Restoration of the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem complex of Fundu Mare Island

# Hydrological situation and suggested options for restoration

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## Hydrological restoration – why?



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Lakes dry out during summer: Aquatic vegetation has decreased, and willow encroachment has been observed – with negative consequences for fish and birds







#### SWB Habitat map

EU habitat 3160: "Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds" (e.g. water lily)





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### **Hydrological measurements**

June 2015: Installation of three SINTEF-WL-loggers at the island July 2015: two weeks of field work (and many other experiences) by Joe and Peggy





### **Spotwise water depth measurements**



## Hydrodynamic measurements



Measurement of discharges and flow velocities using hand-held ADV (Sontekt Flow Tracker) and ADCP (Sontek M9)











## Hydromorphological and vegetation analysis

*SWF* = Softwood floodplain forest *HWF* = Hardwood floodplain forest

#### Flow duration curve

Water level, Danube, Braila, Time series 1970-2014, Mean daily values





Approx. threshold inundation duration for establisment of woody floodplain vegetation (e.g. willows)



## Hydromorphological and vegetation analysis



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## Hydromorphological and vegetation analysis





### Water levels at the island





Danube, Braila
Fundu Mare Island, Logger 1
Fundu Mare Island, Logger 2
Calculated water levels at Fundu Mare Island
Fundu Mare Island, Weir (upper water level)

#### Water levels on the island are affected by

- Unsteady flow processes
- Ground water leakage
- Precipitation minus evapotranspiration
- Hydraulic structures (weirs etc.)



## **Set-up and application** of a hydrodynamic model



Problem: The morphological input data was of insufficient quality for an advanced model we had to switch to a simple water balance approache.

Figure 26. Depth-values of the channel and the weir on the island before (left) and after correction (right)

#### **Reference: Master thesis Muriel Brückner**

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Figure 25. Depth value distribution on the grid in mNS

## Water balance approach used for assessment of different scenarios



ET = Evaporation loss GW = Groundwater leakage S = Surface runoff (channel discharges)





## Estimate effects of different restoration scenarios



## Hydraulic investigation of different weir types



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Figure 7. Bag weir; left picture is a sketch (Giesecke et al., 2014, modified) and the right pictures shows an example of an air-filled membrane weir near the Kurotani dam, Japan (Gebhardt, 2006)



Figure 5. Sketch of different weir crest types. (a) broad-crested weir, (b) streamlined design (Novak et al., 2007, modified), (c) effect of high tailwater (Bollrich, 2007, modified)



Figure 8. Rockfilled slide in the Aich River (LUBW, 2005)



#### Master thesis Muriel Brückner

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## Inundation duration at Fundu Mare Island for different scenarios

Assessment for «mean conditions» based on the Danube water levels for the decade 2000-2009







#### Master thesis Muriel Brückner



## **Suggested options for weirs**





Regulate discharge at the outlet of Hogioaia channel (only A, or rather B and C - to be discussed during the workshop)

Close LIFE-Channel!





## Thank you!



