



Project sites fact sheet

DE-22 : Südwest-Fehmarn

Natura 2000 code: SPA: 1530-491; pSCI : 1532-391

Protection status: partly nature reserve: NSG Krummsteert – Sulsdorfer Wiek / Fehmarn, NSG Wallnau / Fehmarn ; totally: landscape protection area LSG Insel Fehmarn

Habitats:

- *1150 Lagoon 19%
- 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 2%
- 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 2%
- 1330 Atlantic salt meadow 23%
- * 2130 Fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation, grey dunes 3%
- 2190 Humid dune slacks 1%

Animals:

- Recurvirostra avosetta 50 pairs, staging -200
- Calidris alpina schinzii extinct
- Philomachus pugnax probably extinct
- Sterna hirundo 6-60 pairs
- Sterna paradisaea 1-2 pairs
- Sterna albifrons 7-9 pairs

Site description:

The South-west of the island Fehmarn is covered with various stages from lagoons and former lagoons and their surrounding habitats.

The biggest lagoon, Lake Kopenhagen, was diked around 1860 and drained by a system of ditches and several pumping-works. At the beginning of the 20th century the area was transformed into a fish-hatchery, which is still maintained in the southern part (Flügger Watt und ponds) today. In the northern part the fish hatchery was closed down in the 1970th.

The Sulsdorfer Wiek in the southeast of the project site was formerly a bay and as well diked in the 1870th. For several years it was used as a fish-hatchery but in 1980 it was turned into a nature reserve.

The mentioned areas are culturally overcharged and because of their wealth of species it does not seem rich in meaning to transform them back into the original condition. The existing biotope-management should be extended and developed to support the frame-conditions of the occurring species. Besides the regulation of the water the marshy grassland of Wallnau is pastured to provide a breed and rest habitat for various sorts of birds and amphibians. *Bufo viridis* and *Bufo calamita* for example have here their best occurrence.

In the southern part there is located the spit named Krummsteert. Until it was turned into a nature reserve in 1980 parts of the gravelly and sandy dunes were pastured. Since then the developing processes has only been observed. In the last 50 years this spit grew for about 950 meters (19 meters p.a.) into the bay of Orth. As a result of this development all stages of sandy

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and gravely dunes and lagoons can be found. In this area all natural processes should be maintained undisturbed. Because of predation by the fox breeding birds (for example *Sterna albifrons*) unfortunately don't have any breeding success.

West of the former fish-hatchery a relief of more or less naturally preserved dunes with little lagoons can be found. Due to the dike this grey dune complex is not connected with the Baltic Sea any more. In 1984 *Calidris alpina schinzii* bred here for the last time.

Due to a lack of management especially the areas south of the nature reserve Wallnau went into succession. Close to the dike one part is wooded with Sitka spruce. Lagoons which can be still recognized are drained and extremely covered with reed. For waders (*Vanellus vanellus*, *Limosa limosa*, *Tringa totanus*, *Recurvirostra avosetta* etc.) as well as *Bufo viridis* and *Bufo calamita* this part is not attractive in its present condition.

Extensive pasture, the end of draining the lagoons and removing the reed would improve the situation.

Affected species:

The fish-ponds as well as the foreland of the Baltic Sea have international significance as resting areas for waterfowls:

For breeding birds and amphibians:

In the fishponds and their surrounding reeds: *Botaurus stellaris* (4-6 p.), *Circus aeruginosus* (4-5 p.), *Porzana porzana*, *Chlidonias niger* (4 p.), *Bufo viridis*

On artificial islands in the Waterfowl Reserve Wallnau: *Recurvirostra avosetta* (30-80 p.), *Sterna hirundo* (6-60p.), *Sternula albifrons* (2-11 p.).

In the marshy grassland and on the former gravely dunes in the west: *Bufo calamita* and *Bufo viridis*.

Plants:

Apium graveolens, *Carex viridula*, *Radiola linoides*, *Dryopteris cristata*, *Utricularia vulgaris*, *Inula britannica*, *Carex extensa*, *Atriplex pedunculata*, *Phleum arenarium*, *Dactylorhiza incarnata*, *Dactylorhiza majalis*, *Eryngium maritimum*, *Lathyrus maritimus*, *Echium vulgare*, *Anchusa officinalis*, *Cynoglossum officinale*, *Allium scorodoprasum*, *Allium vineale*, *Filago arvensis*, *Carex distans*, *Centaurium pulchellum*, *Pulicaria dysenterica*, *Rhinanthus angustifolius*, *Danthonia decumbens* and *Drosera rotundifolia*.

Foreseen actions:

The site will see an establishment of grazing with cattle and horses on a central part of the site.

Natural depressions and shallow water bodies of the coastal lagoon here have unwanted mud and silt as well as reed vegetation which will be cleared within this project. At the same time the hydrology in the coastal lagoon habitat complex will be optimized by closing ditches.

Due to the current vegetation and structures, several predators have optimal conditions on prey of resting and breeding birds, this problem should be focused and a better control established.

Proceedings:

The winter grazing with Galloway cattle on the 36 ha area south of the reserve Wallnau (mainly grey dunes, Püttsee Warder) was continued (grazing period from September to April with up to 45 Galloway cattle, with a yearly average of 0,35 GVE/ha (GVE = adult animal unit)).

The grazing regime is corresponding to the recommendations of the floristic study done by Heiko Grell in 2006. The lack of cattle grazing in summer gives flowers a better chance to get seed.

The introduction of Konik horses took place in February 2007. Five young male Konik horses from NSG Geltinger Birk /Schleswig-Holstein were brought to Wallnau, a well performing "boy group" on Fehrman island.

Parts of the Sitka Spruce plantation were fenced, leaving aisles with free access for the cattle as well as for toads to a better migration between beach, grey dunes and lagoons. The reserve Wallnau had a high fox population in 2006 (up to 20 adult foxes estimated by tracks in snow). As in the years before, breeding success of meadow birds was very low. To correlate these two facts is a too easy conclusion, other reasons are investigated too for a proper solution.

Further activities are under preparation and coordinated together with the district administration.