

PERIODIC DROUGHTS IN STREAMS: THE NEXT NEGATIVE FACTOR INFLUENCING CRAYFISH POPULATIONS

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Periodic droughts in small streams are caused by climate changes but also by the inappropriate management of precipitation and surface water. If these factors act simultaneously, water level rapidly declines even up to the complete drying up of long sections of the stream. Such changes are often fatal for aquatic fauna and particularly for protected crayfish species.

This contribution brings a couple of stories in 2015 connected with drought, crayfish and their rescue transfers. These rescue transfers were made incorrectly in many cases, without the appropriate permission and could hurt more than help. Therefore, this contribution also deals with legislative and technical aspects of such rescue transfers and also suggests how to properly proceed in these cases.