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bmlfuw.gv.at

IMPLEMENTATION OF EU WATER POLICY IN AUSTRIA

Ernst ÜBERREITER

COOPERATION



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EUROPE-INBO 2015
Thessaloniki, 21.-24. October 2015

Austria has long lasting experience

- Bilateral transboundary water commissions in place
- Partner in 3 International River Protection Commissions
ICPDR (Danube), **ICPR** (Rhine), **IKSE** (Elbe)
- UN ECE Water Convention

➤ provide inspiration for other basins



LONG TRADITION IN WATER PROTECTION

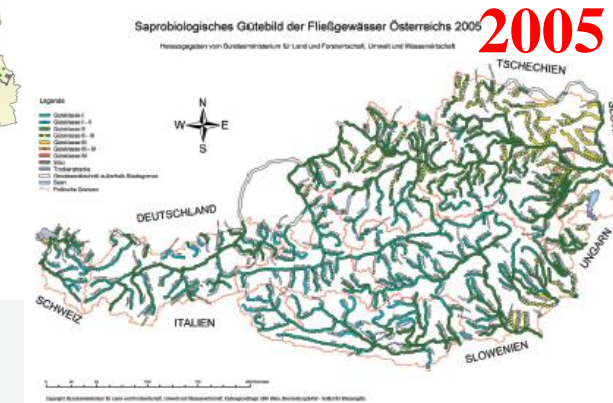
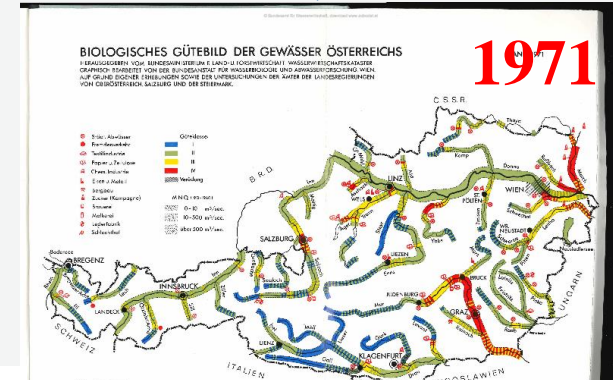
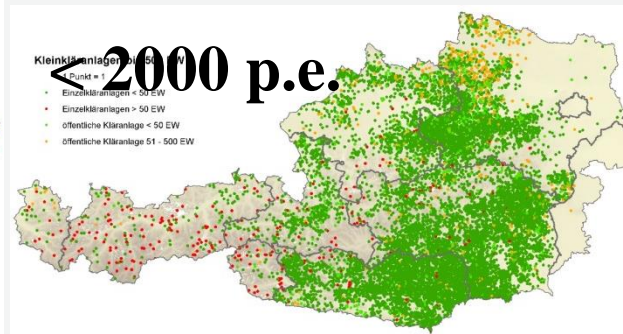
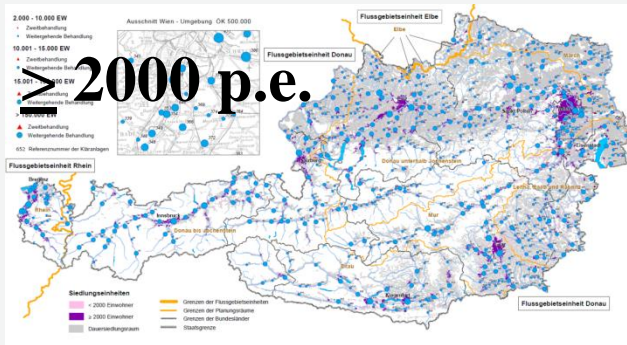


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Infrastructure for water and sanitation in place

- Nationwide coverage of wastewater treatment

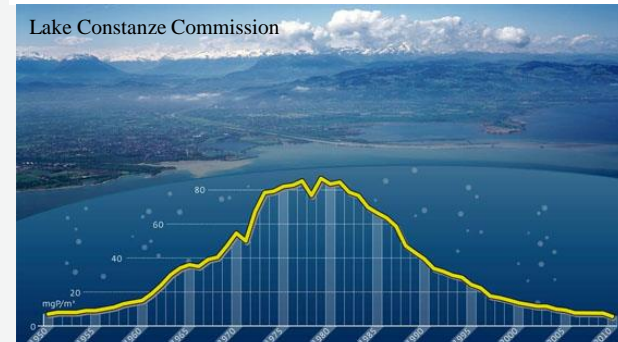


- Contribution to nutrients reduction in receiving waters (nutrients sensitive areas)



Danube → Black Sea

Rhine, Elbe → North Sea

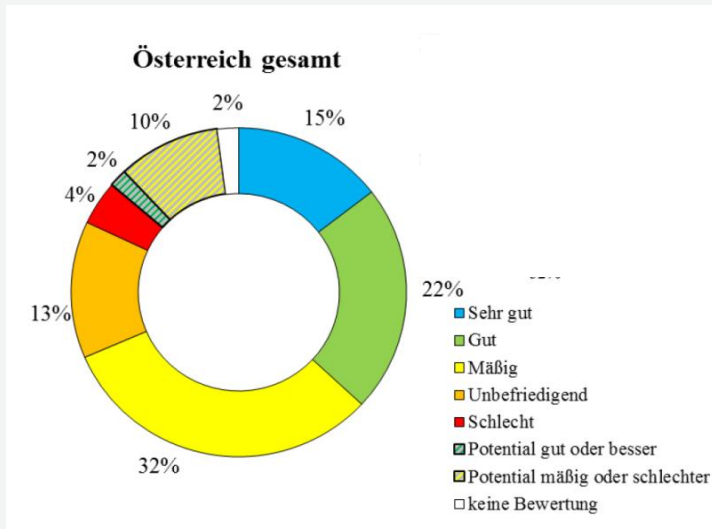


CURRENT CHALLENGES ECOLOGICAL STATUS 2015 - RESPONSIBLE PRESSURES



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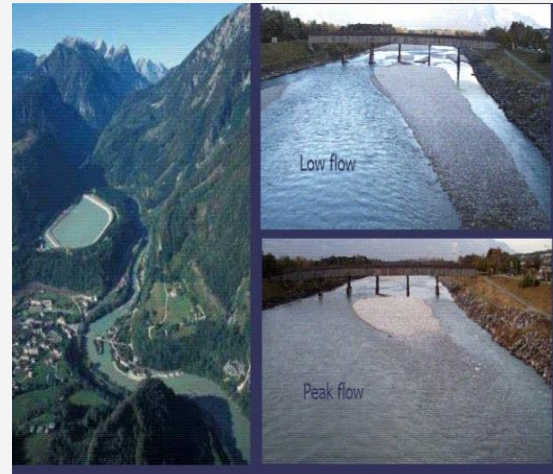
Missing Eflow: 10%



Impoundments 4%



Migration barriers: 33000 (1/km)
ca. 10% due to hydropower



Hydropeaking: 1,6%



Signif. morpholog.-
alterations: 30%

RBMP 2009-2015

RESTORATION MEASURES

WE ARE ON A GOOD WAY



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1. Priority area for restoration



Restoration of river continuity (ca. **1.000 migration barriers**)



Ecological minimum flow (basic flow) ~ **200 river stretches**



~ **250 morphological restoration** **measures**



MAKE IT VISIBLE



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PUBLIC AND POLITICIANS NEED TO BE INFORMED ABOUT EFFECTIVENESS OF HUGE INVESTMENTS

- **Transport emotions**

24/7 high drinkingwater quality is expected
Drinking water 100% spring- or groundwater
usable usually without pre-treatment



Source: BMLFUW

- **Open view to burried Billions**

45 Billion Euro invested in urban wastewater collection and treatment (1959 – 2014)

**VOR
SORGEN!**

Für den Erhalt
unserer Trinkwasser-
und Abwassernetze

Prüfen, Sanieren
und Erhalten



... Flood protection seems to work ...



- **Set clearly understandable objectives / targets**

e.g. Rhine Basin: Salmon shall reach Basel until 2020



Source: blick.ch

Source: BMLFUW

LEARN FROM EACH OTHER

International exchange as motor of innovation

- Improving **downstream fish migration** ...

... after upstream fish migration now is state of the art



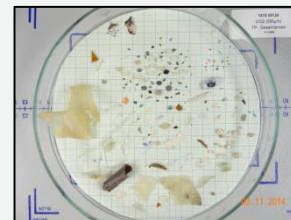
- **Micropollution** ...

... advanced wastewater treatment can be one measure



- **Microplastics** ...

... marine litter as challenge under the MSFD , also for WFD?





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THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND ATTENTION!

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