

[River Spree – Germany, Flagship restoration measure](#) **[1]**



Several old oxbows have been dredged and reconnected on both sides of the main channel; at each site, the former main channel was blocked by a gravel dam to redirect all flow through the new meander; the remaining old main stem stretches serve as new flow protected habitats (new oxbows) and their depth and width variability slightly improved by alternating sand bars.

- **Site name:** Downstream Mönchwinkel
- **Typology:** Mid-sized lowland river
- **Location:** Start 52°22'56.13"N, 13°53'16.45"E, End 52°22'7.76"N, 13°48'9.02"E
- **Altitude:** 37 m
- **Catchment area:** 6,585 km² at the site; 10,105 km² at the mouth
- **Pressures:**
 - Regulation by groynes (historic, >100 years)
 - straightening, embankments
 - water abstraction
 - diffuse nutrient inputs
 - weirs up- and downstream
- **Measures:**
 - Re-meandering and blocking the former main stem
- **Length of restoration:** 5 km

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