

Fish habitat restoration on the basis of water morphology simulation (#72087)

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Fish habitat restoration on the basis of water morphology simulation

Xiaolong Chen^{Corresp., Equal first author, 1}, xuan che^{Corresp., Equal first author, 1}, Xingguo Liu¹, Lin Zhu¹, Changfeng Tina¹, Xinfeng Li¹

¹ Fishery Machinery and Instrument Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, shanghai, china

Corresponding Authors: Xiaolong Chen, xuan che

Email address: chenxiaolong@fmiri.ac.cn, chexuan@fmiri.ac.cn

The hydrodynamic conditions of rivers affect fish habitats by influencing parameters such as river bottom topography. Ecological restoration projects change the water morphological characteristics of rivers. Here, water flow characteristics of the upper Yangtze River before and after the construction of a restoration project were analyzed using the computational fluid dynamics simulation method. The longitudinal diversion dam could divide the river into two flow velocity zones, and flow velocity on the outer side of the river was similar to that of the original river channel. However, flow velocity on the inner side of the river was about 0.25 m/s, forming a larger buffer area. The eddy became more diversified and stable, with a high eddy viscosity coefficient and less fluctuations; this was conducive to fish aggregation and spawning. At different depths, large gradient differences were observed between the inner and outer sides of the longitudinal diversion dam, and the turbulent current and upward flow of the inner side were obvious; this was more favorable to the aggregation of different fishes. The longitudinal dam body was under a pressure of about 200.2 Pa at the same flow rate; this was significantly lower than the pressure on the transverse dam body. The field flow test and fish survey data showed that the error rate of the simulation using the RNG turbulent model was less than 10%. After the restoration of fish habitats by the longitudinal diversion dam, the number of fish species in the area increased from 40 to 49; the fish density increased from 0.714 fish/10m² before the project to 3.157 fish/10m² after the project. These results can provide a reference for the rapid assessment of water morphology and fish habitat restoration in the future.

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1. Fishery Machinery and Instrument Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Fishery Sciences, Shanghai 200092, China

Corresponding Author:

Xiaolong Chen ¹

No. 63 Chifeng Road, Yangpu District, Shanghai 200092, China

Email address: chenxiaolong@fmiri.ac.cn

Equal first author:

Xuan Che^{*}

Email address: chexuan@fmiri.ac.cn

Abstract

The hydrodynamic conditions of rivers affect fish habitats by influencing parameters such as river bottom topography. Ecological restoration projects change the water morphological characteristics of rivers. Here, water flow characteristics of the upper Yangtze River before and after the construction of a restoration project were analyzed using the computational fluid dynamics simulation method. The longitudinal diversion dam could divide the river into two flow velocity zones, and flow velocity on the outer side of the river was similar to that of the original river channel. However, flow velocity on the inner side of the river was about 0.25 m/s, forming a larger buffer area. The eddy became more diversified and stable, with a high eddy viscosity coefficient and less fluctuations; this was conducive to fish aggregation and spawning. At different depths, large gradient differences were observed between the inner and outer sides of the longitudinal diversion dam, and the turbulent current and upward flow of the inner side were obvious; this was more favorable to the aggregation of different fishes. The longitudinal dam body was under a pressure of about 200.2 Pa at the same flow rate; this was significantly lower than the pressure on the transverse dam body. The field flow test and fish survey data showed that the error rate of the simulation using the RNG $k - \epsilon$ turbulent model was less than 10%. After the restoration of fish habitats by the longitudinal diversion dam, the number of fish species in the area increased from 40 to 49; the fish density increased from 0.714 fish/10m²

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37 **Keywords:** Fish habitat; Restoration project; Diversion dam; Water morphological
38 characteristics; Flow pattern simulation

39 Introduction

40 In the Yangtze River Basin, large-scale construction facilities such as cascade hydropower,
41 flood prevention, and bank protection facilities; bridges; and piers have been established.
42 However, the morphological characteristics of downstream rivers were greatly altered, and the
43 ecosystem has been adversely affected; this has caused endemic fish in the rivers to become
44 endangered and seriously damaged the original biological chain of the rivers (*Cooperative Group*
45 *on fishery resources investigation of the Yangtze River system.*, 1990; *Shi et al.*, 2008). River and
46 bank zone remediation and restoration projects can improve the fish habitats in local river
47 sections (*Adeva et al.*, 2019; *Brown et al.*, 2010; *Cooper et al.*, 2010). In addition, construction
48 of narrow diversion dams in the river would have a positive effect on fish habitat quality, as they
49 enlarge the buffer zone area and diversify the flow pattern (*Cao et al.*, 2007; *Zhao et al.*, 2019;
50 *Karaouzas et al.*, 2019). Thus, implementation of ecological restoration projects ~~are~~ essential for
51 the restoration of fish habitats and protection of the aquatic ecosystem (*Liu et al.*, 2011; *Grizzetti*
52 *et al.*, 2017; *Lacey et al.*, 2012). For habitat restoration, appropriate assessment and quantitative
53 evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of fish habitats are necessary (*Wu et al.*, 1994; *Li*
54 *et al.*, 2001; *Ahmadi et al.*, 2010; *Detenbeckn et al.*, 2010). Therefore, prediction models for all
55 river fish habitat restoration projects are essential to avoid failure (*Theodoropoulos et al.*, 2020).

56 The fish life cycle is mainly composed of migration, ↓ feeding, ~~growth~~ and
57 reproduction. Considering the ecological significance of flow velocity gradient, its main function
58 is to stimulate fish mating (*Zhang et al.*, 2009; *Anderson et al.*, 2011; *Anderson et al.*, 2010).
59 Most fishes usually choose highly turbulent areas for mating and stay in relatively calm waters to
60 rest after spawning. However, a high flow rate gradient can result in high shear stress and injure
61 the fishes (*Yi et al.*, 2011; *Wang et al.*, 2013; *Bennion et al.*, 2011; *Berg et al.*, 2013). Therefore,
62 studying hydrodynamic factors that affect fish behavior is a prerequisite for understanding the
63 optimal habitat environment for fishes (*Rong et al.*, 2012; *Li et al.*, 2012; *Brown et al.*, 2008).
64 Flow rate is the most important environmental variable for fish habitat survival (*Wang et al.*,
65 2010; *Wu et al.*, 2007; *Fu et al.*, 2006). Therefore, hydrodynamic analyses of fish habitats are of
66 great scientific importance for studies on ecological management and restoration of rivers and
67 assessment of survival conditions of aquatic organisms (*Zhang et al.*, 2021; *Fan et al.*, 2013;
68 *Austin et al.*, 2001; *Yu et al.*, 2010).

69 In China, hydrodynamic characteristics are generally used to evaluate the quality of fish

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habitats (Li et al., 2020; Du et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2017; Yang et al., 2010). Yang et al. (2007) analyzed the hydrodynamic environment of fish habitats and showed that the fishes usually chose highly turbulent areas for mating behavior and may stay in relatively calm waters to rest after spawning, indicating that areas with both turbulent and calm waters are used for fish spawning. Sun et al. (2015) used a two-dimensional river model to show the changes in habitat flow field, water depth and effective habitat areas before and after topographic remodeling of spawning grounds for *Schizothorax prenanti*. The simulation was used to analyze flow velocity and water depth suitability curves during the breeding period of *Schizothorax prenanti*. The results showed that, before the topographic remodeling, the effective habitat area of *Schizothorax prenanti* was limited to one side of the river bank with intermittent patchy distribution; after the topographic remodeling, the eddy area and shallow calm water area were formed, and the effective habitat area increased from 9080 m² to 28078 m². Sun et al. (2013) established a two-dimensional habitat model for the Heshui River, a backwater tributary, by coupling a hydrodynamic model and a fish information model for the habitats. The results showed that the fish habitats were distributed in a limited range of areas with a slow flow and complex habitat types on both banks and a large shallow habitat area with obvious eddy changes. The model has become an indispensable tool for the design of ecological restoration projects and assessment of fish habitat quality and river stability engineering. In China, researchers have not only analyzed the relationship between fish behaviors and conventional hydraulic quantities but also established new characteristics to quantitatively describe the flow characteristics of fish habitats (Zhen et al., 2014; Chou et al., 2010; Thomas et al., 1998; Bovee et al., 1982). Bai et al. (2013) studied a three-dimensional large-eddy simulation of non-inundated dam bypass flow and showed that the ratio of dam length to the distance between dams has a significant impact on the flow form, turbulent flow intensity, and eddy distribution around fish habitats. Ma et al. (2017) used water depth and flow velocity indices to construct a hydrodynamic model, study changes in the distribution of aquatic habitat suitability indices and effects of spacing of diversion dams on the habitat of carp, and obtain the optimal spacing for diversion dams that could improve the available habitat area. Fu et al. (2016) performed a hydrodynamic simulation and fish habitat suitability simulation by using the in-channel flow increase method to understand the suitability of fish habitats in the Heshui River and proposed a plan for habitat restoration in the Heshui River.

In contrast, other studies conducted abroad have principally simulated and analyzed the design parameters and effects of diversion dams in fish habitat restoration projects (Barmuta et al., 1990; Daneshvar et al., 2017; Kolden et al., 2015; Roni et al., 2008). Robert et al. (2004) conducted a series of flow pattern simulation tests on a model for diversion dams in a fish habitat and concluded that the shear stress parameter in the model was the main parameter that affected

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the return sideline of the dam and flow in the separation area. *Masoud et al. (2009)* placed a diversion dam at a 90° bend in the channel and concluded via simulation experiments that increasing the Froude number and length of the diversion dam would increase the scour volume of the channel and increasing the wing length of the diversion dam would reduce the scour volume and increase the diversion area. This provides a theoretical basis for restoration of fish habitats via engineering. *Jennifer et al. (2006)* also used a two-dimensional depth-averaged turbulent current model to simulate the relationship between the degree of scour and physical parameters in the area near a diversion dam.

Many studies on the hydrodynamic characteristics of fish habitats have been conducted in China and abroad (*Zhang et al., 2013; Peller et al., 2006; Constantinescu et al., 2009; Weitbrecht et al., 2004*). However, few of these studies involve hydrodynamic simulations and field validation analyses of artificially restored fish habitats in the upper Yangtze River, especially turbulent and upwelling currents suitable for the survival of endemic fish. In this study, three different models were selected for simulation and analysis, and the hydrodynamic characteristics were compared. In addition, effects of diversion dams on the flow in front of and behind the dams and at different locations, flow velocity variation patterns on the cross-section and longitudinal section of the dam, and variation patterns of the turbulent flows and eddies generated by the different dams were analyzed. Lastly, results of the flow pattern test and fish resource survey after the ecological restoration project were compared to provide a reference for future ecological restoration projects in the Yangtze River channel.

Materials and Methods

Project area and monitoring time

Mituo Town river section is the central area of a rare and endemic natural fish reserve in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River in Luzhou City, Sichuan Province, and it is one of the few existing flowing river sections in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River after the first-cascade development of the Jinsha River and operation of the Three Gorges Project at full water level. Therefore, analysis of the river habitat in this section will be of great importance for fish reproduction, feeding, and habitat. The average river depth ~~was~~ about 5 m, and the average velocity ~~was~~ about 1~2 m/s. A straight tributary river of 800 m in length and 450 m in width was selected for the analysis; the average river bed gradient was about 1 in 10,000, with an average channel roughness of 0.015. The gradient change of the river was ignored during the experiment.

Topographic survey and mapping

The topographic survey and mapping were performed with the EchoSeep 300 multi-beam

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Computational fluid dynamic simulations of the flow patterns and eddy morphology at an inlet velocity of 1 m/s were used to compare and analyze flow characteristics under different working conditions and select the most suitable solution for the construction of a diversion dam. Finally, the flow pattern after completion of the restoration project was tested using a moving ADCP flow velocity meter (LinkQuest; San Diego, California, USA) and compared with the simulated data to verify the accuracy of the model.

151 **Governing equations and turbulent model**

$$\frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_i} \right) - C \right] = \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_k} \right) + \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_j} \right) + \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_l} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_l} \right) + \epsilon_{ijk} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial \dot{x}_m} \right) + \dots$$

where G_k denotes the turbulent kinetic energy due to the mean velocity gradient, G_b denotes the turbulent kinetic energy due to the effect of buoyancy, and G_m denotes the effect of

$$168 \quad = 1.72 \frac{\bar{v}}{\sqrt{\mu}} \sim \frac{\left(\frac{\rho^2 k}{\# \mu} \right)}{\sqrt{\bar{v}^3 - 1 - C_V}} dv \quad (3)$$

169 where $\nu_{eff} = \mu_{eff} / \mu$. For integration of the previous equations, the effect of effective Reynolds

number on turbulent transport can be precisely determined, which helps to deal with the simulation of a low Reynolds number and near-wall flow problems. For a high Reynolds number, the above-mentioned equation can yield: $\mu = \rho \frac{C_\mu}{C_\epsilon} \frac{k^2}{\epsilon}$, $C = 0.0845$.

Mesh generation and calculation

On the basis of the flow area and riverbed shape of the upper Yangtze River, a polyhedral mesh was used to divide the fluid area, which can greatly reduce the number of meshes and improve calculation efficiency. The mesh was locally encrypted near the irregular dams and in the middle of the river basin, where the flow changed dramatically. The mesh of the diversion dam model after division is shown in Figure 1. Finally, Fluent software (Derek Dubner, 300 Vesey Street 9th Floor New York New York) was used to find the solution, and the river bank, river bottom, and artificial dam parts in the flow field were defined as no-slip solid wall boundary conditions with a wall roughness of 0.03. The inlet velocity of the river was defined as a linear distribution that varied with water depth, with a velocity of 1 m/s at the highest point and bottom velocity of 0.2 m/s. The outlet of the flow field was defined as a pressure outlet boundary condition with a mixed fluid continuous phase density of 1052 kg/m³ and kinematic viscosity coefficient of 1.0565 × 10⁶ m²/s. The pressure-coupled algorithm was used to synchronize the iterations of velocity field and pressure field, and turbulent kinetic energy and turbulent dissipation rate were in the second-order up-wind format.

To compare the velocity on the basis of the experimental survey and mapping path, three states of the river were analyzed in this study: the pre-construction state without dam, the state with a transverse dam, and the state with a longitudinal dam. The right angle coordinate system was established using the oxy plane: x direction was the direction of water flow; y direction, direction of water width; and z direction, direction of water depth. In addition, QQ', RR', SS', and TT' were four transverse cross-sections parallel to the longitudinal dam body, and they were parallel to each other and 80 m apart. MM', NN', OO', and PP' were four longitudinal cross-sections of the water surface, flow field inlet, and outlet locations (Figure 2).

Results

Simulation results for water flow state after engineering restoration

• Characteristics of the flow pattern in the project area

Figure 3 shows velocity vector diagrams of the three models at the same incoming velocity. The results showed that, in the absence of the dam body, the entire flow field was relatively smooth, with a large flow velocity of about 0.8 m/s in the main channel and a few smaller eddies

generated near the southern embankment. This was mainly due to the shape of the embankment. For the transverse dam model, the flow was blocked by the dam and suddenly decelerated to form an almost stationary low velocity zone and then separated to accelerate from both sides of the dam so that a path of high velocity of up to 1.0 m/s was formed between the dams. Because of the blockage by the dam, a low velocity zone was formed at the tail end of the dam so that small eddies and wake flows were evident. In the case of the longitudinal dam, the water flow was blocked by the dam and an obvious separation phenomenon was observed, in which the whole flow channel was divided into two distinctly different velocity areas; the flow on the outer side of the dam body was faster and stable, with a velocity of about 0.75 m/s. The velocity on the inner side of the dam was lower, around 0.25 m/s, and about one-third of the outer side, resulting in a buffer zone with an area about two-fifth of the entire channel. The fluid flowing through the barrier produced a reverse pressure gradient, forcing more fluid masses to stagnate and run backwards. As a result, large vortices were formed, with three large low-velocity vortex areas on the inner side of the dam near the river bank and a low-pressure area and many small vortices between dams. Because of the field characteristics and material absorption by the eddies, foreign nutrients gathered here, which would attract more fish.

• **Turbulent viscosity of water in the engineering zone**

Turbulent viscosity refers to strong vortex cluster diffusion and cascade hashing due to random pulsations when the fluid flow is in a turbulent state, which looks like a fluid flow with great viscosity. The essence of turbulent viscosity is vortex diffusion, which is apparently understood as an increase in component viscosity (Wang, 2001). Previous studies have shown that stronger and more stable turbulent viscosity is more favorable for fish spawning (Wang *et al.*, 2010). Turbulent viscosity at the cross-section is shown in Figure 4.

The turbulent viscosity of the river in the three states was relatively smooth without the dam and around 1 Pa·s. With the transverse dam, the entire flow field with eddies was mainly concentrated at the tail of the lower dam; the turbulent viscosity was relatively high, but the area was small; and the turbulent viscosity fluctuated between 1 and 8 Pa·s and was considerably unstable. With the longitudinal dam, turbulent viscosity near the dam body was relatively high, and the eddy was more stable; viscosity inside the dam body was significantly higher than that outside and was 9 Pa·s. The results showed that the eddy generated by the transverse dam body was small and unstable; eddy viscosity was higher on the inner side of the longitudinal dam body and more stable over a large area, which was conducive to the aggregation of fish.

• **Flow velocity in different cross-sections of the dam body**

Water velocity is an important parameter that reflects how a habitat is restored, and the effect of habitat restoration can be evaluated by simulating the effect of the dam on water flow distribution. Figure 5 exhibits the velocity distribution of the three models in transverse and

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longitudinal sections. The results showed that the main channel flow velocity was 0.75 m/s in the absence of the dam, and it slightly decreased in some areas near the southern bank. The longitudinal dam had a great impact on flow velocity, which slightly decreased at the front end of the dam, but increased sharply to 0.85 m/s after the flow separated and approached the middle area of the dam. After the flow passed through the longitudinal dam, the velocity in the tail section fluctuated sharply, with dramatic changes, and decreased and gradually stabilized as the flow moved away from the dam. The difference in velocity on the two sides of the longitudinal dam was large. The outer side of the dam was close to the main flow channel, where the velocity was higher and relatively stable, with a basic velocity of 0.75 m/s. The velocity on the inner side of the dam was lower, varying between 0.1 m/s and 0.3 m/s, and a large buffer area was formed; the flow pattern was more complex, diverse, and conducive to fish foraging and aggregation, as it was affected by the backflow and circulation at the shore.

• Cross-sectional flow velocities of the dams at different water depths

Figure 6 shows average velocity distribution along the water depth direction for the three models at different cross-sections. The results showed few differences in velocity at water depth above 3 m on the same transversal, and the velocity decreased gradually from a water depth below 3 m to the river bottom. The velocity of the upper layer of the river was significantly greater than that of the lower layer. This was because the river bottom is a solid wall and a bit rough, which subjected the water flowing close to the river bottom to viscous resistance as well as frictional resistance of the river bottom. The addition of diversion dams without changing the velocity of the main channel can effectively reduce the velocity of water flow on the inner side of the dam, change the hydrodynamic environment of the fish habitat, and provide favorable survival conditions for different fish species and other aquatic organisms.

• Water pressure on dam body

The service life of an engineering restoration project needs to be considered. In this study, two typical inflow dam construction locations were designed, so the pressure states subjected to the same flow velocity state needed to be analyzed. Figure 7 shows pressure distribution cloud images of the transverse and longitudinal dams subjected to the impact of water flow. The results showed that the maximum pressure on the longitudinal dams was 401.5 Pa, and each dam was subjected to a relatively high pressure. In contrast, the maximum pressure on the longitudinal dam was about 200.2 Pa; the pressure on the longitudinal dam was significantly lower than that on the longitudinal dam ($P < 0.5$). Therefore, the laterally arranged dams were more prone to damage and would have a relatively short life span.

Validation of simulation results

To verify the reliability of the numerical simulation method and calculations, the flow

Commented [r2]: Is it transverse or long.?

273 velocity of the longitudinal dam body within the ecological engineering restoration area of the
274 Luzhou section of Yangtze River was measured in September 2019 by using the ADCP Doppler
275 flow velocity meter, and the velocity vectors of the four lines and flow velocity profiles of the
276 two routes are shown in Figure 8. Table 1 shows the comparison of numerical simulation and test
277 results.

278 The test results showed that, after the longitudinal dam body was constructed, the flow in
279 the test route outside the dam body at that time had an average velocity of 0.75 m/s, with a
280 higher flow velocity, eastward direction, and stable flow pattern. The flow inside the dam had an
281 average velocity of 0.25 m/s, with a lower velocity, greater change in direction, and more
282 complex flow pattern. We compared the experimental test results and numerical calculation
283 results and observed that the simulation results were basically consistent with the survey and
284 mapping results and the error was less than 10%, indicating that the simulation of the flow
285 pattern in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River was valid and accurate.

286 Discussion

287 Before the implementation of the project, the average flow velocity was relatively fast in the
288 study area, and the flow direction and gradient of flow velocity underwent small changes. After
289 the implementation of the project, an obvious diversion phenomenon was detected when the
290 water flowed through the diversion dam; several large vortex areas were formed inside the
291 project, with the water flowing around rapidly and the shape of the vortex structure unchanged.
292 The average flow velocity was low, flow direction changed faster, and changes in the gradient of
293 flow velocity were larger. Therefore, the flow characteristics of the longitudinal dam body were
294 more suitable for fish habitat reproduction than those before the construction of the diversion
295 dam and those of the transverse dam body. To verify the findings of this study, the fish in the
296 restoration area were surveyed and analyzed at an interval of 2 years before and after the
297 construction of the diversion dam. The results showed that the number of fish in the dam
298 increased significantly after the construction of the diversion dam, and the number of fish species
299 in the dam increased from 40 to 49 (Figure 9; Table 2). Previous studies have also shown that
300 flow characteristics are key factors for fish habitats, and the spatial distribution of flow velocity
301 reflects the complexity of water flow; different fish life stages and behaviors have compatible
302 flow fields (Jason *et al.*, 2020). During reproduction, fishes usually choose highly turbulent
303 waters to mate, and mating behavior is stimulated only when the flow reaches a certain level of
304 turbulence. The fishes may stay in relatively calm waters before and after spawning. For many
305 fishes, reproduction requires complex signals from flow processes to stimulate gonadal
306 maturation and ovulation and fertilization behaviors, and fish gonadal development requires

Commented [r3]: The methodology about the fish collection before and after construction of dam is missing.

sufficient dissolved oxygen. The flow rate is related to the amount of dissolved oxygen in the water. An area with a more complex flow pattern and eddies has a favorable aeration effect and high dissolved oxygen, which seems conducive to the development of fertilized eggs.

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The fish density was about 0.714 fish/10m² before restoration by the diversion dam. After project completion, a fish-echosounder was used to detect fishes on the inner side of the longitudinal dam. The results showed that the fish density on the inner side of the diversion dam was about 3.157 fish/10m² after the construction; the fish density after project completion was about 4 times that before the restoration. This is mainly because the construction of the diversion dam, changed the flow characteristics and produced more eddies, with significant changes in flow patterns and gradients, and allowed fishes to spawn in faster-flowing areas and rest and feed in still-water areas after spawning. Diversion dam construction provided better conditions for fish habitats in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River.

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Fish habitats can be classified on the basis of their flow patterns, and different fishes have different habitat preferences. Therefore, habitat diversity is an important indicator of habitat quality. The construction of the diversion dam changed the topography of this river section, increased the total spatial area of the ecological niches of the fish community, and increased the vertical structure of the food web and fish trophic diversity. This resulted in a more uniform distribution of fish trophic ecological niches. Moreover, the flow characteristics changed and retention time of exogenous nutrients in the water increased, which could provide rich exogenous potential carbon sources and important energy recharge for the fish food web and a diverse habitat for fishes. The construction of the diversion dam divided the different ecological environments. This increased the number of eddies in the dam and made the flow pattern more complex, as the diversion dam contained both slow-flowing and fast-flowing areas as well as calm water areas. The increase in the area for trophic ecological niches for fishes living in slow flows increased the trophic path of the food structure for rare and endemic fish that inhabit the waters and had a positive effect on their growth, habitat, and baiting activities. Furthermore, increasing the proportion of omnivorous fish in the water (most of the fish are in the second trophic level) made the food web structure more complex, and a trophic redundancy was formed to maintain a stable fish food web structure in the area. The shallow water surface around the diversion dam, with strong light penetration and large phytoplankton biomass, led to water purification and significantly increased aquatic life-bearing capacity and biodiversity. This had a positive impact on fish reproduction in the gravel substrate of the river floodplains or in the deep waters of wide rapids. Therefore, the construction of longitudinal diversion dams had a positive effect on the restoration and improvement of fish habitats in the upper Yangtze River.

Conclusions

Simulations of the macroscopic motion of water flow in the artificially restored fish habitat in the upper Yangtze River were performed, and characteristics of the local eddy structure, flow velocity, and development and evolution of turbulent flow structure near the dam were studied. The data were compared with the flow velocity and eddies of the diversion dam before project implementation and at two typical locations. The following conclusions were obtained.

1. In this study, Fluent 3D hydrodynamics and habitat simulation software was used to compare and analyze flow pattern changes in the upper Yangtze River section before and after the construction of the diversion dam. Before project implementation, the flow velocity was faster, and the flow pattern was single. The transverse dam body could effectively slow down the flow velocity, but the eddy area was smaller; in contrast, the longitudinal dam body produced a more complex flow pattern with a large eddy area and part of the calm water area. This indicates that longitudinal arrangement of the diversion dams was more favorable to the recovery of fish resources in the upper Yangtze River.

2. The RNG turbulent model was used to simulate the flow pattern of the Yangtze River. After implementation of the longitudinal dam project, the turbulent flow velocity decreased, gradient changed dramatically, eddy flow increased, flow pattern became more complex, and backflow and circulation flow characteristics were obvious after the flow passed through the diversion dam. According to the field test, the error rate between the test data and simulation results was controlled to less than 10%. This indicates that the model can be better applied to flow simulation of the ecological restoration project in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River, reflects the flow pattern of the upper reaches of the Yangtze River fish habitat project, and describes the actual backflow generation and diffusion process around the diversion dam.

3. The analysis of fish species after the construction of the longitudinal dams showed that the fish species and density in the dams increased significantly. This indicates that the construction of longitudinal dams in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River was essential for the reconstruction and restoration of the fish ecosystem, improvement of the ecological function of the river, and maintenance of the stability of fish resources.

4. The analysis of flow patterns in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River and implementation of the project increased the total spatial area of the ecological niche of the fish community in the region. The water flow pattern had changed significantly, from a single flow field to a mixed flow field composed of upwelling current, back eddy, and stagnant flow, and provided a diverse habitat for fishes. Moreover, the water flow pattern affected the recovery of fishery resources. In particular, changes in the environment provided diverse habitats for rare and endemic fishes in the upper reaches of the Yangtze River and had a positive impact on their

376 habitat improvement.

377 Acknowledgements

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 379 Resource investigation: CHE Xuan, LI Xinfeng
 380 Simulation: CHEN Xiaolong, ZHANG Jun
 381 Survey and draw: CHEN Xiaolong, TIAN Changfeng, ZHOU Yin
 382 Writing – original draft: CHEN Xiaolong
 383 Writing – review: LIU Xingguo, CHE Xuan
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Figure 1

Figure 1. Schematic diagram of grid division: (a) no dam; (b) transverse dam; (c) longitudinal dam

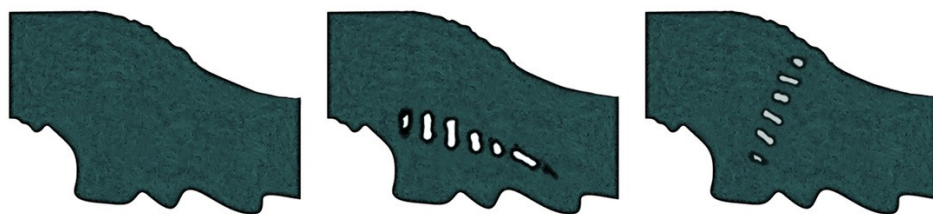


Figure 2

Figure 2. Schematic diagram of section position under three different states.

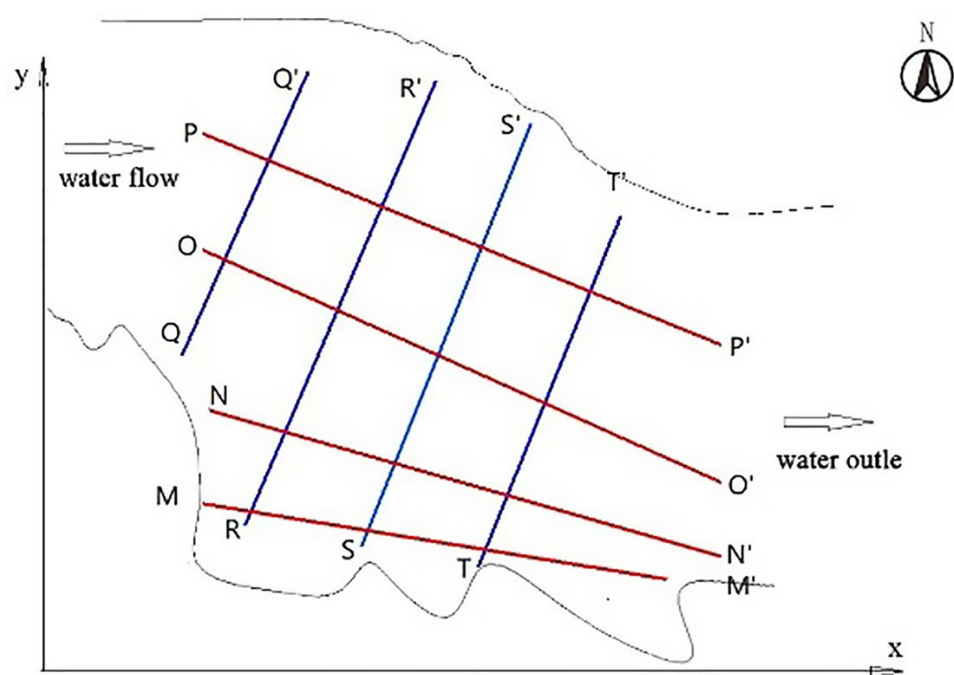


Figure 3

Figure 3. Velocity nephogram of the flow field under different conditions.

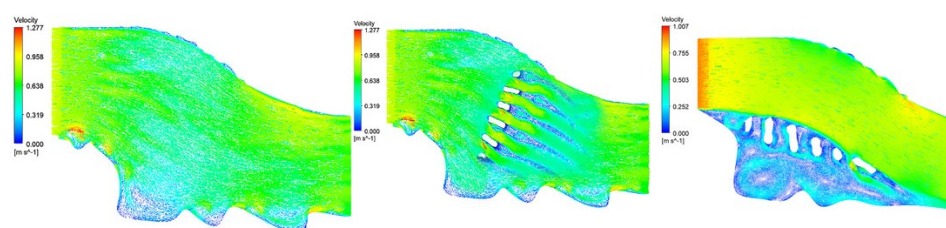


Figure 4

Figure 4. Turbulent viscosity of different models

(a) Cross-section of no dam; (b) Cross-section of transverse dam; (c) Cross-section of longitudinal dam; (d) Longitudinal section of no dam; (e) Longitudinal section of transverse dam; (f) Longitudinal section of longitudinal dam

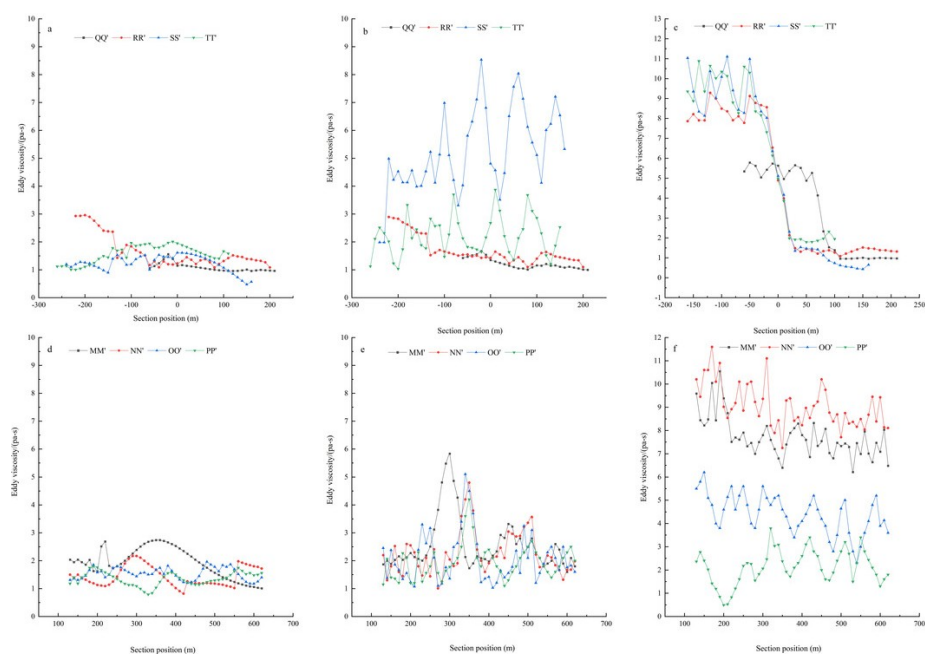


Figure 5

Figure 5. Velocity distribution of different models

(a) Cross-section of no dam; (b) Cross-section of transverse dam; (c) Cross-section of longitudinal dam; (d) Longitudinal section of no dam; (e) Longitudinal section of transverse dam; (f) Longitudinal section of longitudinal dam

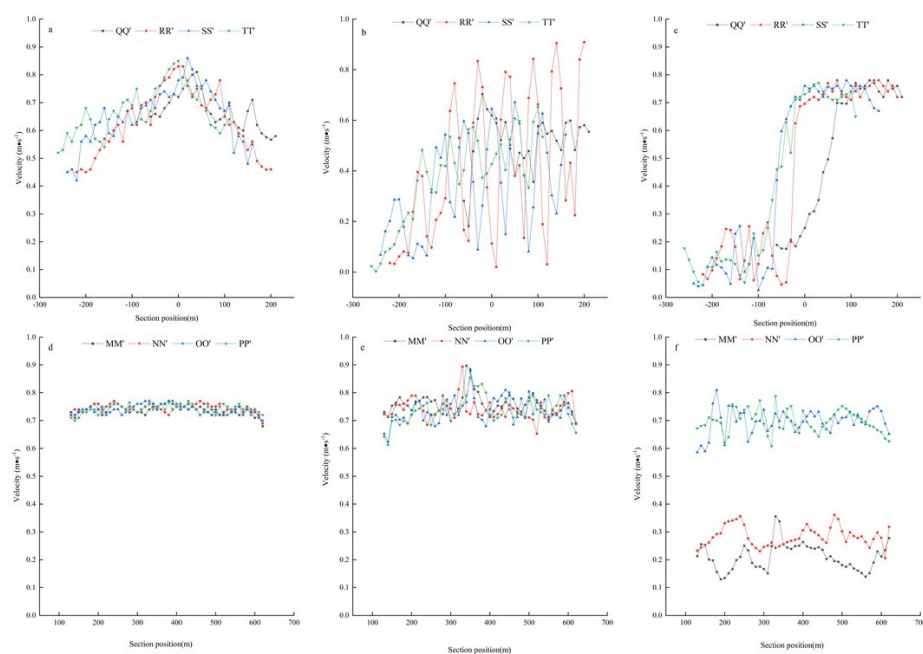


Figure 6

Figure 6. Velocity distribution along the depth direction of each section of different models

(a) Cross-section of no dam; (b) Cross-section of transverse dam; (c) Cross-section of longitudinal dam; (d) Longitudinal section of no dam; (e) Longitudinal section of transverse dam; (f) Longitudinal section of longitudinal dam

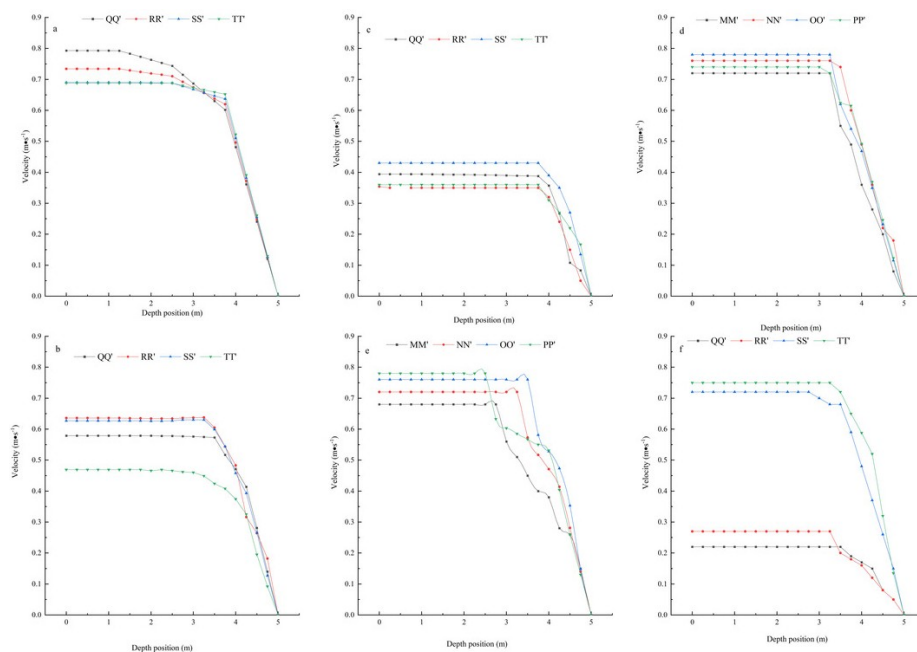


Figure 7

Figure 7. Pressure distribution on the dams: (a) Transverse dam; (b) Longitudinal dam

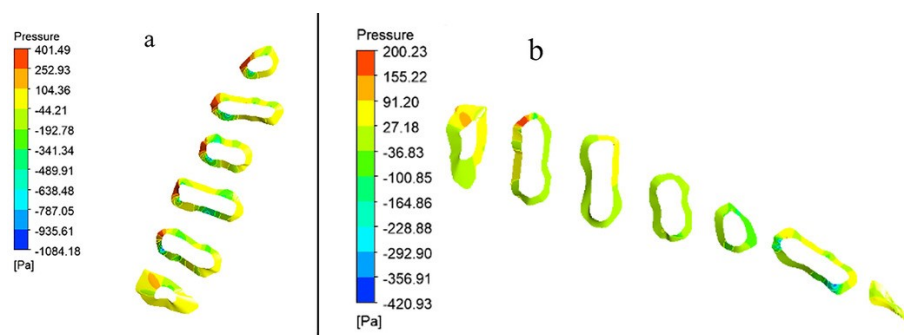


Figure 8

Figure 8. Flow chart of test path: (a) velocity vector diagram; (b) velocity profile of test line 1; (c) velocity profile of test line 4

Note: Length and direction of the arrows on each test path indicate the water flow velocity and direction, respectively.

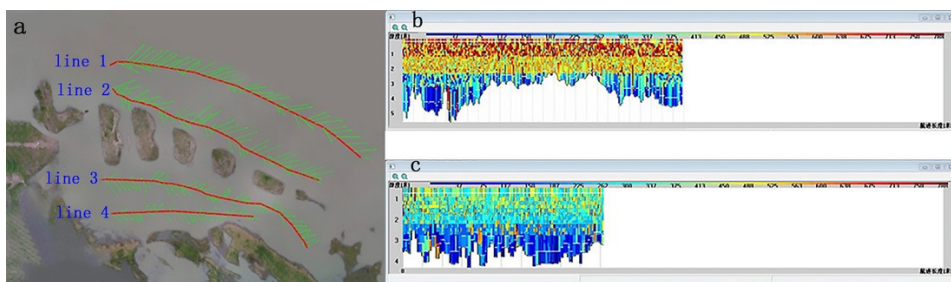


Figure 9

Figure 9. Comparison of fishes before and after project implementation

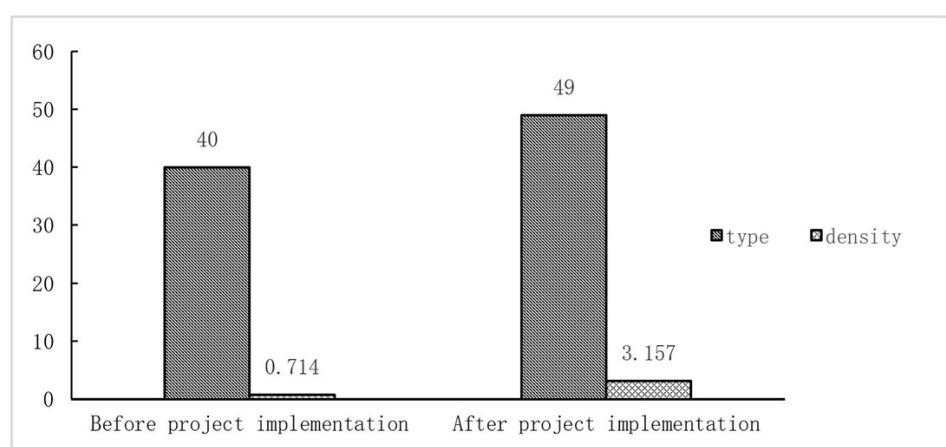


Table 1 (on next page)

Table 1. Comparison of Average Simulated Speed and Test Data

Test line	Simulated value/(m·s ⁻¹)	Test value/ (m·s ⁻¹)	Error analysis of flow velocities/%
Line 1	0.75	0.78	4.00
Line 2	0.65	0.70	7.69
Line 3	0.28	0.26	7.14
Line 4	0.22	0.24	9.09

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Table 2(on next page)

Table 2. Fish survey data before and after project implementation

Type	Before the project	After the project
I ACIPENSERIFORMES		
1 Acipenseridae		
(1) <i>Acipenser dabryanus</i> Dumeril		◇
II CYPRINIFORMES		
2 Cobitidae		
(2) <i>Trilophysa bleekeri</i> (Sauvage et Dabry)	◎	◇
(3) <i>Misgurnus anguillicaudatus</i> (Cantor)	◎	◇
3 Cyprinidae		
(4) <i>Zacco platypus</i> (Temminck et Schlegel)	◎	◇
(5) <i>Opsariichthys bidens</i> (Günther)	◎	◇
(6) <i>Ctenopharyngodon idellus</i> (Cuvier et Valenciennes)	◎	◇
(7) <i>Distoechodon tumirostris</i> (Peters)	◎	◇
(8) <i>Xenocypris yunnanensis</i> (Nichols)		◇
(9) <i>Xenocypris davidi</i> (Bleeker)		◇
(10) <i>Hypophthalmichthys mobitrix</i> (Cuvier et Valenciennes)	◎	◇
(11) <i>Rhodeus ocellatus</i> (Kaer)	◎	◇
(12) <i>Pseudolaubuca engraulis</i> (Nichols)	◎	◇
(13) <i>Pseudolaubuca sinensis</i> (Bleeker)		◇
(14) <i>Sinibrama changi</i> (Chang)	◎	◇
(15) <i>Pseudobrama simoni</i> (Bleeker)		◇
(16) <i>Hemiculter leuciscus</i> (Basilewsky)	◎	◇
(17) <i>Hemiculter tchangi</i> (Fang)	◎	◇
(18) <i>Hemiculterella sauvagei</i>		◇
(19) <i>Erythroculter ilishaeformis</i> (Bleeker)	◎	◇
(20) <i>Erythroculter mongolicus mongolicus</i>		◇
(21) <i>Ancherythroculter kurematsui</i> (Sh. Kimura)		◇
(22) <i>Hemibarbus labeo</i> (Pallas)	◎	◇
(23) <i>Hemibarbus maculatus</i> (Bleeker)	◎	◇
(24) <i>Pseudorasbora parva</i> (Temminck et Schlegel)	◎	◇
(25) <i>Rhinogobio typus</i> (Bleeker)	◎	◇
(26) <i>Abbottina rivularis</i> (Basilewsky)	◎	◇
(27) <i>Abbottina obtusirostris</i>	◎	◇
(28) <i>Saurogobio dabryi</i> (Bleeker)	◎	◇
(29) <i>Squalidus argentatus</i>		◇
(30) <i>Rhinogobio ventralis</i> (Savage et Dabry)		◇
(31) <i>Acrossocheilus monticolus</i> (Günther)	◎	
(32) <i>Cyprinus (Cyprinus) carpio</i> (Linnaeus)	◎	◇
(33) <i>Carassius auratus</i> (Linnaeus)	◎	◇
(34) <i>Procypris rabaudi</i> (Tchang)		◇

III SILURIFORMES

4 Siluridae

(35) *Silurus asotus* (Linnaeus)

(36) *Silurus transverseis* (Chen)

5 Bagridae

(37) *Pelteobagrus fulvidraco* (Richardson)

(38) *Pelteobagrus Vachelli* (Richardson)

(39) *Pelteobagrus nitidus* (Sauvage et Dabry)

(40) *Leiocassis longirostris* (Günther)

(41) *Leiocassis crassilabris* (Günther)

(42) *Pseudobagrus truncatus* (Regan)

(43) *Mystus macropterus* (Bleeker)

6 Amblycipitidae

(44) *Liobagrus marginatus* (Günther)

7 Ictaluridae

(45) *Ictalurus Punctatus* (Rafinesque)

IV Synbranchiformes

8 Synbranchidae

(46) *Monopterus albus* (Zuiew)

VI PERCIFORMES

9 Serranidae

(47) *Siniperca kneri* (Garman)

(48) *Simiperca scherzeri* (Steindachner)

10 Gobiidae

(49) *Ctenogobius giurinus* (Rutter)

11 Channidae

(50) *Channa argus* (Cantor)

12 Odontobutidae

(51) *Odontobutis obscurus* (Temminck et

Schlegel)

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