Project title	LIFE nature project “Revitalisation of the Danube Embankment” Thurnhaufen area (synonym “Renaturalization Thurnhaufen”, “Renaturalization across from Hainburg”)
Content of the project	Removal of existing stone protecting structures (embankment protection and old water regulating structures) in the area of Thurnhaufen (across from Hainburg), which is expected to result partly in a flattening due to natural erosion of the embankment and in the formation of a natural steep embankment.
Client **Financing**	• LIFE Nature Project funded by EU means for the preservation and improvement of the European network of protected areas Natura 2000 • Nationalpark Donau-Auen GmbH • via donau - Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbH • NÖ Landschaftsfonds • Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Environment and Water Management
Partners/Planners	• DonauConsult Zottl&Erber ZT-GmbH • Atelier Arch. Alfons Oberhofer, architects and planners • ÖBf Österreichische Bundesforste AG
Project volume:	EUR 1,777,750 (incl. VAT), via donau’s share is EUR 614,000
Start and term	2002 – 2006
Section	Donau, river km 1885, 5 – 1882,9 (left embankment)
Project description	The existing stone protecting structures were completely removed in the section of the inside bends of the river directly across from Hainburg. The incline of the lower part of the slope is expected to flatten, i.e., the formation of a flat shore of gravel and coarse gravel, while in the upper parts of the slope where the flood waters of the past decades have formed an enormous layer of one to two-meters of silted-up sand and mud, much steeper embankments are expected to form. The upper part is located in a ford section and is therefore much more exposed to water flows. Two basically contradictory requirements are imposed on this section: On the one hand, the riverbed should not widen at low water, because this causes fairway depths to decrease when water levels are low and thus detracts from Danube navigation, and on the other hand, erosion and any embankment widening occurring on its own should be permitted. The water engineering draft plan includes the removal of the protective stones on the banks only in the upper part of the slopes, while the foot and the lower parts are to remain secured up to just above the low navigation and regulation level (LNRL) and thus “hard”. By contrast, parts of the embankment slope may – and should – erode. Overall, some 50,000m³ water stones were removed. The structural implementation in the approx. 2.5 km long section was completed in the

via donau – Österreichische Wasserstraßen Gesellschaft mbH
www.via-donau.org

winter low-water period 2005/2006.

The more extensive LIFE Nature Project “Revitalisation of the Danube Embankment” also comprises a project to renaturalize a forest path near Orth in addition to the renaturalization of the river embankment.

The role of via donau:

via donau - Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbHparticipates in the national share of the INTERREG III A Project with an amount of EUR 614,000 (incl. VAT)

via donau is responsible for the content with respect to the handling of the water engineering measures; furthermore, the Ecology Team contributed its know-how.

Contact

Dipl.-Ing. Reinhard Schlögl

via donau – Österreichische Wasserstraßen-Gesellschaft mbH

Standort Ost

Am Stein 6

2405 Bad Deutsch-Altenburg

Phone +43(0)50 4321 5100
Fax +43(0)50 4321 5050

reinhard.schloegl@via-donau.org

www.via-donau.org