FLOOD PROTECTION OF THE WALICHNOWSKA LOWLAND

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Abstract

Walichnowska Lowland is an area that for ages was flooded and where the Vistula intensively meandered. After every overbank flow the Vistula flooded the valley and left mud which in time formed fertile alluvial soils.

Spring and Sumer floods were a constant threat. Acquisition of these areas for agriculture began at the end of the 13th century.

To protect the valley the embankment commune was established. Our ancestors 400 years ago created a democratic order to serve their development and wealth. The embankment statute is an evidence of autonomous will and responsibility. Unchanged through 240 years it was accepted by 10 generations.

The history of management and flood control in the river valley in the area presently called Walichnowska Lowland is a typical example of human struggle for survival but also for security and better life conditions. Fertile riverine alluvia allowed for developing agriculture. They were the basis for economic and civilisation development of the region. Despite repeated destructions by water element of facilities and anti-flood constructions, mail did not step back. After every catastrophe he rebuilt his settlement and developed protective systems. Much less he thought of natural values of inundated valleys.