



Project site fact sheet

DK-10: Store Vrøj and Krageø

SPA: DK005X094

pSCI: DK005X221

Protection status:

- Protected under the Act on Nature Conservation (§3): 144,39 ha (92% of project site)
- Protected by conservation order of 28/8-1992: 149,10 ha (95 % of project site)
- Protected as reserve No. 68: 7,64 ha (5 % of project site)

Habitats (% of project site):

- 1110 Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time: 1% of project site
- 1150 * Coastal lagoons: 19% of project site
- 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines: 1% of project site
- 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks: 3% of project site
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*): 72% of project site

Present species of special focus in this project:

- None

Other present species of interest:

- A194 Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*): 1 pair

Potential nature values:

- Possibly, the natterjack toad could be re-introduced in the future. Also other amphibian species, such as moor frog *Rana arvalis*, might colonise to Krageø from the neighbouring areas
- With a high grazing pressure, the reed bed around the coastal lagoons at Krageø could be transformed into short grass meadow, and this may create breeding habitat for the Baltic dunlin
- Extended grazing and some cutting of bushes and reed around the coastal lagoons and along the shore of Saltbæk Vig will ensure that the existing rich plant diversity will survive and will expand the open habitats in the area

Site description:

The main part, approximately 114 ha, consists of Atlantic salt meadow (EU habitat 1330) and an additional approximately 30 ha are coastal lagoons (EU priority habitat 1150). In addition there are locally more limited areas with alkaline fens (EU habitat 7230), sandbanks (EU habitat 1110) annual vegetation of drift lines (EU habitat 1210) and perennial vegetation of stony banks (EU habitat 1220).

Species:

No project target breeding species are found within the project site and due to a.o. the bad management condition very low numbers and a poor diversity of other bird species are found. There is a high diversity of rare and red-listed species typical for perennial vegetation on stony banks, annual vegeta-

tion of drift lines and alkaline fens. Habitat management at this site should primarily be directed at preserving and improving the living conditions for the rich plant diversity. As a side-effect the general diversity in the coastal lagoon habitat complex will increase, and some regionally vulnerable species of beach and meadow living birds, e.g. oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*, common ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula* and redshank *Tringa totanus*, are expected to extend their breeding distribution and numbers.

Current situation:

In 2006 200 sheep graze Krageø. This number is apparently appropriate to keep the vegetation on the beach wall, stone banks and sandbanks sufficiently open without destroying the existing lichen vegetation. On the other hand, the present grazing is far from enough to transfer reed beds into grazed salt meadows along the coastal lagoons and elsewhere. Establishment of a fence around the major part of the coastal lagoons and a sufficient area of the higher ground to make it suitable for a cattle field and introduction of a number of all year grazing hardy livestock in this area could open up the coastal lagoons and transfer parts of the reed bed into wet salt meadow.

Actions implementation:

The actions performed at this site are primarily directed at preserving and improving the living conditions for the rich plant diversity. As a side-effect the general diversity in the coastal lagoon habitat complex will increase, and some regionally vulnerable species of beach and meadow living birds, e.g. oystercatcher, common ringed plover and redshank, are expected to extend their breeding distribution and numbers.

1. Cessation of drainage of NW fresh-brackish meadows.
2. Expansion of summer grazing with cattle in NW meadows.
3. Increased grazing in the coastal lagoon system at Krageø and the eastern shore of Store Vrøj by introduction of additional all year grazing by hardy livestock.
4. Investigation of whether opening of the present blocking of the inner coastal lagoon will improve water quality without draining the inner parts of the lagoon.