European Union Network for the Implementation and Enforcement of Environmental Law

IMPEL CAED Project

WORLD CAFÉ - CASE STUDY ON "WATER DAMAGE"

Second Training Session

February 9th 2022, 9:30 – 13:30 (CET), Online training

Francesco Andreotti

Italian National Institute for the Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), Italy

IMPEL CAED Project Manager

CASE DESCRIPTION

First available information/data

- (DRIVER) Annex III (ELD) activity: Discharges to surface water
- (PRESSURE) Accidental discharge of fertiliser into a stream within the temporal scope of ELD (damaging occurrence)
- (PRESSURE) Release of a toxic chemical for fish ecology (damage factor)
- (IMPACT) A large fish kill was reported along 5 km of the stream

Practical Tables - OUTPUT

DESCRIPTION and JUDGEMENT OF THE CASE	
Site/location	Unknown (Not factual, based on real-life experience)
Damaging Occurrence	Discharge of chemicals (fertiliser)
Damage Factors	Introduction of toxic chemicals into the water environment (additive factor)
Natural Resources Impacted	Surface waters (Surface water body)
Adverse Effects on Reference Concepts	Fish mortality
Other Available Data/information	---
Overall Judgement	?
Further Investigations Required	?

KEY RESULTS OF THE SCREENING PROCESS and DETERMINATION OF CLUES

Does the case comply with the applicability requirements of the ELD?

Add an overall judgement about the IMPACT

Add an overall judgement about the STATE

Add an overall judgement about the PRESSURE

Add an overall judgement about the DRIVER

WORLD CAFé CONCLUSIONS

KEY RESULTS OF THE SCREENING PROCESS and DETERMINATION OF CLUES

Does the case comply with the applicability requirements of the ELD?

Yes, the stream adversely affected on its reference concepts is covered by the WFD, the responsible occupational activity is listed in Annex III of ELD, the event occurred within the time scope of ELD.

An electrofishing survey established that there was very low fish abundance after the event

Baseline data from various sources confirms that all status elements were at Good status prior to the event

There was a sustained large release to surface water which was associated with chemical (short-term) and biological (long-term) impacts on the stream

There is an occupational activity which is an Annex III activity. There has been an ascertained discharge to the environment of substances (fertiliser) toxic to the aquatic environment

Practical Tables - OUTPUT

DESCRIPTION and JUDGEMENT OF THE CASE	
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Other Available Data/information	---
Overall Judgement	CLUES OF DAMAGING OCCURRENCE AND DAMAGE FACTORS + NATURAL RESOURCE (CDODF+NR) There is an occupational activity which is an Annex III activity. There has been a sustained discharge to the environment of substances (fertiliser) toxic to the aquatic environment. This was associated with chemical (short term) and biological (long-term) impacts on the stream. Baseline data from various sources confirms that all status elements were at Good status prior to the event. An electrofishing survey established that there was very low fish abundance after the event, indicative of a possible impact on the biological status of the waterbody
Further Investigations Required	Electrofishing surveys at 6 month intervals to determine the rate of recovery of status

Clues of environmental damage (CDODF+NR) identified