

ACTION NAME	C8 Demolition of the Ituren fish Factory dam
Special Conservation Zone (SCZ) being acted upon	River corridor that joins the 2 spaces: SCZ river Bidasoa and SCZ Belate.
LINK WITH NATURA 2000	The action is encompassed within the following SCZ Management Plan Operational Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational Objective 1.1.2. Permeate the existing obstacles in the aquatic channel of the key River System management element. - Operational Objective 1.2.1. Improve the flow system of the water currents of the key River System management element. Measure 1.7. Continue with the permeation measures and dam demolition in the Bidasoa basin, execution underway by the Government of Navarre. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Operational Objective 5.1.2. Improve the habitat conditions of the Atlantic salmon, shad, sea lamprey and European bullhead.
Key Elements of the promoted SCZ	The “Key Elements” of the SCZ favoured by the actions are: “River system”, “River habitats”, “Atlantic salmon, shad, sea lamprey and European bullhead”, “European mink and European otter” and “Pyrenean desman”.
PLACE OF ACTION AND MUNICIPALS:	Ituren
Date	2016
Budget	€276,000
Related project actions	Geomorphological follow-up, follow-up of fish species and aquatic mammals
Description of the action - OBJECTIVES	The aim of this action is the demolish the fish factory dam, the fish way and the outlet channel in Ituren, improving the river connectivity, facilitating the flow of species and reducing the flood risk of this stretch.
Description of the action - BACKGROUND	The final part of the river Ezkurra is part of the SCZ river Bidasoa. The other part of the Belate SCZ includes headwater streams of the river Ezkurra, with important fauna species such as the Pyrenean desman (<i>Galemys pyrenaicus</i>), the Atlantic stream crayfish (<i>Austropotamobius pallipes</i>), the European bullhead (<i>Cottus aturi</i>), etc. The obstacles facing demolition impede the movement of aquatic fauna in the SCZ, to a greater or lesser extent depending on the affected species and the hydrological time of year. The aim of this action is to demolish a dam located on a stretch of the river Ezkurra that does not form part of the Natura 2000 network, but nevertheless is located in the river corridor that joins the 2 previously mentioned spaces (SCZ river Bidasoa and SCZ Belate). The area of action is located in the channel of the river Ezkurra, the main tributary of Bidasoa which discharges in Doneztebe-Sanesteban..

The obstacle is a heritage property owned by the Government of Navarre.

Historically this irrigation dam was used for milling, then for hydroelectric uses and finally as a fish factory. It is currently in disuse, thus constituting an obstacle of around 5 m tall, and despite having a fish way, it is difficult to cross, even for salmonids.

Description of the action -INITIAL AND CURRENT STATE

Demolition of the dam, fish way and bypass channel and water tank: The dam is 27m long: its demolition will eliminate the reservoir area. The fish way located to the right-hand side will be demolished, measuring 1.9m deep, 40.5m long and with a 5.5m slope. Next to the fish way there is a large eroded section caused by a water tank that receives rain-water drainage but does not have any outlet. The water tank will be eliminated and a rain-water outlet will be provided. The reinforced concrete bypass channel will also be eliminated, located on the left-hand side and measuring 290.6m. **Stabilise banks:** Foreseeing possible changes to the river banks, the project will consider reinforcement actions to avoid up-river erosion problems. A Krainer wall will be built, measuring some 100m in length, in the waters up-river from the dam on the left-hand bank.

JUSTIFICATION What are the desired results?– ENVISAGED RESULTS

The expected quantitative results for this action are:

- To achieve a “**Very Good**” River Connectivity index value “Free from obstacles”. 6 km of obstacle-free river will be achieved.
- - Completely eliminate the artificial lentic stretch (500 m), associated with this infrastructure so that the river can be restored to its initial condition with the corresponding ecological functions.

