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MONITORING ICHTIOFAUNY KWISY

MONITORING OF FISH FAUNA IN THE KWISA RIVER

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ABSTRACT

In 1985-1986 ichthyofaunistic research was for the first time conducted in the Kwisia River (Odra basin, SW Poland). A repeated study, covering the same localities and making the use of the same methods, was carried out in 1999. No essential changes in the physiological character of the river were found to have occurred between the periods of study, the purity of the river's water having been improving. Latest research has revealed essential changes in species composition, distribution, density and biomass of the ichthofauna, which can be attributed to the improvement of the water quality and conducted fish stocking. The highest increase in numbers was recorded for lithophilous species, mainly the river trout and brook minnow. The Kwisia is probably the only Polish river, where positive changes in ichthyofauna have recently been observed along the whole course.