

SUMMARY

Impact of open sewage canal on local fauna near Zielona Góra

The municipal sewage plant in Zielona Góra (western Poland) was opened in December 1998. The sewage is supplied by means of a canal which starting from the northern part of the city is open on the distance of 4.8 km. The sides of the canal are steep and constructed from smooth concrete slabs.

During about 290 days of research carried out in 2003-2004 1926 animals were found in plastic containers dug along foil barriers located in certain sections of the canal sides. 630 of them were representatives of 14 legally protected species in Poland, the remaining 1296 were representatives of further 20 species which are not protected by the law.

The authors suppose that out of the animals caught, particularly amphibia are affected (32.7% of the legally protected animals). Significant losses in the population are caused by the fact during early spring the animals undertake journeys to the nearest water container.