



Newsletter 15 July 2020

Welcome to the first Life MICA newsletter

This newsletter is published twice a year. Of course you can also find the latest news on lifemica.eu. We are looking for interesting news and photos from the project. Send your contributions to info@lifemica.nl. Have fun with this first newsletter!



Easier sampling with the improved autosampler

To discover the DNA of muskrats in the water, many samples have to be taken with the “autosampler”. Now a more compact and user-friendly version of this autosampler is available. The autosampler is a device with the size of a large lunch box. It uses GPS to keep track of where it is. It takes a ‘sip’ of the water to be sampled every few meters. [Read more](#)



Collecting samples in research areas

One of the components of the Life MICA program is DNA mapping. Here the migration routes of muskrats are visualized. The presence of muskrats has now been mapped until May. This year, the current populations of Friesland and an area of 20 km around Friesland, including North Holland north, will be analyzed. [Read more](#)

Update from Vechte Area

In April, the first camera traps were set up on the Vechte’s canals and side arms in the Vechte area. At seven locations, day and night, they take pictures of all the animals that swim or pass by. In this way, we want to track down coypu and muskrat in the project area. [Read more](#)

Field protocol for eDNA in use

In the research project eDNA, a field protocol for muskrat control has been drawn up. The field protocol consists of five steps. [Read more](#)



The international kick-off of Life MICA

After more than a year of preparation, the kick-off meeting of the Life MICA project took place last October. An international collaboration with water boards, universities, nature institutes and regions from the Netherlands, Belgium and Germany, among others. [Read more](#)

LifeMICA.eu

Life MICA is an international cooperation with the goal to reduce coypu and muskrat population to a manageable size in order to prevent damage to waterways, biodiversity and plant life.

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