



UFZ-Seminar „Wasser and Environment“



23. Mai 2016, 3pm

Saal, Brückstr. 3a, Magdeburg

Gregor Ollesch

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gives a talk on:

An insight into the update of the RBMP for the German part of the Elbe River Basin

The Elbe River Basin Community (FGG ELBE) was founded in 2004 by the ten federal states of the catchment area and the federal government to coordinate the implementation of the EU Water Framework Directive. The publication of the river basin management plan (RBMP) in 2009 and first evaluation of the water body status/potential according the WFD requirements showed that the overwhelming majority of water bodies in the German part of the catchment were in a status/potential less than good. The RBMP and the programme of measures (POM) are based on the identification of significant water management issues at a catchment wide scale. However, the environmental targets are generally defined at water body scale. A high number of measures were planned and put in place to improve the situation especially in the fields of hydro-morphology elements and reduction of nutrient loads. Exemptions according Art 4.4 of the WFD (extension of deadline) were utilized for almost all water bodies. In its assessment in 2012 the EU Commission has criticized the RBMP to be not transparent enough and the programmes of measure (POM) to show too little ambition. The classification of status/potential during the update of the RBMP published in 2015 did not show significant improvement which is mainly due to a lack of comparability because of changed classification methods, delays of the effect of measures and lack of resources to implement measures.

An improvement of RBMP with the 2009/2014 data environment was not feasible. For the electronic reporting into WISE (Water Management System of Europe) 2016 the EU Commission asks explicitly to identify the gaps between the status quo and the good status/potential concerning the different pressures of the water body and, furthermore,

targeted planning of measures for the WFD cycles until 2027. The expected stepwise reduction of the significant pressures for each water body has to be reported as well as drivers and impacts. This formalization of the “DPSIR” approach is difficult to bring in line with the fundamentals of WFD which demands the involvement of the public and stakeholders and does not reflect the praxis of water management in the federal states. Problems also arise because of the late definition of reporting details. The update of the published RBMP and the electronic reporting differ in depth and focus.

The lecture will summarize the process of updating of the RBMP and the given fields of conflicts.

If you are interested to join via Video-Conference to UFZ Halle or UFZ Leipzig, please send a note to nina.baumbach@ufz.de by Tuesday, 17.05.16, 12am.