



## DE-21 : Eichholzniederung

SPA: 1530-491; pSCI : 1631-393

Protection status: Landscape conservation area; Landschaftsschutzgebiet (LSG)

### Habitats:

\*1150 Lagoon 22%

1210 Annual vegetation of drift 1%

1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1%

1310 Salicornia and other colonizing mud and sand 1%

1330 Atlantic salt meadow 58%

2120 Shifting dunes along shoreline, white dune 1%

### Animals:

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### Site description and foreseen actions:

The site is only partly owned by the beneficiary, other sections are owned by the adjacent town Heiligenhafen or privately owned property. The site is a huge dwelling with soft banks at west and south, intensively agricultural land, to the North the dynamic shore and stone banks creating the Baltic Sea beach. The center is formed of a 95 ha lagoon. The Eastern side is dominated by a 20-story high apartment block, and adequate infrastructure as parking lot and tourism facilities. The connection to the next lagoon section to the east is partly blocked. Salt water inflow happens temporarily via the northern shore and even more seldom from the eastern water body but heavily by run offs from the adjacent fields surrounding the site.

The project site itself is dominated by grassland, partly affected by rising water levels during flooding events. The lagoon shore is overgrown by Phragmites. The site is cultivated as pastures. Trails give access to the site, a (nearly) round trail as well as a "cutting-through" are heavily frequented by tourists, locals and spa patients. Again, dogs running free of leash are a serious problem for cattle, wild life and birds. The western track is also used of surfers bringing equipment to the beach by car.

Situated at the most frequently used fly-way for migrating birds in south-western Baltic Sea the site is an important resting and foraging area.

Pasture sections owned by the beneficiary will receive infrastructure to allow a grazing excluding winter time. The aim is a re-installment of grazed reed beds towards the lagoon water body. The hydrology on these sections has been re-naturalised by opening the drains and a more natural run of water.

The site Eichholzniederung has been chosen as a reserve population of the endangered plant species *Apium repens*. A special plantation on a slope of a pond has

become a “second home“ of plants from the rearing experiment done by the University of Hamburg.

Work is done and further activities are under preparation and coordinated with the district administration and in close cooperation with the nearby local nature reserve manager Klaus Dürkop from NABU, NSG Graswarder.