

Site 01: Hjarnø

1.1 Change of the site by project activities:

A coastal lagoon of about 0,5 ha is the core habitat of the small site. Formerly the coastal lagoon was badly eutrophicated and almost completely overgrown by *Phragmites australis* and *Scirpus maritimus*.



Coastal lagoon was overgrown with Phragmites australis and Scirpus maritimus before restoration.

The coastal lagoon has been restored by removing the top layer of nutritious sediment leaving a bottom partly of sand and turf. Grazing has been improved by release of robust cows and by introducing grazing of the coastal lagoon which formerly was fenced off. The water quality has improved significantly and the future water quality is safe guarded since an inlet of drainage water has been diverged straight to the sea.



The vegetation and the top nutritious layer of sediment were removed from the coastal lagoon.



The coastal lagoon after restoration with open and clear water.

Bufo calamita exists in a very small and endangered population on the site. The coastal lagoon has earlier been a breeding site for the toads but due to overgrowth and eutrophication the toads have not been breeding successfully in the coastal lagoon for many years. A depression just next to the coastal lagoon has been deepened slightly to create the right water depth in spring for breeding toads and foraging wader birds. No result on the population of *Bufo calamita* has been observed

1.2 Remaining challenges and actions:

It was foreseen in the Revised Application to initiate grazing of the narrow edge of the larger coastal lagoon on the site. It is practically complicated to graze this stripe of land and also the conclusion from the ornithologist of the Danish project sites has been that only very little effect on birds could be foreseen of a grazing. Therefore no initiative was taken yet to start grazing of the larger coastal lagoon.

1.3 Public perception:

Many years ago the county tried to initiate a nature conservation project on removal of *Rosa rugosa* etc. at the project site. The islanders felt that the approach was wrong and opposed the initiative strongly. It ended up that nothing was carried out. With this in mind an early and careful approach was initiated to negotiate about the actions one by one. The two farmers owning the salt meadow was used as local ambassadors and point of communication from where the information would sieve in to the community. Also the

chair man of the guild of owners of the small coastal lagoon was contacted. By this approach no problems have been encountered.