

Implementation of management measures against pollution of surface waters with nutrients from agriculture in the first RBMP of the Czech Republic

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The implementation of WFD in the Czech Republic has been done under the auspices of two ministries, i.e. the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture. The key WFD directives concerning pollution of waters with nutrients like the Nitrates Directive and Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive were included in the national water law already in 2001. Preparations of river basin management plans (RBMPs) started in 2005 when a ministry edict was issued with an outline of required information about basins, monitoring programmes, analyses of water management options etc.. The RBMPs have been elaborated separately by each of the 5 national river basin authorities, however, with mutually coordinated methodological approaches on an informal basis. The RBMPs were not prepared by the authorities themselves but were contracted at consulting companies. Currently, the RBMPs are in the stage of evaluation of comments from the public and approval by regional authorities that will be followed by a SEA procedure. In our contribution, we characterize and analyze agricultural nutrient management issues in the RBMP of the Vltava Basin, the largest basin of the Czech Republic, that concern methods for the evaluation of nutrient pollution to surface waters and direct and indirect measures for its abatement.