

## REFOCuS Stakeholder workshops

16.-17.10.2019

Venues:

- Federal Research and Training Centre for Forests, Natural Hazards and Landscape, Seckendorff-Gudent-Weg 8, 1131 Vienna,
- Imperial hunting lodge of *Eckartsau*, Schloß 1, 2305 Eckartsau
- Nationalpark "Donau Auen"



Please register [here](#)

## **Background**

Riparian forests of the [Mura-Drava-Danube Biosphere Reserve](#) are important because they provide many ecosystem services, including corridors for wildlife, and benefits. At the same time, they are in unfavourable condition due to increased incidence of pests and diseases, unsustainable human activities and lack of guidance on how to manage riparian forest, especially when natural regeneration fails. REFOCuS fight to counteract this decline by boosting riparian forest resilience through improved forest management, improved availability of forest reproductive material and an information system on pests and diseases.

<http://www.interreg-danube.eu/refocus>

If you are interested in the management of forests in the Mura-Drava-Danube Biosphere Reserve or their regeneration, you are kindly invited to take part at two workshops that will be held in vicinity of Vienna.

### **Workshop I on 16.10.2019: Identification of silviculture and conservation management objectives for the Mura-Drava-Danube Biosphere reserve.**

*Target audience: foresters, conservationists, forest owners, forest health experts and all other interested.*

To set management objectives for forests of the Biosphere Reserve, REFOCuS recognises the value of active stakeholder participation. Therefore, representatives of conservation and forest management will give insight on objectives and constraints faced during management of riparian forests in Austria. Discussion rounds shall enable all participants of the workshop to share their experience to obtain a coherent picture for the biosphere reserve. To support the process, preliminary results from field observations carried out in the forests of the entire Biosphere reserve from March to August 2019 will be presented and discussed.

A field trip to different sites in the national park „Donau Auen“, all close to the meeting venue, will demonstrate some of the management issues tackled by the ÖBf AG.

*Participants can join the bus from Vienna or can come directly to the venue in Eckartsau.*

Please register [here](#)

**Workshop II on 17.10.2019: Best practices for conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources for regeneration of riparian forests**

*Target audience: foresters, nurseries, forest owners, forest health experts, conservationists and all other interested.*

This workshop aims at collecting and cataloguing best practices used in Austria, Slovenia, Hungary, Croatia and Serbia for conservation of forest genetic resources and sustainable use of forest reproductive material in the riparian forests. During the workshop, everyone will have a chance to present best practices during participatory group work. We ask you to think about practices you yourself use or know about.

To set the stage, two best practices were already identified. In addition, we are looking for another best practice preferably coming from the practice to be presented as a voluntary contribution during the start of the workshop. If you are prepared to present such a best practice you use, please send a mail with a short description of this practice to Gregor Božič ([gregor.bozic@gozdis.si](mailto:gregor.bozic@gozdis.si)) and Marjana Westergren ([marjana.westergren@gozdis.si](mailto:marjana.westergren@gozdis.si)) by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019. Travel to the workshop and accommodation of the presenter of the best practice will be reimbursed by the Slovenian Forestry Institute.

Please register [here](#)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	
<b>WSI: Identification of silviculture and conservation management objectives for the Mura-Drava-Danube Biosphere reserve</b>					
Target audience: foresters, conservationists, forest owners, forest health experts and all other interested.					
Wed, 16.10.2019	Imperial hunting lodge of Eckartsau (Schloß 1, 2305 Eckartsau)		07:30	Departure BFW by bus: Seckendorff-Gudent-Weg 8, 1130 Vienna	
			09:00	Arrival of participants and coffee	
			09:30	Introduction	Dr. Silvio Schöler (BFW)
			09:45	Austrian Federal Forests (ÖBf AG) - Conservation management in the Nationalpark "Donauauen"	Dipl.-Ing. Gerald Oitzinger (ÖBf head of the Nationalpark) or representatives
			10:10	Discussion	
			10:20	Management of riparian forests in the forest enterprise Grafenegg, Austria	Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Herbert Tiefenbacher (head of forest enterprise Grafenegg)
			10:45	Discussion	
			11:00	Coffee break	
			11:30	Preliminary results: Exemplary field observations in the riparian forests of the MDD BR and stakeholder survey	Dipl.-Ing. Markus Sallmannshofer (BFW)
			12:15	Discussion	
			12:30	Lunch	
			13:30	Excursion to the Nationalpark "Donauauen" "Converting hybrid poplar stands back to nature / Unevenaged-forest management / Management of non-native tree species / Zonation and visitor guidance"	
			18:00	Voluntary visit of the city centre	

<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Speaker</i>	
<b>WS II: Best practices for conservation and sustainable use of forest genetic resources for regeneration of riparian forests</b>					
Target audience: foresters, nurseries, forest owners, forest health experts, conservationists and all other interested.					
Thu, 17.10.2019	BFW Vienna, Seckendorff- Gudent-Weg 8, 1131 Vienna,		09:00	Arrival of participants and coffee	
			09:15	Introduction	Dr. Gregor Božič (SFI)
			09:30	Presentations and group work:	
				Checking for phytophthora presence in nurseries and the certificate on pest free nurseries	Dr. Thomas Cech (BFW)
				Ex situ conservation of poplars and their use for restoration projects	Dr. Laszlo Nagy (ERTI)
				Voluntary contribution of a best practice	Open floor for participants
			10:30	Coffee break	
			11:00	Group work: sharing best practices among countries	
			12:30	Wrap up with summary from group discussions	
	13:00	Lunch and departure			

## Hotel and Route Maps

### **Hotel:**

For participants of the REFOCuS meeting we recommend the “[Austria Trend Parkhotel Schönbrunn](#)”, as it is between underground station and BFW institute building. The address of the hotel is:

**Austria Trend Parkhotel Schönbrunn**  
**Hietzinger Hauptstraße 10 – 14**  
**1130 Wien**

A room costs about 84 Euros (comfort rooms) per night and breakfast is included.

E-mail address for booking: [reservierung.parkhotel.schoenbrunn@austria-trend.at](mailto:reservierung.parkhotel.schoenbrunn@austria-trend.at)

BFW has special conditions for this hotel (up to 10 people), so please remark that you are visiting BFW for some project work (not a conference!). Otherwise, a quick check at booking.com shows that you may receive a similar price with the standard booking platform and of course you may also choose another hotel.

### **Arrival:**

The arrival from **Airport Vienna** to the hotel takes about 40 to 50 minutes. The fastest and easiest way is to take the [City Airport Train \(CAT\)](#), which connects the airport with the city center (**Wien Mitte, Landstraße**) and costs 12 Euro one way or 20 Euro two ways. Coming from the train station “Wien Mitte” take the **underground U4** in direction “Hütteldorf” and get off after 9 stops at station “**Hietzing**”. The hotel is located 240 m away from underground station and is at the opposite of the park Schönbrunn (see map below).

A cheaper way to travel from the airport to the station “Wien Mitte” is to take the **S7 rapid transit railway**, which takes ten minutes longer for the ride than the City Airport Train (CAT), but costs only 4.20 Euro.

For further information use these links: <https://www.wienerlinien.at/eportal3/> and <https://www.oebb.at/en/>. On these websites route planners are available.





## From BFW to Eckartsau

A bus for all participants will depart at BFW (Seckendorff-Gudent-Weg 8, 1131 Vienna) at 7:30 am (meeting at 7:15).

Of course, participants can also arrive individually by car. Parking places are available at the western gate of the area. Please enter the complex and enter the courtyard.

