

# **Save the Date: Biggest Dam Removal in Europe**

*Communication Officers Field Trip to the Sélune River, Normandy,  
France*

The biggest dam removal in Europe is happening summer 2019 ! A 36 meter high dam will be removed, helping the salmon to return to Mont Saint Michel. We need your help to make this event visible internationally.



**When & Where:** Mont Saint Michel, Selune River, March 11-12, 2019; France

**What:** As you may know, a dam removal movement is building momentum across Europe—with dams coming down from Finland to France, Spain to Estonia, and Sweden to the UK. Dam Removal Europe and partners aim to accelerate the movement as there are over 30,000 obsolete barriers across Europe's rivers. Highlighting dams removals and normalizing this restorative process is one of the ways to achieve this goal. Dam removal will allow nature to bounce back, help #ProtectWater and contribute to cleaner, healthier rivers, lakes and wetlands.

On March 12<sup>th</sup> join us on an excursion along the Sélune river, starting at the iconic Mont Saint Michel and following the river up to visit the site of the dam to be removed. The removal is part of a series of projects that will open up the river for the first time in nearly 100 years, allowing species like Atlantic salmon return at the Sélune. On this day we will hear talks by the removal project team, scientists working within the river, and from local municipalities giving the story of how this came to fruition, including some of the local opposition to the project. *What are the challenges from communication point of view?*

On March 13<sup>th</sup>, we will then have the opportunity to discuss how we can make this removal stand out not only in Europe but on an international level.

Your participation and opinion are vital in attaining a strategy and framework. When the works start, we are planning a European media trip aiming for 1 or 2 high profile media organizations per country. *How can we help this project to receive the appropriate recognition?*

## **Agenda**

### **11 March**

- 13.00 Start meeting at Mont St Michel (exact location will follow)
- 14.00 Departure with bus upstream to the dams
- 19.30 Dinner and overnight in Ducey, the hotel is called Auberge de la Selune

### **12 March**

- 9.00 Start meeting at Auberge de la Selune
- 12.30 Lunch
- 14.00 Departure with bus to Rennes
- 15.00 Meeting ends in Rennes (people can take trains to Brussels (at 15.35) and Paris

Please let us know if you are interested in attending this event. Details to follow soon.

More info about the Selune project : <https://www.ern.org/en/selune-libre/>

