MINISTERIO
DE MEDIO AMBIENTE

SUMMARY

In this project it was made a revision of fish passes built at dams and weirs in Spain. The field work was carried out between 1993 and 1995. Fish passes were catalogues and their efectiveness was estimated, taking into account its design and conservation. Diversion devices to avoid the access to fishes into turbines and channels were also studied.

A total of 108 fish passes was catalogues, with a 30.5% recently constructed (after 1990). The commonest fishway found was the fish ladder (87% in total). With regard to efectiveness, it was estimated that a 56.3 % of analysed fish passes can be crossed without trouble. As for the conservation status of fish passes, a 57.7% have a good conservation.

All devices used for avoiding the advance of fishes into turbines and channels are metallic grilles (they were found in a 44.9% of total dams).

A 33.3 % of examined dams directly affect some of the river sections declared in Spain by the importance of their fish fauna, in agreement with the Directive 781659/CEE (18th July 1978) given by the Council of the European Communities (Doadrio et al. 1991).

Finally, further correctivo measures to dam block and additional barrier systems to channels, still unknown in Spain, are proposed.