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# Climate Change Impact on Freshwater Ecosystems in Latvia

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**CLIMATE CHANGE**



**PHYSICAL CHANGES OF WATERS**



**CHEMICAL CHANGES OF WATERS**



**BIOLOGICAL CHANGES**



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## Climate change impact to freshwaters physical features:

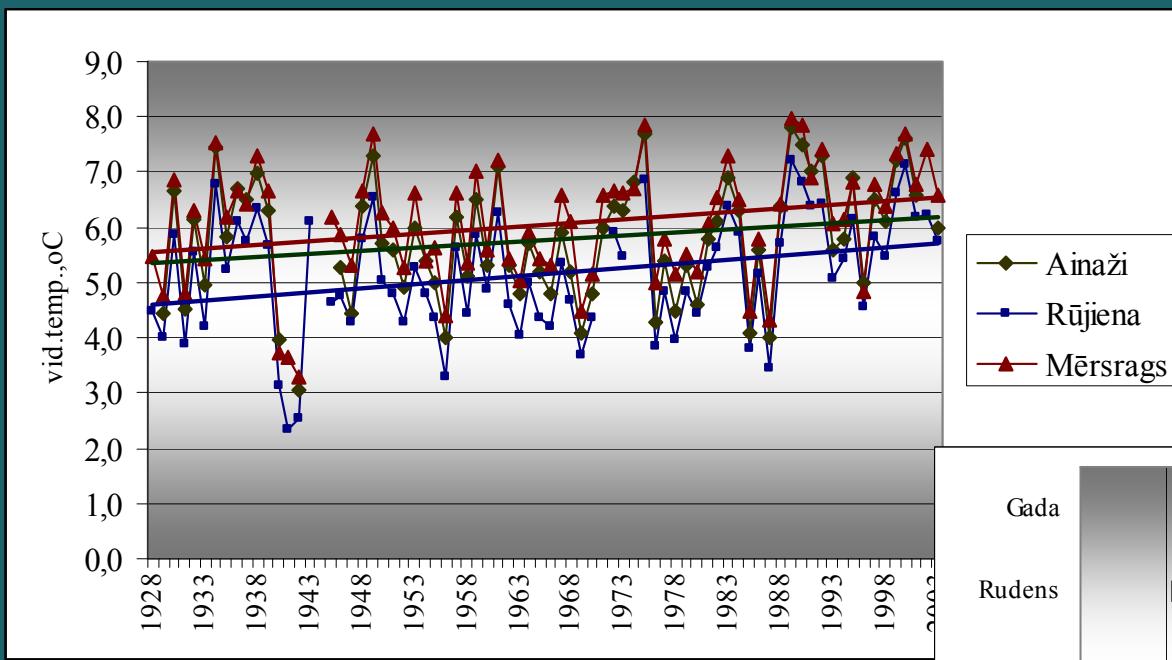
- **increase in water temperature;**
- decrease in number of ice days;
- changes in river water discharge;
- increase of extreme phenomena etc.



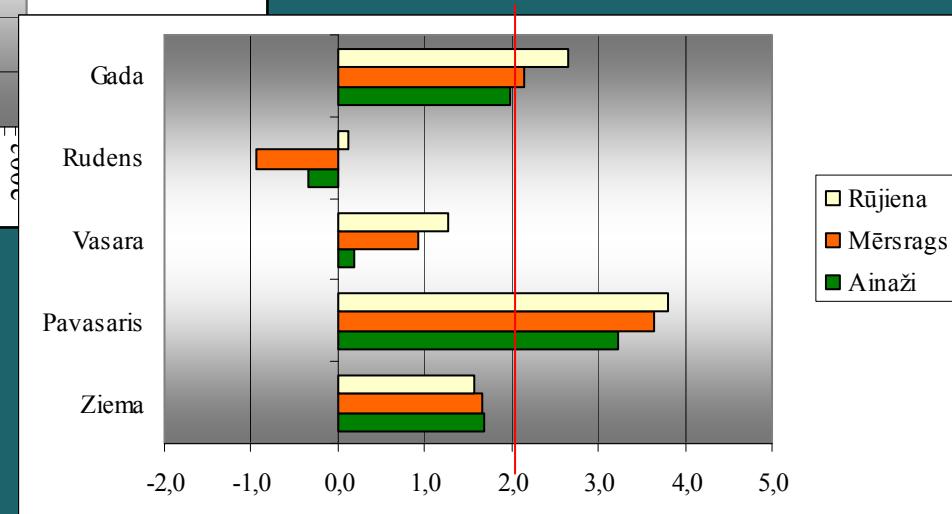
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## Character of annual mean air temperature (1928 – 2003) at meteorological stations near to long-term ecological research sites (River Salaca, Lake Engure)



**Mann-Kendall test statistics for seasonal temperatures for time period 1928 - 2003**

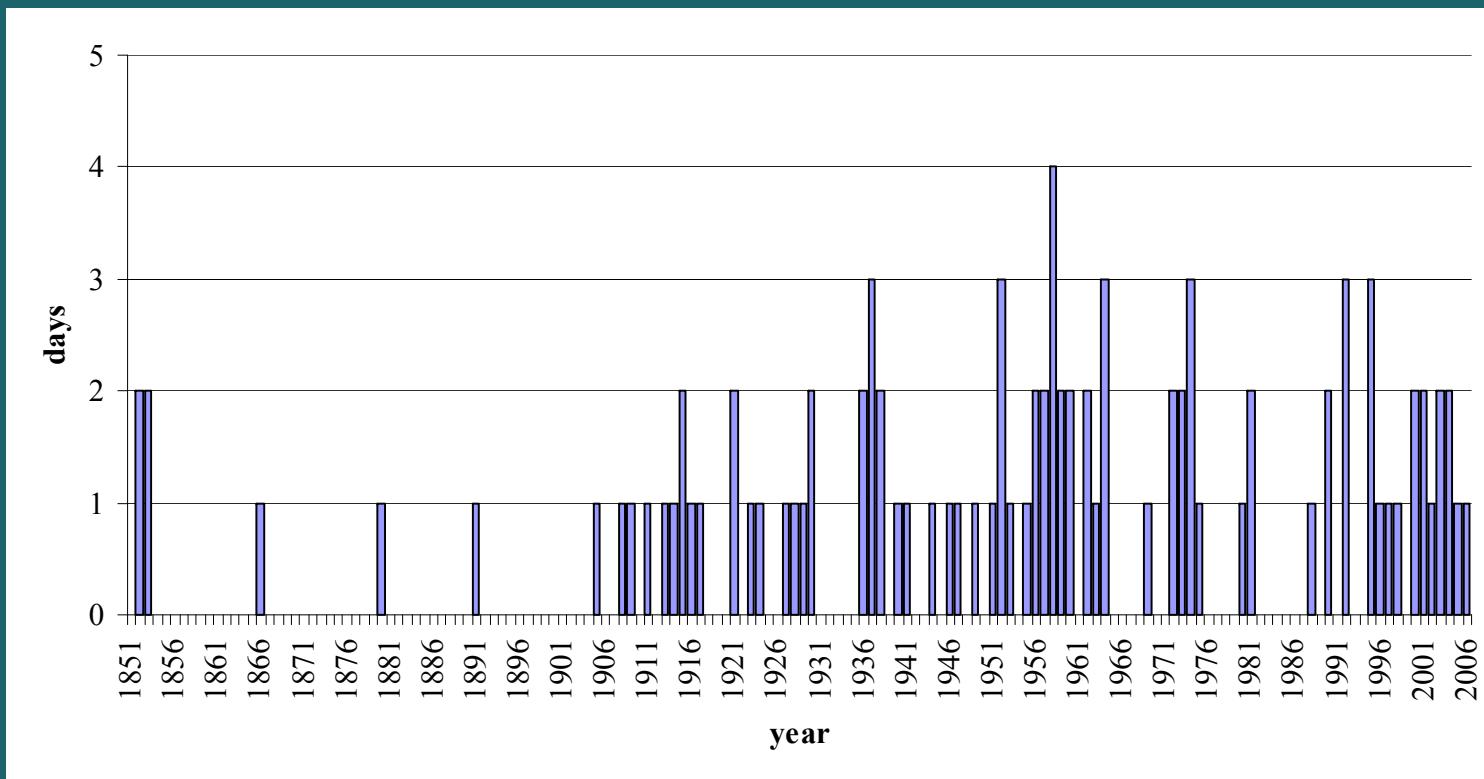




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## Number of extremely wet days (Riga-University meteorological station)





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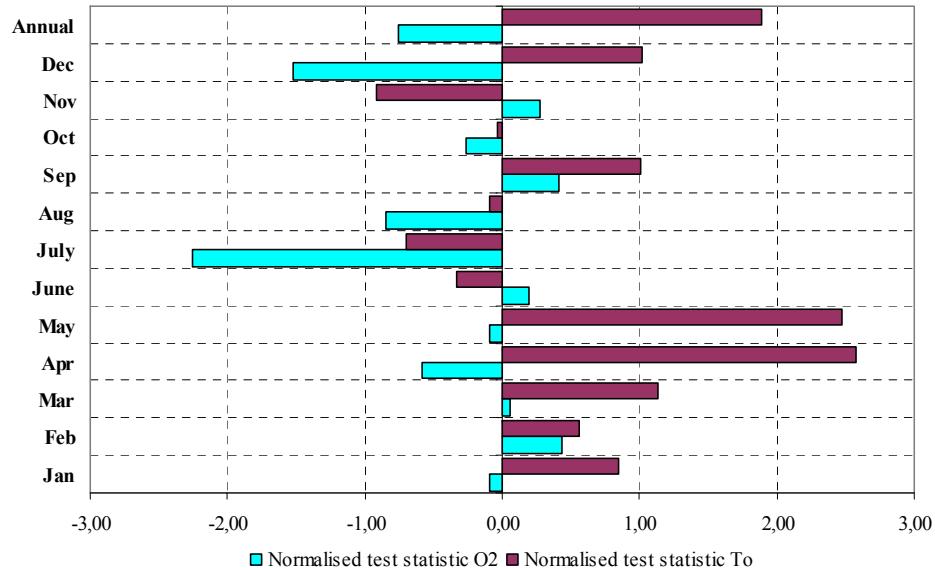
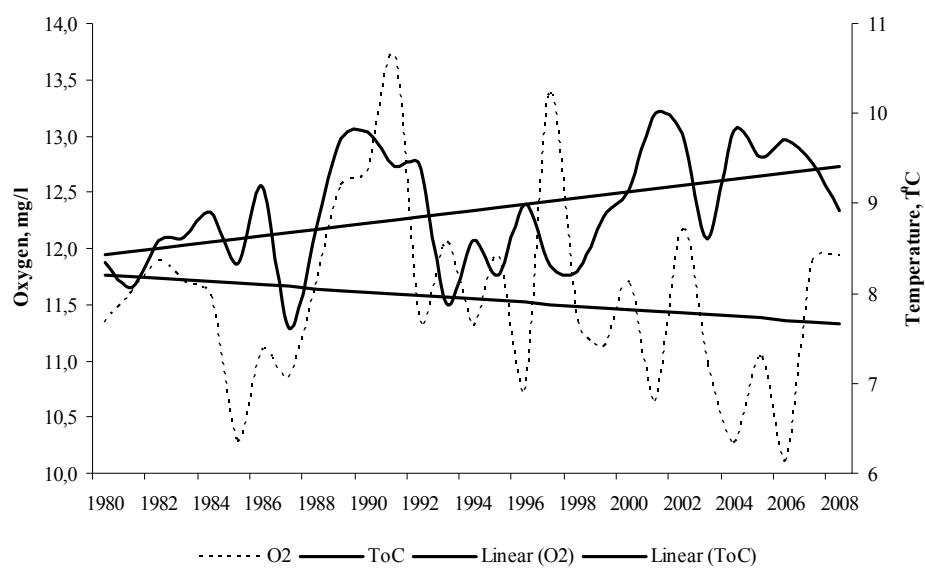
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- **Chemical changes:**
    - decreased oxygen content (especially – in summer low water period);
    - increased conductivity;
    - increased water colour
- etc.



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**Changes of dissolved oxygen and water temperature (annual mean 1980 – 2008) of the River Salaca**

**Long term trends of dissolved oxygen and temperature to Mann-Kendall normalized test statistic (1980-2008)**

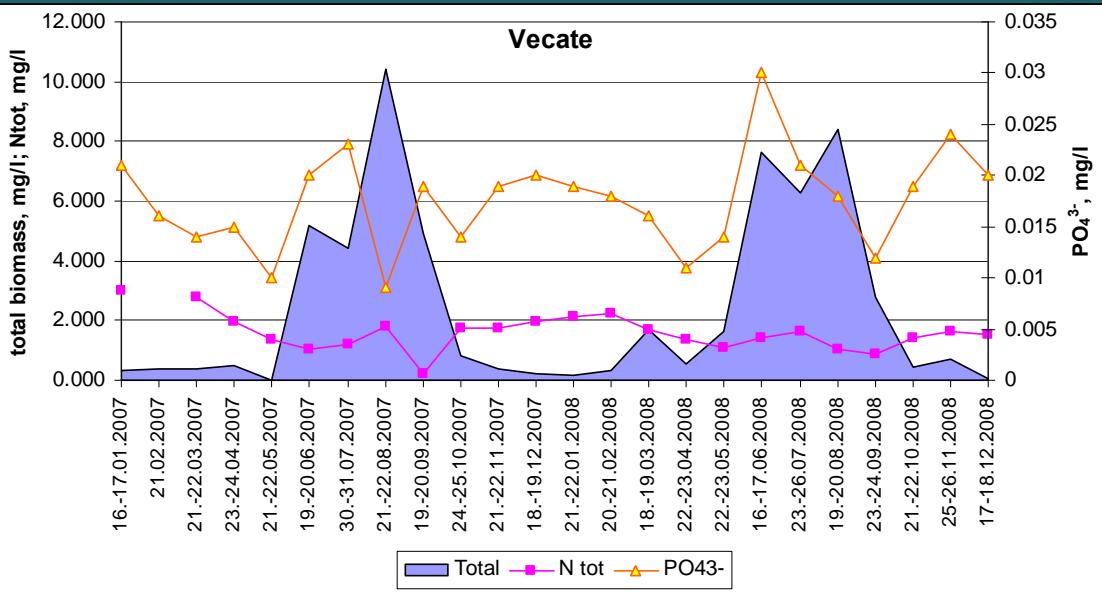
# Long-term (1996-2005) changes of water chemical composition after Mann-Kendall test (N- number of observations; coloured p<0.05; italic – p<0.1)

Monitoring station	Color	COD* (TOC)	pH	N-NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	P-PO <sub>4</sub> <sup>3-</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>
Salaca	<b>2.90</b> N = 109	<b>2.56</b> N = 81	<i>-1.94</i> N = 109	-0.83 N = 109	-0.51 N = 107	-0.54 N = 83	<i>-2.61</i> N = 83	-1.36 N = 83	-0.38 N = 85
Gauja	<b>1.97</b> N = 111	-0.06 N = 82	-1.09 N = 111	-1.20 N = 111	-0.30 N = 111	-0.39 N = 92	<i>-3.02</i> N = 92	<i>-2.19</i> N = 92	<b>0.67</b> N = 92
Daugava	<b>2.41</b> N = 74	<b>0.87</b> N = 50	<i>-0.58</i> N = 74	0.11 N = 74	<b>0.26</b> N = 74	<b>2.06</b> N = 63	<i>-1.99</i> N = 63	0.54 N = 63	<b>1.50</b> N = 63
Aiviekste	<b>2.42</b> N = 71	<b>1.88</b> N = 47	<i>-0.80</i> N = 71	0.55 N = 71	-1.63 N = 71	1.14 N = 45	-1.42 N = 45	-1.09 N = 45	-1.28 N = 45
Dubna	<b>1.53</b> N = 71	<b>2.28</b> N = 47	<i>-1.94</i> N = 71	-1.29 N = 71	-0.23 N = 71	1.27 N = 45	<i>-1.72</i> N = 45	<i>-1.71</i> N = 45	-0.90 N = 45
Lielā Jugla	<b>2.69</b> N = 94	<b>1.28</b> N = 94	<i>-2.36</i> N = 94	-1.33 N = 94	-1.34 N = 94	0.07 N = 94	<i>-2.76</i> N = 94	<i>-2.00</i> N = 94	-1.50 N = 94
Lielupe	<b>2.65</b> N = 111	<b>1.51</b> N = 81	-0.73 N = 111	<i>-0.39</i> N = 110	-1.48 N = 111	-0.13 N = 87	<i>-1.83</i> N = 86	<i>-2.20</i> N = 87	-1.59 N = 87
Iecava	<b>1.61</b> N = 77	<b>2.19</b> N = 49	<i>-1.51</i> N = 77	-0.04 N = 77	<b>1.17</b> N = 76	-1.24 N = 26	-1.61 N = 18	<i>-1.64</i> N = 26	-0.47 N = 26
Venta	<b>2.29</b> N = 85	<b>1.51</b> N = 56	-1.42 N = 84	<i>-2.01</i> N = 85	-1.26 N = 85	1.41 N = 78	<i>-2.98</i> N = 78	-0.37 N = 78	<b>1.14</b> N = 78
Irbe	<b>2.56</b> N = 93	<b>1.93</b> N = 64	<i>-1.74</i> N = 92	<i>-2.07</i> N = 93	-0.46 N = 93	1.26 N = 84	<i>-3.12</i> N = 84	0.03 N = 84	<b>0.40</b> N = 84
Tebra	-0.12 N = 72	1.34 N = 45	<i>-2.44</i> N = 67	-0.93 N = 70	-1.64 N = 72	<i>-1.73</i> N = 18	0.26 N = 18	<i>-1.85</i> N = 18	-0.52 N = 18

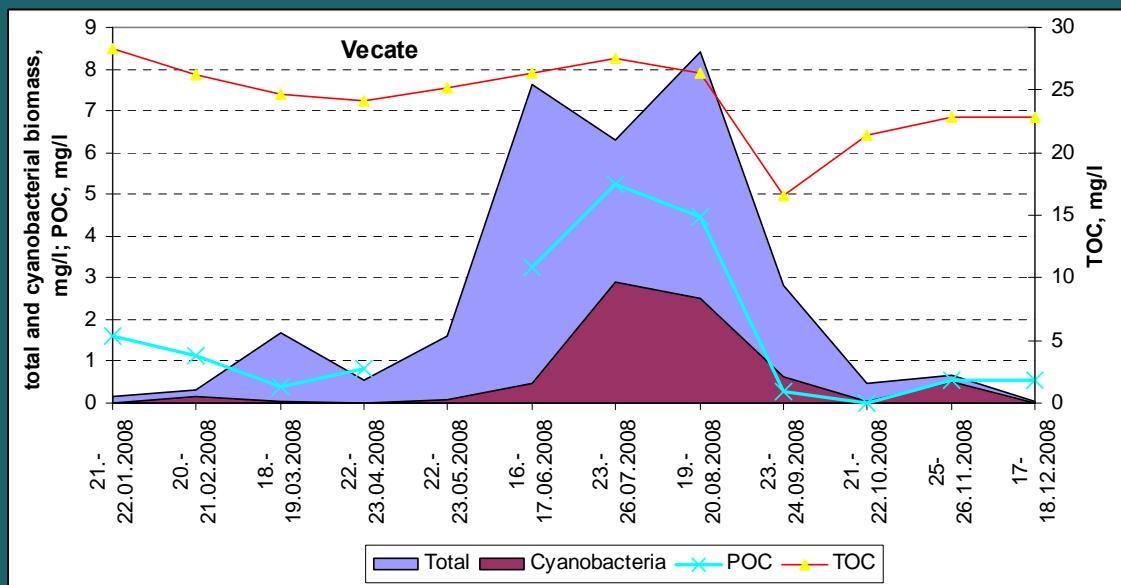


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**Changes of total algal biomass and nutrient  $N_{tot}$  and  $P\text{-PO}_4^{3-}$  concentrations at sampling site Vecate (River Salaca outflow) in 2007-2008**



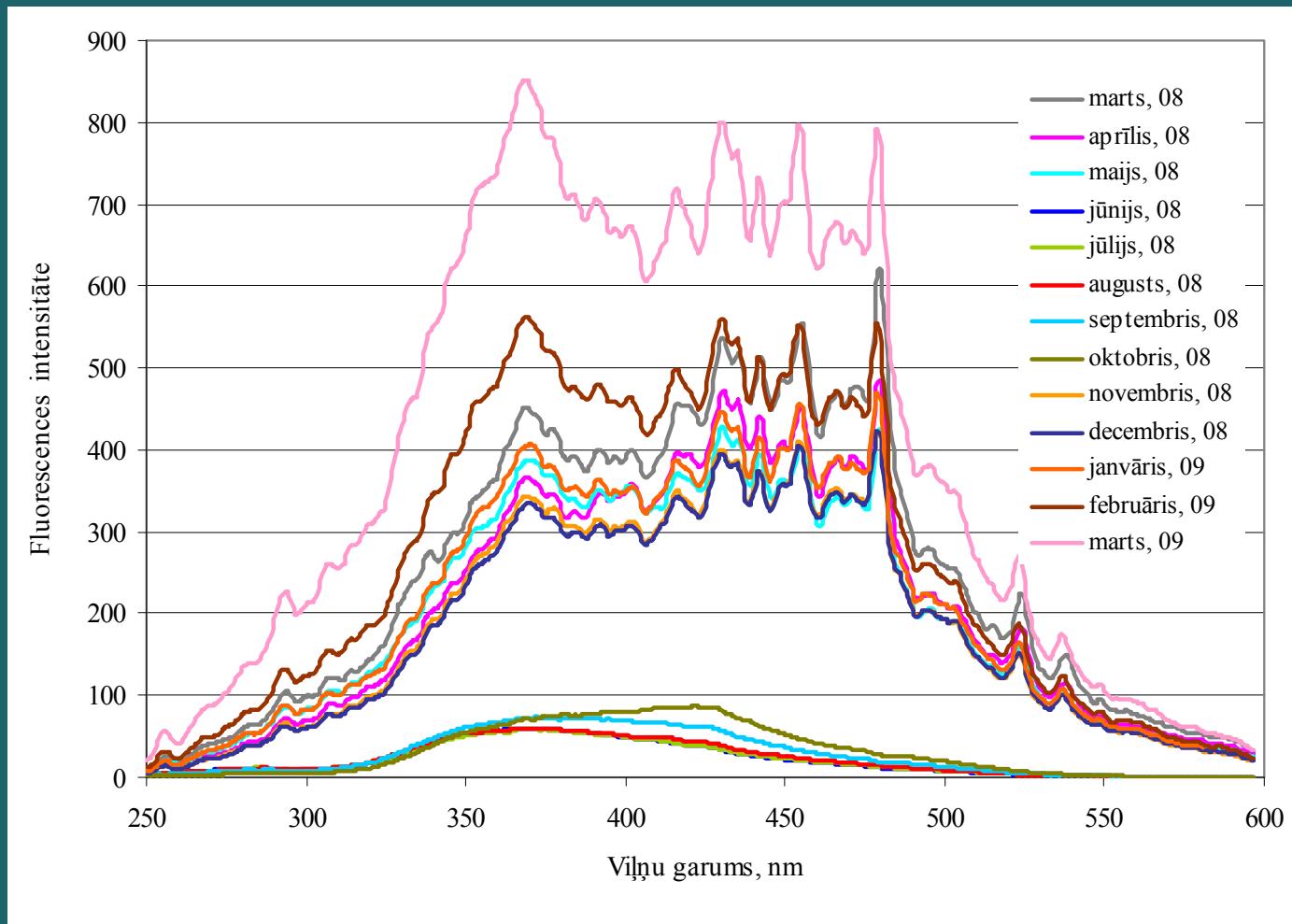
**Changes of total and cyanobacterial biomasses, particulate organic carbon (POC) and total organic carbon (TOC) at the sampling site Vecate (River Salaca outflow) in 2008**



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## Synchronous fluorescence spectra of water sample from River Salaca at sampling station Vecsalaca





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## Structural and functional changes of water biota

- Changes of algae species composition;
  - Changes of development aquatic vegetation;
  - Changes of fish species structure
- etc.

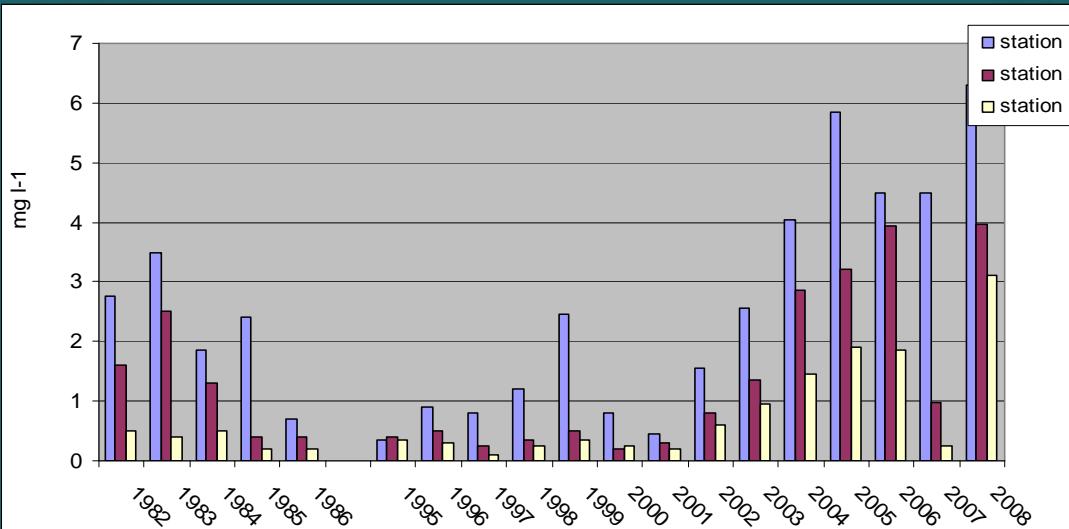


Att. no: [www.mfe.govt.nz](http://www.mfe.govt.nz)

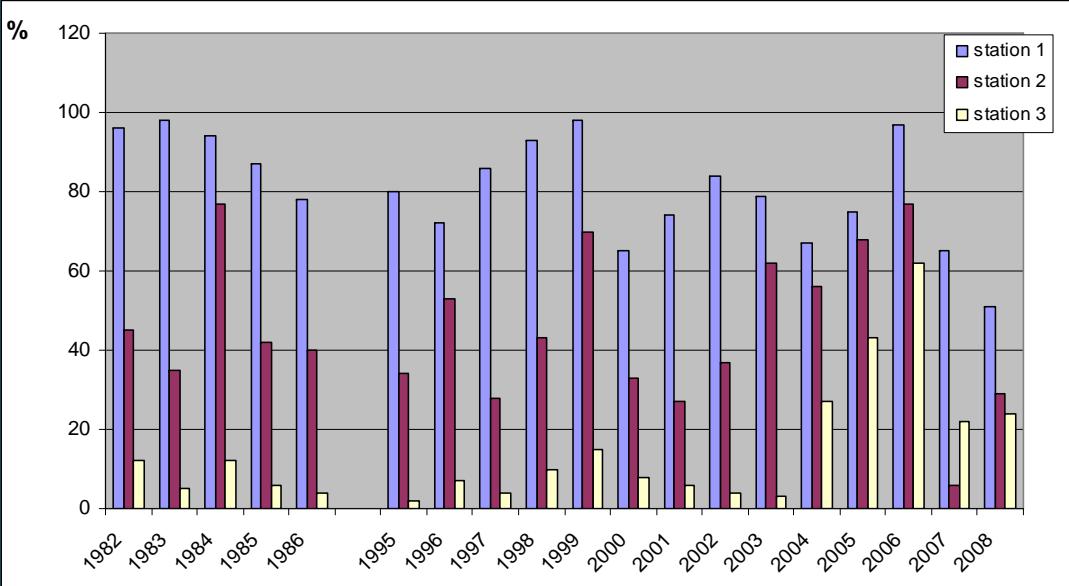


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**Changes of phytoplankton total biomass (mg/l) in River Salaca (1982 – 2008)**

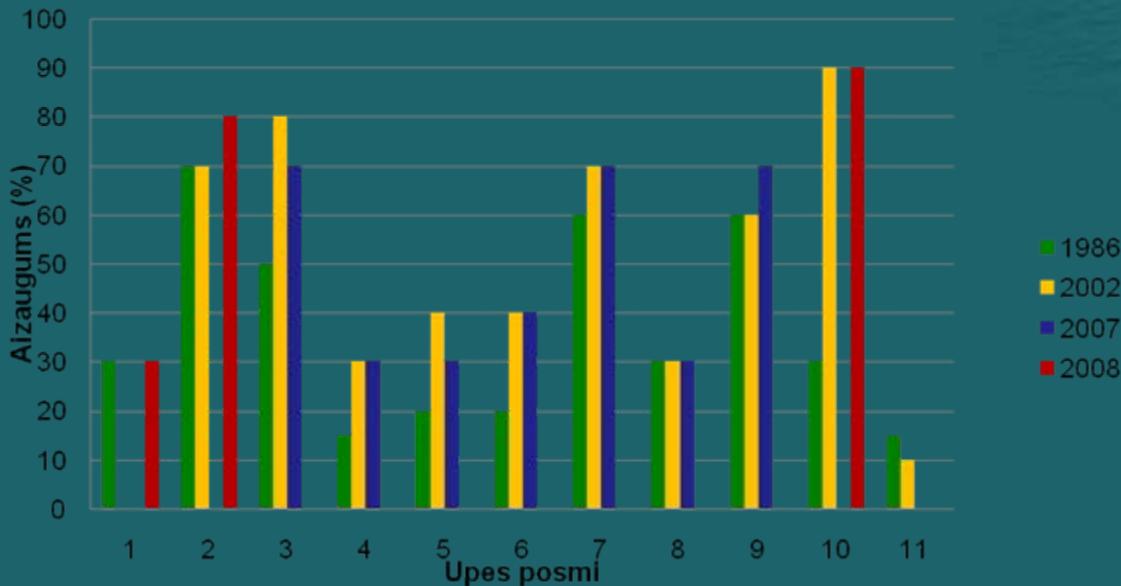


**Changes of ratio of blue-greens in total phytoplankton biomass in River Salaca (1982 – 2008)**

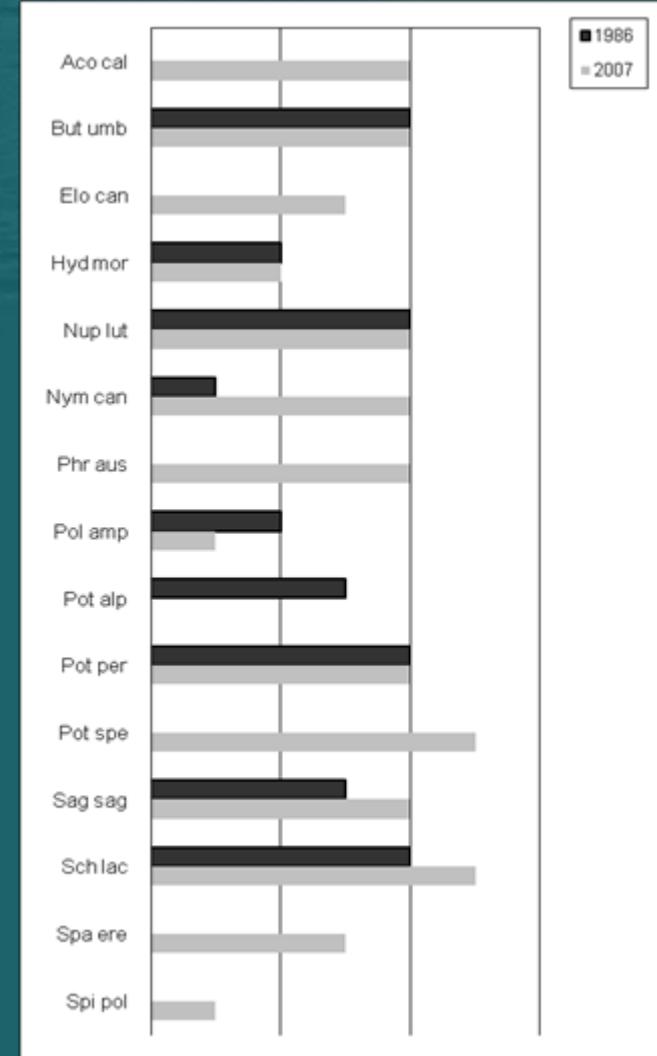


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## Overgrowth (%) changes of aquatic vegetation in River Salaca



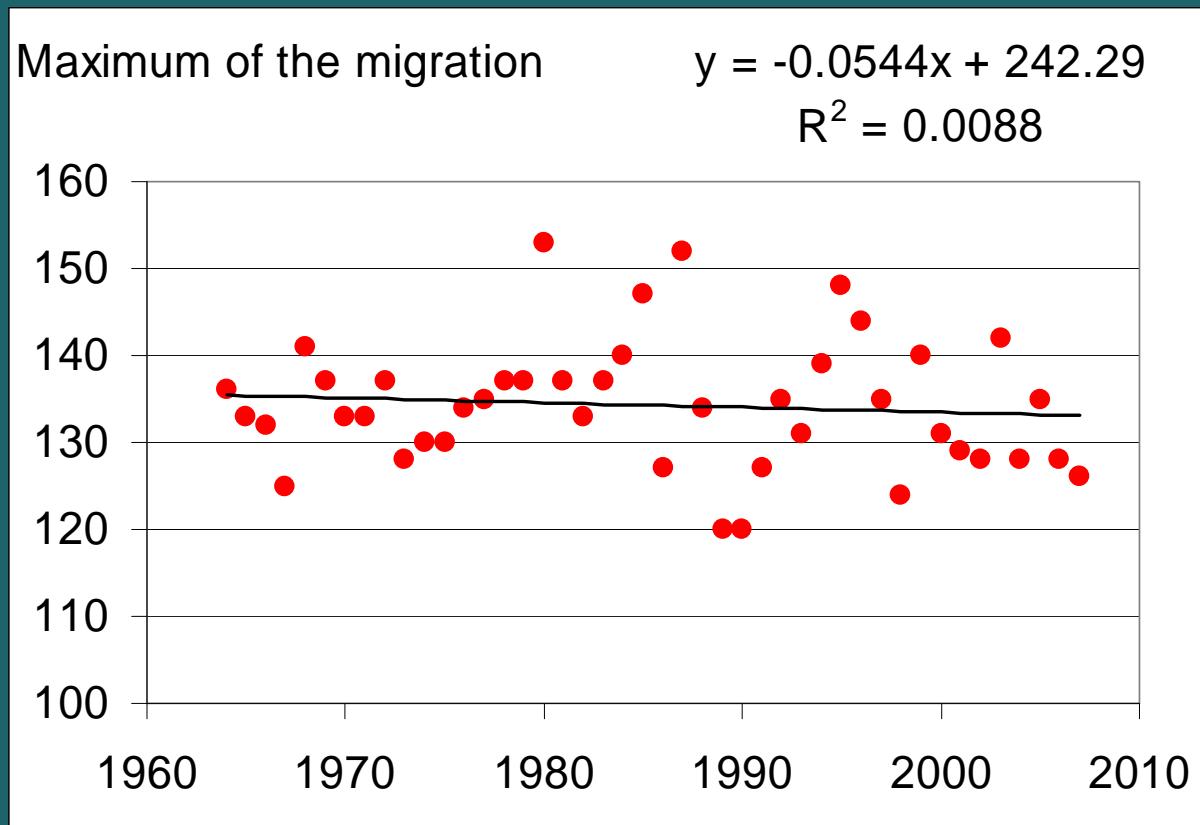
Changes of species composition in River Salaca stretch “Inflow of Pužupes – Red cliffs”



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- Changes of salmon smolts migration period:  
migration ends ~ 1 week earlier than 20 years
- Changes of maximum migration of salmon smolts

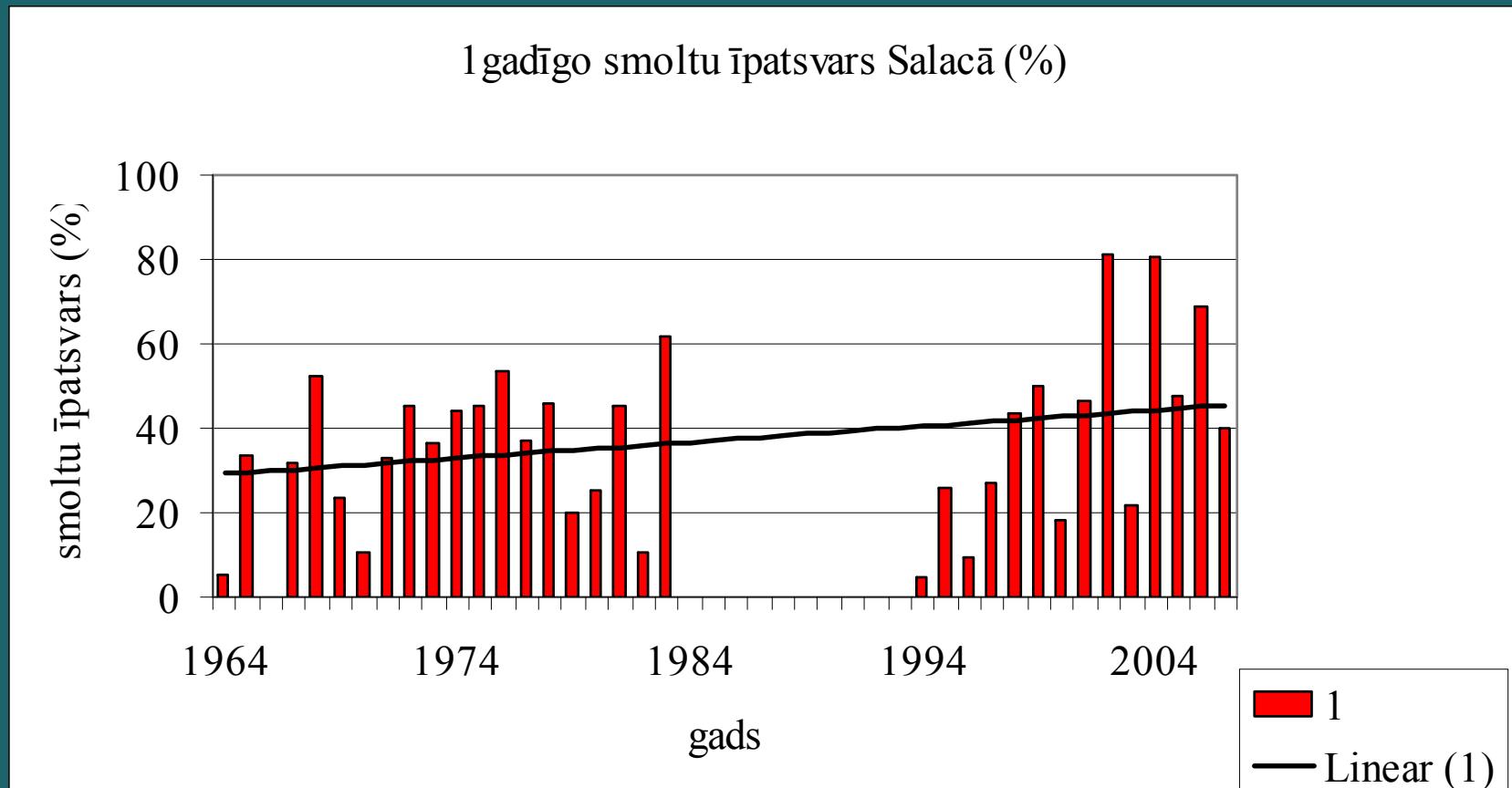




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## Increase of ratio of 1-year salmon smolts in migration process





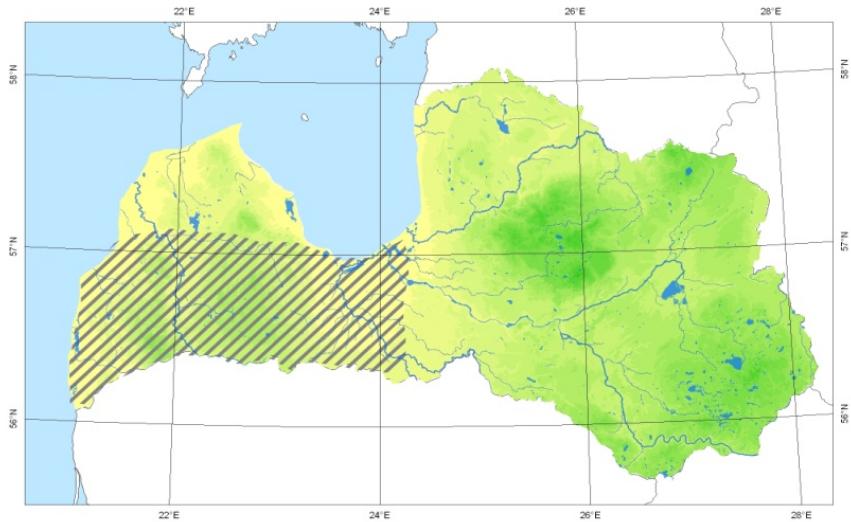
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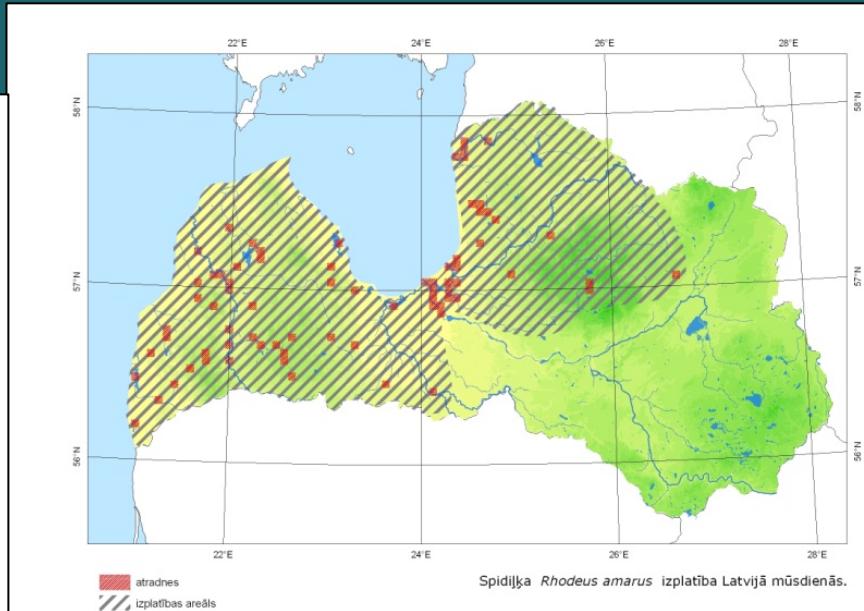
# Biogeographical changes

## Distribution of bitterling

*Rhodeus sericeus* in Latvia in 1925 (A) and now (B)



A



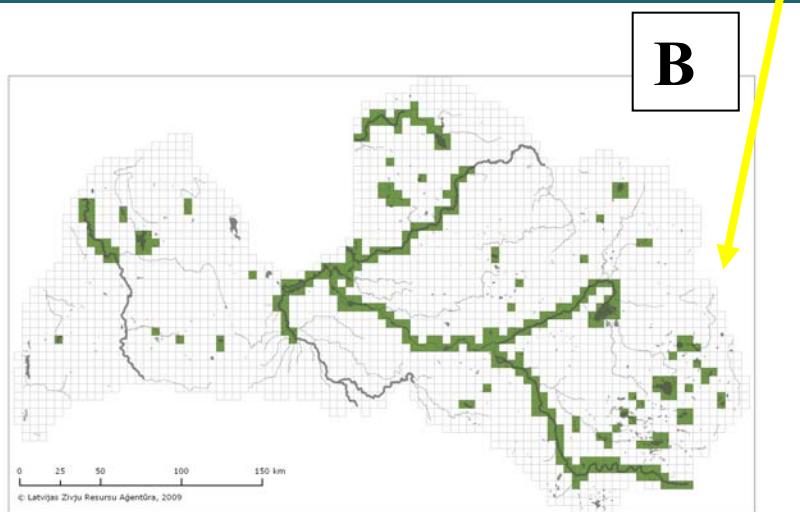
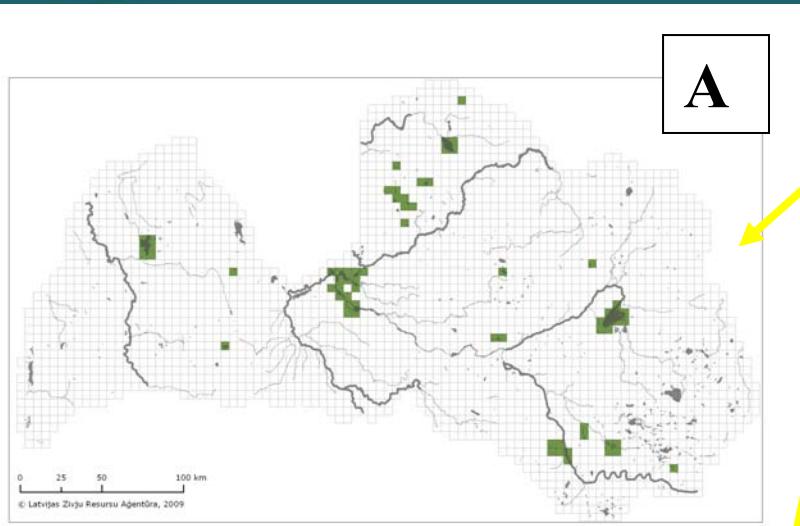
B



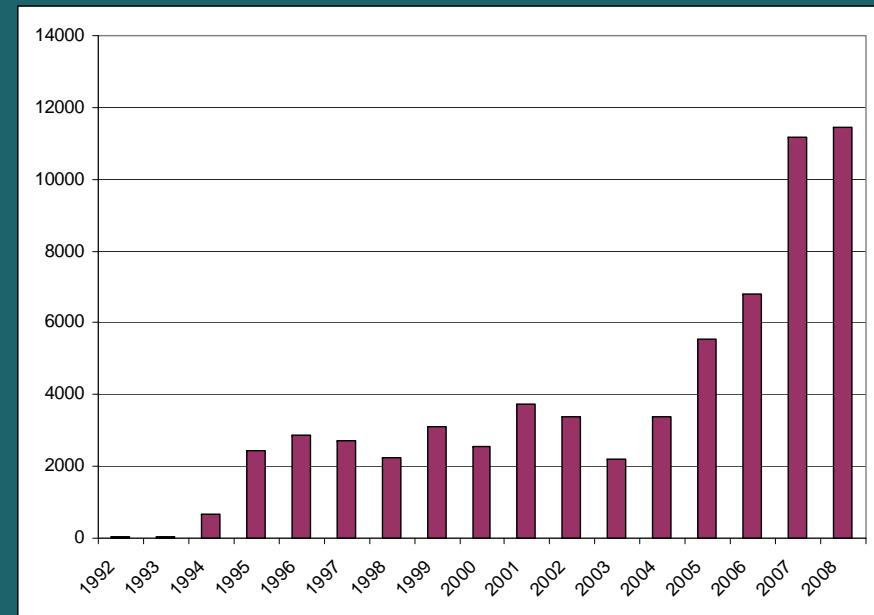


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## Distribution of pike-peach *Stizostedion lucioperca* in Latvia in 50-ies of 20th (A) and now (B)



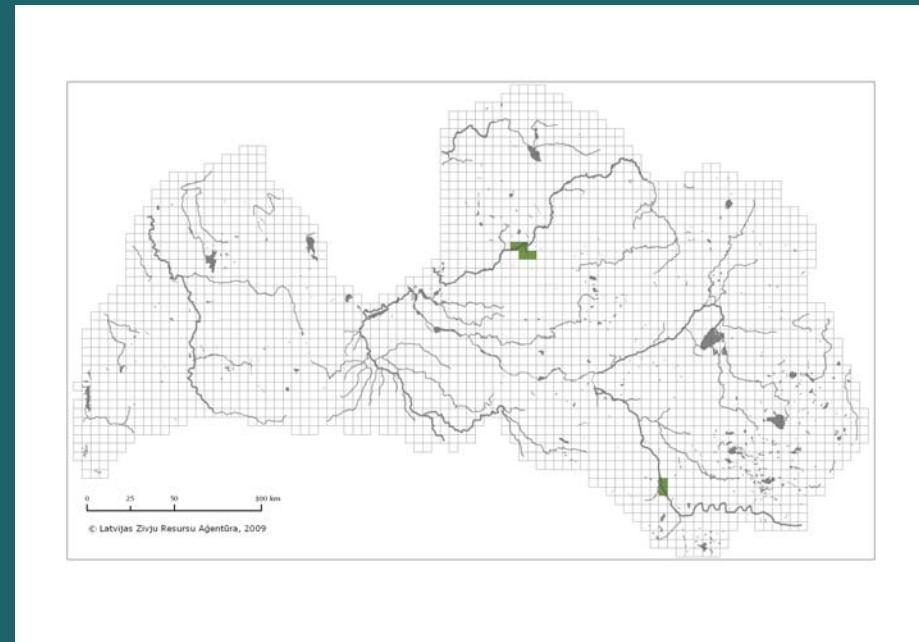
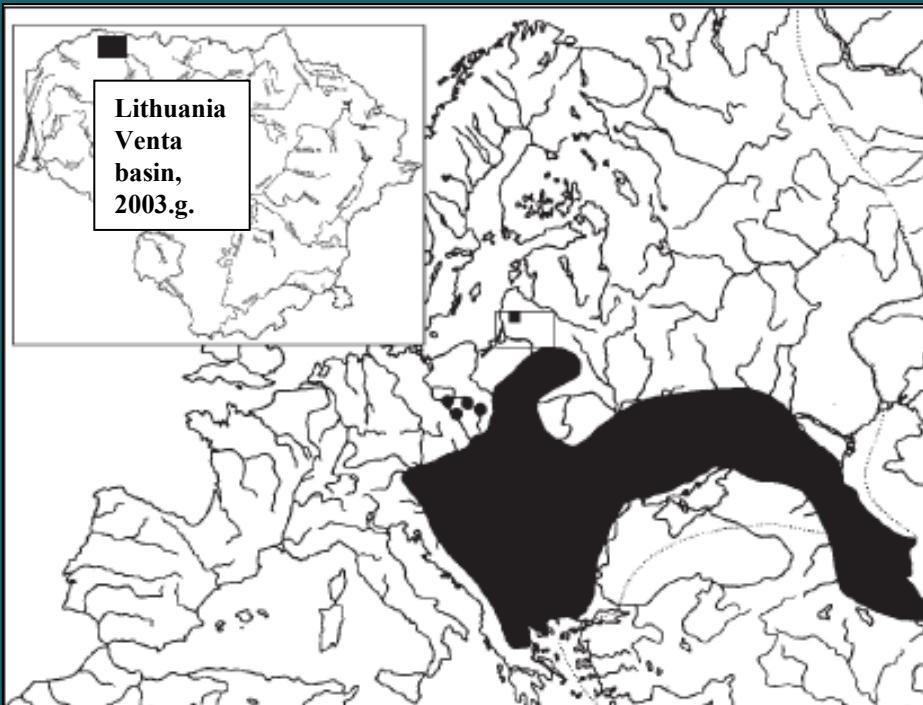
Catch of pike-peach *Stizostedion lucioperca* (kg) in Lake Burtnieku since 1992 till 2008



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The range of the golden loach  
*Sabanejewia aurata* geographical  
distribution in Europe according to  
Bâñarescu (1991), Lelek (1987), Witkowski  
(1994) and Steponenas (2003) and  
findspots in Latvia, 2008 - 2009



Arrival of new species in  
Latvia



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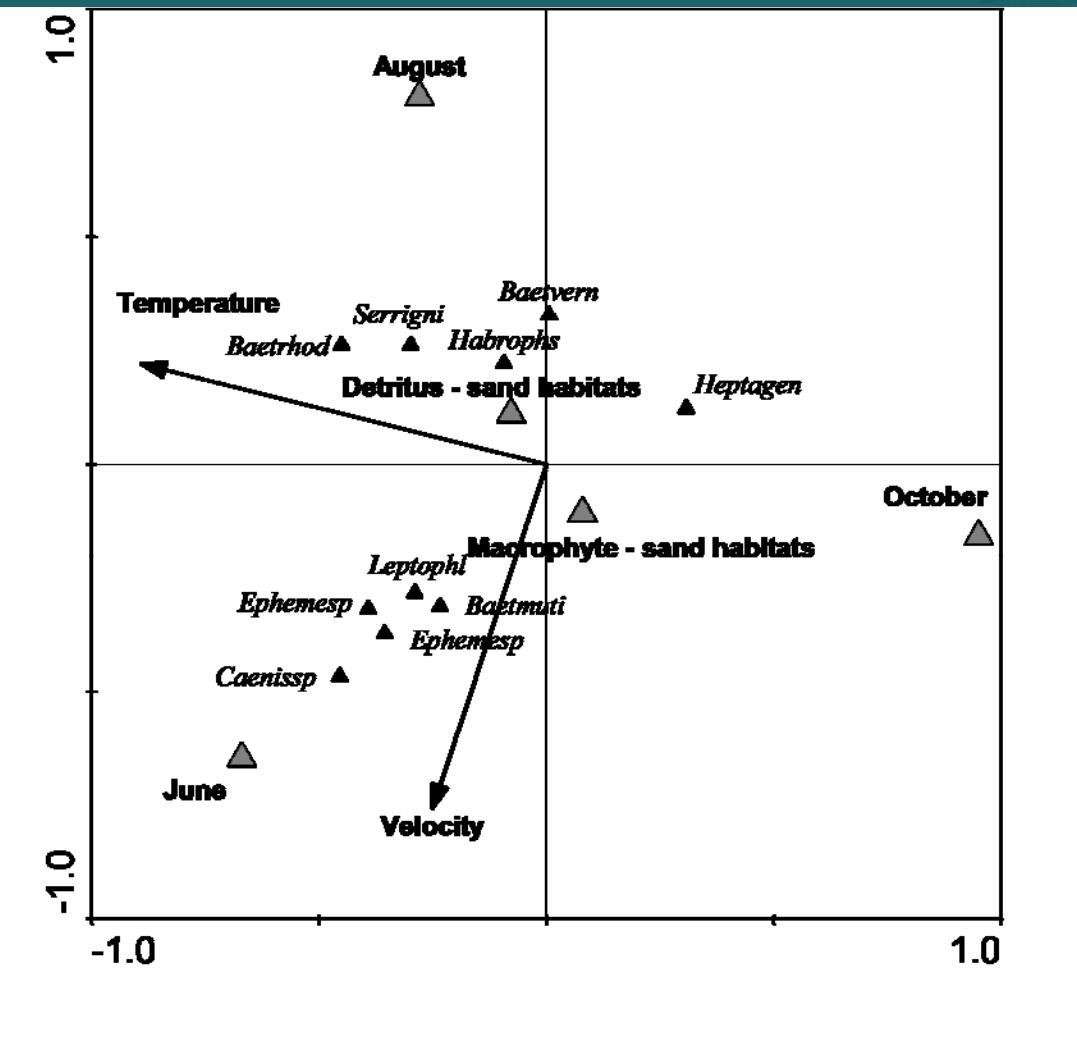
## Investigations of benthic drift





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Ordination analysis of Ephemeroptera species composition in drift samples in Strīķupe below “sand-macrophyte” and “sand-detritus” microbiotops in June, August and October of 2007.

Axis 1 explains 11,5%,  
Axis 2 9,4% of total data dispersion.



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**Long term data sets coupled with mechanistic experiments provide good way of predicting future climate change effects on aquatic ecosystems (D. Conley)**

**Thanks:**    1. all team of WP 3!  
                  2. all for attention!