

SWEDEN

RIVER ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

Conservation of Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Atlantic Salmon, and Brown Trout



Rewilding Sweden is leading efforts to restore riverine ecosystems by revitalizing habitats crucial for the survival of the **Freshwater Pearl Mussel**, a keystone species that plays a vital role in water purification and ecosystem health. These mussels **filter up to 50 liters of water per day, enhancing water quality** while providing essential nutrients that support juvenile **Atlantic Salmon** and **Brown Trout**. Their shells create microhabitats for water mosses and invertebrates, further boosting biodiversity. However, **Mussels** depend on healthy fish populations, as their larvae require young Salmon and Trout to develop. With habitat degradation, siltation, and land use changes threatening all three species, urgent conservation action is needed.

To combat these challenges, Rewilding Sweden is restoring natural river dynamics by reintroducing boulders, encouraging natural meandering, and promoting native vegetation. The restoration of swamp forests and wetlands improves water retention, stabilizes ecosystems, and enhances resilience against climate change. Species recovery efforts include **reintroducing Brown Trout**, enriching riverbeds with natural materials to support benthic fauna, and temporarily relocating Mussels during restoration activities. These actions are improving water quality, revitalizing ecosystems, and strengthening populations of endangered species.

The conservation of the Freshwater Pearl Mussel, Atlantic Salmon, and Brown Trout is **essential for maintaining the health and resilience of river ecosystems**. Their interconnected survival depends on a landscape-scale approach that restores both species and habitats. By addressing historical degradation and modern threats, Rewilding Sweden's integrated conservation strategy is ensuring the **long-term survival of these keystone species** and the broader biodiversity they support.



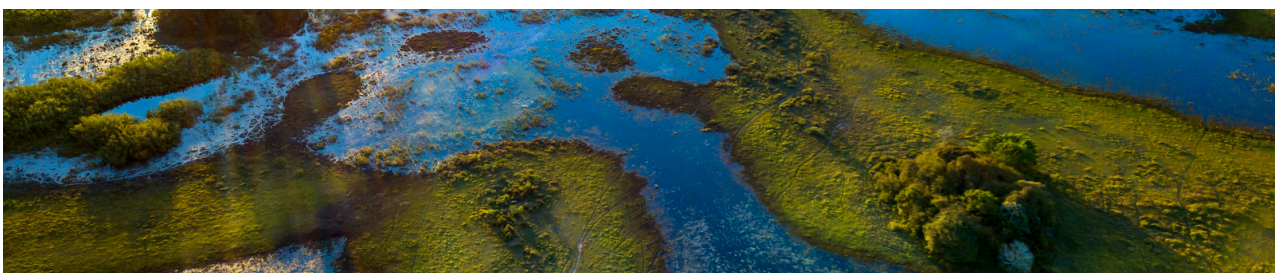
CONNECTING EFFORTS FOR A RESILIENT FUTURE

These detailed case studies from our alliance partners highlight diverse strategies and outcomes across the globe, showcasing the **extensive and impactful work being done to restore and conserve natural habitats**. By reintroducing key species and restoring habitats, our partners have taken significant steps towards reversing biodiversity loss and enhancing ecosystem services that benefit both nature and humanity.



A HEARTFELT THANKS TO OUR ALLIANCE PARTNERS

We extend our deepest gratitude to all our alliance partners who represent these vital case studies. Their dedication and hard work underpin the success of these global rewilding efforts, making a significant impact on conservation and ecological restoration. Their innovative approaches and relentless pursuit of ecological health are inspiring a brighter future for our planet.



JOIN US AS WE BUILD THE HOPEFUL, GROWING GLOBAL REWILDING MOVEMENT

The mission of Global Rewilding Alliance is to help build the global rewilding movement with the aim to mainstream rewilding in science, policy and practice globally by 2030.

The Alliance is a partnership of rewilding organisations, with 225+ Alliance Partners worldwide working across all continents. Together, they are currently helping to influence the rewilding of 2.2 million sq.km of land and 5 million sq.km of sea in 124 countries.

WE ARE INCREDIBLY GRATEFUL TO OUR CHAMPIONS
FOR THEIR CORE SUPPORT OF OUR WORK



BIOPHILIA FOUNDATION



BEN GOLDSMITH | ANDRÉ HOFFMANN



Summary of 'TAKING ANIMALS INTO ACCOUNT' - Case Studies

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