

# Small but mighty!

## Management of invasive plants on a regional scale in Saxony-Anhalt, Germany

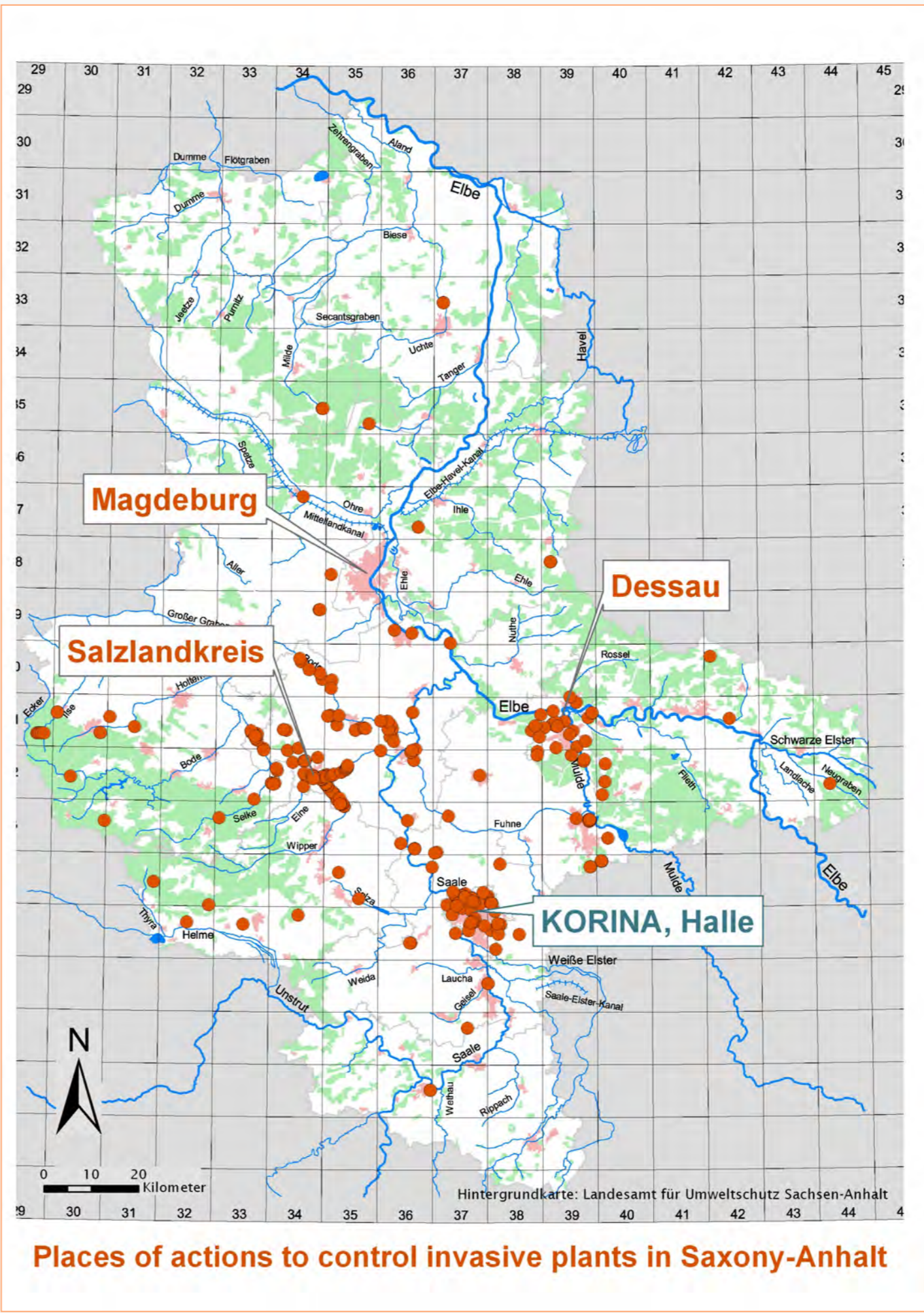
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Invasions are taking place on a global scale. But to control invasions tangible local actions by small groups of stakeholders are needed. Since 2010 the Coordination Centre Invasive Plants in protected areas of Saxony-Anhalt – KORINA – is working in Halle/Saale, Germany. KORINA aims to prevent invasions of alien invasive plants, to establish an early warning system and to enhance control and renaturation via education, information management and coordination of actions.



Screenshot of the website of KORINA. It shows a part of the map of the distribution of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* in Saxony-Anhalt

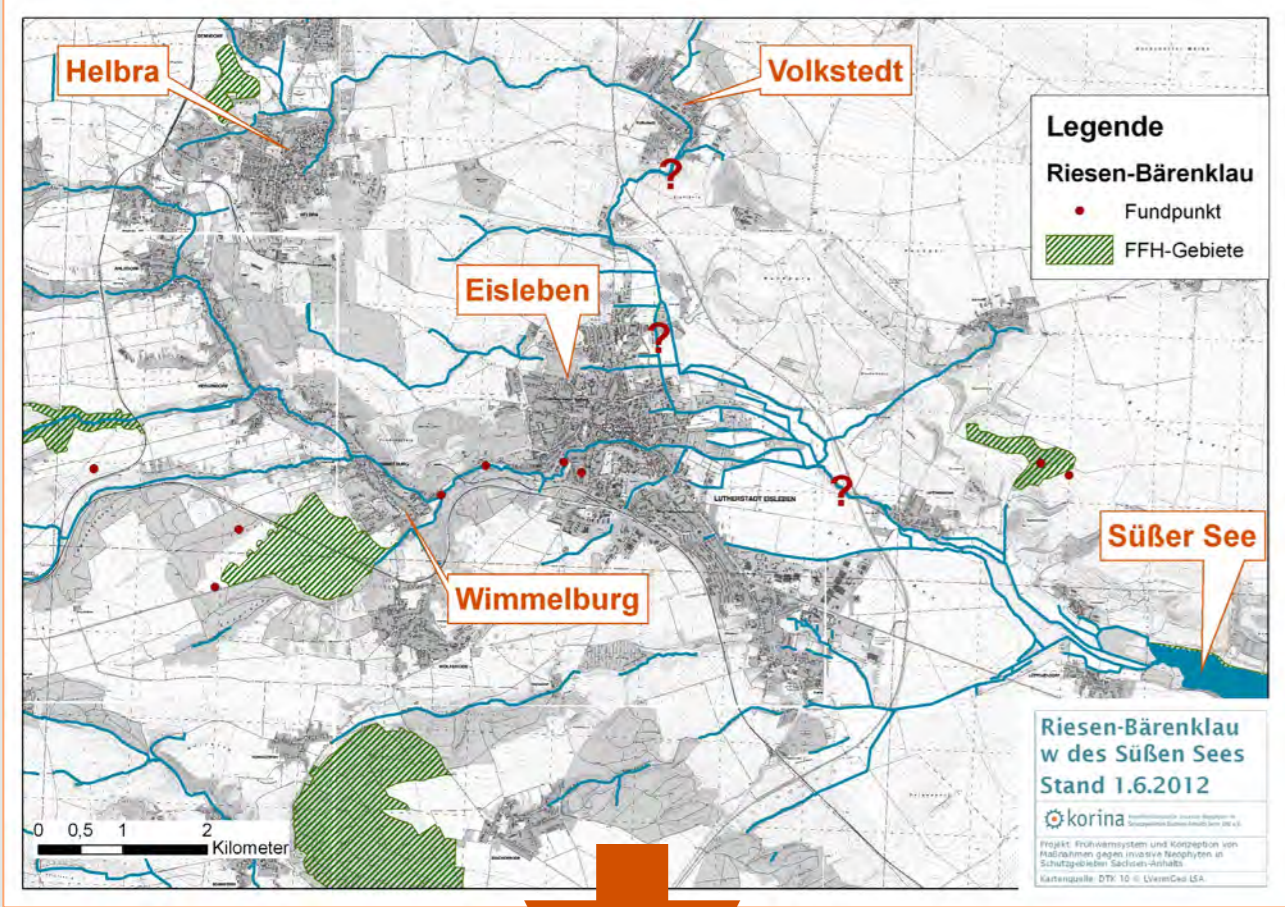
The main tasks of the KORINA staff are to create, collect, store, process, evaluate and distribute information about alien plants in Saxony-Anhalt. For this a bibliographic database and the website with a web-based plant database and an online mapping system were generated ([www.korina.info](http://www.korina.info)). In the Atlas you can find and add to up-to-date maps of the known distribution of the invasive species. With this information stakeholders can work to control invasion processes of alien plants. The cooperation between administrations, experts and nature conservation organisations is increased. Furthermore, KORINA gives information about funding of control measures to stakeholders.



KORINA serves as an central hub in a network of decision makers and other stakeholders in nature conservation agencies, local administrations, land management and science.

Some agencies in Saxony-Anhalt try very hard to control *Heracleum mantegazzianum*, *Fallopia spec.* and *Impatiens glandulifera*. Other decision makers just start to implement first actions, whereas the third group still thinks that it isn't worthwhile. In the Map you can see the centers of activities.

Public relations improve knowledge and collaboration!



Our knowledge about the occurrences of *Heracleum mantegazzianum* around the town Eisleben changed dramatically after a newspaper article and a radio interview in June 2012.

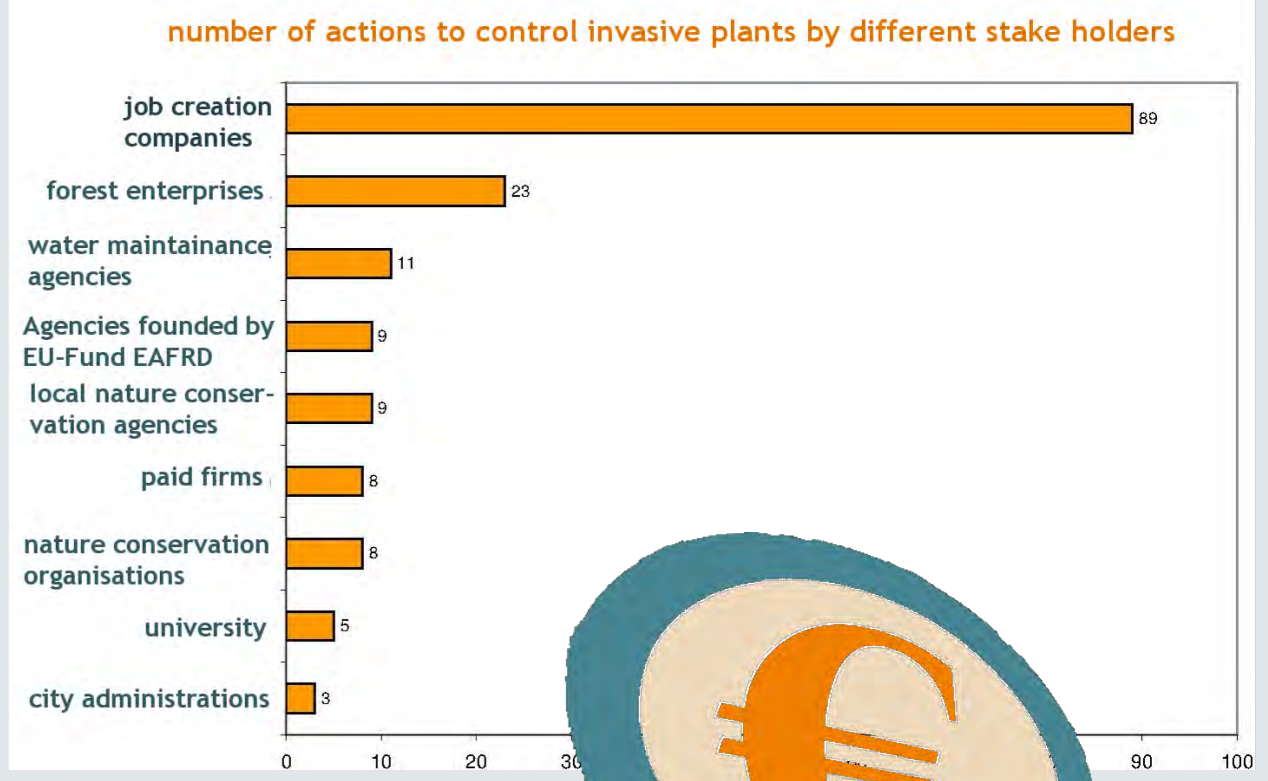
The local authorities, land managers and quite a lot of citizens informed us about the scale of the infestation by *Heracleum mantegazzianum* along the rivers and rivulets in this area. Our next task will be to develop a concept for the control of *Heracleum* where all local stakeholders can take part in. We aim to combine different funding ideas and to establish a continuous awareness in this region.



Who is working for control of invasive plants in Saxony-Anhalt?

Most actions are implemented by job creation companies in collaboration with local nature conservation agencies. The results of their mostly manually executed control measures are good if closely coached by skilled conservationist and carried through over several years. But quite a lot measures ended without satisfying results owing to short project periods or insufficient methods.

At this moment the job creation companies are reducing their projects. This means the ends of projects or endangers a lot of the ventures to control invasive plants as *Heracleum mantegazzianum* or *Fallopia spec.*



The current KORINA-project is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD). Based on this fund a lot of projects and activities to manage invasive species in protected areas could be funded. But the effort for filing of application and administration is to high for most of the local agencies.

The programming period of EAFRD ends on 31.12.2013. The work of KORINA and the other stakeholders is bound to collapse if not continued and simplified in the next programming period.