

# Floodplains of the Morava- Dyje-Danube Confluence

Workshop on transboundary resources management in Western and Central Europe

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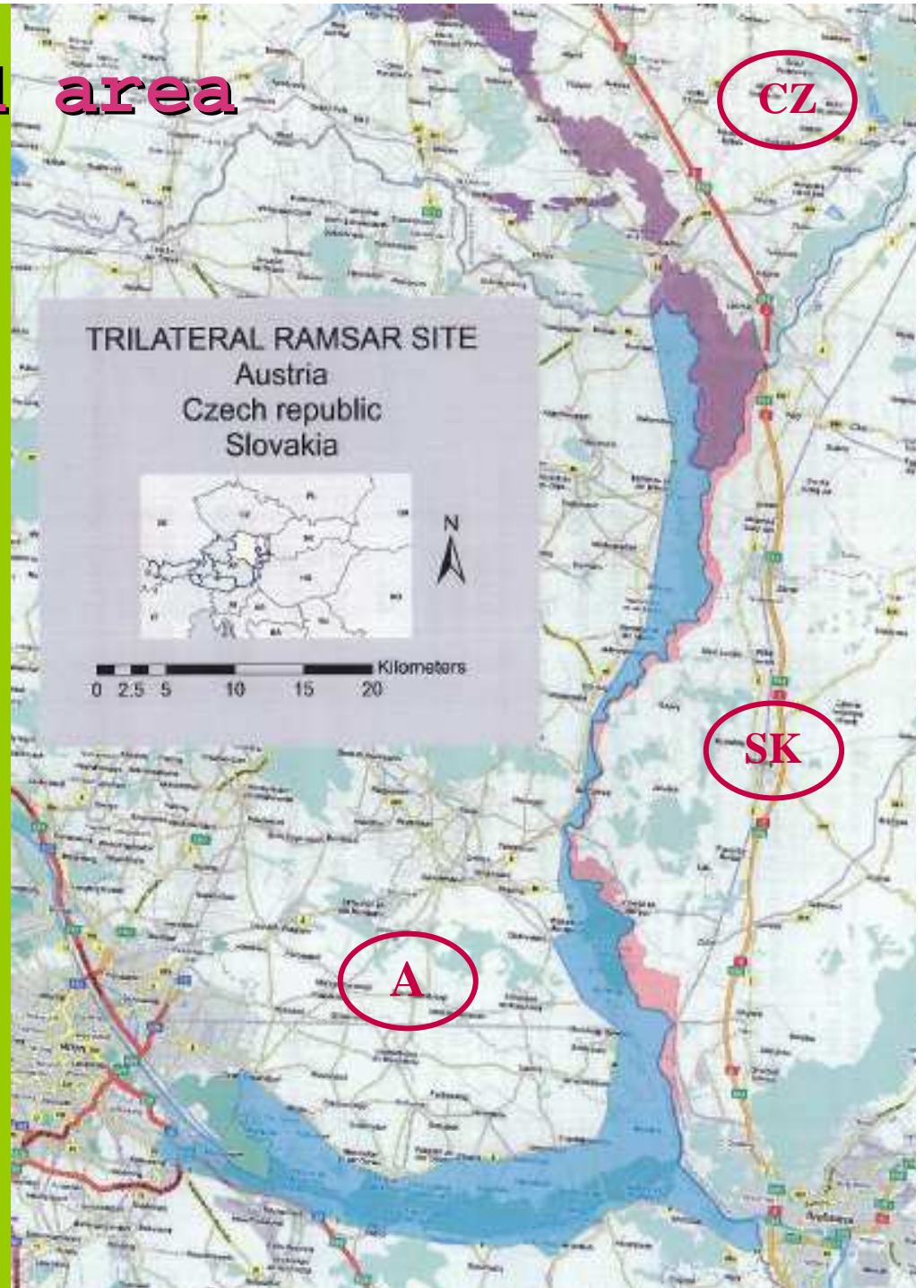
9<sup>th</sup> February

# The Floodplains of Morava-Dyje- Danube Confluence...

...are remarkable large-scale wetland on  
border between Austria, Slovakia and  
Czech Republic

# Site location and area

- SK: 5.300 ha
- AT: 38.500 ha (incl. Donau)
- CZ: 11.525 ha



An aerial photograph showing a wide, winding river flowing through a lush, green landscape. The river is surrounded by dense forests and interspersed with open meadows and smaller water bodies. The terrain appears to be a floodplain with various watercourses. The sky is clear and blue, and the overall scene is vibrant and natural.

# The Floodplains of Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence...

...consist of a mosaic of watercourses, wet meadows and floodplain forests

A photograph of a vibrant meadow. The foreground and middle ground are filled with a dense carpet of yellow flowers, likely yellow rattle, interspersed with tall green grasses. Several purple flowers, possibly purple bellflowers, are scattered throughout the scene, some in full bloom and others as buds. The background is a soft-focus expanse of similar vegetation, creating a sense of depth and a rich, natural environment.

# The Floodplains of Morava- Dyje-Danube Confluence...

...host the largest natural complex of  
floodplain meadows in Central Europe  
totalling 3 450 ha

# Habitat types of Community Interest

- 6440 Alluvial meadows of river valleys of the *Cnidion dubii*
- 6510 Lowland hay meadows (*Alopecurus pratensis*, *Sanguisorba officinalis*)
- 3130 Oligotrophic to mesotrophic standing waters with vegetation of the *Littorelletea uniflorae* and/or of the *Isoëto-Nanojuncetea*
- 3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with *Magnopotamion* or *Hydrocharition*-type vegetation
- 91E0 Alluvial forests with *Alnus glutinosa* and *Fraxinus excelsior* (*Salicion albae*)
- 91F0 Riparian mixed forest of *Quercus robur*, *Ulmus laevis* and *Ulmus minor*, *Fraxinus excelsior* or *Fraxinus angustifolia* along the great rivers (*Ulmenion minoris*)
- 91G0 Pannonic woods with *Quercus petraea* and

# Species of Community

Interactions



# The Floodplains of Morava- Dyje-Danube Confluence...



...is a site of rich hist





# The Floodplains of Morava- Dyje-Danube Confluence...



...is a site of rich culture and traditions



# The Floodplains of Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence...



...is a site with large recreational and educational potential

# Socio-economic services - agriculture



# Socio-economic services - forestry



# Socio-economic services - flood protection



# Pressure factors - past heritage



# Pressure factors - past heritage

A photograph of a large, dark, rocky field, possibly a volcanic landscape, with trees in the background. The field is composed of many small, dark, angular rocks and clumps of soil, extending to the horizon. In the background, there is a line of green trees under a clear sky. The overall scene suggests a natural, perhaps volcanic, environment.

- Inappropriate farming practices

# Pressure factors – current



■ Navigation – Danube-Oder-Elbe Canal



# Pressure factors - current

SK

A

- Disturbed important ecological processes
- Different management structures and plans
- Different protection status and management practices

# Transboundary wetland management

- Cooperation started in 1994 supported by WWF Austria → 3 NGOs DAPHNE (SK), Distelverein (A), Veronica (CZ)
- Main goal - support of the trilateral region along the Morava and Dyje rivers on the international and national level through public awareness raising, influencing site's policy and management and improving protection of the site
- up to 40 trilateral or bilateral projects with NGO



# Transboundary wetland management – Institutional set-up

- Memorandum of Understanding signed between environment ministries of Austria, Czech Republic and Slovakia in 2001 as a result of joint effort of NGOs
- Trilateral Ramsar Platform (TRP) established upon MoU (2001) – representatives of env. ministries, site managers, local governments and NGOs
- Trilateral Ramsar Site Floodplains of Morava-Dyje-Danube Confluence nominated to Ramsar Secretariat (designated 15 Nov 2007)
- Common goals and principles for site management plans agreed by TRP in 2003
- Ongoing development of common management strategy

# Transboundary wetland restoration - partial restoration of Morava River



Joint list of restoration measures  
example:

- 1) Removal of bank pavement
- 2) Partial reconnection of disappearing waters
- 3) River bank lowering
- 4) Meander reconnection - lower part

# Transboundary wetland management - Species conservation



## Restitution of sturgeons

Natural restitution is impossible for migrating species, whose migrating route to the sea was interrupted by man-made dams on the Danube (Djerdap 1, Djerdap 2, SVD Gabčíkovo).

Slovak State Nature Conservancy is trying to facilitate the restitution of sterlet releasing 11 500 young specimen from 2006 year.

Released sterlets are genetically autochthonous (Danubian population), and have all preconditions to contribute to the natural reproduction.

Slovak State Nature Conservancy in coop. with NP Donauauen plan to release 5 000 specimens of sterlet yearly to stabilise population of this species in the middle section of the Danube and its tributaries.

# Transboundary wetland management - Monitoring



- Common list of 11 target habitat types and 76 target species for monitoring agreed by TRP
- Joint transboundary database to be developed within current CBC project
- Joint projects to launch monitoring schemes

# Vision for the region

- Transboundary cooperation ensures the conservation and wise use of the site
- Trilateral conservation and restoration programmes implemented
- Horizontal integration of environment issues into other sectors (agriculture, forestry, spatial planning, hunting and fishing)
- Research and monitoring leads to adaptation of site management
- Communication, education, public awareness support site conservation



**Thank you for  
attention!**