Save the Danube as a lifeline! – steps towards sustainable navigation

News about German Navigation Projects

Ruse/Bulgaria, October 1st and 2nd, 2009

WWF IAD Viadonau Umweltbureau WUK Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e.V. BirdLife International Danube Environmental Forum DEF

A quick look on the free flowing Danube between Straubing and Vilshofen

Plans to improve the conditions for navigation

The German Danube as a waterway: traffic and logistics

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Nature reserve „Staatshaufen“

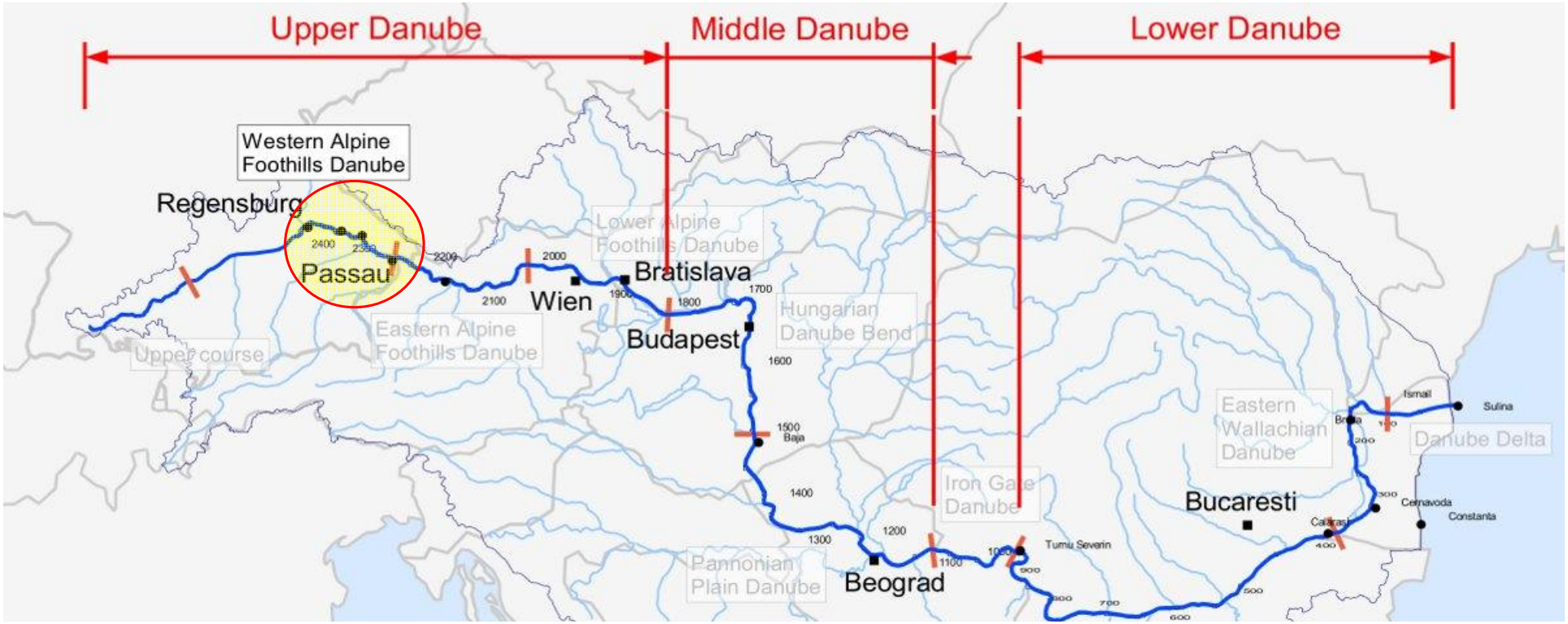
Picture: H. Ammer

Nature reserve at mouth of Isar

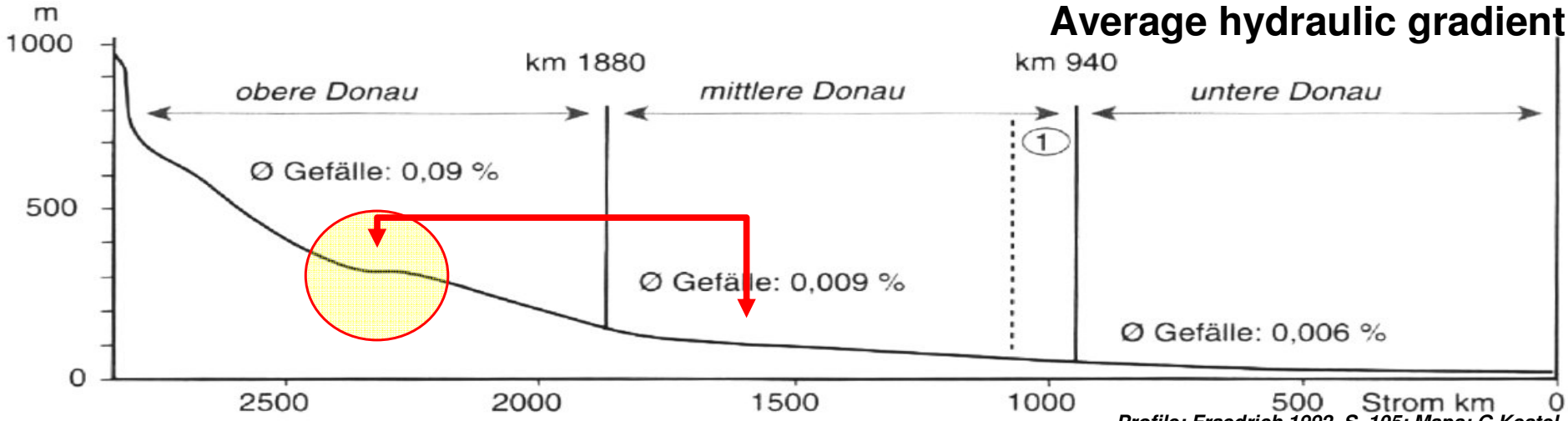
Picture: H. Ammer

Position of the planned dam + canal

Picture: H. Ammer

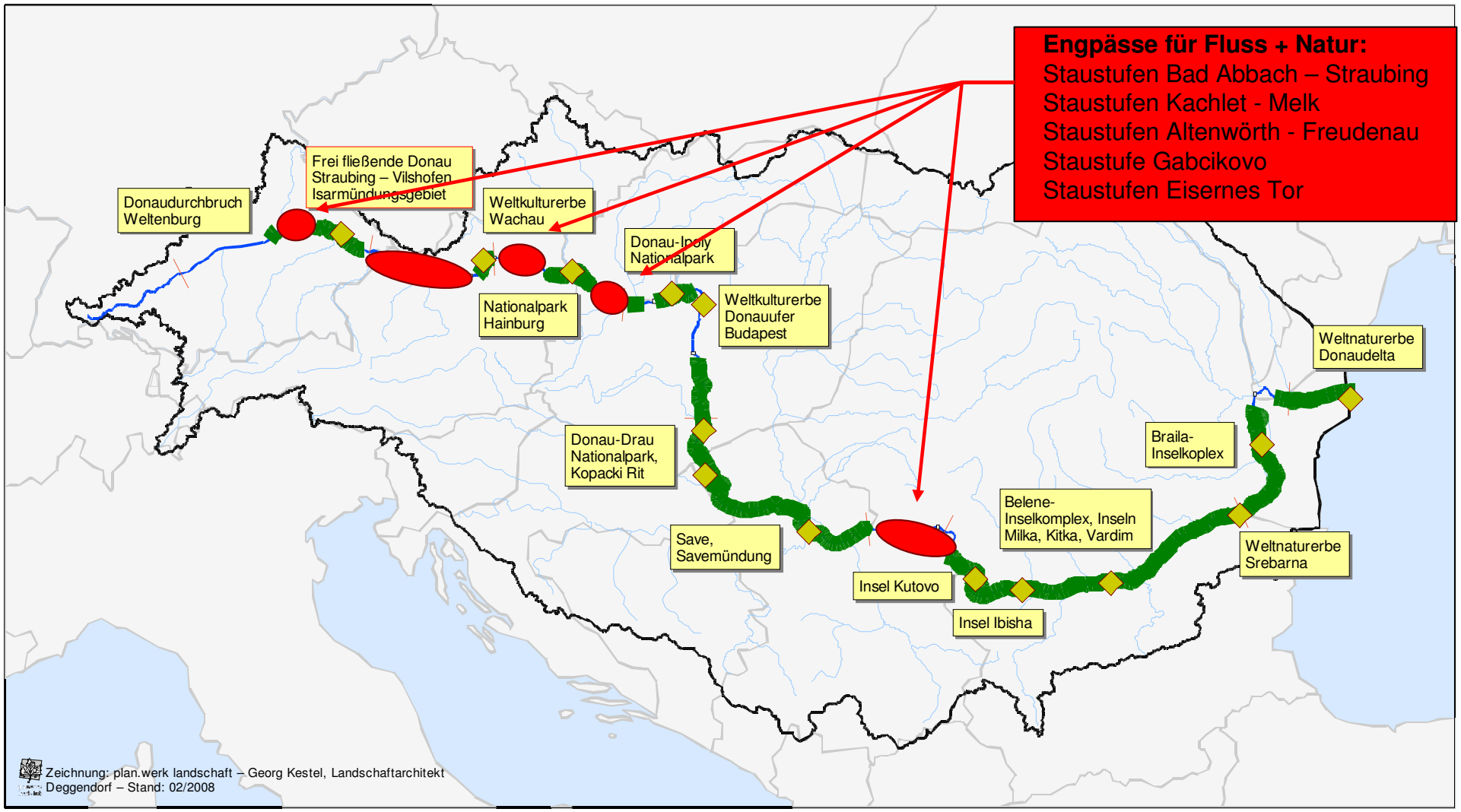


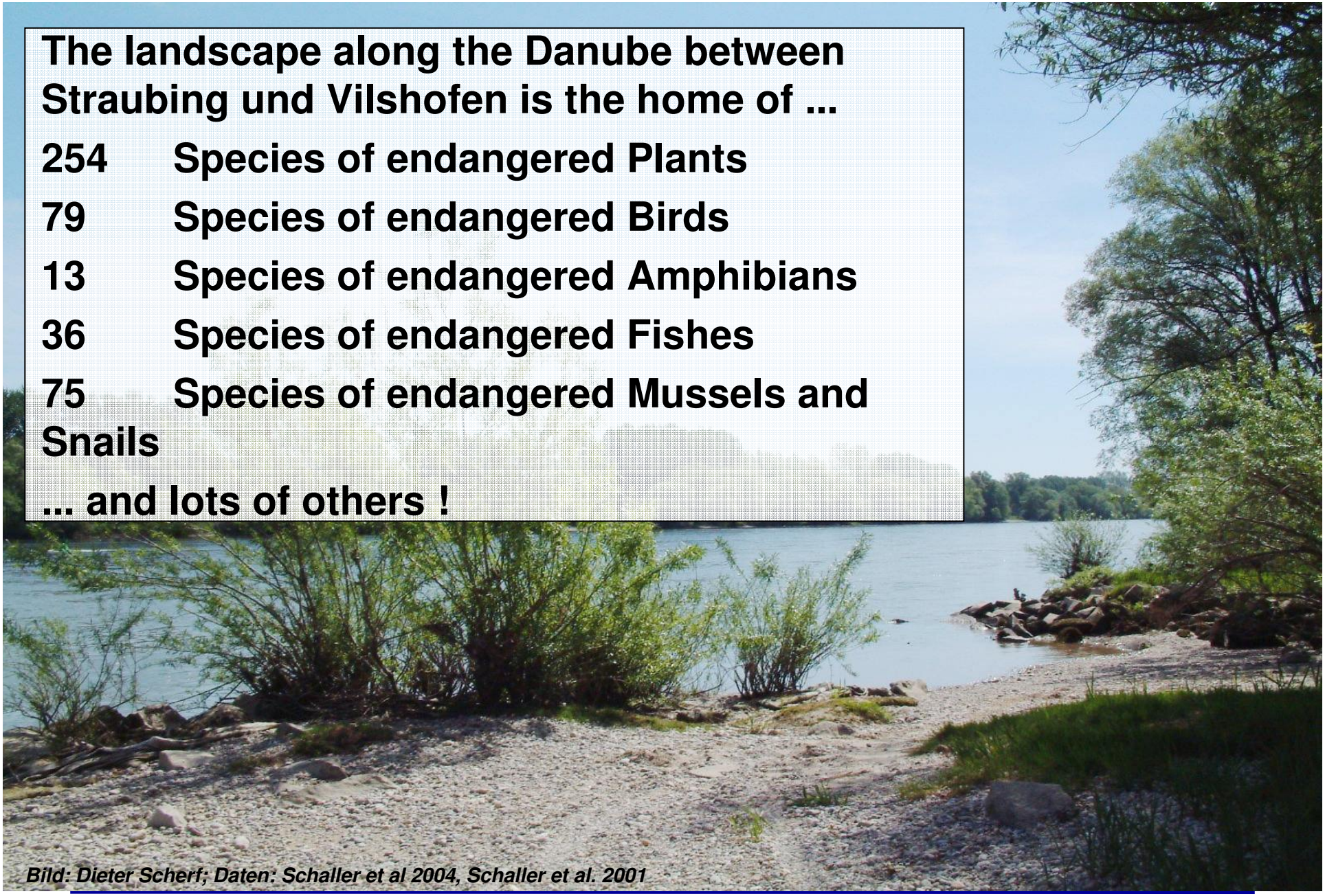
Average hydraulic gradient



Profile: Fraedrich 1992, S. 105; Maps: G.Kestel

Real „bottlenecks“ on the Danube





The landscape along the Danube between Straubing und Vilshofen is the home of ...

254 Species of endangered Plants

79 Species of endangered Birds

13 Species of endangered Amphibians

36 Species of endangered Fishes

75 Species of endangered Mussels and Snails

... and lots of others !

Bild: Dieter Scherf; Daten: Schaller et al 2004, Schaller et al. 2001

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144 Species of Mussels and Snails,
some of them endemic (e.g. Theodoxus danubialis)
6 Species protected by Natura 2000
75 Species endangered in Bavaria

Bild: Georg Kestel. - Daten: Schaller et al. 2004

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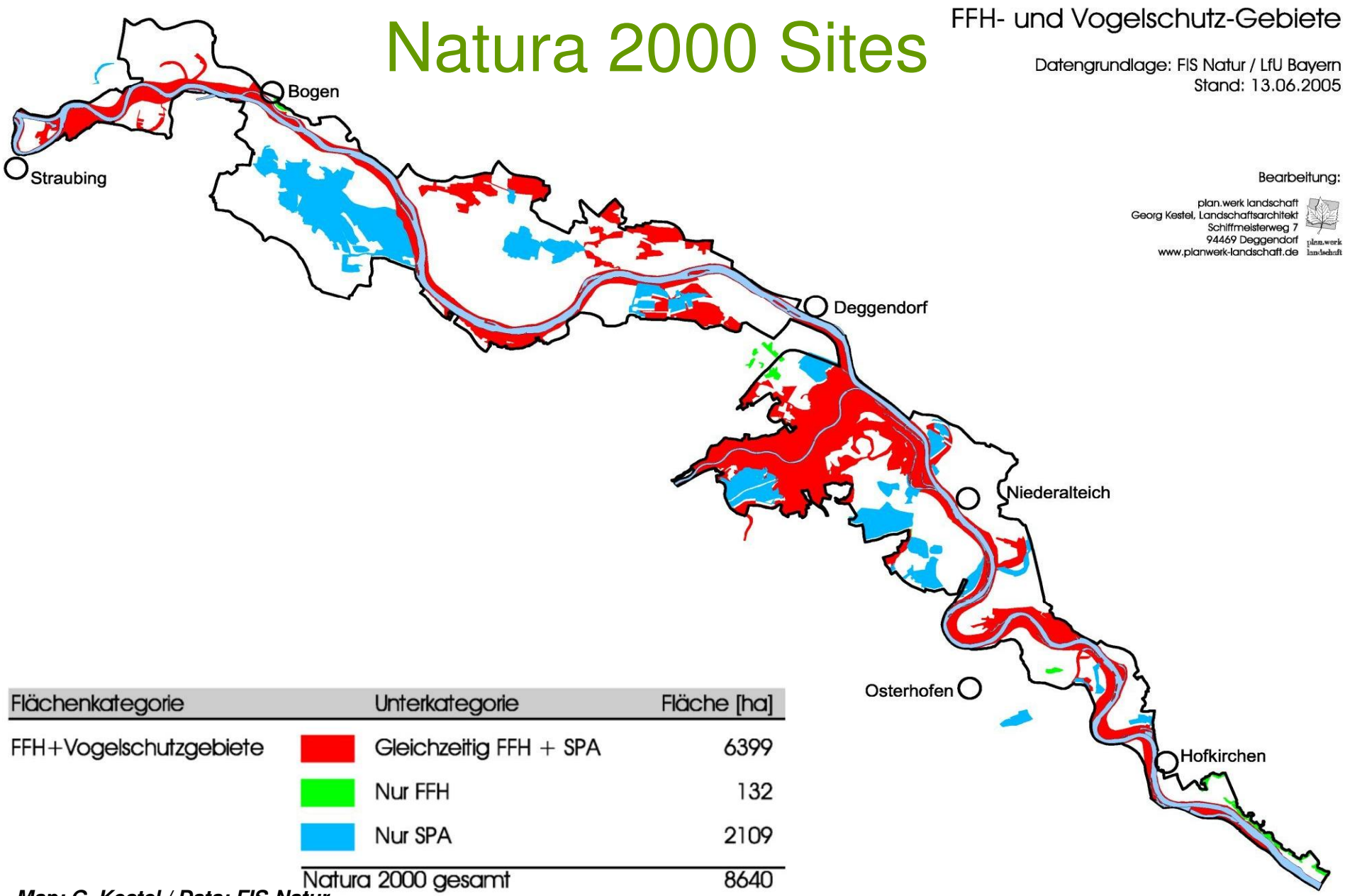
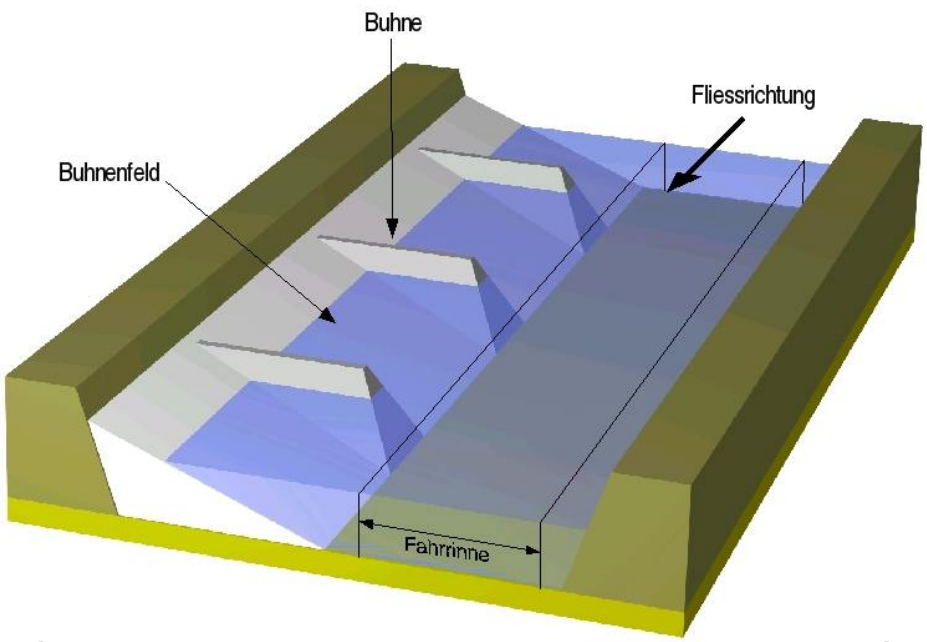
Natura 2000 Sites

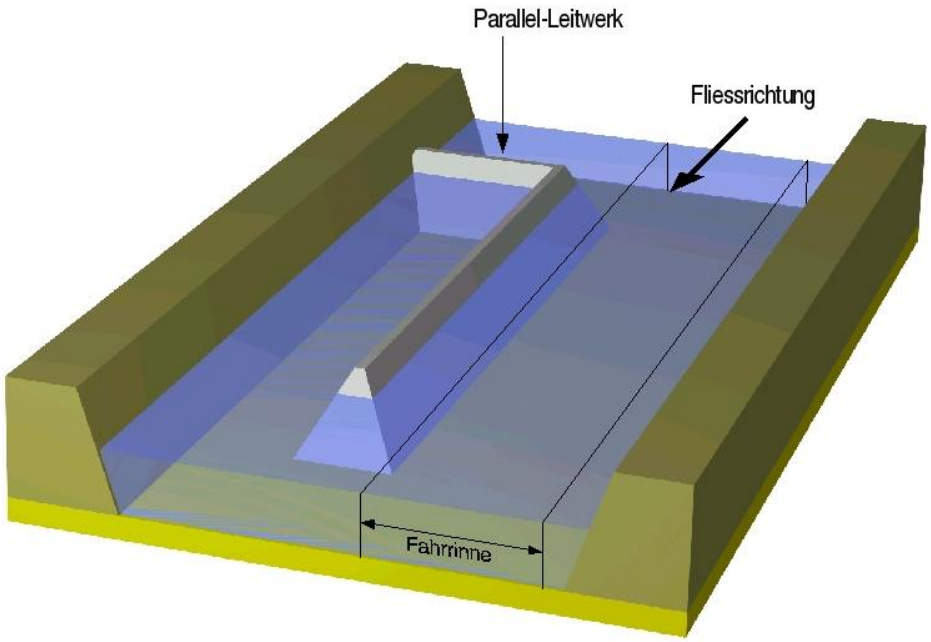


Flächenkategorie	Unterkategorie	Fläche [ha]
FFH+Vogelschutzgebiete	Gleichzeitig FFH + SPA	6399
	Nur FFH	132
	Nur SPA	2109
	Natura 2000 gesamt	8640

Map: G. Kestel / Data: FIS-Natur

Alternative A: River engineering





Groynes

Spur dikes

+ Filling potholes in the riverbed

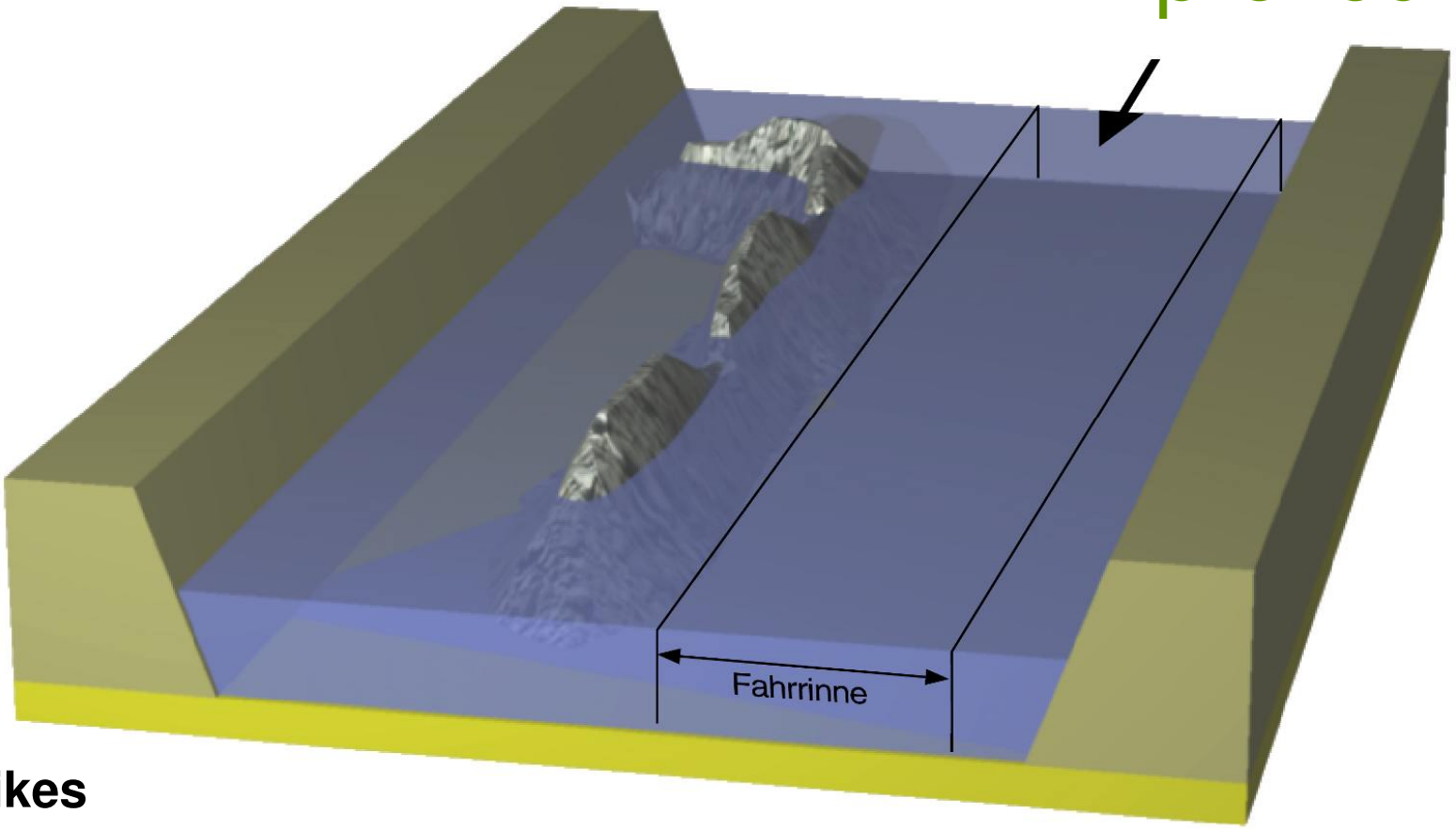
+ Moderate dredging

Since 1996: Improvement from 1,6m to 2,0m fairway depth at LWL

Alternative A (planned): Further improvement up to 2,2m fairway depth

Pictures: G. Kestel

Alternative A: River engineering - Improved



Spur dikes

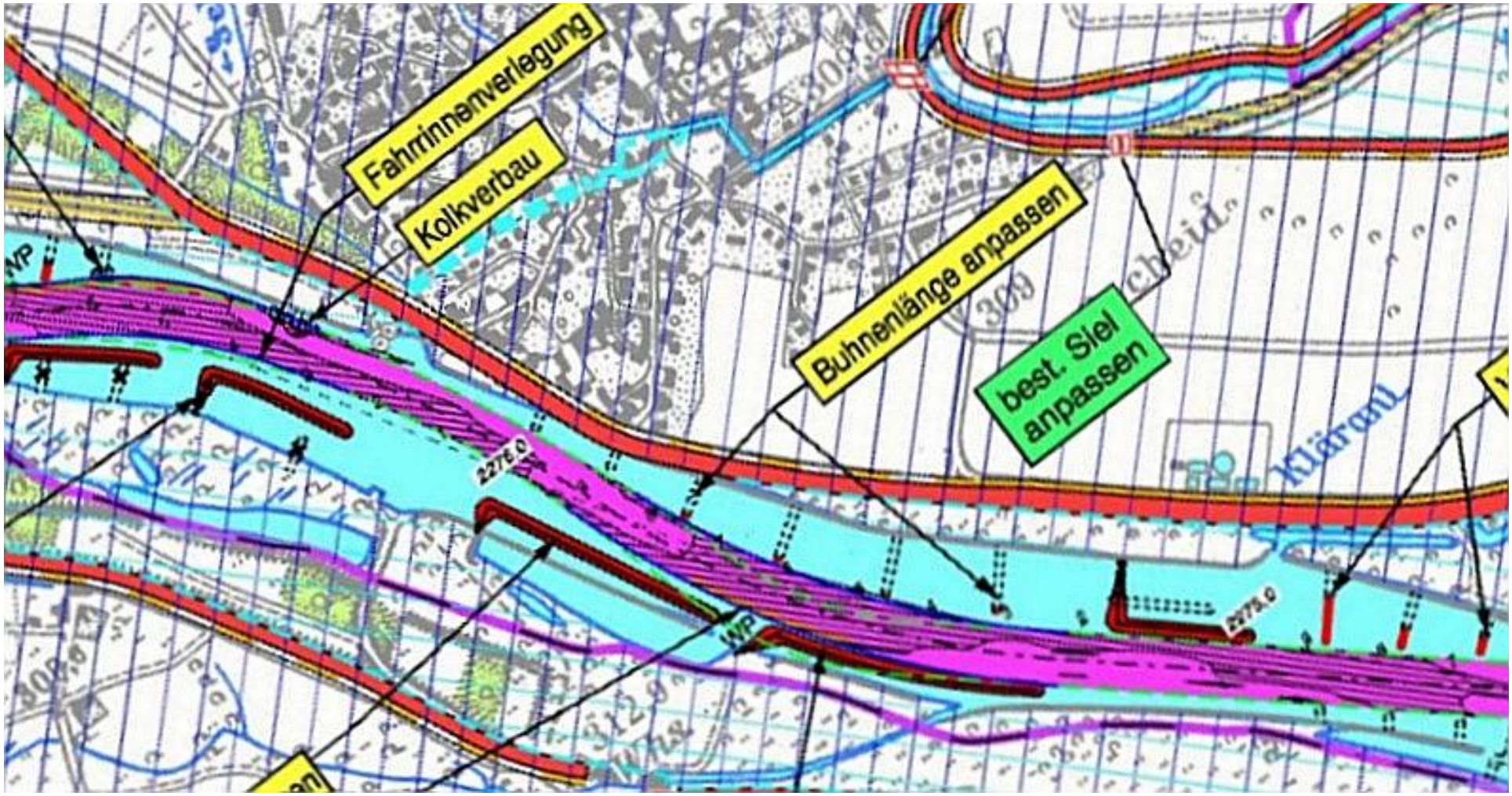
… done in a more natural way („artificial islands“)

Picture: G. Kestel

Alternative A: River engineering

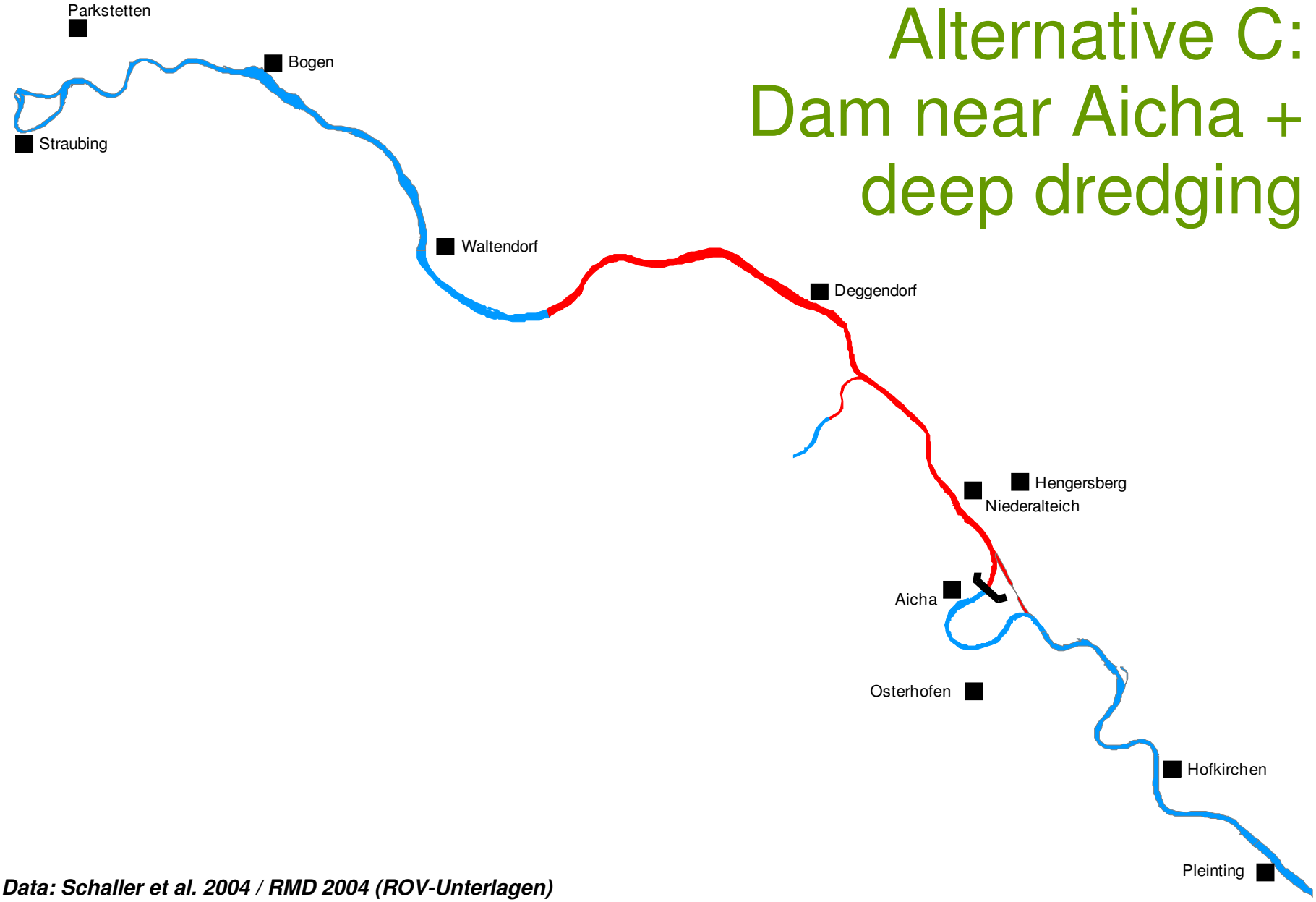
Picture: Schaller et al. 2001

Alternative A: River engineering



Map: RMD 2004

Alternative C: Dam near Aicha + deep dredging



Data: Schaller et al. 2004 / RMD 2004 (ROV-Unterlagen)

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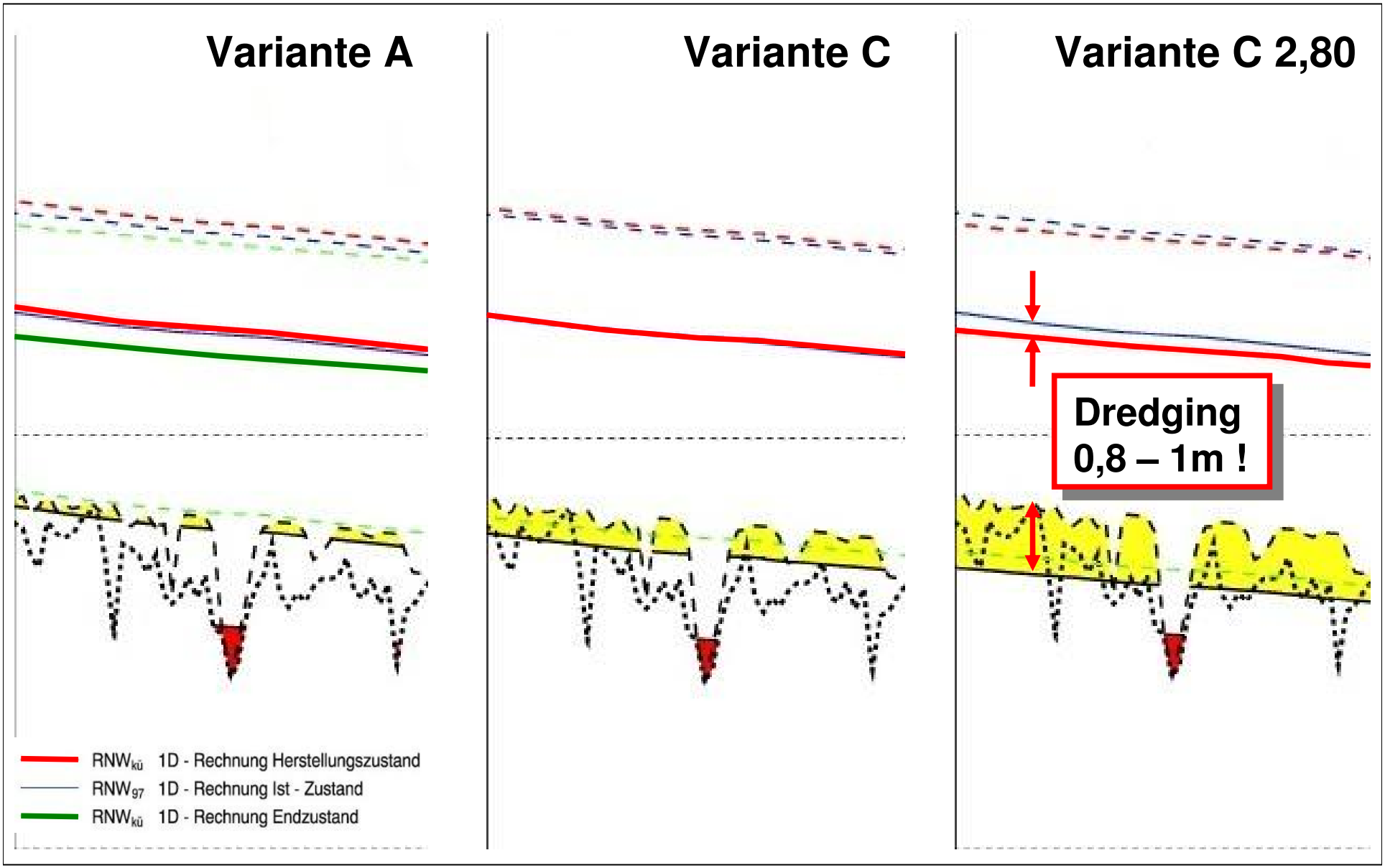

Längsschnitte: RMD 2004 (ROV-Unterlagen)

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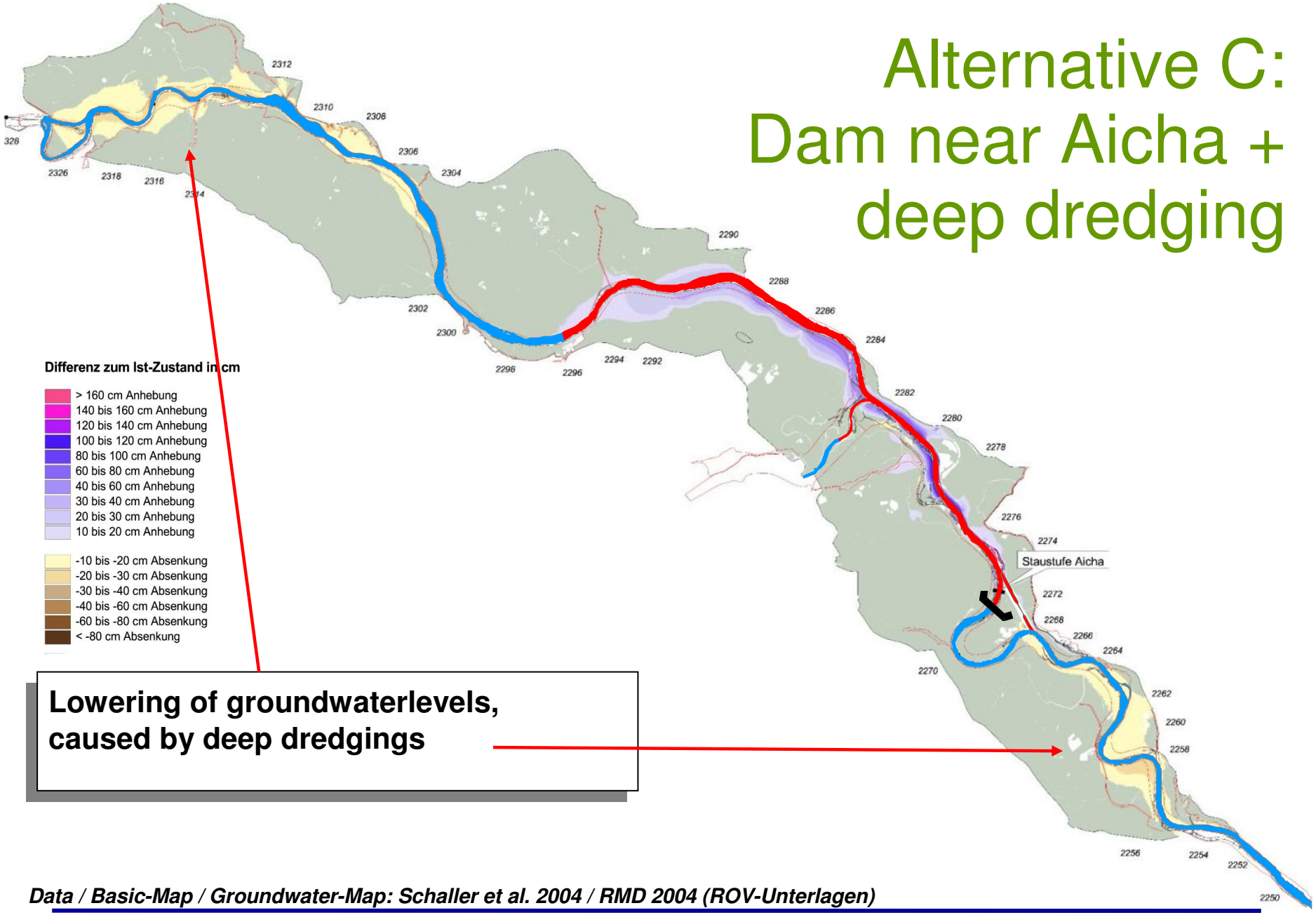
Alternative C: Dam near Aicha + deep dredging



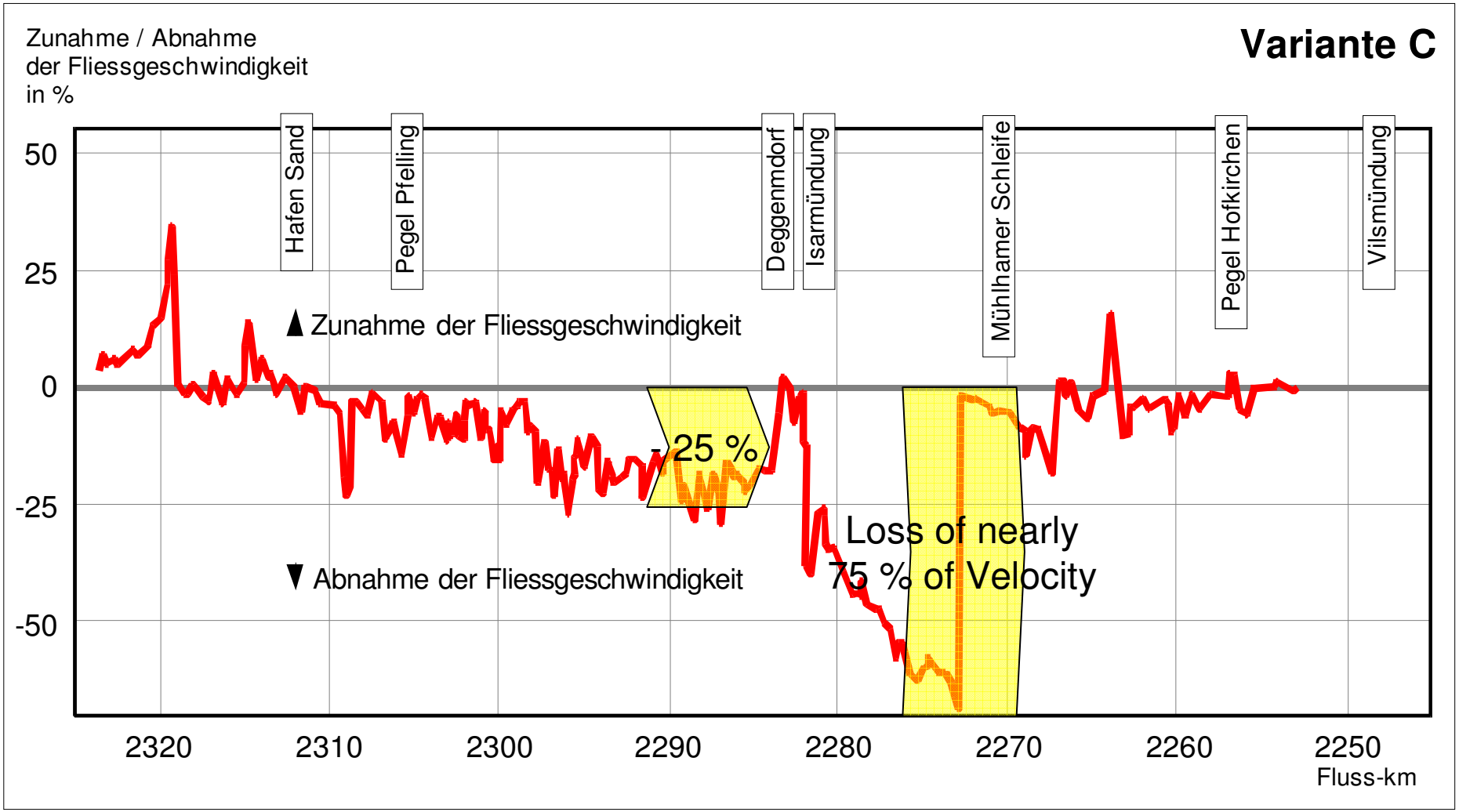
Lowering of groundwaterlevels, caused by deep dredgings

Data / Basic-Map / Groundwater-Map: Schaller et al. 2004 / RMD 2004 (ROV-Unterlagen)

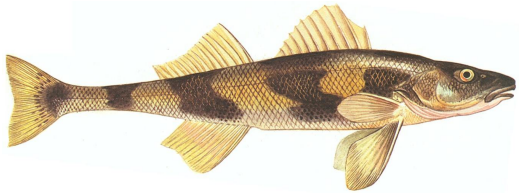
...will lead to Alternative D2: 3 Dams in the entire section

Data / Basic-Map / Groundwater-Map: Schaller et al. 2004 / RMD 2004 (ROV-Unterlagen)

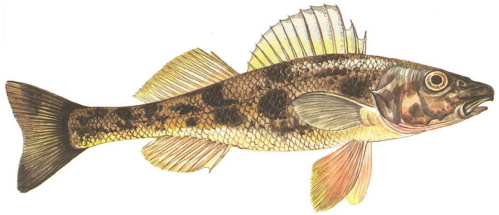
Alternative C: Impacts on the river



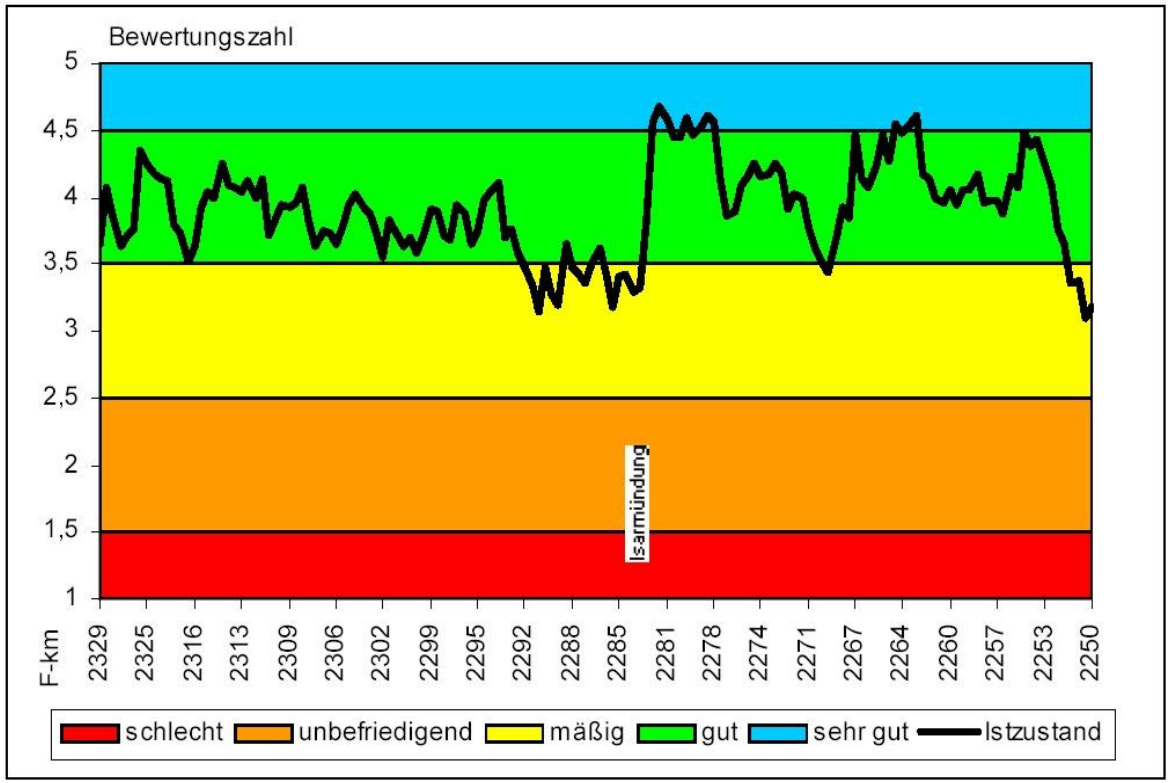
Schrätzer



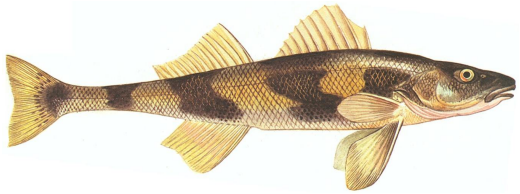
Streber



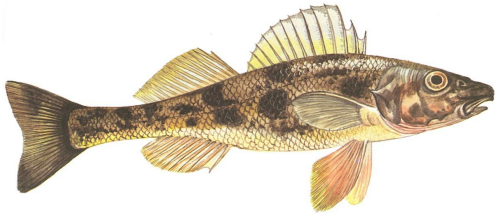
Zingel



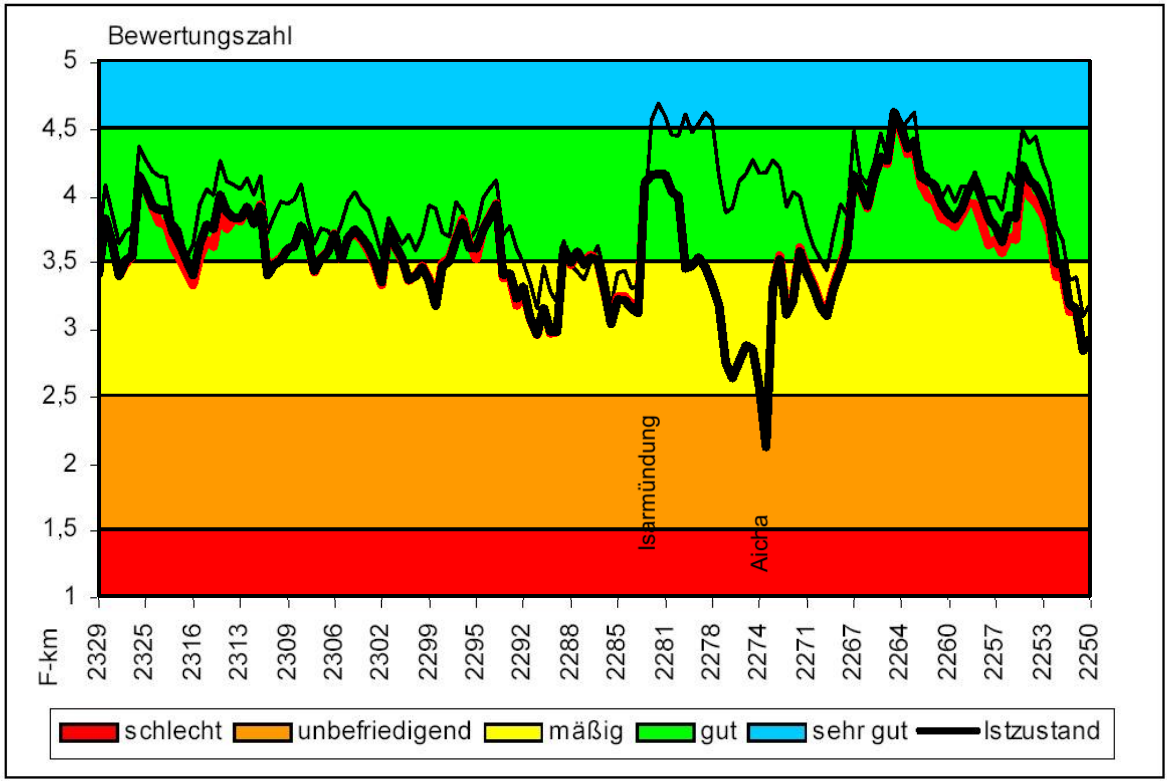
Schrätzer



Streber



Zingel



„One has to take into account the loss of several of this species – all of them being species of the red lists“ (Schaller et al. 2001, S. 213, transl.)

	Costs	*Fairway depth at LWL*	*Volume estim. for year 2015*	*Ratio Costs / Benefits*
Alternative A	**109 Mio €**	**2,2 m**	**10,95 Mio t**	**8,3**
Alternative C	**236 Mio €**	**2,35 m**	**11,23 Mio t**	**6,4**
Alternative C 2,80 (planned by State of Bavaria only)	**246 Mio €**	**2,70 m**	**~ 11,5 Mio t ?** (no official Data available)	**??**

All costs without measures for flood-protection (needed in every case) and without VAT

All the measures are planned for ...

- 2 ships / hour

- Additional traffic eqivalent to ~ 3 trains/day (running in the same corridor)

Data: RMD 2001 (Vertiefte Untersuchungen) / RMD 2004 (ROV)

Inland Navigation: To organize Transports to the hinterland

Grafik: Kestel - Daten: WSV 2002, Int. Donaukommission 2002

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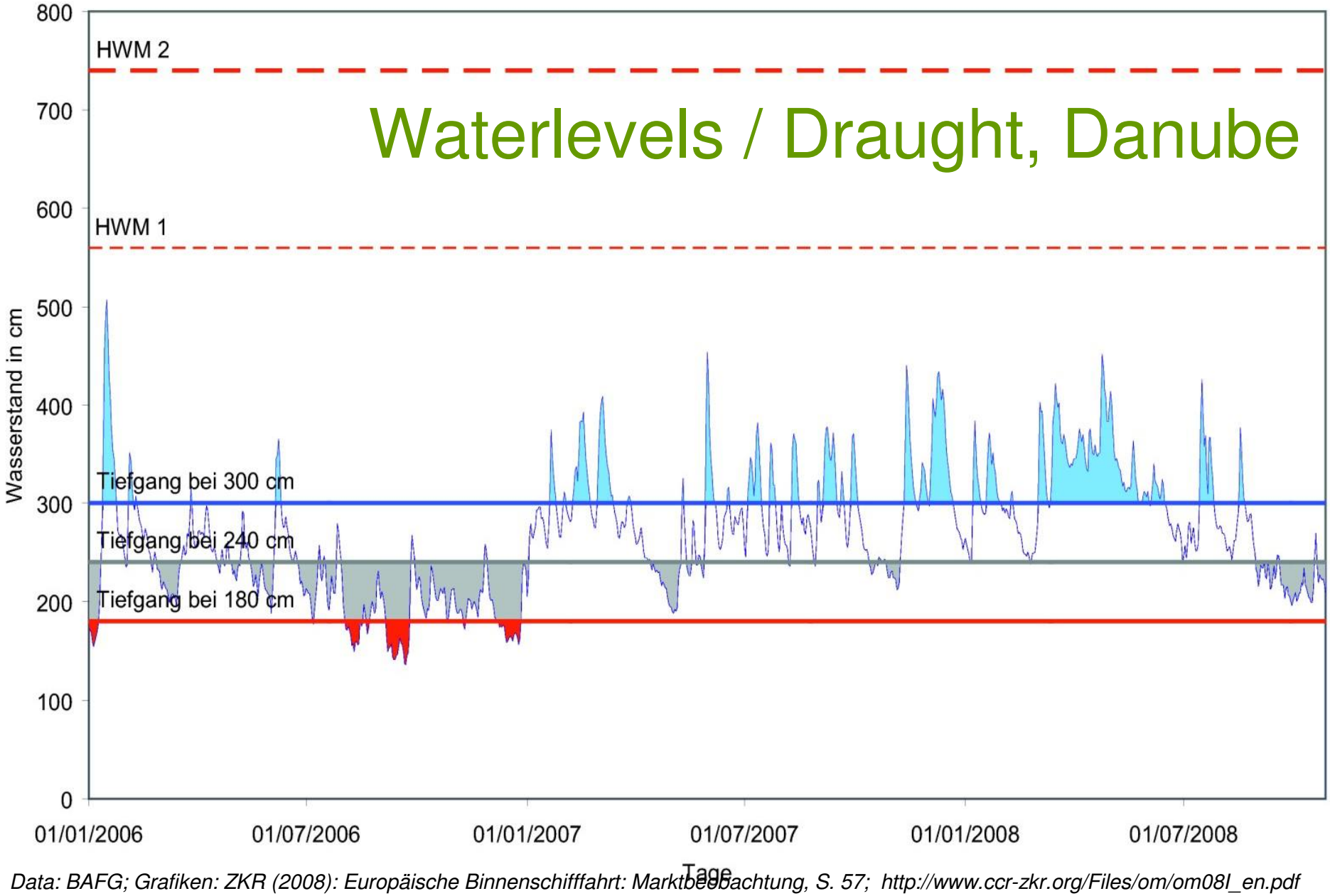
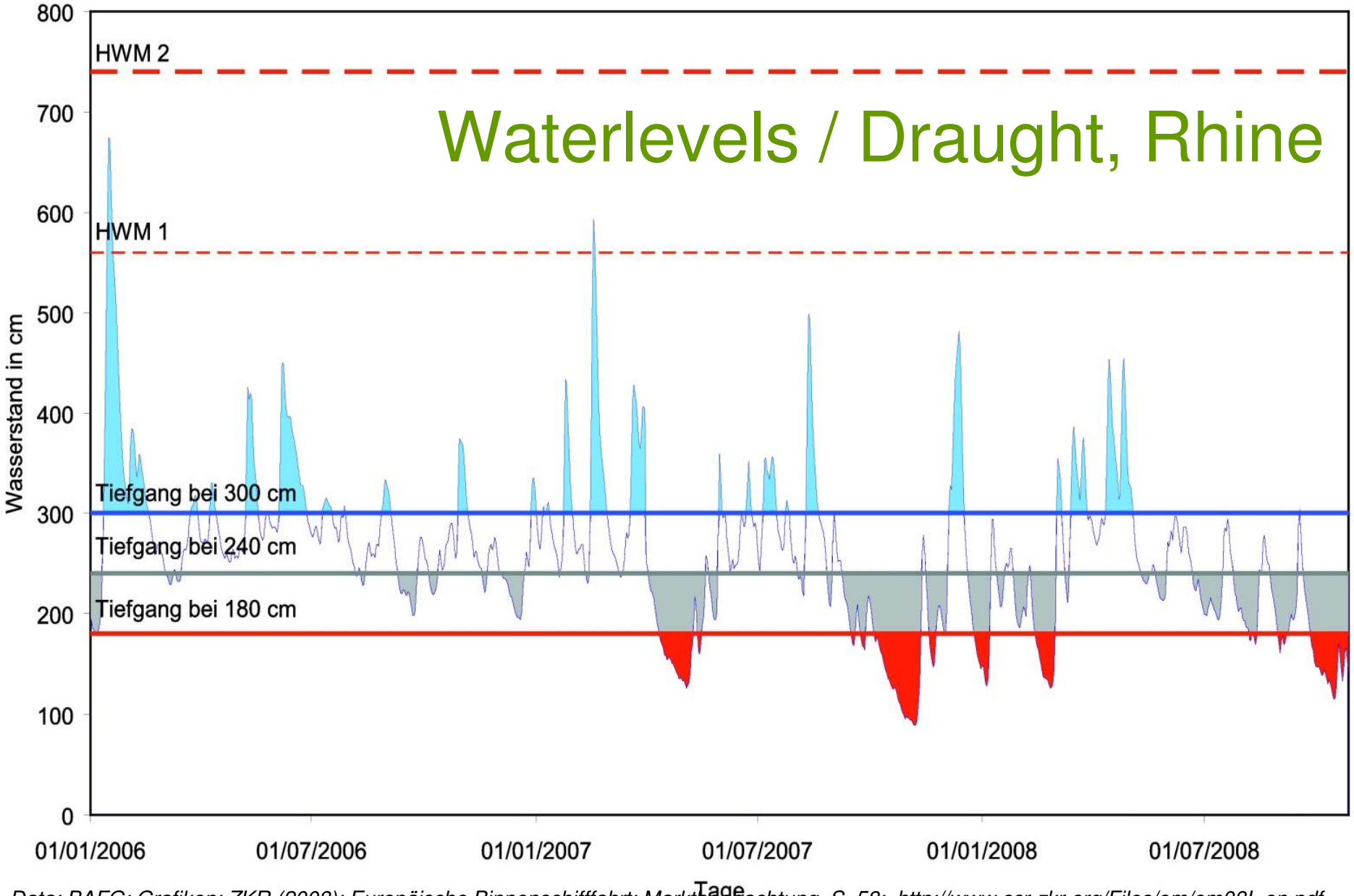
Waterlevels / Draught, Danube



Data: BAFG; Grafiken: ZKR (2008): Europäische Binnenschifffahrt: Marktbeobachtung, S. 57; http://www.ccr-zkr.org/Files/om/om08I_en.pdf

Waterlevels / Draught, Rhine



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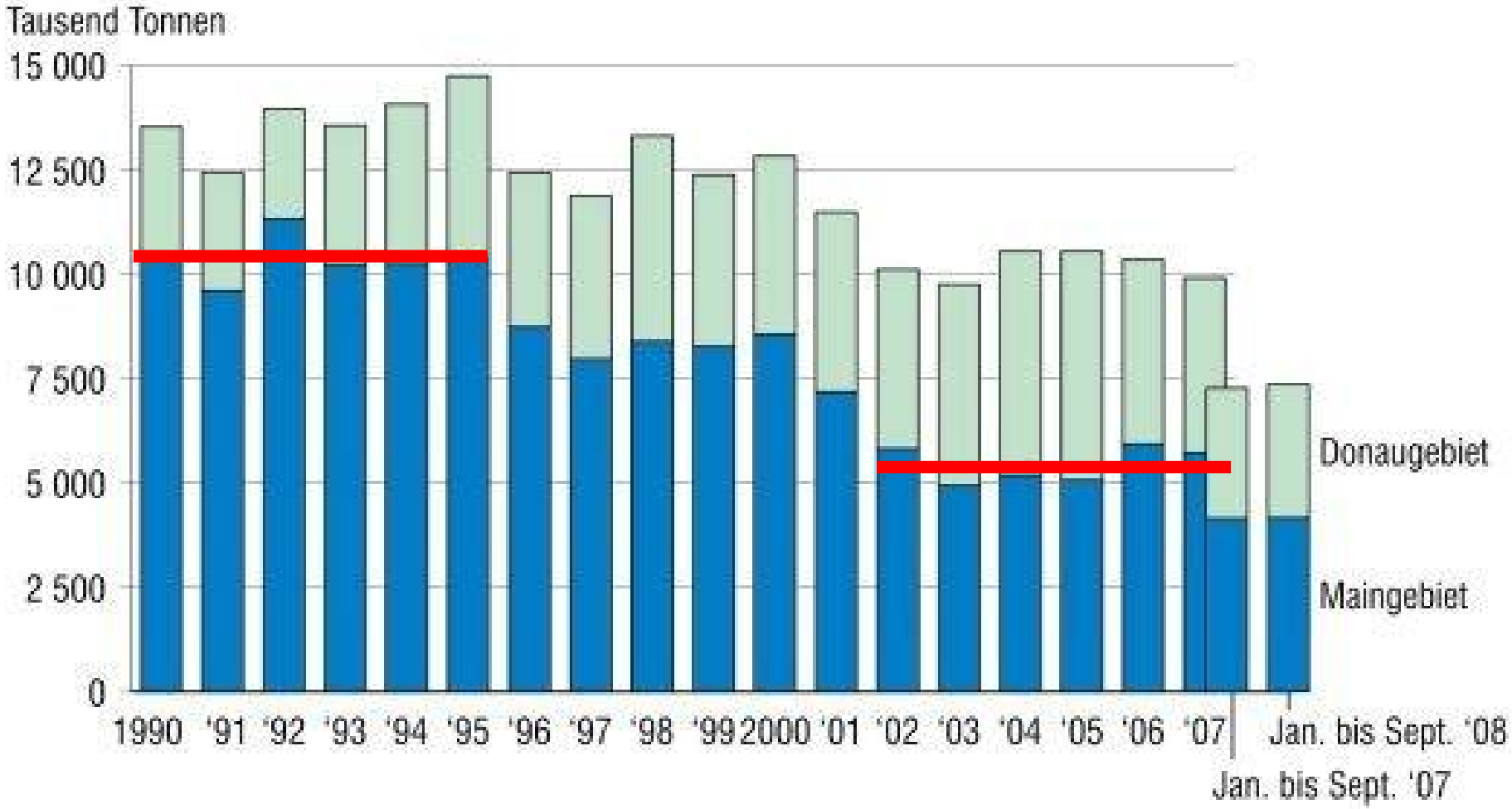
Decrease of handled goods in Main harbours
(River Main completely impounded !)



Statistik / Grafik: http://www.statistik.bayern.de/pressemitteilungen/archiv/2009/LfStaD/29_2009.php

Inland Navigation: Not „reliable“ whole of the year: Ice periods in the RMD Canal

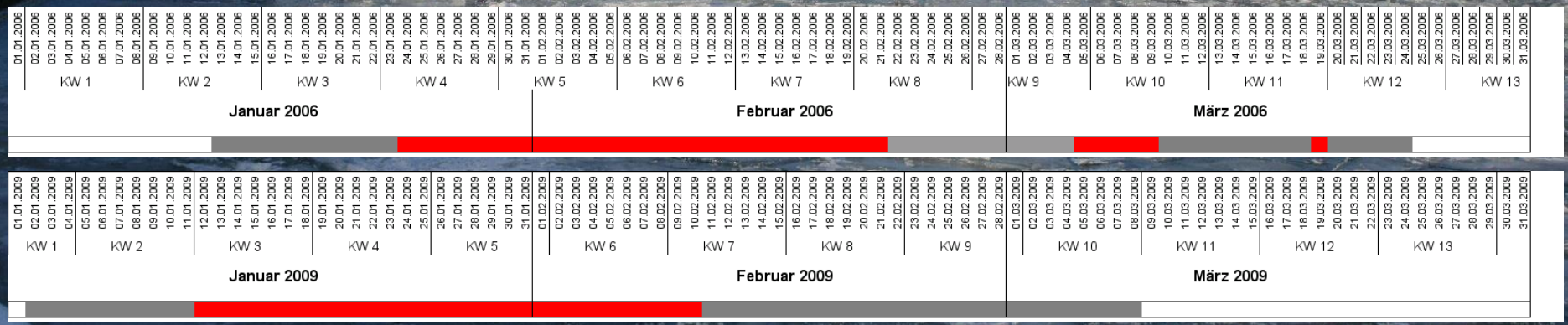


Bild: Monika Frank; Daten: www.elwis.de

German Bundestag

Bild: Jürgen Matern / CCbySA

Decision 7. June 2002 German Bundestag (Koalition SPD – B90/Die Grünen):

Adoption of Alternative A because of

- Best Ratio of Costs and Benefits

- Improvments for Navigation, esp. Container-Shipping

- Least Impacts on Nature

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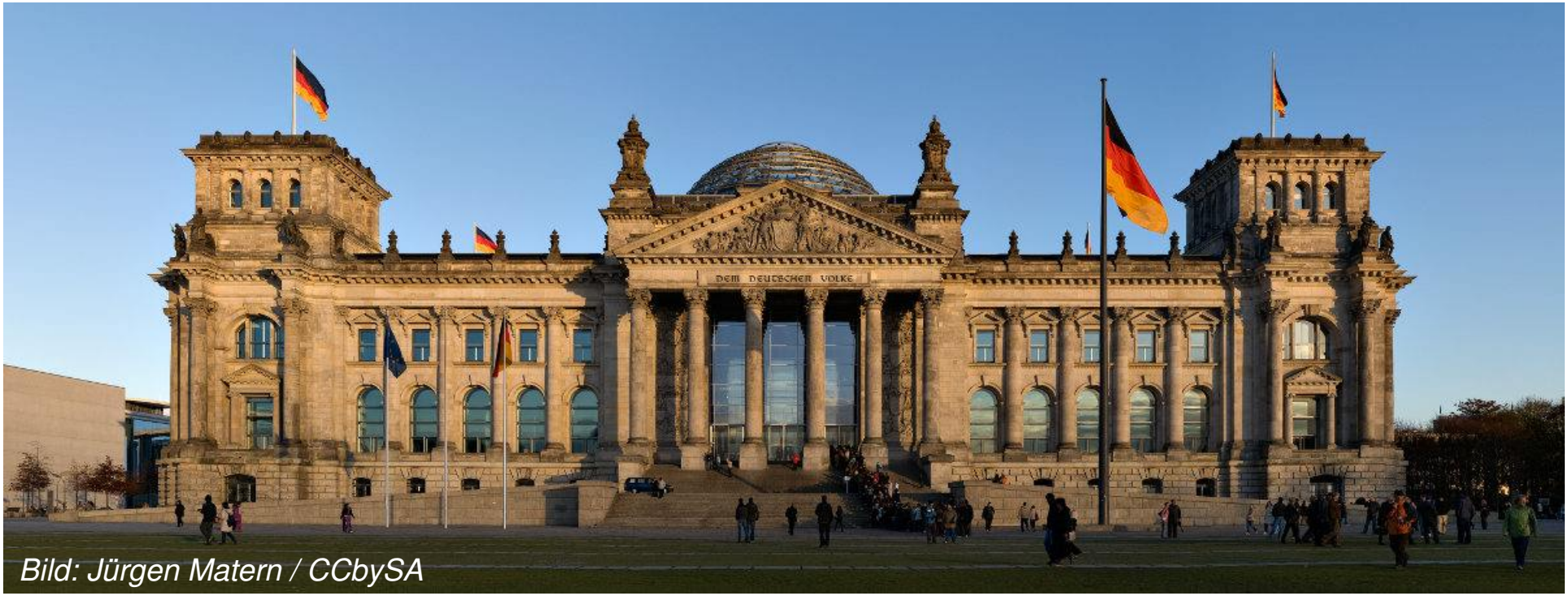
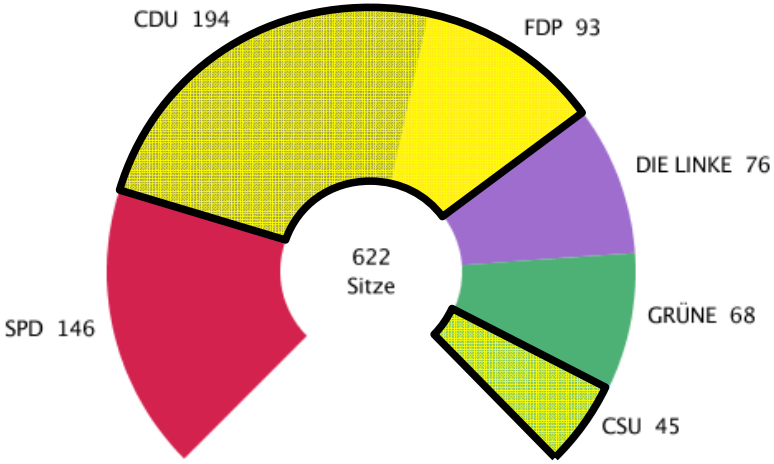
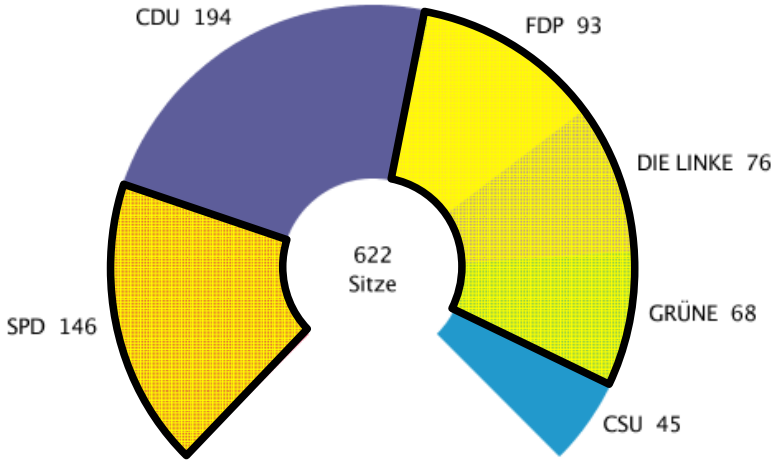


Bild: Jürgen Matern / CCbySA



Koalition (2009)



Koalition for the free flowing Danube

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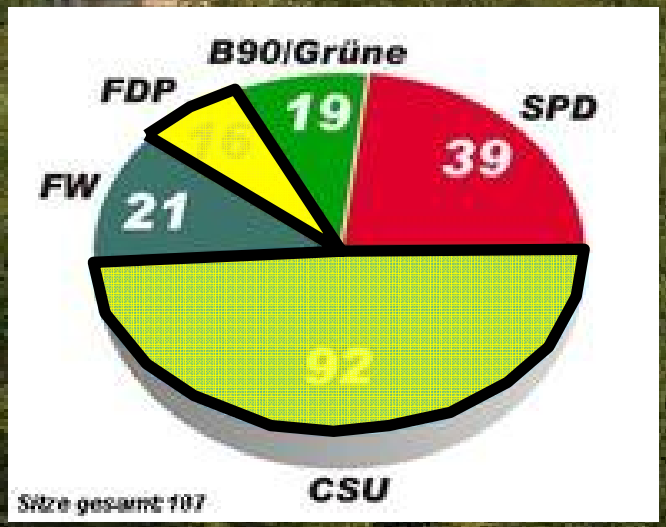
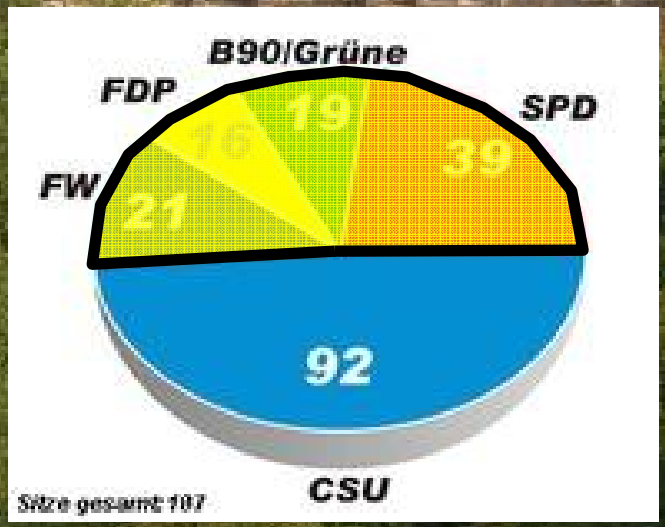
Bavarian Parliament



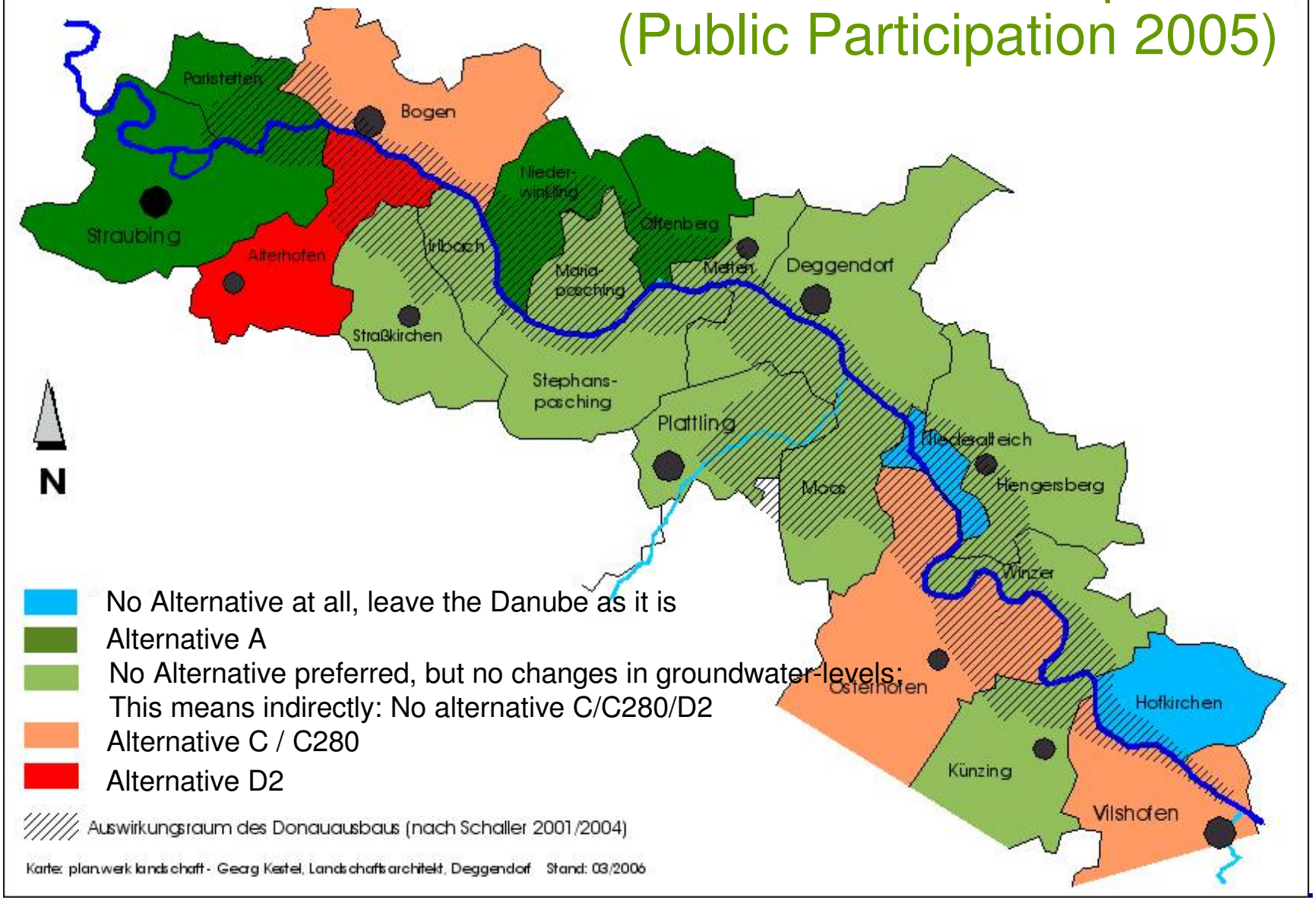
Koalition



Koalition for the free flowing Danube

Picture: www.bayern.landtag.de

Position of the Municipalities (Public Participation 2005)



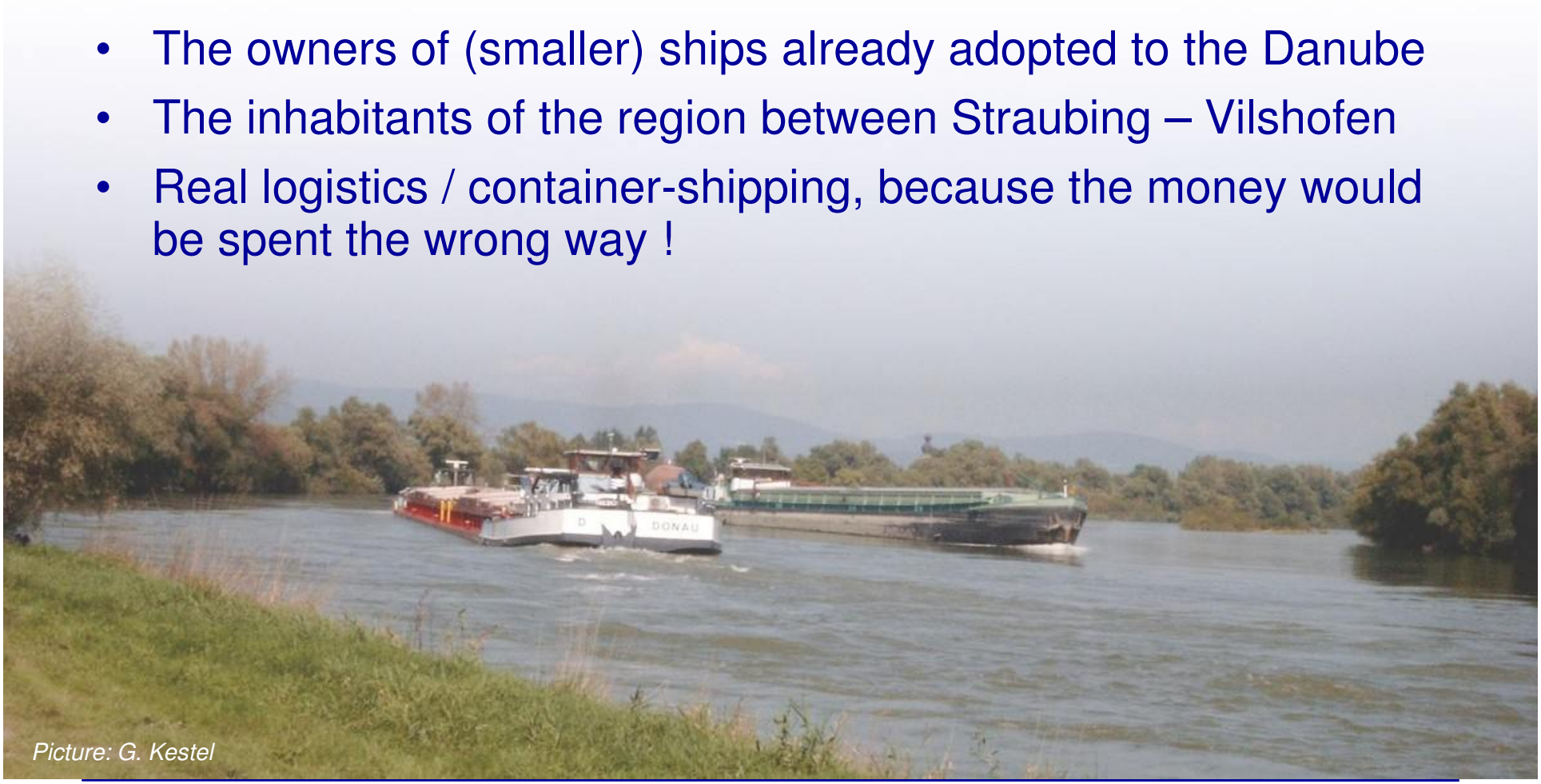
Who might have the benefits of Alternative C (building another dam) ?

- The building-industries: the bigger the project, the bigger the profits !
- The e-on – company: e-on will have the possibility to use the hydropower
- Rhein-Main-Donau (RMD) AG (planning consultants) – RMD is owned by e-on; RMD is no „neutral“ consultant
- The shipping authorities: the bigger the project, the more work and importance for the authority (in Germany ~ 14000 persons authorities are „managing“ about 7000 km of waterways)
- The owners of big Rhine-Vessels: they will have better conditions for their ships

Picture: G. Kestel

Who will not benefit ?

- The owners of (smaller) ships already adopted to the Danube
- The inhabitants of the region between Straubing – Vilshofen
- Real logistics / container-shipping, because the money would be spent the wrong way !



Picture: G. Kestel

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What will happen in the next years ?

- In the Danube itself: Almost nothing !
- Some more studies, co-financed by the EU, especially to survey ecology, groundwater, etc.; to be finished until 2012
- Objective of the studies are also: Technical planning for Alternative A and for Alternative C/C280 (despite the exclusive adoption of Alternative A by the German Bundestag !)
- This studies will cost another 33 Mio € ...
- **New ! The studies will be accompanied by a „Monitoring Group“** (4 members of stakeholders for nature conservation, 4 members of stakeholders for inland navigation and economic stakeholders, 1 independent leader)

Picture: G. Kestel

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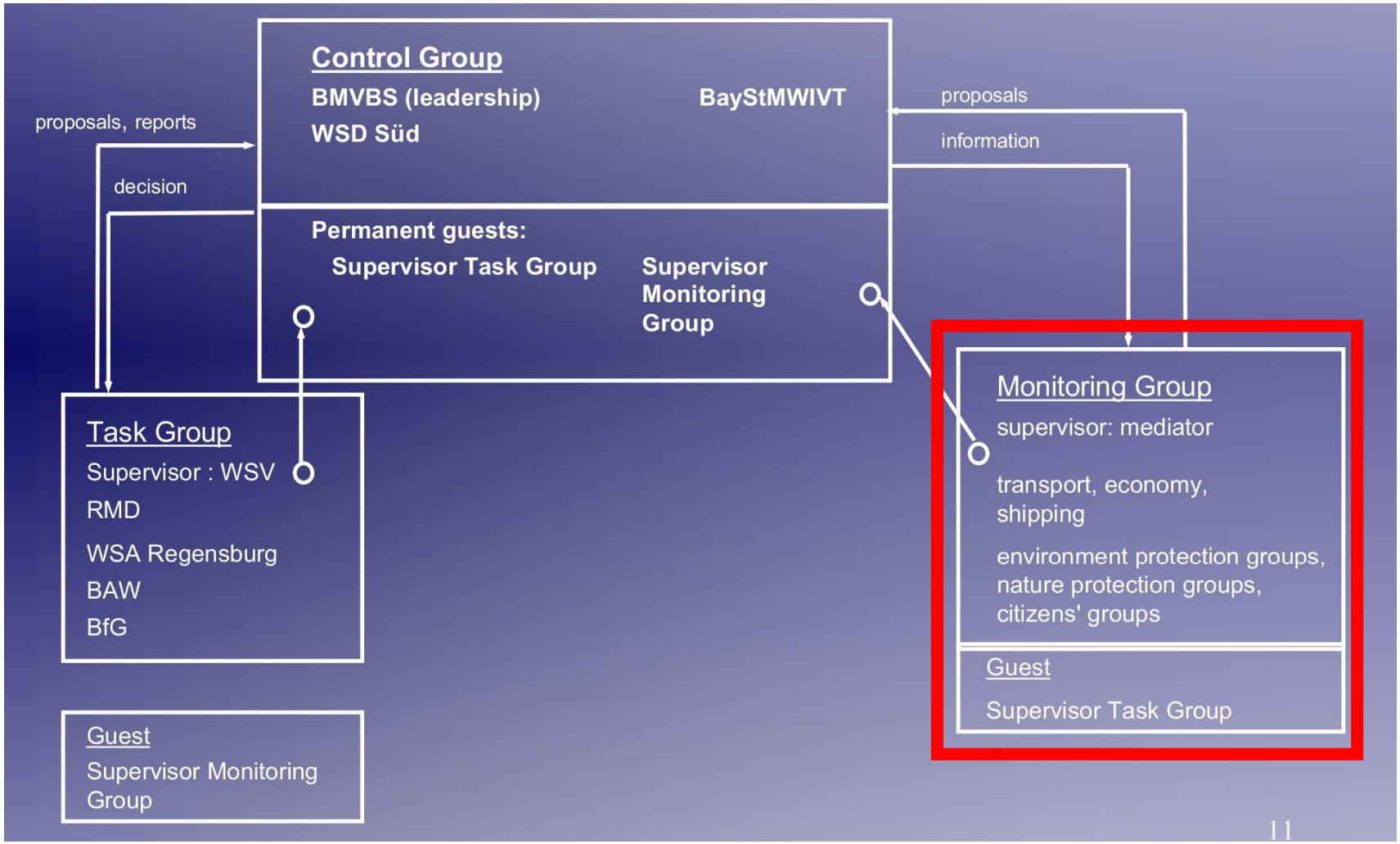
Monitoring Group

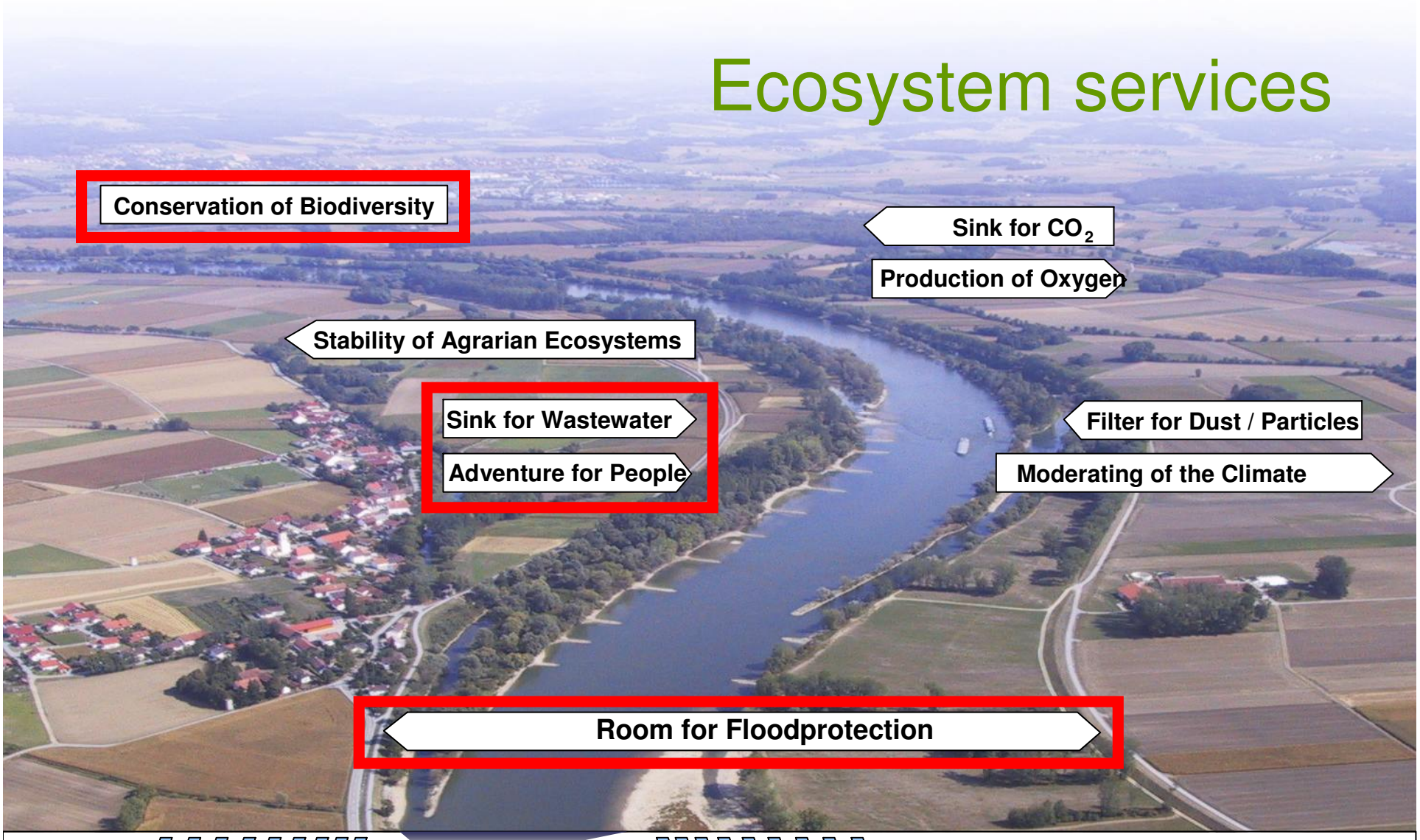


Picture: v. Rimscha / Budapest 29/30.01.2009

Natural and Cultural Heritage

Picture: Hubert Ammer

Ecosystem services



Picture: H. Ammer / Graphics: G. Kestel

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Living Danube - Living People !

WWF IAD Viruswuk Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e.V. BirdLife International Danube Environmental Forum DEF

„Danube impounded - Homeland destroyed“

Picture: Georg Kestel

- Bund Naturschutz in Bayern e.V.
- LBV Landesbund für Vogelschutz e.V.
- Fischereiverband Niederbayern e.V.
- Bayerischer Kanu-Verband e.V.
- Bürgerforum Umwelt e.V., Vilshofen
- Bürgeraktion "Rettet die Donau" e.V., Deggendorf
- Deutscher Alpenverein e.V., Sektion Deggendorf
- Arbeitskreis Christen und Ökologie, Mitterfels
- Freundinnen der Donau, Deggendorf
- Interessengemeinschaft Donau, Niederalteich
- Interessengemeinschaft gegen die Staustufen-Kanalisierung der Donau, Osterhofen
- Interessengemeinschaft gegen den Donauausbau, Pfelling
- Irlbacher BürgerInnen für die Erhaltung der freifließenden Donau, Irlbach
- Ökumenischer Aktionskreis "Lebendige Donau", Niederalteich
- Waltendorfer BürgerInnen gegen einen staugestützten Donauausbau, Niederwinkling

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Picture: G. Kestel

Picture: G. Kestel

For further Information (in German)
have a look at
www.bn-deggendorf.de

Picture: D. Scherf

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