

# The Fharmor project

## Fish habitat in alpine rivers: integrating modeling monitoring & remote sensing

### Final conference

Bozen - Bolzano, 13 December 2019

The FHARMOR project contributed to the integration of complementary approaches to quantitatively assess and predict in-stream river habitat availability at the mesoscale (mesohabitat). Such integration is applicable in both large-scale scientific studies as well as for management purposes.

River habitat quantification is a powerful tool to support decision making for the conservation of instream habitat communities, to design and assess ecological flows and to assess the environmental effects of water abstractions, flow regime regulation and, more in general, of hydro-morphological alterations in rivers.

Mesohabitat quantification relies on field mapping which becomes challenging in non-wadable conditions. The FHARMOR project addressed this issue by integrating technologies such as bathymetric lidar and hyperspectral imagery remote sensing, hydrodynamic and morphodynamic modelling with field mapping. The project focused on two main Alpine rivers case studies in South Tyrol with complementary characteristics in terms of channel size, morphological pattern and degree of human alteration.

The project outcomes resulted in the development of habitat suitability criteria for local fish species and a pilot application of mesohabitat supervised learning on remote sensing and hydrodynamic data. The project produced also a framework to quantify spatial changes of fluvial habitat and mesohabitat classification in response to natural fluvial disturbances and an assessment of the potential of hydro-morphodynamic modelling and emerging remote sensing techniques to predict mesohabitat spatial and temporal patterns.

The FHARMOR project was sponsored by the Autonomous Province of Bolzano-Bozen (Italy) and carried on as international cooperation among the Free University of Bolzano-Bozen, The University of Innsbruck and the University of Trento. The Polytechnic of Turin and Polish S. Sakowicz Inland Fisheries Institute participated as associated partners.

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The Stanisław Sakowicz  
INLAND FISHERIES  
INSTITUTE

## PROGRAM

- 8.45 Registration  
9.00 Welcome address

## SCIENTIFIC OUTCOMES OF THE FHARMOR PROJECT

- 9.15 Overview of the FHARMOR research project  
*Guido Zolezzi, University of Trento, Italy*
- 9.30 Meso and micro scale habitat models: an overview  
*Piotr Parasiewicz, Polish S. Sakowicz Inland Fisheries Institute, Poland*
- 9.50 From space to the field: remote sensing for river hydro-morphological mapping  
*Simone Bizzi, University of Padova, Italy*
- 10.10 Remote sensing: ALB – Airborne Lidar bathymetry  
*Robert Klar, University of Innsbruck, Austria*
- 10.30 COFFEE BREAK
- 11.00 Mesohabitat suitability criteria for grayling  
*Paolo Vezza, Polytechnic of Torino, Italy*
- 11.20 Hydraulic modelling and mesoscale habitat modelling (1)  
*Katharina Baumgartner University of Innsbruck, Austria*
- 11.40 Hydraulic modelling and mesoscale habitat modelling (2)  
*David Farò, University of Trento, Italy*
- 12.00 Geomorphic Units and riverine habitats: case studies in the Bolzano province  
*Andrea Andreoli, Vittoria Scorpio, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy*
- 12.30 River morpholodynamics and habitat  
*Emilio Politti, University of Trento, Italy*
- 13.00 **LUNCH BREAK**

## FROM SCIENCE TO PRACTICE: USE OF HABITAT MODELLING IN RIVER MANAGEMENT

- 14.15 Synthesis of FHARMOR project key findings  
*Guido Zolezzi Università di Trento*
- 14.30 Ecological flows, river habitat and fluvial geomorphology: the international and national context  
*Martina Bussettini, ISPRA, Italy*
- 14.50 Topic to be defined  
*Author to be defined*
- 15.10 Assessment of river habitat in the hydropeaking Talvera river in South Tyrol  
*Silvia Simoni, Mountain-eering srl, Daniel Spitale, Biomonitoraggi srl.*
- 15.30 Testing the use of mesohabitat modelling for ecological flows in the Trento Province  
*Paolo Negri, Province Agency of rEnvironmental Protection, Trento, Italy*
- 15.50 **Round table and discussion**  
*Chairman: Francesco Comiti, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano, Italy*
- 16.30 Final considerations and conclusions

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