



# VALUING NATURE

Population ecology and  
behaviour of European barbel  
*Barbus barbus*, a recreationally  
important, translocated fish

Catherine Gutmann Roberts

PhD researcher

Bournemouth University

# Invasion ecology in a regulated river system

- Angler catch records as an indicator for fish population variation
- Identifying spawning strategies
- Juvenile fish dietary overlap
- Isotopic niche divergence of juvenile and adult fish
- Effects of angler baits on two conspecific fish
- Movements of a non-native fish and the effect of barriers
- Characterising sediment quality for spawning

# Why did I want to attend the VNBIS

- Put this research into practice
- Ideas of how to work with anglers, landowners and water companies
- How can the public benefit from the value of rivers and fisheries

# Opportunities and challenges

- Anglers are interested in the research and devote a lot of energy to fishing
- What would the business model for helping landowners profit from farming in a more “river-friendly” way look like?
- Water sports on a protected river
  
- Changing opinions
- Realising value of soil
- Health and safety

