

Fishing in Austria – a strong force

The Socio-economic Significance



ÖKF

ÖSTERREICHISCHES KURATORIUM
FÜR FISCHEREI UND GEWÄSSERSCHUTZ
Die Stimme für Gewässer, Fisch und Angler

Supported by

Federal Ministry
Republic of Austria
Agriculture, Forestry, Regions
and Water Management

Angling

is carried out exclusively non-commercially and recreationally. It requires patience, skill and knowledge of the waters and fish.

Organization

- ÖKF – Representing the interests of fishing clubs
- ÖFV – Österr. Fischereiverband with 9 sub-organizations
- 577 Fishing clubs

This is how the fishermen tick



fish **16** days per year are fishing **49** percent in fishing ponds

begin with **16,5** years (average) are taking **7-10** fish per year

drive average **37** km to the fishing area, mostly by car



We are ...

690.000

People with an affinity for fishing (they have fished in the last 12 months)

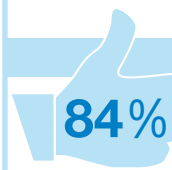
350.000

Active anglers in Austria

180.000

Fishing card holders in Austria

External impact



mostly positive/neutral

The population has a positive or at least neutral attitude towards fishing.

Responsibility for nature

Fishing courses

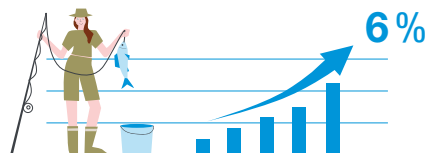
convey basic knowledge for responsible conscious fishing

Volunteering

- ✓ Garbage collection activities
- ✓ Living space improvement measures
- ✓ Support measures for fish stocks
- ✓ Youth in nature

The fisherwoman

usually fishes as a support or companion in a family group



Proportion has doubled since 2000

Benefits

- Nature experience
- Contribution to health
- Time with family and friends
- Active for protection and keeping the waters clean
- Self-sufficiency with fish
- Promoting fish species diversity

Sustainable fishing

- 67%** of fishermen **take fish**
- 19%** take **exclusively stocked fish** to protect wild fish stocks
- 75%** are for **lead-free fishing weights**

Fish stocking ...

- 84%** is fundamentally **necessary and useful!**
- 52%** only where **there is no more reproduction** or **fish eaters** are very active!
- 63%** exclusively with **juvenile fish!**

Problem areas

- 70%** River obstruction
Pollution
- 50%** Climate change
Fish predators
Invasive species
Hydropower
Increasing leisure use

53% are **unsatisfied with development of fish stocks**

Fish as food

5-7% Level of self-sufficiency with local fish

Market value

2.180 EUR

Expenses per fisherman per year (including trips)

600-800 Mio. EUR

Contribution to economic performance

1.165 volunteers hours/year

correspond to economic output of 20 million euros

Demands

80% for **renaturation & bank protection**

75% for more **cooperation**

63% for balance in **species protection**

52% for one **Austria-wide Fishing card**