



MICA
Management of Invasive Coypu
and muskrat in Europe

Newsletter July 2022

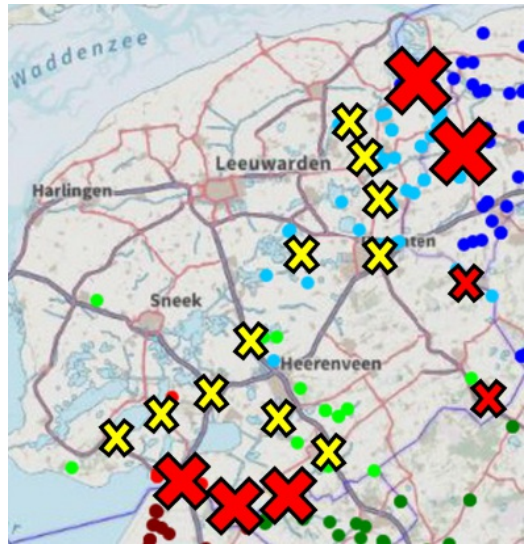
Welcome to the fifth Life MICA newsletter

This newsletter is published twice a year. Of course you can also find the latest news on lifemica.eu. Enjoy reading!



First results on survey methods and materials

A survey was made on methods and materials for eDNA, DNA sequencing/mapping, smart cameras and smart traps. Although responses were few, preliminary results include excellent scores for DNA methods and useful field results for smart systems. A total of 21 responses was too few for statistical analysis. This was the first survey, so possible effects may be analysed over time. [Read more](#)

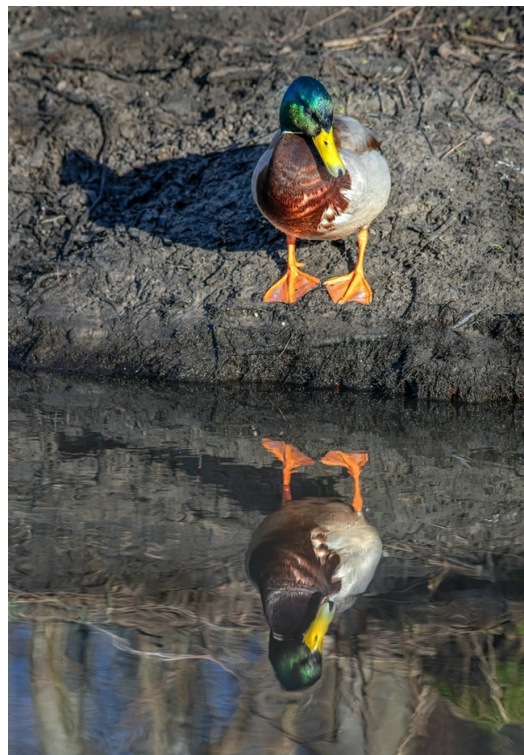


DNA Mapping in Friesland is going well

In January 2022, the results of the first round of DNA mapping in Friesland were presented to the muskrat fighters. Based on the results, the catch intensity along the probable inflow locations in Friesland will be increased by placing a cordon of traps here. Smart wildlife cameras have been installed at the intake locations. [Read more](#)

MICA Dashboard available

Since mid-July the [MICA-dashboard](#) is available for all interested parties at: . Data includes all catches in the Netherlands, catches made by the Flemish Environment Agency in Flanders and catches made in the project areas in Germany. Complementary to this all available observations of muskrat and coypu on Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) are also included. The data will be updated regularly and can be used to inform management actions across borders. [Go to the dashboard](#)



Mallard the most photographed with the camera trap

In the different project areas 47 camera traps have been placed to detect muskrat and coypu presence. These cameras take a sequence of images when they are triggered by movement.

Afterwards trappers need to annotate these sequences to see which species is on there. Over 80.000 sequences have been annotated so far. The most commonly seen species on the cameras are mallards. [Read more](#)

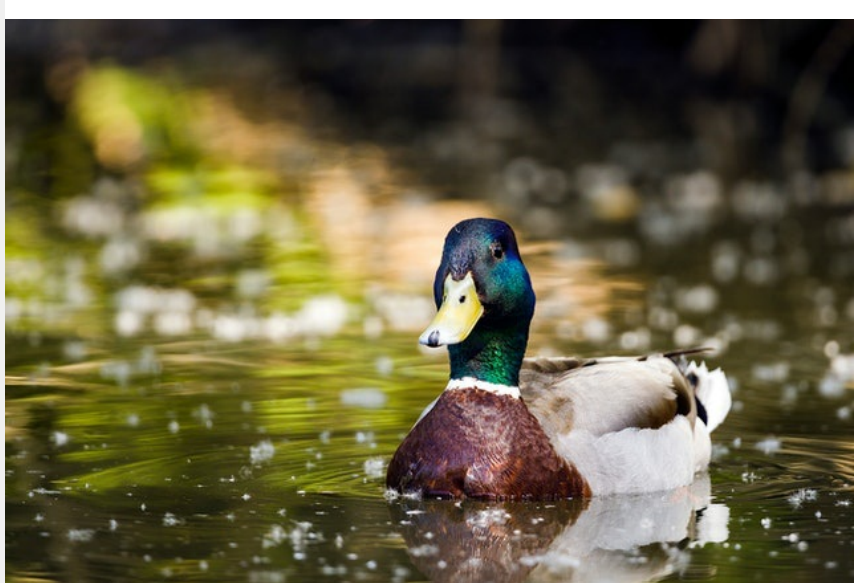
eDNA subproject is scaling up

The current aim for the muskrat eDNA part of Life-MICA is scaling-up and real-life implementation of the eDNA approach and transference of sample processing to the water laboratories. [Read more](#)



Latest progress in Smart Life Traps

This project aims to develop smart life traps that use AI image-recognition. By incorporating AI we prevent unwanted bycatches of protected species as European beaver or otter and only catch target species like coypu and muskrat. More catches are made in the field and more details on the traps are improving. [Read more](#)



We are always looking for interesting news, photos and videos from the project. Send your contributions to redactie@uvw.nl.

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.

