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## Project site fact sheet

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### DK-08: Monnet

SPA: DK008X071

pSCI: DK008X201

#### Protection status:

- Protected under the Act on Nature Conservation (§3): 130,26 ha (92% of project site)
- Protected by conservation order No. 479-05-02 of 21/12-1983: 122,10 ha (86 % of project site)
- Protected as reserve No. 78: 73,39 ha (52 % of project site)

#### Habitats (% of project site):

- 1150 \*Coastal lagoons: 18% of project site
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*):82% of project site

#### Present species of special focus in this project:

- A132 Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*): 10 pairs
- Baltic dunlin (*Calidris alpina schinzii*): 3 pairs
- Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*)
- Green toad (*Bufo viridis*)

#### Other present species of interest:

- A194 Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): 36 pairs
- A195 Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*): 1 pair

#### Potential nature values:

- The large coastal meadow with numerous shallow water bodies having a wide salinity gradient makes this area important for both green toad and natterjack toad
- Increased grazing would create more proper breeding habitat for the endangered Baltic dunlin, for avocet and for most of the meadowbirds in general
- Botanical values at Monnet are strongly grazing dependent

#### Site description:

Monnet has a long and persistent history of grazing, and the area was common grazing area belonging to the Vårø village for centuries. Favourable conservation of all the habitats in the project site demands a fairly high grazing pressure, locally supplemented with some mowing.

#### Species:

Despite of several depressions, ponds and creeks, available in the meadow, the water is mostly too salty for the natterjack toads to breed in them. Today the green toads are breeding in several fresh and brackish water bodies (depressions, ponds, creeks and ditches) all over the Monnet and also in the neighbouring fields. Monnet is one of only three sites left in eastern Denmark with regularly breeding of

Baltic dunlins *Calidris alpina*. In 2006 there were two stationary pairs/territories. Monnet has diverse salt meadow vegetation and the site is classified as having the highest botanical value and is one out of the seven most botanically important salt meadows in the Funen region. 20 out of 24 Atlantic salt meadow indicator species are found at Monnet.

#### Current situation:

The project site holds a fine selection of rare and vulnerable salt meadow species with specific management needs like green toad (*Bufo viridis*) and natterjack toad (*B. Calamita*), Baltic dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*), yellow meadow ant (*Lasius flavus*), hairy seablite (*Bassia hirsute*) and many-flowered buttercup (*Ranunculus polyanthemos*). Therefore, the habitat management of the site has to be adjusted to fit the specific demands of these target species. Locally, in the wetter parts of Monnet, along some of the shores and also in some gullies and pools the vegetation is too high and dense to provide suitable chick feeding habitat, and this may have contributed to the declining numbers of breeding meadowbirds.

#### Actions implementation:

1. Increase the number of cattle grazing at Monnet.
2. Regular cutting of grass on the higher ground around the toad breeding ponds.
3. Removal of bushes in the open meadows
4. Investigate that local pumping of groundwater is not draining the meadows at Monnet.
5. Cessation of shooting on the saltmeadow – at the minimum in the breeding season.
6. Improving breeding conditions of toads
7. Restoration and maintenance of cattle ponds