DANUBEPARKS - WP4
Flood plain management and habitat restoration

Management Plan of Danube Islands (Tát, Hungary)
Gyula Kiss (Duna-Ipoly National Park)
Background 1.

- Total area: app. 300 ha
- State property
- The area (Danube river and its floodplain) is part of the Natura 2000 network as a Special Area of Conservation. Protected habitat types: riparian forests, marsh meadows.
- The preparation phase of the national designation process has been going on at DINPI.
- Responsible nature conservation authority: North Transdanubian Inspectorate for Environment, Nature and Water
- Responsible nature conservation management body: Duna-Ipoly National Park Directorate
27 January 2010

DANUBE PARKS -- WP4, Task
Force Meeting, Bratislava
Historical Background

- Significant human landscape use in the last centuries (forestry, grazing and mowing).
- The grasslands of the islands had been created by human activities and therefore they can only be maintained in that way.
- Preconstruction works of the originally planned Gabcikovo-Nagymaros water power station left huge damages in the 1970’s.
- The area is vulnerable due to its size and dependence on the Danube.
Protected species

Aster sedifolius, Iris sibirica, Iris spuria, Salvinia natans, Clematis integrifolia, Leucojum aestivum, etc.

Triturus cristatus, Hyla arborea, Bombina bombina, Emy orbitcularis, etc.

Ciconia ciconia, Ciconia nigra, Haliaeetus albicilla, Crex crex, Dryocopus martius, Egretta garzetta, Falco cherrug, etc.

Martes martes, Mustela erminea, Lutra lutra, Castor fiber, etc.
Main Objectives

- Improvement of habitats by conserving the territory of water lands and water dependent habitats;
- Control of invasive alien species;
- Targeted management of protected plant and animal species;
- Protection of landscape of river Danube.
Habitat improvement

- Grasslands (continuous management, currently carried out on the Körtvélyes island)
- Riparian forests (gradually restore the original Salix alba, Populus alba forests)
- Game management
- Water management
Control of invasive species

- Negative impacts:
  - Intensive forest management (clear cuts, poplar plantations)
  - Building of embankments

- No 1: Solidago gigantea (especially Nyáros island)
- Runner-ups: Acer negundo, Amorpha fruticosa, Robinia pseudo-acacia
Protection of landscape

- No building investments on the islands
- Control of human traffic (angling, hunting, research, etc.)
- Limited and thematic soft tourism (max. 25 persons/group)
Water management I.

- Planning of side branch revitalization
Water management II.

- Creation of permanent ponds
- Construction of a water restraining small dam
- Creation of rescue „hills”
Thank you for your attention!

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