ECOLOGIE COMPORTEMENTALE ET BIOLOGIE DES POPULATIONS DE POISSONS

BEHAVIOURAL ECOLOGY AND POPULATION BIOLOGY OF FISH

APPLICATION SECTORS
- Management of natural populations
- Conservation biology
- Management of aquatic habitats

PARTNERSHIPS
- Main socio-economic partners
  - Local: AAPLMA, Fishing Federation, Water boards, local and river valley boards, EPTB, Pyrénées-Atlantiques Council, Aquitaine Region.
  - National: Onema (INRA/Onema framework agreement), Ministries (Ecology, Agriculture and Fisheries).
  - International: ICES (NASCO), Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Main scientific partners
MIRA Research Federation
Universities of Bordeaux I, Montpellier 2, Rennes, Paris VI
Laval, Mc Gill, Bilbao, Oviedo, Glasgow, Liège, Toronto, Washington
INRA Rennes (LPGP + ESE), Thonon, Avignon, Bordeaux
CNRS Montpellier, MNHN, Ifremer
(Anget), Irstéa Bordeaux, ARDA
(Réunion), Washington Dpt of Fish & Wildlife (Olympia).

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS
- ECOKNOWS: FP7, KBGE
- MIGRANET: Interreg Sudoe
- AARC: Interreg Atlantic Area
- GENERALY: Marie Curie, CIG

STAFF
- 10 researchers and teacher-researchers
- 1-2 PhD students and 1 Post PhD student
- 1 engineer
- 9 research support personnel

RESEARCH AREAS
- Analysis of individual behaviour, functioning and changes in natural fish populations.
- Behavioural strategies: living, survival and growth characteristics, sexual selection, reproduction success
- Population biology (population dynamics and genetics).
- Anthropogenic impacts and decision-making assistance for management (climate, fishing, contaminants, connectivity)
- Research projects on species, local river basins (salmon, trout, eel, shad; the basins of the Nivelle, the Nive, the Adour) and protected sites (Kerguélen).

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE
- Analysis of fish behaviour and populations:
  - Radiotracking and video monitoring in aquatic environments
  - Electric fishing, fish trapping and tagging
  - Physiological (energy) and biometrical measurement
  - Otolithometrics, morphometrics and scale analysis
- Long-term data modelling and monitoring
- Characterisation of current aquatic environments
- Genetic and molecular biology

PRINCIPAL EQUIPMENT
- Lapitxuri site (artificial river of 130m in length with subaquatic observation chambers, 8 experimental troughs of 10m in length, a rearing platform, an incubation room)
- Fluvarium (circular artificial stream containing 2 straight sections of 10m in length, 1m in width and 0.8m in depth)
- Experimentation rooms devoted to the analysis of patterns of activity and behaviour (aquariums and water troughs)
- Monitoring the trapping platforms on the Nivelle river
- 4-capillary ABI sequencer
- Energy: CHNSO analyser and micro-respirometers
- Epifluorescence microscopy (skeletochronology)

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