Navigability conditions, oportunities and challenges on the Lower Danube

River Administration of the Lower Danube Galati

Regarding the water levels recorded , the period January to September (2022) shows a period with low waters with values below the multiannual average and very near or below the ENR (starting with middle of June – when levels dropped drastically), reaching negative values since the beginning of July until the end of September. Reffering the Danube flow discharge, the period January-September, was poor with flow discharge below the multi-annual value , for the entire period , reaching as far to the value below 2000 m³ / s.



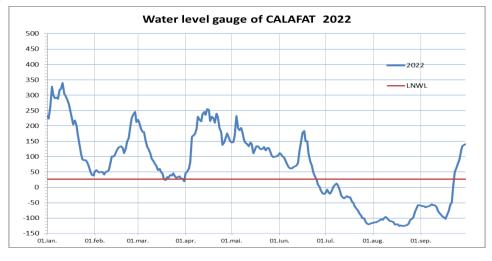


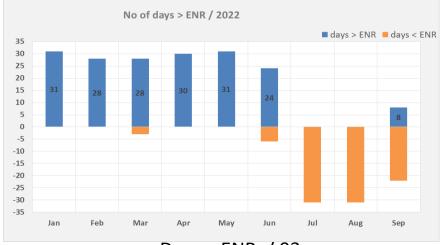
The impact of water levels was drastic for navigation conditions for the period July-September, caused by long period with low levels;

In fact, based on the medium and long-term statistical elements, the forecast of medium and extreme monthly flows on the Danube at the entrance to the country (Baziaş section) for the period July - September 2022 were elaborated (by INHGA), which shows much lower values below the multiannual average:

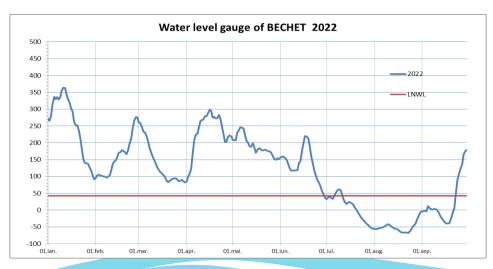
	July 2022		August 2022		Sept. 2022	
	m.a.	prognosis	m.a.	prognosis	m.a.	prognosis
Qmaxim (mc/s)		3500		4000		4500
Q mediu (mc/s)	5350	2800	4300	2900	3800	3000
Q minim (mc/s)		2500		2500		2600

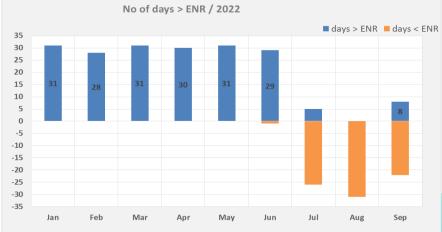






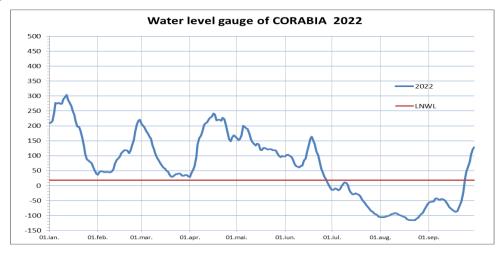
Days < ENR / 93





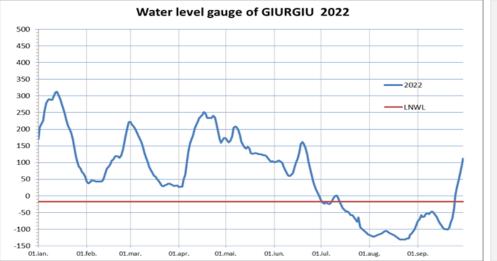
Days < ENR / 80

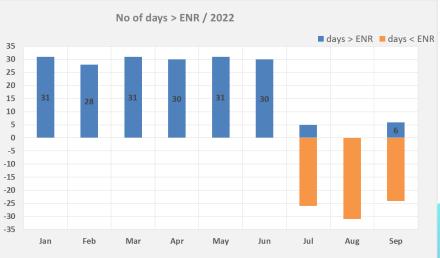






Days < ENR / 87



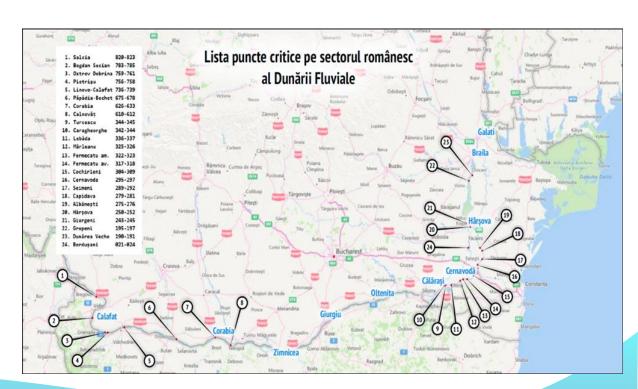


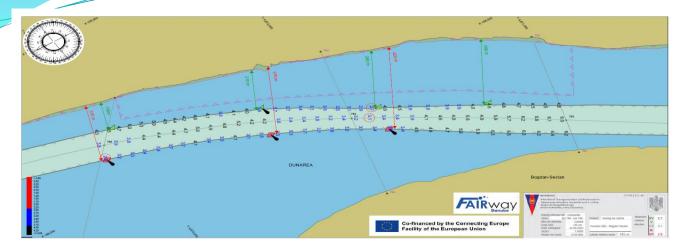
Days < ENR / 81

Navigability – critical points

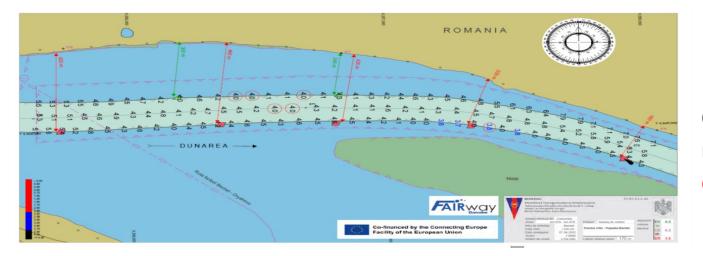
Due to the low parameters of the fairway, the most critical sectors in the Danube river Romanian-Bulgarian common sector , where it was necessary to make interventions, are the following:

- 1. Bogdan / rkm 783
- 2. Bechet / rkm677
- 3. Corabia / rkm 630
- 4. Calnovat / rkm 610

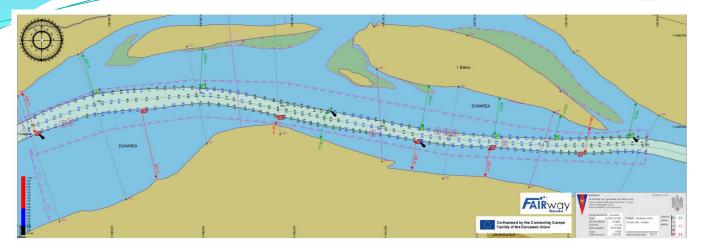




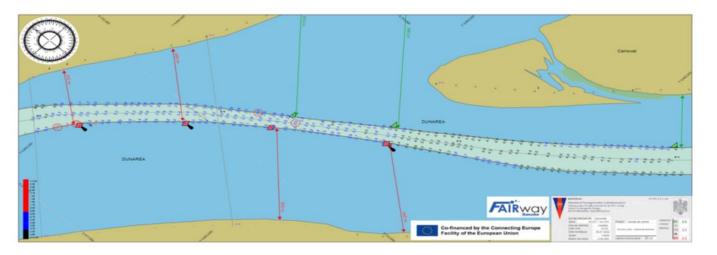
Bogdan-Secian / rkm 783 – rkm 785 / min. width – 140m days <2.5m - 68



Bechet / rkm 677 – rkm 678 / min. width – 150m / days <2.5m - 49

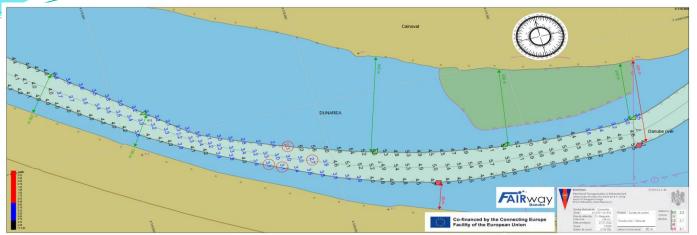


Corabia / rkm 626 – rkm 633 min. width – 150m days <2.5m - 63

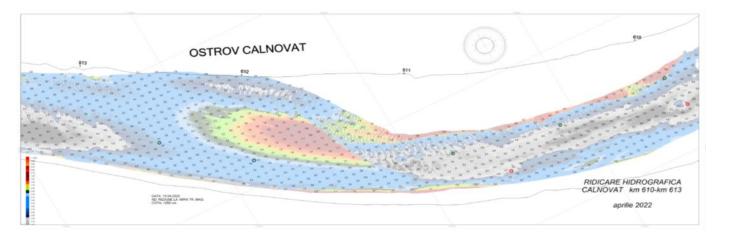


Calnovat amonte / rkm 615 – rkm 617 min. width – 90m days <2.5m - 68



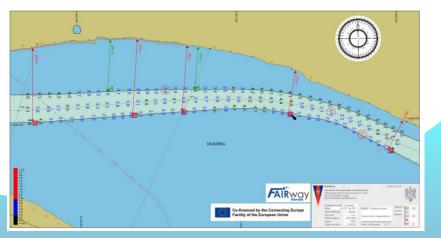


Calnovat / rkm 610 - rkm 613 min. width - 150m days <2.5m - 73



Taking into account the assurance of navigability throughout the year, the areas with difficult crossings were constantly monitored through surveys and marking activities, especially during low water period.

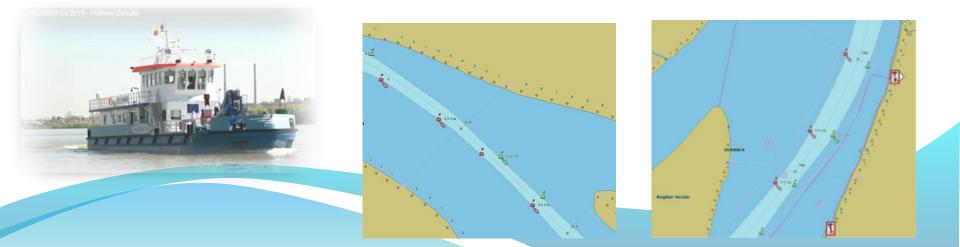




The marking activity was performed by covering the entire sector from km 375 to km 845.5 with a number of 25 marking trips.

Due to the achievement of the second home port in Bechet, the marking vessel Concordia EU 2019 remained stationary in the port for operative interventions (2 inspections per month). Especially in the low water period, were made additional interventions , resulting in ensuring a minimum fairway width of 120m even 70m (Calnovat) at critical points for a discharge below 3000 mc/s at Iron Gate II.

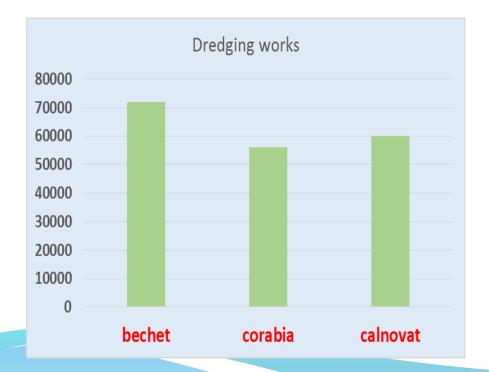
During the 2022 year, a number of 655 coastal signs were operated in the field:



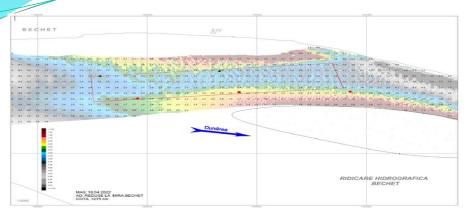
Oportunities – dredging works

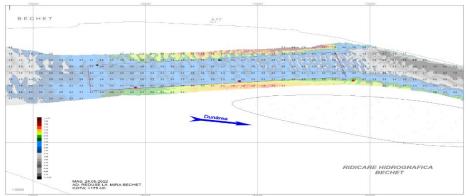
One of the main actions to ensure navigability is the dredging works. As a result of the unfavorable situations regarding the navigation In order to avoid the effects of poor hydrological situations, the dredging works were started in time (May 2022).

Dredging works-executed on the basis of a framework contract (third party).



dredging works



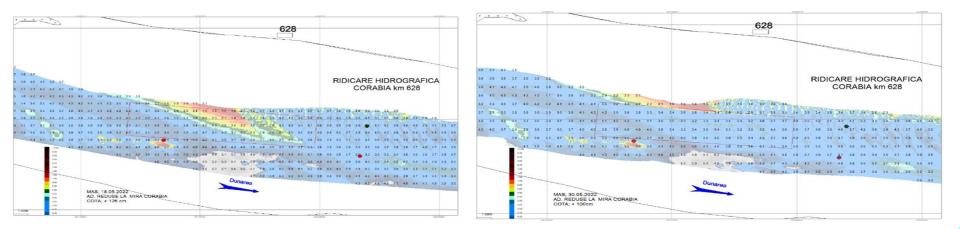


Bechet – rkm 677

Period: 10.05 – 24.05

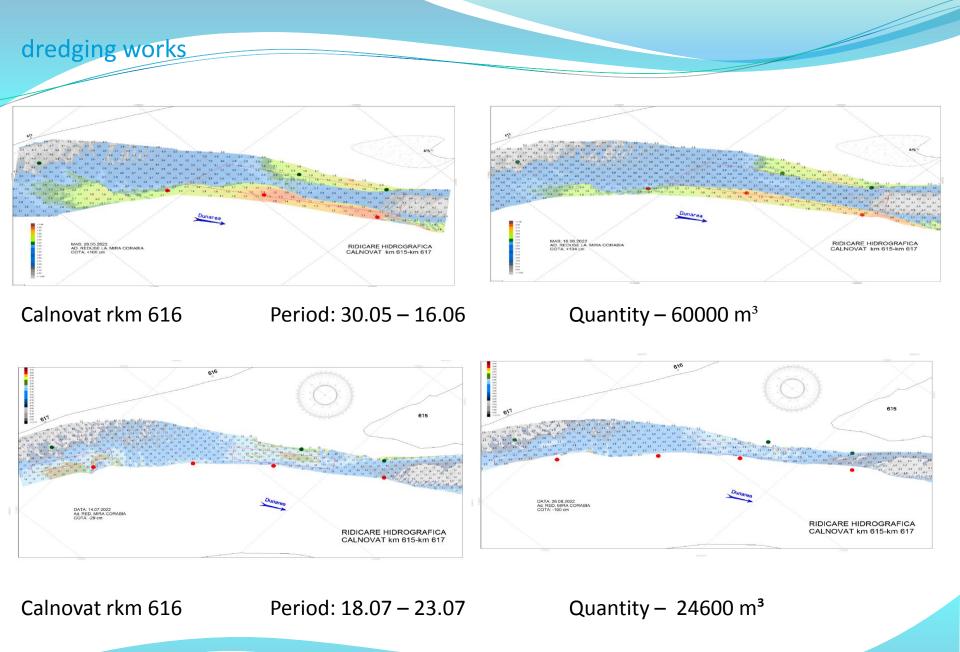
Period: 24.05 – 30.05

Quantity – 72000 m³



Corabia – rkm 628

Quantity – 56000 m³

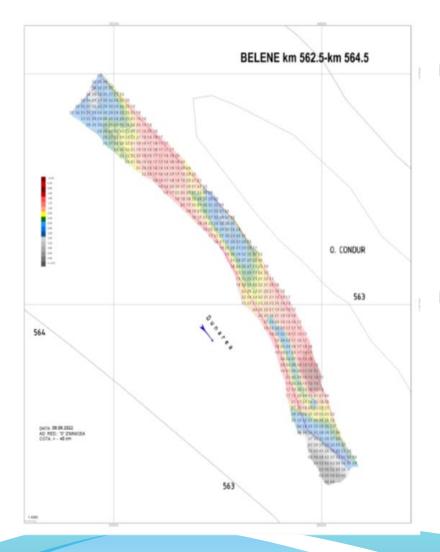


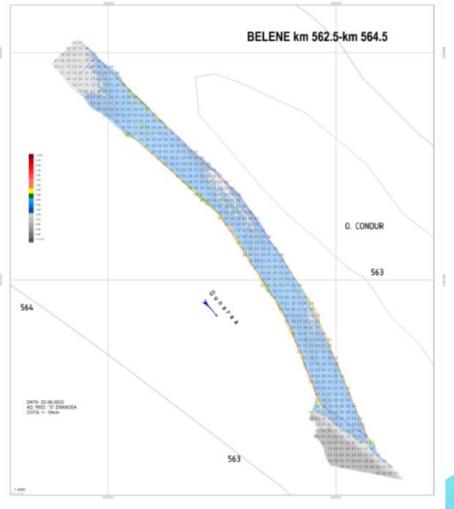
Challenges

Taking into account the bad hydrological situation during the summer period, one of the challenges was to ensure navigation conditions, to unblock traffic in the Belene, Vardim and Batin sector, administered by the Bulgarian side. In this sense, dredging works were carried out in these sectors during July-August.

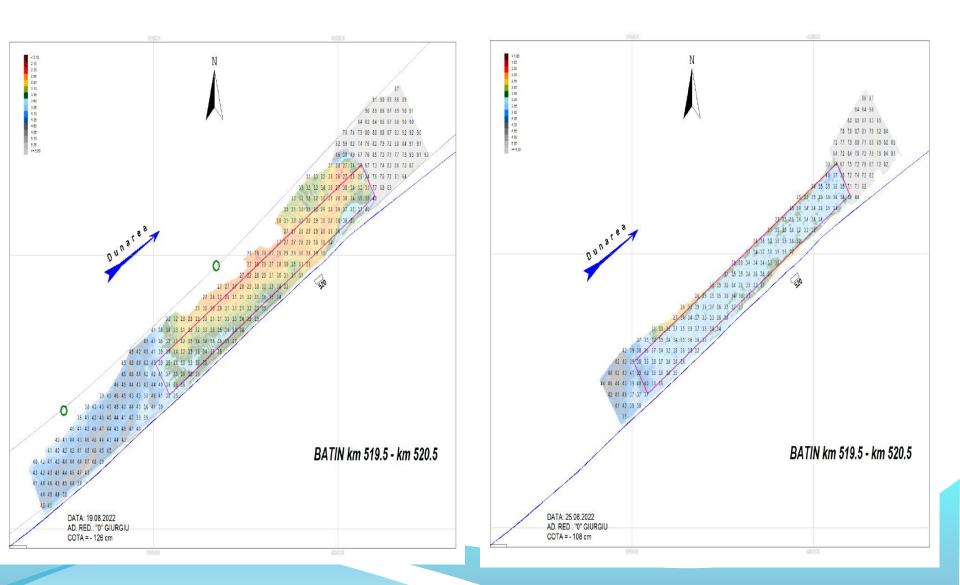
- Belene / rkm 562.5 564.0
- Vardim / rkm 544.8 545.5
- Batin / rkm 519.8 520.5

Challenges - Belene

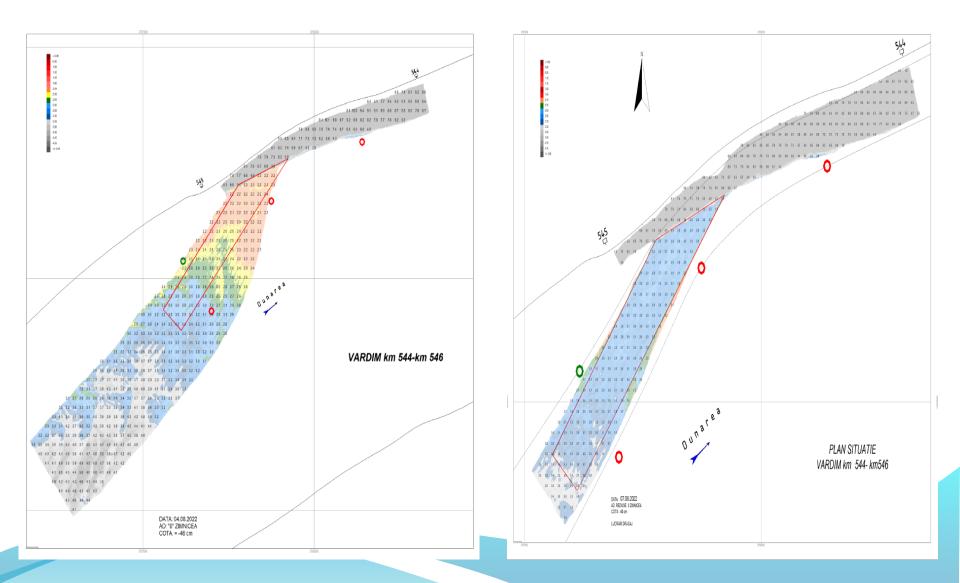




Challenges - Batin



Challenges - Vardim











Thank you for your kind attention !

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