



# Impacts of dams on the biodiversity of the Sélune River: a summary of the monitoring before removal



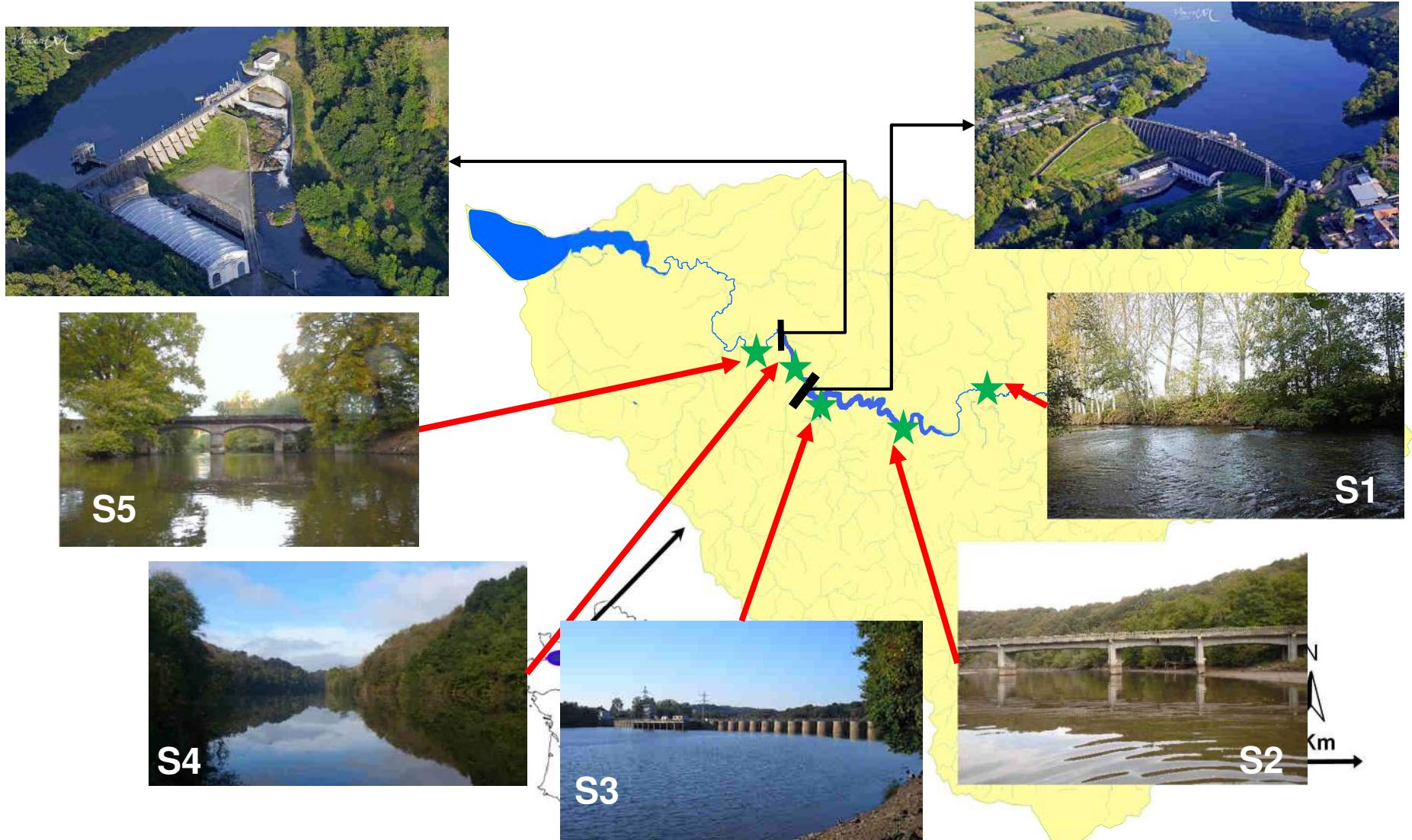
**Christophe Piscart,**  
**Caroline Gorzerino,**  
**Hector Rodriguez Perez,**  
**Guillaume Bouger,**  
**Laura Pellan,**  
**Alexandrine Pannard**





## Study sites

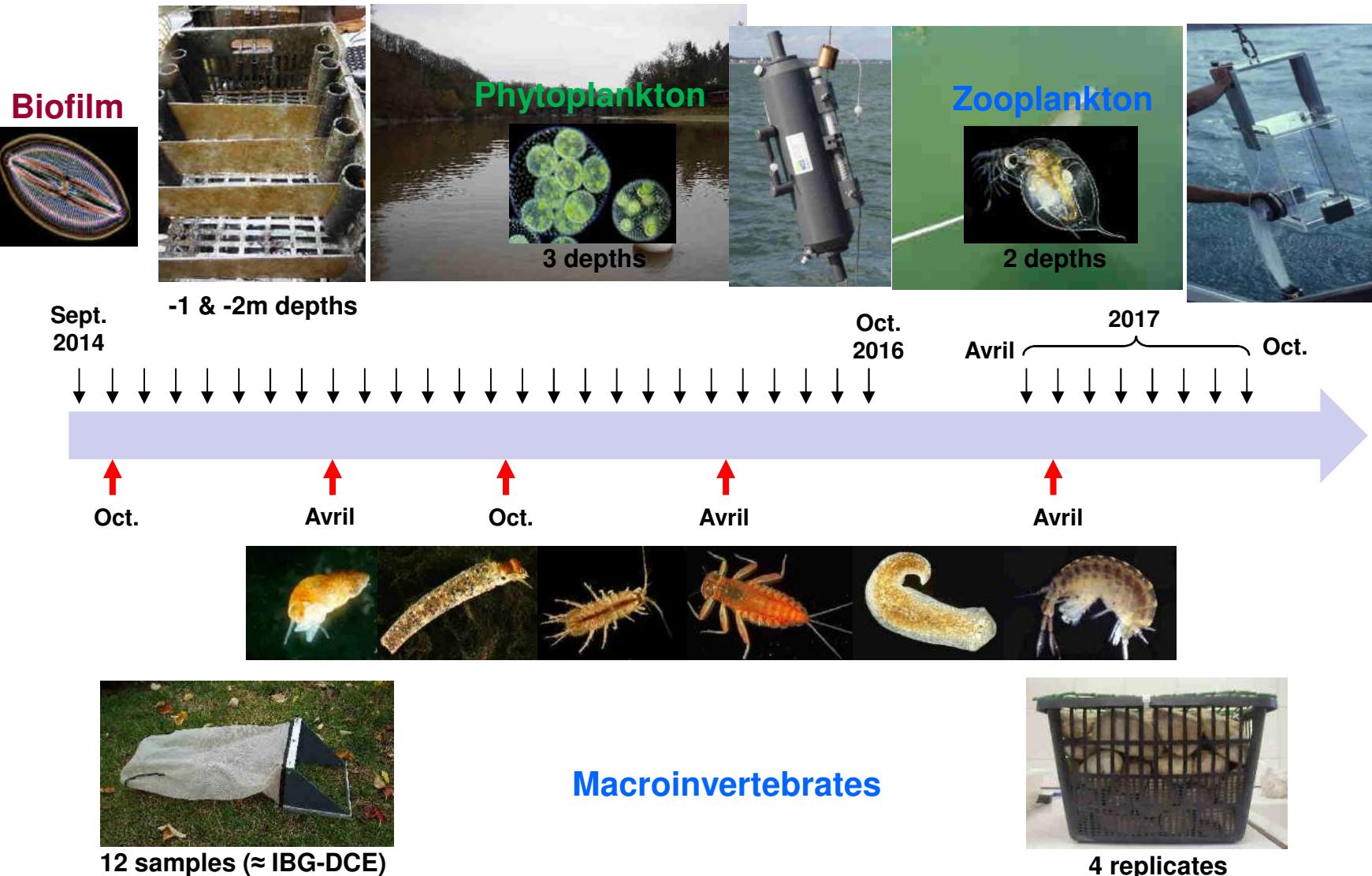
### A system with 2 successive dams





## Methods

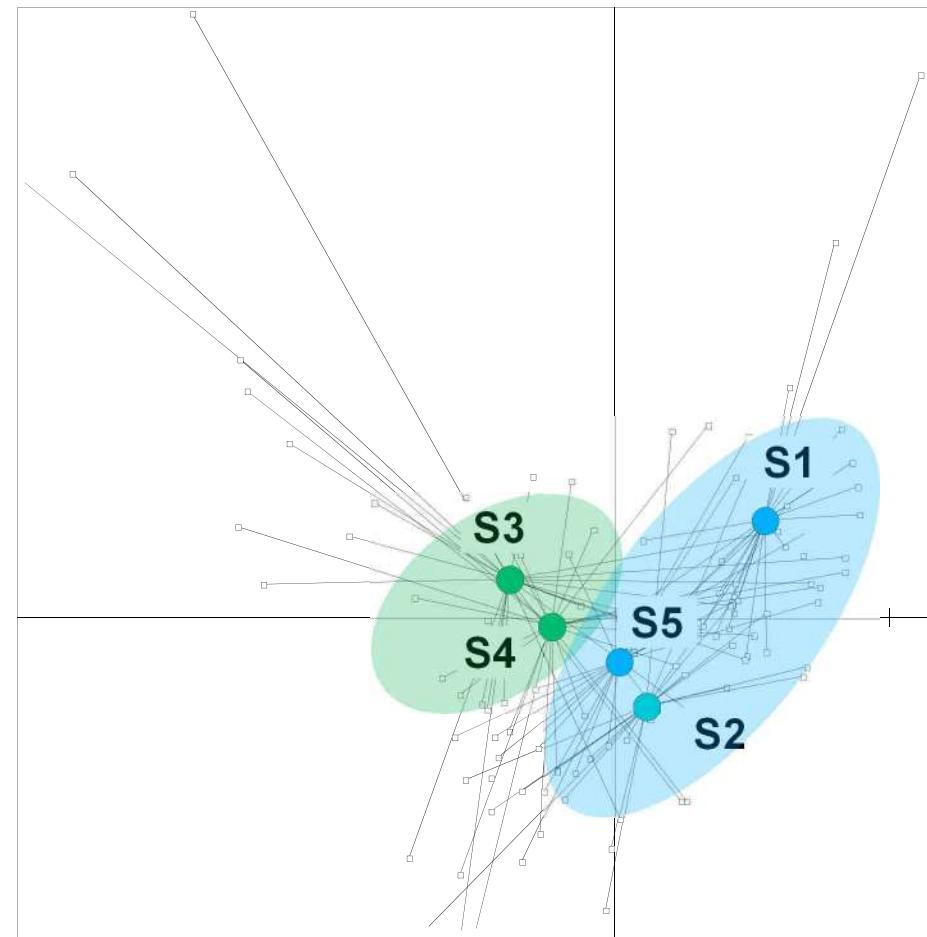
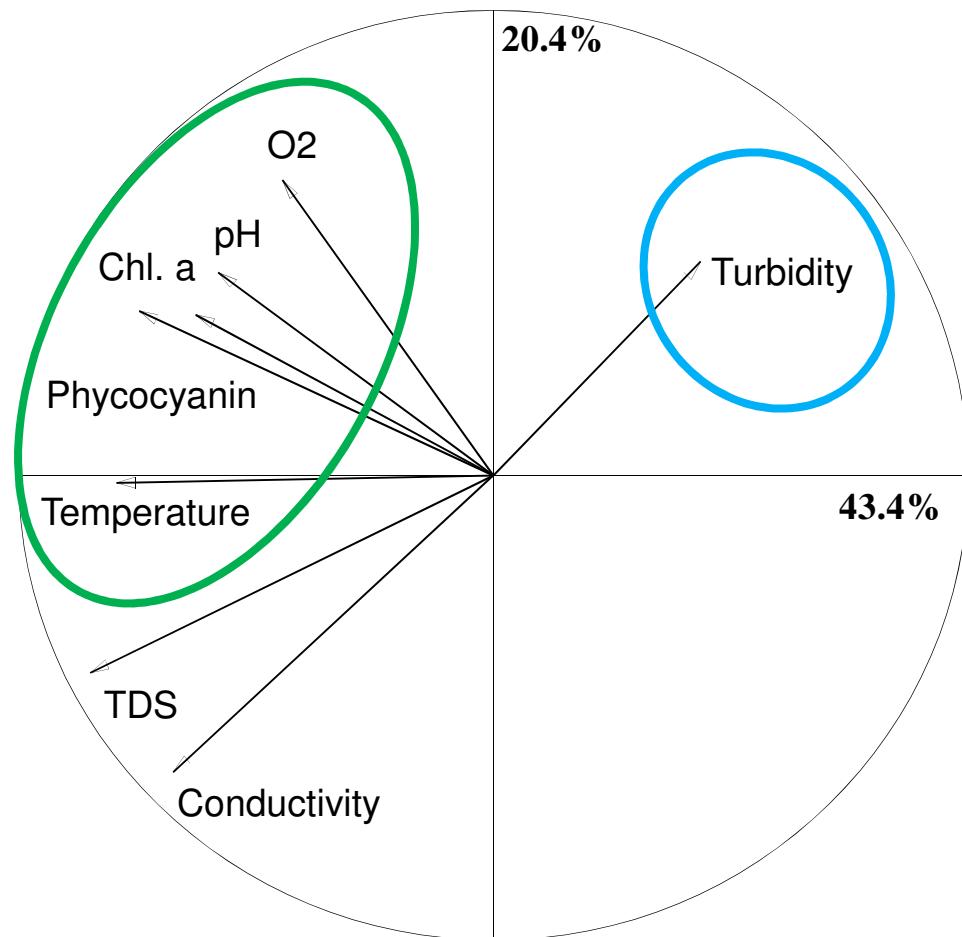
### Sampling protocols





## Results

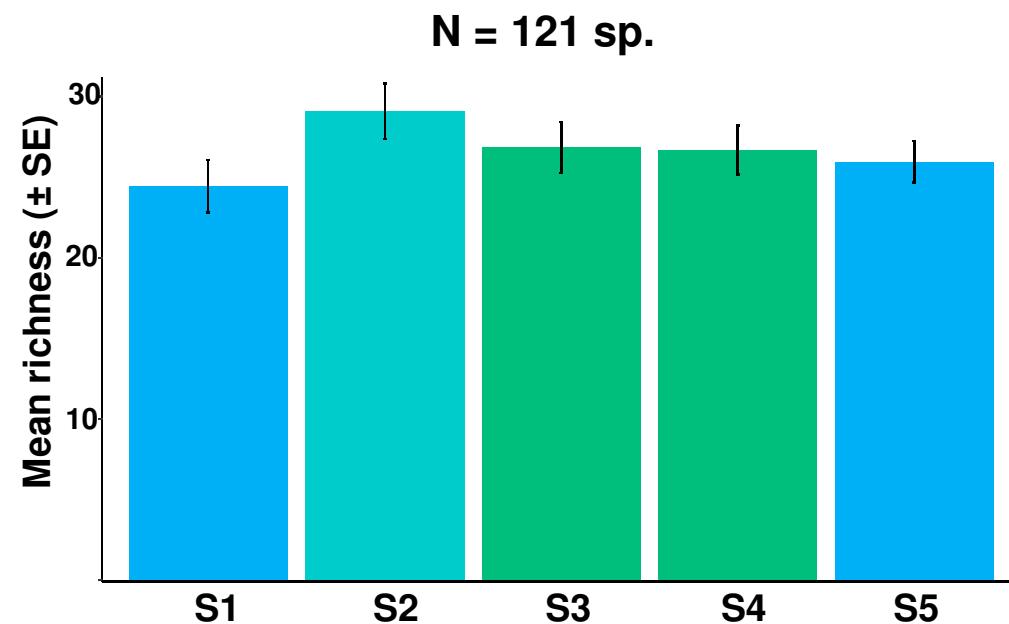
### Physico-chemical parameters



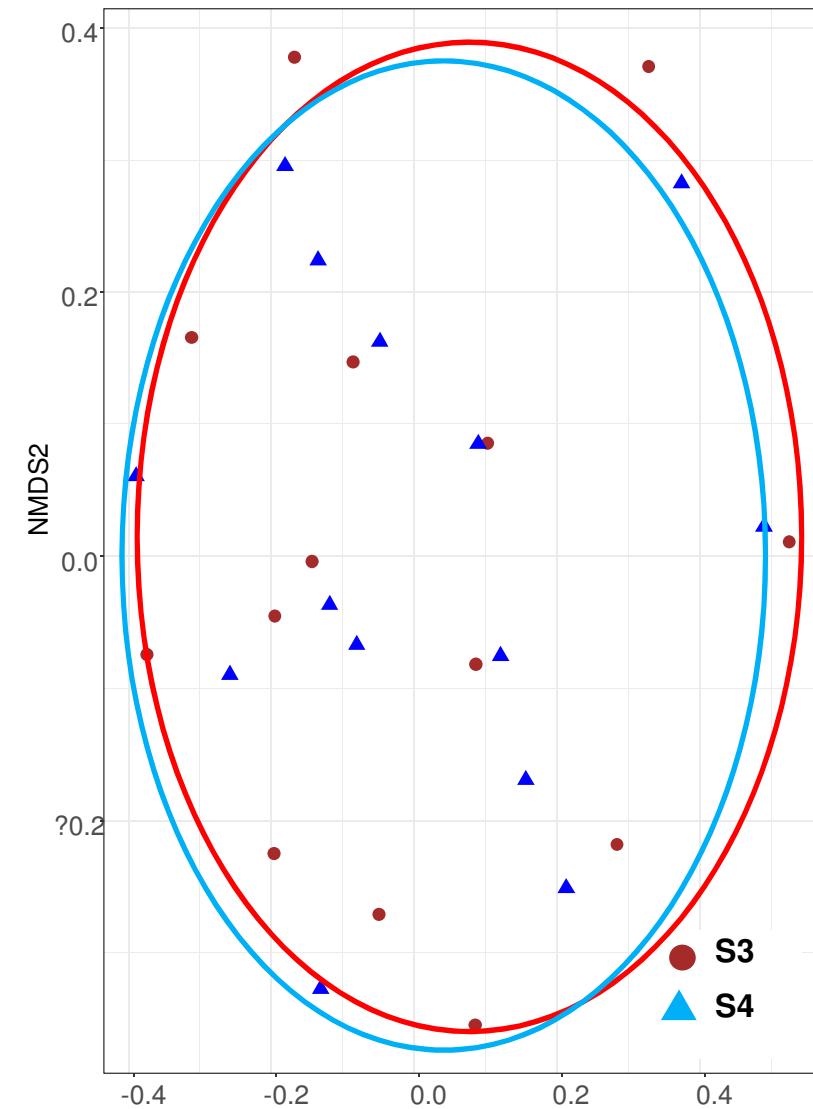


## Results

### Phytoplankton



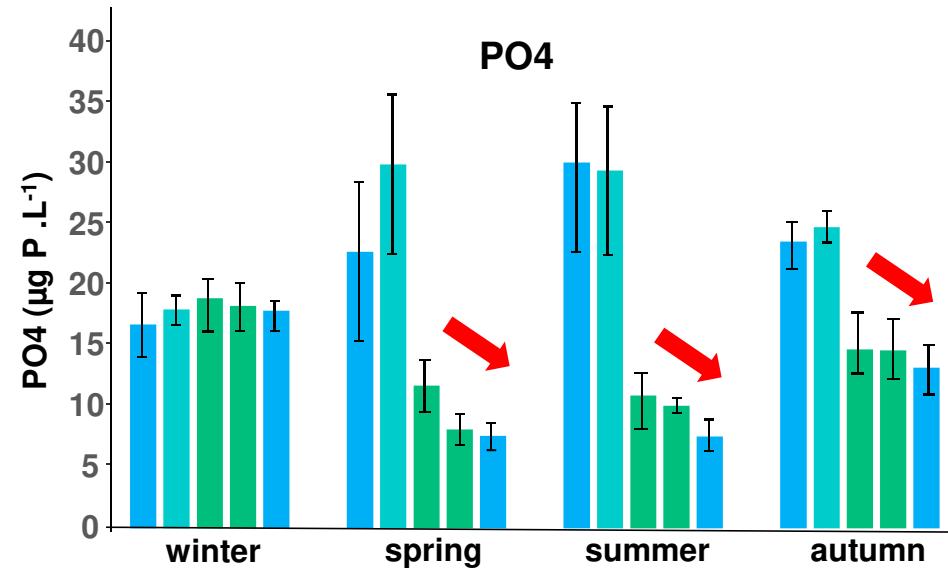
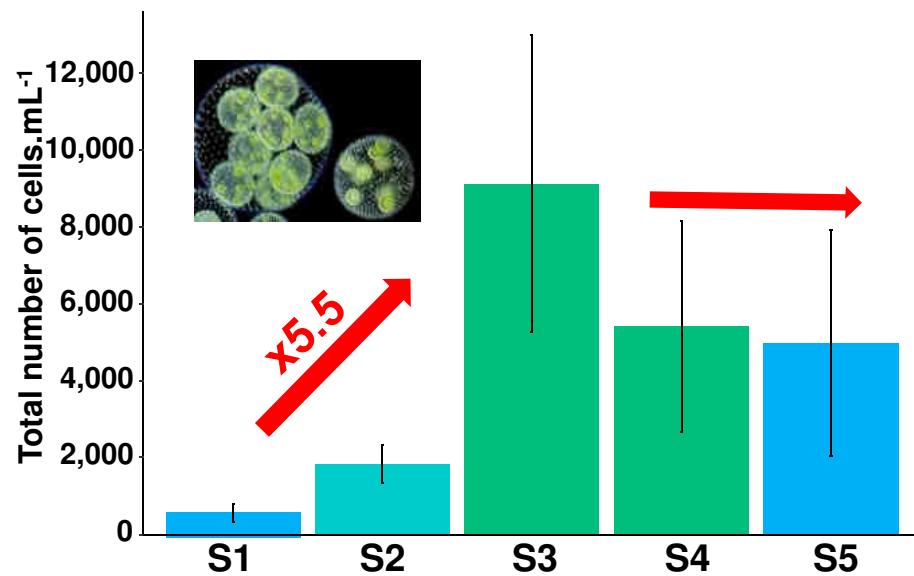
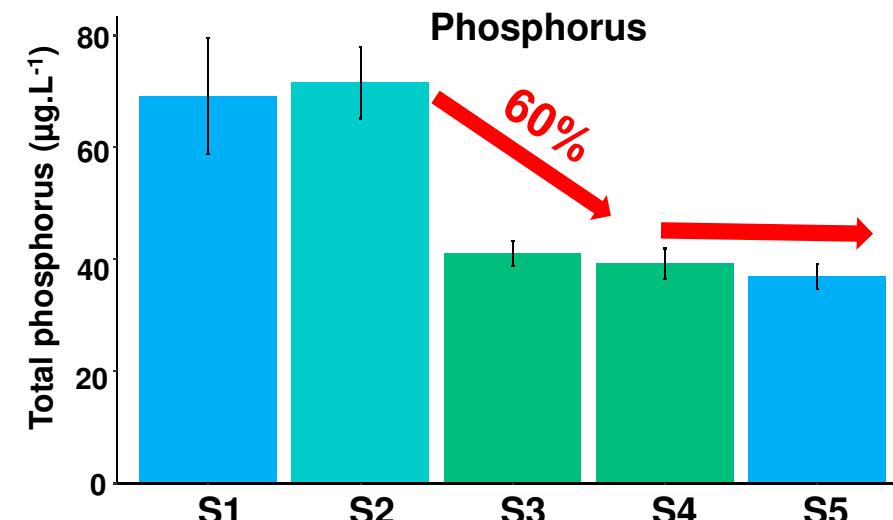
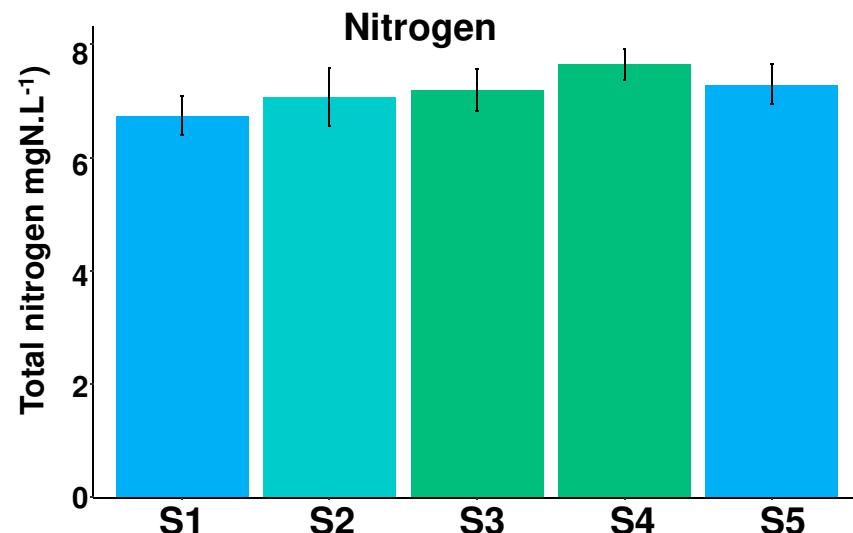
- Richness remains stable
- Species composition did not changed between the two reservoirs





## Results

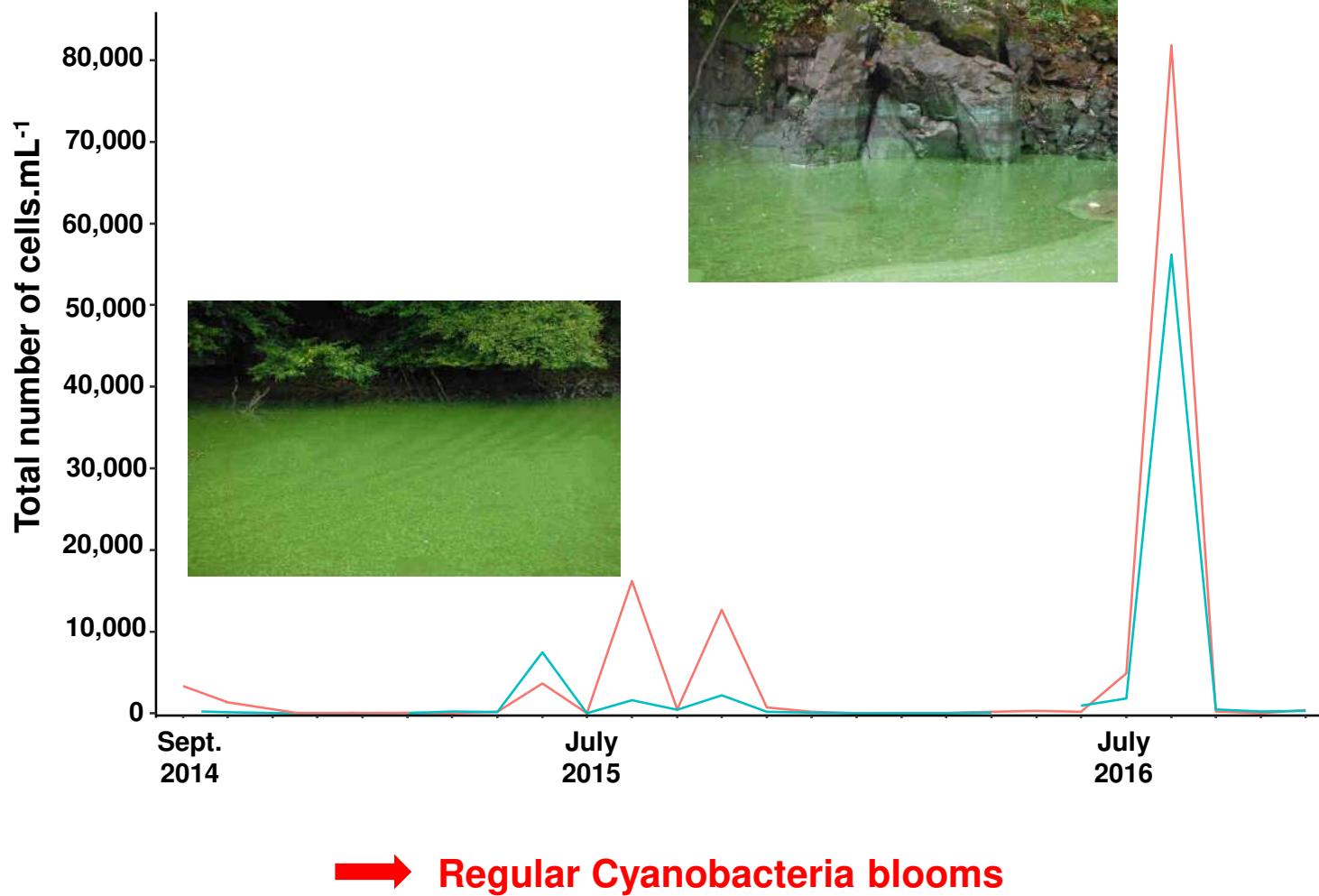
### Nutrient concentrations





## Results

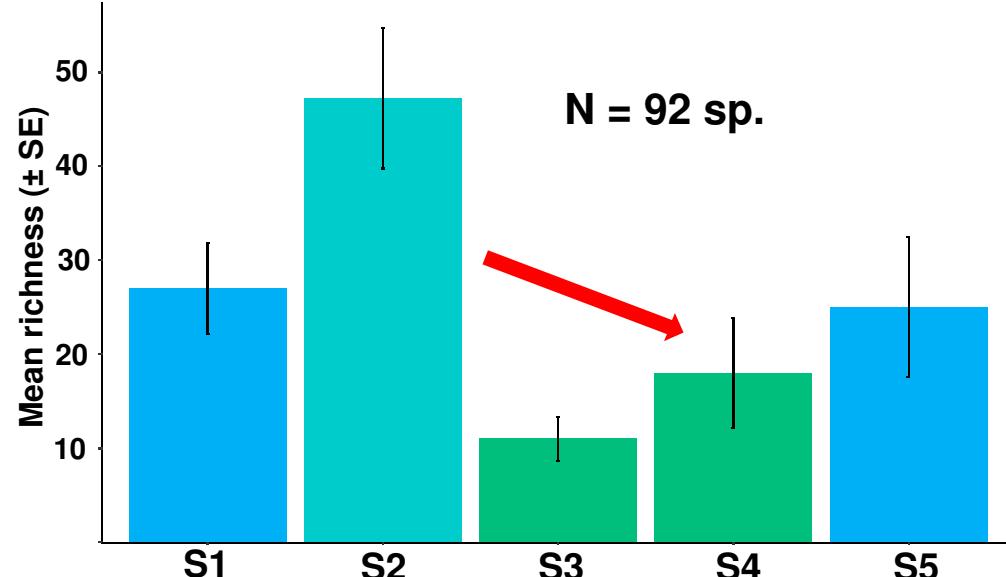
### Cyanobacteria blooms



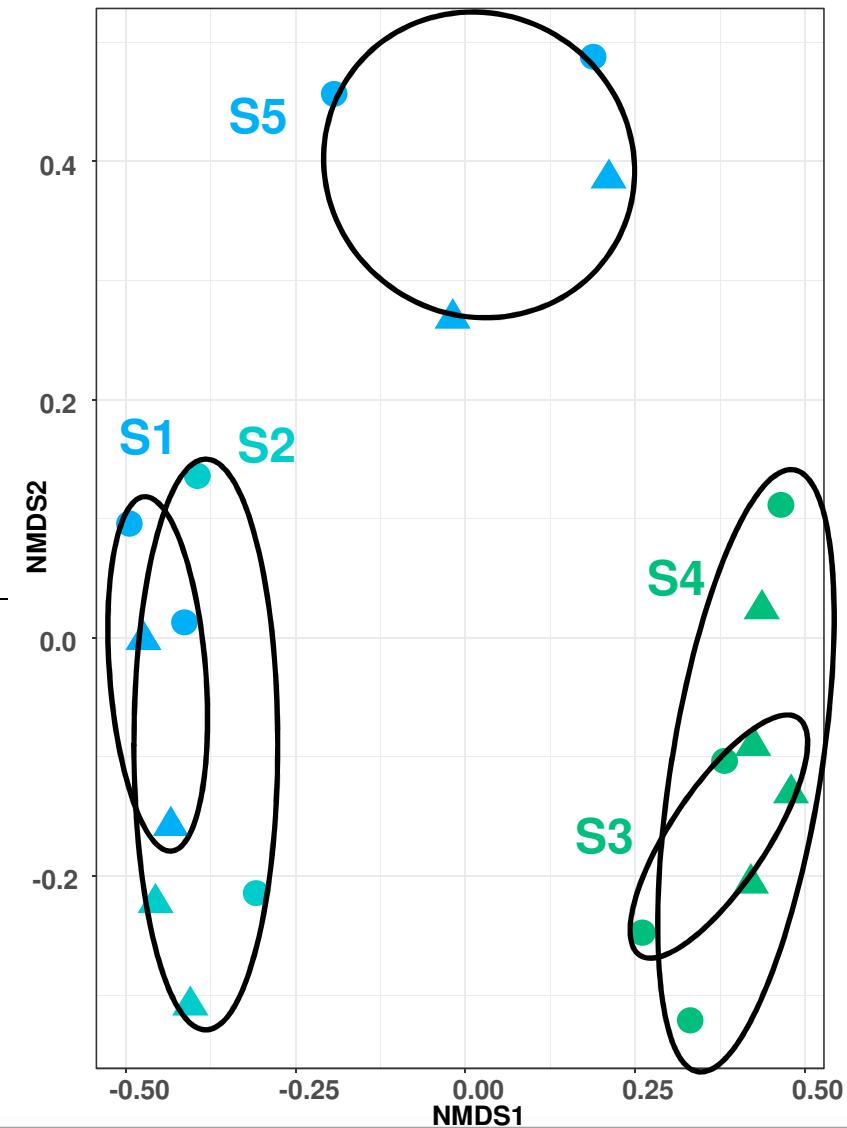


## Results

### Diversity of diatoms



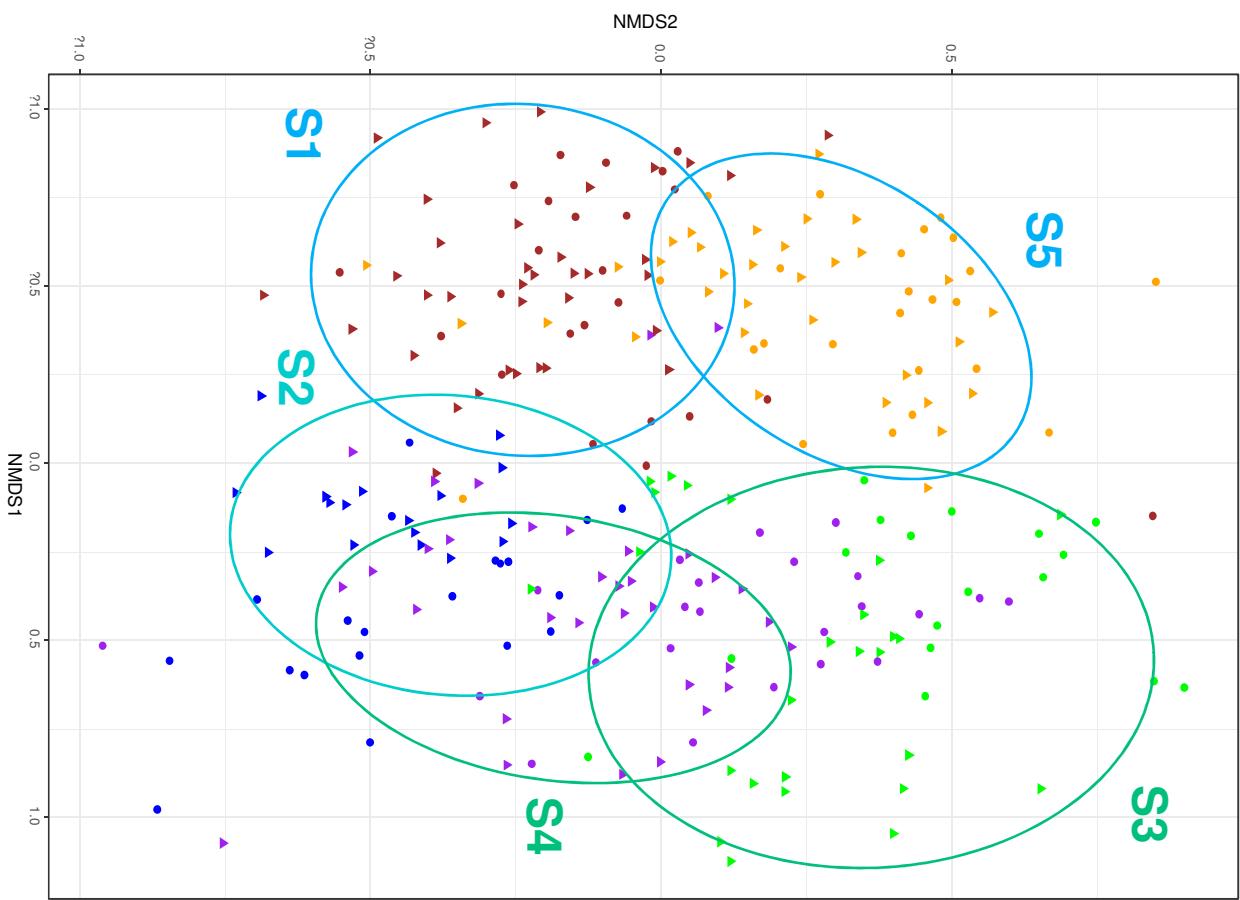
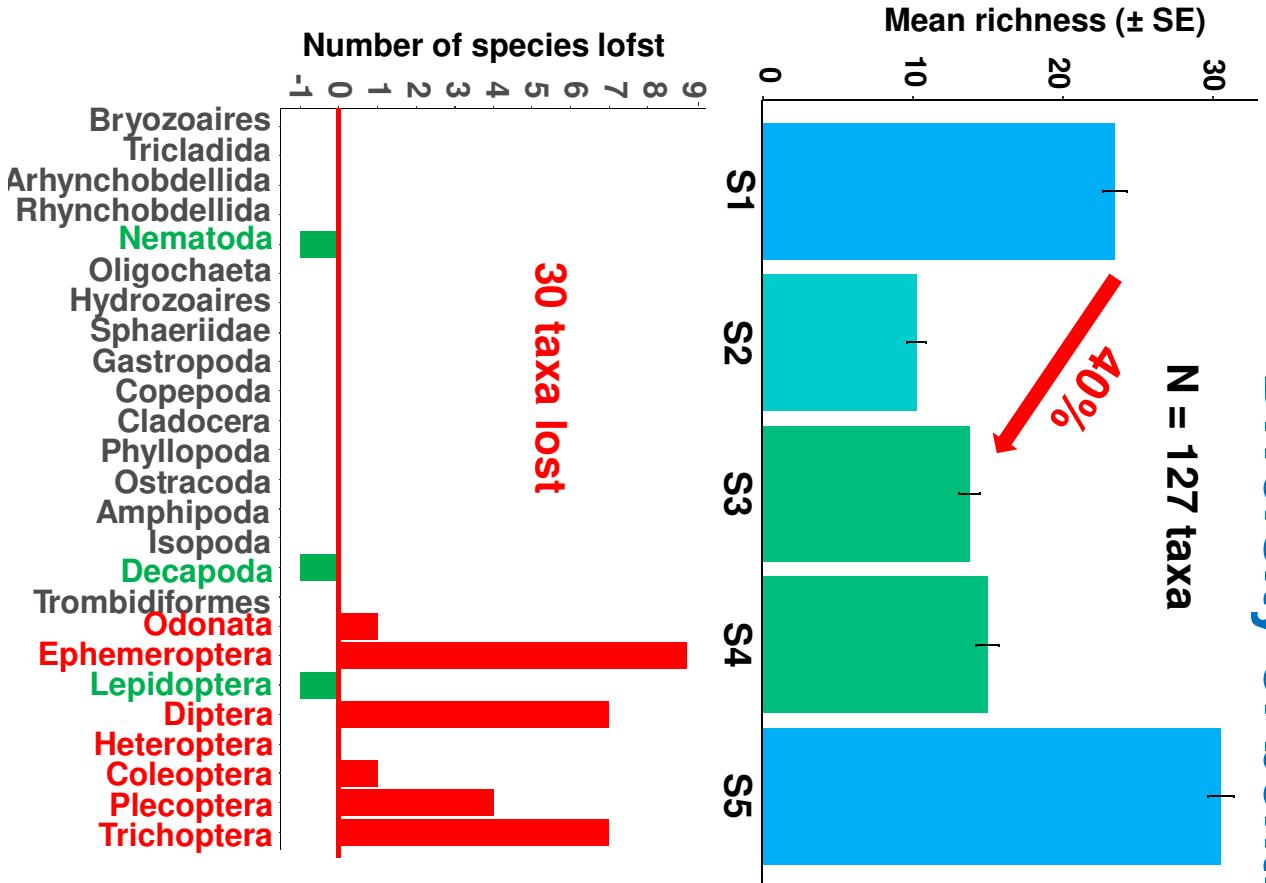
- Decrease of richness in reservoirs
- Species composition is highly impacted by dams





## Diversity of benthic macroinvertebrates

Results





### Summary

- Except for phytoplankton, the Sélune River dams have a strong effects of freshwater biodiversity (30-40% decline)
- Dams also impacted physico-chemical parameters:
  - > increase in temperature
  - > decrease in phosphorus
  - > no effect on nitrogen
- The increase in summer temperature and phosphorus in reservoirs led to cyanobacteria blooms
- The second reservoirs is neutral and did not increased the impact of the first one
- The downstream site is impacted by dams (low turbidity and high amount of phytoplankton) both promoting scrapers invertebrates such as mayflies



# Thank you

