The federal state government of Upper Austria approached ÖBB-Infrastruktur AG with the suggestion that the nature protection authority takes over the landscape management of specific railway sites that are home to rare species of plants and animals.

**THE SOLUTION**

The authority agreed to fund landscape management measures in order to protect and enhance valuable habitats. The nature protection authority subcontracted the practical work to landscape management companies, whose staff had to undergo the necessary safety training.

**AUSTRIA CASE STUDY**

**Keywords**: Nature Protection Engagement

UIC is seeking solutions and best practice to manage rail lineside in a way that can help *halt and reverse the loss of biodiversity*.

This poster provides information about Theme 7: *Stakeholder engagement and how this has resulted in biodiversity gain*.

**Outcomes**

The To date, 33 sites with a total area of 4.5 ha in Upper Austria have been selected to be managed in this way.

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The International Union of Railways (UIC) is the worldwide professional association representing the railway sector and promoting rail transport. UIC leads an innovative and dynamic sector, helping our members find opportunities and build success. The purpose of UIC’s Ecological Effects of Railways on Wildlife (rEvERsE) project is to understand railway’s role in the loss and gain of biodiversity and its habitats in Europe. It will seek to set out how railways can manage land in an ecologically sensitive way, providing solutions and best practice examples.

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Keywords: Nature Protection Engagement