

# **Restoration of fish migration**

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Programma naar een rijke Waddenzee/ projectteam Vismigratierivier/ LINKit Consult CWE Symposium 9-12-2016 Groningen



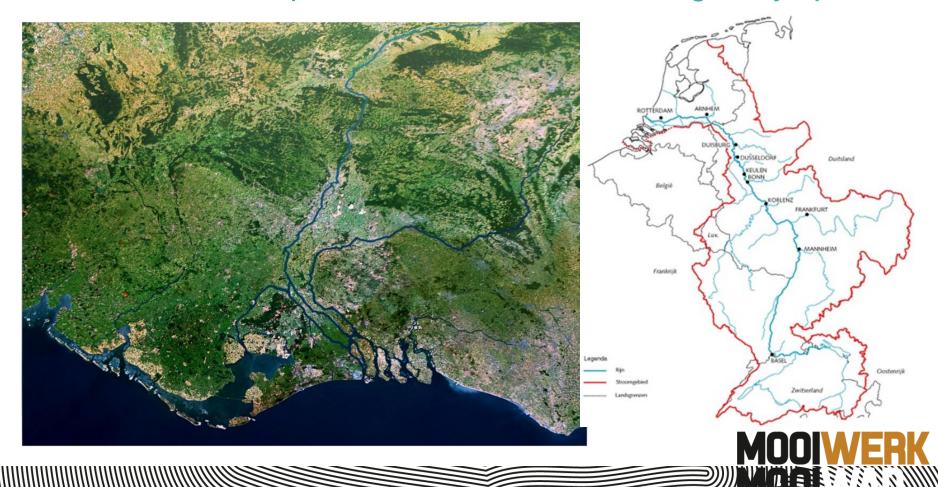
## **Presentation outline**

- Fish migration in the Wadden sea
- Long term trends of fish populations
- Possibilities for restoration
- Measures taken
- Planned measures
- What is next?
- Monitoring



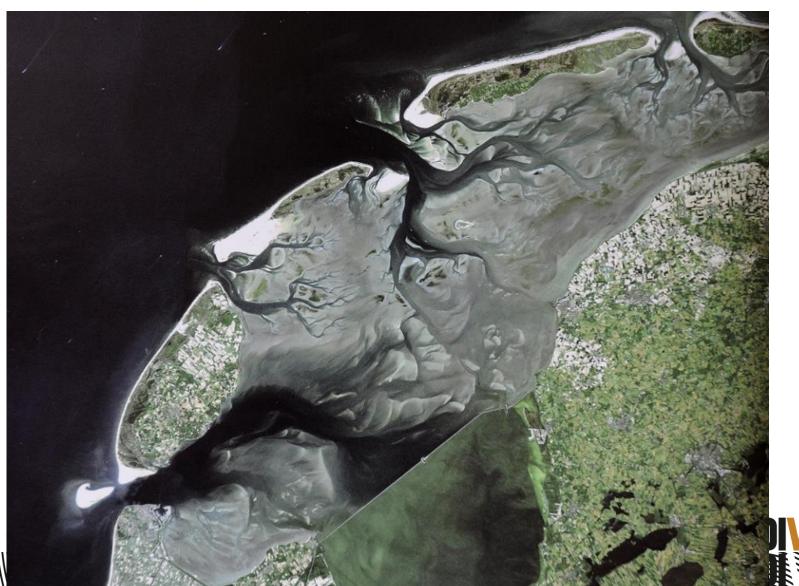
## Fish migration in the Wadden Sea

- Gateway to River Rhine and tributaries
- Wadden sea of importance for resident and migratory species





## Hard boundary between fresh water and marine environment



#### Migratory species present







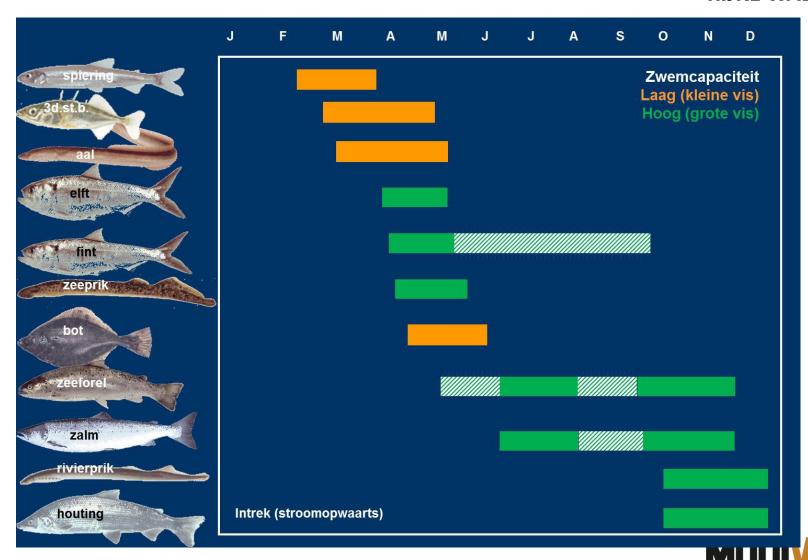
- A. Tidal migrants(passive transport)
  - European eel (juvenile stage);
  - Flounder Larvae;
- B. Short distance migrants (selective passive/ active transport)
  - Three spined stickleback;
  - Smelt;
- C. Medium/long distance migrants (active transport)
  - Sea lamprey;
  - River lamprey;
  - North Sea Houting;
  - Twaite shad;
  - Allis shad;
  - OAtlantic salon;
  - Sea trout;





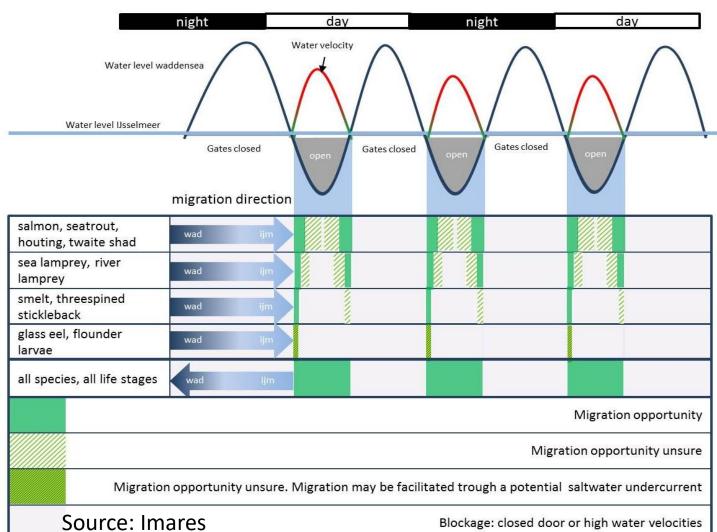
#### Migratory species present

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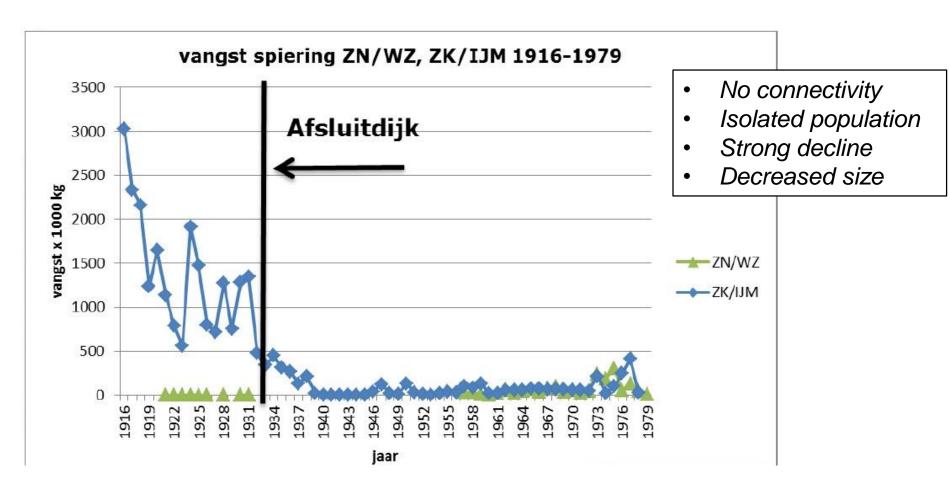
#### Migration opportunities 'Afsluitdijk'







#### Effects of fish: Smelt population

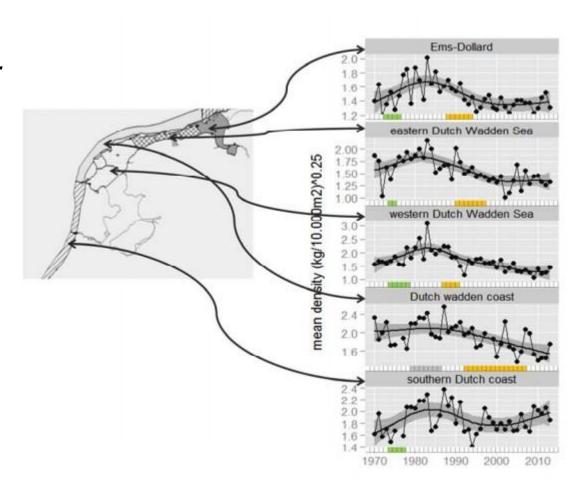


Source: Jaap Quak



## Long term trends of fish populations

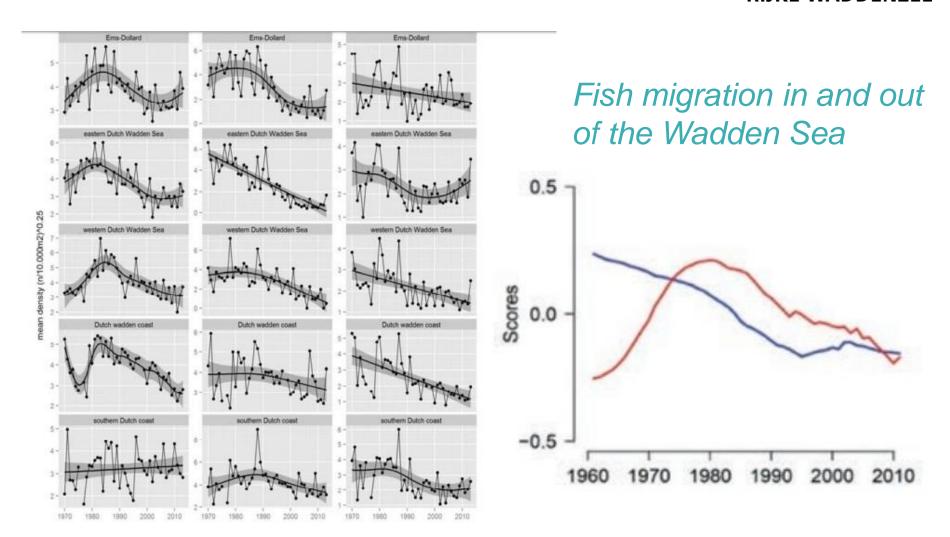
- Two long term series:
  - Beam trawling survey (DFS annual)
  - Fyke net (Daily)
- Strong decline since the 80's
- Especially juvenile guild
- Decrease in fish migrating in or out



Source: Tulp et al. 2015/ Walker, 2015.



#### Decline of species juveniles



Source: Tulp et al. 2015/ Walker, 2015.



## **Posibilities for restoration**

- Connectivity decreased severely in the last century.
- Estuarine dynamics of great importance
- Any measure that improves connectivity is needed.
- Largescale restoration not always possible
- Broad spectrum of restoration measures:
  - Tidal flap gates
  - Technical fishways
  - Open free-flowing fishways
  - Fish friendly sluice management
  - Semi open system
  - Full restoration: open tidal system.





## **Measures taken**

## PRW survey passability of transition zones



Source: PRW, 2016

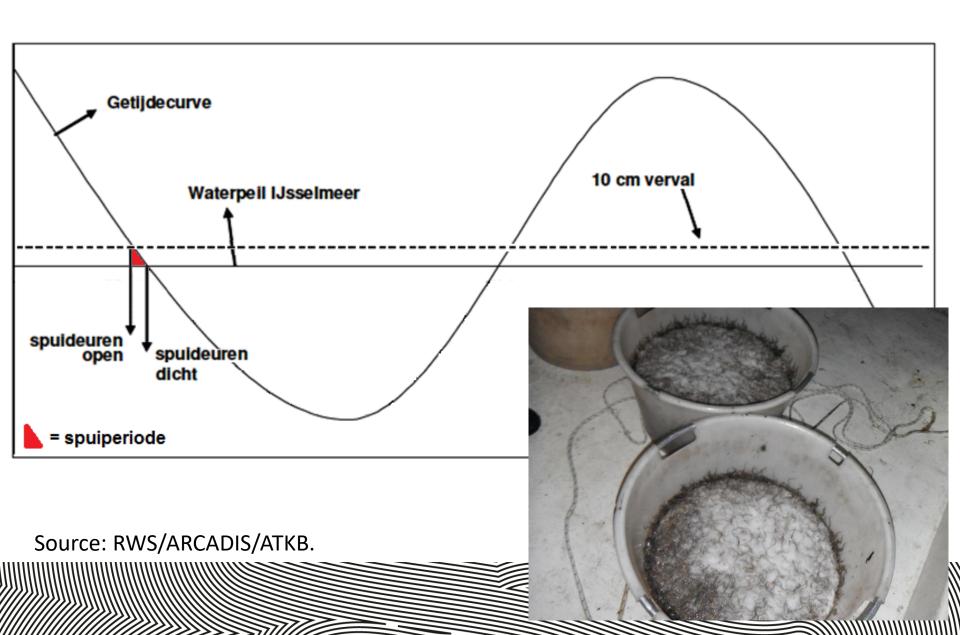


#### Polder Breebaart

- Marine, estuarine and fresh water species present
  80,000-300,000 fish caught in fishway per year ('12'-15)
  95-99% diadromous species
- Source: Het Groninger landschap.

## Fish-friendly sluice management Afsluitdijk

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#### 'Fish tunnel' Den Oever

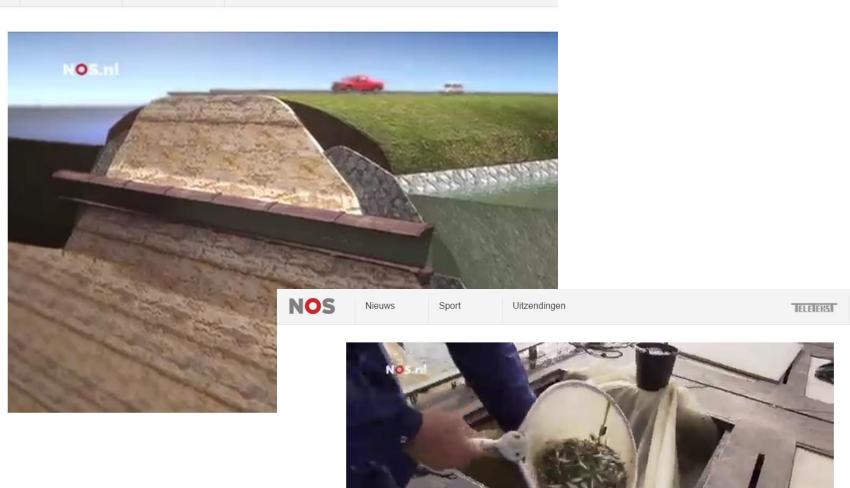
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NOS

Nieuws

Sport

Uitzendingen



Source: NOS.

## Fishway Moksloot texel

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## **Planned measures**

Fish Migration River

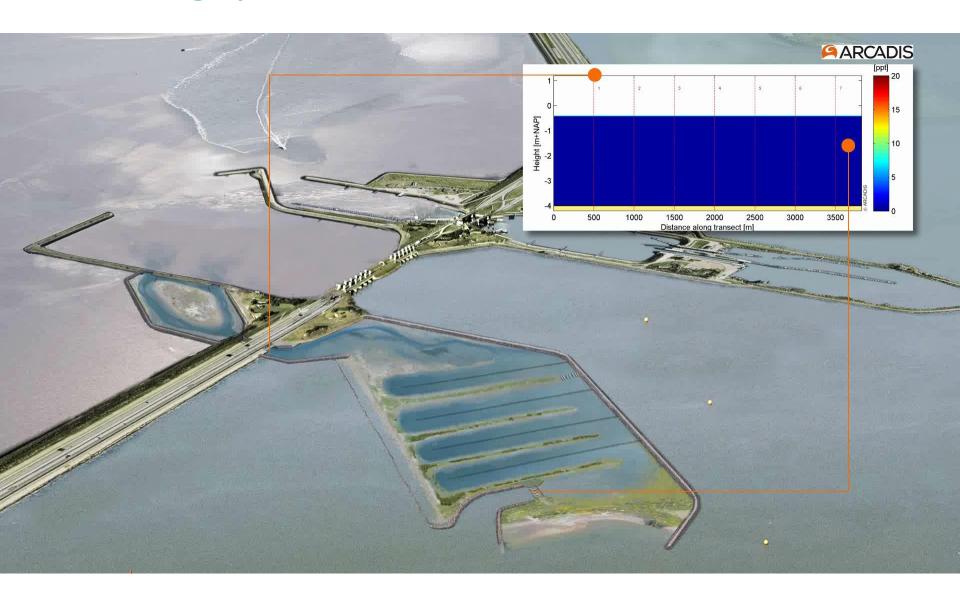


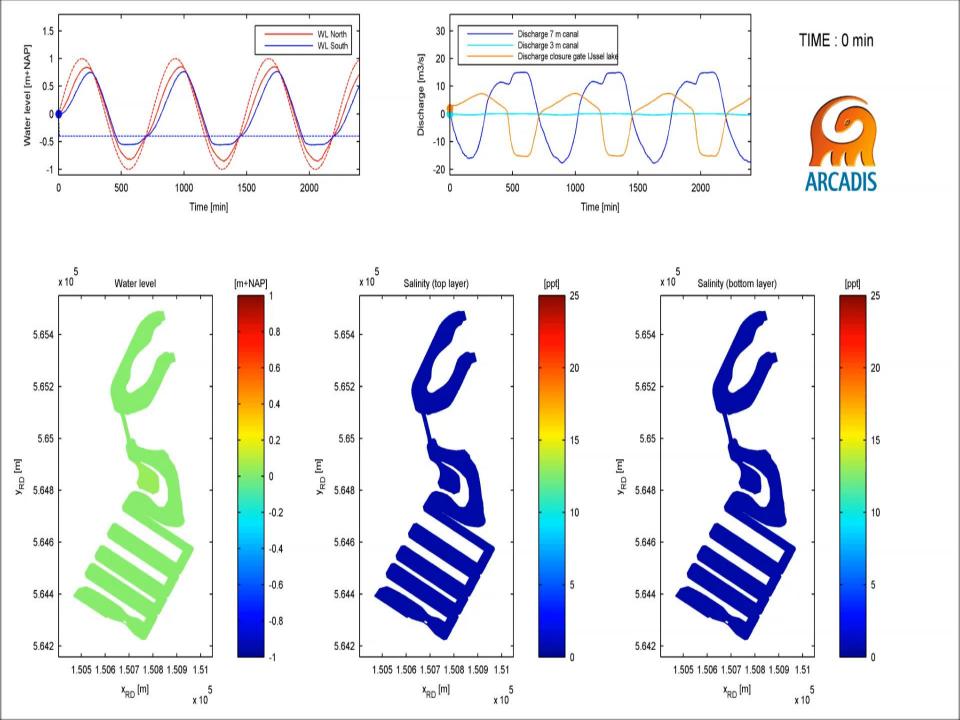




Source: Beeldkwaliteitsplan VMR, november 2016.

## Breathing system





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## **Planned measures**

## Hallumerryt

- Gemaal vijfhuizen
- Transition zone on saltmarsh



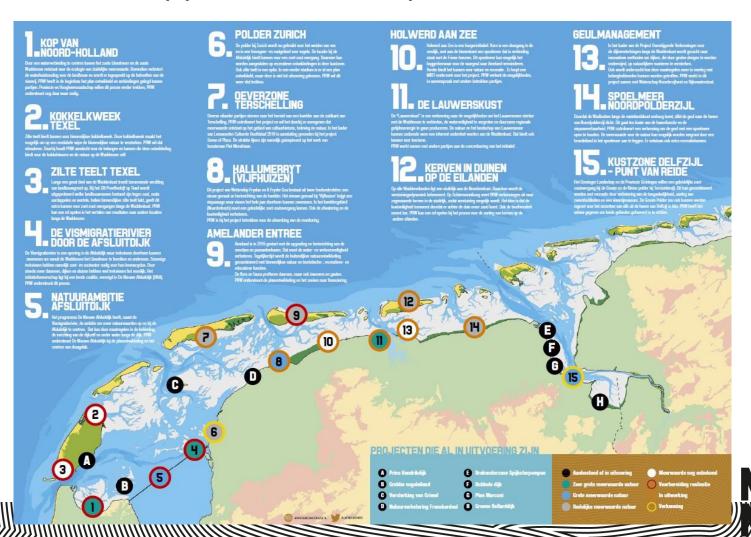


Source: Wetterskip Fryslan/ It Fryske Gea



## What is next?

#### Future opportunities map 'Boundaries of the Wadden Sea'



## **Oppertunities**

#### Lauwersmeer & Kop van Noord Holland





Source: *Googlemaps* 



## **Attention please!**

- Importance of monitoring and research
- Little known of fish migration in transition zones, especially for Wadden Sea
- Monitoring is preformed ad hoc and not standardized
- Knowledge needed to optimize constructed restoration measures and to improve future designs.
- Standardized, uniform approach needed.



## 21 April 2018 www.worldfishmigrationday.org



