



LIFE Project Number
LIFE11 NAT/DK/000893 LIFE Læsø

Progress Report
Covering the project activities from 01/01/2015 to 30/06/2016

Reporting Date
30/06/2016

LIFE+ PROJECT NAME or Acronym
Restoration of birdlife and natural habitats at Laesoe
LIFE LAESOE

Data Project

Project location	Denmark
Project start date:	01/10/2012
Project end date:	30/09/2017 Extension date: 30/03/2018
Total budget	€2,102,002
EC contribution:	€1,051,001
(%) of eligible costs	50

Data Beneficiary

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2. List of key-words and abbreviations

- **LM:** **Laesoe Municipality**
- **DNA:** **Danish Nature Agency**

3. Executive summary (max 3 pages).

The project covers 4.469 hectare or the total terrestrial part of two N-2000 sites, both SACs and one also SPA. Since writing the application the involved pSCIs turned SACs.

The targeted species are breeding Dunlin *Calidris alpina schzinii*, Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*, Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*, Artic Tern *Sterna paradisaea* and Little Tern *Sternula albifrons*, and the migration visitors Brant Goose *Branta bernicla bernicla*, Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* and Dunlin *Calidris alpina alpina*.

The targeted habitats are 1330 salt meadow, 2130 grey dune, 2140 dune heath, 3110 + 3130 oligotroph lake types, 4010 wet heath, 4030 dry heath, 6410 molinia meadow, and 7230 alkaline fen.

The main threat is lack of grazing, caused by fragmented ownership - 336 landowners and 1758 cadastral units – and no coherent management. Only a few farmers with grazing livestock are present as a consequence of farming structure, change in farming and environmental subsidies and high cost related to expensive haulage to and from the island. Other important threats are overgrowth, invasive alien species, predation and inappropriate hydrology.

The main action is the establishment of a landowners association to secure coherent management of the N2000 areas both within the project period and following. Clearing of wooded areas / woody overgrowth, controlled burning of heath, establishment of enclosures, purchase of cattle and sheep, improving natural hydrology, predator control (crow, mink and fox) and controlling IAS (*Rosa rugosa* and *Spartina* spp.) with new methods.

The objectives are to establish a coherent and sustainable land management system on the island parallel to enlarging and enhancing the mentioned habitats as well as the population of targeted birds.

1 General progress.

- a. Since the project delivered Mid-term Report per end December 2014 overall progress has been in line with the original assumptions apart from some of the work related to combating invasive alien species.

The very key action – the Landowners Association – has experienced substantial success and is now an absolute entity and working well. Many landowners as well as livestock owners have joined the association, the latter nearly to the extent, where we now experience a surplus of cattle at the Island.

Also actions related to clearing of trees, scrub and emerging trees and scrub are progressing very well and are in fact very close to achieving a realistic final level.

In direct line with the above, cleared areas have been fenced and livestock released to substantial new areas.

Controlled burning went well in the early spring of 2015 and extremely well during the spring of 2016 – primarily due to the establishment of a voluntary group.

Monitoring is progressing in line with initial plans.

The project has delivered below expectation and intentions regarding website, newsletters and public tours.

The partners are in general very happy with the projects achievements and progress.

b. Assessment as to whether the project objectives and work plan are still viable.
Objectives and work plan are still very much valid, but present challenges regarding combating invasive alien species (C4 / C5) and obtaining permissions from misc. authority regarding these actions might pose a problem regarding these actions. The project will know whether all obstacles these actions are likely to be solved within 1 – 2 months.

c. Problems encountered.

Since the early start of 2015 the project have experienced problems / challenges on 2 fronts – firstly related to staff changes at DNA during 2015 (project managers sick leave) and staff at Læsø Municipality (both replacement and maternity leave) and secondly related to the public and political perception related to combating invasive alien species at Laesoe. The latter also creating further delay as the project had to return to the authorities regarding permission to execute treatment along the blue ribbon (shoreline), some of which are still outstanding.

Regarding the financial elements the project has discussed the need for a budget modification with the Commission for some time and this is now agreed to take place at the end of 2016. This is very much needed and vital to a satisfactory completion of the project.

As a consequence of the above elements – amongst others – the project was granted an amendment as a prolongation in February 2016. The project will now run until end March 2018.

The project expects that the measures taken will secure the timely execution of the project all its actions as agreed with the Commission.

1.4.1 Technical – in short

- A1 Delivered.
- A2 Ongoing – presently regarding combating invasive alien species.
- A3 Delivered.
- C1/C2 Nearly delivered.
- C3 Awaits permission from landowners.
- C4 Ongoing – change of technique / now awaiting permission from Authorities.
- C5 Ongoing – very positive result spring 2015 / public resistance / now awaiting permission from Authorities.
- C6 Delivered.
- C7 Ongoing.
- C8 Ongoing.
- C9 Ongoing.
- C10 Ongoing.
- C11 Planning phase ended – actual action to start following the summer holiday season 2016.
- C12 Ongoing – has been extremely time-consuming and by far more than foreseen. Association very successful.
- D1 Ongoing as per schedule.
- D2 Ongoing.
- E1 Ongoing – problems regarding setup within DNA and changes amongst staff.
- E2 Ongoing – and as above.
- E3 Delivered.

- E4 Delivered.
- E5 N/A
- E6 Ongoing.
- E7 N/A
- E8 Ongoing and now starting to work as a positive forum.
- E9 N/A
- E10 N/A
- F1
- F2 Ongoing
- F3
- F4 N/A

4. Administrative part

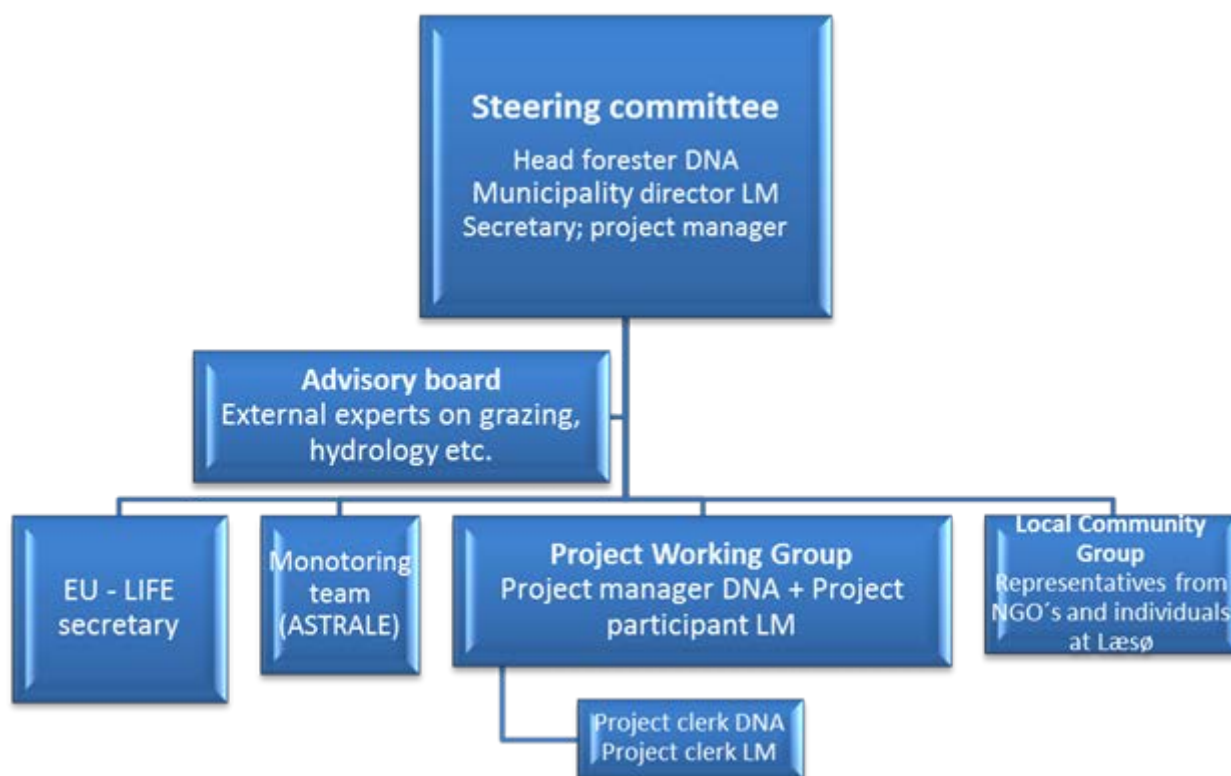
- a. The project encountered a number of challenges during 2015. The DNA project manager became sick and was granted sick leave from June to mid-autumn why DNA replaced him with another employee. This change did not pose a problem to the running of the project.

At LM the technical Director left employment in the spring of 2015 and wasn't replaced before the early start of 2016 and another LM key staff member went on maternity leave in October 2015, however being replaced after a short period.

Although the above changes at the DNA did not pose problems the same cannot be said regarding the situation at LM – where their input to the project lost momentum – and also generating political uncertainties. At time of writing this situation is history and the project is back on track.

As a consequence of the above mentioned staff changes quite a number of meetings has taken place in the project working group and between DNA staff and LM politicians / leading LM staff.

- b. Regarding meetings between the project partners as well as other meeting see list in appendix 7.2.2.
- c. As mentioned above Søren Møller Pedersen replaced project manager Hans – Henrik Jørgensen during his sick leave.
- d. Organigram LIFE NAT/DK/000893 LIFE LAESOE structure;



The person involved at time of writing are;

- Head forester DNA – Jesper Blom-Hansen
- Technical Director LM – Lillian Kristensen
- Project manager DNA – Hans-Henrik Jørgensen
- Project participant LM – Max Strunge
- Project clerk DNA – Bjarne Jørgensen
- Project clerk LM – Gitte Daugaard
- Biologist DNA – Bjarke Huus Jensen
- Dissimilation DNA – Thomas Retsloff
- Project manager DNA (LIFE WETHAB) – Helle kold Jespersen
 - Special taks if required
- Local Community Group
 - 8 members from misc. NGO and local trades
- Advisory board
 - University of Copenhagen, Institute of Geoscience – Rita Merete Buttenschøn
 - University of Aarhus, Institute of Bioscience, aquatic – Hans Brix
 - University of Copenhagen, Institute of Ecology & Evolution – Henning Adersen
 - Geological Survey of Denmark and Greenland – Jens Morten Hansen
 - University of Aarhus, Institute of Bioscience – Rasmus Ejrsnæs
 - University of Aarhus, Institute of Bioscience – Thomas Bregnballe
 - University of Aarhus, Institute of Bioscience – Toke Thomas Høye
 - Danish Nature Agency – Søren Ferdinand Hansen
 - Danish Ornithological society – Knud Pedersen
 - The Danish Society for Nature Conservation – Eigil Torp Olesen

e. Reports delivered

- Inception report per 30-06-2013
- Progress report no. 1 – N/A
- Mid-term per 31-12-2014
- Request for prolongation launched December 2015 – granted 15-03-2016
- Progress report no. 2 per 30-06-2016

f. As mention a prolongation was applied for and granted in February 2016.

5. Technical part

Laesoe – extending to approx. 12,000 hectare - is a young island situated in Kattegat between the Danish mainland (Jutland peninsula) and the Swedish west coast. The island is very flat and consists of primarily sand on a bed of clay. There is a substantial coastline with many smaller islands and an up to 3 km wide tidal zone towards south.

4,469 hectare out of the above mentioned area is covered by 2 SCIs (DK00FX010 and DK00FX118).

Salt meadow, heathland, dunes and other light demanding habitats characterizes large parts on the island. The habitats are under threat of being overgrown with woody species – some being non-native. This overgrowth is a threat not only to the habitats in question, but also a long list of associated birds, of which the project focus on breeding Dunlin, Avocet, Wood Sandpiper, Artic Tern, Little Tern and migrating visitors being Brant Goose, Bar-tailed Godwit and Dunlin.

The overgrowth – and loss of light demanding habitats – is primarily due to lack of appropriate grazing by livestock where change in farming structure and farming subsidies are the direct cause for livestock decline.

This unfortunate situation is further affected by the fact that the N2000 area in question is owned by 335 individuals holding 1758 individual cadastral units, making coherent management very challenging.

As 41 % of the N2000 area is owned by DNA and the remaining 59 % being the responsibility of LM, a partnership focusing on creating a coherent project, both addressing a number of present environmental problems, but must importantly, also trying to establish a sustainable future management regime (after LIFE), being the Landowners association.

5.1 Actions

5.1.1 A1 Formation of Landowners Association

Delivered as described in earlier reports.

5.1.2 A2 Permission to carry out conservation actions

Ongoing – presently regarding combating IAS. The project has experienced at setback due to relocation of a number of government agency and their task composition. The responsibility regarding coastal protection has been relocated from the Danish Nature Agency to the Danish Coastal Authority per 1-1-2016 and the projects application regarding combating Cord grass and Japanese rose launched mid-summer 2015. The permission was received 15th June and now awaits a 4 week consultation period.

5.1.3 A3 Hydrological investigation

Delivered and described in earlier reports. As earlier mentioned a part of the work still remains as a task for the project management and will be conducted alongside implementing C11.

5.1.4 C1 Clearing of trees and scrub

C1 and C2 will be commented upon as one action and will also be described as one in relation to the agreed budget modification to be launched at year end. This is earlier discussed and agreed with the Commission.

Since the start of 2015 107 hectare of woodland and 98 hectare of lights demanding habitats being under risk of developing into woodlands has been cleared. In all 229 hectare out of the projects aim to clear in total 366 hectare is achieved and only minor woodland clearances are seen as realistic during the remaining part of the project (figures see below).

It is therefore not realistic to achieve the ultimate figure of 535.25 hectare as mentioned in the GA – primarily due to sporting interest. As mentioned in earlier reports the project have had to take a pragmatic approach arguing and implementing the misc. actions in cooperation with a great number of landowners – quite naturally pursuing personal views. In general the project is very happy with what's achieved in total between C1 and C2.

C1	2013	2014 *	2015/16	Sub sum	Target
Cleared	57	65	107	229	366

Figures in hectare

* Further 95.69 felled – originally mapped as C2

5.1.5 C2 Clearing of reeds and emerging trees and scrub

See above.

C2	2013	2014 *	2015/16	Sub sum	Target
Cleared	157	315	98	498	376

Figures in hectare

* 95.69 mapped under C2 – in reality C1

5.1.6 C3 Clearing of non-native woody species

This action was planned to be executed during 2015, but due to the project manager's illness decided postponed to 2016. The action is very limited workwise, but partly demands agreement with the landowner who normally opposes strongly to any contact / dialog to authorities. It is therefore decided to await the answer regarding Cord grass from The Danish Coastal Authority before contacting the landowners in question so all outstanding issues hopefully can be solved together.

C3	2013	2014	2015/16	2017	Target
Cleared	0	0	0	Exp. 78	78

Figures in hectare

5.1.7 C4 Clearing of Japanese rose

Because of the problems mentioned earlier regarding public / political perception and the further need for permits from authorities combatting Japanese rose with mechanical means during 2015 and first half of 2016 work has in reality been on hold.

On the positive site the increase in enclosed areas with grazing has meant an expansion of the area with natural treatment as both cattle and sheep graze the specie.

The present trial with a shepherd and a flock of sheep is very promising out with the enclose areas and are considered expanded to include also enclosed areas.

As the project expects to be granted permission form authorities shortly we see no problem in achieving the planned objective regarding Japanese rose.

C4	2013	2014	2015/16	2017	Target
Combatted	In progress	In progress	On hold	Exp. in progress	23.91

Figures in hectare

5.1.8 C5 Clearing of cord grass

As mentioned in the Mid-term Report the knowledge gathering and conducted trials during 2013 and 2014 did create the base for a rapid start in the spring of 2015 and an expectation of combating the specie in substantial areas during 2015.

As soon as weather allowed, the work started at the island south-eastern corner and followed the coastline and inlets towards south-west. See appendix 7.2.1.

This work showed very successful and monitoring in the spring of 2016 shows no regrowth.

Unfortunately the project experienced – as mentioned - public resistance which quite rapidly also turned into a political issue, bringing the work to a standstill. This also led to a demand for further discussion with authorities and their subsequence assessment.

As the majority of areas infested with Cord grass are out with the enclosed areas the above mentioned trials with shepherd and sheep also include quite substantial areas of this character. The sheep graze the specie happily thereby dramatically reducing seed production and foliage in general. This is very important when it comes to the mechanical removal of the plant as the sheer volume of foliage and upper root system is reduced before the actual burial process, being in “ditches” as described in earlier reports (Dutch ditching).

As mention earlier the project was granted permission from the Danish Coastal Authority by 15th June 2016 and should be able to start combating the specie following consultation and the breeding season – expected to around beginning August.

The project might although still experience problems as a limited number of landowners seems to unwilling to accept the project working on their land. This fact is dealt with as a matter of urgency by LM and by both politicians and public servants.

The issues regarding combating Cord grass are many, but primarily the attitude that combating the specie is waste of money and wont remove the problem and that the method of Dutch ditching might pose a problem for horse riders as the

seabed might turn soft in treated areas. The latter has considerable political attention as equestrian is important in relation to the islands tourism industry. At time of writing the project is in the situation where we very shortly are allowed to start the work by the authorities, we know exactly how to combat the specie, we know we can reach the project objectives within the remaining project period – but the public and political opinion might prevent this, why the project might have to redraw the action from the project. The project manager regards this as a major problem – not only for the island of Læsø, but also for nature conservation in Denmark in general as the opportunity of combating the specie in quite a large scale with be missed. This will indeed also influence the general danish experience gathering regarding Cord grass.

C5	2013	2014	2015/16 *	2017	Target **
Cleared	Trials	Trials	4	Exp. in progress	14.97

Figures in hectare

* Cleared along 14,911 meter of coastline – approx. 4 hectare.

** Target in GA – monitoring in 2014 shows specie cover on approx. 24 hectare.

5.1.9 C6 Establishment of cattle and sheep herds

Delivered and handed over to the Landowners Association as mentioned in the Mid-term report.

5.1.10 C7 Creating enclosures by fencing

This action follows action C1 / C2 and is progressing at a steady pace. The project have experienced challenges regarding the precise layout of enclosures from a number of individuals and NGO's, but are now in a phase, where all new fences are discussed and agreed to in the Local Community Group prior to establishment. See also map appendix 7.2.1.

C7	2013	2014	2015/16	Target
New fences	194.81	234.49	567.07	1,712.15
Enhancing existing	1,532.56	1,532.56		1,559.55

Figures in hectare

5.1.11 C8 Controlled burning

After a somewhat disappointing start in 2103 and 2014, the year of 2015, and especially 2016, gave substantial results. This is partly due to weather conditions being more favourable, but more importantly the successful establishment of a voluntary group.

See also map appendix 7.2.1.

C8	2013	2014	2015/16	Sub sum	Target
Executed	15.66	41.33	509.95	566.94	433.98

Figures in hectare

5.1.12 C9 Infra structure

This action is primarily a "tidying up" action following harvesting and haulage under C1 and is therefore progressing in line with this.

The project might however experience a problem regarding delivering a footpath forming part of the GA. There might be a problem getting acceptance from local landowners and even from the Protection Committee as the path will run entirely on a Special Protection Site.

These challenges are presently addressed.

5.1.13 C10 Control of foxes, mink and hooded crow

This action is progressing well but with some adjustments. As mentioned in earlier reports the project experience problems regarding advocating the use of traps catching hooded crow. At this stage we simply have to accept this as a fact, but will as from early spring 2017 apply for a license to control crow numbers by shooting young birds at or near to the nests. Although the project faces problems it is very important to stress that a substantial number of crows are culled annually – and assumingly by far more that reported via the hunting license system.

Culling of fox from the artificial dens has been disappointing last winter, primarily due to the weather condition, as foxes haven't used the dens a lot. To address this it was therefore decided to use carrion and culling from high seats at night with artificial light – this demanded special licences.

Following this, the hunters reported that they saw very few, which is also supported by a general lack of other signs, e.g. tracks etc.

Regarding mink only a very few are culled and this is perceived reflecting the population.

As mention earlier, the number of cranes at the island might pose a problem for the targeted species during the breeding season as is indeed the large gulls. The possibility of obtaining a license to regulate a number of large gulls in specific areas is discussed with The Danish Nature Agency.

Cull of species related to action C10 by hunters at Laesoe

C10	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 *
Fox	55	61	29	51	50
Mink	9	8	12	5	5
Crow	394	554	502	726	460

* Figures related to 2015 are not fully reported to DNA by hunters at present.

5.1.14 C11 Restore natural hydrology

Planning and initial work executed – actual work to start following the summer holiday period 2016 and the breeding season.

The action will be delivered.

5.1.15 C12 Landowners Association

Ongoing and by far more resource intensive than foreseen. The Association manage in the region of 2,250 hectare involving app. 110 landowners and having contractual agreements with 11 livestock owners regarding grazing for

the Association with approx. 250 no. horses, 700 no. cattle and 200 no. sheep on top of the association own flock of 400 no. cattle and 200 no. sheep.

The association is therefore an established fact and widely respected at the island. Furthermore are the accounts showing a positive development thereby also creating a positive picture of this new association.

The project is extremely satisfied with this and rest assured that the initial idea of creating a sustainable “after LIFE” situation is very close to being achieved.

5.1.16 D1 Monitoring of impact on targeted habitats and species

Ongoing - and in line with initial plan / GA.

At time of writing the early count of breeding pairs of targeted species are performed as is the re-assessment of the present N-2000 plans, thereby involving assessing habitat types etc. in the project area. The latter are expected to finish by autumn 2017 – conveniently placed to end project spring 2018.

5.1.17 D2 Assessment of the socioeconomic impact

LM requested to produce report 24th May, but announced themselves unable to deliver 16th June.

The report will be forwarded to the Commission a.s.a.p.

5.1.18 E1 Establish website

The project website can only be described as less optimal, partly due to the above mentioned challenges regarding illness, maternity-leave and change amongst staff and the change from DNA, VSY to the DNA head-office being responsible.

Saying that, the website is still frequently used and considered interesting and informative by visitors.

The project partners still maintain a great wish to further improve the site.

5.1.19 E2 Newsletter

Delivered, but not as agreed in GA and not to the partners satisfaction. The reason why, is similar to challenges mentioned under E1 – website. With the new managerial structure at LM now being in place it is agreed that LM will lead this action and improve on former deliveries.

5.1.20 E3 Provision of information tables

As mentioned in Mid-term 14 signs are erected in the very beginning of 2015 and have been very positively received.

The action is expanded by also mounting leaflet cassettes at the sign post holding the leaflets prepared under action C4.

The action is executed.

5.1.21 E4 A leaflet explain the project

Delivered as mention in earlier report. The leaflets have been received quite positive, but there is a clear move from printed leaflets to the use of smart phone and QR codes.

5.1.22 E5 Visitor facilities

N/A

5.1.23 E6 Public tours

Since early 2015 6 tours have been executed and with participating number from 15 to 33. Again because of the earlier mentioned situation regarding staff at both DNA and LM the majority of tours have had their offset from the DNA owned areas and with a focus on the DNA owned cattle herd. These tours are conducted in the major holiday periods and are very popular.

As mentioned under E2 it is agreed that LM staff will play the major part in conducting tours as from now on and that by farm more emphasis should be allocated.

Furthermore the above mentioned shepherd will act as nature guide in cooperation with the local tourist board. This is hoped to be very successful this summer.

5.1.24 E7 Layman's report

N/A

5.1.25 E8 Local Community Group

Following a somewhat disappointing report in the Mid-term reports it can now be reported that quite some interest has developed at the island and a total of 8 persons – individual as well as representatives from NGO's – have joint the group. Furthermore the group request the presence of others at their meetings, depending of issues addressed.

A total of 10 meetings have taken place since beginning 2015.

5.1.26 E9 Report on control of invasive species

N/A

5.1.27 E10 Final seminar

N/A

5.1.28 F1 Project management

It must be said that the project have experienced a somewhat turbulent life from early summer 2015 and in reality until now.

The replacement of the project manager last summer and autumn due to illness must in overall terms be considered an advantage – it brought a fresh eye to the project and the day to day running of the actions at the island and only minor issues where left for later because of the understandable time pressure. When the Commission visited the project in September 2015 this was also reflected by the Commissions response.

The safe operation of the project during this period is also a result of the robust managerial setup at DNA, VSY – meaning that all accounting etc. are kept in absolute order.

Within the reporting period LM have experienced substantial changes amongst staff and it must be mentioned that this has created – and still creates - challenges for the project. All LM managerial staff responsible for nature conservation has been replaced and new staff therefore had to address the project and its history since autumn 2012. This also combined with a rather new political – and very active – daily reality.

It is the managements hope that the near future will mean a return to a more stable management within both LM and DNA.

5.1.29 F2 Overall project monitoring

Progressing in line with plans – also reflected in the maps etc. provided.

5.1.30 F3 Networking

The project is fortunate to share office with both LIFE WETHAB and LIFE REWETDUNE why networking is taking place on daily basis.

Furthermore the project participated in the LIFE Platform meeting held last autumn in Aalborg, represented by Stine Hansen from LM.

Exchange of experiences regarded methods and contractors have taken place between LIFE Laesoe and LIFE Vänern.

5.1.31 F4 After LIFE conservation plan

N/A

5.2 Envisaged progress until next report.

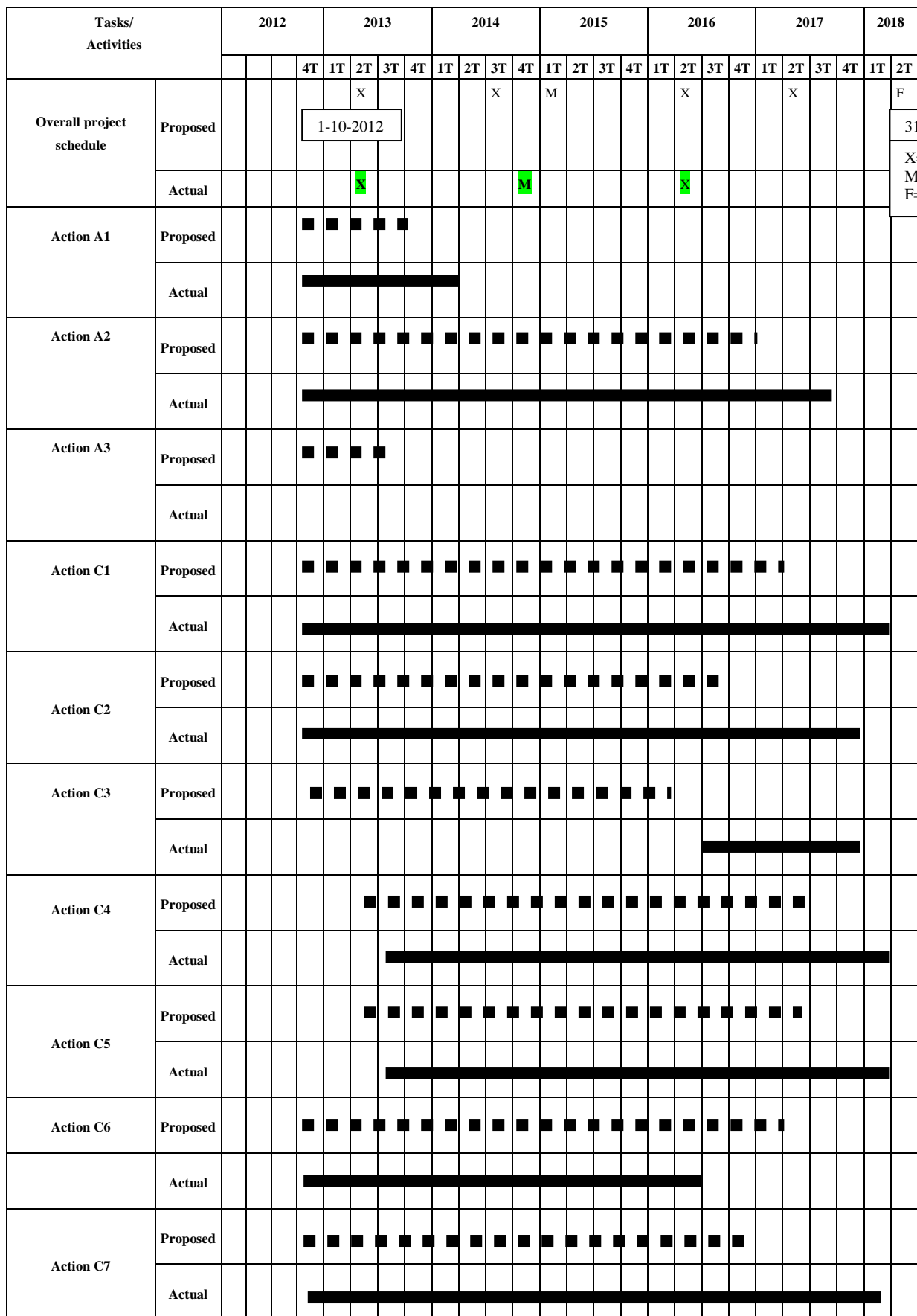
Until the next report – June 2017 – the project management will make any effort to deliver as per GA, amendments and any amendments following the agreed budget modification, to be submitted in last quarter 2016.

In short, the absolute focus will be on the following;

- C3 Clearing of non native woody species.
 - To be executed as per GA.
- C4 Clearing of Japanese rose.
 - Substantial progress depending on permits from Authorities and public / political opinion.
- C5 Clearing of Cord grass.
 - Substantial progress depending on permits from Authorities and public / political opinion.
- C7 Creating enclosures by fencing.
 - To follow the pace of clearing (C1 / C2) and new member to the Landowners Association / other interest.
- C8 Controlled burning.
 - Maintained weather depending.
- C10 Control of foxes, mink and hooded crow.
 - Maintained and expanded depending permissions from DNA and perhaps to include large gull spp.
- C11 Restore natural hydrology.

- To be executed as per GA.
- C12 Landowners association.
 - To be maintained throughout the project, but expected to be less time-consuming as from 1. January 2017.
- D1 Monitoring of impact on targeted habitats and species.
 - To be executed as per GA.
- E1 Website.
 - Due to the division of DNA as per 1-7-2016 changes regarding overall website management will change. It's hoped the DNA, VSY are allowed a greater role in managing the LIFE Laesoe website, thereby improving the layout and appearance.
- E2 Newsletters.
 - By far greater emphasis will be allocated towards creating newsletter during the remaining part of the project.
- E6 Public tours.
 - It is expected to offers more tours as from now on – but still primarily concentrated alongside public holidays.
- E8 Local community group.
 - The work in and with the group to be maintained and expanded.
- F1 Management.
 - To be executed as per GA. Project manager will change during the autumn of 2016 due to retirement of the present PM.
- F2 Overall project monitoring.
 - To be executed as per GA.
- F3 Networking.
 - To be continued when topics coincide with LIFE Laesoe.

5.2.1 Gantt chart illustrating proposed and actual progress:



5.3 Impact:

The project partner still feel that the targets set in the GA should be maintained although the figures mentioned under species are somewhat under pressure also on a national scale. This is particular true for all colony breeders, being extremely vulnerable to predation and disturbance.

Also as mentioned in the Mid-term report the Landowners Association must be regarded as the very key factor to secure long term improvement regarding both specie and habitats.

Species

Specie	Target	Comments
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpine schinzii</i>	25 pairs breeding	Presently maintained as target
Wood Sandpiper <i>Tringa glareola</i>	Re-colonisation – 2 sites	Presently maintained as target
Artic Tern <i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	800 pairs breeding	Presently maintained as target
Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i>	30 pairs breeding	Presently maintained as target
Avocat <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	250 pairs breeding	Presently maintained as target
Dunlin <i>Calidris alpine alpine</i>	45,000 individuals resting	Presently maintained as target
Bar-tailed godwit <i>Limosa lapponica</i>	4,000 individuals resting	Presently maintained as target
Dark-bellied brant goose <i>Branta bernicla bernicla</i>	1,500 individuals resting	Presently maintained as target

Habitats

Habitat	Target	Comments
4010 Northern atlantic wet heath	Expanded – 15 hectare	Presently maintained as target
4030 European dry heath	Expanded – 35 hectare	Presently maintained as target
6230* Species-rich nardus grassland	Expanded – 7-10 hectare	Presently maintained as target
6410 Molinia meadows	Expanded – 3-5 hectare	Presently maintained as target
7230 Alkaline fens	Expanded – approx. 1 hectare	Presently maintained as target
1330 Atlantic salt meadows	1507 hectare enhanced	Presently maintained as target
2130* Fixed coastel dunes	73 hectare enhanced	Presently maintained as target
2140* Decalcified fixed dunes	134 hectare enhanced	Presently maintained as target
3110 Oligotrophic waters	3 hectare enhanced	Presently maintained as target
3130 Oligotrophic / mesotrophic standing waters	2 hectare enhanced	Presently maintained as target

Indirect impacts:

As mentioned earlier a number of landowners without interest in participating in the LIFE project or the Landowners Association have completed miscellaneous tasks e.g.

clearing of woodlands, erected fencing, combated Japanese rose, established grazing, increased livestock numbers and increased their cull of predators.

5.4 Outside LIFE:

Furthermore the establishment of the Landowners Association has led to a substantial interest from both nature conservation bodies and the farming community nationwide. The latter have also led to a significantly improved dialogue with the Danish Agrifish Agency regarding EU subsidies / CAP.

Perhaps the most important result of the project is the establishment of the Landowners Association as it is considered the first ever realistic AFTER LIFE tool securing a sustainable managerial system safeguarding the results of all actions carried out during the LIFE project itself.

Also the projects co-operation with the Agency for Culture and Palaces in form of a Framework Agreement – the first ever – regarding how to work over and around historic remains have led to the use of framework agreements nationwide.

6 Financial part

6.1 Costs incurred

Budget breakdown categories	Total cost in €	Costs incurred from the start date to 15.06.2016 in €	% of total costs By 15.06.2016
1. Personnel	698,868.00	607,558.59	86.94
2. Travel and subsistence	29,060.00	37,569.45	129.28
3. External assistance	740,413.00	557,093.10	75.24
4. Durable goods			
Infrastructure	43,755.00	26,854.89	61.38
Equipment	334,398.00	250,401.36	74.88
Prototype		N/A	
5. Land purchase / long-term lease		N/A	
6. Consumables	106,585.00	32,445.03	30.44
7. Other Costs	11,409.00	4,066.74	35.65
8. Overheads	137,514.00	106,119.24	77.17
TOTAL	2,102,002.00	1,622,108.40	77.17

As mentioned earlier a budget modification has been agreed to and the request is to be forwarded by end 2016 why a thorough revision will take place then.

The main reason is the extended use of own labour as contractors has been extremely difficult to source at the island.

The cost related to travel is partly due to a increase in the costs of ferry tickets, by far more journeys than expected and therefore also a substantial increase in payment of personal travel allowances.

At present the project are in contact with the Commission regarding the purchase of cattle from DNA – correspondence per mail to Tommy Sejersen.

Action number and name	Foreseen costs	Spent so far	Remaining	Projected final cost
A1 Formation of Landowners association	28,407	64,760	-36,353	64,760
A2 Permission to carry out conservation actions	7,077	10,232	-3,155	7,077
A3 Hydrological investigation	6,468	3,199	3,349	5,000
C1 Clearing of trees and scrub	231,977	351,197*	-119,220	260,000
C2 Clearing of reeds and emerging trees and scrub	192,922	183,524	9,398	192,922
C3 Clearing of non native woody species	4,042	2,449	1,592	4,042
C4 Clearing of Japanese rose	79,829	24,068	55,661	79,829
C5 clearing of Cord grass	168,524	41,594	126,930	168,524
C6 Establishment of cattle and sheep herds	245,887	257,792	-11,905	257,792
C7 Creating enclosures by fencing	372,338	285,930	86,408	382,034
C8 Controlled burning	114,656	21,552	93,104	50,000
C9 Infra-structure	48,695	29,720	18,975	56,000
C10 Control of fox, mink and crow	31,308	17,415	13,893	22,000
C11 Restore natural hydrology	32,009	125	31,994	32,009
C12 Landowners Association	32,332	38,120	-5,788	40,000
D1 Monitoring of impact of targeted habitats and bird species	24,467	9,558	14,909	20,000
D2 Assessment of the socioeconomic impact and ecosystem restoration	1,140	0	1,140	500
E1 Establishment of website on the internet	13,593	8,539	5,054	13,593
E2 Newsletter	12,438	1,963	10,475	5,500
E3 Provision of information tables	20,583	14,187	6,396	16,000
E4 A leaflet explaining the project	9,467	2,873	6,594	5,000
E5 Visitor facilities	0	0	0	0
E6 Public tours	2,732	551	2,181	2,732
E7 Layman´s report	5,214	0	5,214	5,214
E8 Local community group	9,758	4,040	5,718	8,000
E9 Report on control of invasive species	6,557	0	6,557	6,557

E10 Final seminar	18,376	0	18,376	18,376
F1 Project management	199,051	129,382	69,669	199,051
F2 Overall project monitoring and monitoring of project progress	29,976	4,715	25,261	29,976
F3 Networking with other projects	14,665	8,352	6,313	12,000
F4 After-LIFE conservation Plan	0	148	-148	0
TOTAL	1,964,488	1,515,967	448,521	1,964,488

* The large amount shown is due to a substantial amount of felled trees awaiting chipharvesting and therefore also the related income. The “spent so far” figure should be marginally below the foreseen figure of 231,977 € taking estimates future income into account.

7 Annexes

7.1 Deliverables

7.2 Dissemination materials

7.2.1 Maps, drawings designs ect.

- Map showing present status C1
- Map showing present status C2
- Map showing present status C5
- Map showing present status C7
- Map showing present status C8

- Example signs fencing / livestock

7.2.2 Overview meetings

1. Public meeting 12-02-2015
 - PowerPoint presentation
 - Facts sheet
2. Meeting with politicians / staff Læsø Municipality 14-12-2015
 - Overview landowners per December 2015 – members of Landowners Association
3. Spreadsheet showing meetings per group

7.2.3 Newspaper articles

- Læsø Posten - 18-02-2015
- Invite public meeting – Læsø Posten – 02-02-2015
- Læsø Posten - 25-03-2015
- Læsø Posten 06-05-2015
- Kødqvæg - Juli 2015
- Læsø Posten – 08-07-2015
- Læsø Posten 22-07-2015

- Læsø Posten – 11-11-2015
- Læsø Posten 11-05-2016
- Læsø Posten 25-05-2016
- Læsø Posten 15-06-2016

7.2.4 Public tours

- Week 8-2015
- Week 17-2015
- Week 29-2015
- Week 42-2015
- Week 7-2016
- Week 15-2016