implementation
- Process documentation for experiences and lessons learned

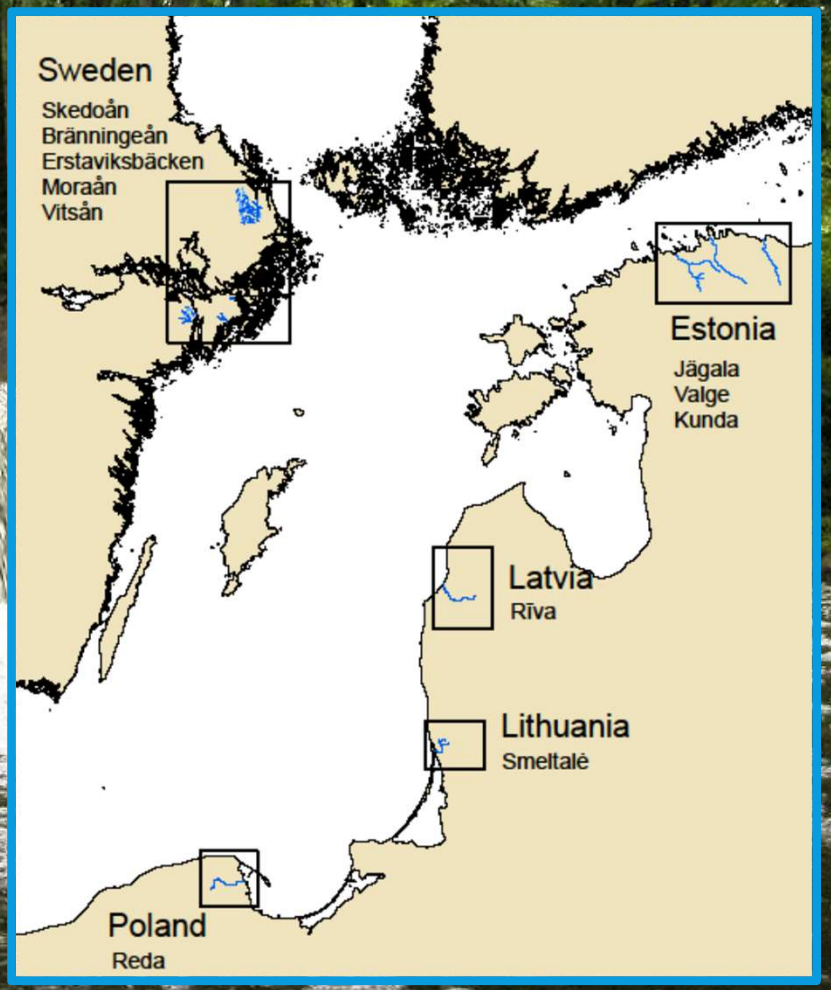
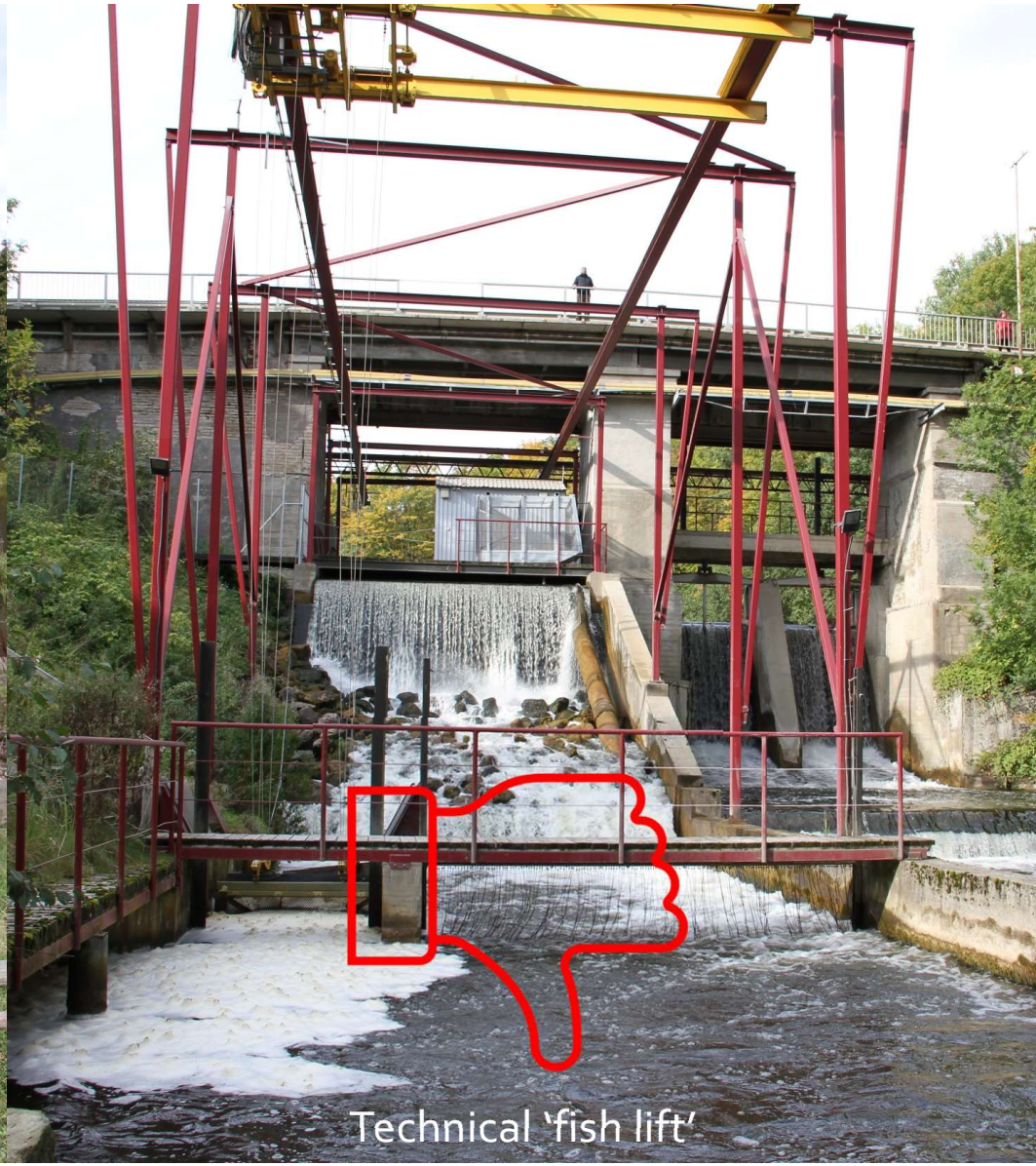


Photo Ventspils county municipality

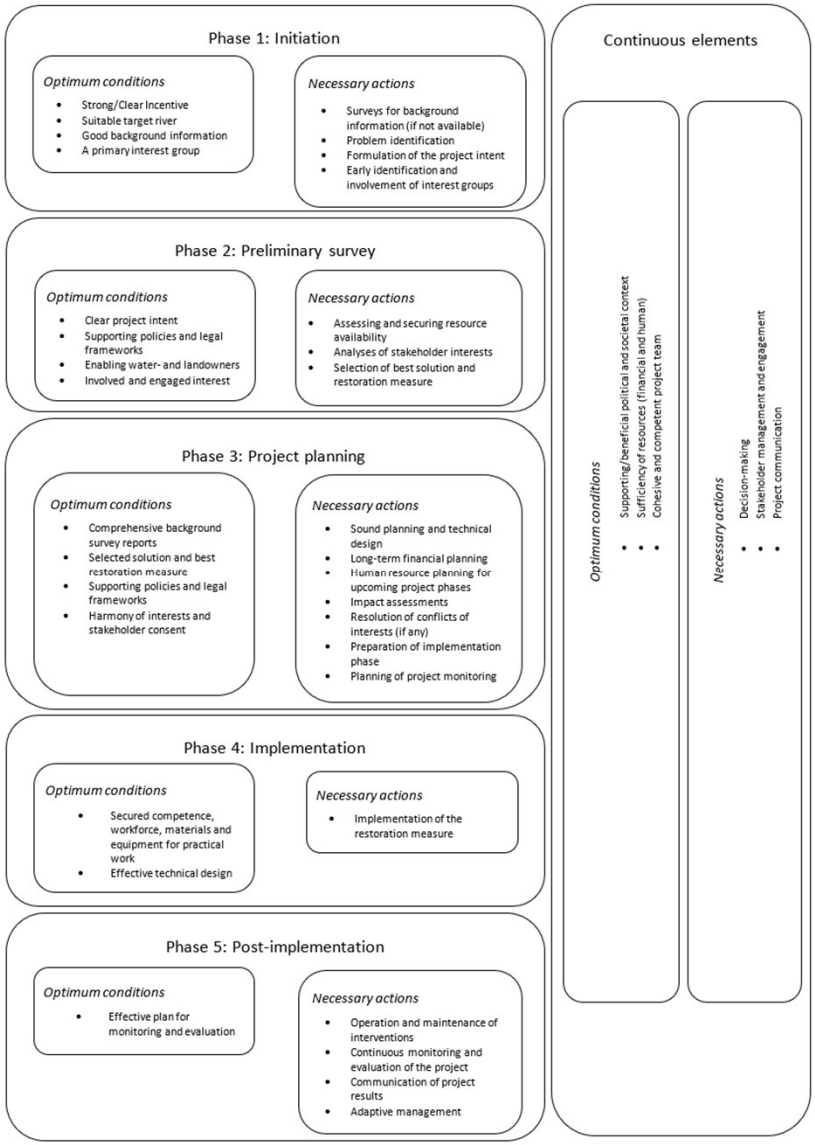

Natural like fauna passage


Technical ‘fish lift’

BEST PRACTICES FOR RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS IN THE BALTIC SEA REGION

BEST PRACTICES FOR RIVER RESTORATION PROJECTS

- Based on RETROUT study and restoration experiences, and expert elicitation
- Optimum conditions & Necessary actions
- Phase-specific and continuous factors



RECOMMENDATIONS

1. A successful restoration project is recommended to thoroughly follow order, tasks and duties of the sequential 5 phases of the restoration project process
2. A well-managed and coordinated cohesive project team is needed
3. Rivers and locations for restoration need to be selected carefully based on informed criteria
4. A restoration process must be preceded by sufficient knowledge on the current condition and settings of the river
5. Understanding stakeholder's stakes and organising their engagement is critical for important
6. Adequacy of funds and other resources on a long-term basis need to be secured before the project can start
7. Restoration measure should be chosen based on its expected utility for the ecological objective relative to its costs, within the possibilities set by resources and limitations
8. Planning and design of the project need to be done with great care, and these must be preceded by sufficient preparatory work
9. Implementation of the restoration plans and designing need to be correct and effective
10. The post-implementation processes of monitoring and evaluation need to be carried out for determining the project success and to enable adaptive management of the river

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