ACTION NAME   C9 Elimination of the transverse barriers on the Txaruta stream

Special Conservation Zone (SCZ) being acted upon:	
SCZ Bidasoa River	

LINK WITH NATURA 2000

The action is encompassed within the following SCZ Management Plan Operational Objectives:
- 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.

-Operational Objective 5.1.2. Improve the habitat conditions of the Atlantic salmon, shad, sea lamprey and European bullhead.

      Measure 5.1.2.4. Design and carry out dam permeation projects for the European bullhead.

Key Elements of the promoted SCZ

The "Key Elements" of the SCZ benefiting from the actions are: "River system", "River habitats", "Atlantic salmon, shad, sea lamprey and European bullhead", "European mink and European otter" and "Pyrenean desman".

The key target of this action is the European bullhead (Cottus aturi). **European bullhead** population numbers in the Txaruta stream are well known across Spain, but these figures are extremely fragile and the species faces extinction due to its small size and isolated condition..

PLACE OF ACTION AND MUNICIPALS:

Donamaria

Date

2017

Budget

20.000 €

Related project actions

Geomorphological follow-up, follow-up of fish species and aquatic mammals.

Description of the action - OBJECTIVES

Eliminate transverse barriers in the lower stretch of the Txaruta stream, improving the connectivity of the river, facilitating the flow of species and reducing the flood risk on this stretch. The proposed action is unavoidable if the target of improving the state of preservation of the European Bullhead in the Txaruta stream is to be achieved.

Description of the action - BACKGROUND

The Txaruta stream is a secondary tributary of the river Bidasoa (via the Ezpelura stream) .Its upper and mid stretches are included in the SCZ Belate and the lower stretch in the SCZ River Bidasoa.

The ecological features of the riverbed in the lower stretch of the Txaruta stream have provided a home for scarce European bullhead populations (Cottus

aturi) still left in Europe. The European bullhead is a small fish that feeds in the riverbed, with a very limited capacity for dispersion or movement in the river, or for overcoming obstacles when moving.

Description of the action – **INITIAL AND CURRENT STATE**

In the lower stretch of the Txaruta stream, transverse obstacles have been identified that interrupt the movements of the European bullhead. The proposal is to study a way of improving the connectivity of this habitat for the species and to thus improve its state of preservation.
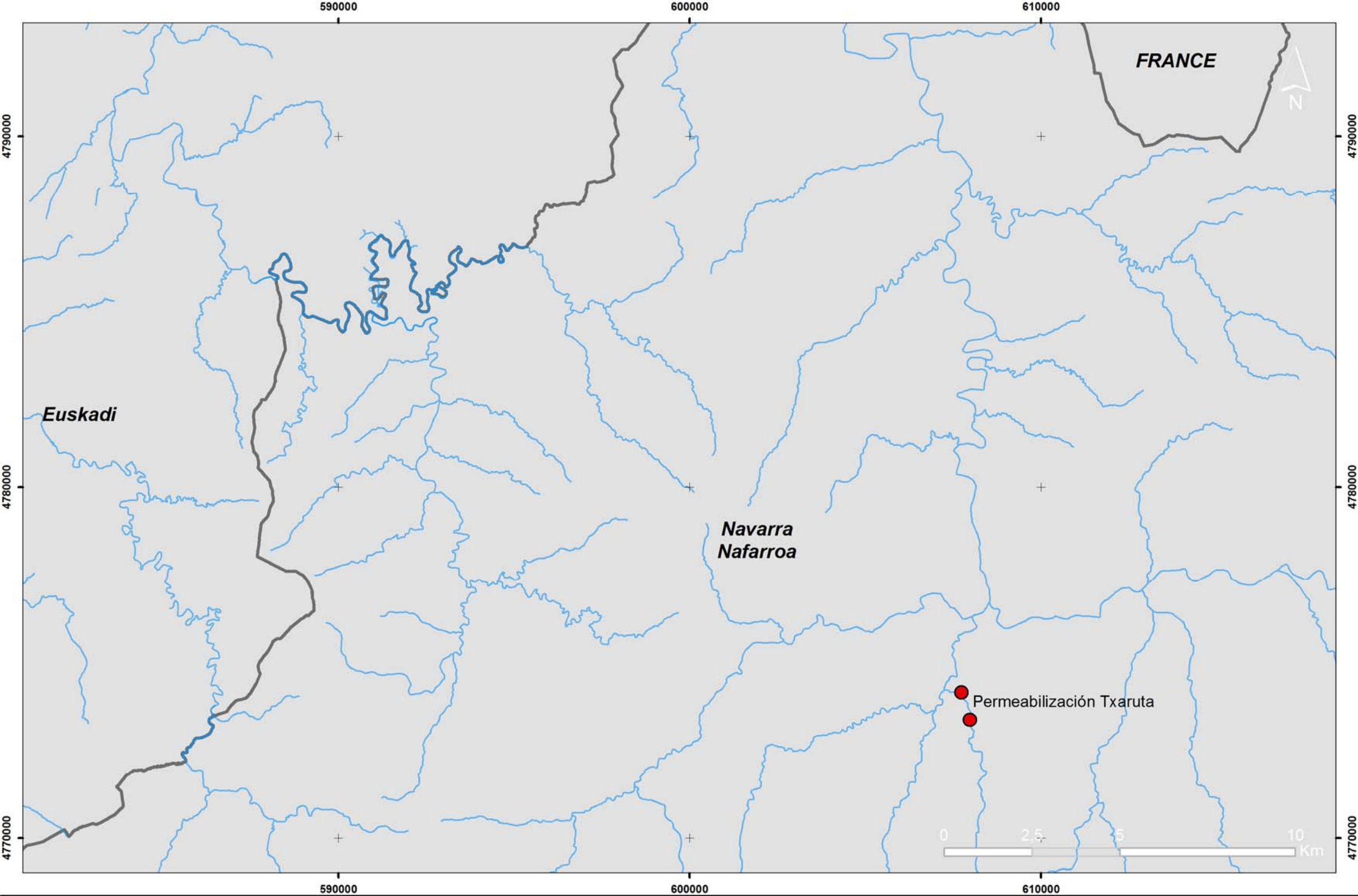
Development of a demolition project has been proposed for the South dam, to be carried out later. It is a small masonry dam (5.8 m long, 1.50 m high), associated with a former mill, currently in ruins and there is no water concession by the Cantabrian Water Confederation (CHC). The old bypass channel is clogged and covered with vegetation.

There is a second dam, the North dam. It is a dam measuring 5 m wide, with a jump of 1.70 m and 0.85 m in its central low section. It has a bypass channel associated with the "Errota" or "Donamaria Mill", which is still active with valid water concessions, maintaining the passage of water through the entire system. A study has been proposed to analyse the improvement of the dam's connectivity, whilst always ensuring the owner of the channel concession is able to continue to use it..

JUSTIFICATION What are the desired results? - **ENVISAGED RESULTS**

The expected results for this action are:
- The permeability objective is to achieve a "**Very Good**" River Connectivity Index value.
- Increase the habitat available to the European bullhead, significantly increasing the length of its potential habitat.

FRANCE

Euskadi

Navarra
Nafarroa

Permeabilización Txaruta

590000   600000   610000

4790000

4780000

4770000

0   2.5   5   10
Km

Acción C9: Eliminación de barreras
trasnsversales en la regata de Txaruta

Irekibai   NATURA 2000   Life   Gipuzkoako Foru Aldundia / Diputación Foral de Gipuzkoa   ura   hazi   EUSKO JAURLARITZA / GOBIERNO VASCO   Nafarroako Gobernua / Gobierno de Navarra   Nafarroako Ingurumen Kudeaketa, S.A. / Gestión Ambiental de Navarra, S.A.