

# Biodiversity Assessment and Trophic Interactions in Restored Wetlands after Reintroducing the European Pond Turtle

- A Three-Site Study Throughout Europe -

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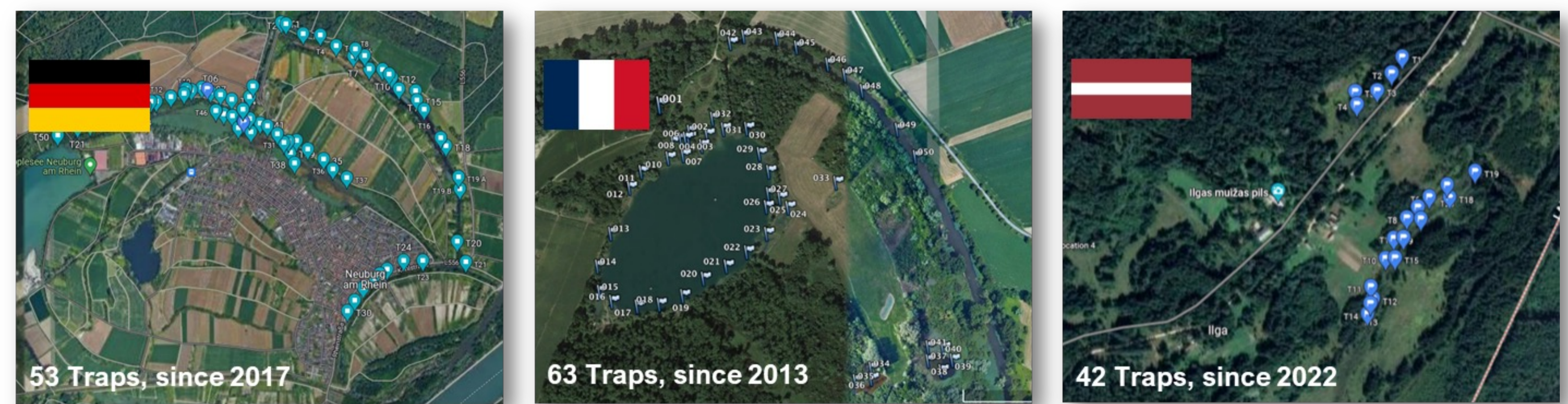
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In the present context of the 6<sup>th</sup> crisis of species mass extinction, habitat restoration and species reintroduction are considered as operational strategies for **limiting biodiversity erosion**. This study investigates the ecological implications 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:

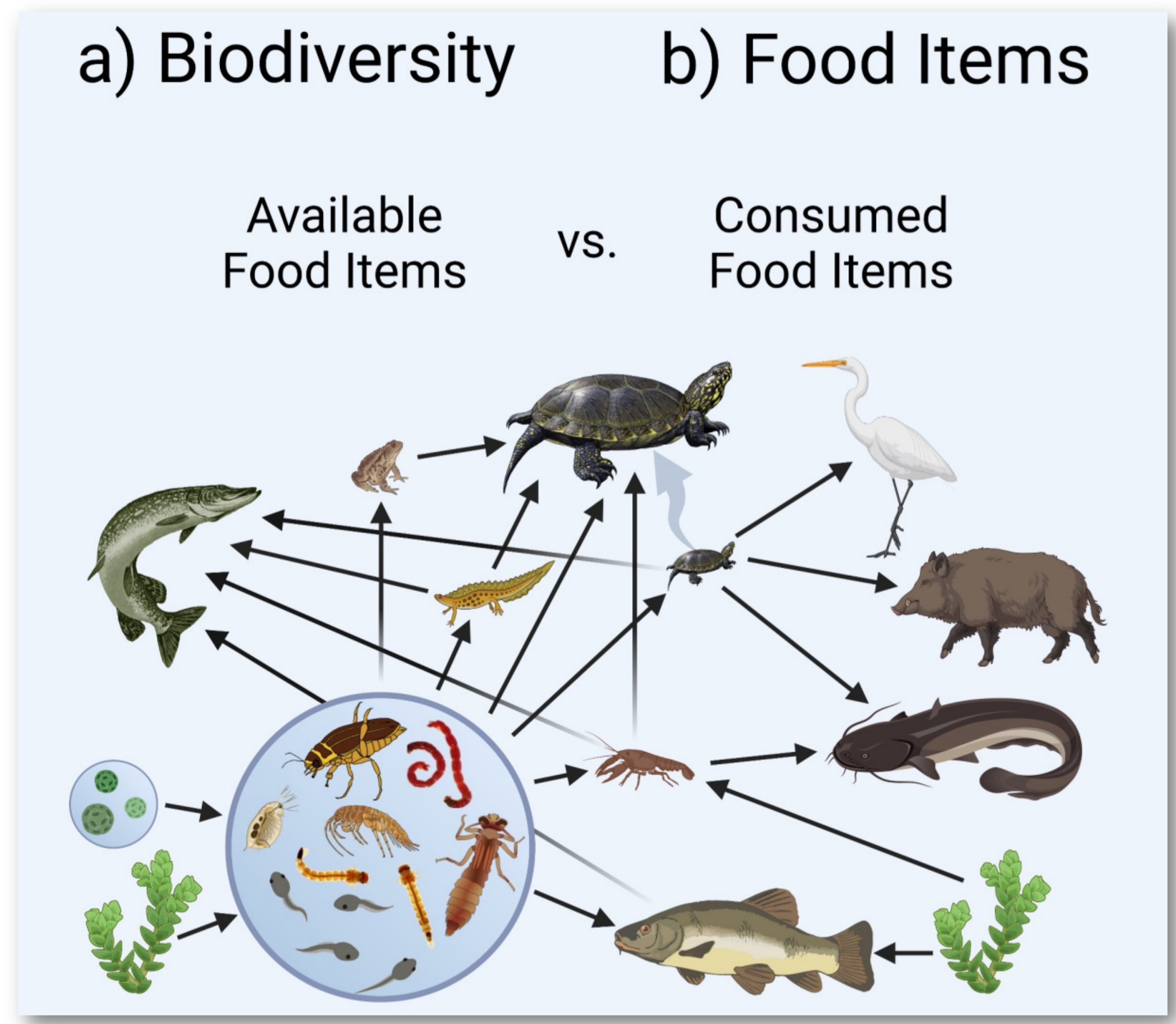
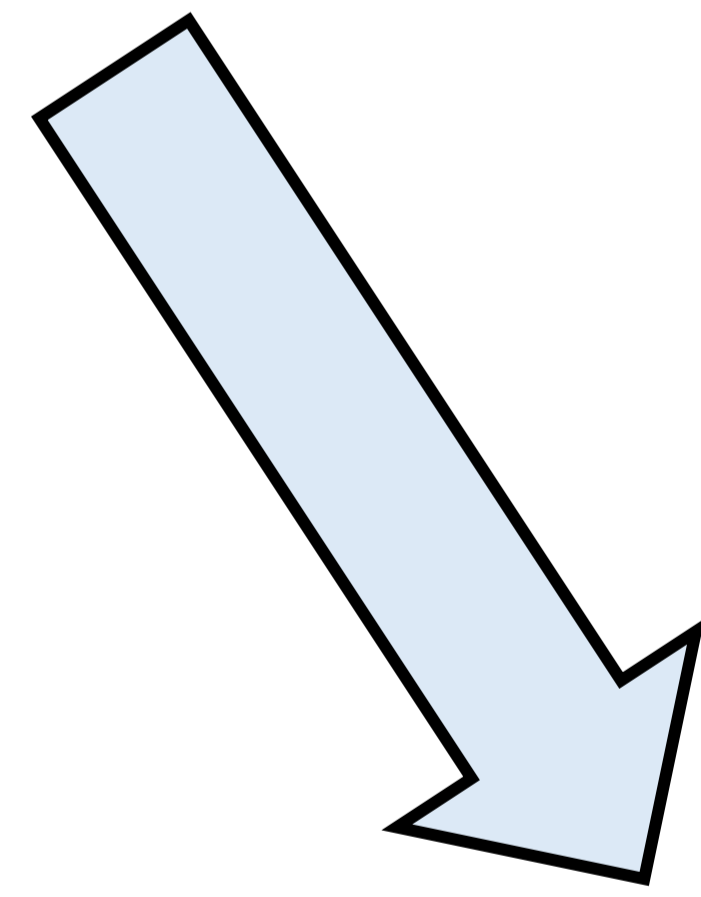
- 1) What are the **extrinsic and intrinsic drivers of *Emys* reintroduction success** (i.e. habitat quality and food availability *versus* adaptive capabilities of captive-bred turtles and demographic responses)?
- 2) What are the **consequences of releasing *Emys*** on the ecosystem functioning of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



***Emys* population monitoring**  
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

