

RAINER W. KÜHNIS

Aktuelle Verbreitung des Dohlenkrebse (*Austropotamobius pallipes* LEREBoullet, 1858) in Liechtenstein

21



Rainer W. Kühnis

Geboren 1968, Matura am Liechtensteinischen Gymnasium in Vaduz, Ausbildungen in St. Gallen und Buchs zum Informatiker und Kaufmann, Präsident der Liechtensteinischen Gesellschaft für Umweltschutz, Mitglied des Fischereibeirats der Fürstlichen Regierung.

Abstract

This short report records the development of the population of the white-clawed crayfish (*Austropotamobius pallipes*), with regard to the surface area, in the conservation area Schwabbrünnen-Äscher since the introduction of 109 specimens from Illanz (the Grisons) on 2nd April 1985 (KINDLE 2006, BOHL 1998). In the course of a two-year plotting of the area, all known waters of distribution, as well as the bordering potential habitats, were systematically observed. On these predominantly nocturnal tours of inspection the waters were lit up with a pocket torch and each specimen was recorded individually. The assessment of the habitat was carried out during the day. Latest results show a distribution of the species along 4.85 kilometers of the Scheidgraben and its tributaries. In comparison with the population expansion of 0.85 kilometers in 1995 (BOHL 1998), the species has spread over more than 4 kilometers along the bank in the last 14 years.

Today the settling ponds in the north and south of the conservation area are also stocked with a healthy reproducing population. Since 1995 the neighbouring drainage ditches Grossrietgraben 1 and 2 have also been populated, as have the Scheidgraben in the conservation area and the Scheidgraben as far as the «Vaduzer Riethof». No evidence of the species has been found in the neighbouring Esche, Erlabach, Tentschagraben, the Liechtenstein inland canal and the Stelligraben. It can be assumed that the species will spread out further in the next few years from the Scheidgraben towards the inland canal, as well as across the Speckigraben towards the Schaan industrial area.