

Key lessons from the 'Burgberg Zschaitz' habitat bank in Saxony

Using government metrics and ensuring permanent protection for biodiversity offsets under the German impact mitigation regulation

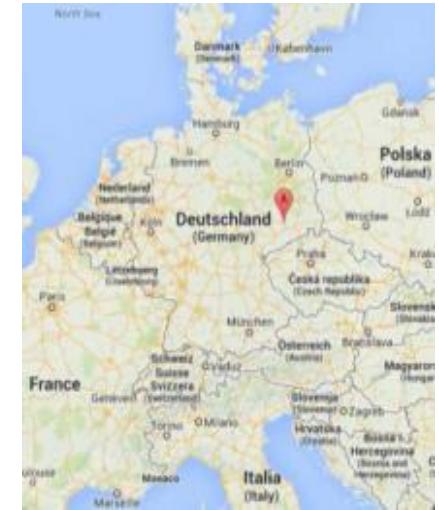
"TO NO NET LOSS OF BIODIVERSITY AND BEYOND", 3-4 June, 2014, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park

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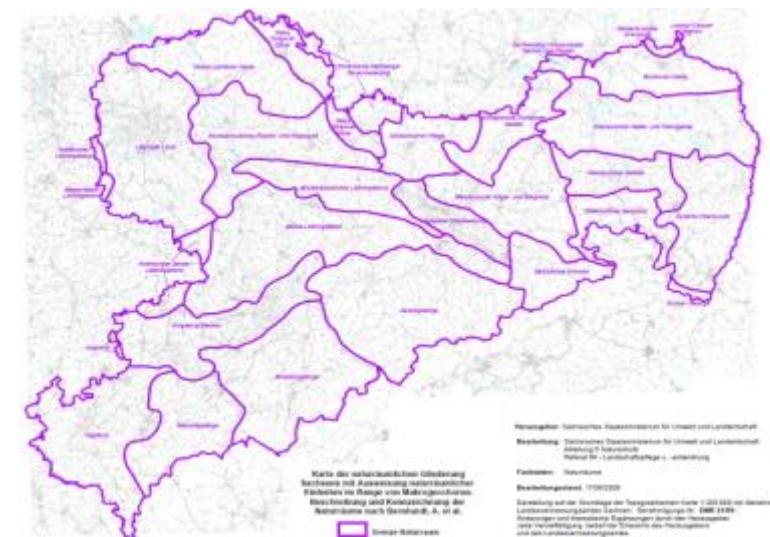


Clear regulation and policy guidance

- Good experience with mandatory system as a prerequisite for success
- Installation of the habitat bank and approval of credits by the competent Nature Conservation Authority, Compensation land register
- Clear and consistent loss-gain-calculations and metrics: biotope value based procedure
- Spatial and functional relation of impact and offset: compensation within the same Natural Landscape Unit



	Biotope type	credits/m ²	area in m ²	biotope value in credits
	Nutzung/Biotyp Bezeichnung	Wertpunkte je m ²	Fläche [m ²]	
			vor Maßnahme	nach Maßnahme
Before	10.01.200 Intensiv genutzter Acker	5	72.736	363.680
	Summe		72.736	363.680
After	06.02.000 Grünland frischer Standorte (extensiv)	22	55.943	1.230.746
	01.10.200 Gestufter Waldrand	22	2.721	59.862
	02.02.410 Baumreihe	21	612	12.852
	09.07.200 Steinrücken	18	439	7.902
	08.05.000 Magerrasen trockener Standorte	22	13.021	286.462
	Summe		72.736	1.597.824
Flächensumme			72.736	
Biotopwertdifferenz				1.234.144



Active land management for higher nature conservation outcomes

- secure land with a high nature conservation value or potential through land purchase, change or consolidation (land consolidation enables quick and easy land acquisition without extra costs)
- Implementation of larger, complex and high quality measures adds to reaching state-wide nature conservation goals and strengthen biotope networks and is more cost-efficient
- Compensation is best implemented in the “normal landscape”, not in protected areas (where potential for enhancement is low and costs are high) → Don’t touch the Habitats Directive!



Sound business and full costing

- Stable, independent and not profit-oriented compensation services provider enables the maintenance and safeguarding of the measures in perpetuity
- Calculating a price for the single credit – full costing (“Vollkostenkalkulation”) includes all costs from planning of goals and measures over and land acquisition and project implementation to maintenance and monitoring, including parameters such as securities, risk and bridge financing
- Costing is a process that builds on balancing target values and actual values: a cost estimate at the beginning is quarterly compared with actual used resources → Price for the single credit adjusts over time to the actual costs



Strong regional cooperation

- Landowners and Farmers: compensation through Land Use Contracts reduces consumption of farming land for offsets
- Authorities: approval and agreement through the whole process
- Public: acceptance through clear nature conservation goals including socioecological aspects
- Federal Association of Compensation Agencies: common quality standards



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