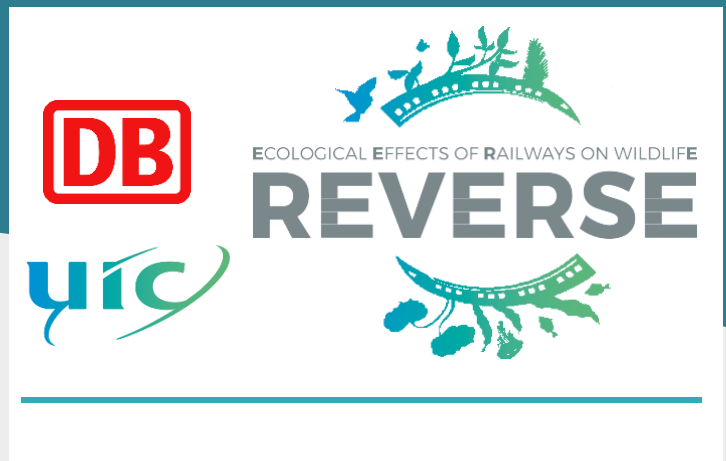


The International Union of Railways (UIC) is the worldwide professional association representing the railway sector and promoting rail transport. UIC leads an innovative and dynamic sector, helping our members find opportunities and build success. The purpose of UIC's **Ecological Effects of Railways 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.



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 1:

“Where companies have had an active role in the development of national strategies for biodiversity.”

GERMANY

The Strategy for the exemplary consideration of biodiversity concerns for all federal land is a “Subsidiary Strategy” of the German National Strategy on Biodiversity (NBS). Therefore, the objectives of the NBS were directed at all public sector actors, who should take a pioneering role.

THE SOLUTION

- *Crossing aids in noise barriers – DB builds small-animal passages in noise barriers as crossing aids along railway lines. Such culverts are built wherever it is necessary for the reasons of species protection, for example for reptiles.*
- *Bird protection on overhead contact lines – DB is leading a working group consisting of representatives of environmental associations, the Federal Railway Authority and the BMU as well as DB technicians is working on solutions, to make the overhead contact line systems bird-safe. Measures for both existing and new construction and upgrading are considered.*
- *IT support for compensation obligations – at DB the process chain from planning and implementation to the permanent maintenance of compensation obligations is supported seamlessly by an IT tool (“Fachinformationssystem Naturschutz und Kompensation” - FINK for short). In this way quality in the implementation and maintenance of compensation measures is significantly increased*

- *DB's own protected area documentation contains GIS data on protected areas in accordance with the Federal Nature Conservation Act and the Federal Water Act. In this way, nature conservation issues can be identified at an early stage and taken into account in the planning process.*
- *Guides and information sheets on invasive species have been developed at DB. According to internal regulations, these are generally controlled non-chemically. Methods such as mowing, mulching or staking are described.*
- *Environmental education –The training measures at DB are not only aimed at the company's environmental experts but are also offered to all employees in a target group-specific manner. The aim is to bring the topic of biodiversity to the attention of a broader workforce.*

Outcomes

The Strategy for the exemplary consideration of biodiversity concerns for all federal land (StrÖff) was adopted by the Federal Government ([link](#)). The measures fixed within the StrÖff were monitored. Hence a benefit for biodiversity was yielded.



Keywords: National Strategy,



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