

Digging work on Hulsig Heath

The nature recovery project LIFE Hulsig Hede / REWETDUNE has now entered the final phase. The final run is now going on among other things to create better conditions for Bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*), frogs and toads etc.

The project started on August 1st, 2014 and ends on December 31st, 2019.

There is a rush in efforts to get the actions "closed". Among the last activities, we are busy establishing three shallow lakes to create the right

habitat for Bittern and amphibians (frogs and toads). The Bittern is a heron bird - somewhat smaller than the fishing heron - who has a high priority in the LIFE project. Frogs and toads, which are part of the food base for the Bittern, and water line vegetation will benefit from the new lakes.



On Thursday November 21st, work began on excavating to one of the lakes, namely the lake that will be located immediately south of Skagen dune plantation between the main road and the railway. The keen eye will be able to see the machines from both the train and the road. The lake is expected to cover an area of approx. 1 hectare. It is regular "underwater work" to dig out to the lake. The amount of rainfall this fall has put the area under water. However, this is not going to mean anything to the digging work. Modern construction machinery is equipped with electronic appliances, so that you are constantly able to dig in the right depth, which is expected to be approx. 0.5 meter.

A shallow lake of approx. 1.7 hectares at Hvide Klit between Bunken Plantation and Råbjergvej. With the high level of rainfall we got this fall, the lake is now almost full. The last small lake will be established on Råbjerg heath south of Råbjerg Stene. The lake only becomes quite small, namely approx. 1,400 m². The excess sand from the excavation will be filled in nearby ditches. The purpose is to retain water on the land surface during the summer season, so better moist conditions is created for the natural animals vegetation.