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# **Harmonized web-based information system for shallow geothermal energy use in Austria**

Featuring new methods for resource  
mapping

# Harmonized web-based info-system for shallow geothermal energy use in Austria

## Project: „Green Energy Lab – Spatial Energy Planning“ (GEL-SEP)

Funded by: Austrian Research Promotion Agency (FFG)

Project lifetime: 2018 – 2021



Goal: Development of **Heat-Atlas** – Showing heating supply (including **shallow geothermal energy**) and heating demand and providing a sound basis to integrate heat in private and public planning processes

Project website: <http://www.waermeplanung.at/>

### Project partners:



**AEE - INSTITUT FÜR NACHHALTIGE TECHNOLOGIEN**  
Ansprechpartner: Franz Mauthner & Ingo Leusbrock



**E7 ENERGIE MARKT ANALYSE GMBH**  
Ansprechpartner: Walter Hüttler & Gerhard Hofer



**RESEARCH STUDIOS AUSTRIA  
STUDIO ISPACE**  
Ansprechpartner: Ingrid Schardinger & Markus Biberacher



**TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT GRAZ  
INSTITUT FÜR WÄRMETECHNIK**  
Ansprechpartner: Thomas Mach



**TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WIEN  
ENERGY ECONOMICS GROUP**  
Ansprechpartner: Lukas Kranzl



**STADTGEMEINDE ZELL AM SEE**  
Ansprechpartner: Silvia Lenz



**ENERGIEAGENTUR STEIERMARK GMBH**  
Ansprechpartner: Christian Sakulin



**GRAZER ENERGIEAGENTUR GMBH**  
Ansprechpartner: Ernst Meißner



**SIR - SALZBURGER INSTITUT FÜR RAUMORDNUNG  
UND WOHNEN**  
Ansprechpartner: Alexander Rehbogen



**UIV URBAN INNOVATION VIENNA GMBH**  
Ansprechpartner: Waltraud Schmid



**AMT DER SALZBURGER LANDESREGIERUNG**  
Ansprechpartner: Gerhard Löffler



**AMT DER STEIERMÄRKISCHEN LANDESREGIERUNG**  
Ansprechpartner: Dieter Preiss



**BAUDIREKTION DER STADT SALZBURG**  
Ansprechpartner: Franz Huemer



**ENERGIEREGION WEIZ-GLEISDORF GMBH**  
Ansprechpartner: Christian Hütter



**GEMEINDE BERGHEIM**  
Ansprechpartner: Anton Zitz



**MAGISTRAT DER STADT WIEN**  
Ansprechpartner: Stefan Geier



**MARKTGEMEINDE GRÖDIG**  
Ansprechpartner: Gerhard Freinbichler



**STADT GRAZ - STADTBAUDIREKTION**  
Ansprechpartner: Kai-Uwe Hoffer



**STADT GRAZ - UMWELTAMT**  
Ansprechpartner: Wolfgang Götzhaber



**STADTGEMEINDE KAPFENBERG**  
Ansprechpartner: Sabine Christian

# Invitation to upcoming webinar

## „Novel approaches in shallow geothermal resource mapping“

2 projects Geocond and GEL-SEP present their approaches for shallow geothermal resource mapping

**Date:** 10 May 2021. 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm (CET)

**Program:**

<b>3 pm*</b>	<b><i>Opening of the webinar and welcome address</i></b>
	<b>Adela Ramos Escudero (University of Catagena) &amp; Burkhard Sanner (UbeG GbR):</b> Large scale, pan-European resource mapping – results from the EU project GEOCOND”
	<b>Martin Fuchsluger (Geological Survey of Austria):</b> The application of g-functions in shallow geothermal resource mapping
	<b>Q&amp;A round and joint discussion</b>
<b>4:30 pm</b>	<b><i>End of the webinar</i></b>

\*all times in CET (Vienna – Berlin – Paris)

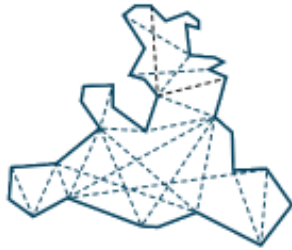
Register to the workshop via e-mail to [gregor.goetzl@geologie.ac.at](mailto:gregor.goetzl@geologie.ac.at) until 10 May 2021, 2 pm (CET).

The workshop is free of charge and powered by MUSE and Geocond



## Shallow geothermal energy in the Heat-Atlas

New harmonized methods to determine **resources** and **possible limitations** in selected pilot areas:



### **SALZBURG**

Pilot area:

Area of permanent settlement



### **STYRIA**

Pilot areas:

Graz

Kapfenberg

Energierregion Weiz-Gleisdorf

Oststeiermark



### **VIENNA**

Pilot area:

City of Vienna

Methods developed by:

- Geological Survey of Austria (borehole heat exchanger, groundwater heat exchanger)
- Friedrich-Alexander Universität Erlangen (surficial heat exchangers)

# Shallow geothermal energy in the Heat-Atlas

Two main categories:

1) Possible limitations of use

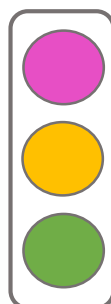
„What might limit the use of SGE?“

2) Energy resources

„What is the (hydro)geological setting and how much energy is available?“

**Specific queries**

**Traffic light map**



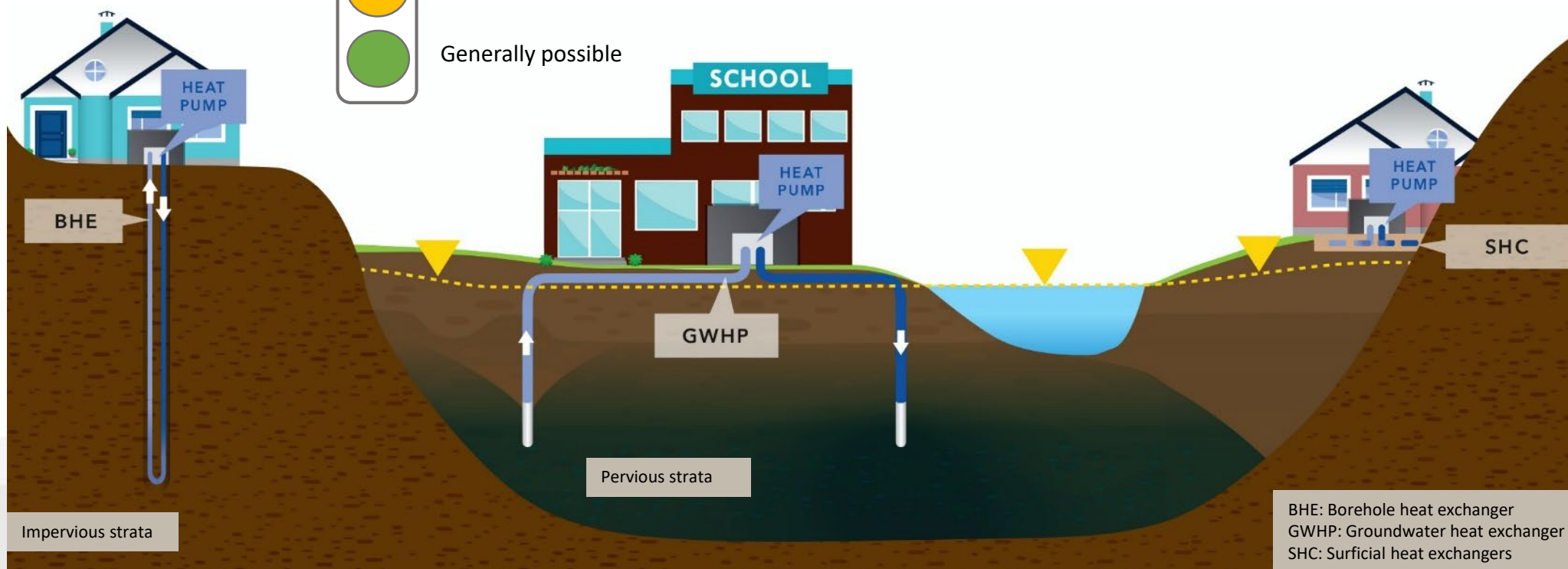
Generally not possible

Detailed information necessary

Generally possible

**Specific queries**

**Ressource maps**



# Tools in the Heat-Atlas



## TOOL 1: Ressource maps and traffic light maps

Map viewer

- Overall ressources independent of properties
- Summary of all possible limitations of use



## TOOL 2: Location specific query

Automatically generated PDF-report

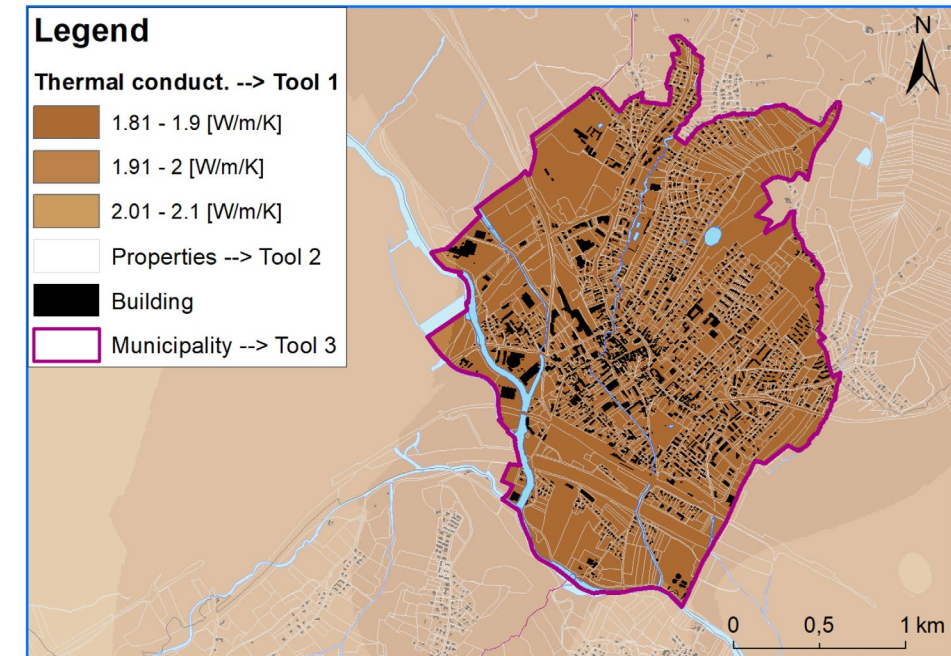
- Restrictions and remarks for the use of shallow geothermal energy
- Resources available at the property
- Comparison of resources with the heating/cooling demand of the property → amount of coverage
- Important (hydro)geological information



## TOOL 3: Regional analysis for city districts or municipalities

Automatically generated PDF-report

- Suitability of the area
- Overall ressources available
- Amount of coverage



Different spatial resolutions for the tools.

**Important:**

All tools are developed for GWHP, BHE and SHC.



# TOOL 1: Traffic light maps – All systems

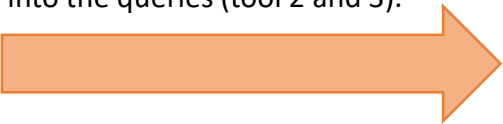


Step 1: Colouring the possible limitations of use

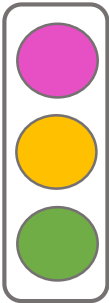
Step 2: Combination of all possible limitations to traffic light map

Possible limitation of use
Water protection and conservation areas
Nature protection
Limitation of drilling depth
Confined groundwater body
Landslides
Rocks bearing inflammable gases
Potentially carstified rocks
Multiple groundwater storeys
Existing drinking water wells
Existing production and infiltration wells of thermal groundwater heat exchangers
Any existing groundwater use
Contaminated areas
Problematic chemistry of groundwater
Rocks susceptible to dissolving
Rocks susceptible to swelling
Flooding areas
Hazard zone plan
Potentially contaminated areas
Surface water
Mining areas and artificial cavities
Protected historical buildings
Archaeological relevant areas

Orange colored limitations are included in the traffic light map.  
Grey colored limitations feed only into the queries (tool 2 and 3).

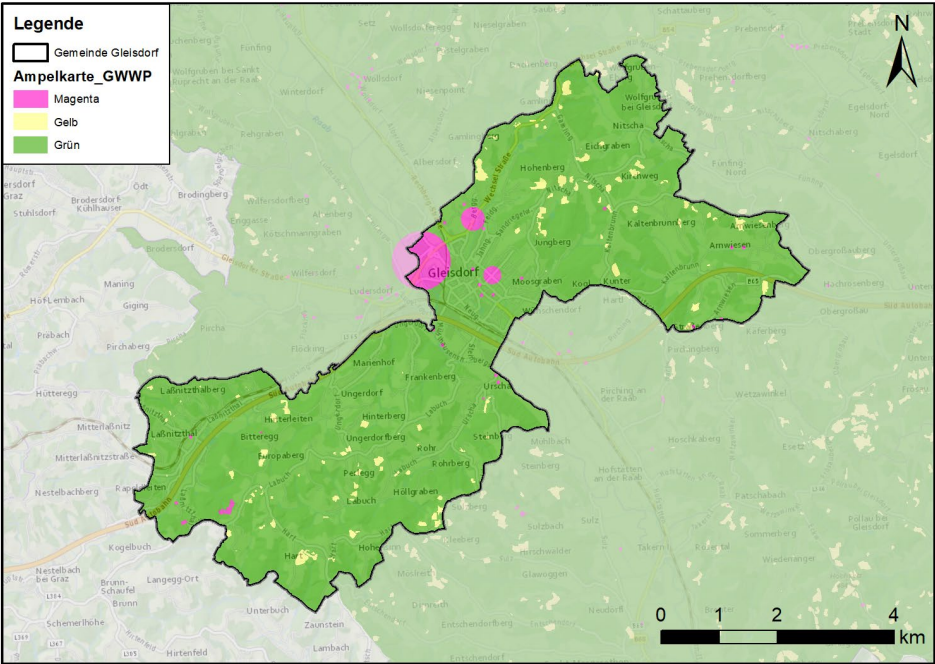


## Traffic light map



- Generally not possible
- Detailed information necessary
- Generally possible

Example of a traffic light map.  
Shows always the strongest color (magenta over yellow over green).



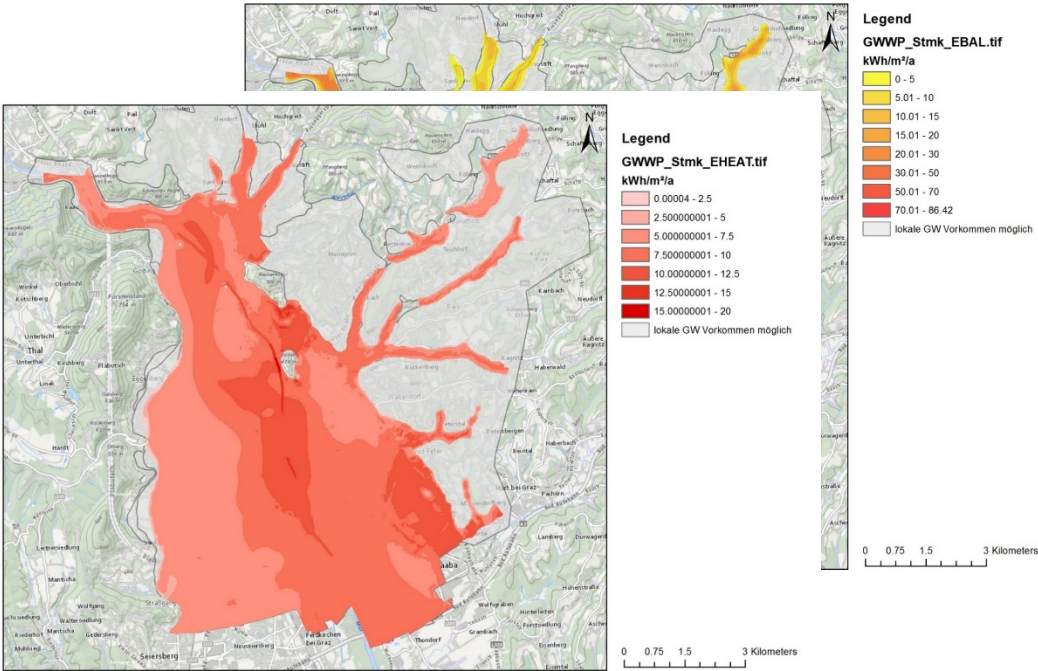
# TOOL 1: Resources – Groundwater heat exchanger



Tool 1: Resource maps  
Goal of tool: Overview of resources

Wholistic approach -> Outputs are based on energy content  
*Calculation of energy content for 2 modes of operation:*

Mode of operation	GW-Temp limit	Life time	Heat flows
Unbalanced heating and cooling	5 -18 °C	20 years	Considered
Balanced heating and cooling	5 - 18 °C	1 years	Not relevant



Example of resulting energy content maps for Graz.

## INPUT

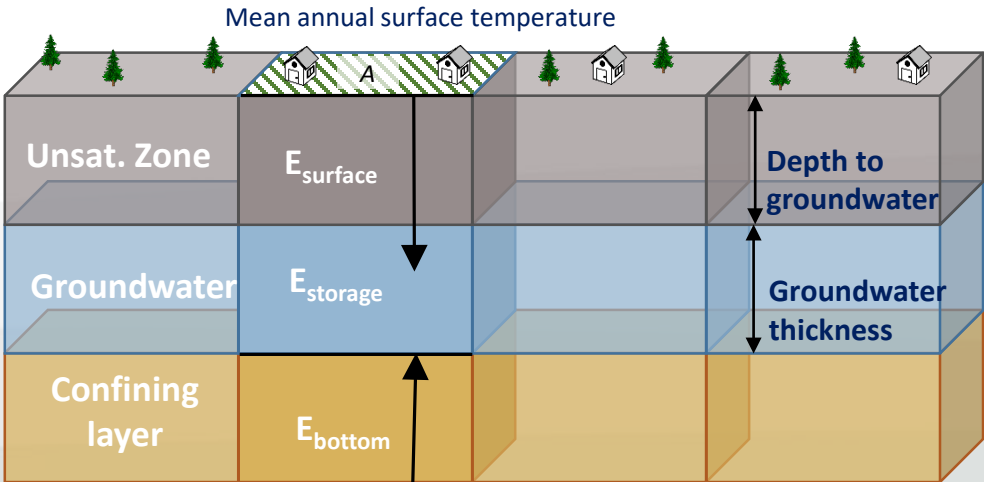
- Hydrogeological parameters (as rasters):**
- Outline of suitable groundwater body
  - GW-thickness
  - GW-temperature (mean)
  - Depth to GW level

- System-related parameters**
- Usable temperature range (5-18 °C)
  - Life time (20 years)
  - Geometrical doublet factor (0.75)
  - Parameters to estimate heat flow from surface and bottom

## OUTPUT maps

- Energy content**
- Heating and cooling (standard operating hours) in kWh/a/m²
  - Balanced mode of operation (Heating = Cooling)

- Power map for single well doublet**
- Unbalanced heating and cooling (standard operating hours) in l/s
  - Balanced mode of operation (Heating = Cooling)





# TOOL 1: Resources – Groundwater heat exchanger



## Tool 1: Resource maps

Goal of tool: Overview of resources and comparison of locations

### RESULTS

#### Hydrogeology

- Outline of suitable groundwater body
- GW-temperature [°C]
- GW-thickness [m]
- Depth to GW level [m]

Note:  
Black result parameters  
will be shown as maps

#### Climate

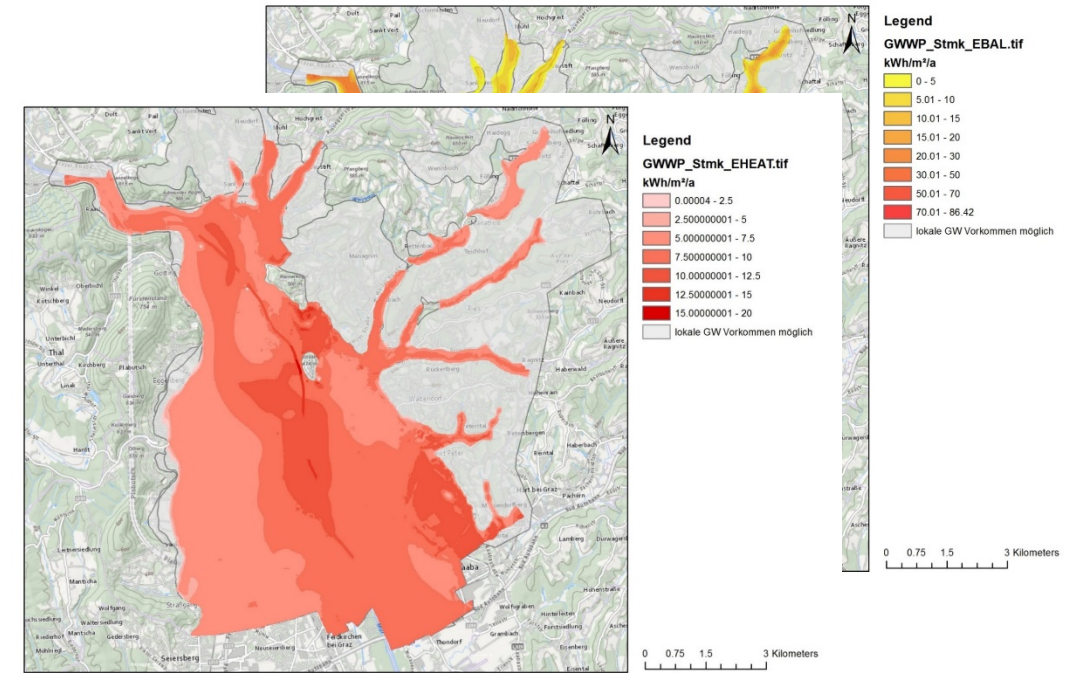
- Standardized operating hours for heating and cooling [h]

#### Specific capacity

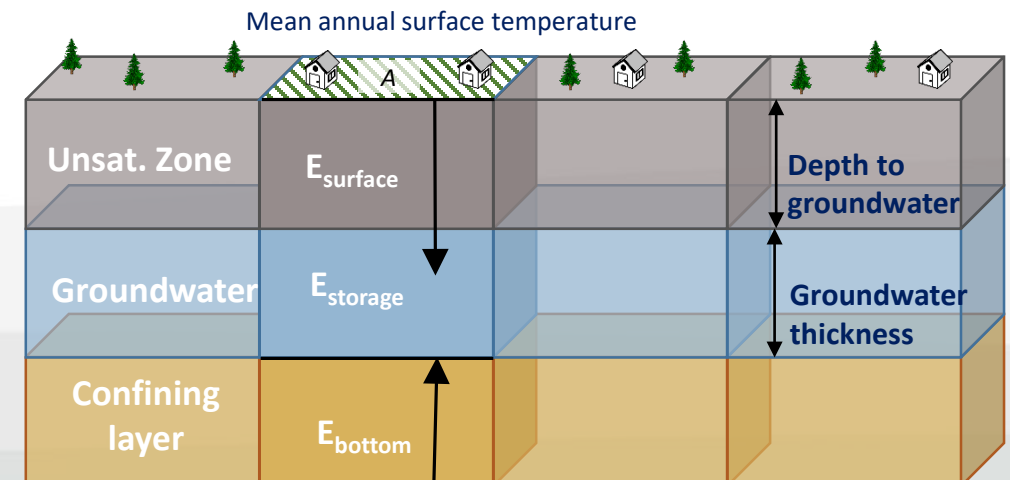
- Maximum pumping rate [l/s]

#### Specific energy content

- Heating and cooling with standard operating hours [kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/a]
- Balanced mode of operation [kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/a]



Example of resulting energy content maps for Graz.



## TOOL 2: Groundwater heat exchanger



### TOOL 2 – Location specific query

**Goal of tool:** Resources and limitations on the property

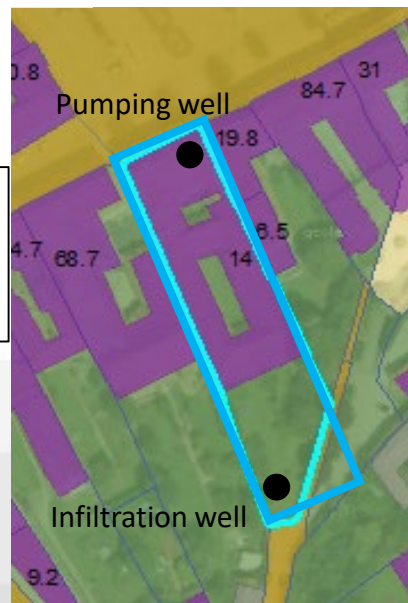
#### Property

Total space	1851 m <sup>2</sup>
Free space	753 m <sup>2</sup>
max. difference between wells	94 m

#### Demand of building

Power for heating	14 kW
Power for cooling	3.6 kW
Annual heating consumption	33.7 MWh/a
Annual cooling consumption	1.2 MWh/a
SPF of heat pump, est.	2.5

Maximum pumping rate is determined based on free space available at the property



#### Hydrogeology (Tool 1)

GW temperature min/max	10.8 °C/12.8 °C
hydraul. conductivity	0.0001 m/s
Hydraulic gradient	0.008 m/m
GW thickness, est.	3.4 m
GW depth, est.	5.1 m

#### Resources

<b>Pumping rate</b>	<b>0.4 l/s</b>
Temperature shift - heating	5 K
Temperature shift - cooling	5 K
Power for heating without/with COP	8 / 13 kW
Power for cooling without/with COP	8 / 6 kW
<b>Coverage of demand for heating</b>	<b>93 %</b>
<b>Coverage of demand for cooling</b>	<b>166 %</b>

#### Limitation of use

*(Tool 1) Detailed information is necessary due to:*  
Water conservation area on the property

*Additional information for planning, installation and operation respectively:*  
Risk of scaling of iron or manganese. Analysis of the groundwater chemistry is recommended.

→ Output as text and figures in PDF-report



# TOOL 1: Borehole heat exchanger



## TOOL 1 – Resource maps

Goal of tool: Overview of resources

### Geology

- Thermal conductivity [W/m/K]
- Underground temperature [°C]

Note:  
Black result parameters  
will be shown as maps

### Climate

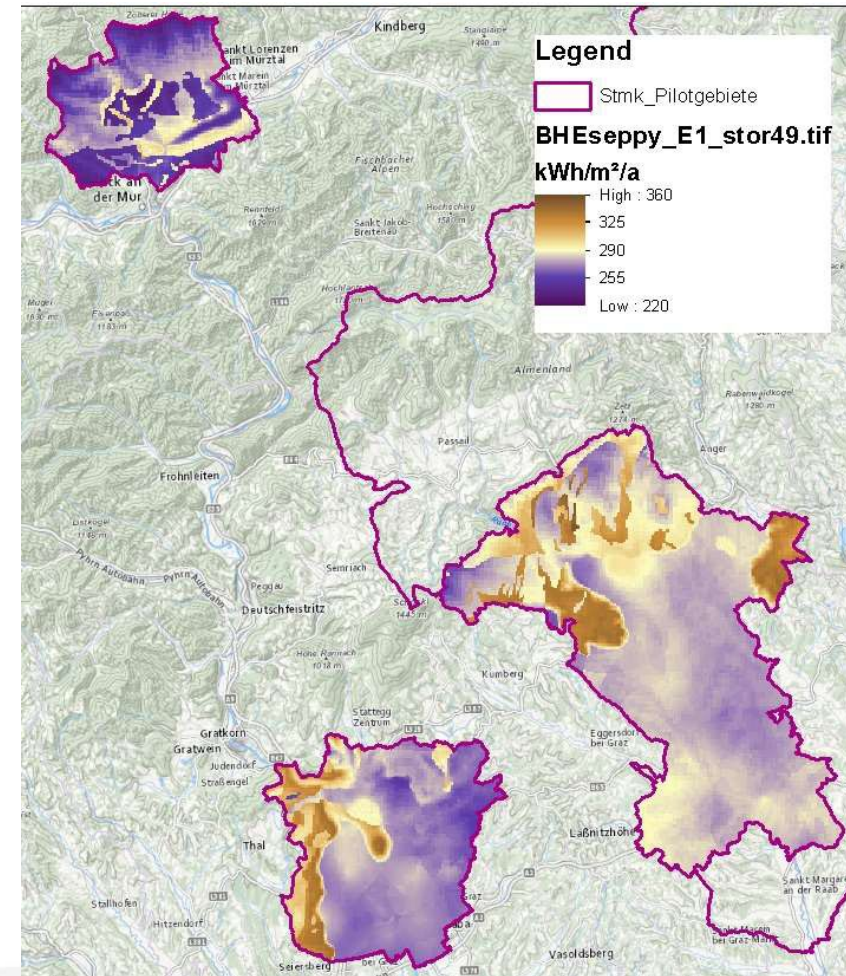
- Standardized operating hours for heating and cooling [h]

### Specific capacity – Singular BHE

- Heating and cooling with standard operating hours [W/m]
- Balanced mode of operation [W/m]

### Specific energy content – BHE field

- Heating and cooling with standard operating hours [kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/a]
- Balanced mode of operation [kWh/m<sup>2</sup>/a]



### Parameters of the system, constant:

- Depth of BHE (100 m)
- Temp.limits brine (-1.5 to 25 °C)
- Period of use (20 years)
- Borehole thermal resistance (0.75 K/W/m)



## TOOL 2: Borehole heat exchanger



### TOOL 2 – Location specific query

**Goal of tool:** Resources and limitations on the property

#### Property

Total space	1851 m <sup>2</sup>
Free space	753 m <sup>2</sup>
max. difference between wells	94 m

#### Demand of building

Power for heating	14 kW
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#### Geology

Thermal conductivity 0-100 m	1.9 W/m/K
Surface temperature	10.9 °C
Underground temp. 0-100 m	11.9 °C

#### Basic resources tool 1

Singular BHE	32.7 W/lfm
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#### Requirements to meet demand

Number of BHEs	5 pieces
Length of BHEs	110 m
Capacity (10 m distance of BHEs)	25.3 W/lfm
Demand of space	236 m <sup>2</sup>

#### Resources at the property

Number of BHEs at free space	11 pieces
Capacity (10 m distance of BHEs)	22.9 W/lfm

**Coverage of demand** 217 %

**Total capacity available** 30 kW

Annual energy content available 72 MWh/a

#### Limitation of use

*(Tool 1) Use of BHE is generally not possible due to:*  
Water protection area on the property

## TOOL 3: Groundwater heat exchanger



### TOOL 3 – Regional query

**Goal of tool:** Total resources in city district

- Integration of energy content (Tool 1) over selected area [GWh/a]
- Suitability of area (=Groundwater availability and no limitations/detailed information)
- Amount of coverage (Energy content vs. demand in %)

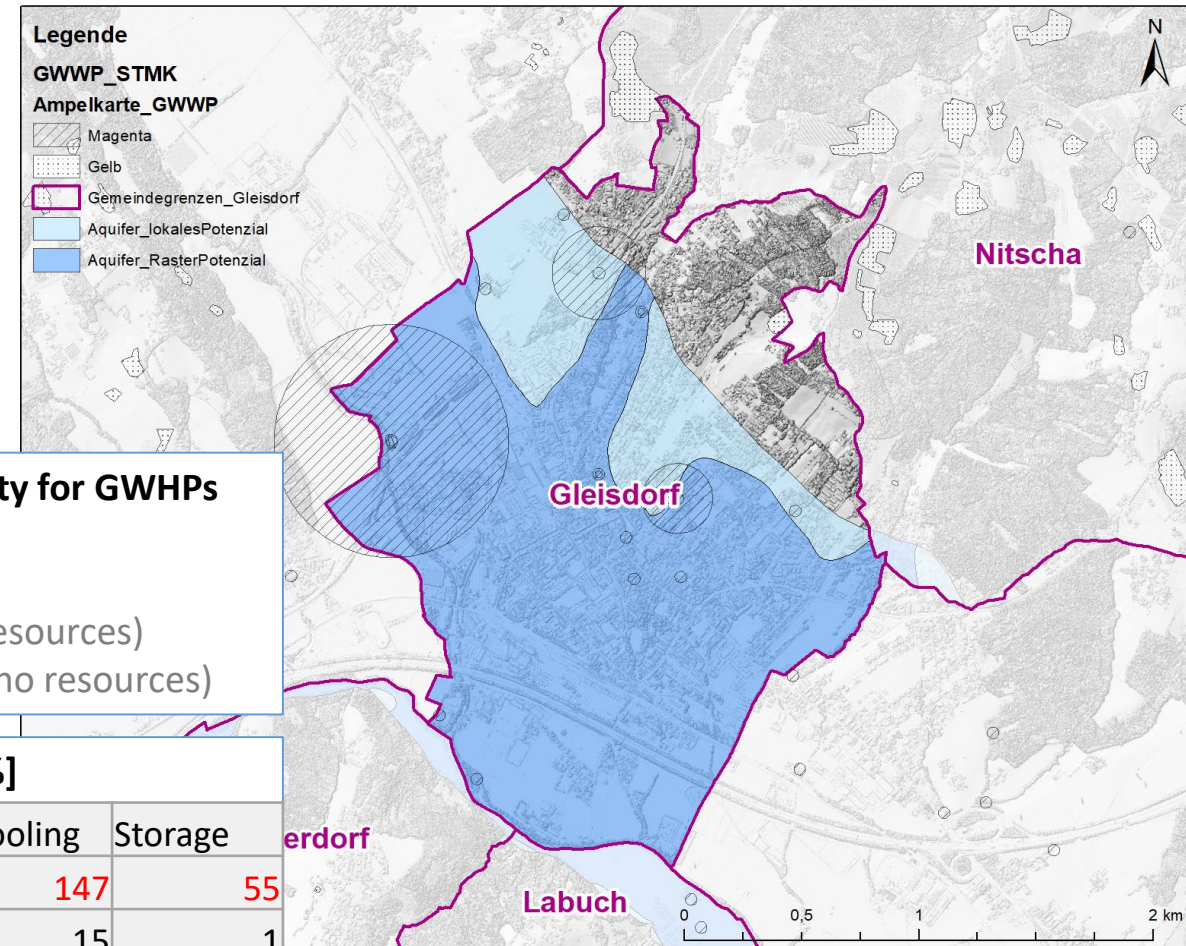
→ Output as text and figures in PDF-report

Energy content [GWh/a]			
	Heating	Cooling	Storage
Gleisdorf	24.0	23.1	45.3
Nitscha	0.2	0.2	0.2
Ungerdorf	2.1	2.9	2.7
Labuch	2.3	2.6	4.4
Laßnitzthal	3.1	4.9	3.3

#### Suitability of municipality for GWHPs

55 % Very well suitable  
 12 % Well suitable  
 20 % Not suitable (no resources)  
 13 % Protection areas (no resources)

Amount of coverage [%]			
	Heating	Cooling	Storage
Gleisdorf	29	147	55
Nitscha	1	15	1
Ungerdorf	31	519	41
Labuch	30	460	57
Laßnitzthal	29	593	30



Example of figure shown in regional report.



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