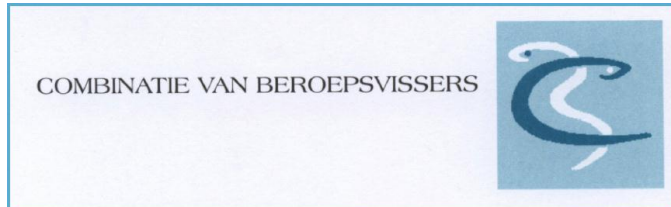




Joint forces building a sustainable eelstock in the Netherlands

Alex Koelewijn, Chair of the DUPAN foundation

Who are represented in:



>300 Dutch professional inland fishermen (85%)



17 Dutch Eelfarms (95%)



19 smokehouses (90%)



opponents



Eel has lots of problems

For centuries the Dutch
Have secured and protected
their coast.

Result: Young eel can't reach
habitat and adult eels can't
reach their spawning grounds.

The eel needs help!



Eel has lots of problems

- Pollution
- Commorants
- Waterpumps and hydropower
- Uncontrolled fisheries



Eel has lots of problems

Glasseel is extremely vulnerable...



Eel has lots of problems

Adults can't manage without human help.



Can we help the eel ?

- Less fishing on eel in inlandwaters?
- Year 2008 Dutch eelfishing was 900 tons reduced to 200 tons in 2011, a reduction of almost 80%
- Quit fishing an option ?
- Doing nothing.....not the solution!
- We urgently need people with a heart for eel.

Can we help the eel ?

EU council regulation 1100/2007 is written:

- “ for the protection and sustainable use of the stock”

protection and sustainable use !

Can we help the eel ?

- Better use of the stock
- Restocking with glasseel and pre-grown eels
- Helping migration
- Sustainable use
- Scientific research



Can we help the eel ?

Sustainable Eel Standard



- Certified catch and trade of glasseel,
- Beter catchmethods
- Strong reduction in death and bycatch
- Controlled fisheries

De SES hanteert specifiek op paling gericht gelijksoortige criteria als het voor zeevis bedoelde MSC. De standaard werd ontwikkeld in samenwerking met een groep Engelse wetenschappers en milieuorganisaties als de Environment Agency en de Association of Rivers Trust.

De criteria in de SES voldoen volledig aan het Europees Aal Herstelplan

Sustainable management

- Dutch inland eelfishermen help small eels to reach suitable habitat. So we get knowledge, control sustainable fisheries and reduce illegal catches.
- During migration season they help large numbers of eel 'over the dyke' towards open sea.
Thus the eel is helped on his pathway toward the spawning grounds to mate.
- This is the one and only way to get and behold eels in the Dutch coastal and inland waters!



Scientific research

Despite almost a century of research on eels: lots is still unknown.

By funding research we can help in finding answers.

In making effective management plans for the eels sake.



Scientific research

- Glaseel (0,3 gram p./st.) pregrown to (1,5 gram p./st.)
- Pregrowers show good survival
- They start immediately eating natural food
- They show good growing rates
- DUPAN funded € 50.000 in this research

Restocking = multiplying

- Helping eel is 20 to 100 times more effective than doing nothing

Is this affordable?

Restocking



Is this affordable?

Restocking,
migration of
silvereel and
research do cost a
lot of money.

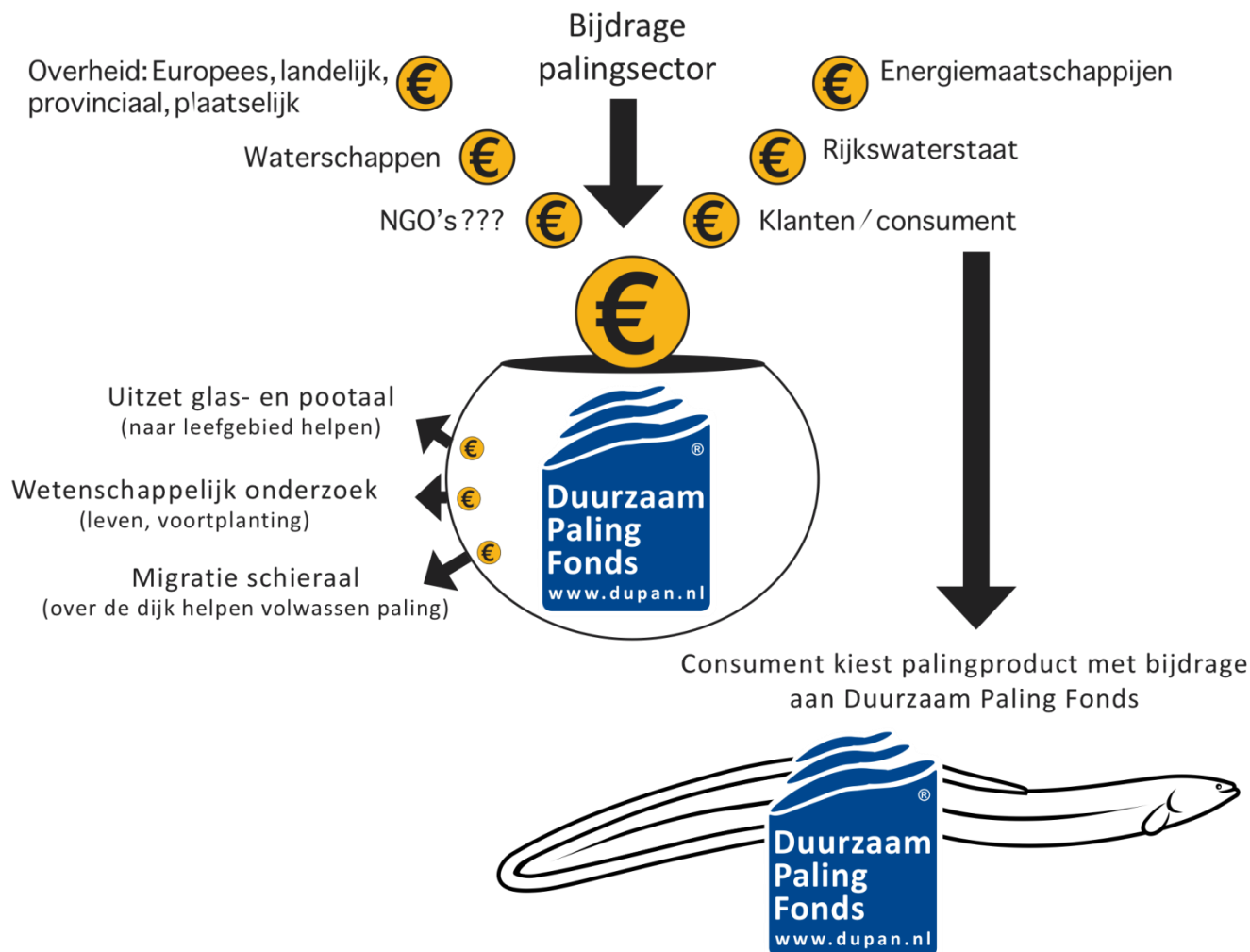


Is this affordable?

- The Sustainable Eel Fund (Duurzaam Paling Fonds[®]) already owns € 240.000
- All sales of eel support the fund since january 1 th.
- In 2012 it will generate approx. € 0,5 to 1 million €
- When everybody joins it will generate > € 2 million €.



Is this affordable?



Sustainable. But how?

- Many challenges for science
 - How many eels do live in the Netherlands?
 - For how many is there suitable habitat?
 - How many silver reach open sea naturally?
 - What is the number of glasseels we need?
 - But also:

More questions

Killing by
sportsfishermen?
What is the number of eels not
surviving being caught by **hook**

Death caused by **watermills**
and turbines?
How can eel **survive?**

Death by **natural predators?**
What is the influence of the growing numbers of
the **Commorant** in last 30 years?

Death by **Pollution?**
What are the influences of
toxic material?

Death by bad
migration routes?
What is the number of eels when we
use another management on
locks?

Death by **shortage of food?**
Does **clean water** contain enough
food for healthy eels?

We care for eel

- The Dutch eelindustry has been able to put the eel above themselves. The concern of the eel is of greater intrest than our own economic importance.
- Eel belong to Holland !



We care for eel

The DUPAN Foundation is committed to restoring the eel population through effective conservation action and through promoting only the sustainable exploitation and management of this fish.

We are supporting all our members in the adoption of the Sustainable Eel Standard and are channelling foundations funds into research, restocking and the translocation of eels with our 'over the dike' programme.

We believe that the only future for the eel will be a sustainable one

Do you care for eel?

- The eelindustry can do a lot
- But:
- Many problems are outside of the influence of this industry.
- Thats why:
- We have to join forces in building a sustainable eelstock

Do you care for eel?

- We have to do it together!
- The government and the industry, but also:
people of intrests, waterwaymanagments,
the energysector, and the NGO's...
- The eel urges for help.
Do you help us to help the eel?

Does DUPAN achieve?



- Dutch House of Commons gave order to use Inlandfishermen for migration of silvereel!
- In the autumn of 2012 DUPAN will co-ordinate and finance a silvereel migration on 6 of the 30 main Dutch obstructions.

DUPAN helps the eel.

State has no money

Some dams will be opened

But the most important 30 obstructions
will be delayed from 2015 to 2027

	Planned for 2015 (vlg. Ned. Aalplan 2009) (reservering € 200 miljoen)	Reality
4761 waterpumps	1800	200 – 300
6 hydropower	????	????

Aalkaart 2008

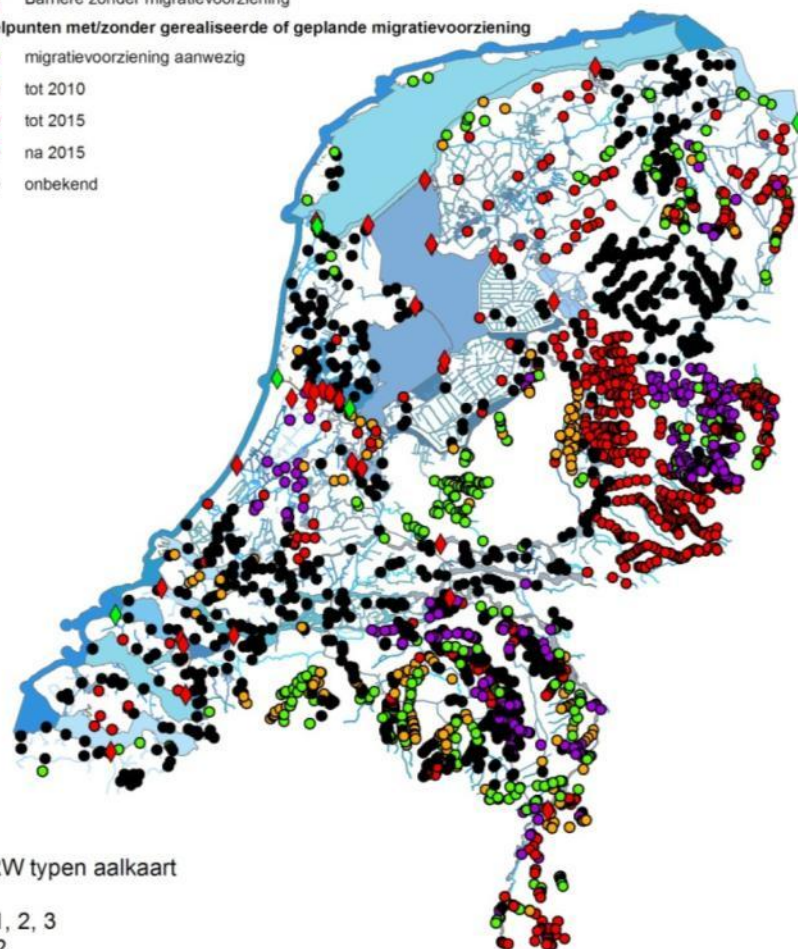
Legenda

Top 30

- ◆ Barrière met migratievoorziening
- ◆ Barrière zonder migratievoorziening

Knelpunten met/zonder gerealiseerde of geplande migratievoorziening

- migratievoorziening aanwezig
- tot 2010
- tot 2015
- na 2015
- onbekend



KRW typen aalkaart

- K 1, 2, 3
- O 2
- R 5, 6, 7, 8, 16
- M 3, 6, 7, 10, 14, 20, 21, 27, 30, 31, 32

The end

On behalf of the
eel;

Thanks for your
attention!



