

#DAMBUSTERS

THE START OF THE RIVERLUTION

A FILM BY FRANCISCO CAMPOS-LOPEZ BENYUNES



Technical info

Format
4K (UHD) Color & 2D Animated Sequence
Genre
Environmental Documentary
Total Running Time: **73 mins**

Sound: **5.1 Surround**
Language:
English, French, Spanish, Estonian, Lithuanian and Finnish.
Digital Projection
DCP 2K and 4K

Commissioned and co-produced by:



MAGEN ENTERTAINMENT



Cast & Crew

Production Company
Magen Entertainment
Created by
Francisco Campos-Lopez Benyunes & Herman Wanningen
Directed, written and edited by:
Francisco Campos-Lopez Benyunes
Executive Producers: **Herman Wanningen, Joshua Royte and Francisco Campos-Lopez Benyunes**

Cinematographers: **Francisco Campos-Lopez, Fabrice Richard, Risto Rukuola, Breikus and Ingvar Heamägi**
Post Production: **Magen Entertainment Post Services**
Color: **Gonzalo Greco**
Re-Recording Mixer: **Emiliano Federici**
Original Music: **Adrian Hernandez**
Hosted by **Pao Fernández Garrido**

With the support of:

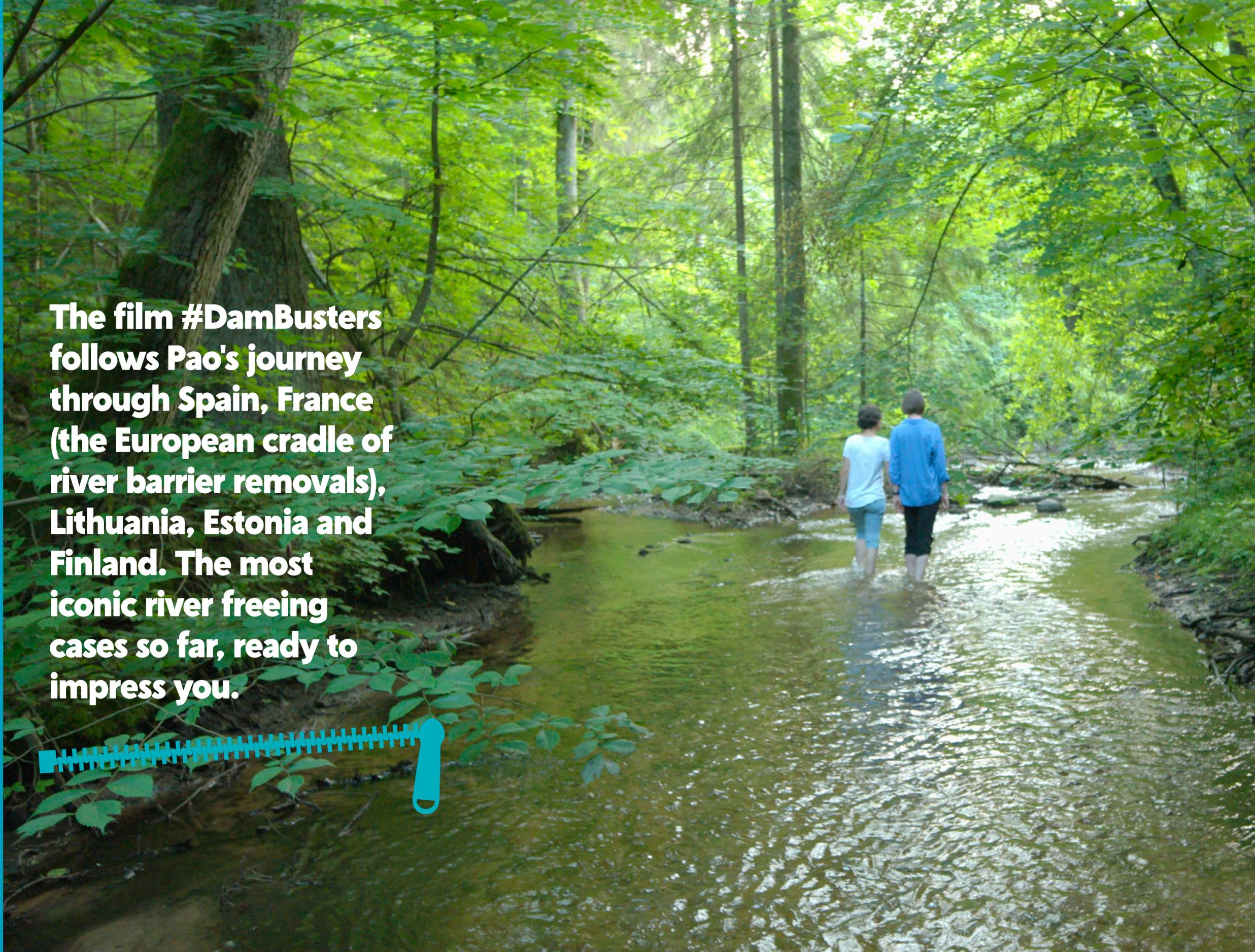


Synopsis

The notion of removing barriers in rivers started in Europe during the 80's. What was a far dream from a handful of environmentalists has become a reality nowadays. River restorations are happening all over Europe. Essential ecosystems once fragmented are now thriving havens for nature, showing us how they were before human interventions. Epic and iconic fish migrations are coming back. The river restoration movement is here to stay.

Who are the most inspiring individuals working tirelessly to restore rivers in Europe? We call them the "DamBusters". Pao Fernández Garrido from the Dam Removal Europe coalition is on a mission: to see their work at their local rivers and share these exciting stories to inspire more river restorations.

The film #DamBusters follows Pao's journey through Spain, France (the European cradle of river barrier removals), Lithuania, Estonia and Finland. The most iconic river freeing cases so far, ready to impress you.



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The Team



Pao Fernández Garrido

Hostess

Pao is a forestry engineer specialized in river restoration. Free diver since she was a little kid. Had an obsession to see rivers and oceans healthy again, the way they used to be centuries ago. When Pao found out that man-made infrastructures could be removed, she carried out a long search of these barrier removal cases around the world, documenting them and creating the biggest “dam removal resource” open site ever made. Now, she is finally meeting these heroes.



Francisco Campos-Lopez Benyunes

Director / Writer / Editor / Cinematographer

Francisco is an American director and producer born in northern Chilean Patagonia. He vividly remembers 1995, as the year that the world lost the majestic Bio-Bio River in Chile due to dams. That experience shaped his life and work as a filmmaker. With a vast expertise in award-winning narrative films, commercials, and documentaries; Francisco is committed to using his skills to bring to the screen inspiring stories that can make the world a better place.



Herman Wanningen

Executive Producer

As director of the World Fish Migration Foundation he is on a mission to get all river practitioners of Europe hooked on dam removal. He connects people by sharing experiences and celebrating successes together. He is the initiator of the Dam Removal Europe movement.

Meet the DamBusters



Roberto Epple

France

"Papa Panda" for the original French activists protecting the Loire River in France. Known as the father of dam removal in Europe. The voice of wisdom to guide our #DamBusters. A chameleonic river hero fluent in several languages and driving force of the European Rivers Network.



Jesús De La Fuente

Spain

Jesus started his career designing fish passages and analyzing the environmental impacts of dams and obstacles on the rivers over 30 years ago. Now, as a volunteer, he is the leader of the movement for removing the dam Ponte Inferno in the iconic and breathtaking landscape of the region of Galicia in Spain.



Jasper Pääkkönen

Finland

Each movie needs a movie star! Jasper Pääkkönen not only bounces between movie sets in Europe and Hollywood, he's the initiator for dam removal in Finland. His star power has been in the service of rivers for over 10 years. Passionate fly fishermen and Patagonia Brand Ambassador.



Külli Tammur

Estonia

Little did she know, as the daughter of an Estonian park ranger, that the impact of growing up around forest and rivers will have her years later as the front woman working inside the government restoring over 3,000 Km's of river streams. Her amazing work set an example all over Europe.



Jonė Leščinskaitė

Lithuania

After all her work in the ground advocating for river restorations and getting trained in Sweden, the local government created a position only for her. This groundbreaking move translates to the complete removal of the outdated Salantai Dam in rural Lithuania.



Sampsa Vilhunen

Finland

Advocating for rivers from 9 to 5, DJ-ing all over European venues during the summer, and fly fishing across wild Finland every chance he gets, that's Sampsa. WWF staff member, creating campaigns and a tangible impact of restored rivers in Finland.



Karolina Gurjazkaitė

Lithuania

This expert and well prepared young activist single handed the first dam removal ever in Lithuania. She is working to bring more awareness on a national level and enable river practitioners to restore free-flowing rivers by removing dams.

Screener

To request a special screener please contact us at info@magenentertainment.com

Contact us

For screenings and inquiries please contact:

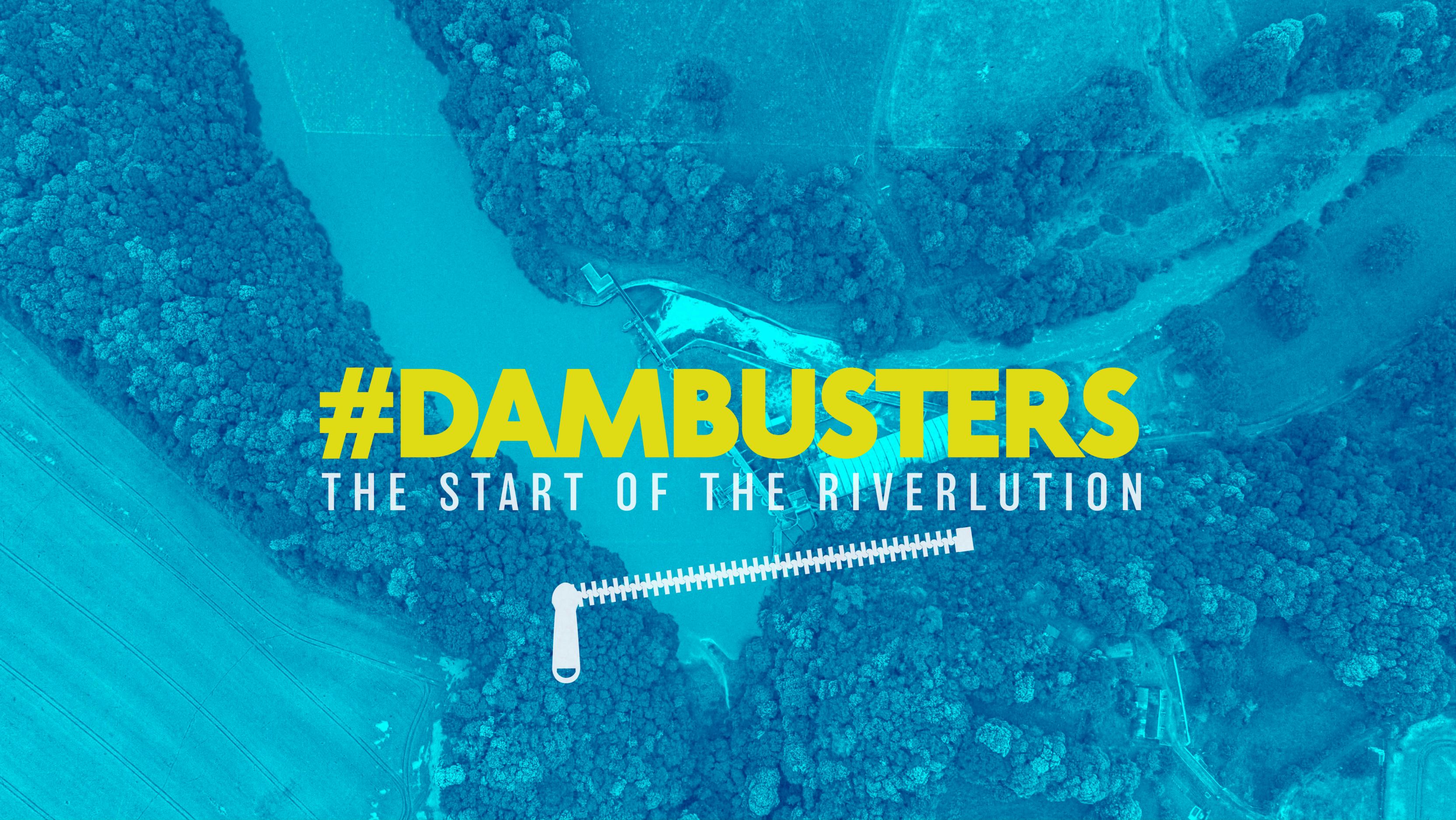
Pao Fernández Garrido at pao@fishmigration.org

Francisco Campos-Lopez Benyunes at franco@magenentertainment.com

For more information please visit www.dambusters.net

Trailer



An aerial photograph of a dam on a river, overlaid with a blue tint. A white zipper graphic is positioned diagonally across the lower part of the image, with the zipper pull located near the dam. The text is centered over the river and dam area.

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