

18th EUROPEAN WEEK of REGIONS and CITIES

05>09 OCTOBER 2020

12>16 OCTOBER 2020

19>22 OCTOBER 2020

#EURegionsWeek

RESTART
EUROPE
Together



Reinstating wetlands and pike spawning grounds on the Stockholm archipelago

Thomas Hjelm
Utö Initiative, Sweden



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Redressing balance in the Baltic Sea



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The Baltic is unbalanced due to:



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The Baltic is unbalanced due to:

- Increased eutrophication



The Baltic is unbalanced due to:

- Increased eutrophication
- A lack of fish



The Baltic is unbalanced due to:

- Increased eutrophication
- A lack of fish
- Dead bottoms



What creates the problem?

Several factors:

- Untreated waste water
- Agriculture and fertilisers
- Zooplankton decrease
- Increase of phytoplankton
- Dead algae consume oxygen



What creates the problem?

Several factors:

- Untreated waste water
- Agriculture and fertilisers
- Zooplankton decrease
- Increase of phytoplankton
- Dead algae consume oxygen
- Disappearance of cod
- Increase of herring
- Lack of predators such as pike
- Increase in seals and cormorants



Combined, these factors have created an imbalanced eco-system

*The relation between predator fish, white fish,
zooplankton and phytoplankton is unbalanced*

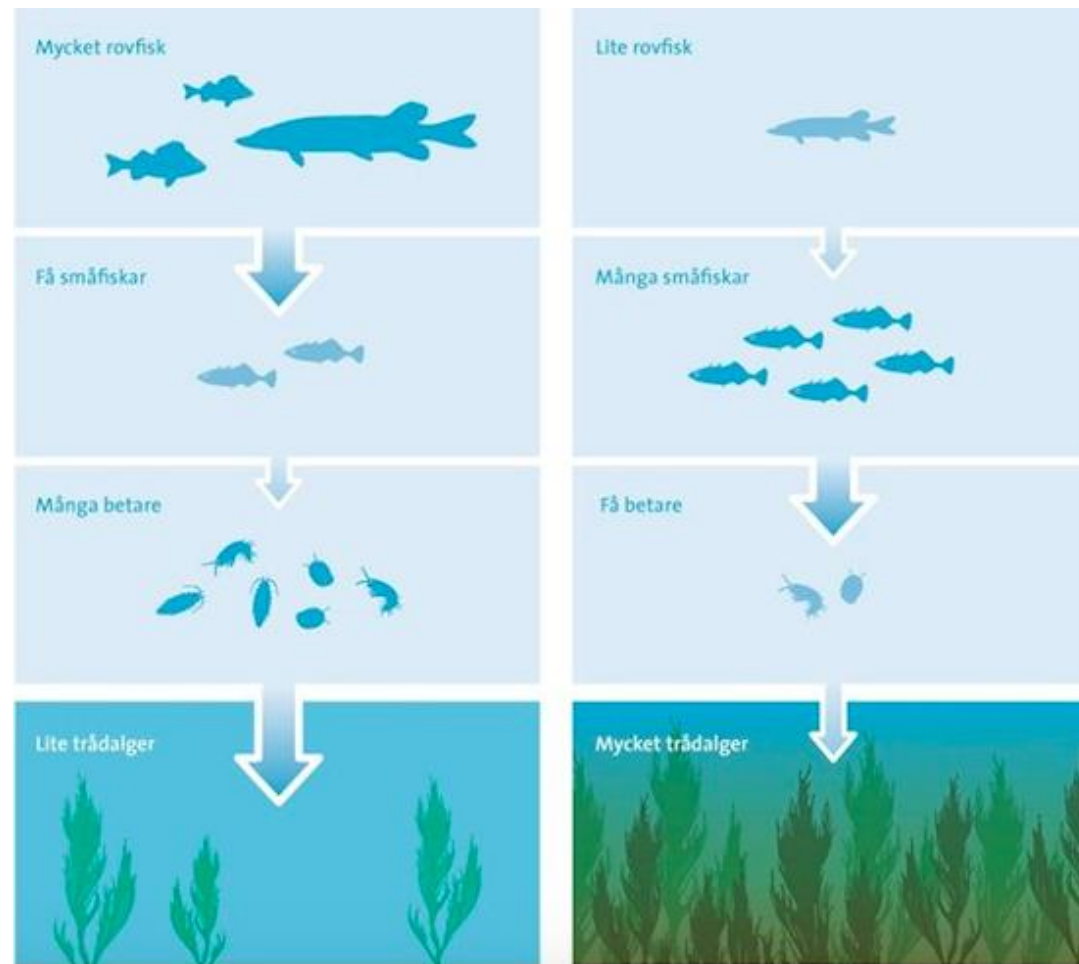


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What can we do to fix such a big problem?

“Restoring and establishing spawning grounds for pike is an efficient way of improving fish stocks at the same time as supporting other objectives such as skills development, fostering collaboration, and increasing tourism”

*Susanne Ortmanns
FLAG Manager Stockholmsbygd*



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What can we do to fix such a big problem?

- *Local level action can still make a difference*
- *Approximately 100 wetlands and pike spawning grounds have been installed across Sweden*
- *FLAGs have contributed to 10 of them, bringing together the relevant stakeholders and local actors*



Creating a wetland and spawning site:

- Identify a site
- Agreement with authorities, landowners and financiers
- Nature reserve areas, Natura2000, Protected coastline
- EU, MA, County Admin Board, Regional board, Municipality, Private money and tourism companies
- Drawings, procurement, and construction
- Estimated cost per hectare (€15 000 – 25000)



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Thank you!
Any questions?

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