

The Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research (UFZ) is one of Germany's leading research institutions in the field of environmental science. Founded in 1991, the UFZ conducts both basic and applied research aimed at understanding the complex interactions between humans and the environment and developing sustainable solutions for global challenges.

While its headquarters are located in Leipzig, the UFZ operates several research sites, including an important branch in Magdeburg.

The UFZ Magdeburg site, located at Brückstraße 3a, focuses primarily on aquatic ecosystems and freshwater research. At this location, scientists study rivers, lakes, and other water bodies to better understand ecological processes, water quality, and the impacts of climate change and human activity.

Three main research departments are based in Magdeburg:

- Aquatic Ecosystem Analysis
- River Ecology
- Lake Research

These departments investigate how aquatic systems function, how they respond to environmental stressors, and how they can be managed sustainably. For example, lake research aims to improve predictions of ecological changes through monitoring, experiments, and modelling, providing practical solutions for water management.

Overall, the work carried out in Magdeburg contributes to the UFZ's broader mission: to develop scientific knowledge that helps protect natural resources such as water, soil, and biodiversity, ensuring their sustainable use for future generations.

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