

### Objective:

Improve fish migration in the River Vecht from source to the sea

> Started spring 2019 duration 5 years



# Weirs in the Dutch part of the River Vecht (Overijsselse Vecht)

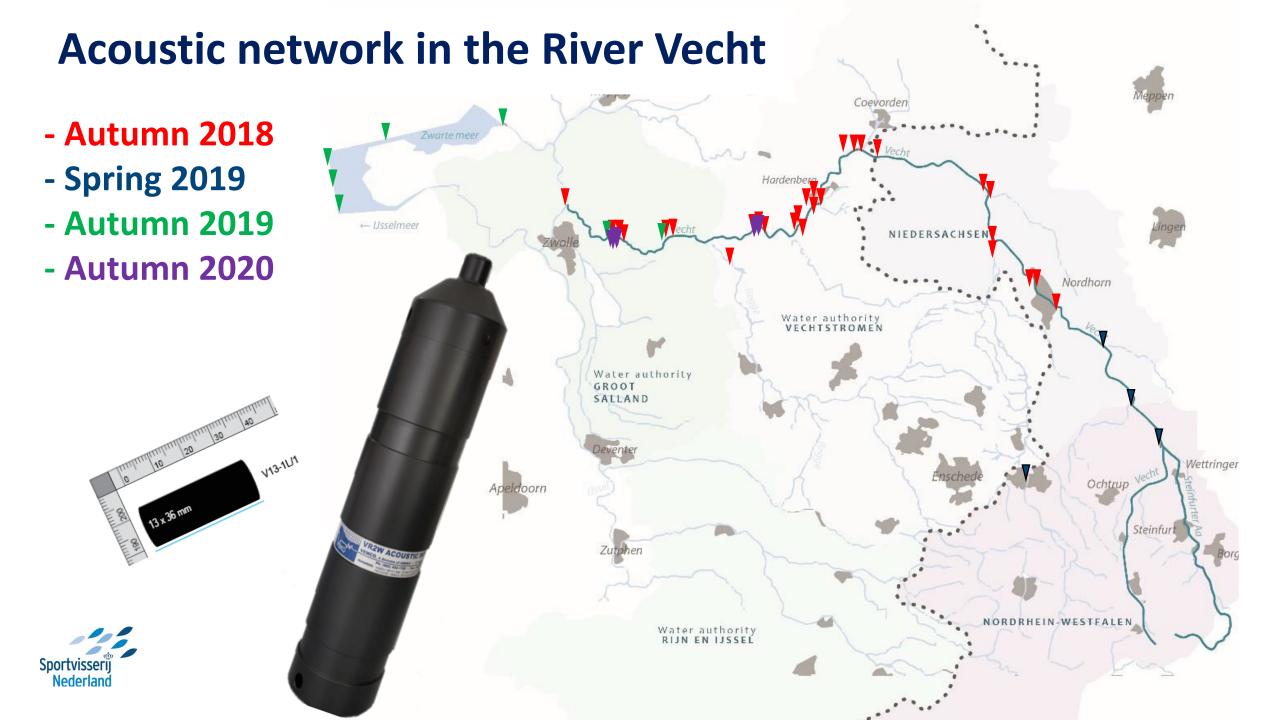
- Vechterweerd
- Vilsteren
- Junne
- Diffelen
- Hardenberg
- De Haandrik









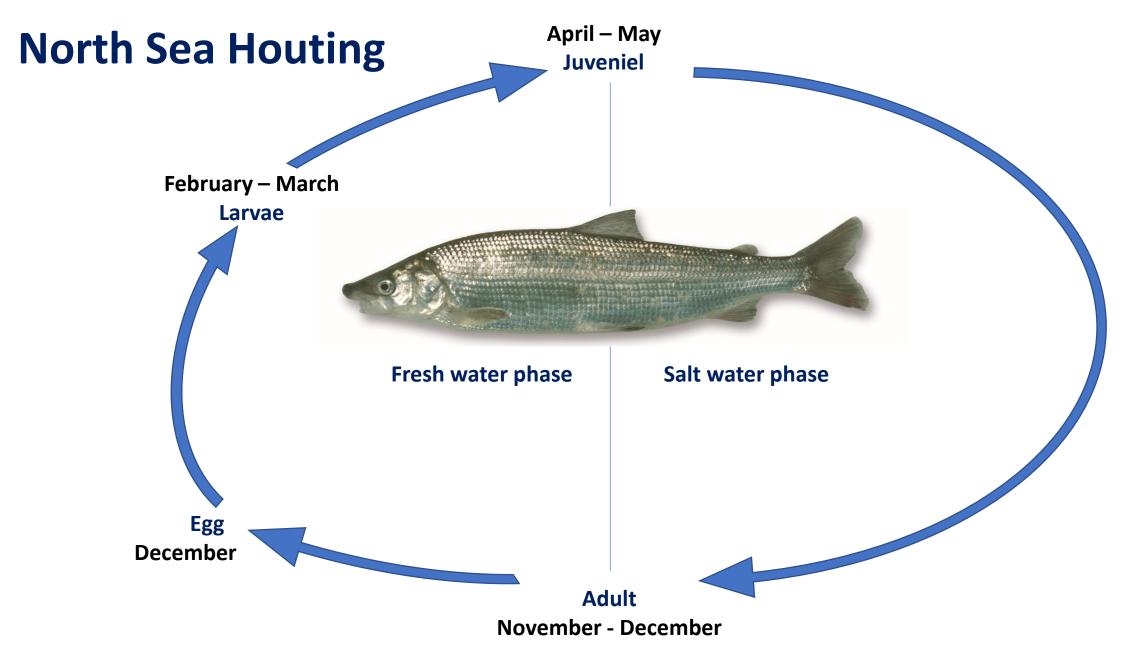


## North Sea Houting (Coregonus oxyrinchus)



- About the exact taxonomy of North Sea Houting is scientific discussion.
- Houting was extinct in the Netherlands.
- A reintroduction project was started in the mid 90s.
- 10 years later, 96% of juvenile Houting came from natural reproduction.
- The exact spawning locations were unknown, but thought to be in the River IJssel, among others.

Literature: De Groot & Nijsen, 1997; Borcherding et al, 2006, 2008, 2013; Winter et al, 2008, 2010, 2017

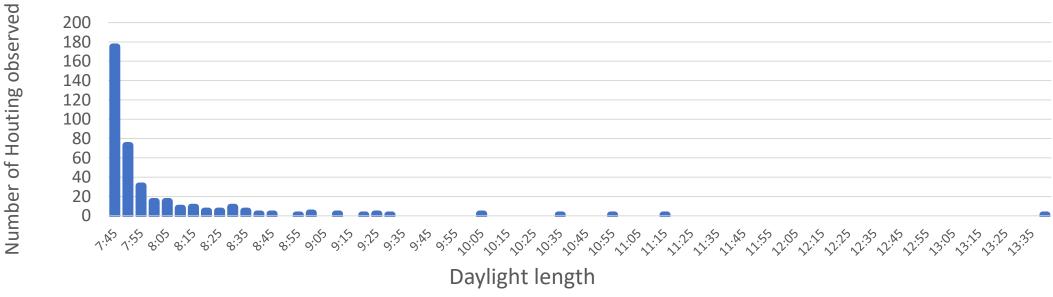




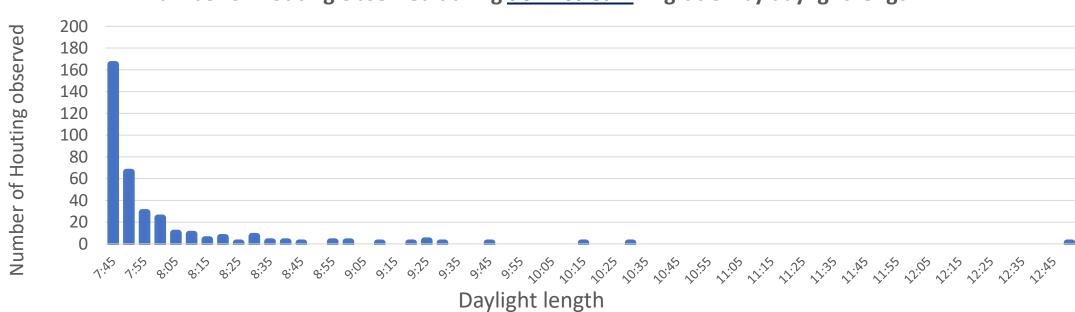


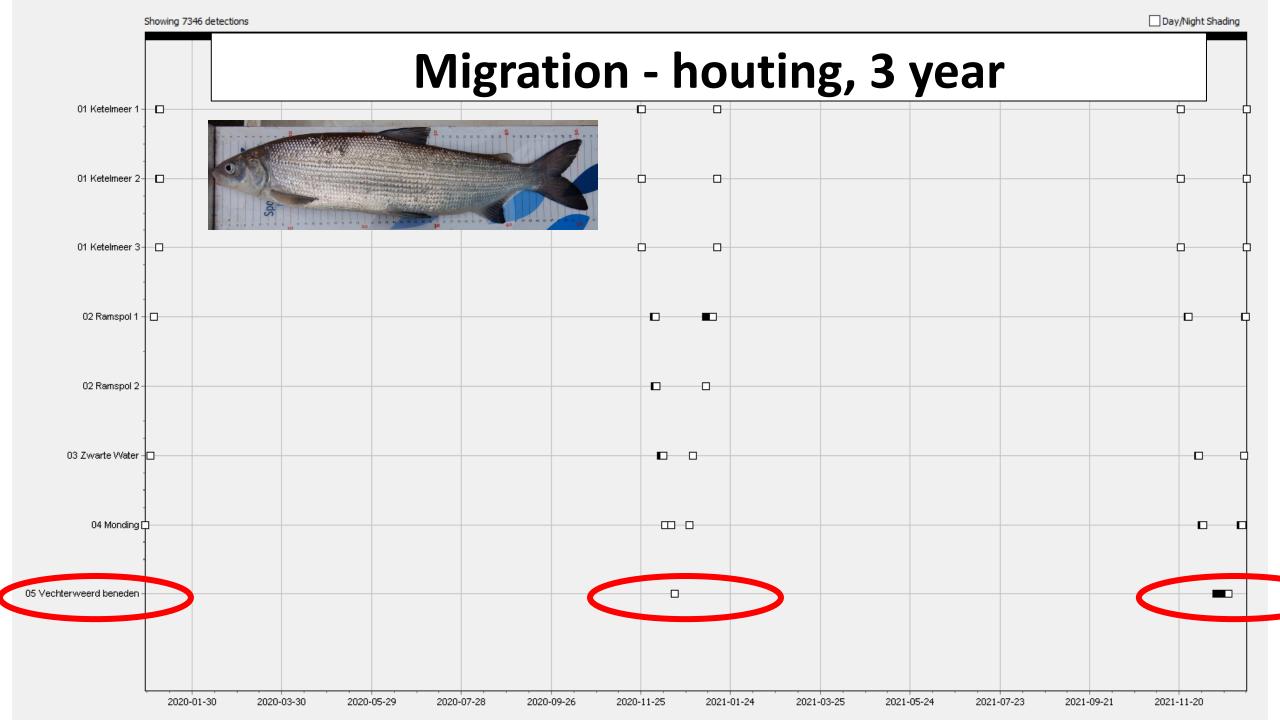


#### Number of Houting observed during upstream migration by daylight length

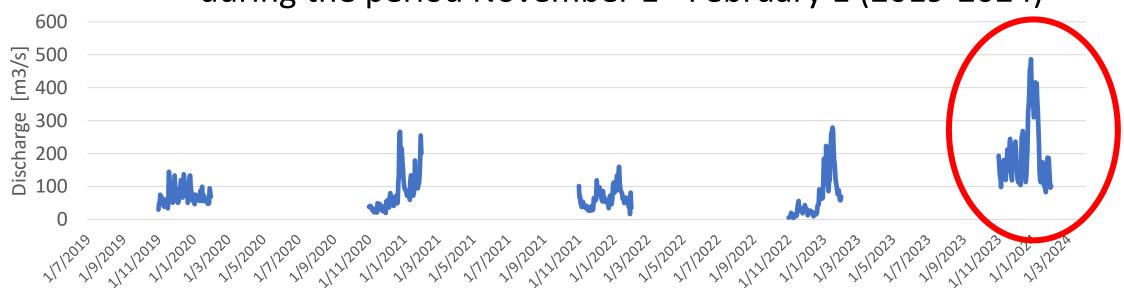


#### Number of Houting observed during downstream migration by daylight length





## Average daily discharge Genemuiden during the period November 1 - February 1 (2019-2024)



#### December 2023, three Houting approached weir Vechterweerd and all three Houting passed!

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## Conclusions

- 1. In the river Vecht a self-sustaining population of Houting has established itself.
- 2. Houting return annually to the same spawning grounds.
- 3. The spawning period of Houting is correlated with the shortest daylight length of the year.
- 4. The most downstream weir, with fish passage, is not passable for Houting under normal conditions.
  - a) Only at extreme high discharge, at the right moment, Houting is able to pass weir Vechterweerd.
  - b) Additional measures are needed at weir Vechterweerd, in the form of a free-flowing side channel

