

Restoring free-flowing rivers in Europe by removing dams

CONNECTING FISH RIVERS & PEOPLE



WORLD FISH MIGRATION
FOUNDATION
FOUNDED IN 2014





Europe Hub

North America Hub

South America Hub

Africa Hub

Asia Hub

Oceania Hub

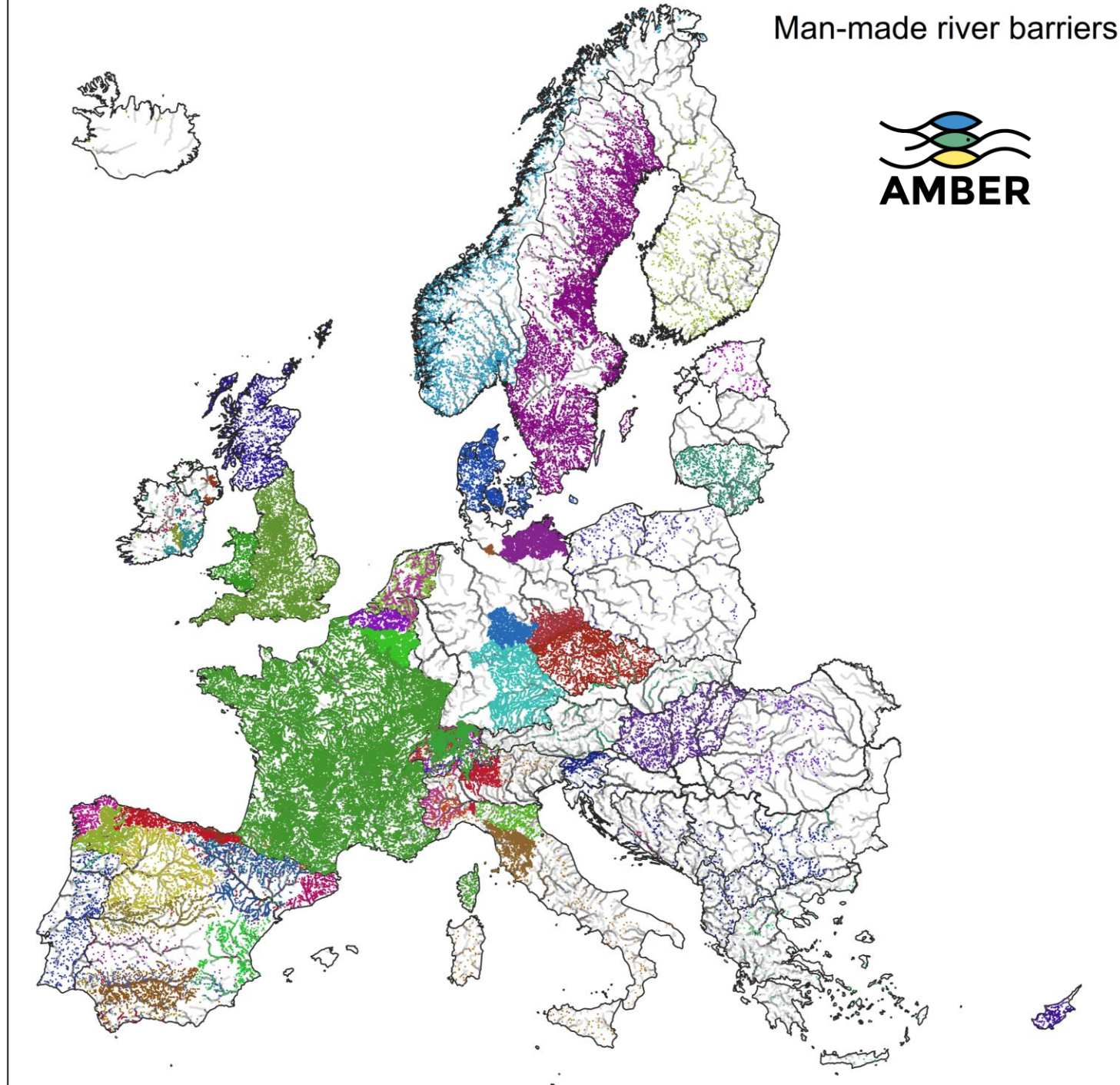


WORLD FISH
MIGRATION DAY

NEXT
WORLD FISH MIGRATION DAY
MAY 21, 2022

THE WORLD'S RIVERS ARE STUFFED WITH BARRIERS

>1.2 MLN
ESTIMATED BARRIERS
IN EUROPE ALONE



<https://portal.amber.international/>

TRACKING DAMS DOWN COLLEAGUES, CITIZEN SCIENCE & FLY FISHERMEN

Track barriers
with the barrier tracker
and help reconnect
European rivers

AMBER Citizen Science project
LET IT FLOW

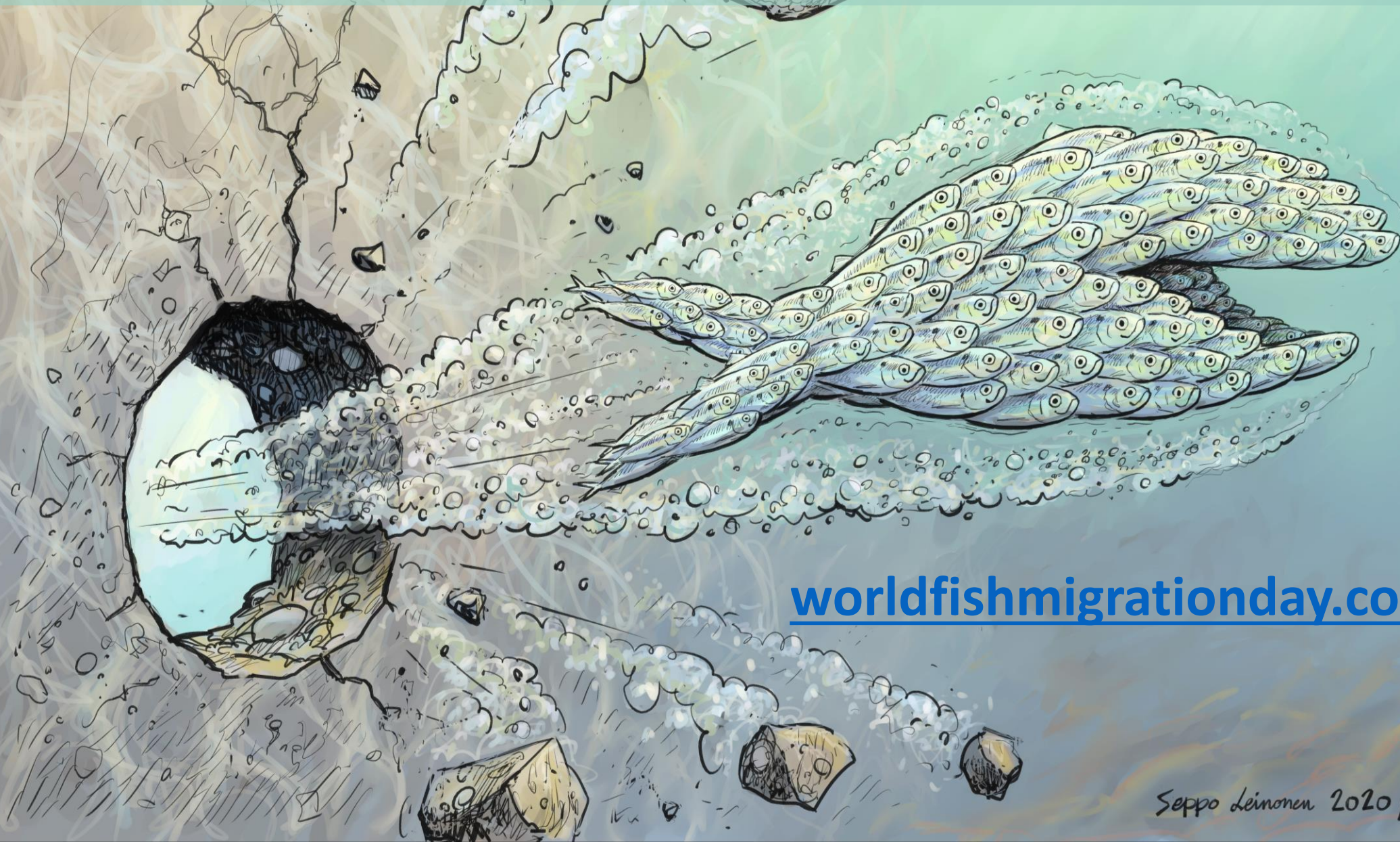


A detailed illustration of various fish species, including a large salmon, a tuna, a shark, a eel, a catfish, and a small fish, set against a warm orange and yellow background.

Living Planet Index for Migratory Freshwater Fish

worldfishmigrationfoundation.com/living-planet-index-2020/

PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION!!



worldfishmigrationday.com/petition/

Seppo Leinonen 2020 / seppo.net

OUR INSPIRATION



PENOBSCOT RIVER (2012, USA)



ELWHA RIVER (2011, USA)



2016

MOVEMENT TO SUPPORT

PRACTITIONERS



<https://damremoval.eu/>



Source: Dam Removal Europe Map

*** Collapsed + man removed**

FRANCE	>2.400*
SWEDEN	>1.600*
FINLAND	>500
SPAIN	>300
UK	>200
NETHERLANDS	>50
ESTONIA	>5
ITALY	3
SWITZERLAND	1
GERMANY	hundreds (no inventories)
DENMARK	hundreds (no inventories)



OUR STRATEGY

**BUILDING A MOVEMENT OF PROUD
RIVER PRACTITIONERS & ENABLE
THEM TO REMOVE DAMS**





CONNECTED RIVERS

International seminar on scaling up dam removal
as a river restoration tool in Europe

Lisbon, Portugal

19 - 21 May 2022

Organized by:



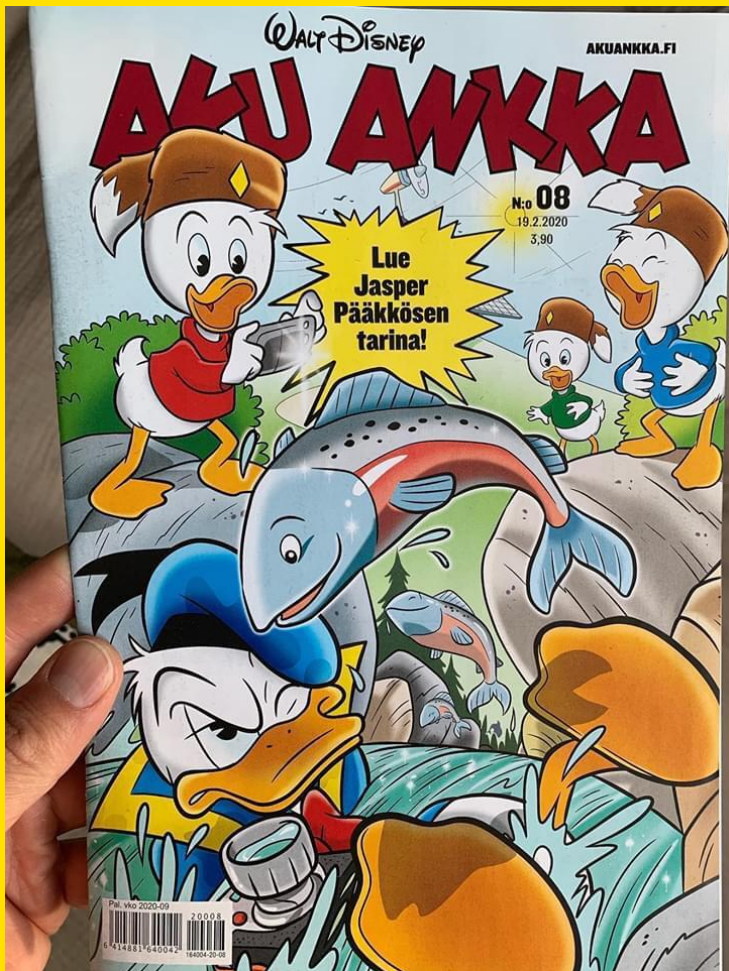
LITHUANIA



PUBLIC RESISTANCE



Well informed citizens



Disney Finland Comic



FINLAND DAM REMOVAL POLICY



SPAIN DAM REMOVAL POLICY



FRANCE DAM REMOVAL POLICY





[Dam removal](#)

[Documentary/ movie](#)

[News](#)

DamBusters

By Dam Removal Europe | February 2, 2021 | No Comments



Jesús De La Fuente
Spain

Authentic Celtic Galician. He's set on a mission of restoring the O Verdugo river and returning the salmon back to the lush valleys and mountains of northern Spain.



Roberto Epple
France

"Papa Panda" for the original French activists protecting the Loire river in France. Known as the father of dam removal in Europe. The voice of wisdom to guide our #DamBusters. A chameleonic river hero fluent in several languages and driving force of the European Rivers Network.



Jone Leščinskaitė
Lithuania

After all her work in the ground advocating for river restorations and getting trained in Sweden, the local Government created a position only for her. This groundbreaking move translates to the complete removal of the outdated Salantai Dam in rural Lithuania.



Külli Tammur
Estonia

Little did she know, as the daughter of an Estonian park ranger, that the impact of growing up around forest and rivers will have her years later as the front woman working inside the government restoring over 3,000 Km's of river streams. Her amazing work set an example all over Europe.



Jasper Pääkkönen
Finland

Each movie needs a movie star! Jasper Pääkkönen not only bounces between movie sets in Europe and Hollywood, he's the initiator for dam removal in Finland. His star power has been in the service of rivers for over 10 years. Passionate fly fishermen and Patagonia Brand Ambassador.



Sampsa Vilhunen
Finland

Advocating for rivers from 9 to 5, DJ-ing all over European venues during the summer, and fly fishing across wild Finland every chance he gets, that's Sampsa. WWF staff member, creating campaigns and a tangible impact of restored rivers in Finland.



Karolina Gurjazkaitė
Lithuania


This expert and well prepared young activist single handed the first dam removal ever in Lithuania. She is working to bring more awareness on a national level and enable river practitioners to restore free-flowing rivers by removing dams.



Environment

Biodiversity strategy for 2030

...at least 25,000 km of rivers will be restored into free-flowing rivers by 2030 ⁽⁴⁷⁾ through the removal of primarily obsolete barriers...

As part of this plan, the Commission will propose binding [nature restoration targets](#)  by the end of 2021.



€42.5 million to remove dams

Open Rivers Programme

Restoring endangered European rivers.

<https://openrivers.eu/>

I'M DONE HERE!
I RETIRE!

FREE
AT LAST!

DAMSTERDAM



THANK YOU!



Pao Fernández Garrido & Herman Wanningen

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