

PST31 - The Baltic states' biggest fish ponds farm Nagli (Latvia), its aquaculture technologies and role for the European nature conservation

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The construction of the first ponds in Nagli (Latvia) was launched in 1965. In 1968, by the decision of the Latvian Council of Ministers, the fishery “Nagli” was established. Since 2000, it is called “Nagli” Ltd. Currently, “Nagli” Ltd. is the largest fish pond farm not only in Latvia, but also in the Baltic States. It is the fish farm of the full cycle, which has its own carp and pike breeding material, from which the fish incubation is made.

Nowadays, the fisheries “Nagli” occupy about 2000 ha. This area includes ponds, dams, land under the incubation workshop and mechanical workshop. Also the area includes the river Malta, which waters are used for the fishery ponds. All the ponds are located in the territory of “Natura 2000”.

In the Nagli fish ponds, we evaluated its aquaculture technologies and measured the ponds surface area; depth; the length of the coastal line; connectivity; distance to the nearest river; overgrowing of the water surface, and the costal line; distance to the nearest house and road; intensity of using for fisheries, fishing and hunting. We investigated birds, fish and amphibian species and searched for the new invasive fish *Perccottus glenni* by fishing and netting.

The fish ponds of Nagli are one of the richest and most diverse place of waterfowls of resting and migratory birds. All pounds of “Nagli” are built in former clan of the lake Lubans, so the bottom of the ponds is peaty. It specifies that the fish can be grown in ponds and during the fish catch. 99% of all grown fish is carp. The pike and crucian are also grown here.

In the result of the study, the measures of management of the Nagli fish ponds for nature conservation goals in Latvia were suggested. The management of “Nagli” Ltd. has signed the cooperation agreement about the joint research of the fisheries and nature conservation with the Daugavpils University.

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