

The International Union of Railways (UIC) is the worldwide professional association representing the railway sector and promoting rail transport. UIC leads an innovative and dynamic sector, helping our members find opportunities and build success. The purpose of UIC's Ecological Effects of Railways on Wildlife (rEvERsE) project is to understand railway's role in the loss and gain of biodiversity and its habitats in Europe. It will seek to set out how railways can manage land in an ecologically sensitive way, providing solutions and best practice examples.



UIC is seeking solutions and best practice to manage rail lineside in a way that can help **halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity**.

This poster provides information about Theme 3  
**Mitigation for impacts of operation on species (collision, electrocution, others?)**

## SWITZERLAND CASE STUDY

Enhancing the crossing for amphibians and monitoring the impact

### THE SOLUTION

- Deepening the ballast between each 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> sleeper (or even more frequent) and installing amphibian plats at the inside and outside of the rail at two sides: a) Canton Waadt between Yverdon and Yvonand, section of about 1.5 km with one rail (deepening ballast since 2017, installing plats early 2021), b) Canton Aargau closed to Oberrüti early 2021, section of 900 m with two rails.
- The installation was done by SBB
- The manufacturing of this plats has been developed by the cantonal department of nature protection of Aargau (further information [here](#), [video of installation](#))
- The 2-year monitoring whether the amphibian cross better the rails has been funded and mandated by the national department of environment (BAFU) to the national coordination platform for amphibian and reptils karch. The monitoring was then conducted by WLS GmbH.
- The national department of transport authorised this system (no adverse impact on rail topography)

#### Outcomes

- Faster and more directed crossing of amphibians
- No observation that amphibians died due to the air pressure of the train
- The final report should be available at the end of 2021 and acknowledged by BAFU.



Keywords: Amphibians, Crossing, Monitoring



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