

Integrating Water Framework Directive and Natura 2000 in Brandenburg

**Introducing overview about this main
emphasis within the new LUA**

LUA = Brandenburg State Office for Environment

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Outline

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Introduction

WWF Germany in the year 1993:

- „Wetlands, waters and catchment areas cannot have priority in the conservation efforts of WWF-Germany“

What happend since then?

- Dramatic change of paradigm in the European Water Resources Legislation resp. Management away from mainly abiotic parameters and quantity management towards biology and a basic understanding that the ecological state of catchment areas and their sytem immanent ecological processes should be in the centre of efforts for sustainable use resp. conservation
- Biological parameters (e.g. Benthos, Algae, Fishes, Macrophytes) are since the year 2000 the base for assessment of quality and management decisions

But:

- Even if conservationists and water managers have now the same base for their work, that is biology, still the former principalities work and think seperately, and often against each other

Conclusion:

**We have a strong need in Europe to integrate WFD and Natura 2000
(better: need to integrate water resources management and conservation)**

Notice:

„There is life outside of WFD and Natura 2000“



Objectives of WFD and Conservation

WFD:

- Maintenance resp. establishing of a good ecological and chemical state of surface waters
- Maintenance resp. establishing of a good chemical and quantitative state of the ground water
- Long term protection and improvement of the state of the protected areas
- Objectives of WFD are considered as common objectives of conservation

Natura 2000:

- Achievement of a good state of maintenance



Interfaces

- Maintenance resp. establishing of a good ecological and chemical state of surface waters
- Maintenance resp. establishing of a good chemical and quantitative state of the ground water. No deterioration of groundwater depending surface waters and terrestrial ecosystems
- Fulfilment of all norms and objectives of the protected areas (Natura 2000 – Areas) ⇒ Article 4,1c of WFD
- Incorporation of the Natura 2000 – areas in the List of the protected areas
- Avoiding further deterioration as like protection and improvement of the state of the aquatic ecosystems and the directly depending ecosystems and wetlands with respect to their water balance (Article 1 a WFD)



Common tasks of water resources management and conservation

- Surveying of all the surface and (ground waters)
- Evaluation of the ecological resp. chemical state
- Determination of reference waters/programmes for management
- Monitoring programmes of WFD/Report duties in Natura 2000
- Management plans (different in WFD and Natura 2000)
- Development and use of common EDP- platforms (e.g. PEP – GIS and ArcWFD)
- Public participation



Chances of integration

- Successful Integration of WFD and Natura 2000
- Saving resources from the budget
- More effective use of the budget
- More effective implementation of common objectives and tasks
- Better integration of Large scale protected areas
- Better public participation and public relations



What is achieved in the new LUA?

- Restructured departments for water management and conservation to one department for „Ecology, Nature Protection, Water“
- Establishment of a sub – department „Integration of WFD and Conservation“ (my new job)
- Continuing regular consultations between colleagues responsible for WFD and for Natura 2000 (common contracts with consulting engineers)
- Conferences on the issue (e.g. this one, another two on a national and international scale three months ago and a conference „for Impulses on limnic taxonomy“: a big one in preparation for october 2006 in Schneverdingen)
- LUA is represented in the LANA Working Group for WFD
- Discussion about use and introduction of edp – management tools (PEP-GIS and ArcWFD) within the new department
- Submission of Waterbodies at risk to colleagues from Natura 2000: Blending these date with Natura 2000

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Register of Protected Areas

NATURA 2000-Areas

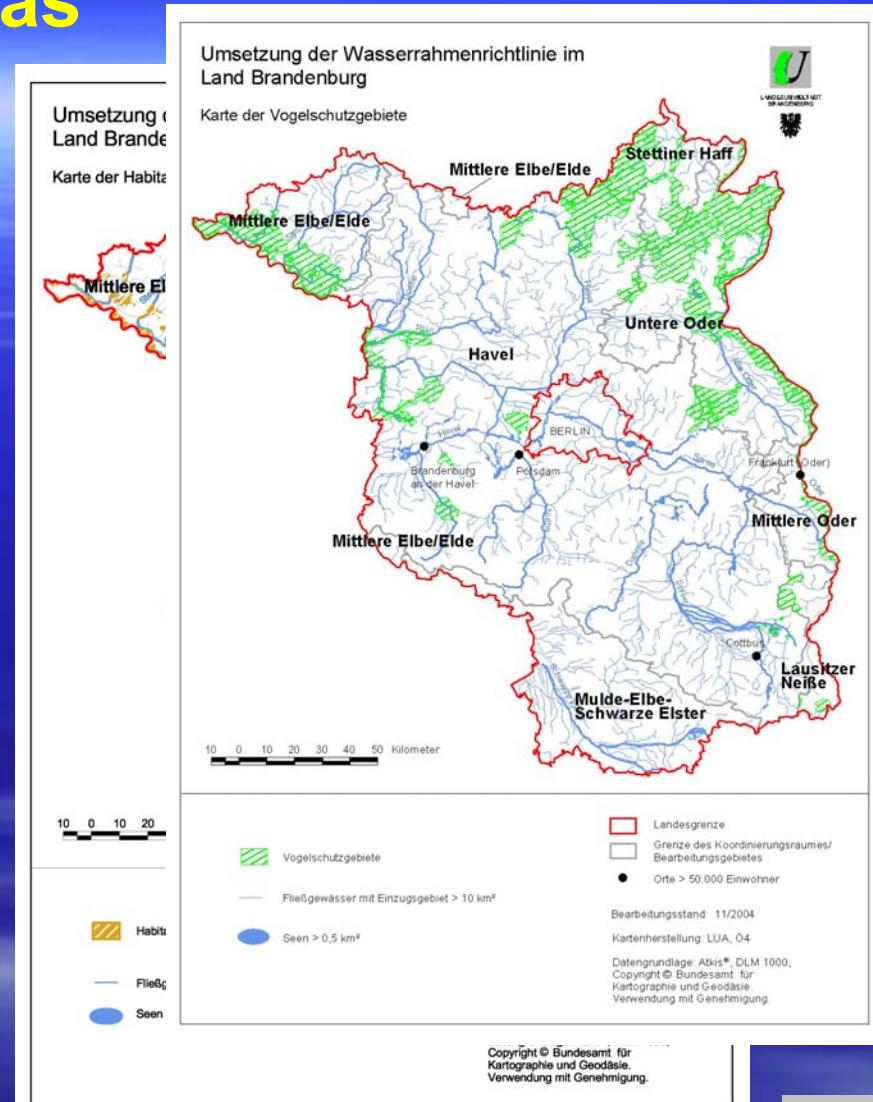
FFH-Areas

	Number	Percent
Germany	4.210	8,6%
Brandenburg	620	11,2%

SPA-Areas

	Number	Areas in %
Germany	469	7,0%
Brandenburg	27	21,9%

... according 79/409/EWG,
92/43/EWG and
Annex IV v of WFD



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Results: Inventory for running waters



objective at risk	running waters		distance	
	Anzahl	%	km	%
not at risk	94	6,9	987,5	9,7
at risk	283	72,5	7.012,0	69,2
open	995	20,6	2.143,0	21,1
Sum =	1.372	100	10.142,5	100

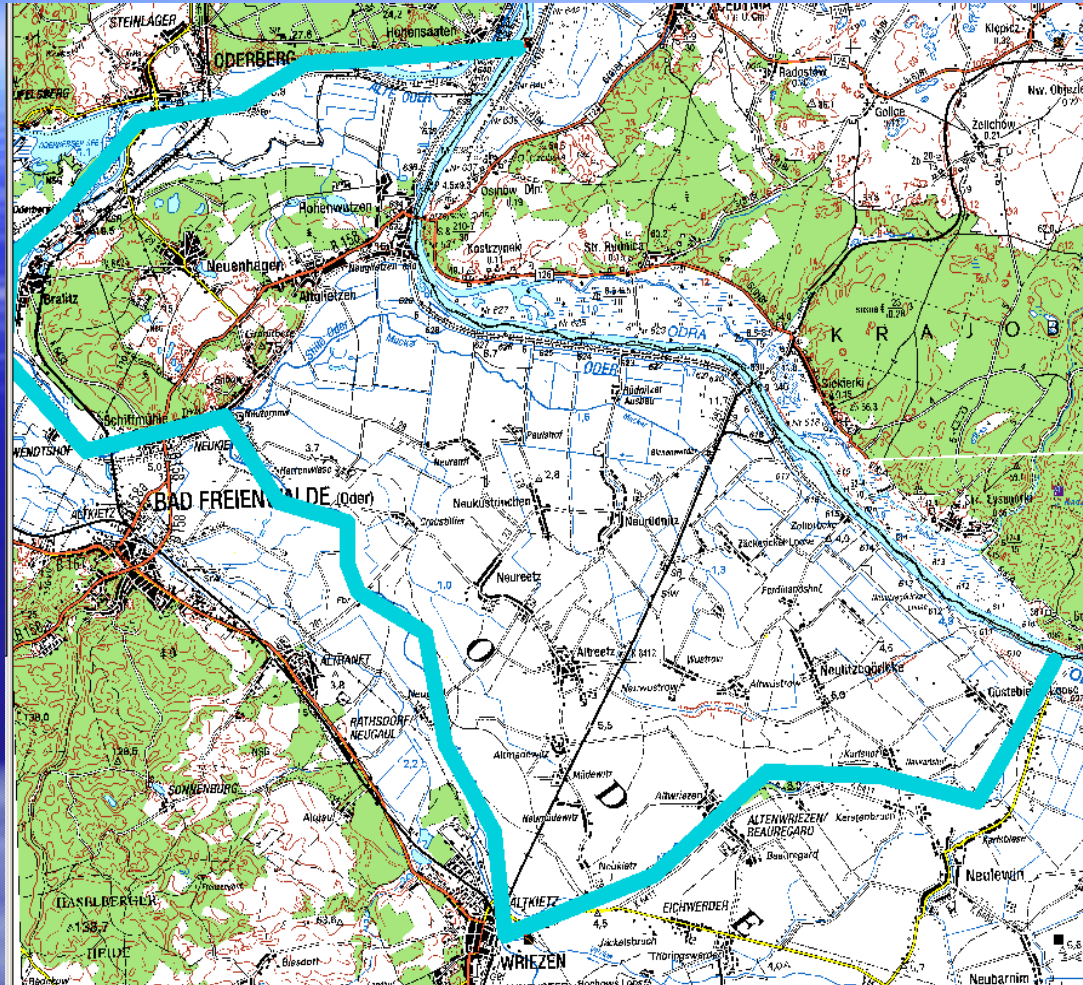
Objectives at risk,
if water bodies of running waters > 30% at risk.

Criteria for „at risk“:

- biol. quality = II-III and worse
- chem. quality = II-III and worse
- morphol. quality = 6 and 7
- exceeding chem. quality
- Impairments showing species
- backwater segments caused by dams and buildings > 50%



Typical conflicts between WFD and Natura 2000



- former „Alte Oder“ in „Oderbruch“
 - Technical conflict on account of different objectives
 - „Alte Oder“ is supposed to be re-connected with the Odra river
 - Synergy between WFD and Natura should be used



Results of Eurosite Workshop from May 2005: “Integration of Water Framework Directive and Natura 2000 “

Today only one important result of the workshop:

- **All over Europe we have the same situation that we urgently need integration of WFD and Natura 2000**
- Download recommendations from Eurosite – Homepage under workshops



Building couples

	WFD/Ö4	Natura 2000/Ö 2
Coordination	Köhler/Wiemann	Schoknecht
Macrophyta	Pätzolt	Schoknecht
Benthos/Insects	Schönfelder	Beutler/Petrick
Fishes	Bock	Petrick
Mollusca	Schönfelder	Petrick
Chemistry/Physics	Schönfelder/Bock	(dystrophic Lakes?)
Morphology	Bock	Düvel
Plankton/Phytobenthos Diatomeae	Höhne	-
Relating area/habitat types	-	-



Important questions after blending data of WFD and Natura 2000

Phase I:

- What habitat types are at the interfaces of waterbodies and FFH-areas?
- What FFH-areas with surface waters don't have no protection regulation?
- What surface waters have been decisive for the establishment of Natura 2000 areas und what areas are of high priority?
- What annex species exist at the different interfaces?
- What states of maintenance are present (A, B oder C)?
- Which lakes (rivers) are from conservational point of view of priority fulfilling monitoring tasks?
- Where are the exact locations to measure the parametes for necessary monitoring?



Important questions after blending data of WFD and Natura 2000

Phase II:

- What demands does each site have (WFD - Natura 2000) to the monitoring of the other site?
- What questions have to be considered carrying out monitoring for species protection, what can the couples do?
- Where we can take samples together?
- What are the risk factors for the state of the waterbodies of the FFH-habitat types and how to evaluate there effects?
- What measures have to be taken facing such risk factors?
- What partial management programmes for Natura 2000 – habitat types have to be taken and how we can implement them in the management plans of WFD (Establishment of lists with priorities)?
- Where we can expect conflicts between objectives of Natura 2000 und WFD?



Synopsis of tasks and objectives of WFD and Natura 2000

Transparency 1 von 3

	WFD	Natura 2000
Objectives	Maintenance resp. establishing of a good ecological and chemical state of surface waters	Improvement of biological diversity in different habitat types
	Maintenance resp. establishing of a good chemical and quantitative state of the ground water	Achievement of a good state of maintenance
	Long term protection and improvement of the state of the protected areas	Establishment of a coherent net of protected areas
	protection and improvement of the state of the aquatic ecosystems and the directly depending ecosystems and wetlands with respect to their water balance (Article 1 a WFD)	
	Avoiding further deterioration	Avoiding further deterioration
	Fulfilment of all norms and objectives of the protected areas (Natura 2000 – Areas)	



Synopsis of tasks and objectives of WFD and Natura 2000

Transparency 2 von 3

	WFD	Natura 2000
Objectives	Waterbodies of lakes and running waters	Oligo- to mesotrophic lakes with vegetation of Littorelletea uniflorae and/or Isoeto-Nanojuncetea
		Oligo- to mesotrophic calcareous lakes with benthic Vegetation of Characeae
		Natural eutrophic lakes with a vegetation of Magnopotamion or Hydrocharition
		Dystrophic lakes and ponds
		Running waters with vegetation of Ranunculion fluitantis and Callitriche-Batrachion
		Running waters with vegetation of Chenopodion rubri p.p. and of Bidention p.p.
	Benthos, Phytoplankton, Phytobenthos, Fishes, Makrophytes	diverse water depending species as Odonata, beetles, snails, mussels, fishes, amhibia, reptiles, mammals
	Groundwater and depending habitats	Groundwater depending habitat types



Synopsis of tasks and objectives of WFD and Natura 2000

Transparency 3 von 3

Tasks	
Determination of reference surface waters	Where to take samples
What fundamentals do data have?	Sampling methods
Measures for maintenance and development	Reporting duties
Surveying of the surface waters	Structure of data
Surveying of species	GIS
Evaluation of the state of habitat types and waterbodies	Management plans
Evaluation of the state of the species	EIA
Monitoring	Efficient use of resources
Monitoring habitat types and waterbodies	Participation of the public
Monitoring of species	

Risks

- Necessary Integration of WFD and Natura 2000 succeeds only insufficient
- Increasing gap between objectives and implementation
- Increasing lack of money
- Political situation is becoming unfavorable for implementation
 - e.g. Abilities of different authorities to implement the directives are seriously impaired
 - Changing laws on the national level in order to weaken objectives
- Consequences of failing integration:
 - Much more money will be necessary
 - Much more administrative efforts
 - Parallel management with contradicting objectives
 - Acceptance for establishment of good ecological status will decrease
 - Among others
- Abilities to determine species are vanishing (limnic taxonomy)
- Quality standards are undermined (e.g. Monitoring methods)
- Quality of the objectives of the directives will be diminished



What lies ahead?

- Determination of conservation objectives that have to be fulfilled by WFD (Art. 4 1 c WFD)
- More effective integration of the district authorities and the public
- Better overview and access to the different data (authorities and public)
- Establishment of common monitoring standards and implementation
- Use of common edp systems (e.g. PEP-GIS and ArcWFD)
- Development of common management plans according WFD and Nature 2000

