

# Action plan towards a free flowing Rhine and Maas

*A call to action from the Free Flow Conference, April 2024 Groningen  
The Netherlands*



# Objective

- We want your help;
  - to identify the most important issue preventing the Rhine and Maas being a free flowing river
  - to identify the most urgent actions that should be taken
- Resulting in an action plan and call to action which WWF and others can use.

# Issues

- 1. Longitudinal connectivity seaside
- 2. Longitudinal connectivity up- and down stream
- 3. Lateral connectivity
- 4. Habitat restoration
- 5. Climate change

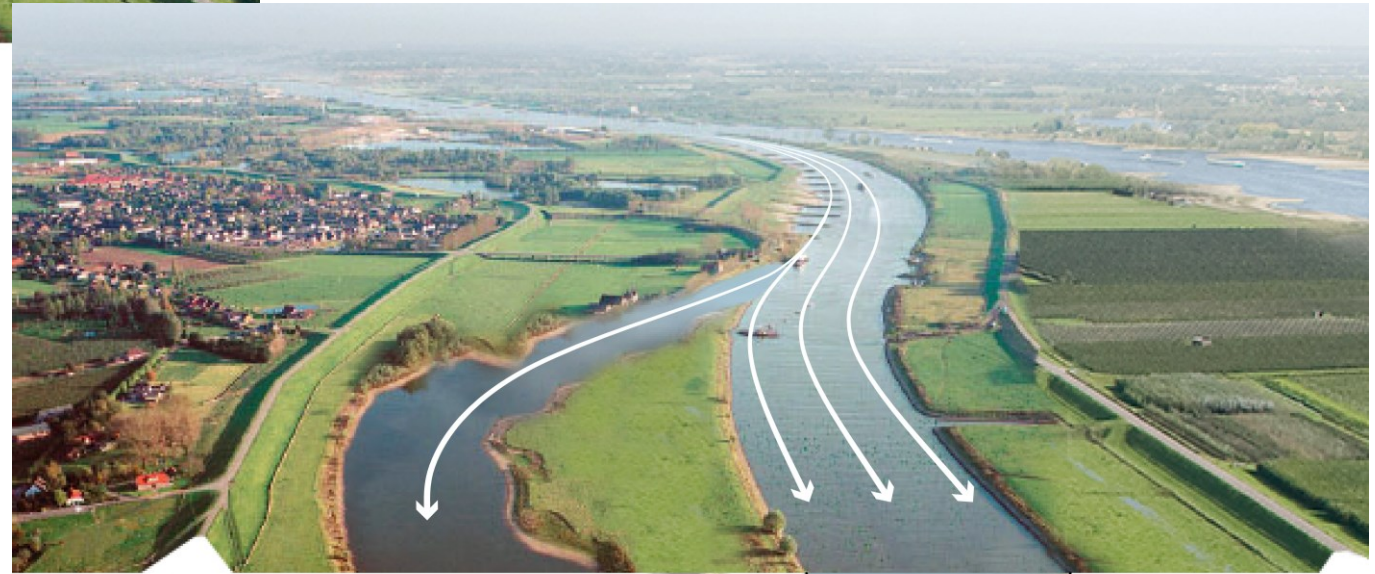
# Longitudinal connectivity sea side



# Longitudinal connectivity up- and down stream

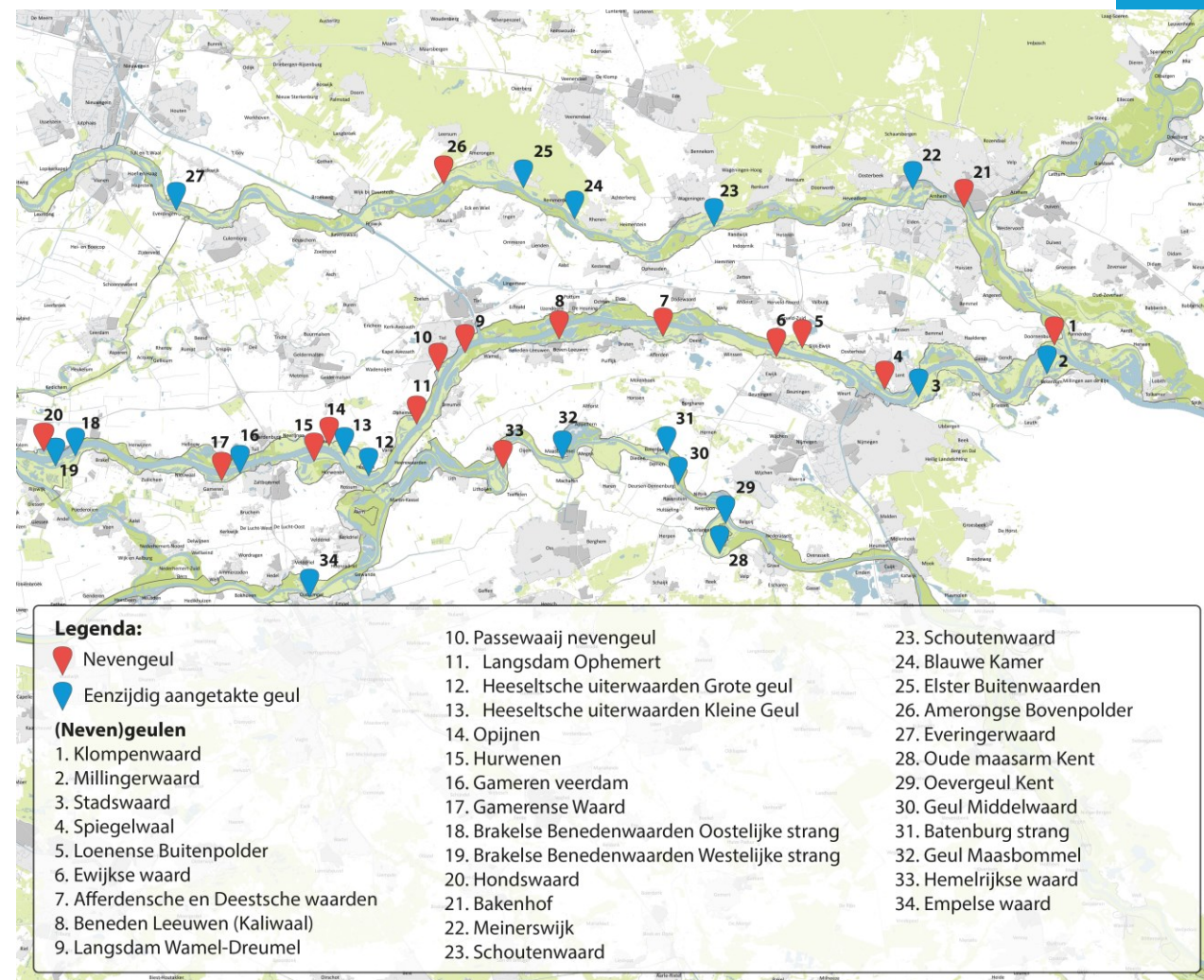
- Fish passes are not effective enough
- Flow regime is hampered with ponded river stretches
- Hydropower stations lack adequate measure to facilitate downstream migration
- Shipping has a significant impact through noise, turbulence and direct damage by propellor collisions

# Lateral connectivity



# Dry Fall

Waal	Afvoer droogval [m3/s]	Afvoer bij 0,5 m ws [m3/s]	Jaarlijkse kans op droogval	Kans op ws <0,5 m
Loenense Buitenpolder	2000	2520	53%	73%
Ewijkse waarden (Oostelijk)	1980	2450	51%	71%
Afferdensche en Deestsche waarden	1250	1460	14%	27%
Kaliwaal Beneden-Leeuwen	1215	1880	13%	47%
Passewaaij	1200	1460	12%	24%
Opijnen oever geul	1400	1770	22%	40%
Hurwenen	1170	2360	11%	67%
Gamerensche waard Westgeul	1400	1890	22%	48%
Gamerensche waard Grote geul	1150	1560	10%	30%



# Habitat restoration







Climate change