Biodiversity Assessment and Trophic Interactions in Restored Wetlands after Reintroducing the European Pond Turtle - A Three-Site Study Throughout Europe -



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In the present context of the 6th crisis of species mass extinction, habitat restoration and species reintroduction are considered as operational strategies for **limiting biodiversity erosion**. This study investigates the ecological implications of reintroducing the European pond turtle Emys orbicularis in newly created and restored wetlands across Europe.

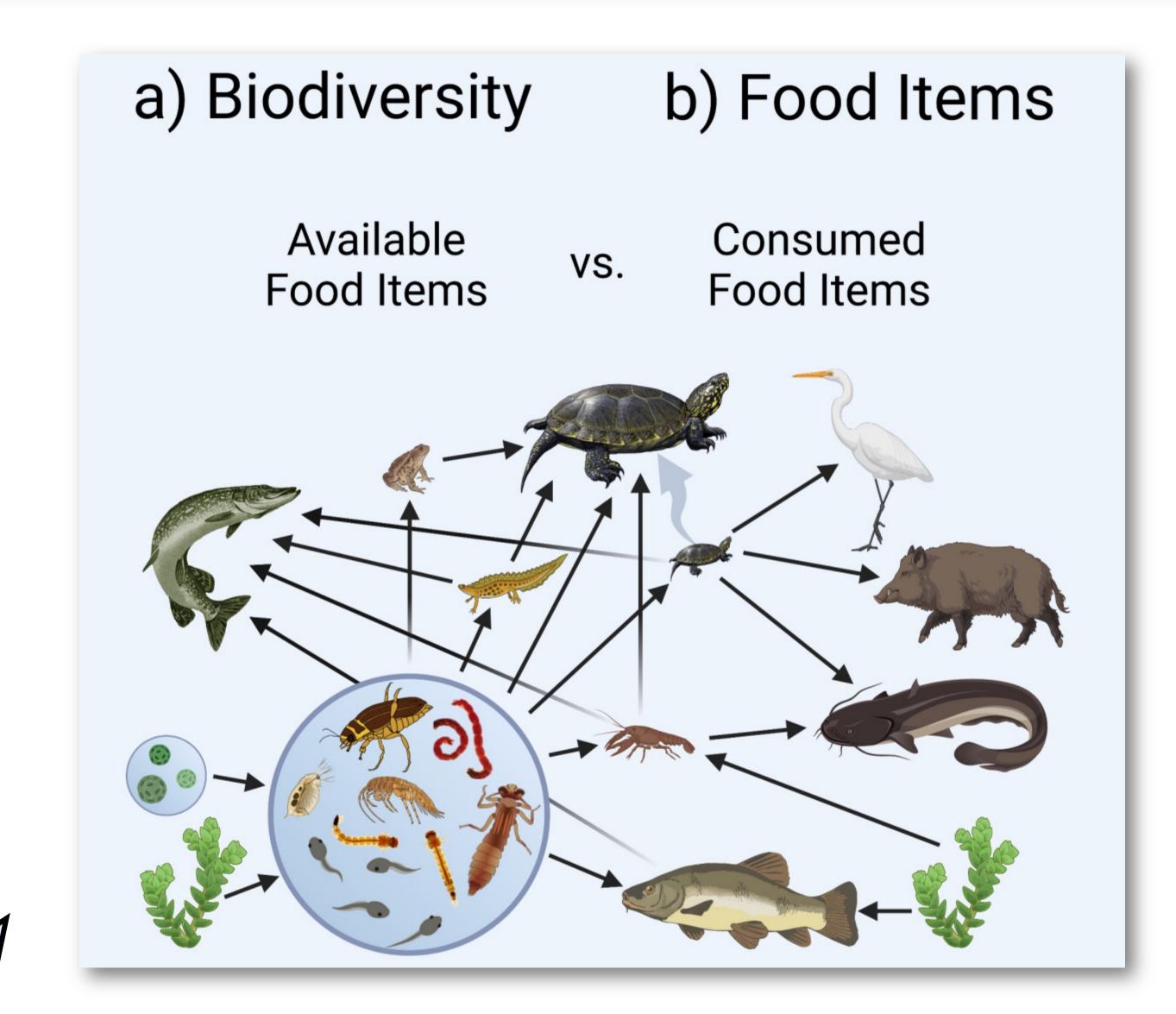
This study, implemented on 3 study sites with contrasted ecological contexts, focuses on 3 major questions:



- 1) What are the extrinsic and intrinsic drivers of Emys reintroduction success (i.e. habitat quality and food availability versus adaptive capabilities of captivebred turtles and demographic responses)?
- 2) What are the consequences of releasing *Emys* on the ecosystem functioning of the restored habitats (i.e. trophic food web)?
- 3) What are the **best practices** for promoting the success of *Emys* reintroduction?







capture-mark-recapture

Emys individual behaviour animal-borne data loggers

Food web centred on *Emys* advanced eDNA metabarcoding





Assess *Emys* reintroduction success according to wetlands recovery

Evaluate ecosystem functioning as a consequence of *Emys* reintroduction

Identify best wetlands management for sustainable *Emys* reintroduction

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