

Regional assessment of water scarcity in the Canton of St. Gallen



The growing impact of climate change will lead to ever more frequent occurrences of local water scarcity. The impact expresses itself in terms of depleted water resources, usage restrictions, and an aquatic environment threatened by drought. It has therefore become necessary that Swiss cantons assess the degree to which climate change has an impact on their regions and determine where there is a need for intervention.

Working on behalf of the Canton of St. Gallen, we carried out a region-by-region, cross-sector analysis to assess the extent of local water scarcity and the need for intervention. To do so, we adapted a method proposed by the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) to the circumstances in St. Gallen.

Our services

- Method refinement: define the water scarcity problems, establish assessment areas, define scenarios
- Selection of the relevant data sources
- Classification of water scarcity problems according to relevance and severity
- Assessment of regional need for action
- Collation of approaches to action and measures
- Inclusion of stakeholders in two workshops
- Collaboration with a cantonal project group and with external experts

Client

Department of Water and Energy, Canton of St. Gallen

Facts

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Contact persons

Christina Dübendorfer
christina.duebendorfer@ebp.ch

Selina Derksen
selina.derksen@ebp.ch

Veronica Bozzini
veronica.bozzini@ebp.ch