

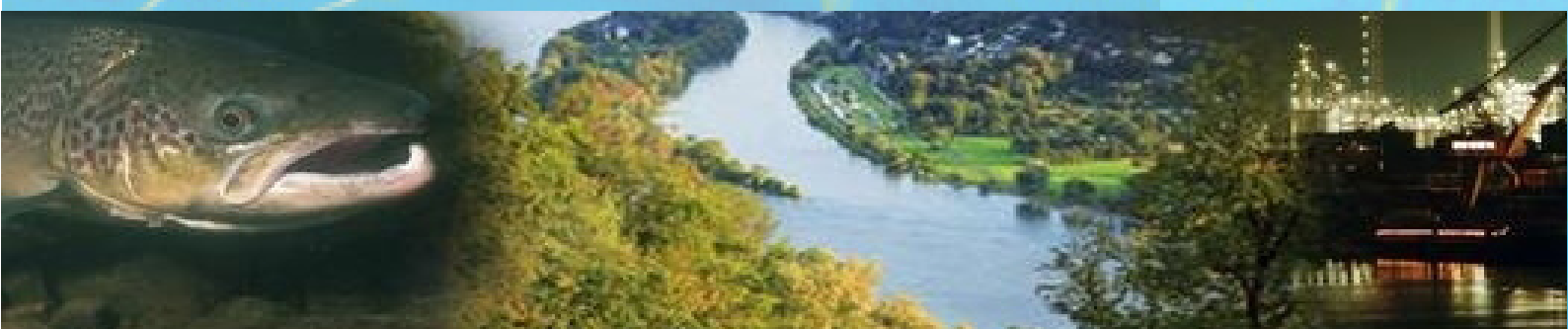
**Report  
on the identification  
of potential significant flood  
risk areas in the international river  
basin district Rhine**



Internationale  
Kommission zum  
Schutz des Rheins

Commission  
Internationale  
pour la Protection  
du Rhin

Internationale  
Commissie ter  
Bescherming  
van de Rijn



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Internationale Kommission zum Schutz des Rheins  
Commission Internationale pour la Protection du Rhin  
Internationale Commissie ter Bescherming van de Rijn

## Report on the determination of potential significant flood risk areas in the international river basin district Rhine

### Preface

As required in Article 4 of the EU Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC) of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 October 2007 on the Assessment and Management of Flood Risks (in the following the "FD"), the **EU-Member States** have proceeded with a **preliminary flood risk assessment** by end 2011. Until end 2010 they were equally able to make use of the transitional measures according to FD Article 13. According to FD Article 5, EU Member States are required to designate those areas presenting a potential significant flood risk.

Within the CIS process the Member States and the European Commission agreed on an informal level (i. e. common implementation strategy, Working Group F, 27 & 28 October, Final Minutes as of 1.4.2011) that this designation can be part of the reporting scheduled for 22 September 2012. Therefore and according to the afore-mentioned agreement, ongoing coordination in the IRBD Rhine has been continued until June 2012.

In the Conference of Rhine Ministers of 18 October 2007 the International Commission for the Protection of the Rhine was charged to support the coordination required within the implementation of the FD between EU Member States and Switzerland in the catchment in a comparable manner to what is done for the Water Framework Directive.

Since Switzerland is no member of the EU, it is not obliged to implement the Floods Directive. As was the case within the implementation of the Water Framework Directive, and based on national law, Switzerland has supported the coordination of the EU Member States with respect to implementing the Floods Directive.

The EU Member States and Liechtenstein as a member of the EEA are responsible for reporting on the implementation of the Floods Directive to the EU Commission.

The reports of the EU Member States to the EU Commission followed the requirements of the "Reporting Sheets for the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment", 2009.

This summary report and two jointly drafted survey maps will serve the EU Member States

- (1) as documentation for the use of FD Article 4 (preliminary assessment of flood risk) in the IRBD Rhine (catchment > 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>) or for the use of FD Article 13 (transitional measures) in the states or federal states/regions by end 2010
- (2) As a proof for the exchange of information required according to FD Article 4, par. 3
- (3) As proof for the coordination in the IRBD Rhine required according to FD Article 5, par. 2 and covered by the reporting obligation.

## Relevant exchange of information according to FD Article 4, par. 3 and coordination based on FD Article 5, par. 2 concerning the designation of flood risk areas in the IRBD Rhine

Within the ICPR, the exchange of information on transboundary flood risk management is based on concrete work resulting from the international cooperation of the 9 states in the Rhine catchment. Some Rhine bordering states (France, Switzerland, Germany, Luxemburg and the Netherlands) are implementing the Action Plan on Floods (1995-2020) which was adopted by the Conference of Rhine Ministers on 22 January 1998 and which served as a model, when drafting the Floods Directive at EU level.

During the first implementation phase of the Floods Directive, **two survey maps** were drafted within the ICPR/Coordination Committee Rhine, **one on the determination of potentially significant flood risk areas and one on the use of transitional measures in the international river basin district Rhine** representing the network of water bodies part A (catchment > 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>, basic map: EuroGlobalMap-EGM). The preliminary assessment of flood risks is based on Article 4 and Article 13 of the Floods Directive.

Both survey maps (annex 1 and 2) are the result of the exchange of information during 2010/2011 and the coordination so far in the IRBD Rhine with respect to the reporting criteria required according to FD Article 5, par. 2. The exchange of information and coordination takes place among the EU Member States (Germany, France, Netherlands, Luxemburg, Austria, Belgium (Wallonia)) in the IRBD Rhine and includes Liechtenstein and Switzerland.

According to Article 5, par. 2 of the Floods Directive, coordination in the IRBD Rhine was carried on until June 2012.

### *Use of the Articles 4 and 13 of the Floods Directive*

The survey map in annex 1 indicates which states or federal states/regions have made use of FD Article 4 and which have made use of FD Article 13 (transitional measures).

#### **FD Article 4**

The following states or federal states have proceeded with a preliminary assessment of flood risk according to Article 4:

- **Germany**, as far as the federal states Lower Saxony, North Rhine Westphalia, Baden-Württemberg and Thuringia are concerned.
- **France** for its entire territory.
- **Austria** for its entire territory.

#### **FD Article 13**

The following states or federal states/regions have not proceeded with any preliminary flood risk assessment according to Article 4 and have made use of the transitional measures according to FD Article 13, as they already dispose of knowledge, maps or management plans which they consider to correspond to the requirements of the directive.

- **Germany** makes use of the transitional measures of FD Article 13 for some sub-basins of the IRBD Rhine;
  - *Rhineland-Palatinate* makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1 a** for all areas of operation in the IRBD Rhine.
  - *The Saarland* makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1 a** for all areas of operation in the IRBD Rhine.
  - *Bavaria* makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1 a** for the surface share in the area of operation Alpine Rhine – Lake Constance and of **FD Article 13,**

**par. 1b and Article 13, par. 3** for the Bavarian share of the area of operation Main.

- Hesse makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1b** for all running waters on level A in the IRBD Rhine.
- The **Netherlands** make use of transitional measures of **FD Article 13, par. 1b**.
- **Belgium (Wallonia)** makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1b** for its entire territory.
- **Luxemburg** makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 1a** and **Article 13, par. 2** and has thus not proceeded with any preliminary assessment. The flood risk has been assessed within the project INTERREG IIIB TIMIS Flood ("Transnational Internet Map Information System on Flooding").
- **Liechtenstein** makes use of **FD Article 13, par. 2** for its entire territory.
- **Switzerland:** The analysis of the data bank on past nature events and a model covering all major Swiss rivers (Aquaprotect) reveal that almost all Swiss municipalities are potentially concerned by flood hazards and hazards of mud flow. Since 1991 there is a legal obligation to draft risk maps (fluvial flooding, lake inundation). Thus, basically all waters to be taken into account within the ICPR are to be classified as potential areas at risk except for those sections of water bodies which are in a natural state and along which damages can therefore not occur.

### ***State of application of FD Article 5***

The survey map in annexe 2 shows the potentially significant flood risk areas in the IRBD Rhine according to FD Article 5 and based on the preliminary assessment of flood risk presented above.

The survey map illustrates that, based on the preliminary assessment or existing knowledge (red) for the main stream of the Rhine and its most important tributaries in the IRBD Rhine, part A, catchments > 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>, most river sections present a **potential significant flood risk**.

In France, the following "**Areas of significant flood risk**" (territoires à risques importants d'inondation TRI<sup>1</sup>) (red hatched) have been designated according to FD Article 4 and 5:

- Alsace: "Strasbourg and surroundings" (3 flowing waters: Bruche\*, Ill, Rhine; flood risk area with significant flood risk and nationwide consequences) and "Mulhouse and surroundings" (Ill and Doller\*).
- Lorraine:
  - "Metz - Thionville - Pont-à-Mousson" (along the Moselle from Blénod-les-Pont-à-Mousson up to the French-German-Luxembourgian border)
  - "Pont-Saint-Vincent" (Madon\*)
  - "Nancy - Damelevières" (Meurthe), Epinal (Moselle), Saint-Dié – Baccarat (Meurthe)
  - "Saargemünd" (Saar and Blies\* in the border area towards the Saarland)

Only some rare sections of the Anterior and Posterior Rhine in Switzerland and shorter sections of Rhine tributaries do **not present any potential significant flood risk** (green).

<sup>1</sup> See the list of affected municipalities in the ordinance of the prefect "Arrêté S.G.A.R. n° 2012- 527" of 18 December 2012 (see following link).

\* catchments < 2 500 km<sup>2</sup>

## Directory of detailed information on the preliminary assessment of flood risk in the states<sup>2</sup> and federal states/regions

### Germany

#### Baden-Württemberg

<http://www.hochwasser.baden-wuerttemberg.de>

#### Bavaria

[http://www.lfu.bayern.de/wasser/hw\\_vorlaeufige\\_risikobewertung/index.htm](http://www.lfu.bayern.de/wasser/hw_vorlaeufige_risikobewertung/index.htm)

<http://www.hopla-main.de>

#### Hesse

<http://www.hlug.de/start/wasser/hochwasser/hochwasserrisiko-managementplaene.html>

#### Lower Saxony

<http://www.hwrn-rl.niedersachsen.de>

#### North Rhine-Westphalia

<http://www.umwelt.nrw.de/umwelt/wasser/hochwasser/hochwasserrisikomanagementrichtlinie/index.php>

#### Rhineland-Palatinate

<http://www.hochwassermanagement.rlp.de/servlet/is/391/>

#### Saarland

<http://www.saarland.de/74440.htm>

#### Thuringia

[http://www.thueringen.de/th8/tmfun/umwelt/wasser/hochwasservorsorge/hochwasserrisiko\\_management/risikobewertung/](http://www.thueringen.de/th8/tmfun/umwelt/wasser/hochwasservorsorge/hochwasserrisiko_management/risikobewertung/)

### Luxembourg

<http://www.waasser.lu>

<http://eau.geoportail.lu>

### Netherlands

Maps: [http://www.risicokaart.nl/informatie\\_over\\_risicos/overstroming](http://www.risicokaart.nl/informatie_over_risicos/overstroming)

Plan: [http://www.helpdeskwater.nl/onderwerpen/wetgeving\\_beleid/eu-richtlijn](http://www.helpdeskwater.nl/onderwerpen/wetgeving_beleid/eu-richtlijn)

### France

Preliminary assessment: <http://www.lorraine.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/evaluation-preliminaire-des-r1884.html>

Areas presenting a significant flood risk:

<http://www.lorraine.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/territoire-a-risque-important-d-a4228.html>

[http://www.lorraine.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/arrete\\_SGAR\\_no2012-527\\_du\\_18\\_dec\\_2012\\_liste\\_TRI\\_cle558fa4.pdf](http://www.lorraine.developpement-durable.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/arrete_SGAR_no2012-527_du_18_dec_2012_liste_TRI_cle558fa4.pdf)

### Region Wallonia

Floods website under construction

Map of flood areas:

<http://cartographie.wallonie.be/NewPortailCarto/index.jsp?page=subMenuInondations&node=32&node=321>

### Austria

<http://wisa.lebensministerium.at/> > Flood risk management > preliminary risk assessment

Report areas of operation Alp Rhine / Lake Constance:

[http://www.vorarlberg.at/vorarlberg/wasser\\_energie/wasser/wasserwirtschaft/weitereinformationen/internationalewasserwirts/uebersichtinternationalew.htm](http://www.vorarlberg.at/vorarlberg/wasser_energie/wasser/wasserwirtschaft/weitereinformationen/internationalewasserwirts/uebersichtinternationalew.htm)

### Liechtenstein

Contact: [emanuel.banzer@abs.li](mailto:emanuel.banzer@abs.li)

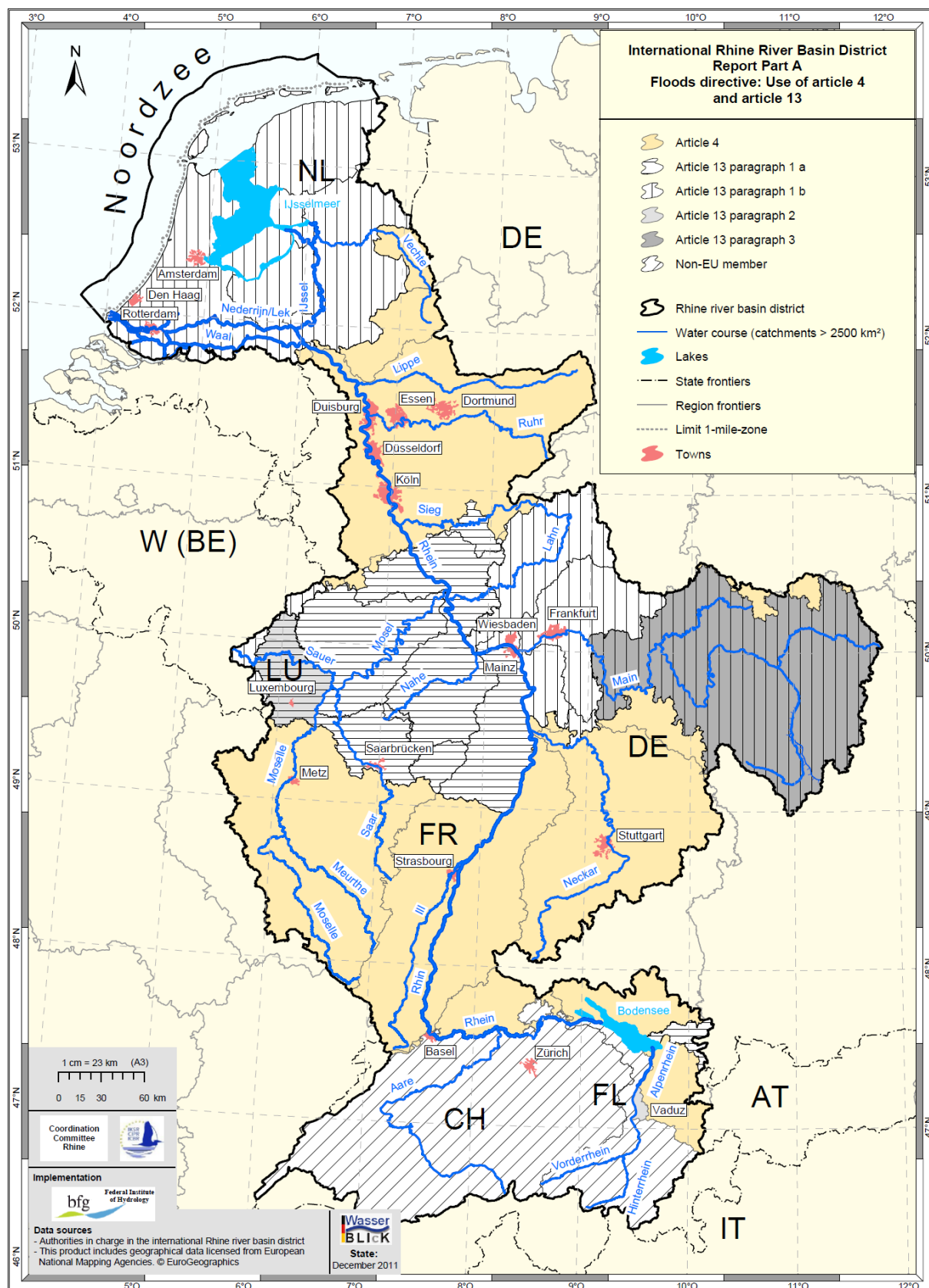
### Switzerland

[www.bafu.admin.ch/gefahrenkarten](http://www.bafu.admin.ch/gefahrenkarten)

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<sup>2</sup> Since Switzerland is no member of the EU, it is not obliged to implement the Floods Directive.

# Annex 1 – Survey map on the use of Article 4 and Article 13 of FD in the states or federal states / regions (IRBD Rhine part A; catchment > 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>)





## Annex 2 – Survey map on the determination of potential significant flood risk areas in the IRBD Rhine (part A, catchment > 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>)

