



# „Isar Plan“ in Munich, Bavaria

## Flood Protection, Restoration, Recreation

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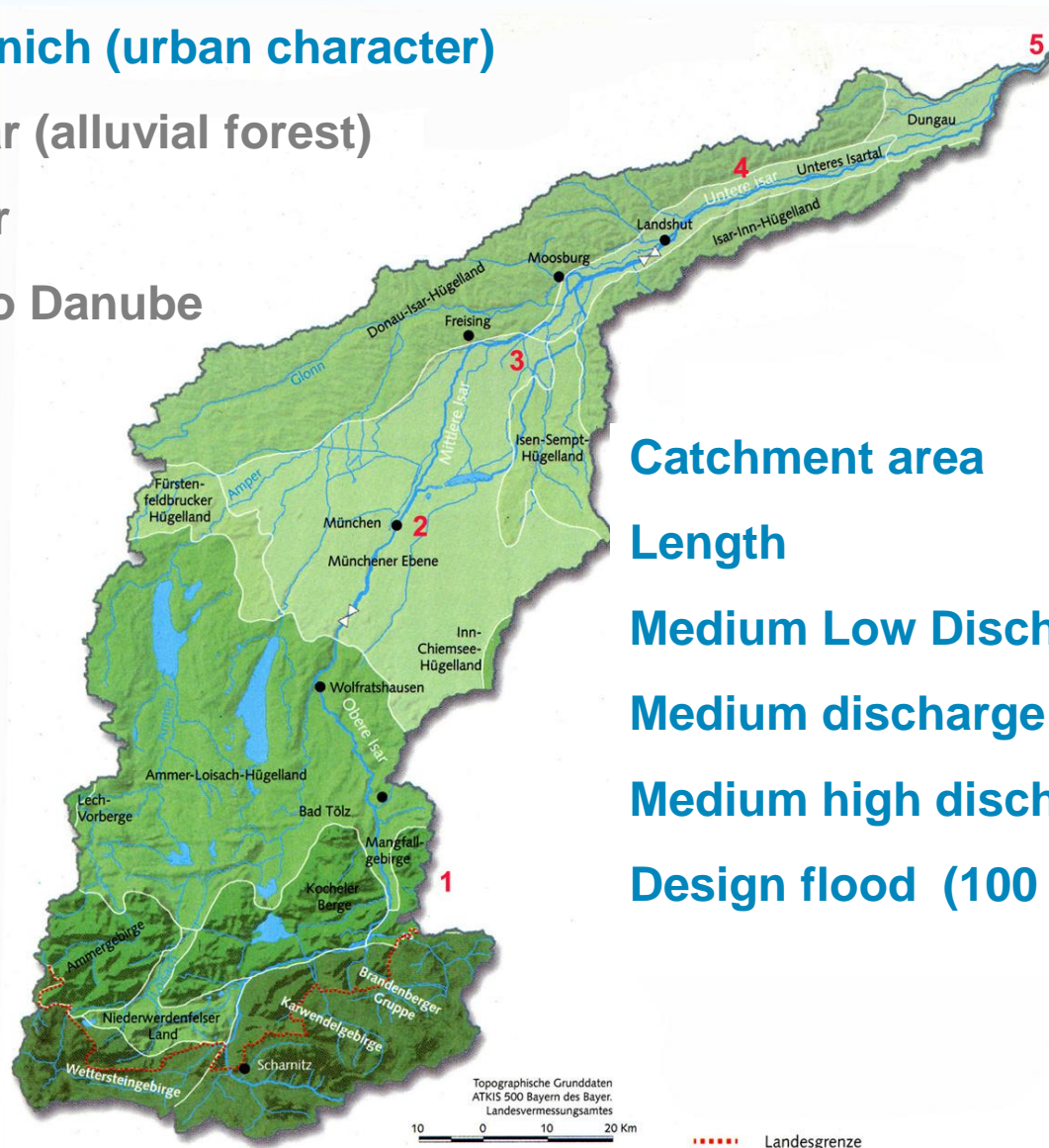
# AGENDA

- Isar-Plan: history and concept
- Principle approach and measures:  
„Learning by doing“ and „lessons learnt“
- Conclusions

## Isar River sections

- 1** Upper Isar (alpine Character)
- 2** Isar in Munich (urban character)
- 3** Middle Isar (alluvial forest)
- 4** Lower Isar
- 5** Mouth into Danube

Bavarian State Ministry of the  
Environment and Consumer Protection



Catchment area

9000 km<sup>2</sup>

Length

270 km

Medium Low Discharge

40 m<sup>3</sup>/s

Medium discharge

90 m<sup>3</sup>/s

Medium high discharge

420 m<sup>3</sup>/s

Design flood (100 a)

1.100 m<sup>3</sup>/s



## Isar-Plan – fact sheet

- Total length of river stretch ca. 8 km
- Start of planning 1995
- Begin of construction works in 2000
- finished in 2011
- A Project in corporation by the State of Bavaria and the City of Munich
- Expenses: about 35 Mio. €





# **Job completed: View before Restoration in 1999**







## After all: Urban Flood plain area remained





## Major pressures and impacts of „civilized“ Isar River

### Pressures + Drivers

- Flood risk:  
canalized, dammed
- Hydropower: Water  
abstraction, diverted,  
drained
- Sewage: degraded  
minor water quality
- Physical interruption:  
lack of longitudinal  
continuity

### Impact

- Reduced floodplain
- Decline of morphological  
processes, linear erosion
- Loss of ecological  
functions, habitats and  
groundwater interaction
- Disturbed interaction  
between river bed and  
surrounding landscape
- No access to waterline



# Integrated Planning concept

**Flood protection**



**Revitalization**



**Recreation**







## Project objectives in detail

- **Flood Control**
  - Enlarge Water Retention Capacity
- **Restoration, revitalization**
  - Ecological Upgrading
  - Enhance Morphological processes
  - Longitudinal and lateral continuity
  - Natural habitats, biodiversity, water quality
- **Recreation**
  - Access to waterline, water activities
  - Attractive landscape and views





# Reference status: „Flaucher“ in Munich





# Measures

- Reinforcement of dikes
- Removal of concrete embankments
- Enlarging the cross section
- Bottom rock ramps and fish pass to improve biological river continuity
- Interactions water to land



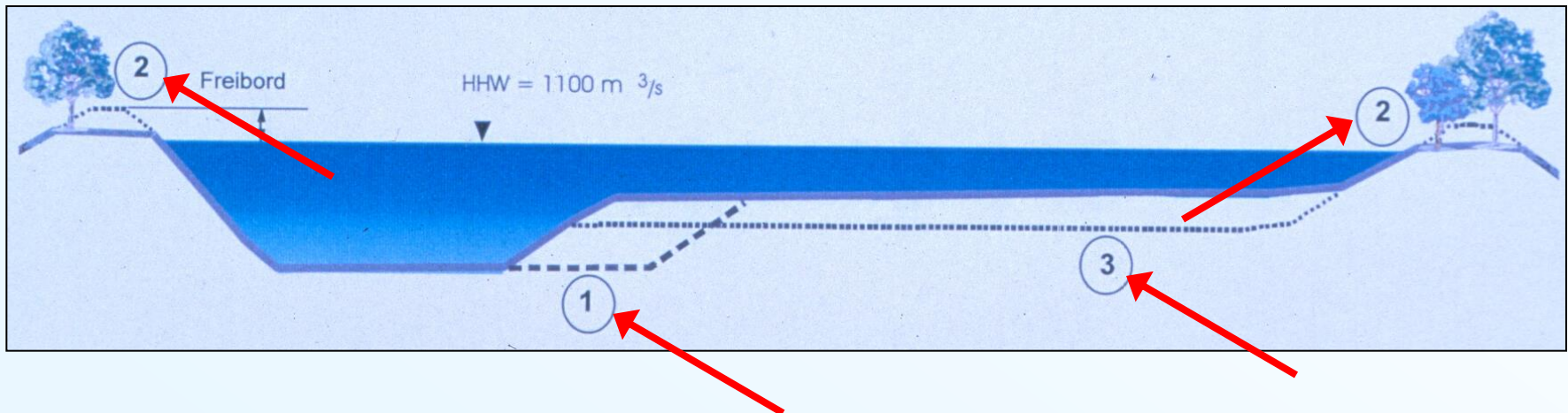


## Improvement of flood control: Century Flood in 2005



## Improvement of Flood control by

- ① Enlargement of river cross-section
- ② Elevation of Dikes
- ③ Removal of sediments in the flooding area







## ... view 1 year after restoration

- Gravel banks, riffles and pools
- Natural river banks
- Dynamic river processes
- New habitats for flora and fauna
- Attractive recreation areas





# River banks

Before . . .



and after

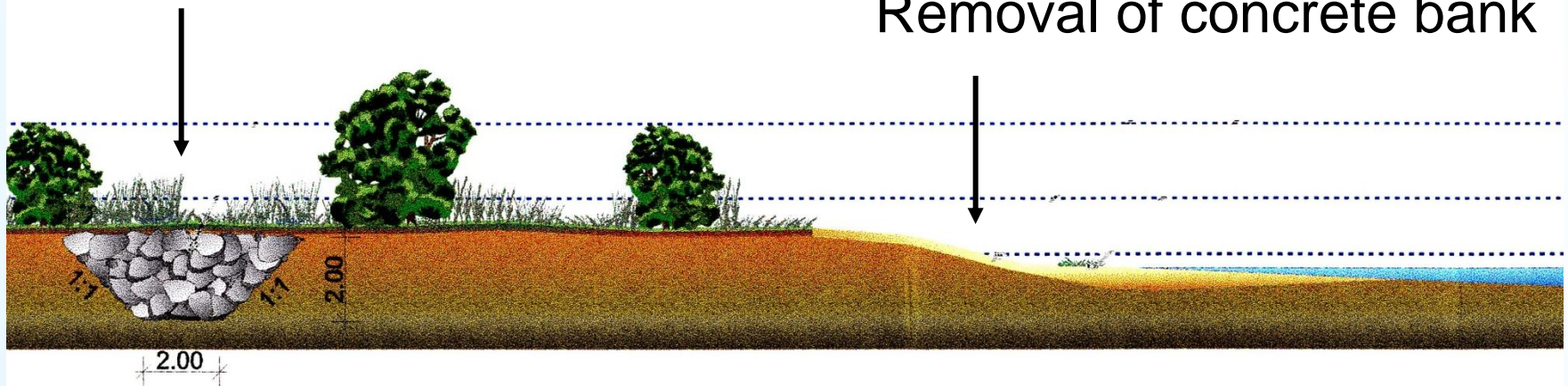




# Restored Bank

## Space for morphological processes

Backward „hidden“ protection







# Dynamic River Bed Processes







# New structures after the flood in 2005: New pools and scenery







**Before . . .**



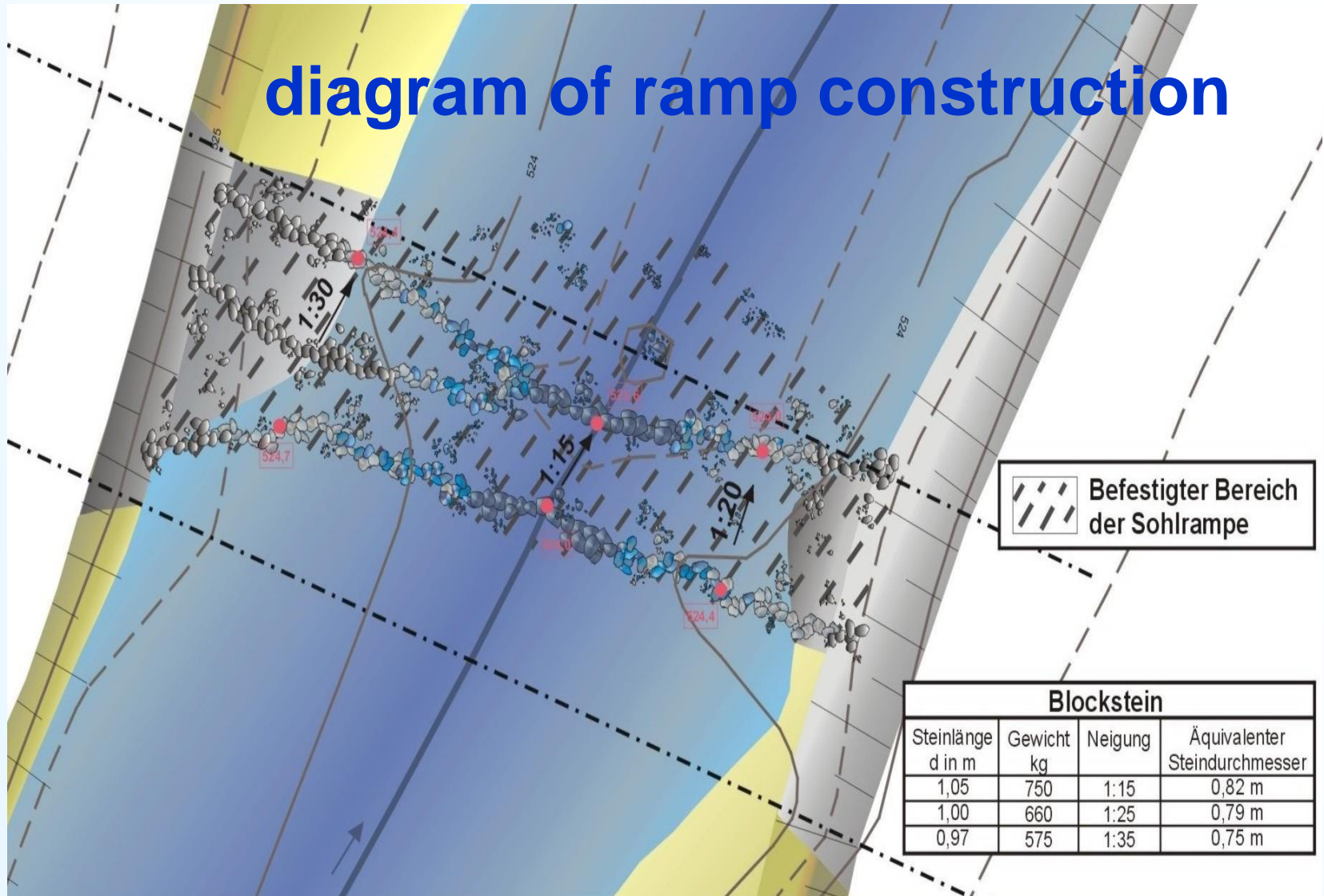
## River Bottom Ramp

**. . . After**





# diagram of ramp construction







# Close to nature fish pass at Flaucher







# Improving Hygienic Water Quality enables seasonal swimming activities



Reduction of  
bacterial loads  
through UV radiation  
of sewage plant  
outflow during season









**drone photographs reflect  
the current state of art**











# Urban Restrictions remain, but can be handled







# „Urban nature design“







# Nature, people, urban culture: Isar adventure in Munich of today







## Conclusions

- Adequate space for dynamic processes
- Integrative planning concept
- Teamwork + Participation (Public, NGOs)
- Ambition, Time and Patience





a lot is possible, catch the the wave,  
thank you for your attention!!

