

thiel-uli-2017-07-06_V2.mp4

Uli Thiel [00:00:14] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:00:19] Question about a story which one could tell perhaps.

Uli Thiel [00:00:23] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:00:26] This was not very easy for me.

Uli Thiel [00:00:28] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:00:34] To find the start, because I didn't have a key experience.

Uli Thiel [00:00:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:00:45] This is why I thought that I would tell how I was raised up and how I got to fishing.

Uli Thiel [00:00:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:00:58] I was raised in Thuringia, in a small town.

Uli Thiel [00:01:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:01:08] It's an area with mountains.

Uli Thiel [00:01:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:01:20] And there are only small streams, no big rivers, small streams and you can mainly find there graylings and trouts.

Uli Thiel [00:01:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:01:42] 150 meters away from the house of my parents there was a stream.

Uli Thiel [00:01:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:01:51] It was not really that wide then, this table is.

Uli Thiel [00:01:54] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:01:57] It was fed by a source.

Uli Thiel [00:02:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:02:10] There were trouts, which I was aware of as a child.

Uli Thiel [00:02:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:02:19] Over when you were on the bridge and looking down to the stream you were able to see them.

Uli Thiel [00:02:26] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:02:31] This was something that fascinated me, and then I got the idea to catch one.

Uli Thiel [00:02:39] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:02:43] And it was this small stream where I got my first fish, where I caught my first fish.

Uli Thiel [00:02:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:02:55] I didn't angle it, I tried to stick him with a kind of... stick.

Uli Thiel [00:03:00] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:08] And I hit him because he lost his conscience and then I was able to catch him.

Uli Thiel [00:03:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:15] It was a brown trout.

Uli Thiel [00:03:19] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:20] 22, 23 meters long. And I took it home with me and my mother prepared it and cooked it.

Uli Thiel [00:03:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:31] This is the very first fish I caught.

Uli Thiel [00:03:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:37] I was not even at school, perhaps I was five years old.

Uli Thiel [00:03:42] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:03:51] This small stream terminated in a stream which was a little bit bigger.

Uli Thiel [00:03:58] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:01] Three to five meters wide.

Uli Thiel [00:04:08] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:09] And this was where I angled my first fish.

Uli Thiel [00:04:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:19] My uncle from West Germany who came to us in order to visit us.

Uli Thiel [00:04:22] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:26] He brought along some hooks for his angle friends.

Uli Thiel [00:04:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:34] Because in the GDR you are not able to buy really good hooks.

Jim Thull [00:04:39] So this was in East Germany at the time, is that correct?

Uli Thiel [00:04:48] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:52] So he gave me three of these fish hooks.

Uli Thiel [00:04:55] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:04:58] They were already tied.

Uli Thiel [00:05:02] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:05:07] And there was a classmate from whom I got... Monofilament.

Uli Thiel [00:05:13] Monofilament. Fishing line. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:05:43] This classmate was kind of in a working group of a angling association, and he, an angle club, and he was already allowed to go angle.

Uli Thiel [00:05:43] [Speaking German].

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:05:43] And then I connected the hook and the line together, I build something, I made something. [Speaking German] I took a snare and put it on this hook, collecting the mortars.

Uli Thiel [00:05:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:05:59] And this was for rainbow trout, which...

Uli Thiel [00:06:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:06:19] This was the very first fish I angled. Of course, this was illegal. And I did it in this illegal way for quite some more time.

Uli Thiel [00:06:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:06:29] It was about in 1972.

Uli Thiel [00:06:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:06:34] When they began to restructure the landscape...

Uli Thiel [00:06:48] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:06:51] The meadows which were just next to...the streams were turned into construction site where they put on storage halls.

Uli Thiel [00:06:56] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:07:00] Part of the meadows was turned into an agricultural field.

Uli Thiel [00:07:07] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:07:17] And then the streams were made straight, turned to other areas in order to get a bigger agricultural area.

Uli Thiel [00:07:23] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:07:29] So in principle, the small stream wire has fished my first fish.

Uli Thiel [00:07:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:07:34] It doesn't exist anymore.

Uli Thiel [00:07:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:07:44] Because the source that fed it was...disappeared because of the highway which was built then.

Uli Thiel [00:08:03] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:08:03] So if I wanted to show my children where I played when I was a child I would not be able to do that because it was no longer existing.

Uli Thiel [00:08:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:13] This is what I wanted to say by this. A distruction of the nature.

Uli Thiel [00:08:14] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:19] Which I experienced when I was a child.

Uli Thiel [00:08:20] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:24] It's not only a passion for angling which...

Uli Thiel [00:08:25] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:31] I have also got a feeling for the nature was just at risk.

Uli Thiel [00:08:37] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:41] And I also had the desire to do something against this development.

Uli Thiel [00:08:43] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:48] But as a child and considering the framework conditions we had in the East, it was not possible to do anything.

Uli Thiel [00:08:54] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:08:57] These experiences have also influenced my way of life.

Uli Thiel [00:09:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:08] And I wanted to answer the question how I got to fly fishing.

Uli Thiel [00:09:17] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:22] After my 8th grade, I got to another school in order to pass the high school then.

Uli Thiel [00:09:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:33] And after school we had a holiday camp.

Uli Thiel [00:09:41] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:46] A friend of mine brought along his rod.

Uli Thiel [00:09:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:53] And we went angling.

Uli Thiel [00:09:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:09:59] He was allowed to angle because he was organized in an angel club and I, as I was not, I did it then illegally. I participated.

Uli Thiel [00:10:09] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:14] However this became a little bit too strange for me.

Uli Thiel [00:10:16] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:21] And then I decided to become a member of the angling club

Uli Thiel [00:10:23] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:32] And this was in autumn, 1979.

Uli Thiel [00:10:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:40] But then I wanted to angle as the adults did.

Uli Thiel [00:10:42] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:46] I saw when I did it illegally.

Uli Thiel [00:10:48] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:51] That fly fishes were able to catch graylings.

Uli Thiel [00:10:55] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:10:58] And we with our methods were not able to do that.

Uli Thiel [00:11:00] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:11:02] This is why I was sure you have to learn that to fly fish.

Uli Thiel [00:11:07] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:11:16] I didn't do it because it was nice or trendy or cool, but it was effective and useful.

Uli Thiel [00:11:17] And the first fish I caught with a flying rod was actually an Asch.

Interpreter [00:11:23] The first fish I caught with a Fly rod was a, a grayling.

Uli Thiel [00:11:26] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:11:29] At that time there were quite a lot of them, but this does also belong to the past.

Uli Thiel [00:11:36] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:11:43] I think this is what I wanted to tell you regarding that first question.

Uli Thiel [00:11:54] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:01] You were lucky if you got angling equipment made by the Russians, the Soviets.

Uli Thiel [00:12:07] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:10] If we have not the chance to get angling equipment from the west...

Uli Thiel [00:12:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:21] Then we went to Czechoslovakia

Uli Thiel [00:12:27] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:12:27] Or Hungary. In the 80s, it was possible to get carbon fiber rods.

Uli Thiel [00:12:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:39] It was just the case that in the GDR the best fiber rods were produced.

Uli Thiel [00:12:41] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:12:42] They were not bad. [Speaking German] We had also fly reel, which was not bad

Uli Thiel [00:12:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:51] We didn't have really good fly lines.

Uli Thiel [00:12:58] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:12:59] Especially we didn't have a really appropriate or suitable fly hook.

Uli Thiel [00:13:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:13:08] We wanted to go fishing graylings.

Uli Thiel [00:13:10] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:13:13] We did, it was of no use to go fishing with a size of,

Uli Thiel [00:13:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:13:22] 16.

Uli Thiel [00:13:28] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:13:28] Often we fished with the size 18 or 20...

Uli Thiel [00:13:31] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:13:38] Which we went up into Czechoslovakia or Hungary. So it was the relatives from Western Germany who sent it to us.

Uli Thiel [00:13:52] No. In fact, I tied most of my flies by myself.

Jim Thull [00:13:58] Nd just were these patterns that you learned from people or did you just invent them on your own?

Uli Thiel [00:14:08] Both. I mostly learn from books.

Uli Thiel [00:14:16] Yeah, that is [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:14:22] It's not really an easy question.

Uli Thiel [00:14:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:14:38] I have thought about it for a while. There's certainly quite a lot of positive things we can say.

Uli Thiel [00:14:42] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:14:54] First of all I would like to say that there is a dramatic improvement of the water quality.

Uli Thiel [00:14:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:15:18] Which led to the fact...waters where there was almost no fish, is now, and now waters are a way to find fishes.

Uli Thiel [00:15:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:15:26] Because in the past, it was the case of every district town.

Uli Thiel [00:15:28] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:15:31] And mill factory, a butchery.

Uli Thiel [00:15:38] Um. A brewery, yeah.

Uli Thiel [00:15:44] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:15:48] Of course the [unintelligible] waters were let into the streams and that's the reason why...

Uli Thiel [00:15:49] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:15:56] No fishes were living there.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:16:04] [Speaking German] by improvement of the water quality... [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:16:11] And some more things which were done, that some factories were built back.

Uli Thiel [00:16:20] No, I mean the obstacles in the watercourses, the obstacles and the water courses.

Interpreter [00:16:26] So the obstacles of the water were put away.

Uli Thiel [00:16:32] Removed there. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:16:46] There was a positive development in fisheries.

Uli Thiel [00:16:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:16:54] So before there are [unintelligible] but now there are quite some species, fish species.

Uli Thiel [00:16:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:17:02] Which before, we couldn't find and they came back then.

Uli Thiel [00:17:05] [Speaking German]

Offscreen Speaker [00:17:11] River Lamprey.

Interpreter [00:17:12] River Lampreys

Uli Thiel [00:17:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:17:22] Or species which are brought again into the water by special measures like salmon and sea trout.

Uli Thiel [00:17:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:17:34] Or even sturgeon.

Uli Thiel [00:17:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:17:45] Moreover we can state that the conscience among the people...

Uli Thiel [00:17:47] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:17:49] Regarding environmental topics is is now greater than it was before.

Uli Thiel [00:17:53] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:18:00] Especially in my old homeland, there are people who put that trash into the stream

Uli Thiel [00:18:05] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:18:09] Though it is not the scope you would see in the 70s.

Uli Thiel [00:18:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:18:17] And moreover, today we have something which is...

Uli Thiel [00:18:19] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:18:21] It's not found in the past, the rule of law.

Uli Thiel [00:18:34] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:18:35] Decisions of the administration that we can also go to the points which was a possibility we didn't have during the GDR time.

Uli Thiel [00:18:43] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:18:51] And of course I already told you about we didn't have or today we don't have this problem of the equipment.

Uli Thiel [00:18:56] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:07] So if I can afford it I can order a rod from any shop of the world. This is no topic anymore.

Uli Thiel [00:19:09] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:16] And from our point of view as a former GDR citizen.

Uli Thiel [00:19:19] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:26] We today have the chance to travel across the world if you have the financial means.

Uli Thiel [00:19:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:33] And then we can go fishing there.

Uli Thiel [00:19:34] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:37] The access to waters.

Uli Thiel [00:19:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:40] Much bigger than it was in the past.

Uli Thiel [00:19:43] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:48] When I get to the negative developments and the disadvantages.

Uli Thiel [00:19:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:19:53] Then of course I have to say, the improvement of water quality...

Uli Thiel [00:19:58] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:20:01] Has also led to... [Speaking German]

Uli Thiel [00:20:09] The yield becomes lower because there's not so much nutrients in the water anymore.

Interpreter [00:20:22] [Speaking German] It has also led to a lack of nutrients.

Uli Thiel [00:20:27] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:20:34] Which leads to the fact that some fishes cannot find really good life conditions.

Uli Thiel [00:20:38] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:20:41] For instance, the park bridge, which really needs water, which is not that clear. Of course, we have to determine that the possibility to use...

Uli Thiel [00:20:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:03] The fish stocks.

Uli Thiel [00:21:08] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:09] The number has been decreased, especially when it comes to salmonid stocks.

Uli Thiel [00:21:16] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:21:22] This is due to predation.

Uli Thiel [00:21:22] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:29] We have various, uh, birds.

Uli Thiel [00:21:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:31] And other animals.

Uli Thiel [00:21:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:36] Which harvest so much fish so that.

Uli Thiel [00:21:37] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:41] Fisherman really doesn't have anything to harvest.

Uli Thiel [00:21:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:21:52] And catch and release doesn't solve the problem because when we release fishes in the summer,

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:21:55] [Speaking German] Hoping that the next year it becomes bigger, [Speaking German] And meanwhile they [unintelligible] [Speaking German]. Then the cormorants will come in the winter and they will eat them anyway.

Uli Thiel [00:22:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:22:14] And especially

Uli Thiel [00:22:16] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:22:19] The using of the waters has changed the management of the water. Water management.

Uli Thiel [00:22:28] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:22:33] Because in the past, you put in young fishes.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:22:38] [Speaking German]. Which grew up in the water and then there was a yield [Speaking German] And nowadays...[Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:22:48] They put in fishes which can be angled, so that the ang...

Jim Thull [00:22:53] The size is catchable, yes, yes I understand.

Interpreter [00:22:59] So that...

Uli Thiel [00:23:00] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:23:00] The fisherman can have their sports.

Jim Thull [00:23:03] Immediately, yeah.

Uli Thiel [00:23:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:10] Another aspect when I told you about that the conscience, the awareness among the people regarding environmental problems has grown.

Uli Thiel [00:23:22] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:22] Then, of course, we also have to determine,

Uli Thiel [00:23:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:29] That this conscience does not only come along with the expertise, the knowledge of the people.

Uli Thiel [00:23:34] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:38] For instance, many people think that nuclear energy and carbon is bad.

Uli Thiel [00:23:46] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:51] And biomass and water power is good.

Uli Thiel [00:23:53] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:23:56] But many people do not understand that the high consumption of energy

Uli Thiel [00:24:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:03] Has it's price

Uli Thiel [00:24:05] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:05] So that, uh,

Uli Thiel [00:24:07] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:10] That planting sweet corn, for instance, has its price.

Uli Thiel [00:24:14] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:21] Moreover I would like to say that

Uli Thiel [00:24:24] Despite the improved water quality, it did not improve in the same direction.

Interpreter [00:24:29] The structure of the waters has not improved in the same way as the pollution did.

Uli Thiel [00:24:39] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:44] The majority of flowing waters is... Has also it's impact from the nature around.

Uli Thiel [00:24:48] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:24:54] Although their efforts within the directive regarding waters made by the European Union.

Uli Thiel [00:25:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:25:02] The impact is really a little one.

Uli Thiel [00:25:10] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:25:11] And we have some really negative tendencies.

Uli Thiel [00:25:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:25:18] As for instance the soil erosion by energy plants which are cultivated.

Uli Thiel [00:25:26] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:25:29] And by the extension of infrastructure.

Uli Thiel [00:25:32] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:25:38] And other factors. As, for instance, the dying of, um...

Uli Thiel [00:25:44] Alder

Interpreter [00:25:46] Alder trees

Uli Thiel [00:25:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:25:55] There is a disease, a fungus disease, which came from...

Uli Thiel [00:26:04] The Netherlands.

Interpreter [00:26:05] From the Netherlands.

Uli Thiel [00:26:09] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:26:10] And this leads to the fact that the young alders die.

Uli Thiel [00:26:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:26:19] And our efforts to give more shadows to the waters who do not really work.

Uli Thiel [00:26:26] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:26:31] Moreover we have all round...Beavers?

Uli Thiel [00:26:40] Yeah, beavers. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:26:52] And these beavers are now in the waters which is not their natural habitat.

Uli Thiel [00:26:54] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:26:55] Small and really very small streams.

Uli Thiel [00:26:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:27:03] They go there in order to get to the sweet corn and then they build the dams.

Uli Thiel [00:27:10] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:27:10] So this is actually a flat line.

Uli Thiel [00:27:12] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:27:13] And there is a low rate.

Uli Thiel [00:27:19] No heat.

Interpreter [00:27:19] Low heat in the water.

Uli Thiel [00:27:23] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:27:33] And so every dam is also [unintelligible] has the effect that there is a gem of water.

Uli Thiel [00:27:42] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:27:42] And then there's something in Germany which is called the maintenance of water.

Uli Thiel [00:27:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:27:54] This means that there's a big apparatus.

Uli Thiel [00:28:05] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:28:08] Which is to maintain the [Speaking German].

Uli Thiel [00:28:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:28:15] To maintain the flowing of the river without any pollutants.

Offscreen Speaker [00:28:22] So the water can run off without any damage, causing any damage.

Uli Thiel [00:28:30] To the human activity.

Jim Thull [00:28:32] Yes.

Uli Thiel [00:28:36] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:28:39] So this is also a big problem because the maintenance of the water does not contribute [Speaking German] to a natural development of the waters, but they rather have the opposite effect.

Uli Thiel [00:28:56] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:28:58] Another point I would like to mention is,

Uli Thiel [00:29:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:29:07] When before I had said that the access to waters at an international level, it has been improved, but they also have to determine that the access to the waters in a national scale has deteriorated.

Uli Thiel [00:29:22] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:29:25] There are many waters where we have natural conservation regulations.

Uli Thiel [00:29:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:29:37] There are quite a lot of tendencies to keep the anglers away from the waters.

Uli Thiel [00:29:42] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:29:48] Moreover there's also quite a lot of private owned waters.

Uli Thiel [00:29:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:29:57] Where the owners do not provide access to the broad public.

Uli Thiel [00:30:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:30:04] And this led to the fact.

Uli Thiel [00:30:05] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:30:09] That it has deteriorated in this way.

Uli Thiel [00:30:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:30:24] And finally I would like to say that the acceptance by society today worse than it was 30 years ago.

Uli Thiel [00:30:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:30:32] In Germany, the angler is today. [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:30:35] An underdog. An underdog.

Uli Thiel [00:30:55] [Speaking German] .

Interpreter [00:30:58] Iceland because I think that it is quite nice to have the chance to catch one salmon within a week.

Uli Thiel [00:31:02] If I'm not that crazy about catching masses or the like, that's really not my thing. But I would like to fish Atlantic lax until the doctor comes.

Interpreter [00:31:12] Even if I'm not that crazy to get a mass of fishes. Anyways I'd like her to go fishing for Atlantic salmon until the doctor comes.

Uli Thiel [00:31:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:31:24] And I would also like to try halibut.

Uli Thiel [00:31:34] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:31:44] [Speaking German] If a comrade of our caliber doesn't need his rod anymore. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:31:49] And he says "Do you want to have a look to it now? It's only 200 euros"

Uli Thiel [00:31:53] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:31:54] Then I'm always at danger.

Uli Thiel [00:31:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:31:59] So quite a lot of the equipment I have in former times belonged to somebody else.

Uli Thiel [00:32:10] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:32:10] Whereas it was not really used alot.

Uli Thiel [00:32:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:32:23] But anyway I'm not a, um, um, on equipment, I've got a split cane rod.

Uli Thiel [00:32:32] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:32:35] But I got it because Alfred, he made it.

Uli Thiel [00:32:37] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:32:40] Not because I wanted to have...

Uli Thiel [00:32:41] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:32:42] A split cane rod. [Speaking German] I did it because of some sentimental feelings and considerations.

Uli Thiel [00:32:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:32:59] My favorite water.

Uli Thiel [00:33:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:03] Is the Dosse.

Uli Thiel [00:33:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:06] It has a small trout stream.

Uli Thiel [00:33:09] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:10] 120 kilometers away from Berlin.

Uli Thiel [00:33:15] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:16] It's not a spectacular stream.

Uli Thiel [00:33:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:30] But it has a lot of nutrients, and the trouts become very big there.

Uli Thiel [00:33:33] [Speaking German]

Offscreen Speaker [00:33:35] To Mayfly hatches.

Jim Thull [00:33:38] The Mayfly hatch?

Uli Thiel [00:33:41] Sometimes spectacular. Sometimes.

Jim Thull [00:33:43] It's incredible when the fish are rising.

Uli Thiel [00:33:45] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:33:55] This was quite closely linked to the history of our club.

Uli Thiel [00:34:07] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:34:07] What the river is today or what the river looks like today is the result of people who put their [unintelligible].

Uli Thiel [00:34:18] In our association, but also in the national angler association, in my employer. And I think, with all due modesty, I can assume that I have contributed a little to this.

Interpreter [00:34:33] In our club and also the regional angler association, and [unintelligible] I can say I also contributed to it.

Uli Thiel [00:34:36] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:34:44] And that's why this is, this water is something which is really near to my heart.

Uli Thiel [00:34:54] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:34:55] At the Humboldt University.

Uli Thiel [00:34:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:04] I studied a subject officially called fish production.

Uli Thiel [00:35:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:12] But it was something like...aquacultivation and inland fishery.

Uli Thiel [00:35:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:26] I finished my studies in 1991.

Uli Thiel [00:35:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:32] It was by various circumstances.

Uli Thiel [00:35:33] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:45] That I got a job at the angling association Brandenburg which was just founded at that time.

Uli Thiel [00:35:45] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:49] Out of the regional, uh, bodies.

Uli Thiel [00:35:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:35:58] ...I got the function of an employee of the water management.

Uli Thiel [00:36:08] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:36:09] And fishery management.

Uli Thiel [00:36:18] [Speaking German] .

Interpreter [00:36:17] But most of the things I have to do is to work at the desk.

Uli Thiel [00:36:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:36:24] It's about legal questions.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:36:26] [Speaking German] Statements regarding projects, building meshes. [Speaking German] It's about answering questions from members. [Speaking German] To repair work for the heads or... [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:36:49] To write articles for the press.

Uli Thiel [00:36:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:36:54] And sometimes I also have to do with fishes.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:36:59] [Speaking German]. Often when it comes to the management of salmonoid waters. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:37:09] And for the project to bring back salmons and sea trouts.

Uli Thiel [00:37:31] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:37:32] The first and most important advice I would give him regards the basics of everything, I would tell him...

Uli Thiel [00:37:40] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:37:40] Be aware that fishes do not fall down from the sky. [Speaking German] Be aware, that our natural resources cannot be exploited.

Uli Thiel [00:37:55] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:37:54] And behave yourself in a responsible way.

Uli Thiel [00:38:00] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:38:01] The second advice I would like to give...

Uli Thiel [00:38:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:38:05] You need the personal attitude...

Uli Thiel [00:38:10] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:38:11] I would say do not put yourself under pressure.

Uli Thiel [00:38:18] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:38:18] Don't make your satisfaction dependent on...

Uli Thiel [00:38:27] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:38:26] How many fishes you catch and how big they are.

Uli Thiel [00:38:33] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:38:35] But try to consider and to love the whole event.

Uli Thiel [00:38:52] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:38:53] And try to find satisfaction how you face the challenges you are faced with when angling.

Uli Thiel [00:39:00] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:04] And the third advice I would like to give.

Uli Thiel [00:39:11] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:39:11] ...if a young man would ask me...

Uli Thiel [00:39:12] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:16] Then I would ask him whether he really wanted to go angling, whether it was really seriously he was talking.

Uli Thiel [00:39:26] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:28] If he said yes.

Uli Thiel [00:39:29] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:31] Then I would tell him, then don't get a family.

Uli Thiel [00:39:44] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:47] I'm convinced that in the future, people will also go angling.

Uli Thiel [00:39:51] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:39:51] That you will also have the opportunity to go fishing.

Uli Thiel [00:39:56] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:00] However I think that the race of species will change.

Uli Thiel [00:40:03] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:06] And also the framework conditions and the methods.

Uli Thiel [00:40:11] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:12] As far as salmonids are concerned.

Uli Thiel [00:40:20] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:21] If the climate scenario

Uli Thiel [00:40:22] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:25] Will be as we expect them to be, then the future is not that good.

Uli Thiel [00:40:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:34] I am convinced that this will not lead to an overall dying of angling.

Uli Thiel [00:40:42] Not necessarily, yeah.

Offscreen Speaker [00:40:44] Species

Uli Thiel [00:40:47] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:40:57] And species. The course of the species, in the long course of development, they have survived various changes.

Uli Thiel [00:41:04] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:41:08] The problem is only that this change at the moment will come very quickly.

Uli Thiel [00:41:12] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:41:15] And that the action by man.

Uli Thiel [00:41:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:41:23] Also will make the adaptation of various populations quite difficult.

Uli Thiel [00:41:30] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:41:31] This is why it is that important that the people...

Uli Thiel [00:41:34] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:41:39] See the signs and then take the right conclusion and decisions.

Uli Thiel [00:41:50] No, certainly not.

Jim Thull [00:41:52] No? Anything about understanding the species or the river?

Uli Thiel [00:41:54] Because when I read your question, what makes a good fisherman, I had some ideas what makes a good fishermen, but most of these things I do not own.

Jim Thull [00:42:08] Well, what make a good Fisherman?

Uli Thiel [00:42:09] Yeah, I think, [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:42:14] He has to be confident.

Uli Thiel [00:42:18] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:42:20] He needs to have patience.

Uli Thiel [00:42:24] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:42:25] And he needs to become...

Uli Thiel [00:42:31] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:42:32] He also needs to be modest.

Uli Thiel [00:42:36] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:42:37] He has to have a good skill of serving.

Uli Thiel [00:42:45] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:42:47] And an ability to interpret the observation in the right way.

Uli Thiel [00:43:03] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:05] It was in the mid-90s.

Uli Thiel [00:43:06] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:10] There was a meeting of fly fishers.

Uli Thiel [00:43:16] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:18] I was called, I was invited to come there.

Uli Thiel [00:43:23] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:23] I was asked whether I wanted to come there.

Uli Thiel [00:43:25] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:31] And the people who were present there, they were friendly, they welcomed me.

Uli Thiel [00:43:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:36] But they also had quite a lot of proposals.

Uli Thiel [00:43:46] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:43:48] ...With this and they also were quite unsatisfied.

Uli Thiel [00:44:01] [Speaking German]

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:44:02] It was about catch and release, this was not that usual, whether it was not to make this a precondition. [Speaking German] It was about various topics.

Uli Thiel [00:44:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:44:22] However I thought that this was interesting, well, they told me that they wanted to found a club.

Uli Thiel [00:44:28] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:44:30] Together, seven people, they founded this club.

Uli Thiel [00:44:32] And I joined as one of the next 8th, 9th or so as a member.

Interpreter [00:44:38] And then I was one of the next, perhaps the eighth or the ninth member.

Uli Thiel [00:44:45] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:44:46] And over the years, Oh, we had only one had. [Speaking German]

Uli Thiel [00:44:52] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:44:53] Well, there were three more men board.

Uli Thiel [00:44:57] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:02] Later on we extended the board to five people.

Uli Thiel [00:45:03] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:08] And there was also the function of a guard of the water.

Uli Thiel [00:45:17] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:16] This was the one I assumed then because they thought I was able to do that.

Uli Thiel [00:45:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:23] And so it stayed until today.

Uli Thiel [00:45:38] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:45:37] Germany in some respects is certainly special.

Uli Thiel [00:45:44] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:45:44] This includes...

Uli Thiel [00:45:45] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:52] The fishermen and fishery itself in Germany.

Uli Thiel [00:45:53] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:45:55] As a whole, is not estimated quite well.

Uli Thiel [00:45:59] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:46:03] It's underestimated if we compare it to Great Britain or Scandinavia.

Uli Thiel [00:46:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:46:14] This started with the fishery science.

Uli Thiel [00:46:21] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:46:22] We had Professor Dr. Wunsch who was a really well-known fishery scientist.

Uli Thiel [00:46:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:46:37] ...To tell his students the following sentence.

Uli Thiel [00:46:43] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:46:45] An Angle is a tool. On where? On one end?

Uli Thiel [00:46:54] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:46:55] And the other end, there's a day [unintelligible].

Uli Thiel [00:47:04] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:47:02] This is what he told them in the fifties and he was telling it seriously.

Uli Thiel [00:47:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:14] And when I was a student in the 80s.

Uli Thiel [00:47:16] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:21] I saw quite a lot of rejection among the professors.

Uli Thiel [00:47:27] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:26] When it came to angling clubs and fishermen themselves.

Uli Thiel [00:47:35] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:36] So it was not a good idea

Uli Thiel [00:47:41] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:42] To face these scientists, with being an angler, you didn't get any benefit from it.

Uli Thiel [00:47:48] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:47:52] It was only after the reunification.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:47:58] [Speaking German]. And the introduction of the market economy. [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:48:08] It changed because the professional fisherman.

Uli Thiel [00:48:08] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:48:11] Thought about their economic situation.

Uli Thiel [00:48:14] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:48:17] And they recognized that you don't need to fish yourself. The fish?

Uli Thiel [00:48:24] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:48:26] But you can also, um, earn your money by selling... fish, fishing hooks.

Uli Thiel [00:48:32] Licenses.

Interpreter [00:48:35] [Speaking German]

Uli Thiel [00:48:36] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:48:41] When the professional fisherman began to be interested in...

Uli Thiel [00:48:49] In the money of the investors.

Interpreter [00:48:51] In the money.

Uli Thiel [00:48:56] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:48:57] The fishery scientists don't have any other chance to face this situation and to get interested in how you could get to the money of the fishermen.

Uli Thiel [00:49:13] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:49:14] And this way there were some interesting studies on...

Uli Thiel [00:49:17] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:49:18] Angling science.

Uli Thiel [00:49:19] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:49:26] The fisherman became a subject of our studies.

Interpreter/Uli Thiel [00:49:30] [Speaking German]. And what I would like to add is...
[Speaking German] that this underestimation is also something you can find in politics.
[Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:49:44] And together with a lawsuit.

Uli Thiel [00:49:50] [Speaking German]

Interpreter [00:49:58] And the sentence when the judge explicitly stated.

Uli Thiel [00:50:04] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:06] That in Germany, angling does not belong to the sports.

Uli Thiel [00:50:10] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:10] Types for which the state has to care for.

Uli Thiel [00:50:15] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:21] Put it in there.

Uli Thiel [00:50:23] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:29] The state has to care for, for soccer players, for other people, for other anglers because they have to look themselves how they can go on. And this tendency...

Uli Thiel [00:50:45] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:46] The more urban the area is...

Uli Thiel [00:50:51] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:50:53] So in Berlin, angling is regarded as really a problem.

Uli Thiel [00:50:59] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:51:01] As a potential danger for waters.

Uli Thiel [00:51:06] [Speaking German].

Interpreter [00:51:06] Whereas in rural areas, there is not such a dense settlement, the attitude is rather not that bad.

Uli Thiel [00:51:15] But overall, as anglers in society, we don't have the recognition and the support we deserve.

Interpreter [00:51:25] But altogether as fishermen in society we are not recognized the way we would actually deserve.