



Natura 2000 Management Planning in Salzburg

ECRAN Workshop
Kopacki Rit, 21-23 October 2014
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The situation in Salzburg (and Austria)

- Nature protection in the competence of the 9 federal states
- Most of the land privately owned
- Acceptance of Natura 2000 is (was?) rather high
- Natura 2000 and EU funding were milestones for nature protection in Salzburg



About Natura 2000 management plans (MPI) in Salzburg

- Art. 6 habitat-dir.: MPI are optional not mandatory
- In Salzburg / Austria MPI primarily for those sites with problems / conflicts
- MPI is not legally binding as far as the improvement / development measures are concerned but it specifies what “no deterioration” means
- The department for nature protection is responsible for project and quality management, approval of the MPI and funding
- Drawn up by external experts (contractors)

The MPI communication (participation) process

- Several round table discussions of MPI drafts with stakeholders (representatives from agriculture, forestry, hunting, fishery, tourism; mayors of local municipalities, mountain and nature guards, site manager,...) and local authorities, other sectoral authorities like water and forest (consulting role)
- Information in the newspapers of the local municipalities
- Public presentation
- It takes (1)-2 years to complete the MPI



Round tables, field trips, evenings talks,...



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MPI – working steps

- Inventory and assessment of the protected habitats and species
(based on existing data and on additional surveys, mapping of land use and protected habitats and species; level of detail depending on size of the site)
- Analysis of damages, threats and conflicts
- Definition of the conservation objectives (specifying the statutory ordinance of the SAC)
- Description of the realistic / feasible measures to conserve and / or develop the site and its protected habitats and species
- Proposals for monitoring and success control

MPI – working steps

- Timetable and a budget plan
- Drawing up of the report and the maps
and, of course,
- an extensive accompanying communication work



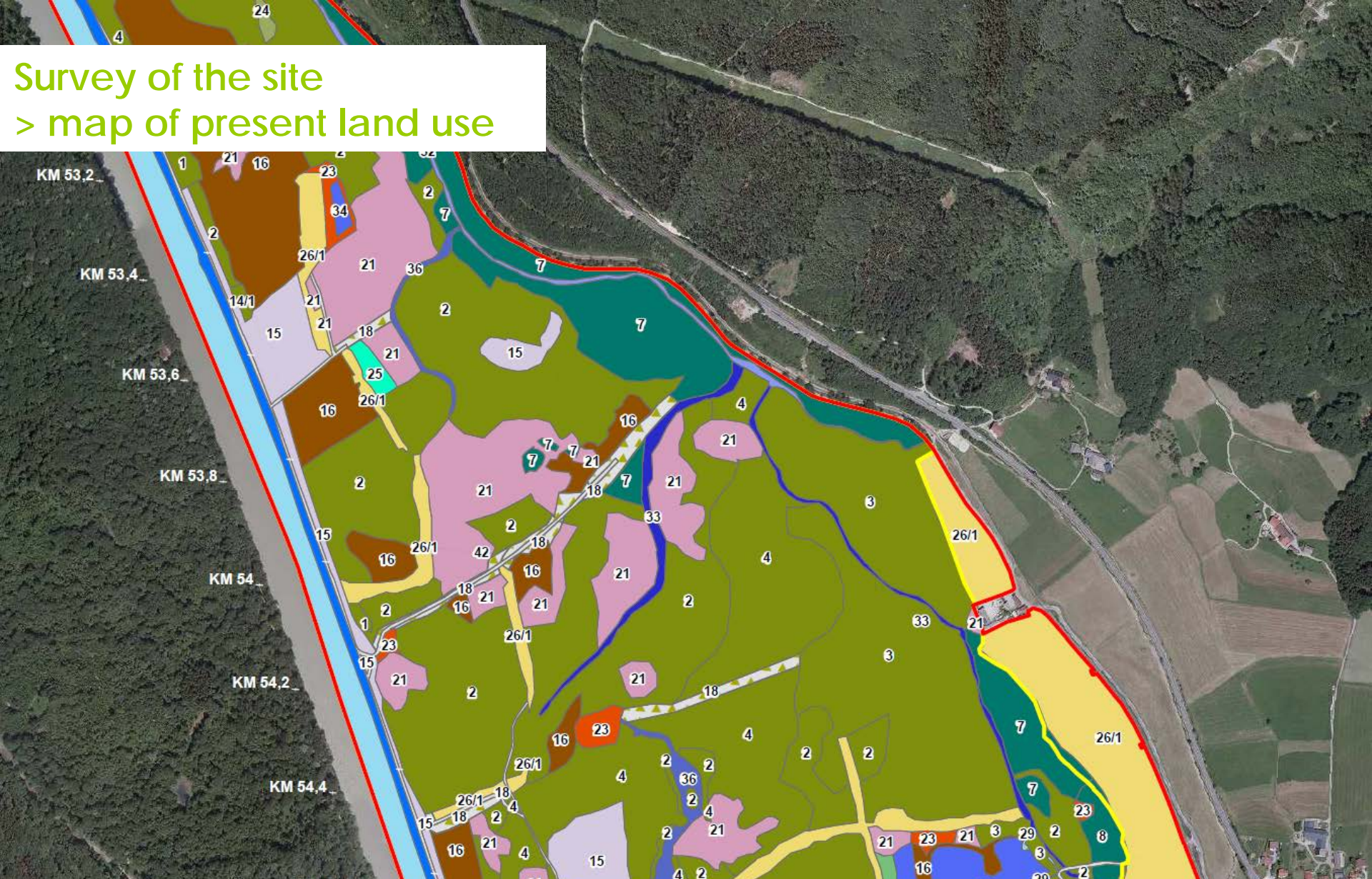
Example: Natura 2000 site Salzachhauen



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Survey of the site > map of present land use



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Survey of the site > map of protected habitats and species



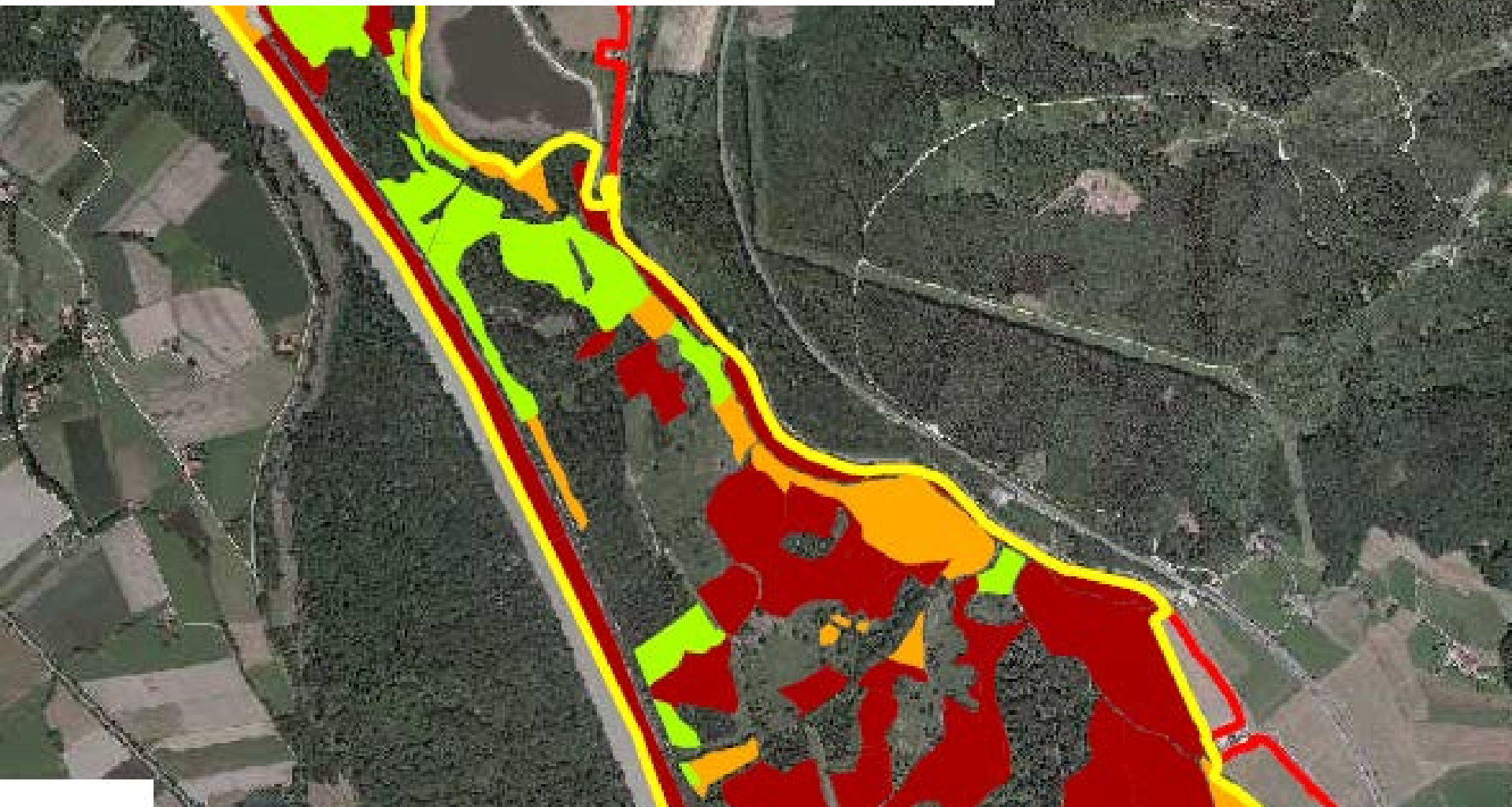
The Salzach river:
Habitat type 3220 Alpine
rivers and the herbaceous
vegetation along their banks



Hard wood floodplain:
Habitat type 91F0 Riparian
mixed forests of *Quercus*
robur, *Ulmus laevis*
and *Ulmus minor*, *Fraxinus*
excelsior or *Fraxinus*
angustifolia



Assessment of protected habitats and species > map of conservation status



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Definition of conservation objectives

> example

Habitat type	Conservation objectives	
	Preserving	Developing
91E0 Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>	Preserving forests with conservation status A	Improving of forests with ecological deficits
	Preserving of near natural forests	Increase of deadwood
	Preserving of coppicing	Improving forests from conservation status B/C to A

Description of the realistic / feasible measures > map of measures



A layman's version of the management plan



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What the mpl is good for

- Trust building and awareness raising process
- Key to acceptance and cooperation
- Brings transparency to work of nature conservation
- Helps to find partners for implementation of measures
- Makes more clear what “avoiding deterioration” means
(where exactly are the relevant species / habitats and it what condition):
 - > prevention / reduction of infringements
 - > less work for authorities
- Tool for “inspection”, inspectors can see:
 - > where are which types of activities legal / illegal
 - > where have been (illegal) changes

What the mpl is good for

- Working basis for the site manager
- Tool for monitoring (e.g. development of conservation status)
- Basis for appropriate assessment
- Technical basis for the work of nature administration
- Tool for efficient application of subsidies
- Tool to find compensation measures



At the end of the MPI process
stakeholders (not always)
look like this



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Implementation of the MPI

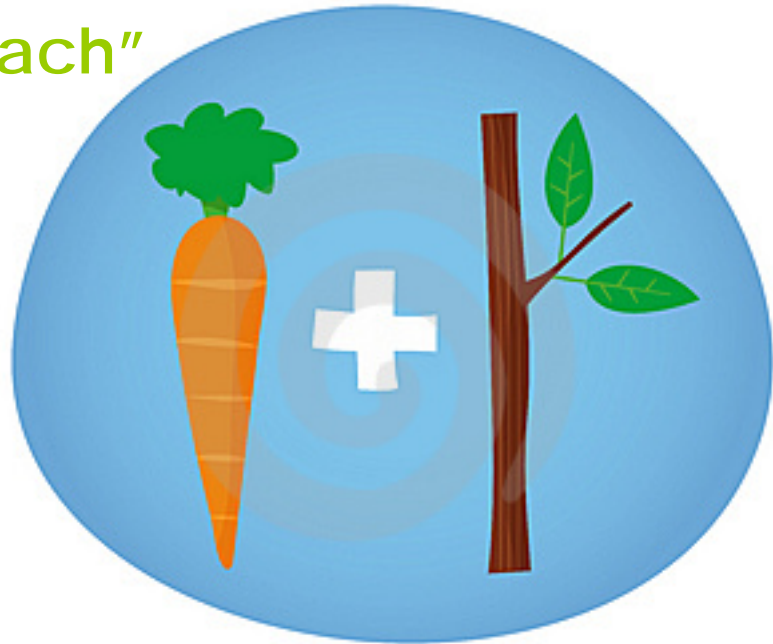
- Priority for those measures proposed by the MPI that are necessary to preserve or restore the favourable conservation status
- Typical measures could be:
 - > contracts with landusers for certain land management actions(financed by EFRD funds > agri-environmental measures)
 - > larger restoration projects, e.g. LIFE-projects
 - > actions for visitors management / infrastructure
 - > awareness raising actions

Implementation of the MPI

- Who does implement it?
 - > The department for nature protection is in charge of implementing the MP - overall coordination of activities (esp. funding, larger restoration projects,...)
 - > in close cooperation with the site manager as a link between administration and stakeholders and
 - > in cooperation with the mountain and nature guards, who do the necessary control and inspection work
 - > hopefully all the stakeholders!

Implementing the MPI

> the “stick and carrot approach”



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Thank you very much for your attention!