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REHABILITATION AND EXTENSION OF WETLANDS WITHIN FLOODPLAINS OF EMBANKED RIVERS

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Abstract

Embankment works modify the river and floodplain hydrology by interrupting the transversal connectivity of the water bodies. The altered river flow regime affects riparian wetlands. This paper describes the rehabilitation possibilities of embanked areas by restoring connectivity of the river and topographically low zones on the floodplain (oxbows, backwaters, brooks). The following measures are proposed: refreshing inland waters from the river during droughts and evacuation of the excess at rains, controlling water level in drainage channels and, by it, the ground water table. Connecting pools to drainage canals, controlling the water level on these, assuring refreshing water from the rivers, quality of the environment will be improved. Applying rehabilitation proposals within the paper for Trifești Sculeni embanked Prut River floodplain better conditions for wet habitats (including Natura 2000 sites) of the zone will be assured.

Key words: embankment, floodplain, oxbows, rehabilitation, wetlands

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