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Département fédéral de l'environnement,
des transports, de l'énergie et de la communication DETEC

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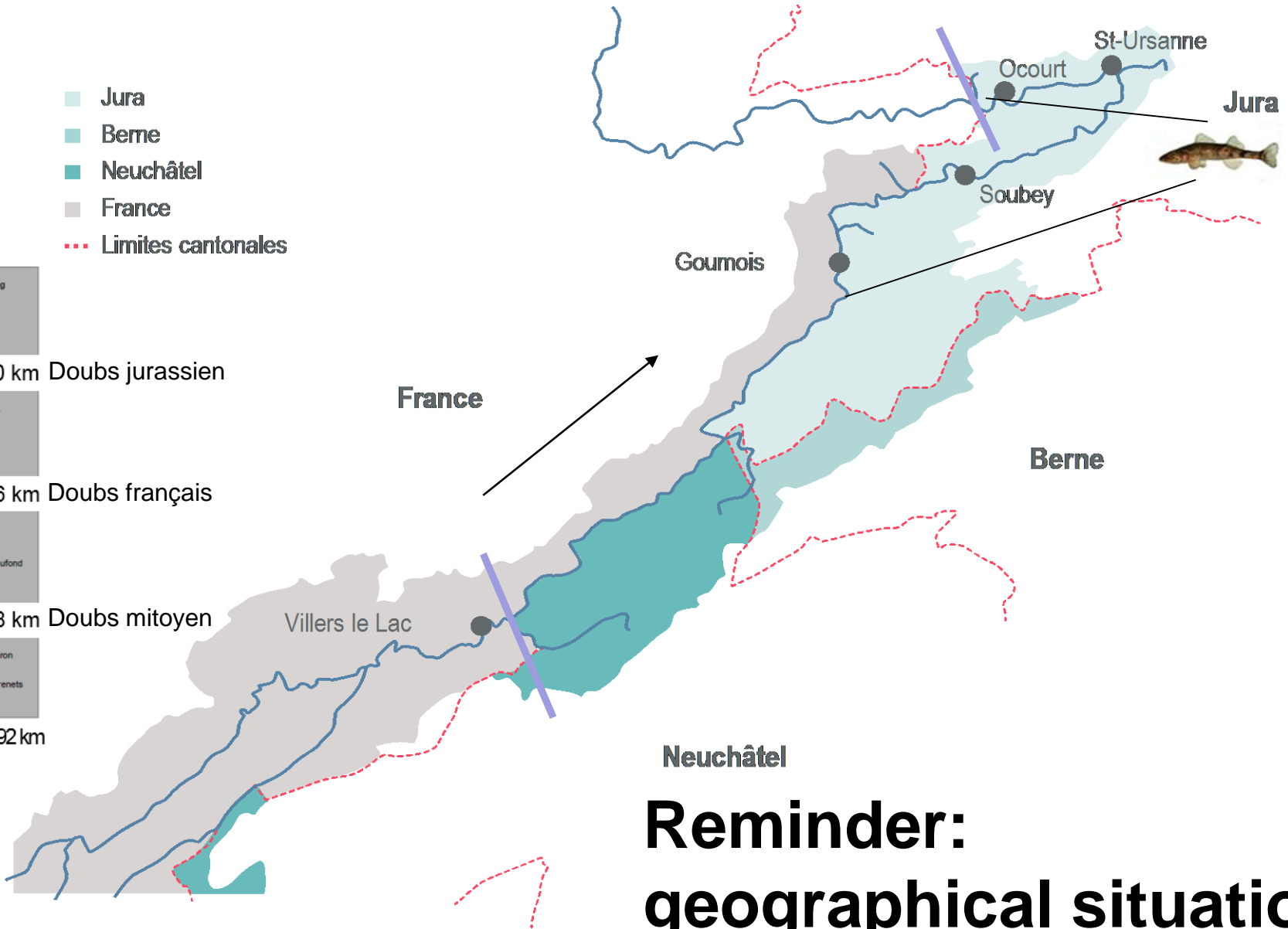
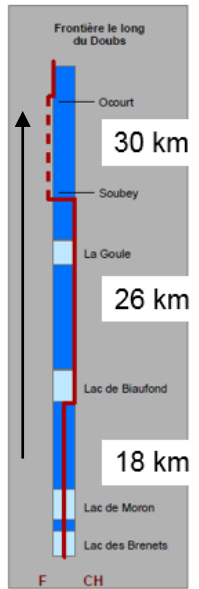
Swiss National Action Plan for the Restoration of the River Doubs

**44^{ème} Session of the Standing Committee of Bern Convention
Strasbourg, december 2024**

Photo: Aquarius



- Jura
- Berne
- Neuchâtel
- France
- Limites cantonales



**Reminder:
geographical situation**



Swiss National Action Plan

Response of the Swiss Confederation and cantons NE and JU to the 14 recommendations of the Bern Convention (file apron)

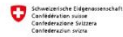
Main Objectives

- To restore the functions of the Doubs ecosystems (frontiers and Jura) and to conserve the typical biocenosis of the Doubs and its tributaries
 - Long term conservation of the apron
- Global and pragmatic approaches
- Measures decided at international and national levels



General Device

→ One Action Plan = Two Documents



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Plan d'action national en faveur du Doubs
Démarche générale

Réponse à la recommandation N° 159 du Comité permanent de la Convention de Berne
Avec la collaboration des cantons de Neuchâtel et du Jura et de l'Office fédéral de l'énergie (OFEN)



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Plan d'action national en faveur du Doubs
Catalogue de mesures

Réponse à la recommandation N° 159 du Comité permanent de la Convention de Berne
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Continuation of the PAND until 2030 !

Measures divided in 7
«strategical axes»

- 100 Régime hydrologique
- 200 Qualité physico-chimique des eaux
- 300 Ecomorphologie et connectivité des habitats aquatiques
- 400 Milieux naturels, connectivité et espèces
- 500 Recherche et monitoring
- 600 Communication et sensibilisation
- 700 Adaptation au changement climatique



Advising board



Composition

- Federal authorities
OFEV, OFEN, OFAG
- Cantonal authorities NE + JU: water protection, nature & fisheries
- NGO (WWF – ProNatura – FSP)
- PNRD

Tasks

- To accompany the implementation process
- To advise the authorities by the implementation
- To propose new measures
- To promote the exchange of information
- To ensure the same level of information between the different partners
- To check the progression of the action plan

One plenary meeting per year + ad hoc workshops



Work in progress



→ Measures achieved or in achievement

New «*Water Reglement*» regulating three hydroelectric plants in force

→ monitoring shows «good» results

Improvements of sewage treatment plants in NE and JU

→ Technical adaptations of different wastewater treatment plants in NE and JU

→ **Micropollutant treatment in the wastewater treatment plant of la Chaux-de-Fonds in function since spring 2023 !**

Improvements of the connecting systems of wastewater in NE and JU

Surveys of the water quality

→ Modelling of the flux of pollutants

→ Fixed station in Ocourt and mobile station (both in operation)

→ New station NAWA on the Doubs (monthly analysis)

→ Micropollutant real time surveys MS2Field in 2019 (priorities identified)

→ Analysis of clogging and algal proliferation



Work in progress



→ Measures achieved or in achievement

- Controlling and monitoring agricultural measures (since 2022)
- Modeling of the underwater circulation in the Karst
- Definition of a buffer zone along the Doubs → implementation JU in 2023
- Restoration of 7 tributaries of the Doubs (2 new)
- Restoration of the free fish-migration in St. Ursanne → 15 species recorded by the monitoring
- Elimination of the obstacle in Ocourt acted (project will start in 2025)
- Decision of no hydroelectric exploitation at Bellefontaine
- Revitalisation of 3 alluvial zones
- Base for the implementation of an ecological infrastructure
- Genetic survey of the apron
- Advising board in operation
- Documentation about the apron available
- Preventive measures to assure good health of the aquatic fauna
- Riparian vegetation and plantation of trees along the Doubs



→ Measures implemented and in progress

- Further improvements of sewage treatment plants in NE and JU
- Further improvements of the connecting systems of wastewater in NE and JU
- Further communication and legislation concerning pyréthriinoïdes
- Continued restoration of fish migration
- Reducing the impact of hydroelectric power stations
- Workshop for agricultural measures



→ Measures in «*stand by*»



Emerald management plan «*Clos du Doubs*» reported

BUT

- Priorities put on measures of the Action Plan and
- Discussion between canton JU and NGO for the implementation of a «simplified» Emerald Plan



Strategy for the conservation of the apron

- Visual prospections (night and day) during summer 2023 and 2024 on different stations of the Doubs: one female found in 2023 !
- The female caught in 2023 has been placed in captivity in order to breed with apron from the river Durance
- F1 (hybrids) obtained are now in captivity
- Futur strategy concerning apron is under discussion by the authorities
- Faisability study for breeding and reinforcement.



Conclusions

- Most measures achieved or in achievement
- Collaboration with NGO established

..... **BUT**.....

- Situation of apron remains in a critical stage !

