



Project site fact sheet

DK-14: Saksfjed-Hyllekrog

SPA: DK006X083

pSCI: DK006X238

Protection status:

- Protected under the Act on Nature Conservation (§3): 66, 73 ha (55% of project site)
- Protected by conservation order: 109,70 ha (91% of project site)
- Protected as reserve No. 77: 95,10 ha (79% of project site)

Habitats (% of project site):

- 1140 Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide covers: 1%
- 1150 * Coastal lagoon: 3%
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*): 3%
- 2130 * Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes): 9%

Present species of special focus in this project:

- Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*): 1 pair
- *Bufo viridis*

Other present species of interest:

- A195 Little tern (*Sterna albifrons*): 2 pairs

Potential nature values:

- Creation of newly dug freshwater ponds in and outside of the grazing pen may enable green toad (*bufo viridis*) of breeding
- Expansion of the grazing field at *Hyllekrog* to include the western part *Drummeholm* and the northern shoreline would provide more suitable breeding habitat for the meadowbirds including chick-feeding habitat

Site description:

Most of the Hyllekrog peninsula and the near coast fraction of the Saksfjed polder area is owned by the Karen Krieger foundation and administered by Fugleværnsfonden (a Danish bird preservation foundation).

Species:

There is a population of green toads (*Bufo viridis*) at Hyllekrog. Breeding birds are counted annually at the project site. There is no information on the breeding success, but foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) live permanently on the spit what probably means that nest predation is high.

Current situation:

Until 2006, Hereford cattle grazed most of *Hyllekrog* (except the westernmost part). At the 2006 field visit, some areas were well-grazed but locally, and in particular in the eastern part of the grazing field, there was high and dense grass vegetation. The meadow along the northern shoreline was not grazed as the fence was situated inland. That grazing agreement ended in 2006.

A grazing agreement with another cattle holder started in 2007. The situation from that year on is that the central meadows are still grazed along a 2 km stretch, whereas the dunes all along the south coast, the narrow strip of coastal meadow at the western 1.8 km of the peninsula (the basis), and the easternmost 1.2 km of the spit are not grazed at all. Within the 2 km stretch of grazed area, the western part (where there is fresh water supply for the cattle) is well-grazed, whereas the grazing pressure is decreasing towards the east where some standing grass litter is present.

The project site part of the *Saksfjed* polders was grazed by meat cattle until 2002. After that those areas owned by Fugleværnsfonden were grazed by sheep, whereas the rest was left ungrazed. In 2006, grazing was very extensive and insufficient to keep an open meadow. Only very locally there was short vegetation and meadows and clayponds were basically overgrown with reed and rushes. The grazing at the areas not owned by Fugleværnsfonden was resumed in 2006.

Actions implementation:

1. Expansion of the grazing pen at *Hyllekrog* to include the northern shore and *Drummeholm*.
2. Fox exclusion fence at the basis of the *Hyllekrog* peninsula.
3. Blocking and filling up ditches at *Hyllekrog*.
4. Digging possible breeding ponds for green toads.
5. Cutting and/or burning high grass and rush vegetation at *Hyllekrog*.
6. Create one or several watering ponds at the *Saksfjed* polder project site south of *Billitse Mølle*.
7. Increase grazing density significantly at the *Saksfjed* polder project site and include the entire area into the grazing pen.
8. Blocking of ditch in the *Saksfjed* polder area.
9. Eradication of *Rosa rugosa* at *Hyllekrog*
10. Setting up facilities for the public