



Länsstyrelsen
Skåne



Restorations of sand dunes on Jutland

Sand Life visiting Naturstyrelsen at Thy in April 2015



Networking with Naturstyrelsen at Thy in north western Jutland

Sand Life was visited Naturstyrelsen at Thy in north western Jutland, Denmark to discuss restoration of sandy dune habitats and learn from the Danish Life-projects Life Overdrev and Life Redcoha.

Date

April 16th and 17th 2015

Participants

Gabrielle Rosquist	Sand Life, Skåne
Magnus Jönsson	Sand Life, Skåne
Marit Hedlund	Sand Life, Skåne
Maria Sandell	Sand Life, Skåne
Henrik Schjöldt Kristensen	Naturstyrelsen, DK
Kristian Mandsberg Nielsen	Naturstyrelsen, DK

Picture on front cover: Studying the map from Hanstholmen in Thy National Park.

Networking with Naturstyrelsen at Jutland, Denmark

Networking is important in Life-projects and give the opportunities to share experiences and learn from each other.

In April 2014, Sand Life when on to visit Naturstyrelsen at the National Park at Thy on Jutland, Denmark, to learn from the experiences that finished and ongoing Life-projects have received from removing Japanese rose and pine plantations. Especially the different methods used when removing Rosa is of great interest to Sand Life.

The study trip lasted for two days from 16th to 17th of April 2015 and we had two splendid guides in Henrik and Kristian. For the two-day program see Appendix below.



The sand dunes at the Thy National Park covers a large area with a mosaic of dunes and dune slacks.

Österlid wind power plant

We arrived by lunch time to a great wind power plant area, where Henrik Schjöldt Kristensen from Naturstyrelsen met up. At this area about 230 hectares' pine forest will be turned into heathland by pulling up stumps or chipping the remnants on spot so it will cover the surface. Large areas have also been bulldozed and the litter was placed in heaps. It was impressive to see the

well-developed dune landscape that was emerged when the pine forests were removed. In the future the deer's will create patches of bare sand in a natural way.

The plans of the wind power plants were kept secret until decided and caused big protests when it was presented to the public. Thereafter, they worked a lot with information and dialog meetings and now there are hardly any protests.



The cleared areas with the wind power park in the back-ground.

Hanstholmen, removing *Rosa rugosa*

The invasive plant *Rosa rugosa* has spread quickly in the dunes at Thy and during a period of three years the area covered by the bushes were doubled, according to a mapping in 2010. At the costal dunes outside the village of Hanstholmen the former Life-project Life Overdrev have tested different methods to reduce *Rosa rugosa* from an area of about 330 hectares by:

1. Mowing and cutting the bushes
2. Using poison ie Round up (8 hectares in 2012)
3. Grassing/browsing with sheep, goats and/or cattle

The conclusions were:

- Larger stands should be mowed or browsed
- Smaller stands can be sprayed with round up, however new shots will show up at the edges of the stands.

- Browsing with goats and horses reduced *Rosa rugosa*, grassing with sheep and cattle resulted in growth of grass-species.



The costal dunes at Hanstholmen that has been grassed to the right and non-grassed to the left.

Klittmøller military field of fire

At the costal dunes of Klittmøller, the remnants from military fire activities were cleaned and at the same time *Rosa rugosa* were dug down and the topography of the area recreated. However, the bare sand was going to be planted with *Ammophila arenaria*, since they were not allowed to let the sand stay exposed.



A tiny little sand lizard at the bare sand in Thy National Park.

Tvorup klittplantage, burned Pine-forest

The mountain pine close to the open grey dunes along the coast at Tvorups klittplantage have been burned. The burnings were done in March and left the black stems in the now lighter opened dunes.



The burnt mountain pine forest in Thy National Park.

Burning of heath at Vangså hede

A traditional heath burning have been done in March/April at Hvangså hede and the fire breakers have been mowed.



A mowed fire breaker and burned heath in spring 2015.

Learned

- The wind will play a more important role in the Danish western sand dunes because of its position close to the ocean. Therefore, the Danish nature conservationists have to struggle with the "klittfredningslagen" that not only prevent them from creating bare sand in the sand dunes, but also force them to plant areas where the sand becomes bare.
- In a natural sand dune complex, without or with minor human impact, the sand dunes form irregular dune complexes and not a typical long sand dune as in most Swedish sites.
- The areas with *Rosa rugosa* on Jutland is huge and therefore it will be impossible and far too expensive to remove the plants by digging. The tests that were done in Life Overdrev showed that spraying were a cost effective method to reduce the plants.
- The tests also showed that grassing/browsing was an effective way to reduce *Rosa rugosa*.
- Burning the mountain pine plantations were effective to get rid of the pines, but the litter was

not reduced and the grass-vegetation was enhanced.

See more about the two Danish Life-projects;

Life REDCOHA at

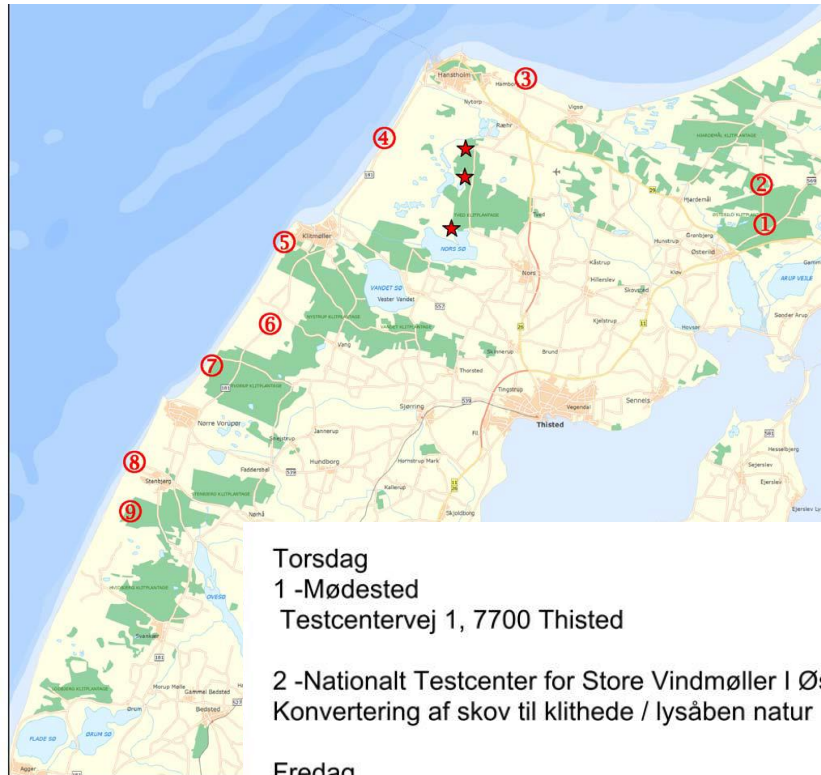
www.naturstyrelsen.dk/naturbeskyttelse/naturprojekter/life-saarbar-natur-langs-vestkysten

and Life Overdrev at

<http://naturstyrelsen.dk/naturbeskyttelse/naturprojekter/life-overdrev/>

We would like to thank Naturstyrelsen at Thy for receiving Sand Life and showing the National Park and for the great discussions about restoration methods and dissemination activities during the visit!

APPENDIX: Program for Sand Life visiting Jutland, 16 – 17 April 2015



Torsdag

1 - Mødested

Testcentervej 1, 7700 Thisted

2 - Nationalt Testcenter for Store Vindmøller i Østeild
Konvertering af skov til klithede / lysåben natur

Fredag

3 - Hanstholm-Vigsø

LIFE Overdrev forsøg med RR

4 - Hanstholm Vildtreservat
RR omfang og trussel

5 - Klitmøller Skydeterræn
Nedgravning af RR

6 - Vangså Hede
Hedeafbrænding og ændret hydrologi

7 - Tvorup Klitplantage
Afbrænding af skov, hede og klit 2012 og 2015

8 - Stenbjerg Landingsplads
Kulturmiljø

9 - Stenbjerg Klitplantage
LIFE REDCOHA
Konvertering af plantage til hede

★ Mulige mål for aftenudflugt