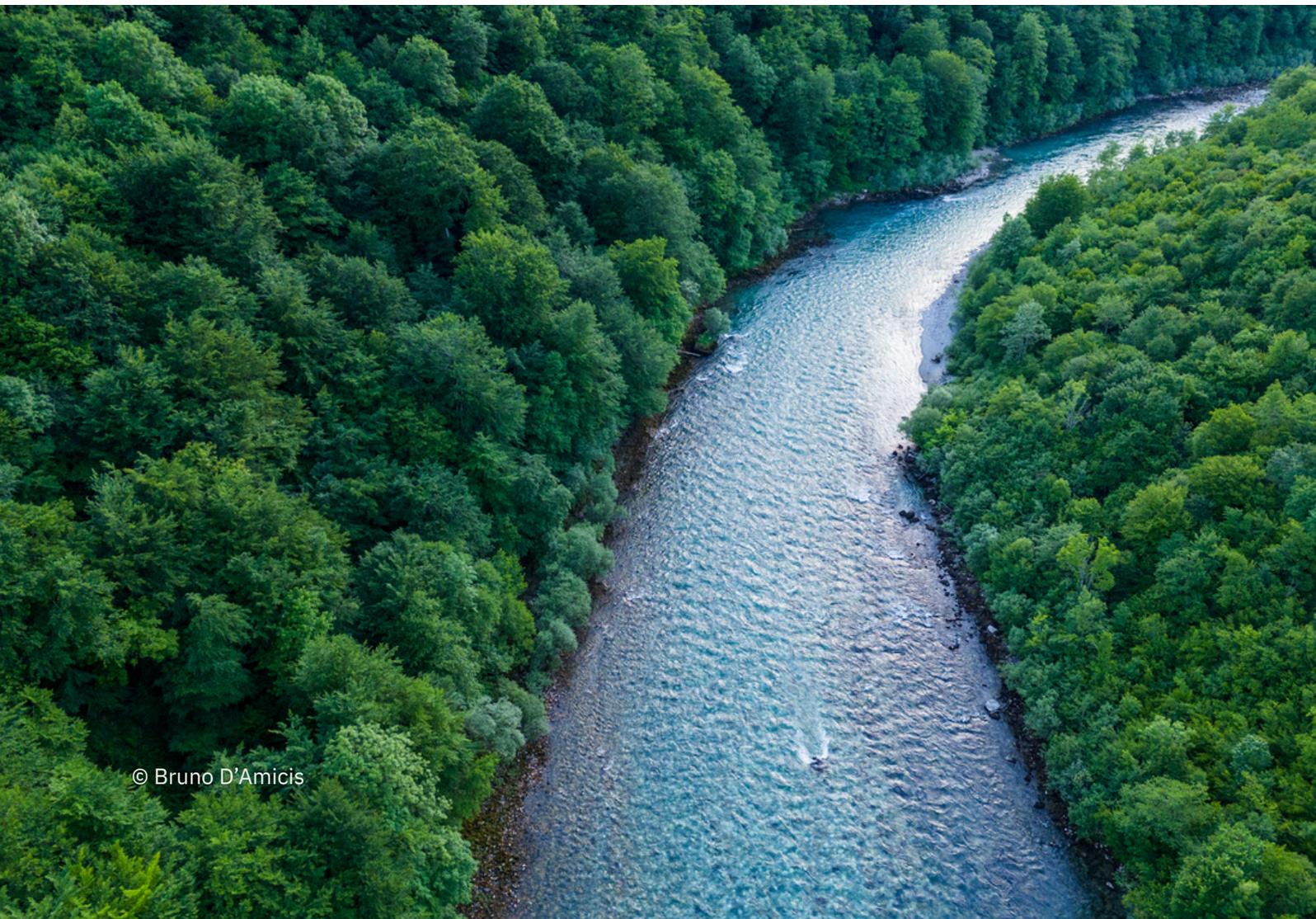


Scientific Position Paper

CRITICAL SCIENTIFIC REVIEW OF THE BUK BIJELA ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Ecological integrity and the global significance of the Upper
Drina River system

2026



KEY MESSAGES

The Drina catchment upstream of the Lim River confluence, including its tributaries Tara, Sutjeska, and Čehotina, represents a unique aquatic core habitat within the Danube basin. The hydrological and biological connectivity of this system is crucial to ensuring the long-term viability of sensitive and endangered fish populations, particularly the Danube salmon (*Hucho hucho*). Preserving the ecological integrity of this unique freshwater system is of utmost importance.

Due to its near-pristine hydro-morphology and largely undisturbed connectivity, we consider the Upper Drina Basin a regional conservation priority and a centrepiece in promoting the global survival of the *Hucho hucho*. Any support for further hydropower development in the Upper Drina River system contradicts the principles of sustainable water management. Specifically, the Buk Bijela Hydropower Plant (BBHP) project will have an enormous ecological impact on the upper Drina River ecosystem, including the long-term sustainability of species such as *Hucho hucho*.

The proposed BBHP and its 2025 Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) represent an unacceptable threat to this habitat. The EIA is fundamentally flawed and scientifically insufficient; it trivialises the devastating effects of hydropeaking operations and incorrectly dismisses the biological requirements of the *Hucho hucho*. The project fails to account for the cumulative, transboundary impacts on the UNESCO-protected Tara River and the broader Drina cascade, including the downstream Foča and Paunci dams. Any support for hydropower expansion in this basin contradicts the principles of sustainable water management and relies on an assessment that masks the high probability of localised species extinction.

We, the undersigned members of the scientific community, therefore, call for an immediate halt to all hydropower expansion in the Upper Drina and its tributaries. The construction of additional hydropower plants would cause irreversible damage to the native fish fauna and would likely drive the last wild populations of *Hucho hucho* to extinction. Conservation action must prioritise maintaining the existing ecological functionality of this pristine system rather than relying on the proven failure of post-impact restoration.

BACKGROUND AND MOTIVATION

.....

The Upper Drina Basin (UDB), located in the border region between Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro, encompasses a remarkably complex mosaic of ecosystems. These relatively undisturbed river stretches continue to support numerous species and habitats of exceptional conservation value, recognised at national, regional, and European levels for their contribution to biodiversity (World Bank Group WBIF, 2017).

More specifically, a total of 769 km of *Hucho hucho* habitat is found in the Drina basin alone, amounting to 42% of all remaining Balkan habitat for this species and nearly one-third of the species' global distribution (Freyhof et al., 2015). This is not merely a regional population; it is the biogeographical anchor for the species' global survival.

Hydropower development in this region requires urgent attention. Along the UDB's first 50 km, including the tributaries Tara, Sutjeska, and Čehotina, over 25 new hydropower plants are planned, with three already under construction on the Bistrica River and one operational on the Piva River. The proposed Buk Bijela hydropower plant (BBHP) and reservoir, along with planned hydropower plants, would fragment the core of this ecological cornerstone and erase habitat that is demonstrably still functional. For species such as the *Hucho hucho*, longitudinal connectivity between the Drina and its tributaries is essential for accessing critical spawning, feeding, and refuge habitats.

The Upper Drina and Tara rivers form a 200 km-long, near-pristine system—likely the most intact and least polluted in the entire Danube basin (Weiss et al., 2018). Flowing through the UNESCO-protected Durmitor National Park, any deterioration must be seen as an unacceptable threat to Europe's river landscape. Conservation action must therefore prioritise maintaining the ecological functionality of existing systems rather than relying on post-impact restoration.

CRITICAL COMMENTS ON THE 2025 DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT FOR THE BUK BIJELA HYDROPOWER PLANT

The BBHP, with its large dimensions, hydropeaking operation, and extensive additional off-site engineering measures, represents the worst possible type of hydropower exploitation imaginable – resulting in severe and pervasive ecological degradation of the upper Drina catchment area, including likely extirpation of rheophilic species, like *Hucho hucho*.

The current draft Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the BBHP severely underestimates the project's ecological footprint. By trivialising or ignoring the cumulative impacts of the BBHP and the downstream Foča and Paunci HPPs, the assessment fails to account for the long-term degradation of the upper Drina's ecological integrity. This includes critical transboundary effects on the Tara River in Montenegro and vital tributaries such as the Sutjeska, Bjelava, Bistrica, and Čehotina, which serve as the last functional strongholds for *Hucho hucho*.

The 2025 EIA for the BBHP is scientifically insufficient and fundamentally misrepresents the ecological reality of the Upper Drina. Specifically:

- The EIA strongly argues that the BBHP must operate in a regulatory mode, meaning constant hydropeaking (turbine flows will vary from 22 m³/s to 450 m³/s) and that such operation will have no adverse impacts on the Drina River ecosystem. This statement is wrong and contradicts all published knowledge and understanding of the impacts of hydropeaking on aquatic systems. The BBHP, as conceived, with a high dam and hydropeaking operation mode is the single most destructive type of hydropower plant imaginable, and as such in this fragile canyon ecosystem, will result in severe and permanent ecological degradation.
- The EIA claims, without evidence, that *Hucho* living in the Tara Canyon do not need spawning areas in the upper Drina system. Previous studies, including an extensive strategic evaluation by the World Bank in 2017, have emphasised the need to identify the spawning grounds of the *Hucho hucho* in the upper Drina River; no such study has been commissioned.
- The EIA provides no plausible plan or description of a viable fish pass facility. To date, no functional fish passage exists that successfully accommodates *Hucho hucho* at a dam of this scale.

- Furthermore, the claim that a reservoir or hatchery would improve genetic health is scientifically baseless; reservoirs replace flowing-water habitats with standing-water environments, which are lethal to the specific ecological niche of the *Hucho hucho*. This is wrong. Fifty years or more of conservation genetic study and theory contradict these statements, and a large hatchery facility producing *Hucho* fry for the region and beyond is a nightmare scenario for *Hucho* conservation (Weiss 2026).
- The EIA states that the BBHP power plant is part of a planned cascade that would include the Foča and Paunci HPPs downstream of the BBHP. Indeed, it is difficult, if not impossible, to imagine the construction and operation of the BBHP without these additional dams to buffer or attempt to manage the severely altered water flows, erosion, and changes in sediment dynamics that would be caused by the BBHP. Further, the EIA dismisses the need to evaluate Transboundary Effects and ignores previous requests to study the fauna of the Tara Canyon (e.g., rheophilic fish species such as *Hucho hucho*) and their potential vulnerability to severe changes in the upper Drina River ecosystem.
- The EIA falsely claims that *Hucho hucho* is not a “salmonid” fish, and its “association” with the Salmonidae family gives the false impression that this species migrates. *This claim fundamentally misrepresents the species’ biological classification and life history: Hucho hucho is a salmonid and requires extensive longitudinal connectivity (>30 km) to complete its life cycle.*

The 2025 BBHP EIA lacks the empirical rigour required for a project of this scale. By trivialising the biological and hydrological requirements of the Upper Drina ecosystem, the assessment provides a false sense of security that masks the high probability of localised species extinction and irreversible habitat loss.

© Erhard Kraus



RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

The further expansion of hydropower in the Upper Drina is fundamentally incompatible with the survival of this globally significant river system. The scientific community clearly advises against any further development; the ecological cost of additional fragmentation is too high to mitigate. Should any project proceed despite this warning, it must undergo a comprehensive Environmental Impact Assessment. Baseline data for the EIA must be complemented through wide-ranging studies to fill data gaps and strengthen base assumptions on species occurrence and distribution.

We argue that the following are non-negotiable prerequisites for any EIA concerning this exceptional fish stronghold:

1. Full seasonal surveys of fish fauna, including all life stages of *Hucho hucho* and other endangered fish species.
2. High-resolution mapping of spawning and nursery habitats using drones, eDNA, and telemetry techniques.
3. Quantitative modelling of hydrological, sedimentological, and thermal alterations that may be caused by the proposed reservoirs and hydropower operations.
4. Cumulative impact analysis, addressing system-wide effects of multiple existing or planned hydropower plants.
5. Explicit consideration of genetic population structure, connectivity, and the evolutionary significance of local adaptations of *Hucho hucho*.
6. Potential impacts on the population of *Hucho hucho* and other Habitat Directive species living in the adjacent UNESCO site and National Parks, Sutjeska in BiH and Durmitor in Montenegro.
7. Assessment of downstream and transboundary effects.

A protection and management strategy for the *Hucho hucho* and the aquatic habitats must be developed with the aim of a sustainable, socio-economically valuable use of the landscape and its resources.

Efforts should be undertaken to mitigate the current hydro- and thermal peaking loads generated by the operating HPP on the Piva River, as they put additional pressure on fish species in the Upper Drina River.

THE UNDERSIGNED MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Steven Weiss Karl-Franzens-University, Graz, Austria
2. DDipl.-Ing. Dr. Kurt Pinter Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management, BOKU University, Vienna, Austria
3. Prof. Dragan P. Chobanov, Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria
4. MSc Jakob Neuburg, BOKU University, Austria
5. Dr. Odei Garcia-Garin, Institute of Aquatic Ecology (IEA), Universitat de Girona (UdG), Spain
6. PD Dr. rer. Nat. Matthias Stöck, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB), Germany
7. Prof. Andreja Slameršek, Slovenian Native Fish Society, Slovenia
8. Dip.-Ing. (FH) Eva Finsterbusch, Landesamt für Umwelt, Rheinland-Pfalz, Ecomorphology, Germany
9. ao Univ. Prof. i.R. Dr. Hubert Keckeis, University of Vienna, Austria
10. Assist. Prof. Dr. Maja Zagamajster, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Slovenia
11. Dr. Tijana Veličković, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac; National Institute of Biology, Serbia
12. Mrs. Anja Kos, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical faculty, Slovenia
13. Dr. Giacomo Assandri DISIT, Università del Piemonte Orientale, Italy
14. Lecture Professor Jorge R. Sánchez González, Universitat de Lleida, Spain
15. Prof. Dr. Stoyan Vladimirov Beshkov, National Museum of Natural History, Sofia, Bulgaria
16. PhD Libor Závorka, WasserCluster Lunz, Austria
17. MSc Ledi Hyseni, Environmental Biologist, Albania
18. Prof. Dr. Emili García-Berthou, University of Girona, Spain
19. MSc Barbara Jechsmayr, University of Innsbruck, Austria
20. Univ. Prof. DI Dr. Stefan Schmutz, Institute of Hydrobiology and Aquatic Ecosystem Management, BOKU University, Vienna, Austria
21. PhD Full Professor Avdul Adrović, University of Tuzla, Bosna i Hercegovina
22. Prof. Ferdinand Bego, University of Tirana, Faculty of Natural Sciences, Albania
23. Prof. Dr. Hans-Peter Grossart, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries (IGB), Germany
24. Prof. Kim Aarestrup, DTU, Denmark
25. Biologist Xhoia Mujali, University of Tirana, Albania
26. Professor Emeritus Ian G Cowx, Hull International Fisheries Institute, University of Hull, United Kingdom

27. MSc Bjarke Dehli, DTU Aqua-Denmark, Denmark
28. Msc Bsc Sara Moritsch, Independent, Austria
29. Dr. Kim Birnie-Gauvin, Technical University of Denmark, Denmark
30. Prof. Stefan Bouzarovski, Human Geography, University of Manchester, United Kingdom
31. Dr. Günther Unfer, Institute of Hydrobiology, BOKU University, Austria
32. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Jana S. Petermann, University of Salzburg, Austria
33. Dr. Mathias Lohr, Technische Hochschule Ostwestfalen-Lippe, Germany
34. Univ. Prof. Dr. Gabriel Singer, Innsbruck University, Austria
35. Mag.oecol. Jasmin Sadiković, Executive Director in Green Osijek, Croatia
36. PD. Ing. Mag. Dr. Karl Hülber, University of Vienna, Austria
37. Dr. Sarah Kiefer, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany
38. Dr. Thomas Andreas Gonsiorczyk, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany
39. MSc Daniel Pelz, BOKU University, Austria
40. Full professor Saša Marić, Faculty of Biology, University of Belgrade, Serbia
41. Univ. Prof. Mag. Dr. Thomas Frank, Institute of Zoology, BOKU University, Vienna, Austria
42. PhD Georges Carrel, Senior Researcher, UMR RECOVER, INRAE Aix-en-Provence, France
43. Dr. David Stanković, National Institute of Biology, Slovenia
44. MSc Ester Premate, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
45. Prof. Dr. Ursula Gaedke, University of Potsdam, Germany
46. Prof. Dr. Spase Shumka, Agricultural University of Tirana, Albania
47. Full professor Vesna Hadziavdic, University of Tuzla; Faculty of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, Bosna i Hercegovina
48. Prof. Alban Kuriqi, UBT, Kosovo
49. PhD Andrés Mellado Díaz, Tragsatec-MITERD, Spain
50. Dr. Nataša Kojadinović, Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac, Serbia
51. Mr. Borislav Dimitrov Sandov, Former Minister of Environment and Water of Bulgaria, Bulgaria
52. Dr. Regierungsdirektor i. R. Winfried Bueking, Forest Research Station, Basen-Württemberg, Germany
53. PhD HD Henri PERSAT, Société Française d'Ichtyologie, Retired CNRS Researcher, France
54. Dr. Armin Lorenz, University of Duisburg-Essen, Faculty for Biology, Germany
55. Dr. Ronald Pöppel, BOKU University Vienna, Austria
56. Professor Emeritus Robert J Naiman, Former UNESCO Chair for Sustainable Rivers, University of Washington, USA
57. Prof. PhD Ondřej Slavík, Czech University of Life Sciences Prague, dept. Zoology and Fisheries, Czech Republic
58. MA BSc Johanna Gunczy, Centre of Natural History, Universalmuseum Joanneum, Austria

59. Professor Emeritus Gary D. Grossman, University of Georgia, USA
60. Priv. Doz. Mag. Dr. Harald Pauli, Austrian Academy of Sciences & BOKU University, Austria
61. Dr. Maurice Kottelat, Independent Researcher, Switzerland
62. Prof. dr. sc. Vildana Alibabić, University of Bihać, Biotechnical faculty, Bosna i Hercegovina
63. PhD Manu Esteve, Independent Researcher, Spain
64. Mag. Dr. Georg Wolfram, DWS Hydro-Ökologie, Austria
65. Dr. Traudlinde Aigner, Independent, Austria
66. Dr. Aleksandra M. Milošković, Institut for information technologies Kragujevac, Serbia
67. Dr. Waltraud Pinter, Biology teacher, Austria
68. Doz. Dr. Wolfgang Theo Scherzinger, zoologist (former Bavarian Forest National Park), Germany
69. Dr. Gertrud Haidvogel, BOKU University, Austria
70. MSc Santiago Poch Cartañá, Institute of Aquatic Ecology, University of Girona, Spain
71. Mr Dušan Jesenšek, SARA VURI, Zavod za ohranjanje lokalnega uzročila in okolja, Tolmin, Slovenia
72. Apl. Prof., Dr. Michael Mutz, Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus - Senftenberg, Department of Freshwater Ecology, Germany
73. Research Professor Vicenç Acuña, Catalan Institute for Water Research, Spain
74. Univ. Prof. Vladimir Stupar, University of Banja Luka, Bosna i Hercegovina
75. BSc Christian Übl, Thayatal National Park, Austria
76. Dr. Reinhard Kikinger, Marine Biologist, Retired, Austria
77. Postdoctoral Researcher, Romina D'Ascanio, Roma Tre University, Department of Architecture, Italy
78. Univ. Doz. Dr. Peter Weish, Univ. f. Bodenkultur, Vienna, Austria
79. Dr. Žiga Fišer, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Biology, Slovenia
80. MSc Marian Johannes Gratzner, University of Vienna, Naturschutzbund Österreich, Austria
81. E.O. Univ. Prof. DI Dr. Hermann Knoflacher, TU Wien, Austria
82. Dr. Ansgar Vössing, Nationalparkstiftung Unteres Odertal, Germany
83. Dipl. Ing. Matthias Kuhn, NP Donau-Auen, Austria
84. MSc Marina Victoria Rios, RPTU KL LD, Germany
85. Dr. Polona Pengal, REVIVO, Slovenia
86. Mag. Martina Adlboller-Brunner, Administration of Lower Austria, Austria
87. Dr. Afroditi Grigoropoulou, Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries Berlin, Germany
88. Dr. Thomas Changeux, Institut de recherche pour le développement, France
89. MSc Marie Wahl, BOKU University, Austria
90. Prof. Dr. Carlos Garcia de Leaniz, Swansea University, United Kingdom
91. PhD Sylvie Tomanova, Independent Researcher, France

92. Univ. Prof. Emer. Dr. Mathias Jungwirth, Institut für Hydrobiologie u. Gewässermanagement, BOKU, Vienna, Austria
93. Assoc. Prof. Pavel Horký, Czech Agriculture University in Prague, Dept. of Zoology and Fisheries, Czech Republic
94. Ornithologist, Tarik Dervović, Ornithological society Nase ptice, Bosna i Hercegovina
95. Professor Emeritus Narcís Prat, Universitat de Barcelona, Spain
96. Assoc. Prof. Sergio Makrakis, Western Paraná State University, Brazil
97. Dr.nat.tech. Willem van Hoesel, Independent Researcher, Austria
98. Dr. Andreas Bruder, University of Applied Sciences and Arts of Southern Switzerland, Switzerland
99. Mgr. DiS. PhD. Petra Horka, Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Science, Czech Republic
100. Dr. Robert Schwefel, IGB Berlin, Germany
101. PhD Núria Catalan, CEAB-CSIC, Spain
102. Prof. Marina Piria, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Agriculture, Croatia
103. PhD researcher Justine Carey, BOKU University, Austria
104. Full Professor of Ecology, Núria Bonada, University of Barcelona, Catalonia/Spain
105. Assoc. Professor Cene Fišer, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Slovenia
106. PhD Student, José Lourenço, University of Minho, Portugal
107. Univerzitetni profesor Izet Eminović, PMF, Univerzitet u Sarajevu, Bosna i Hercegovina
108. Mag. Wolfgang Paill, Head of the Natural History Museum Graz, Universalmuseum Joanneum, Austria
109. Full Professor Sadbera Trožić-Borova, University of Sarajevo – Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
110. Univ Prof Thomas Hein, BOKU University, Austria
111. MSc Michael Grohmann, BOKU University, Austria
112. Univ. Prof. Christian Griebler, University of Vienna, Austria
113. MSc Kristof Reuther, IUB Engineering AG, Switzerland
114. DI Dr. Sarah Höfler, blattfisch e.U., Austria
115. Ass. Prof. Nataša Gregorič Bon, Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts (ZRC SAZU), Slovenia
116. Professional Associate Annasibila Požrl, National Institute of Biology, Slovenia
117. MSc Joselyn Arreaga, BOKU University, Austria
118. DDI Dr. Carina Seliger, Senior scientist, BOKU University, Austria
119. Mag. Gerold Winkler, Senior scientist, BOKU University, Austria
120. Postdoctoral Researcher Elena Terzić, Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia
121. PhD Martin Dalvai Ragnoli, University of Innsbruck, Austria
122. Postdoctoral Researcher Margareta Lakušić, University of Porto, Portugal
123. Postdoctoral Researcher Andrés Peredo Arce, Senckenberg Research Institute, Germany
124. Dr. Astrid Schmidt-Kloiber, BOKU University, Austria
125. Mr. Ahmed Džaferagić, Senior Teaching and Research Assistant, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina

126. Ms Nikolina Tomic, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina
127. Associate Professor, Sabina Trakić, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
128. PhD Jan Martini, University of Innsbruck, Austria
129. Dr. Lukas - Thuile Bistarelli, Institute of Ecology, University of Innsbruck, Austria
130. Associate Professor Mahir Gajević, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
131. Vanredni profesor Renata Bešta-Gajević, Univerzitet u Sarajevu, PMF, Bosna i Hercegovina
132. PhD candidate Mirza Čelebičić, University of Tuzla, Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
133. Dr. Sabine Wollrab, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Germany
134. Redovni profesor Lada Lukić Bilela, Univerzitet u Sarajevu - Prirodno-matematički fakultet, Bosna i Hercegovina
135. Prof. Dr. Hrvoje Jurić, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Croatia
136. BSc Liliana Kukacka, University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria
137. Professor Edina Muratović, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
138. Priv.-Doz. Dr. Mag. Elisabeth Haring, Natural History Museum, Vienna, Austria
139. DI Dr. Thomas Friedrich, BOKU University, Austria
140. Profesor Adisa Parić, University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Science, Bosna i Hercegovina
141. Mr Asmir Hakanovic, IPI d.o.o., Bosna i Hercegovina
142. Biologist/Ecologist Andrijana Mićanović, Montenegrin Ecologists Society, Montenegro
143. Dr Alejandro Dussailant, UK Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, United Kingdom
144. Prof. Dr. sc. Aida Korjenić, Univerzitet u Sarajevu - Prirodno -matematički fakultet, Bosna i Hercegovina
145. Dr Helmut Sattmann, Natural History Museum Vienna, Austria
146. Assoc. Prof PhD Alisa Elezović, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina
147. Dr.sci. Jasmin Ramic, Universty of Sarajevo - Institute for genetic engineering and biotechnology, Bosna i Hercegovina
148. Dr. Robert Konecny, Environment Agency Austria, Austria
149. PhD student Nadija Cehajic, BOKU University, Austria
150. MSc Anna-Lisa Dittrich, BOKU University, Austria
151. Dr. Andre Phillips, University of Edinburgh, United Kingdom
152. Associate Professor Jasmina Kamberović, University of Tuzla, Bosna i Hercegovina
153. MA Melisa Šehić, University of Tuzla, Bosna i Hercegovina
154. Dr Belma Kalamujić Stroil, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina
155. Prof Dr. Lejla Pojskić, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina
156. MSc Economy & Sustainable development, Ioanna Giannikopoulou, Harokopio University, Greece

157. Teaching assistant, BSc Vildana Beslic, University in Tuzla, Bosna i Hercegovina
158. Ing, Osman Hrnjica, Univerzitet u Sarajevu, Bosna i Hercegovina
159. Dr. rer. nat. Vid Švara, Carinthia University of Applied Sciences, Austria
160. Profesor Elma Omeragić, University of Sarajevo, Bosna i Hercegovina
161. Assoc. Prof. Hajrija Hamidovic, "Prirodno - matematički fakultet u Tuzli, Bosna i Hercegovina
162. Full professor Edina Hajdarević, University of Tuzla, Faculty of Science and Mathematics, Bosna i Hercegovina
163. Ms. Diana Catherine Brett Schumacher, founder and former vice chairman of the Environmental Law Foundation, United Kingdom

REFERENCES

Freyhof, J.; Weiss, S.; Adrović, A.; Čaleta, M.; Duplić, A.; Hrašovec, B.; Kalamujić, B.; Marčić, Z.; Milošević, D.; Mrakovčić, M.; Mrdak, D.; Piria, M.; Schwarz, U.; Simonović, P.; Šljuka, S.; Tomljanović, T.; Zabrc, D. (2015): The Huchen Hucho hucho in the Balkan region: Distribution and future impacts by hydropower development. RiverWatch & EuroNatur, 30 pp.

Weiss, S.; Apostolou, A.; Đug, S.; Marčić, Z.; Mušović, M.; Oikonomou, A.; Shumka, S.; Škrijelj, R.; Simonović, P.; Vesnić, A.; Zabrc, D. (2018): Endangered Fish Species in Balkan Rivers: their distributions and threats from hydropower development. Riverwatch & EuroNatur, 162 pp.

Weiss, S.J. (2026). Critical Comments on the 2025 Draft EIA for the Buk Bijela Hydropower Plant. Prepared independently by the author. Institute of Biology, University of Graz, Graz Austria. 5 pages. DOI: 10.13140/RG.2.2.25002.68805

World Bank Group WBIF, (2017): Support to Water Resources Management in the Drina River Basin. Project ID NO.1099991 DRINA RIVER BASIN ROOF REPORT. 95 pp. <https://documents.worldbank.org/en/publication/documents-reports/documentdetail/183341530114587734/support-to-water-resources-management-in-the-drina-river-basin-drina-river->