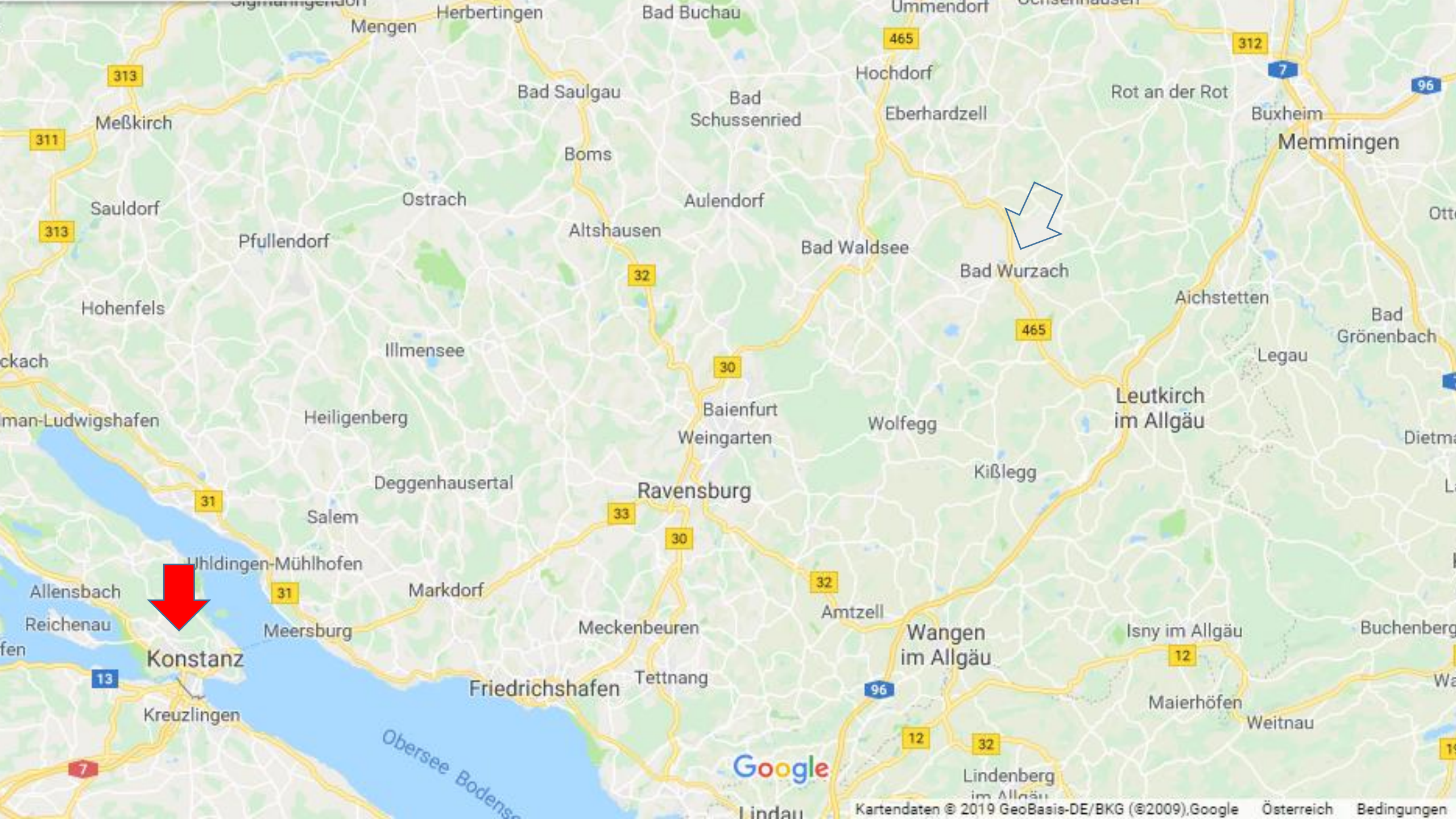




Wollmatinger Ried Nature Reserve (Germany)

On-the-spot-appraisal July 2018

Robert Brunner, 1070 Wien



Google

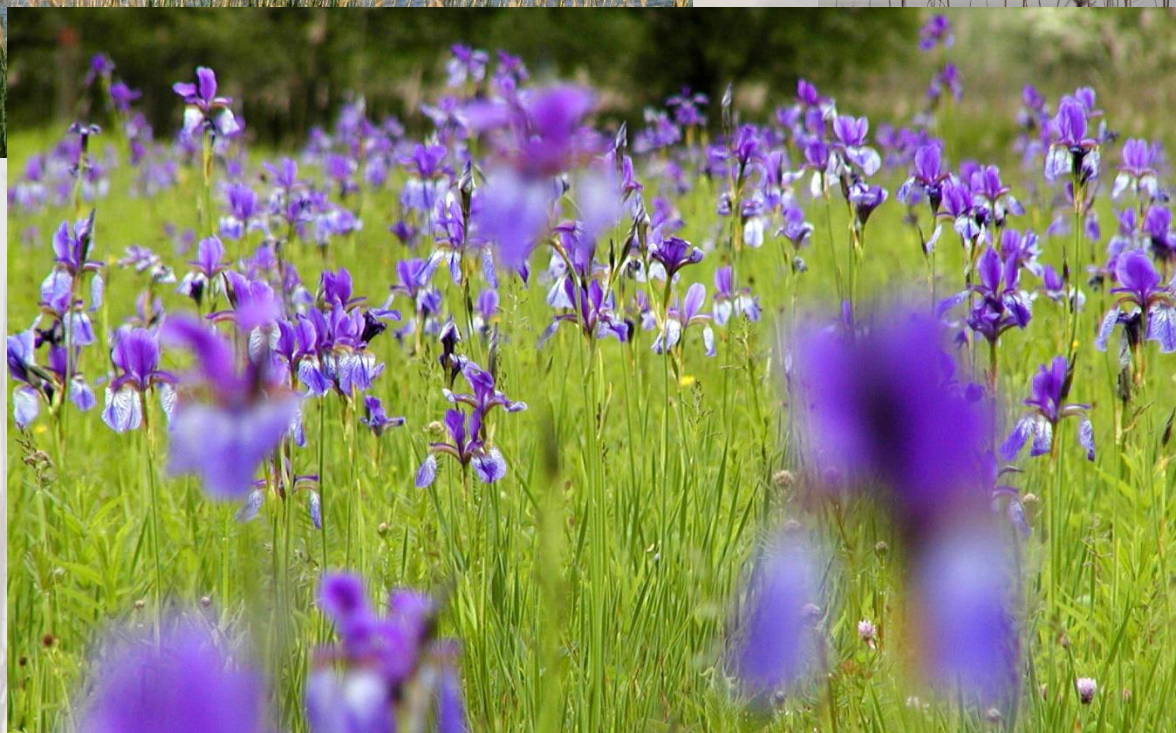




Top: Tufted duck

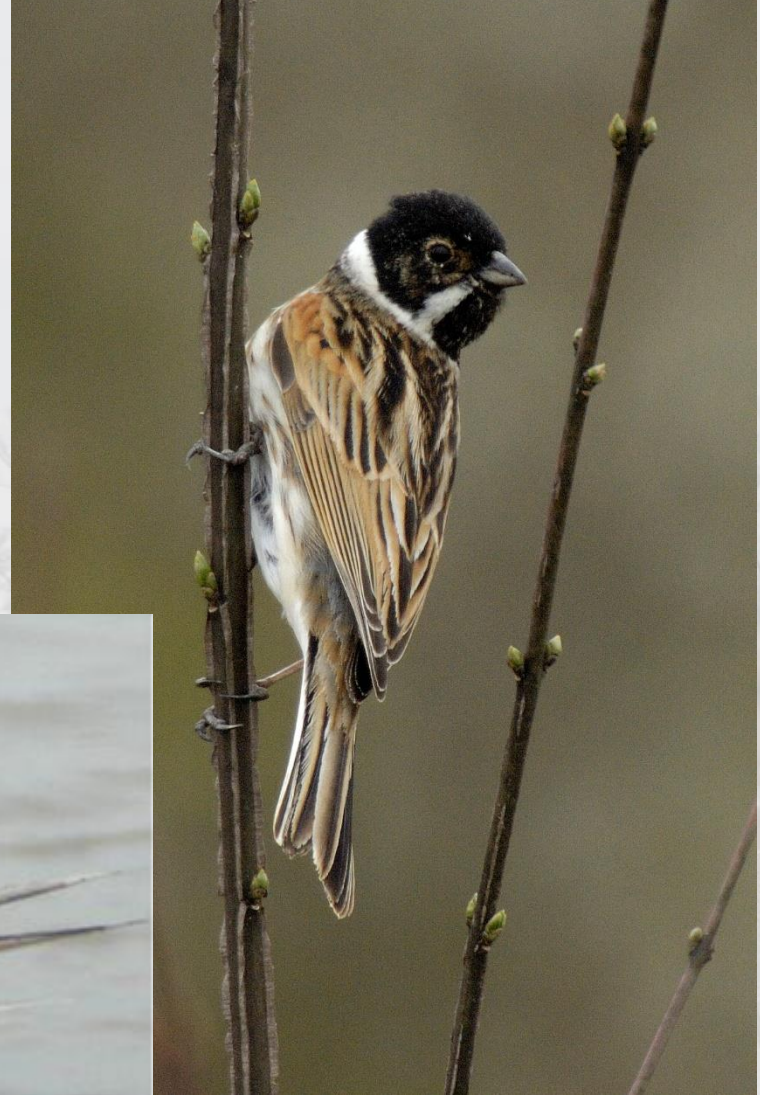


**Right: Lake shore and
Reed belt**



**Below: Siberian Iris
(*Iris sibirica*)**

© Top: Andreas Hafen
Right: Eva Baier
Below: Heinrich Werner



Top: Tufted duck
(*Aythya fuligula*)

Right: Reed bunting
(*Emberiza schoeniclus*)

Below: Common tern
(*Sterna hurindo*)

© Top: Andreas Hafen
Right: Tom Dove
Below: Detlev Koch



Threats

© Left: NABU
Below: Brunner

2009 Recommendations:

- Nature should develop naturally, particularly in shallow water sections
- Fishing activities must be halted in the Schläuchle and an overall assessment should be carried out
- Eliminate disturbances particularly in the moulting season
- Harmonise protection measures in Germany and Switzerland
- The operation of the reception centre should be guaranteed

2019 conditions:

1. Carefully examine the legal possibilities
 - to enlarge the strict core zones of the Wollmatinger Ried – Untersee – Gnadensee Nature Reserve and/or
 - to end fishery in the most sensitive areas, mainly *Schläuche* and southern Hegne Bay, under the provisions of the bilateral treaty between Germany and Switzerland aiming to improve the quality of the area as breeding ground, wintering place and moulting area. Results of these examinations should be reported to the Council of Europe within five years after the renewal of the Diploma.

2019 conditions (contd):

2. Reject any proposals or plans to eliminate naturally-built barriers like the so-called Schneggglisand and silting areas, and to enable undisturbed natural processes without human intervention in a larger area, except in case of public interest e.g. flood protection.

3. Elaborate a management plan by 2022 with consideration of the criteria of the European Diploma, the further development of the area and the following recommendations.

2019 Recommendations:

1. In co-operation with the Swiss authorities, assess the possibilities to harmonise the regulations for the protection of nature at both shores, and to extend the Wollmatinger Ried – Untersee – Gnadensee Nature Reserve to the state border to enlarge the water zone, which is especially important during low water periods in winter.

2019 Recommendations (contd):

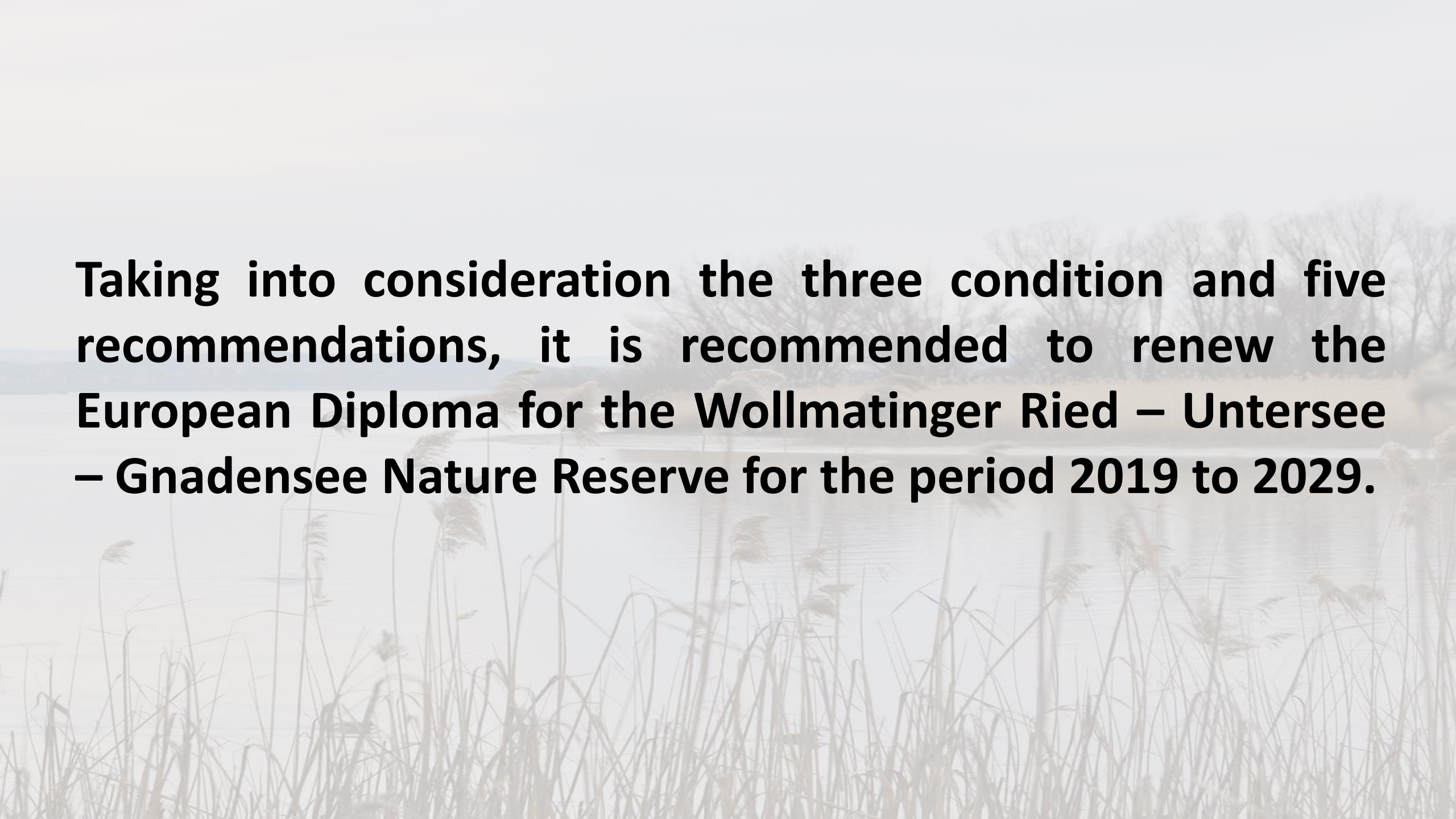
2. Continue the efforts to improve the connections between protected sites in the hinterland and the Wollmatinger Ried – Untersee – Gnadensee Nature Reserve in connection with the extension of the trunk road B33, including the enlargement and/or adaption of the nature reserve's boundaries. Compensation measures should be continued and the construction has to be carried out in a least effect method for the protected area.

2019 Recommendations (contd):

3. Abandon the still existing cycle path between the B33 and the protected area boundaries , which is only used by a limited number of cyclists, and include the path into the Wollmatinger Ried – Untersee – Gnadensee Nature Reserve to enable an efficient control.
4. Reduce or stop disturbances with impacts on the protected area caused by leisure activities and sports through dissemination of information by boat rental companies, negotiations with hot-air balloon and Zeppelin tour operators or other means of information.

2019 Recommendations (contd):

Consider the boundaries of the protected area, their potential for further development and the need of sufficient buffer zones to meet the tasks of the protected areas in the further extension of building areas in the communities concerned.

The background image is a soft-focus photograph of a wetland or marsh area. In the foreground, there are tall, thin reeds with feathery seed heads. Beyond them is a calm body of water, and in the far distance, a line of bare trees is visible under a pale, overcast sky. The overall tone is muted and atmospheric.

Taking into consideration the three condition and five recommendations, it is recommended to renew the European Diploma for the Wollmatinger Ried – Untersee – Gnadensee Nature Reserve for the period 2019 to 2029.