BALTIC SEA TROUT WORKSHOP IN KOTKA
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POLISH COUNTRY REPORT

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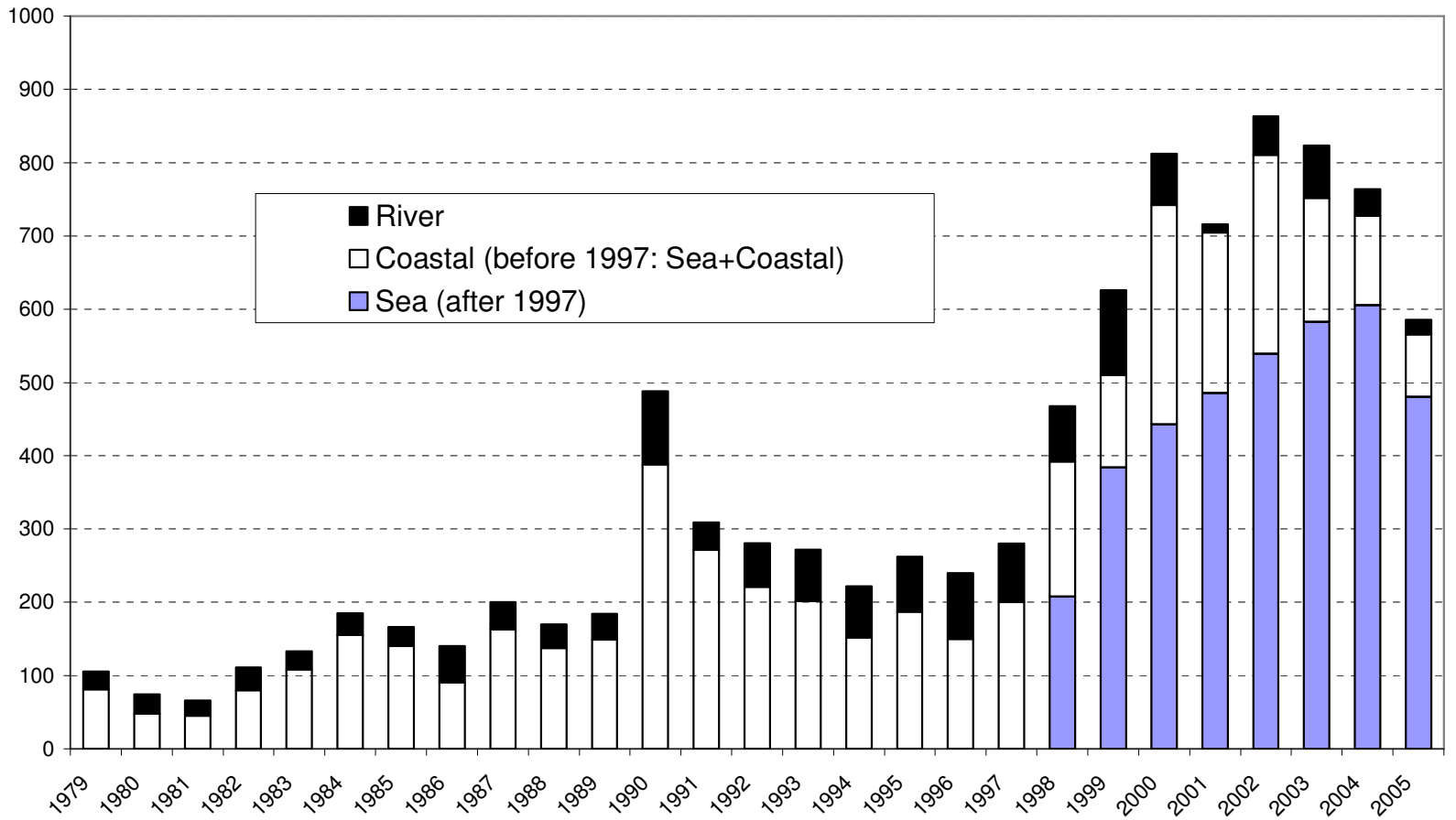
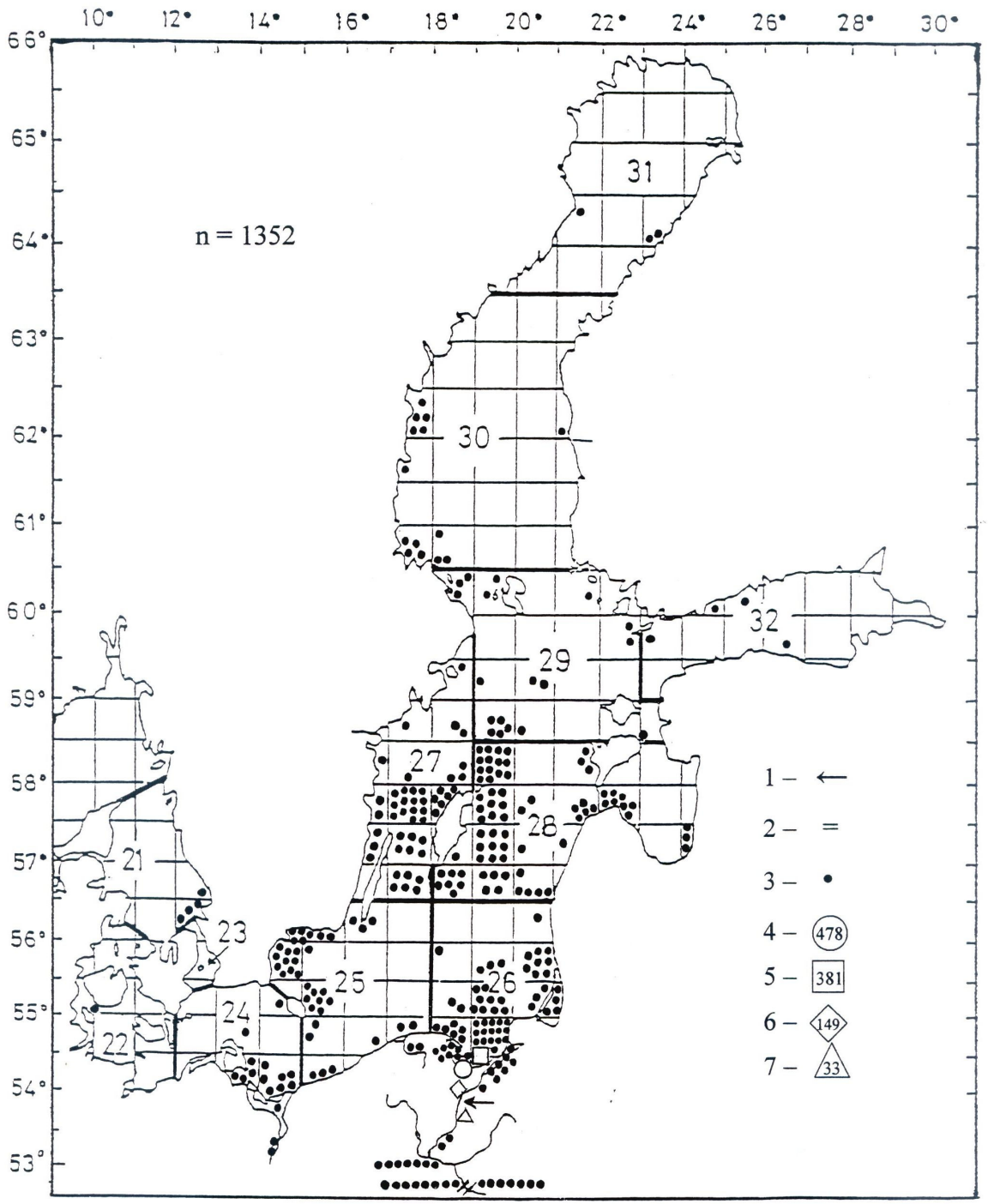
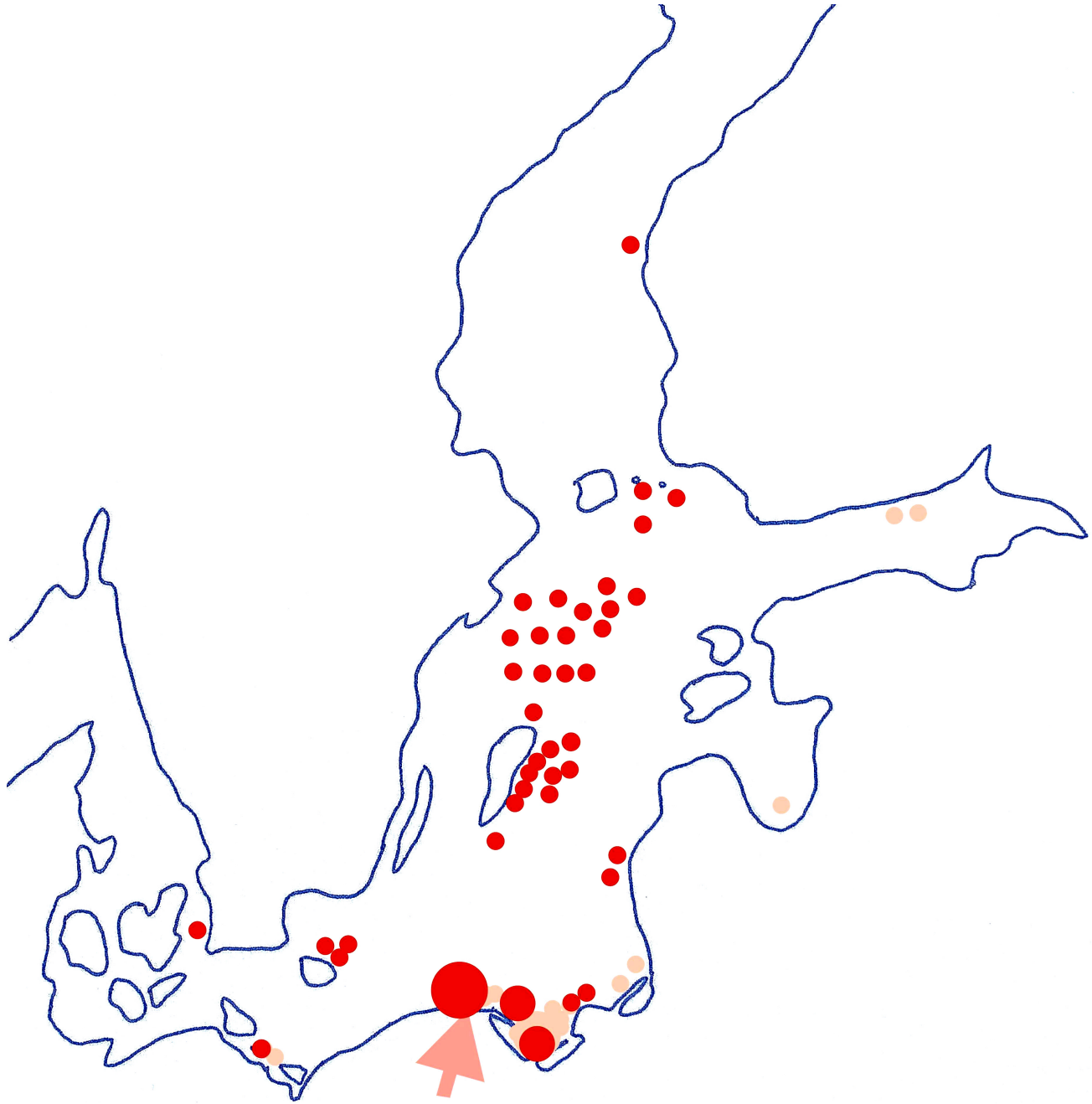
Polish commercial catches in tonnes



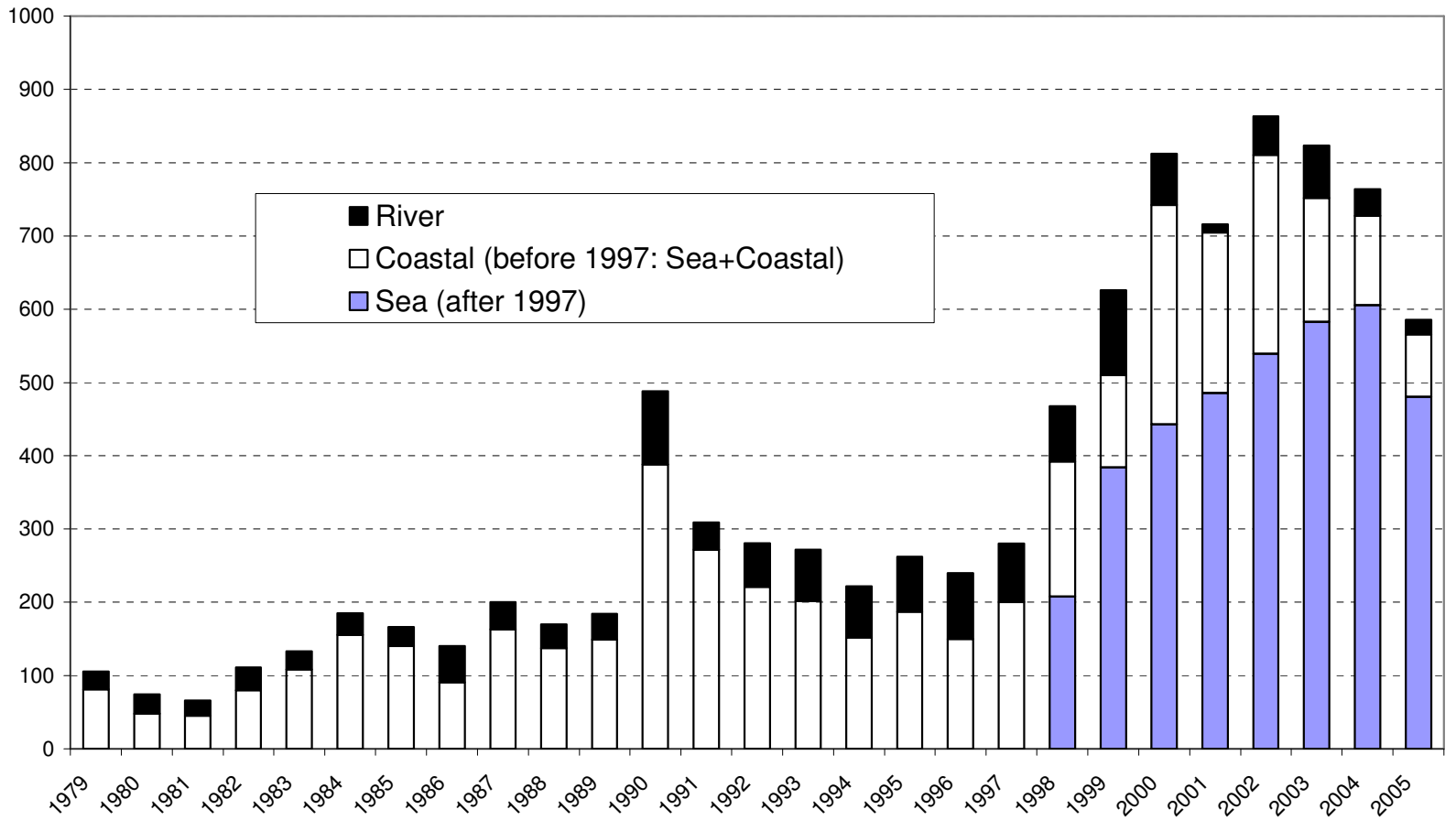
Stocking of Vistula R.



Stocking of Leba R.



Polish commercial catches in tonnes



The regulations in offshore fishery follow the EU regulations EU 2187/2005.

Territorial sea waters:

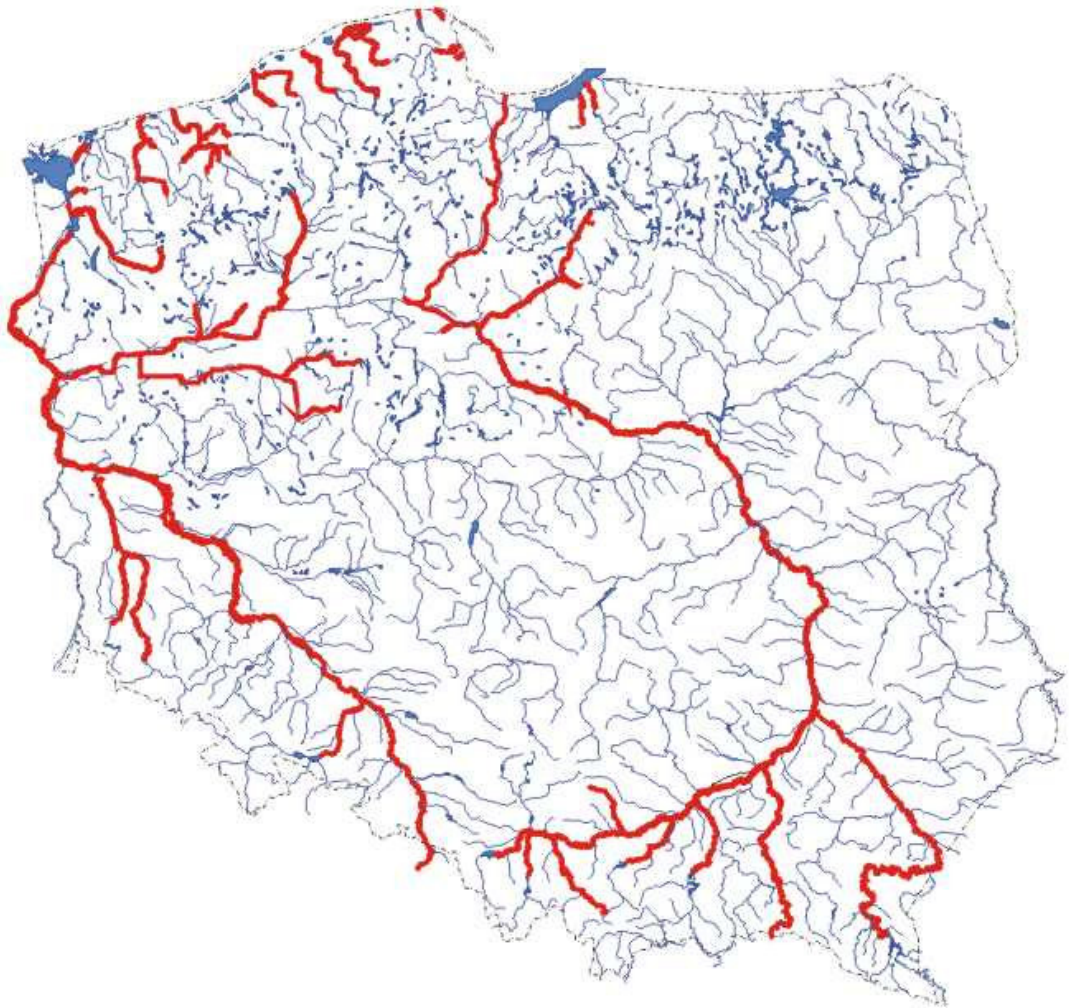
- minimum landing size 50 cm;
- minimum mesh bar 80 mm;
- 1 mile closed zone off the mouth of Vistula R.;
- 500 or 250 m closed zone off mouths of other rivers;
- closed season 15 th September – 15 th November, except Gulf of Gdansk and Vistula Lagoon;
- closed season 15 th August – 31 st December in Vistula L.

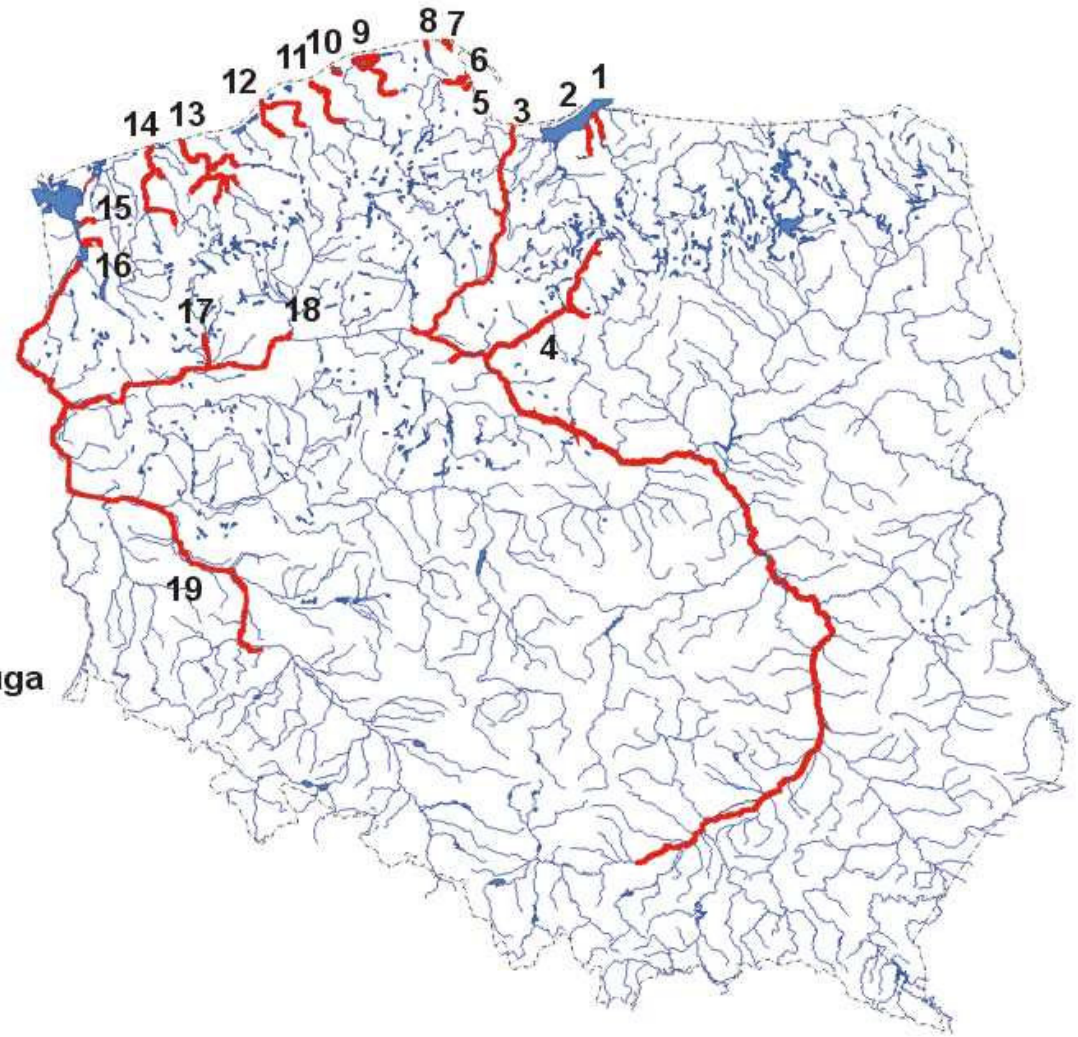
Freshwater:

- minimum fish length 35 cm;
- closed season:

- 1 st October - 31 st December and from Thursday to Sunday in Vistula R. above Wloclawek dam;
- 1 st December – 29 th February and from Friday to Sunday in period 1 st March - 31 st December in Vistula R. below Wloclawek dam;
- 1 st October - 31 st December in other rivers;

- in majority of rivers managed by anglers associations only rod fishing with artificial lure is allowed;
- in rivers managed by anglers associations catch of maximum 2 fish is allowed.





1. Pasleka
2. Bauda
3. Vistula
4. Drweca
5. Zagorska Struga
6. Reda
7. Czarna Wda
8. Piasnica
9. Leba
10. Lupawa
11. Slupia
12. Wieprza
13. Parseta
14. Rega
15. Gowienica
16. Ina
17. Drawa
18. Gwda
19. Odra

Appendix 1

	River	System	SD	Drainage basin (thou. km^2)	River length (km)	Reach of migration in main river (km)	Reach of migration in tributaries (km)	Existing spawning area (ha)	Potential spawning area (ha)
1	Pasleka	Vistula Lagoon	26	2.3	185	37	5	0	6
2	Bauda	Vistula Lagoon	26	0.3	59	40	15	?	?
3	Vistula	Baltic S.	26	194.4	1047	370	12	?	?
4	Drweca	Vistula R.	26	5.3	207	180	30	?	4
5	Zagorska Struga	Gulf of Gdansk	26	0.1	28	5	0	0.2	0.2
6	Reda	Gulf of Gdansk	26	0.5	51	22	0	1.0	2
7	Czarna Wda	Baltic S.	26	0.1	20	15	0	0	0
8	Piasnica	Baltic S.	25	0.3	31	25	1	0.5	1
9	Leba	Baltic S.	25	1.8	135	59	5	1.5	4
10	Lupawa	Baltic S.	25	1.0	110	11	2	0	10
11	Slupia	Baltic S.	25	1.6	126	53	15	2.0	9
12	Wieprza	Baltic S.	25	2.2	125	73	55	1.5	7
13	Parseta	Baltic S.	25	3.1	157	111	80	3.5	2.5
14	Rega	Baltic S.	25	2.7	184	42	5	?	?
15	Gowienica	Odra R.	24	0.4	54	13	0	?	?
16	Ina	Odra R.	24	2.1	143	57	?	?	?
17	Drawa	Odra R.	24	3.3	186	37	50	4	?
18	Gwda	Odra R.	24	4.7	149	20	0	0	?
19	Odra	Baltic S.	24	119	854	280	?	?	?

Appendix 2

	River	Amount of entering spawners	Stock status	Critical factors	Improvement measures	Stocking	Monitoring
1	Pasleka	very few	poor	dam	fish way (1)	fry, smolts	
2	Bauda	very few	poor	water quality		fry	
3	Vistula	a lot	poor	dams, water quality, river fishery	fish way (1?)	alevin, fry, parr, smolts	Carlin tagging
4	Drweca	a lot	poor	dams, water quality	fish ways (2)	alevin, parr, smolts	Carlin tagging
5	Zagorska Struga	few	satisfactory	dam			
6	Reda	quite a lot	satisfactory	dam	fish way (1)	smolts	Carlin tagging, fin clipping, redds inventory
7	Czarna Wda	few	poor	channelization		fry, parr	
8	Piasnica	few	poor	dam, flow regulations		fry, parr	
9	Leba	quite a lot	satisfactory	dam, channelization	fish way (1), artificial spawning grounds	alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging, redds inventory, electrofishing
10	Lupawa	few	poor	dams		alevin	
11	Slupia	a lot	good	dams	fish ways (2), artificial spawning grounds, habitat restoration	alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging, fin clipping, redds inventory, electrofishing
12	Wieprza	a lot	satisfactory	dams, channelization	fish way (1)	alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging, redds inventory, smolt trapping, electrofishing
13	Parseta	a lot	good	dams	fish way (1)	alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging, electrofishing
14	Rega	a lot	satisfactory	dams, water quality	fish way (3?)	alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging
15	Gowienica	few	poor	dams		alevin	
16	Ina	few	poor	dams, water quality		alevin	
17	Drawa	few	poor	dams, water quality		smolts	redds inventory
18	Gwda	few	poor	dams, water quality		smolts	
19	Odra	few	poor	dams, water quality, river fishery		alevin, smolts	Carlin tagging

Releases

History:

- started in the end of 1950s;
- at the beginning mainly in tributaries of upper Vistula R.;
- until half of 1970s Vistula R. was stocked also with fish of Pomeranian rivers origin;
- from 2000 financed from national budget.

Hatcheries:

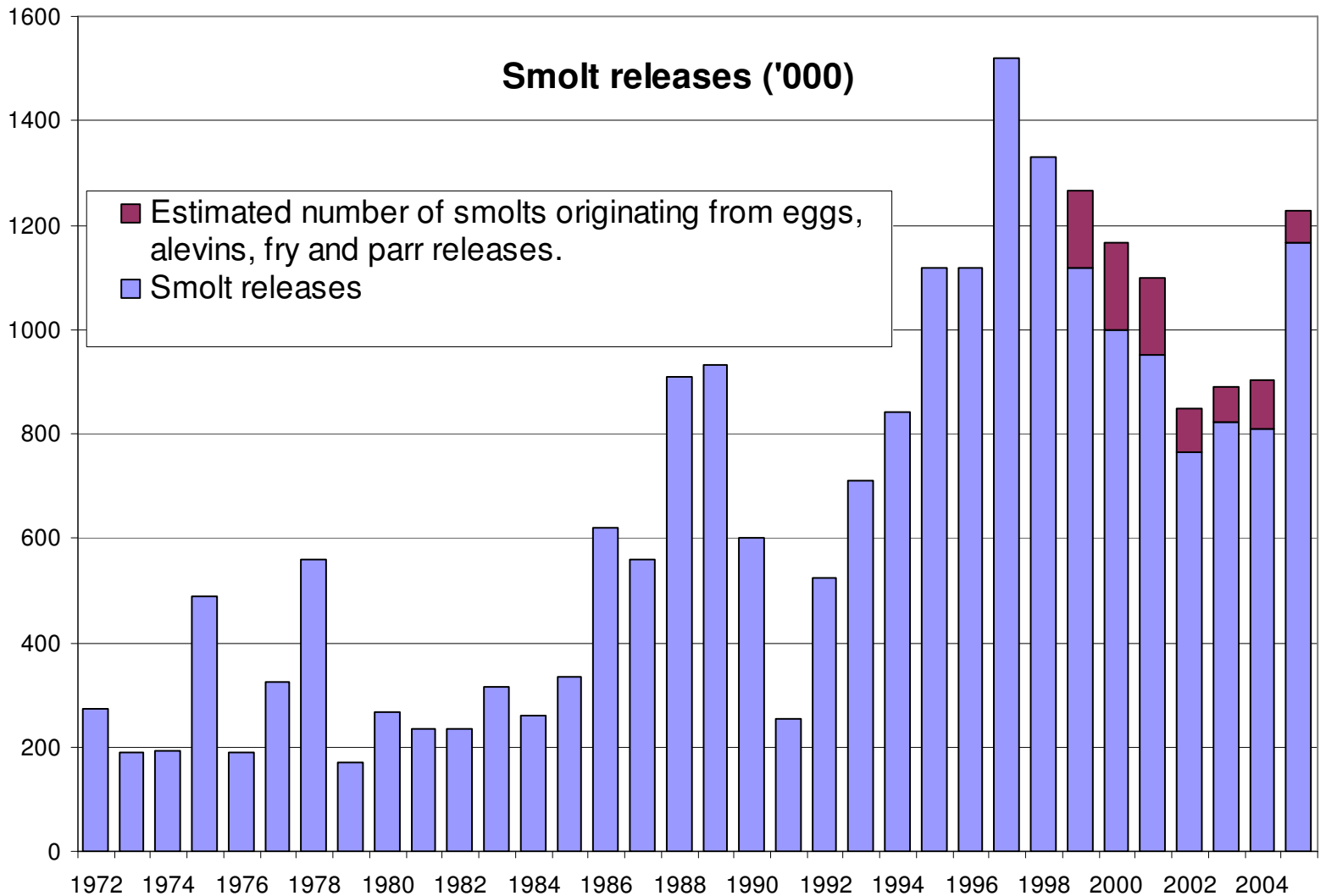
- private hatcheries – every connected with specific stock.

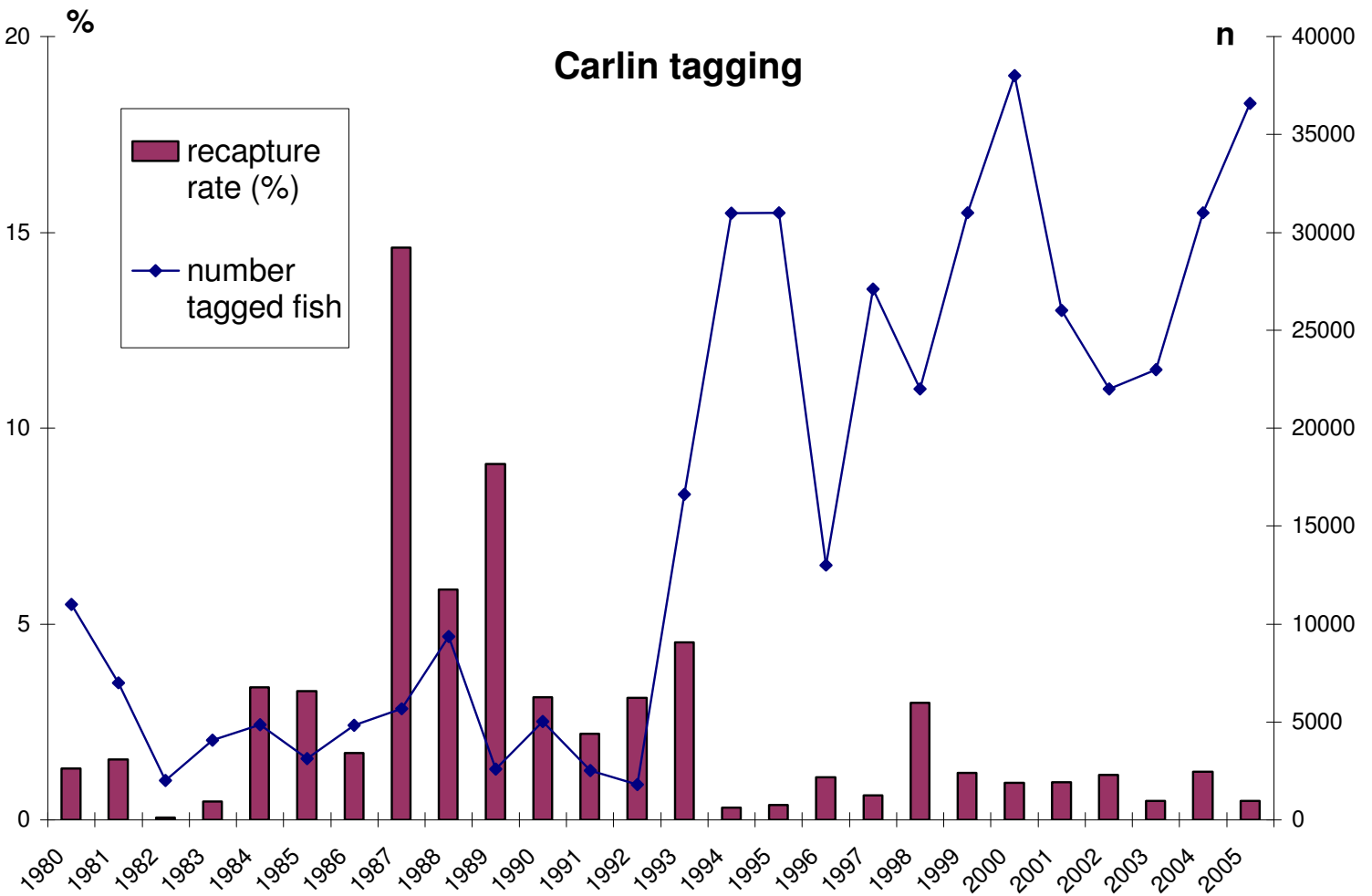
Spawners:

- returning spawners are caught in lower part of every river;
- hatchery brood stocks of Vistula R. trout;
- a lot of fish entering Pomeranian rivers stray.

Quality criteria:

- minimum length of smolts 14.5 cm;
- smolt releasing season 15 th March – 15 th May.


Smolt releases ('000)
Estimated number of smolts originating from eggs, alevins, fry and parr releases.
Smolt releases
1600
1400
1200
1000
800
600
400
200
0
1972
1974
1976
1978
1980
1982
1984
1986
1988
1990
1992
1994
1996
1998
2000
2002
2004


Carlin tagging
%
n
recapture rate (%)
number tagged fish
20
15
10
5
0
40000
35000
30000
25000
20000
15000
10000
5000
0
1980
1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1987
1988
1989
1990
1991
1992
1993
1994
1995
1996
1997
1998
1999
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005

Research activities

Activities:

- **Carling tagging**
- **catch data collection;**
- **size and age samples;**
- **inventory of redds;**
- **electrofishing survey.**

Needs:

- **regular electrofishing inventory of natural reproduction;**
- **smolt trapping;**
- **counts of spawners;**
- **detailed river description;**
- **mapping of reproduction habitats;**
- **estimation of potential natural production.**

Needs for national conservation and management measures

- Improvement of catch statistics of sea fishery;
- catch statistics of recreational fishery;
- recovery and management plans for sea trout rivers;
- reopening of migratory routes;
- rehabilitation of habitat.

Needs for international cooperation in research

- Methodology of estimation of natural production;
- exchange of tagging data;
- genetic studies – analysis of catch composition;

Needs for international cooperation in management

- Baltic sea trout action plan

Main conclusion

- All sea trout rivers are stocked – there are no really natural population;
- populations of Pomeranian rivers are mixed;
- reproduction areas are very limited due to river character and damming;
- natural production is unknown;
- sea catch statistics are not fully reliable;
- reopening of migration routes, rehabilitation of spawning and nursery habitats are needed;
- inventory of natural and potential production should be made;
- great importance of sea trout for nature and economy (tourism, angling) should be appreciated.