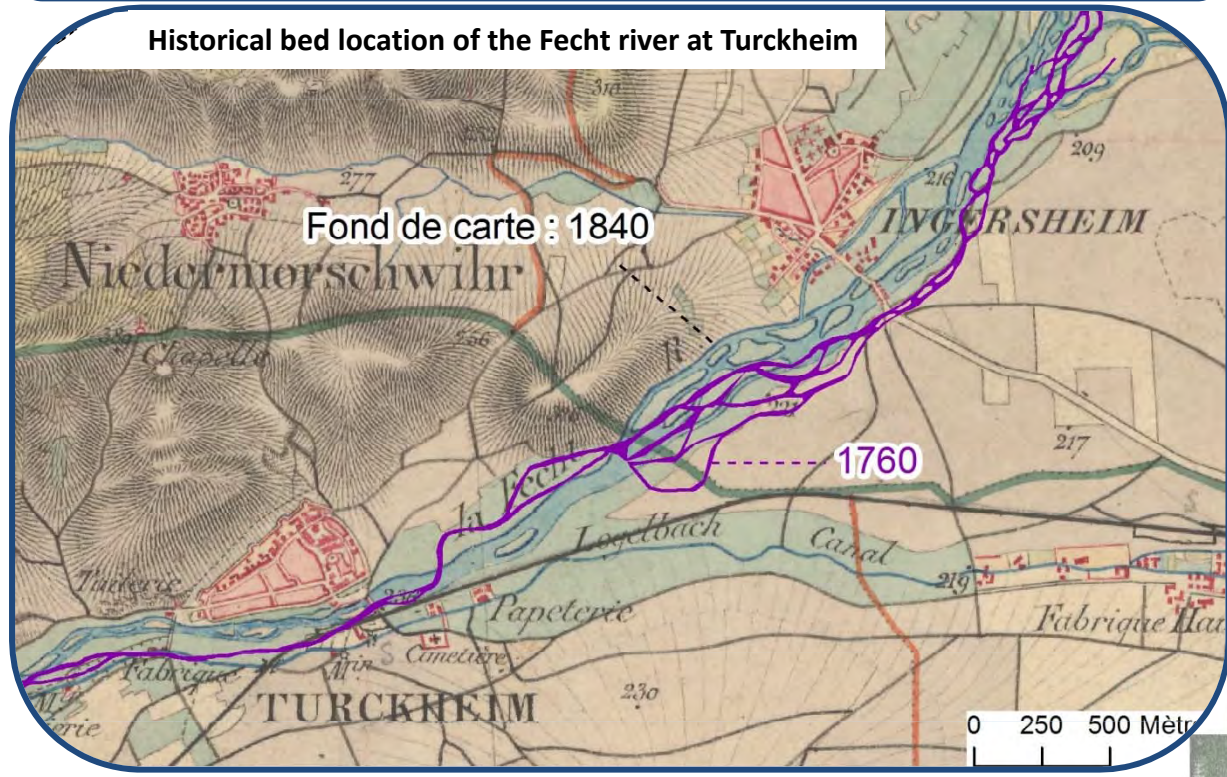


Conservation and restoration of habitat in Haut-Rhin

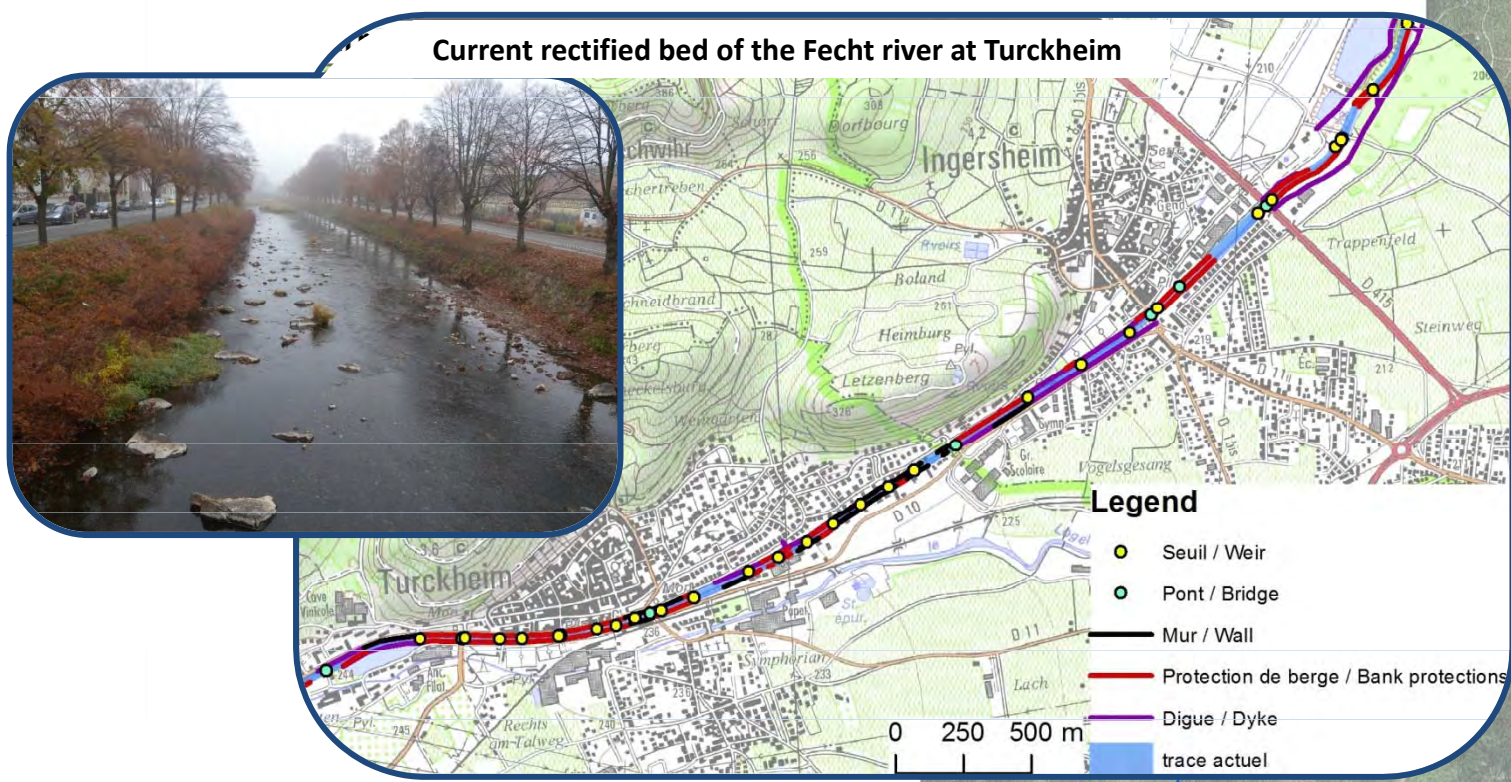
Historically, the department du Haut-Rhin presented many areas with alluvial dynamics, due to the slope change between the Vosges mountains and the Alsace plains. This offered favourable habitats for salmons reproduction and juvenile fish growth. However, the precocious industrialization and the considerable density of population led to an alteration of those areas. Some reaches have been preserved since the 70s. Now, the Conseil départemental du Haut-Rhin established a restoration dynamic of the erodible corridors.

Historical evolution

The Fecht river at Turkheim, an exemple of historical mobile reach...



... damaged by urbanization and industrialization



Politic of Espace Naturel Sensible

The tool "Espace Naturel Sensible" allows the creation by the Department of preemption area for the purpose of preserving the environment. Its implementation allowed to purchase land to restore and sustainably manage key sectors of hydraulic and ecological point of view.



The Fecht river in AMMERSCHWIHR
3,95 ha



The Thur river in CERNAY and VIEUX-THANN
Preserved 58,9 ha out of 106,5 ha protected by biotope protection prefectural decree



The Doller river in SCHWEIGHOUSE-THANN
26 ha

Integrated program for rivers restoration in the Haut-Rhin

The Conseil départemental du Haut-Rhin, in partnership with the Agence de l'Eau Rhin-Meuse, applies an **integrated program to restore its rivers at a good ecological status**, to reach the aims set by the European Water Framework Directive. The restoration program aims at restoring river ecosystem functionalities, including the **lateral ecological continuity** and an **optimal bottom and bed variety**. It enables the re-establishment of favourable environment for salmons. An other work lead is the longitudinal continuity restoration, which enables the access for fish to those areas. In order to reach this goal, erodible corridors are mapping, as follows :

- **Potentially mobile reaches** are delimited, taking into consideration a theoretical width (10 x bed width at full capacity), analysing historical bed locations and topography, and taking in account main pressures (urbanized area, main roads, bridges...)

- Then, **mobile reaches to restore** are defined (*step done for the Doller, Lauch and Fecht rivers*). In those areas, banks will be no more protected. Other pressures are taking into consideration and weir removal possibilities are studied to restore the lateral bed shifting.

Then, an important work of **consultation** is realised, with the different players in the territory, especially the farmers. This phase is made in the framework of the Schémas d'Aménagement et de Gestion des Eaux (SAGEs) in he process of being created for the Doller and Lauch rivers.

Finally, the erodible corridor restoration needs a significant work of **land acquisitions**.

On reaches where alluvial dynamic can't be restored, other **hydromorphological layout** will be planned, if necessary, in order to restore an optimal bottom and bed variety.

Other restored or conserved areas



The Ill river at REGUISHEIM protected by natural reserve. 81,17 ha



The Ill river at BALDERSHEIM preserved and restored by land development. 36 ha