

Integrated river water quality assessments: The role of space-based data

GlobeWQ Team

GlobeWQ
Global Water Quality & Analysis Platform



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research

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World Water Quality Alliance

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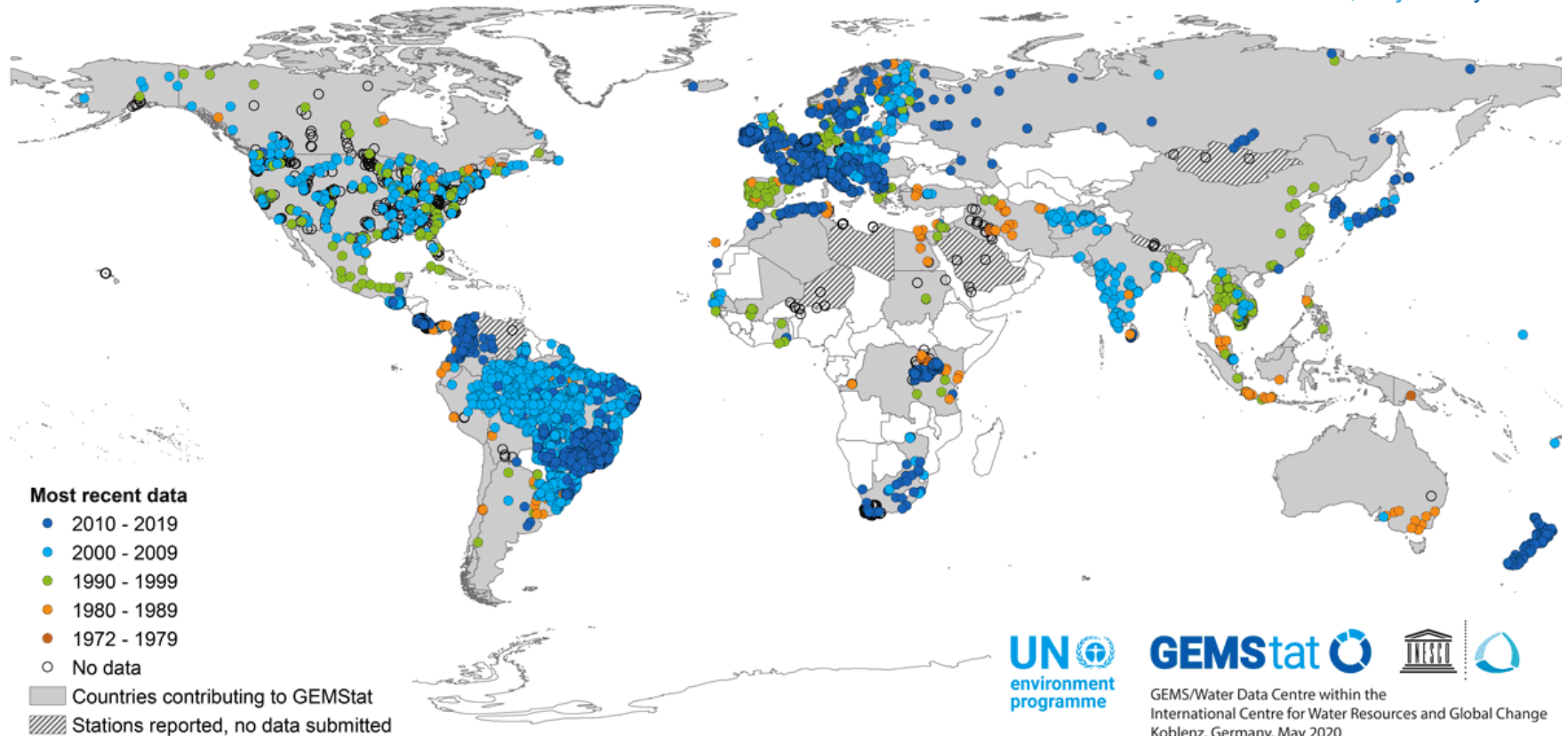
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Environment
Agency**


United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization


International Centre
for Water Resources and Global Change
under the auspices of UNESCO

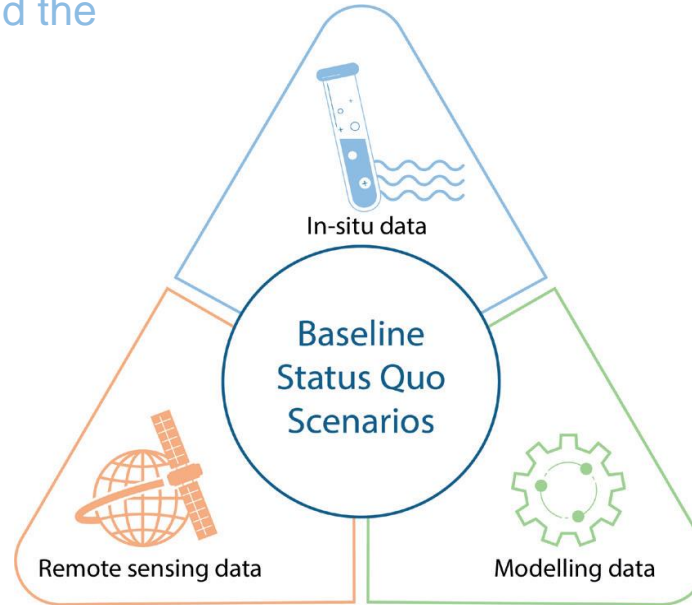
 **PTKA**
Projektträger Karlsruhe
Karlsruher Institut für Technologie

GEMStat in-situ data



Beyond in situ data

- The main workhorse and the „gold standard“
- „Unlimited“ parameters
- Ground truthing

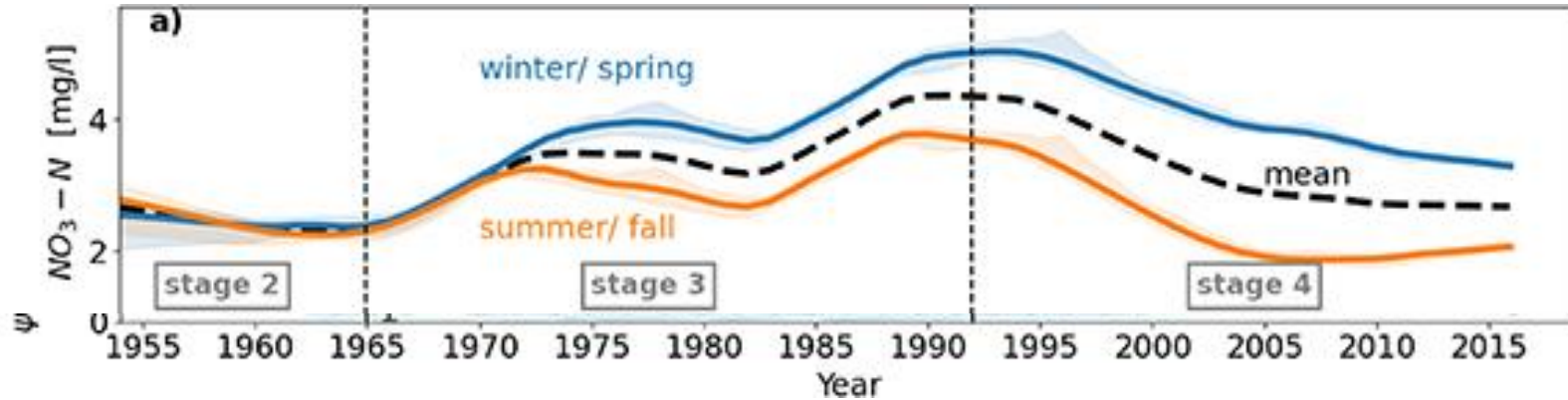


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- Near realtime information
- Spatially unconstrained
- Limited parameters

- Predictions and Scenarios
- Spatially and temporally continuous information

Multi-decadal trajectory of Nitrate concentration in the Elbe River



Time-scales of water quality information needs

Acute events (e.g. algal blooms)



Cyanobacteria (blue-green algae)
bloom on Lake Erie in 2009





Retrieved from <https://www.dw.com/en/mysterious-mass-fish-kill-in-oder-river-expands-downstream/a-62784099> @ 03.10.2022

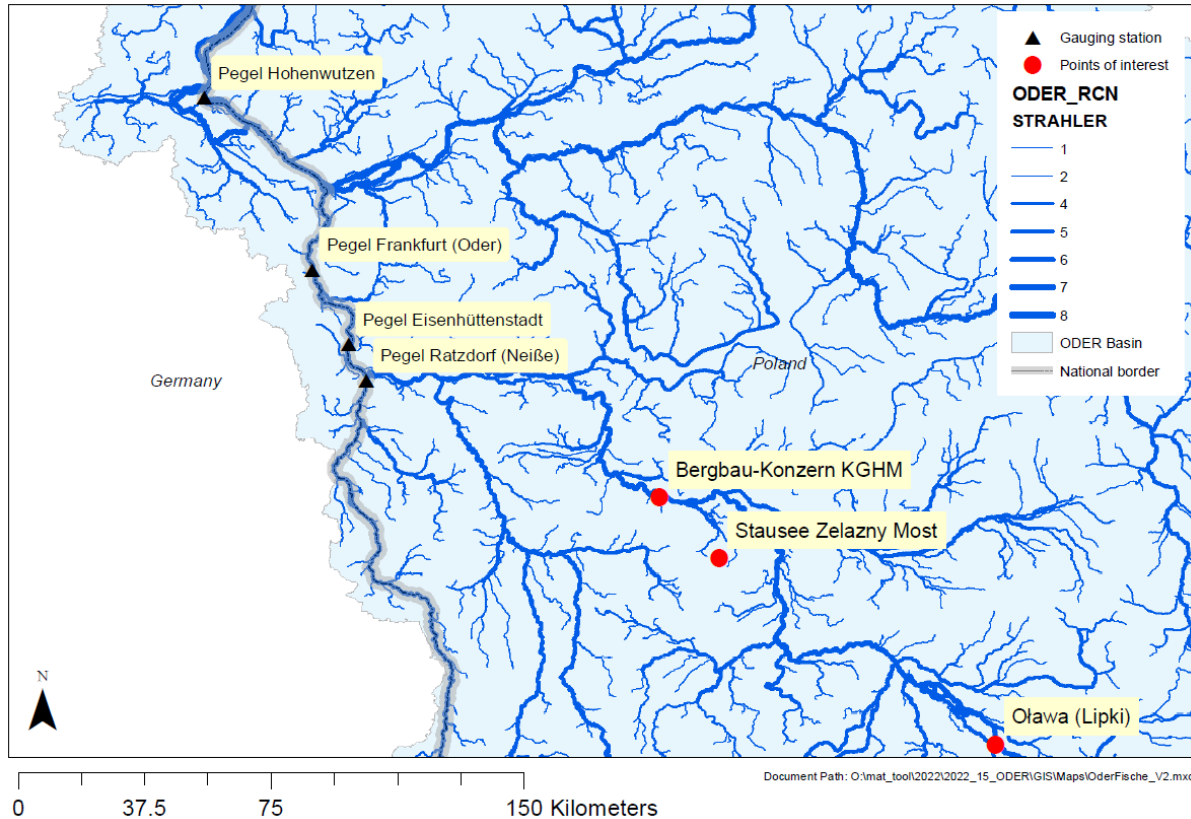
© Marcin Bielecki/dpa/picture alliance

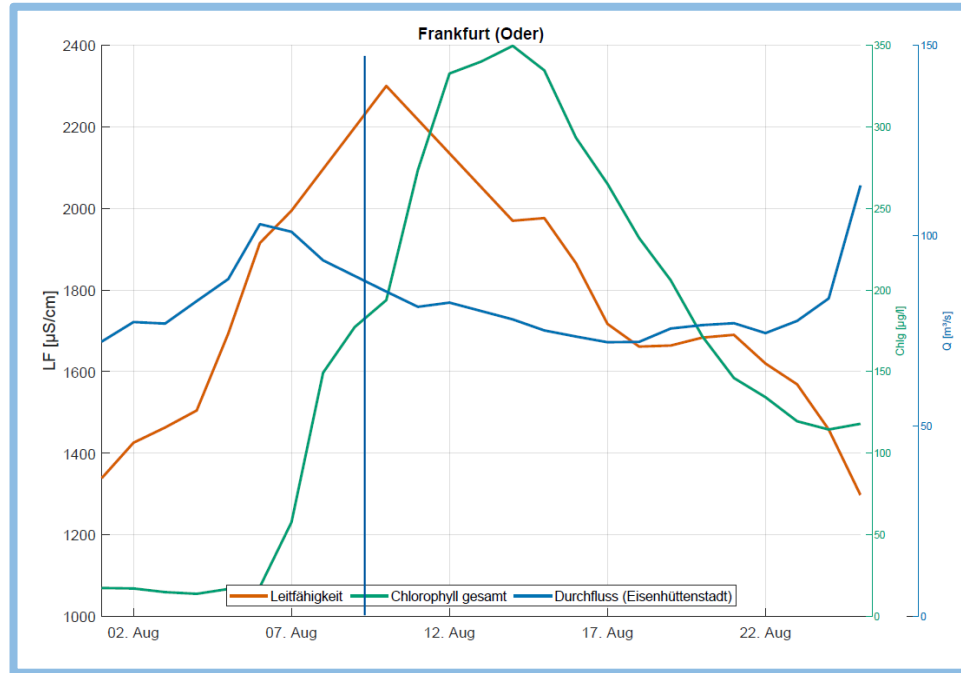
- Harmful algal bloom of *Prymnesium parvum*
- *P. parvum* is found worldwide
- *P. parvum* can cause harmful algal blooms (HABs) in inland and coastal waters(phycotoxin prymnesin)
- *P. parvum* grows in a salinity range of 0.5 - 30 psu (Practical Salinity Unit) with an optimum at 15 (2000 $\mu\text{s}/\text{cm} \sim 1$ psu) (Source: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hal.2017.05.010>)
- Unclear how algae preferring brackish water reached the Oder

Reference:

https://www.umweltbundesamt.de/sites/default/files/medien/2546/dokumente/statusbericht_fischsterben_in_der_oder_220930.pdf

Oder River case

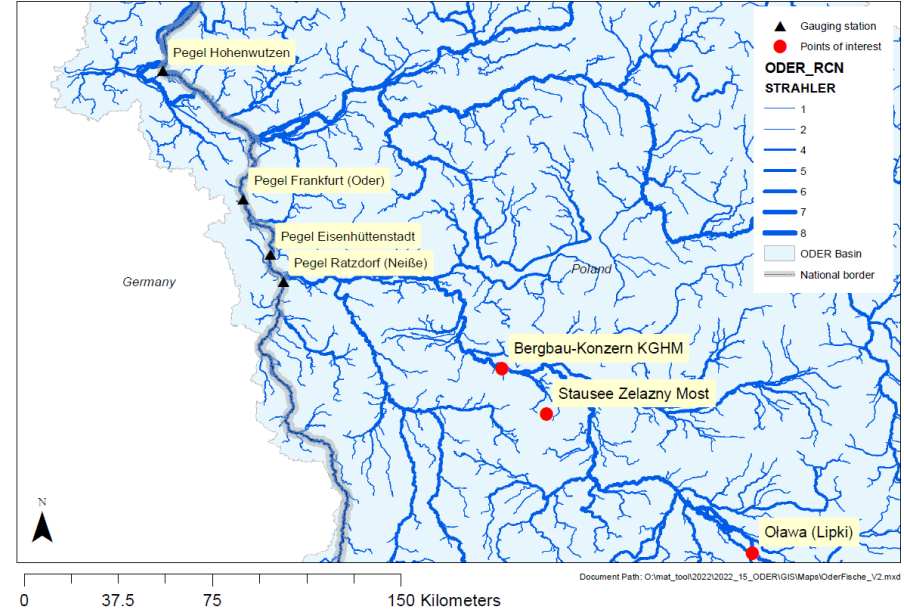




- Extreme low flow conditions (within the top 10 low flows ever recorded)
- Substantially increased electrical conductivity (salinity) since beginning of August
- Chlorophyll peak in mid August
- Mass fishkill reported in Germany at Aug 9th

Słona woda trafiła do Odry w Głogowie z Zakładu Hydrotechnicznego KGHM: "Wody Polskie nie poprosiły o wstrzymanie zrzutu"

ZATRUTA ODRA 17.08.2022, 20:26

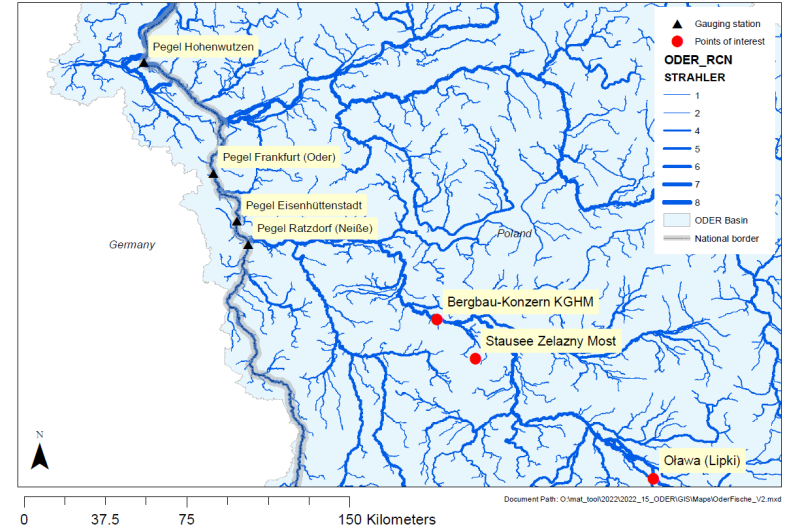


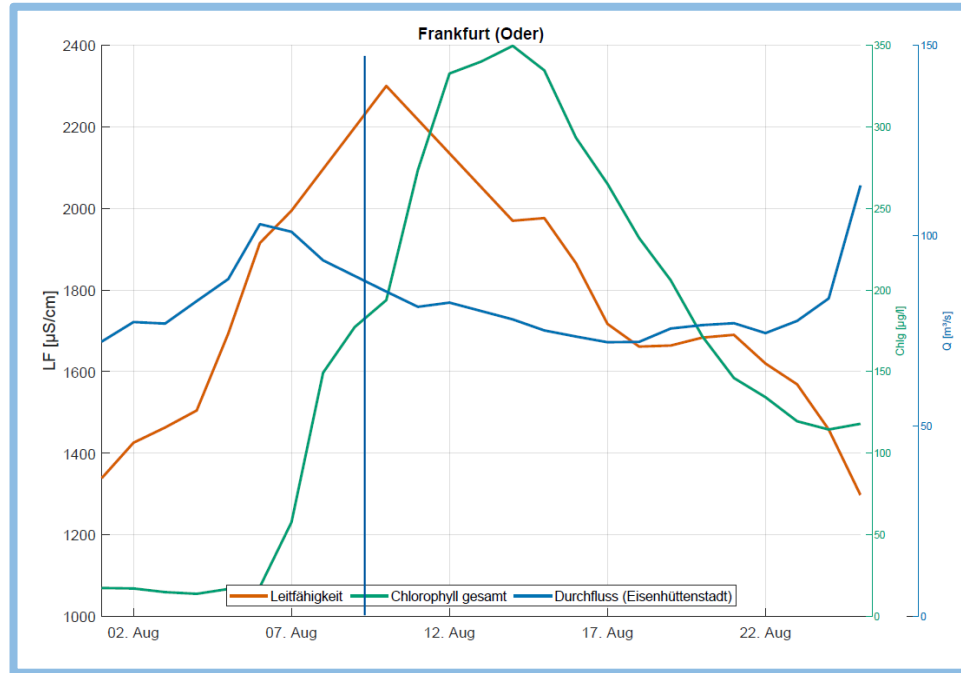
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ZATRUTA ODRA 17.08.2022, 20:26



Salty water entered the Oder River in Glogow from KGHM's Hydrotechnical Plant: "Polish Water did not ask to stop the discharge."



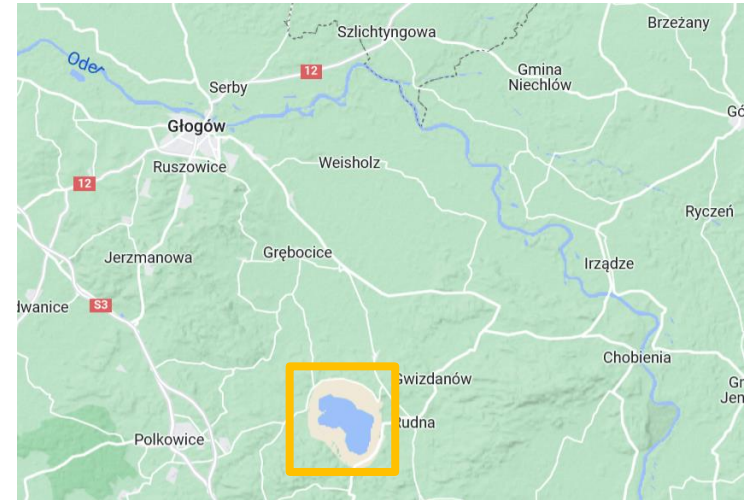
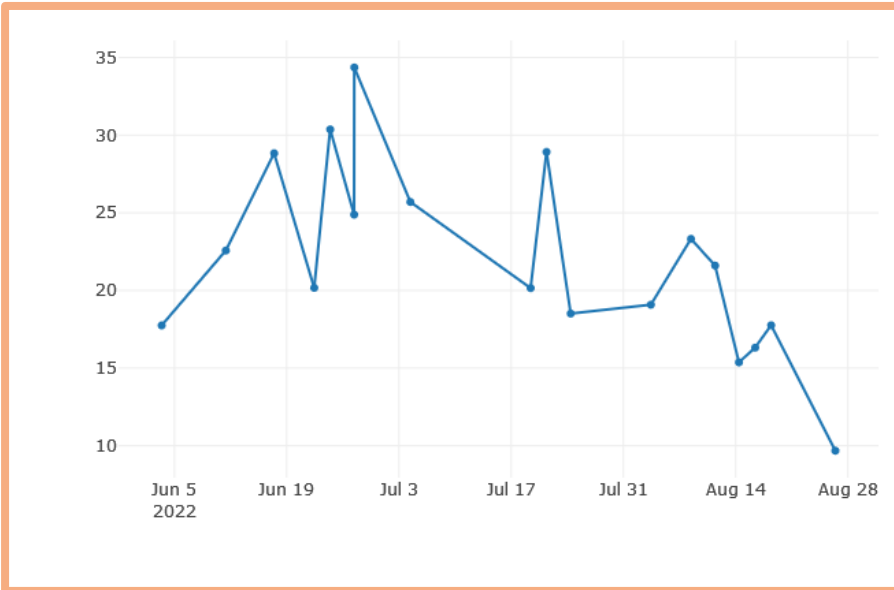


- Saline water was released from the reservoir between 29.7-10.8
- Traveltime from Zelasny Most reservoir to the station in FFO (~4d) matches the observed salinity peak
- Time is not sufficient to generate an algal bloom with typical growth rates from small initial biomass

Using satellite data (1)

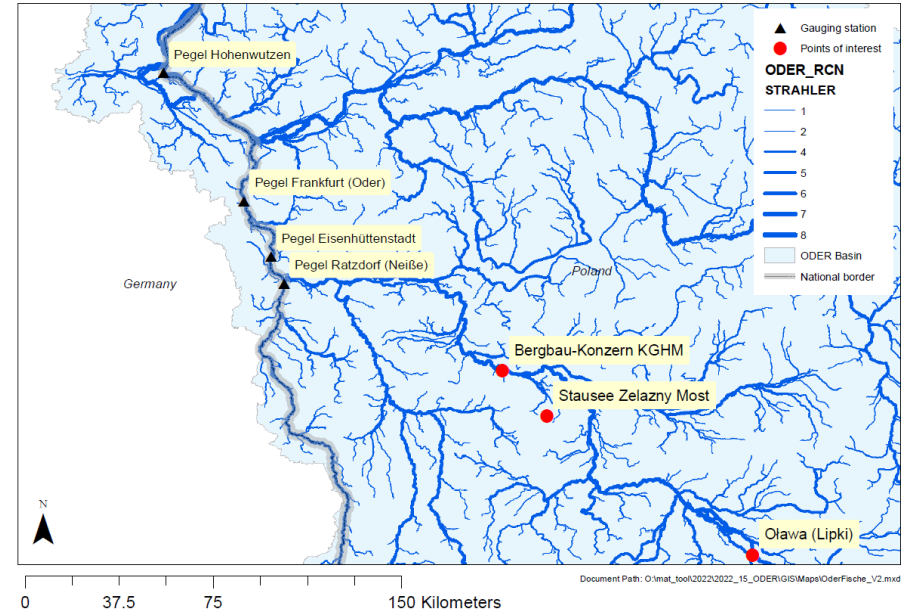
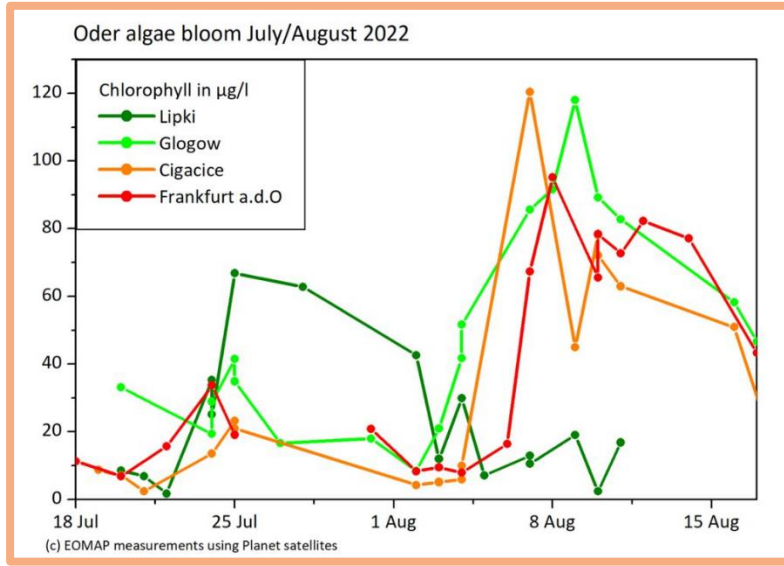
Did the reservoir act as an incubator for algae?

Chlorophyll concentration $\mu\text{g/l}$, Reservoir surface



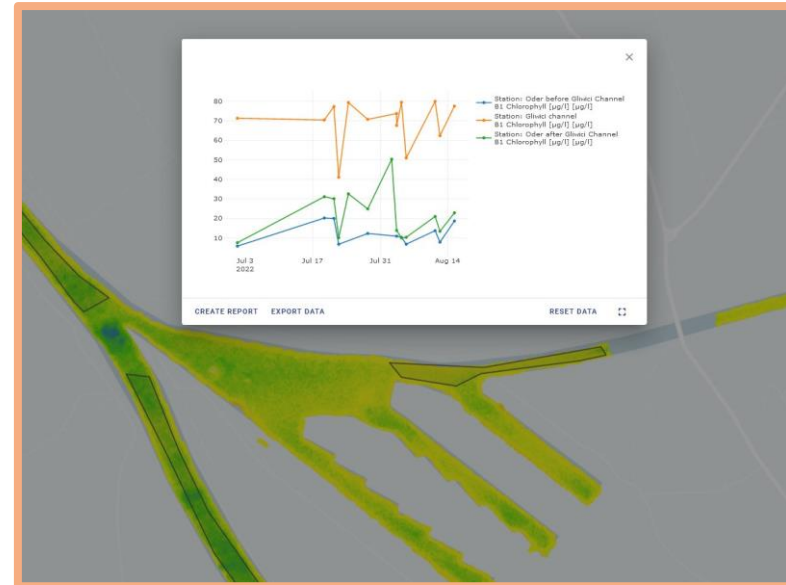
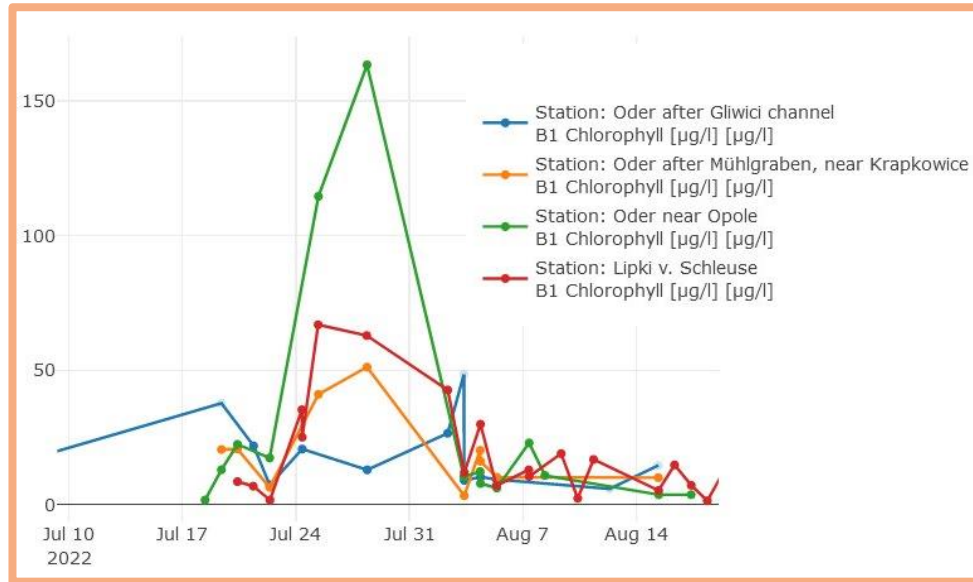
Using satellite data (2)

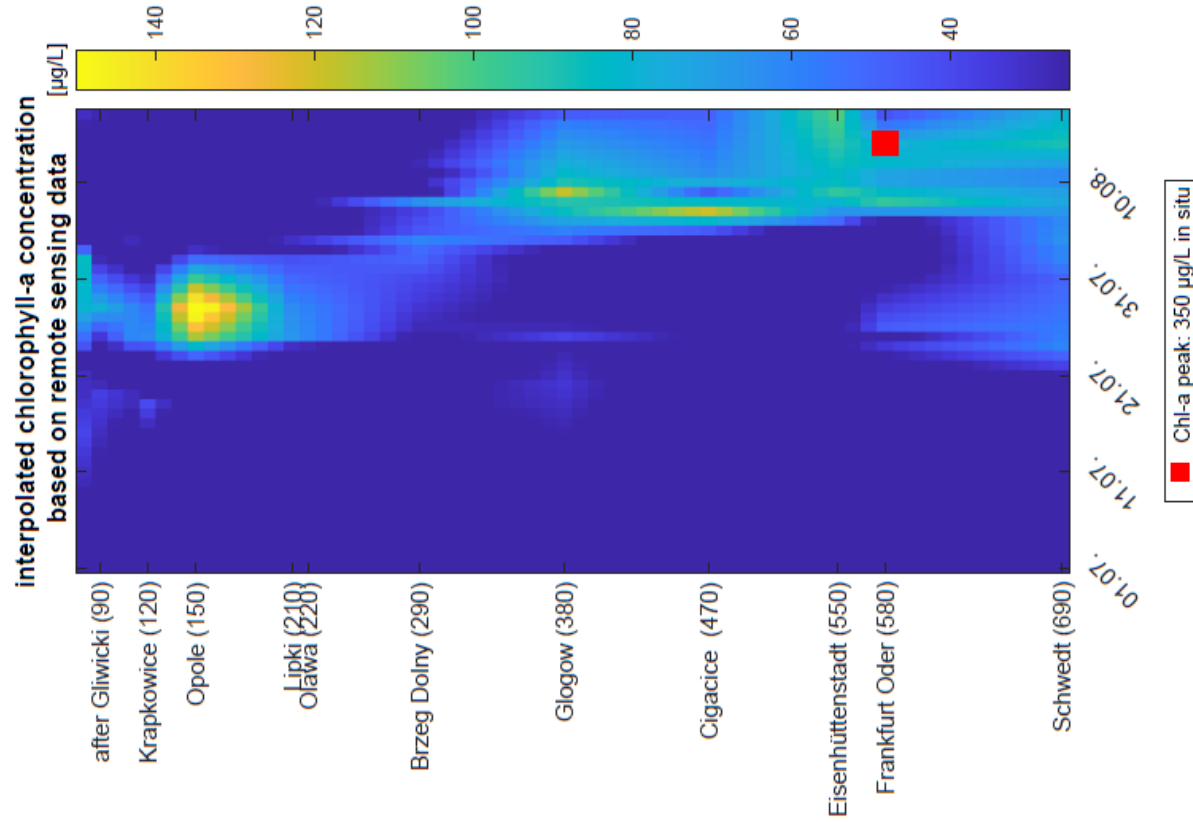
Enabled by PlanetLabs SuperDoves,
3m spatial, daily



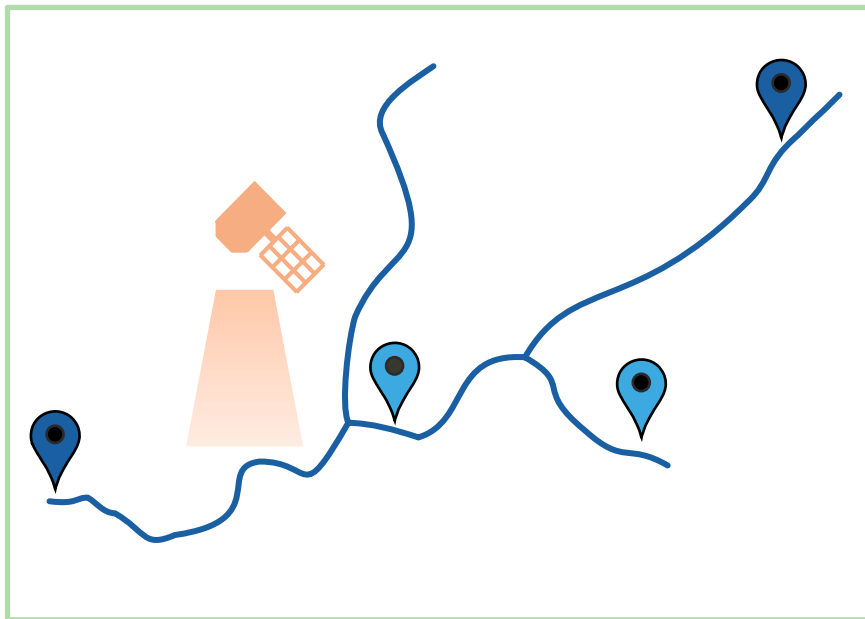
Using satellite data (2)

Elevated chlorophyll concentrations in July in the upstream parts of the Oder River and a tributary





- High resolution satellite data revealed the space-time patterns of chlorophyll concentrations
- Satellite data provides unbiased information throughout the Oder river network
- Combination of in situ data, qualitative information and satellite data helps to constrain the causes of the fishkill



- Unified in situ data sources needed
- Reduce lead time between measurement and availability



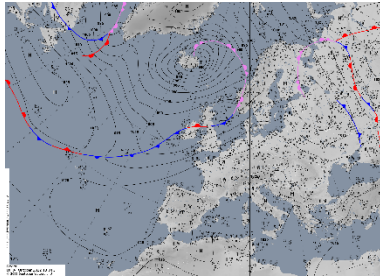
- Complement sparse in situ data
- Insight into spatio-temporal patterns
- „Easy“ automatization and up-scaling
- Stop „in situ data chasing“



- Flexible model concepts that allow the ingestion of diverse data
- But currently no operational water quality models

- *No coordinated monitoring and data exchange between Poland and Germany*
- *Limited (or no) use of available in situ real time data for warning (and no use of EO)*
- *No coordinated alert system*

From data to knowledge



Letzte Aktualisierung: 04.10.2022, 20:55 Uhr

Weite Teile des Vorhersagegebietes befinden sich im Einflussbereich einer langgestreckten, v. Ostatlantik bis nach Osteuropa reichenden Hochdruckzone. Erst am Mittwochabend greift die nächste Störung auf den Nordwesten über.

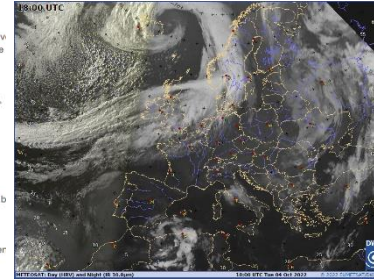
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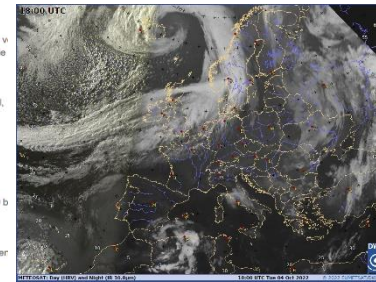
In der Nacht zum Mittwoch in der gesamten Südhälfte sowie in der Mitte gebietsweise Nebel, dabei streckenweise Sichtweiten unter 150 m.

WIND:

In der Nacht zum Mittwoch im Nordseerumfeld aufdringender Süd- bis Südwestwind mit einzelnen stäufen Böen (7 Bft) entlang der Nordfriesischen Küste. Über der offenen Nordsee sowie auf Helgoland in den Frühstunden erste stürmische Böen (8 Bft). In den Gipfeln der nördlichen und östlichen Mittelgebirge im Laufe der Nacht einzelne stürmische Böen, auf dem Brocken Sturm-, morgens eventuell sogar schwere Sturmböen (9 bis 10 Bft).

Tagsüber auch im Binnenland aufdringender, auf Südwest drehender Wind. Böen 7 Bft insbesondere im Nordwesten. Im höheren Bergland sowie an der Nordsee stürmisch mit Böen 8-9 Bft, in exponierten Hochlagen vereinzelt schwere Sturmböen 10 Bft. Auf dem Brocken orkanartige Böen 11 Bft nicht ausgeschlossen.





Thank you for your attention

