#### MASTER OF SCIENCE NATURE CONSERVATION THESIS DEFENSE



Springs Connect People and Landscapes in the Region Liberec - Zittau

# CZECH-GERMAN WATER SPRINGS

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#### Occurrence and ecology of freshwater shrimp (*Gammarus fossarum*) in water springs of Lusatian Fault



#### **OBJECTIVE OF THESIS**:

Detect the main factors affecting presence and abundance of *Gammarus fossarum* in a set of 40 springs along the Lusatian Fault in the Czech-German border.

#### Distribution



#### Location



### How to recognize a Spring?



### Hydrology



### What are we looking for?



## Gammarus fossarum



#### Sampling Methods



## Spring types



#### **Dominant plants**



### Dominant Geology



#### **Other benthic species**



### Toxic metals



#### Presence of Gammarus fossarum



## Abundance of Gammarus fossarum





#### Season

#### Land use



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#### And how do we explain it to the local people?







#### Gammarus

These are small aquatic animals similar to shrimps that can be found in the bottom of freshwater ecosystems eating detritus of other organisms [1].

#### Abundance

Species like *Gammarus fossarum* abundantly inhabits water springs of central Europe [2] and they live under specific conditions of water quality, such as high dissolved oxygen and neutral pH.

#### **Toxicology Studies**

Also, *Gammarus* are useful to measure toxic metals accumulated in its tissue, giving an idea of chronic pollution in the area [3]. This helps to analyze the

# People connect with Springs

## CONCLUSION...

- *G. fossarum is* present in **every catchment**, geology, spring type and any kind of forest.
- Absent in springs with low pH, artificial bottom, Fe
- Populations become more abundant in autumn, water of neutral pH, high oxygen and low metals
- Forest cover supports healthier water springs
- Gammarus abundance is useful to evaluate the environmental conditions in the watershed
- Constant monitoring to evidence changes
- Main principle of nature conservation: REACH THE LOCAL PEOPLE

#### ANALYZED By O PRAMENY SPOJUJÍ QUELLEN VERBINDEN

Water quality: Good Spring type: Rheocrene Dominant geology: Cretaceus sediment Dominant forest: Picea sp. Human aspect: Domestic use Dominant animal: Amphipoda



QR code for legend and more information about the project.

Prameny Spojují's Official Stamp for water springs



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Europäische Union. Europäischer Fonds für regionale Entwicklung. Evropská unie. Evropský fond pro regionální rozvoj.



Ahoj sousede. Hallo Nachbar. Interreg V A / 2014 – 2020

