

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Freshwater mussels: Search for resettlement habitats and evaluation of protection measures

Monday 25th March – Wednesday 27th March 2019

Dresden, Germany

2nd announcement



Potential habitats of *Margaritifera margaritifera* in Saxony's Vogtland.

Dear colleagues,

We would like to cordially invite you to our 1st international freshwater mussel workshop about search for resettlement habitats and evaluation of conservation measures.

Freshwater mussels were previously abundant species in the waters of Germany. For several decades mussel stocks decreased dramatically. Some of the current mussel stocks are immediately threatened. The remaining populations are isolated, overaged relict populations with low genetic diversity due to lack of reproduction.

The workshop is organized within the joint project ‚ArKoNaVera‘ (Implementation of regional protective measures and development of a new national conversation program for priority species: Freshwater pearl mussel (*Margaritifera margaritifera*) and Painter`s mussel (*Unio pictorum*) → further information:

<http://www.flussmuscheln.de/en/>) – funded by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, and Nuclear Safety.

The workshop aims to present latest techniques and methods for identification and characterization of suitable mussel habitats, identifying indicators for optimal habitats for resettlement of endangered freshwater mussels. To develop a more generalized decision tool it is very important to identify best habitats or analyze efficient and cost effective restoration measures to improve potential habitats. For the prospects of success to establish functional mussel stocks in natural waters suitable methods for evaluation of both, protective and resettlement measures are essential. During the workshop different approaches of a decision tool as well as evaluation methods are to be presented and discussed.

This workshop will hopefully bring scientists from different fields together and give rise to a discussion of strategies for protection and conservation of freshwater mussels.

The local organization team is looking forward to welcome all of you in early spring 2019 in the south east of Germany.

Preliminary programme priorities of the workshop:

Opening speech

Conservation of European Freshwater Pearl Mussel – current knowledge and future directions (*Jürgen Geist, Germany*)

Keynote speeches (within the workshop topics 1 to 6)

1. Adaptation of freshwater mussels to their habitats / ecology of freshwater mussels

Keynote speaker: *Rafael Araujo, Spain*

2. Quantitative characterization and assessment / evaluation of mussel habitats

Keynote speaker: *Evelyn Moorkens, Ireland*

3. Nutritional requirements of freshwater mussels

(Possibly covered by *Marie Capoulade, France*)

4. Selection of habitats for resettlement

Keynote speaker: *Marie Capoulade, France*

5. Evaluation of resettlement activities

Keynote speaker: *Martin Österling, Sweden*

6. Significance of global warming for freshwater mussels

Keynote speaker: *Yulia V. Bespalaya, Russian Federation*

Mussels help our water. We help mussels!

Historical city...



On the bank of river Elbe Dresden`s historical centre is located with well-known buildings from Renaissance, Baroque and the 19th century.

Sightseeing...



The most well-known symbol of rebuilding of the old town is the Frauenkirche, the magnificent domed Baroque church which again dominates the Dresden skyline (left). The Semper Opera House is considered one of the world's loveliest and is the residence and venue for Dresden's Saxon State Orchestra (right).

Exhibitions...



Exhibition: Historic Green Vault with the necklace of electress Maria Amalia (ca. 1805) with 177 pearls of *Margaritifera margaritifera* obtained from streams in the Vogtland area.

(© Grünes Gewölbe, Staatliche Kunstsammlungen Dresden;
photos: Jürgen Karpinski)

Cosy bars...



The rustic bars often offer own beer, German cuisine and regularly host live music.

Nice river and beautiful castles...




Close to the heart of city center three Elbe castles throne over the former vineyards on the Elbe valley slopes.


...and last but not least: freshwater mussels...



Unio pictorum in a lake near Dresden (left). *Margaritifera margaritifera* in the Vogtland area (right).

Important workshop information

Date	Monday 25th March – Wednesday 27th March 2019
Venue	<p>Penck Hotel Dresden Ostra-Allee 33 01067 Dresden Germany</p>  <p>https://penckhoteldresden.de/</p>
How to get there?	https://penckhoteldresden.de/lage-anfahrt-parken/
Registration	<p>Registration is open from now to January 18th, 2019. A registration form is available here: mussel workshop registration</p>
Registration fee	<p>140 € (incl. social evening with sightseeing and dinner) In case you have to cancel your registration less than 8 weeks in advance of the event, a cancellation fee up to 140 € has to be paid. For further details, please contact Katrin Weiner: Katrin.weiner@lanu.sachsen.de</p>
Accommodation	<p>We recommend the venue of the workshop - Penck Hotel Dresden - for your accommodation. You can book a reasonably priced room together with your workshop registration! 75 € single room 85 € double room</p>
Abstract Submission	<p>We welcome your abstracts for oral presentations and posters until January 18th, 2019. They should comprise 500 words maximum and may include one figure or chart (maximum file size: 2 GB). Abstracts should be sent to Jana Schneider: jana.schneider2@tu-dresden.de</p>
Oral Communication and Posters	<p>Each oral presentation should take 20 minutes maximum (15 minutes for presentation and 5 to 10 minutes for discussion) in Microsoft Power Point format. For other equipment, please contact the organization team. Posters will be presented during the whole workshop. Poster dimension: A0 84.1 x 118.9 cm.</p>

<p>Social Evening (sightseeing and dinner)</p>	<p>A magnificent steam boat trip on the Elbe, past the three Elbe castles as well as a joint dinner on the boat.</p> 
<p>Local Organization Team</p>	<p>Jana Schneider (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Franziska Jecke (Sächsische Landesstiftung Natur und Umwelt / Naturschutzfonds) Thomas Schiller (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Angela Schwiebus (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany)</p>
<p>Scientific Committee</p>	<p>Thomas Berendonk (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany) Jürgen Geist (Technische Universität München, Germany) Marco Denic (Landkreis Passau, Germany) Frankie Thielen (natur & ðmwelt / Fondation Hllef fir d'Natur, Luxembourg) Clemens Gumpinger (Consultants in aquatic ecology and engineering (blattfisch), Austria) Annekatriin Wagner (Technische Universitt Dresden, Germany)</p>
<p>Contact</p>	<p>Technische Universitt Dresden Institut fr Hydrobiologie Zellescher Weg 40 01127 Dresden GERMANY</p> <p>E-Mail: jana.schneider2@tu-dresden.de</p> <p>Tel. +49 351 463 32329 Fax. +49 351 463 37108</p>

Please feel free to forward this document to anyone who could be interested in this workshop. Thank you!