



Project site fact sheet

DK-13: Ulvshale

SPA: DK006X089

pSCI: DK006X233

Protection status:

- Protected under the Act on Nature Conservation (§3): 98,64ha (80% of project site)
- Protected by conservation order: 114,90ha (93% of project site)
- Protected as reserve No. 62: 69,17ha (56% of project site)

Habitats (% of project site):

- 1150 * Coastal lagoon: 1%
- Salicornia and other annuals colonising mud and sand: >1%
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*): 31%
- 2130 Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes): 1%
- 2250 * Coastal dunes with *Juniperus* spp.: 16%
- 7210 * Calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus* and species of the *Caricion davallianae*: 3%

Present species of special focus in this project:

- A132 Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*): 10 pairs
- A151 Ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*): 1pair
- Natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*)

Other present species of interest:

- The botany in general

Potential nature values:

- Breeding populations of natterjack toad (*Bufo calamita*) and green toad (*Bufo viridis*). Increased populations of agile frog (*Rana dalmatina*) and edible frog (*Rana esculenta*)
- Increased number of wading birds due to more grazing of reeds at the shoreline, excavation of shallow wet depressions, and the fox fence. Also increased breeding success for meadow birds

Site description:

Nearly all of the project area is protected by declaration according to the Danish Act of Nature Conservation. The areas on *Ulvshale proper* and around *Pilebugten* were protected by declaration in 1947, and *Horsnæs* was protected by declaration in 1980. Only 11.6 ha around *Gåsesøen* are not protected in this way.

Species:

The artificial lake *Gåsesøen* was excavated by the county in c. 1993, and the adjoining lot was fenced with a fox-proof fence. However, as the surroundings are much grown in with trees, the hoped-for immigration of coastal meadow birds has not occurred. At the 2006 survey, none of the target species Baltic dunlin (*Calidris alpina*), ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*), black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa*) and avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) were breeding. Baltic dunlins, black-tailed godwits and avocets were seen on feeding areas on the mudflats along the shores of *Horsnæs*. Amphibian species known from the project area are *Bufo calamita*, *Rana dalmatina* and *Rana esculenta*.

Current situation:

The whole area used to be divided into many small lots owned by a large number of private persons. Gradually, many lots have been purchased by the public, and a single private cattle holder has purchased many lots on *Horsnæs*. This means that by now, most of the project area is managed by only a couple of persons/institutions, which allows large-scale management by grazing.

Cattle are moved around in various fields sectioned by temporary fences in order to optimise grazing, both concerning minimization of trampling of bird nests and creation of the best vegetation structure, especially by forcing cattle to graze wet areas near the coastline. However, there are still two important grazing problems. The greatest problem is the fact that for workload saving reasons, the fences are not situated in the sea water, but some metres inland. The other remaining problem is that several sections of the meadow are owned by persons who do not want grazing and tree-felling, and whose prime interest is to have reeds in order to harvest reeds for thatching. In addition, one lot far to the southwest is owned by a union of hunters who want to keep the reed vegetation as a hide during hunting. This creates habitat fragments of land overgrown with reeds with supposed large populations of rodents attracting more frequent visits of foxes to the outer parts of the open meadows, inevitably increasing the predation in the neighbouring meadowbird communities.

Actions implementation:

1. Restoration of sea water inflow to the coastal lagoon *Pilebugten*
2. Dredging the coastal lagoon *Pilebugten*
3. Restoration of natural depressions on *Horsnæs*
4. Restoration of natural depression at the coastline of *Horsnæs*
5. Restoration of natural depressions at *Gåsesøen*
6. Removing unwanted vegetation
7. Introduction of whole year grazing
8. Establishment of watering holes for cattle
9. Removable fence along the coast line
10. Fox-proof fence