

OPTimal strategies to retAIN and re-use water and nutrients in small agricultural catchments across different soil-climatic regions in Europe

VUMOP STUDY SITE: Čechtický stream catchment

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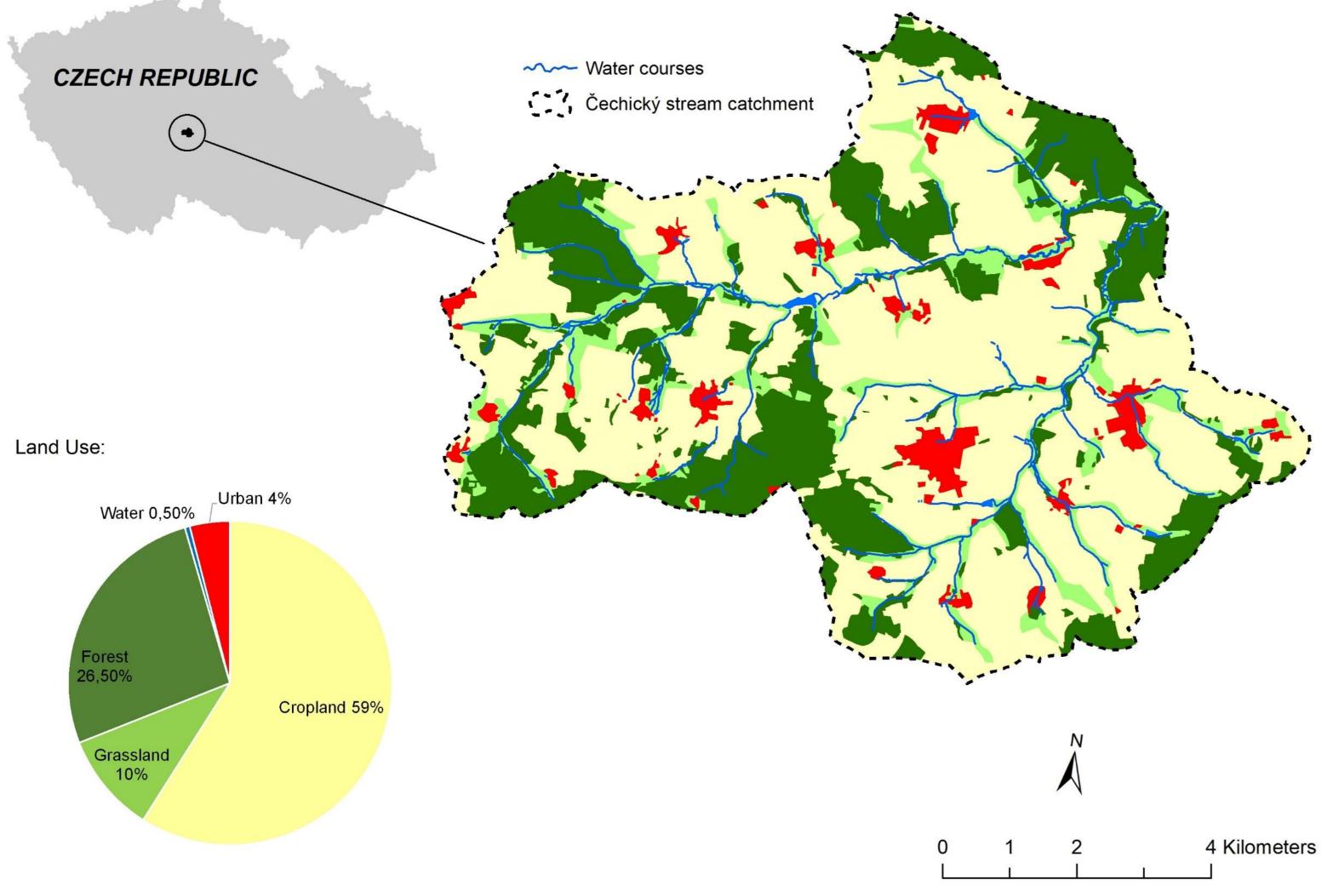
LOCATION & LANDUSE

GENERAL INFORMATION & PROBLEMS

• Catchment size: 72 km²

• Elevation range: 390 – 610 m a.s.l.

• Precipitation: 660 - 780 mm/a



• Dominant land use: Agriculture (69%)

• Ongoing soil erosion on still large field blocks; endangered soil quality (dehumification, soil compaction); increasing periods with drought

• Dense tile drainage systems, still functioning, but with increasing problems – technical status, failures, undue runoff, worsened water quality

• Čechtický stream catchment – a part of the Želivka river basin with Švihov drinking water reservoir. Unstable water quality (N, P, pesticides).



Straightened and deepened small waterways





All photos and maps by VUMOP

EXISTING NATURAL/SMALL RETENTION MEASURES



VUMOP experimental denitrifying bioreactor for treatment of tile drainage water. In 2019, the old wheat straw substrate was replaced with a mixture of gravel and birch woodchips (10:1). Not in use commonly in the catchment; a measure with a large application potential.



Soil erosion on large field blocks, even on gentle slopes

Overland flow from snowmelt and due to neglected maintenance of land drainage, wrong management and large filed blocks

STAKEHOLDERS

Participation already confirmed via support letters:

- Ministry of Agriculture of the Czech Republic; Department of Water Policy and Flood Prevention





Some farmers apply conservation At some sites - grassed wet soils tillage, especially for maize (no-till, and waterways. End-of-field grassed strip-till)

- Central Bohemian Region, Department of Water Management

Středočeský kraj

- Povodí Vltavy, State Enterprise, Vltava River Basin Management Authority



VUMOP cooperates with several local farmers



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