Prof. Dr. Markus Brinkmann
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hält am Dienstag, den 12.01.2021, um 16:15 Uhr einen Vortrag über

„The missing piece in the eel puzzle? New evidence indicates toxic metals and dioxin-like compounds might be responsible for recruitment failure in European eels."

The European eel (Anguilla anguilla) has seen a dramatic decline over the past several decades, and declines in recruitment as a result of environmental pollution have been proposed as one of several potential causes. In particular, toxic metals and dioxin-like chemicals have been identified as classes of chemicals of great concern due to their accumulation and maternal transfer. However, due to the complex reproductive biology of the European eel, researchers have been unable to locate and study reproducing adult eels or developing embryos in their natural spawning grounds in the Sargasso Sea, thereby making studies of reproductive and embryotoxic effects of pollutants virtually impossible. Here, I will present results of new interdisciplinary research and novel tools that my group has developed together with an international team of collaborators to close these knowledge gaps. Ultimately, this research will benefit efforts for the conservation of European eels, e.g., by helping revise stock management plans.