



## Case Study

### PRIVATE LAKE

Near Ulm, by the River Danube  
Germany

A privately owned oxbow lake, which was formerly part of the River Danube, south of Ulm. The lake is surrounded by ancient trees and some holiday homes. In the past, the lake was dredged for building sand, grit and pebbles. The lake is fed from seepage via the Danube.

By May 1998, blanketweed was already thriving in many parts of the lake, with the water around the edges covered with floating blooms. The banks were slimy and people walking on around the edge sank up 10cm. The visual depth was 30cm. Mussels had sunk and were covered in algae.

### Treatment

The first treatment was undertaken on 16 May 1998: Plocher Bio-Waste Composter (AK 1551) was applied to the 1/2m thick slimy mud around the banks and Plocher Water Activator (AW 4031) was used across the surface of the water.

On 8 June 1998, Plocher Water Activator was applied. The whole lake was covered with blanketweed apart from a 20m radius area in the middle. Gas bubbles rose periodically from the sediment, which is why the blanketweed had been dislodged. There was less blanketweed and the visual depth had improved to 1.5m, and the mussels were clean.



In mid-July 1998, Plocher Water Activator was re-applied. Observations on this day included a further reduction in blanketweed, the lakebed was less slimy and more solid, and the mud on the banks only reached the ankle.

Continuous underwater analysis helped to identify where the Danube's water was seeping into the lake. In these areas, the analysed water parameters barely altered, whereas elsewhere within the lake phosphate had been reduced from 3.2mg/litre to 0.08-0.15mg/litre.