

LIFE RESTORE FOR MDD

UNESCO Five-country
Biosphere Reserve
Mura-Drava-Danube



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ADAPTATION OF THE INLET AREA MILL CHANNEL MURECK-RADKERSBURG

The 29 km long Mureck-Radkersburg mill channel was constructed in the 19th century for energy-related use in the form of mills and sawmills. Today it fulfills an important ecological function in the riparian forest as well as a significant role in groundwater recharge. It was intended to be supplied from the river Mura via an intake structure in Mureck with a maximum water volume of 3 m³/s. In sections, it is also called Klingbach before flowing into the Drauchenbach, which in turn flows into the Mur.

However, due to the progressive deepening of the border Mur, sufficient water supply is no longer possible, especially during low water levels. The adaptation of the intake area intends to ensure this again.

Construction work will be carried out from November 2025 to February 2026.

FACTSHEET

GOALS

- Ensuring the water supply of the mill channel during low water with a maximum flow of 3 m³/s
- Improvement of hydrological conditions for 317 ha of riparian forest habitat
- Improvement of 15 ha of water bodies in the mill channel

The LIFE RESTORE for MDD project is a trans-boundary initiative aimed at protecting and restoring the largest contiguous floodplain forests in the UNESCO Five-country Biosphere Reserve Mura-Drava-Danube. From 2023 to 2028, 17 partners from Austria, Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary and Serbia will implement restoration measures at 29 locations covering an area of 2,100 km².



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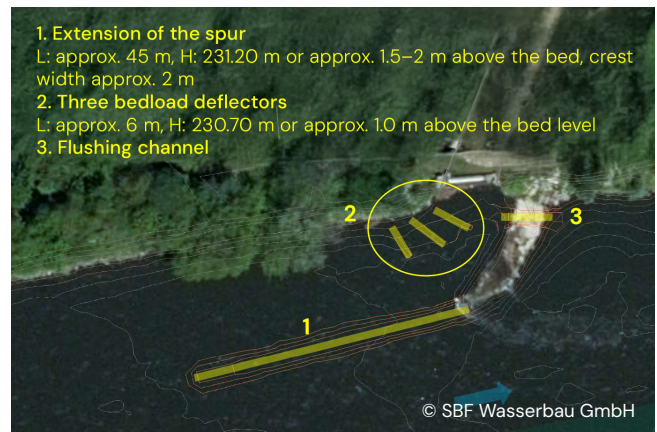
PLANNING

The requirements for the planning included, in addition to the amount of discharge, reducing the fine sediment input from the river Mura and thus minimizing maintenance efforts, while keeping construction costs low. Following a comprehensive analysis of the current situation, various options for improving the conditions were examined using hydraulic 2D modeling. The best option was then developed in detail.

MEASURE

For the implementation of the measure, the following construction activities in the Mur are required, which are in line with the objectives of the management plan "NATURA 2000 Site – Südoststeirisches Hügelland":

- Extension of the existing spur upstream by approximately 48 m
- Construction of three bed-load deflectors in the intake area
- Construction of a near-bank flushing channel in the area of the existing spur



Top: Existing inlet situation
Bottom: Site plan of the planned measure

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

- Office of the Styrian Government, Department 14 Water Management, Resources and Sustainability
- Office of the Styrian Government, Southeast Styria District Construction Management
- Mühlbach Mureck–Radkersburg Water Association
- SBF Wasserbau GmbH
- freiland Umweltconsulting ZT GmbH
- Schuster GmbH

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PARTNERS



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