



Project site fact sheet

DK-07: Store Egholm

SPA: DK008X071

pSCI: DK008X201

Protection status:

- Ramsar area (R17)
- Protected under the Act on Nature Conservation (1992): 57,97ha (98 % of project site)

Habitats (% of project site):

- 1150 *Coastal lagoons: 15% of project site
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*): 85% of project site

Present species of special focus in this project:

- A132 Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*): 20 pairs
- Baltic dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*): 1 pair
- Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*)
- Green toad (*Bufo viridis*)

Other present species of interest:

- A194 Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): 50 pairs
- A195 Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*): 3 pairs

Potential nature values:

- The large meadow areas with several ditches, ponds and depressions gives to Store Egholm a great potential for increasing the existing green toad population and re-establishing the natterjack toad population
- Re-establishment of good grazing agreements and cattle grazing is of major importance to safeguard this important breeding site for meadowbirds in the future
- Re-establishment of cattle grazing is vital in order to keep the high diversity of the salt meadow vegetation

Site description:

98% of the project site is habitat protected under the Danish act of nature conservation (§3): 49.5 ha as salt meadow and 8.4 ha as lakes and ponds. The salt meadows and the coastal lagoons are all depending on grazing and sometimes additional mowing in order to keep a favourable conservation condition.

Species:

The salt meadows and coastal lagoons on Store Egholm hold important populations of target vulnerable meadow species like green toad green toad (*Bufo viridis*) (and until recently also natterjack toad (*B. calamita*)), Baltic dunlin *Calidris alpina*, avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* and a large variety of salt meadow

vegetation. They are all dependent of a specific fairly high grazing pressure by grazing cattle, and a favourable habitat management should be adjusted to fit the special demands of these species.

Current situation:

Store Egholm was grazed by a decent number of cattle until 2005. However, in 2006 it was not possible to get cattle to the this island, and year only goats and sheep (approximately 17 and 43, respectively) did the grazing. Lack of cattle meant that the lower and halophytic part of the meadow was in the process of overgrowing at the expert visit late July 2006.

Actions implementation:

1. Reintroduction of cattle grazing on Store Egholm
2. Clarification of whether remnants of old drainage ditches are still draining the meadow, and blocking such ditches in case they are
3. Digging and restoration of breeding ponds for toads
4. Repairing the dikes around the meadow