Atlas of the Oder River Floodplain

Atlas in German, Czech, and Polish

The Floodplains Institute of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF-Auen-Institut) in Rastatt (a small German town in the floodplain of the Upper Rhine) has published a large-format, high-quality folio atlas of the entire Oder/Odra floodplain from the Czech Republic downstream through Poland and Germany to the Baltic Sea.

In 1996, WWF embarked on a project to prepare a baseline inventory of the natural floodplain infrastructures and biodiversity-relevant habitats and ecosystems. This was done in the context of emerging plans to develop the Oder/Odra river as a major navigation route, including a planned Danube-March-Odra canal.
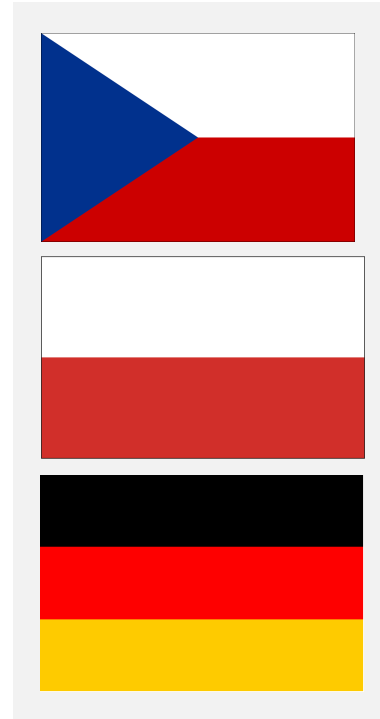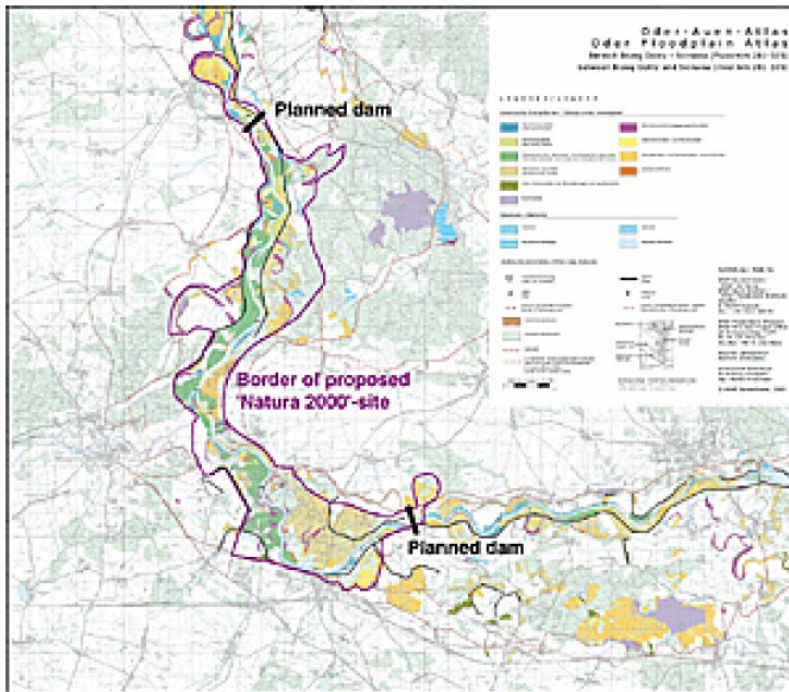
WWF compiled baseline data about the hydrological and biodiversity functions of the entire Odra floodplain in order to inventory the existing values and functions and to prevent potential environmentally damaging impacts of planned river engineering works.

The attached color plates entitled "Oder Floodplain Atlas" and "TNTatlas of Oder Floodplain" provide additional information about this multilingual folio atlas.

WWF

Fact Sheet

Oder Floodplain Atlas

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DEUTSCH

A lack of basic data created a serious problem for nature conservation activities in the Odra catchment area. The WWF-Auen-Institut (WWF-Institute for Floodplains Ecology, Germany) therefore produced an atlas describing all floodplains along 800 km of the Odra river. The atlas contains more than 50 maps in a scale 1:50.000, some additional maps in smaller scales and supporting texts. The maps show the types of biotopes, selected plant and animal species, geographic and morphologic landscape data and information about any hydraulic engineering projects. The data were compiled using GIS (geographic information system). With the publication of the Odra Floodplain Atlas, every discussion on future plans for the river will now have a solid scientific basis.

The Polish Government is preparing a major river engineering project, "Odra 2006", which would involve the construction of two major new dams downstream of Brzeg Dolny and major works to allow for navigation in the Odra river. These works will destroy some of the most valuable nature areas along the river. Yet this section with its high ecological value has also been included on the proposed Natura 2000 list.
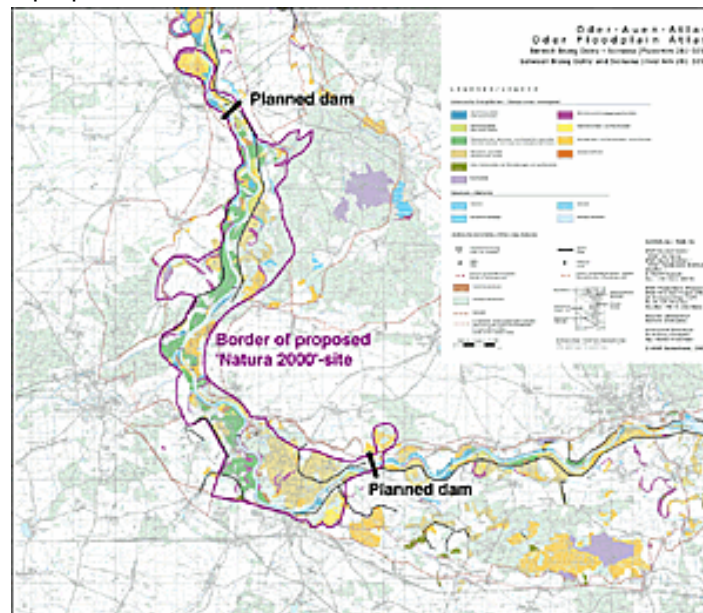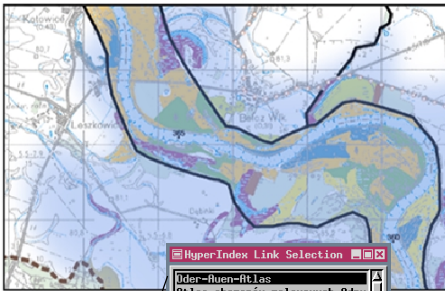
The printed version of this atlas is available for DM 170 (US$85) from the WWF-Auen-Institut. For ordering information contact:
Detlef Günther-Diringer
WWF-Auen-Institut
Josefstr. 1
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To view the complete atlas in its online form, go to www.microimages.com.

TNTatlas of Oder Floodplain

The World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) has become the world's largest independent conservation organization in just over 30 years. Since 1985 the WWF has invested US$1.2 billion in more than 11,000 projects in 130 countries. A recent project by the WWF-Auen-Institut (WWF-Institute for Floodplains Ecology, Germany) includes development and publishing of a folio size 200-page color atlas with Czech, Polish, and German combined in a single volume. This 12" by 16" atlas, which was published in December 2000, contains 52 color map plates at 1:50,000 each with transparent overlays, some additional maps at smaller scales, and supporting text and illustrations. These maps present the landcover and wetlands in the floodplain of an 800 kilometer reach of the Odra river in Poland.

Almost all maps, overlays, and spatial analyses in this atlas were prepared and laid out using the GIS features in TNTmips. An electronic version of this atlas was also created. The electronic atlas was designed so that you pick your language of choice before viewing the maps and overlays. The same Polish base maps and overlays are used in all three language versions—the data does not have to exist in multiple copies to produce the three different versions. The only objects that are different between the three versions are the layouts in which the layer names have been translated for each language so they appear in the LegendView and in the TNTatlas Layer Manager in the selected language. Labels for individual style samples and DataTips are also in the language that matches the selected layout.

The geodata in the atlas is organized in a single layout with map scale controlled visibility for many of the layers. As you zoom in you reveal landcover information and then topo maps. The overlays change from individual species sitings to biotope and water management information as you zoom in. Some layers are hidden but can be turned on for viewing at any map scale. Other hidden layers can only be turned on at map scales smaller than 1:100,000.
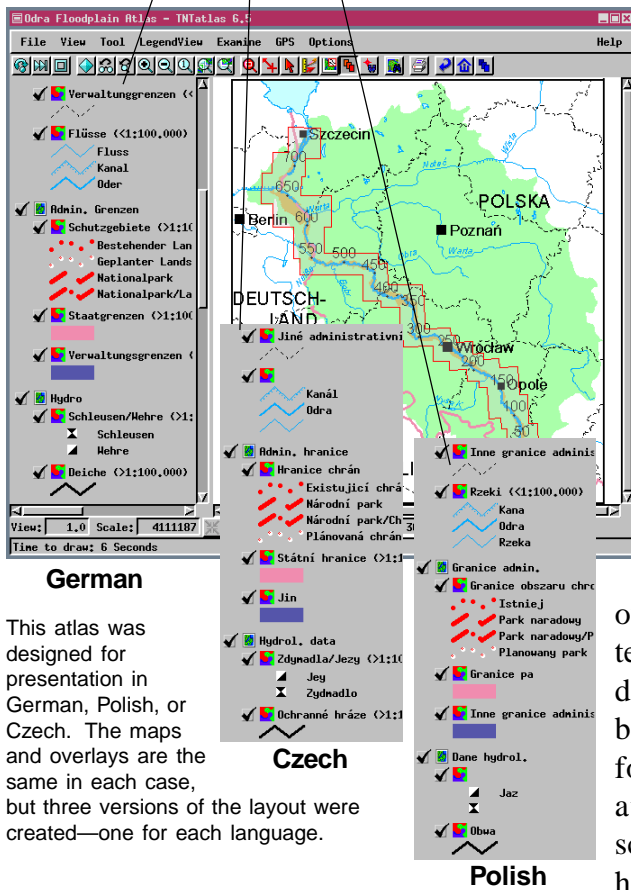
German

This atlas was designed for presentation in German, Polish, or Czech. The maps and overlays are the same in each case, but three versions of the layout were created—one for each language.

Czech

Polish

At small map scales, the landcover data is for the entire Odra watershed. At larger map scales, the 52 topographic maps make up the base imagery and cover the land area within 10–40 km of the Odra river. The vector layers containing biotope (>1:100,000) and plant and animal information (<1:100,000) are for the habitat adjacent to the river. For a complete listing of layers, see the back of this page. You can view this atlas online via TNTserver from MicroImages' web site.
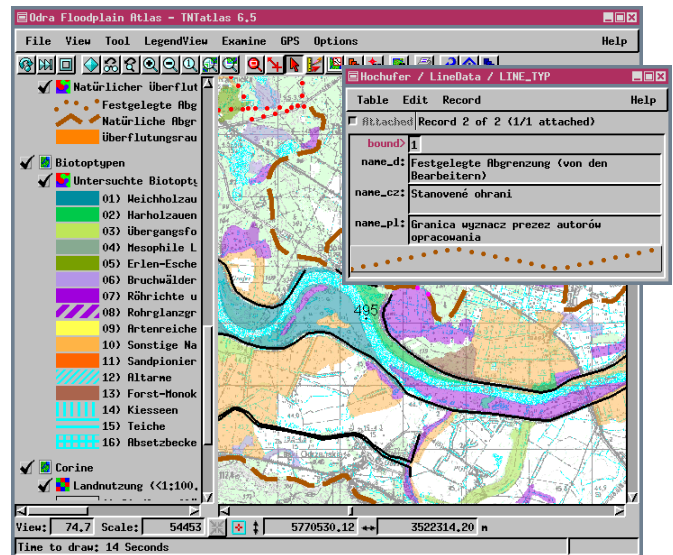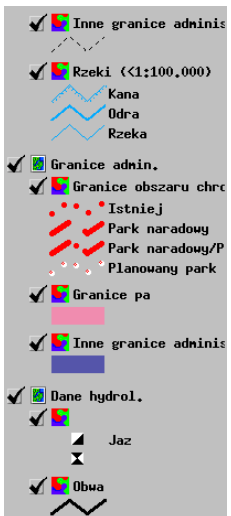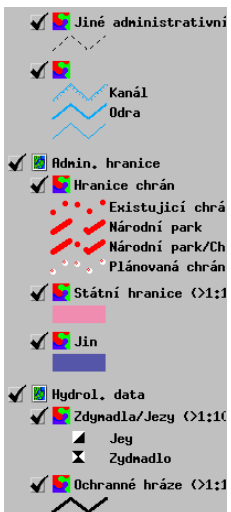
Oder Floodplain Atlas—1 Atlas in 3 Languages

German

(image legend — German)

Polish

(image legend — Polish)

Czech

(image legend — Czech)

A complete listing of the layers used for these 3 atlases is provided below. Details on whether the layer is on or off and its visible map scale are also provided. If a layer is noted as off, you need to turn it on for it to be visible within the indicated map scale range. If no scale range is indicated, the layer or group is visible at all scales.

Layout group (all layers on)
- neatline
- country names ($<2^6$)*
- stream names ($<2^6$)
- topo map location outline ($<8\text{x}10^5$)
- individual topo map outlines (10^5–$8\text{x}10^5$)

Plant and animal group (all layers off, when on, $<10^5$)
- plants
- fish
- bird points and polygons
- river buffer zones

Survey group (all layers on)
- km from Polish Czech border (spacing of markers dependent on map scale)
- place names ($<10^5$)
- lakes ($<10^5$)
- country borders ($<10^5$)
- district borders ($<10^5$)
- rivers ($<10^5$)

Administrative borders (all layers on, $>10^5$)
- protected lands
- country borders (different style than in Survey group)
- district borders (different style than in Survey group)

Water management group (some layers on, some off)
- locks and dams (on, 10^4–10^5)
- dikes (on, $2\text{x}10^4$–10^5)
- polders (off)
- rezente Aue (off)
- 1997 flood (off)
- natural floodplain (on, $<10^5$)

Biotope group (layer on)
- biotope study (10^4–10^5)

Landcover group (layer on)
- land cover (10^5–$2\text{x}10^6$)

Topographic map group (layers on)
- topo maps (10^4–10^5)

Background group (layer on)
- Odra watershed ($<10^5$)

* further explanation of visible map scales
$<2^6$ = visible until zoomed in beyond 1:2,000,000
10^5–$2\text{x}10^6$ = visible between 1:100,000 and 1:2,000,000
$<8\text{x}10^5$ = visible until zoomed in beyond 1:800,000
10^5–$8\text{x}10^5$ = visible between 1:100,000 and 1:800,000
$<10^5$ = visible until zoomed in beyond 1:100,000
$>10^5$ = becomes visible when zoomed in beyond 1:100,000
$2\text{x}10^4$–10^5 = visible between 1:20,000 and 1:100,000
10^4–10^5 = visible between 1:10,000 and 1:100,000