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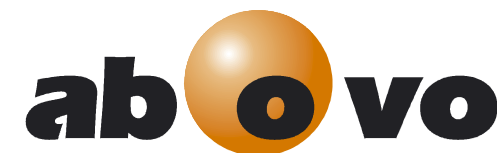
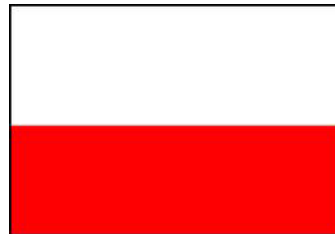


abovo





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Evaluation of Project KIK/37

The Upper Raba River Spawning Grounds

15th – 19th of October 2012

Evaluation team

Christian Göldi
Erich Oberholzer

With strong support of
Jozef Jelenski

Christian Göldi

Department for Construction Kanton Zürich 1975 – 2005
Responsible for Flood Control and Revitalisation of Rivers

Missions in Japan, Korea, Central Asia

Member : Commission for Flood Control of the Swiss
Association for Watermanagement

Senior Consultant for Close to Nature Water Construction

Civil Engineer ETH FWW

Erich Oberholzer

- Forest Engineer MSc
- Master of Advanced Studies in Development and Cooperation (MAS)

Professional experience

- Close to nature forest management
- Natural resources management projects
- Nature conservation projects of national importance

Assignments

- Divisional Forest Officer in the north of the canton of Zurich
- Work abroad in Nepal, Bhutan, North Korea, Ukraine, Poland



Die Thurauen im Wandel

Mehr Sicherheit. Mehr Natur. Mehr Erholung.

Our aim: More safety, more nature, more recreation

Objectives of the project

- Reconstruction of the natural alluvial channel of the Raba River and of its tributaries Krzczonówka and Trzebunka stream.
- Improvement of the stream storage capacity and the biological structure
- Propagation of good practice in mountain rivers maintenance among designers, contractors and administrative officials .



Objective of the mission

External evaluation of the project, mainly its

- technological adequacy and
- biological impact

Means:

- studying documents and drawings,
- carrying out site visits,
- conducting a debriefing session
- preparing a report supporting the project implementation

Mission Programme

Monday: Meetings with representatives of

- Ab Ovo Association
- Regional Water Management Board
- Institute of Nature Conservation (Polish Academy of Sciences)
- Staand Hydrotechnical Consulting Company

Conclusion of the day: Good collaboration of the executing agency Ab Ovo with state administrations, research institutions and private partners



Regional Water Management Board

Institute of Nature Conservation (Polish Academy of Sciences)

Staand Hydrotechnical Consulting Company

Mission Programme

Tuesday : Field visit of the first implementation steps in the Raba river valley between Lubień and Stróža; aiming at the following project objectives:

- Restoration of natural, alluvial channels of the river and its tributaries within the space of activity,
- Restoration and protection of floodplains in the context of channel retention and biological development, and, indirectly,
- Decreasing the maximum water temperatures in summer limiting the existence of characteristic aquatic fauna.







Mission Programme

Wednesday : Field visit of the planned project sites along the Krzczonówka and Trzebuńka streams with the following project objectives:

- Land rehabilitation by decommissioning of two check dams and removal of useless (broken) bank reinforcements.
- Appropriate valley development, consisting of soil exchange into rocky fragments at the development border and appropriate gravel supply into the channel to ensure continuity of channel processes.
- biological development of floodplains



Krzczonówka cascade



Mission Programme

Thursday: Preparation of debriefing session



Friday: Debriefing session, preparation of report

Conclusions

- We appreciate very much the approach of keeping paper planning and designing cost minimal and to decide on the details during work execution under strict guidance of the project coordinator.
- The work done so far (mainly in the Raba river area) is very cost effective with a highly positive biological impact.



Conclusions (2)

- Planning of the interventions in the Krzczonówka and Trzebuńka streams is adequate to achieve the objectives; we propose a review of some planned measures (see recommendations)
- We could not attend a training disseminating good practice in maintenance of mountain rivers. But we assume that the training courses are of high value.

Conclusions (3)

- Collaboration with stakeholders is adequate. The formation of a high level steering committee and of a realisation committee supports the smooth project implementation.
- The collaboration with the Institute of Nature Conservation is of high value for the project regarding neutral monitoring (proper baseline).

Conclusions (4)

- The Regional Water Management Board has a leading role by law and gives the necessary support to the project for implementation.

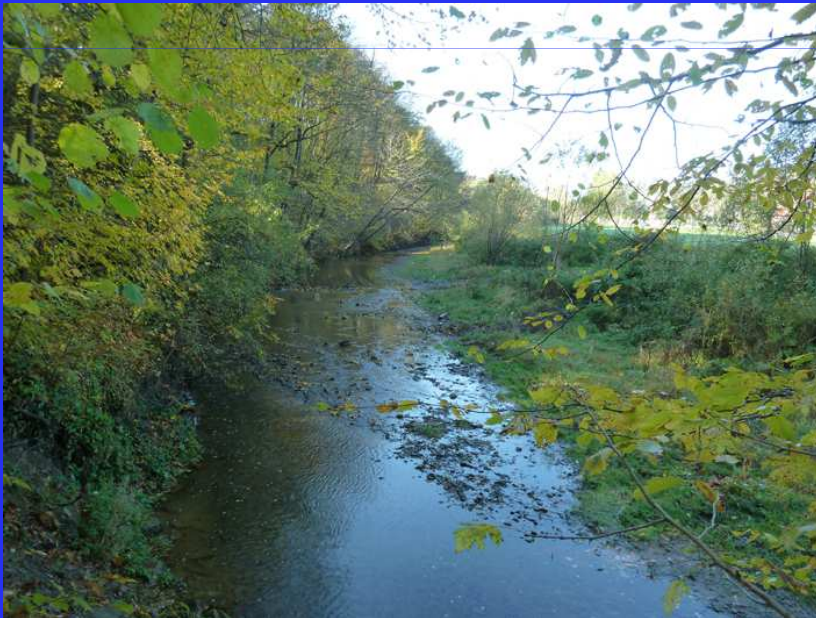
The Regional Water Management Board seems to focus more on (new) construction projects than on maintenance.

- The project does important pioneer work in fighting against invasive plants (particularly Japanese knotweed)
- The design work for construction is of good quality.

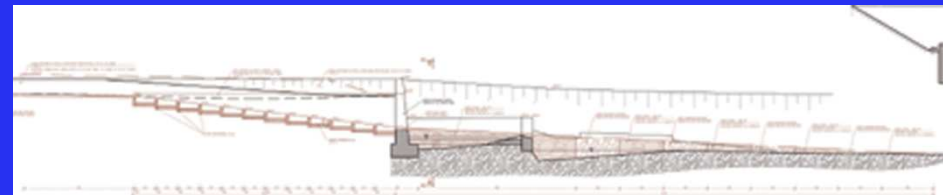
Recommendations

Preliminary remarks:

- We understand that our task is to bring in an additional view on the project from outside.
- Therefore our recommendations are food for thought and shall help to implement the project in the best possible manner.
- But the decisions are entirely with you, as it is your country, your river, your nature.
- We start with some technical recommendations.



Stróža Dam

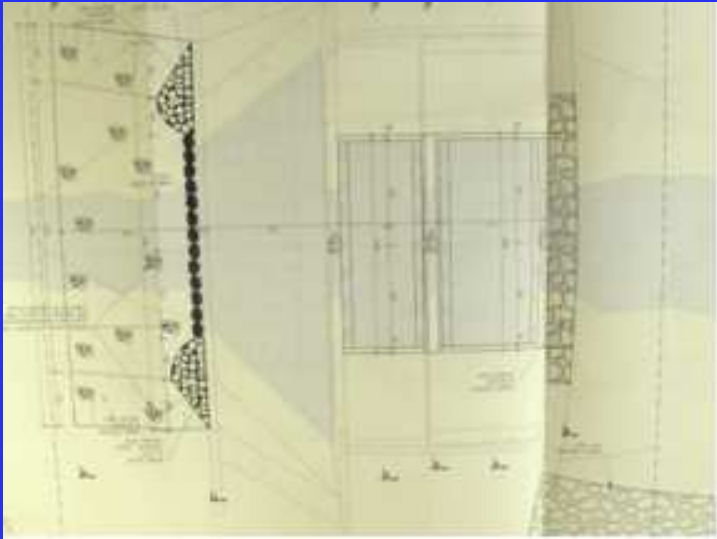
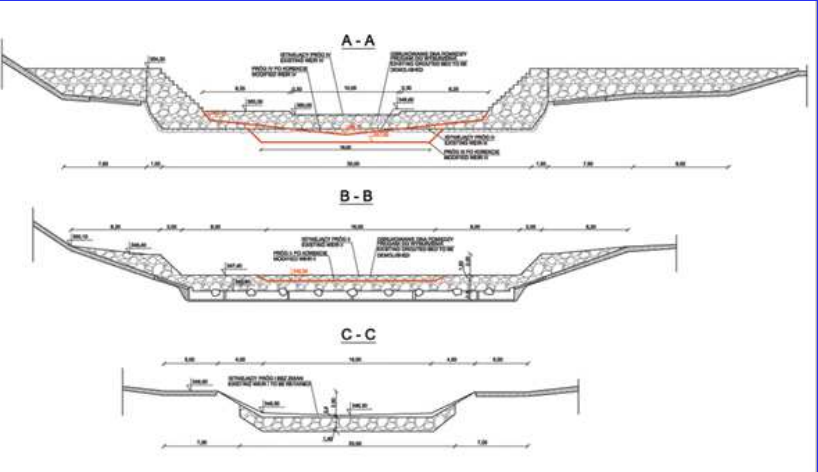




Trzebunkunka Stream

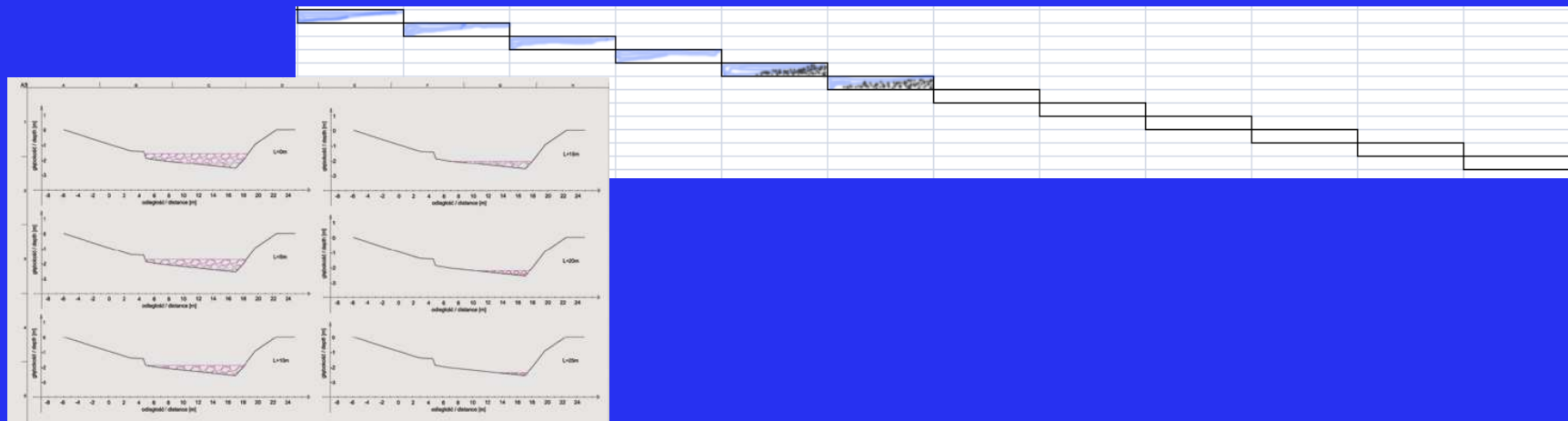
Gravel feeding place as simple as possible

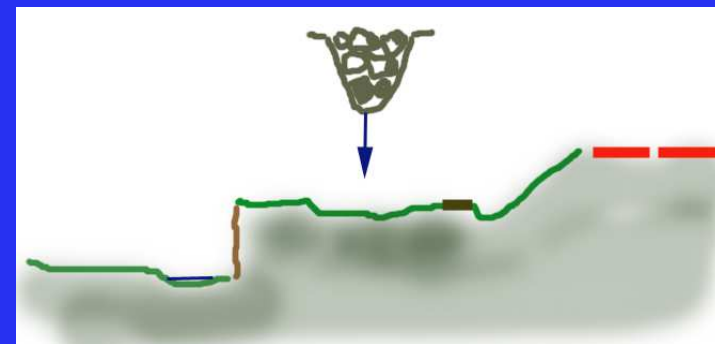
Krzczonówka cascade



Tarliska Górnej Raby

Riffle and Pools ?





Raba River and Motorway

Other recommendations

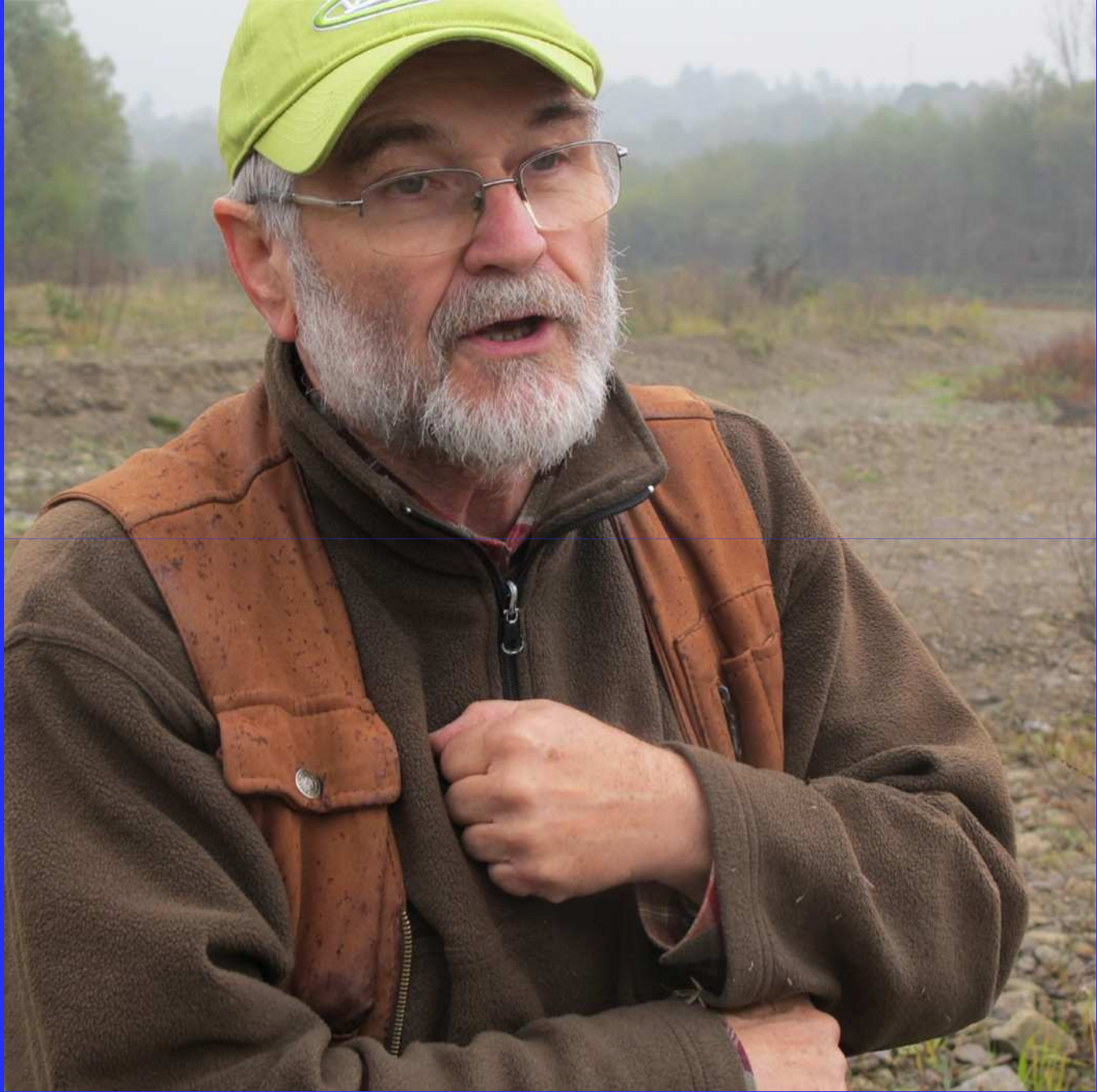
- The regional water administration (RWA) shall play a more proactive role, particularly regarding close to nature river maintenance.
- Ab Ovo with this project has a good chance to produce a master piece of work on behalf of the RWA. In future such projects could be planned, implemented and paid by RWA.

Other recommendations (2)

- Technical designers shall also have the chance to attend training courses in close to nature maintenance of rivers. It would also be an advantage if they could be present when the completed work gets approved.
- If the project is carried out successfully we propose to the Swiss contribution authorities to support a capitalisation workshop in order to share the experiences gained among similar projects in the other new EU member countries.

Summary

- Implementers are very committed to their work.
- Collaboration among stakeholders and all concerned parties is well established.
- The down-to-earth approach in project implementation is cost-effective and successful.
- The training courses carried out are a big additional asset.



Summary 2

- Jozef Jelenski is an excellent project coordinator with profound knowledge and tremendous intuition, carrying out his task with never ending enthusiasm.
- We would like to congratulate the Polish and Swiss authorities for choosing this project . We fully support this very valuable investment .

If the Upper Raba River Spawning
Grounds Project
would be in Switzerland,
we would propose it
for the Swiss Water Award 2013

