



Progress report Bahnhof 06/2017 - 05/2019

0. Introduction

Bahnhof GmbH is a railway company with its headquarters on the former customs station in Homburg/Saar with a company site of approximately 64 ha. Our Business fields are construction site logistics for Deutsche Bahn and recycling of materials deriving from the renewal of railway lines in the Greater Region. Furthermore Bahnhof carries out logistics activities in the region, such as the operation of railway lines and shunting activities in stations and companies. For example, for Saarstahl goods are transshipped to the company premises; these raw products are assembled and dispatched for end customers. In addition, a container terminal is used for transshipment from road to rail and vice versa.

By signing the Mission Statement of the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative Bahnhof supports the CBD's goals on biological diversity.

1. The impact of corporate activities on biodiversity

Following the experience and successes of the past years, in which the number of ecologically valuable species on the company's premises has constantly and exponentially increased, further measures are being examined in order to progress along this path. For example, for all construction projects involving changes to the site, compatibility with biotope and species protection shall be assessed or, conversely, we start investigating which species protection measures can simultaneously have a positive influence on operational processes.

2. Protection of biological diversity in operational sustainability management

An example: Slope pressure water undermines railway tracks. Normally this problem would be solved by means of a classic drainage system and the water would be drained into the sewerage system. In fact, Dr. Christoph Bernd, Bahnlog's field biologist, advised the construction of several ponds along the slope to collect this water in front of the railway tracks. In the following years ecologically valuable biotopes were created there with a constantly growing diversity of species. Since the water from the agricultural land above is very rich in nutrients due to fertilization, the plants in the ponds grow very quickly and have to be removed regularly to prevent rapid silting up.

During the period under review, additional satellite water bodies were added, which have an ecological function as free-running biotopes.

Biotope and species protection management is exclusive responsibility of field biologist Dr. Christoph Bernd. He plans and coordinates measures to be applied and ensures the long-term, sustainable protection of biotopes and species inventories.

3. Responsible position in the company

The managing partner Jörg Michael Fries is responsible for all economic and ecological activities in the group of companies. Since 2009, however, he secured the services of field biologist Dr. Christoph Bernd, who has continuously been documenting the scientific recording of existing conditions independently, deriving and implementing tangible actions, always in accordance with the operational conditions and requirements.

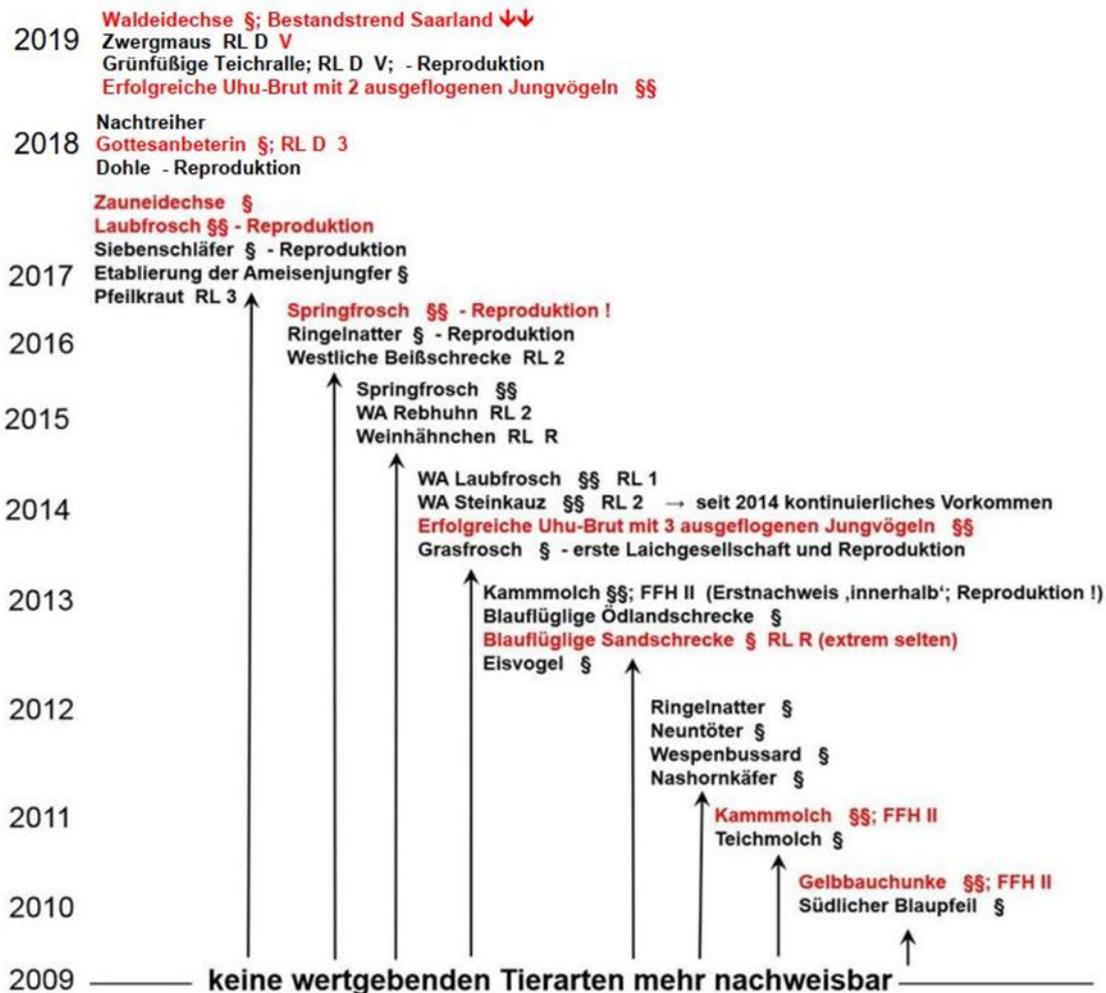
4. Set verifiable and realistic goals

The scientific supervision by our field biologist has been providing valid data for ten years so far. Regularly set goals for the following period have generally been exceeded. This was achieved because of a rather conservative forecast and an interplay of factors that could not all be included in the forecasts. New species conservation targets for 2020 include the construction of a new beetle pile, the design of a Bee Bank for wild bees and a wildcat castle. These proposals have now been completed and can be presented in all probability within the next progress report.

During the reporting period, among others, following species were recorded: Ant-maiden, dormouse (reproduction), tree frog (reproduction), sand lizard, praying mantis, night heron, jackdaw (reproduction), praying mantis, successful eagle owl brood with two young birds, green-footed water rail (reproduction), little mouse, common lizard.

Evidence of valuable species

Nachweise wertgebender Arten seit 2009



A longer noise barrier between the company premises and the long-distance railway line should not simply be planted with trees and shrubs as usual, but after a precise analysis, it should be designed as a biotope of nutrient-poor grassland. Here too, economic functionality is to be combined with simultaneous ecological upgrading. Due to the east-west orientation in full southern exposure, the development of xerothermal, nutrient-poor habitat types, was an obvious choice for the concept habitats that have been for several years the focus of biotope protection due to their rarity and progressive threat.

5. Publishing activities and successes

From the beginning Dr. Christoph Bernd periodically writes an annual status report in which all activities are documented. In the past this report was mainly used for internal documentation and put at disposal for authorities and interested scientific societies. The current report can also be viewed on the homepage and on the website of the 'Biodiversity in Good Company' Initiative.

The regional media now report very regularly and in detail on Bahnlog's biotope and species protection activities, in particular on the innovative approach: "Biotope and species protection during operation".

6. Suppliers and the biodiversity goals

Deutsche Bahn is both a supplier and an important customer. Here too, Bahnlog regularly reports on its activities and observes the sustainability goals of the logistics company. Partners who are economically active on the company's premises are regularly informed about running activities and are required to support. When selecting additional suppliers and partners, greater attention shall be paid to the formulation of their compliance to sustainability targets.

7. Cooperation

Cooperation project with a school s sponsoring a valuable amphibian spawning water in a neighboring community. We support with materials and know-how (construction of a hibernation quarter in the direct water proximity).

Collaboration with the Potzberg Bird of Prey Zoo for the reintroduction of the Little Owl, which has been successfully carried out for years.

In connection with another reintroduction project for the Little Owl there is a cooperation with the Zoo Neunkirchen/Saar.

Together with the Naturlandstiftung Saar, a project for the reintroduction of the Garlic Toad is currently underway.

Reintroduction of the Partridge in cooperation with the local hunting society Kirkel-Altstadt.

Cooperation with the terrarium zoo REPTILIUM Landau in a species assistance program for the Yellow-bellied Toad.

Cooperation project with the German Society for Herpetology and Terrarium Science to support the population of the Yellow-bellied Toad and the Midwife Toad.

Lectures at the Chamber of Industry and Commerce of Saarland.