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### European Diploma of the Protected Areas Bullerö and Långviksskär Nature Reserves, annual report 2013

Annual reports should describe the changes that have taken place since the previous year in dynamic terms of management and function and not be limited to basic data. They should not, without justification, exceed six pages. The report of the year preceding the one in which the validity of the European Diploma of Protected Areas is to be renewed should be more detailed. Any new text or map introducing a change in the situation of the area should be attached to the annual report.

State:SwedenName of the area:Bullerö and Långviksskär nature reserves

### Central authority concerned:

Swedish Environmental Protection Agency
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#### Authority responsible for its management:

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### I. General information

1. Natural heritage (general abiotic description: geomorphology, geology and hydrogeology, habitats, flora, fauna, landscape) — State of conservation

# **1.1. Environment: changes or deterioration in the environment, of natural or anthropic origin, accidental or permanent, actual or anticipated**

The eutrophication of the Baltic Sea is still a problem.



### **1.2.** Flora and vegetation: changes in the plant population and in the vegetational cover; presumed causes.

The clearing of the meadows from overgrowing vegetation has continued in 2013. No major changes in the flora have been detected.

## **1.3.** Fauna: changes in the sedentary or migratory populations; congregating, egg-laying and breeding grounds

The eider (*Somateria mollissima*) and great crested grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) populations are continuously decreasing. The reasons behind the decrease are still unclear, despite ongoing research.

### 2. Cultural heritage and socio-economic context

### 2.1. Cultural heritage

### 2.1.1. Changes concerning cultural heritage

Minor renovations of buildings has been made.

#### 2.2. Socio-economic context

**2.2.1.** Changes concerning the socio-economic context

No changes

### **3. Education and scientific interest**

### **3.1.** Visitors — Information policy

## **3.1.1.** Arrangements for receiving and informing the public (building, booklets, maps, cards, etc.)

An inspection of the accessibility for the disabled has been carried out. The adaption of houses, trails etc for disabled persons will continue next year.

### **3.1.2.** Frequentation by visitors and behavior (number, distribution in time and space)

The number of visitors are difficult to estimate, but is probably around 40 000 this year. The number of visitors that stay overnight, especially foreign visitors and people with a tent arriving in kayak continue to increase. The County Administration Board are very pleased to notice that some disabled persons find their way to Bullerö.

### **3.1.3. Special visits (distinguished persons, groups, etc.)** None

### 3.2. Scientific research

**3.2.1.** Current or completed research (observation, experimentation, etc.; identification or inventory of the species listed in the appendices to the Bern Convention, etc.) None

### **3.2.2. Scientific publications**

None

#### 4. Site description (vulnerability, protection status, ownership, documentation)



### 4.1. Changes in legislation or regulations

No changes

### **4.2. Changes in ownership title (conversion to public property, rentals, etc.)** No changes

### **4.3. Extension or transfer, new uses (for example, conversion into total reserve)** No changes

### 5. Site management (management plans, budget and personnel)

#### 5.1. Improvements made

### 5.1.1. Ecological action affecting the flora and biotopes; controls of fauna

The mink hunting has continued in 2013. The population is under control.

### 5.1.2. Protection against the elements (fire, water regime)

No changes.

**5.1.3.** Approaches and thoroughfares (paths, roads, car parks, signposting, fencing, etc.) The signposts along the trail has been improved.

### 5.1.4. Field equipment (hides and study facilities)

No changes

### 5.2.3. Waste management

The major toilet on Bullerön has been improved for better comfort for visitors and easier handling.

### 5.1.6. Use of renewable energy systems

A system for reverse osmosis desalinator has been installed on Bullerö to increase the scarce water supply and to guarantee quality of the water.

### 5.2. Management

### **5.2.1. Administrative department: changes made** No changes

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#### 5.2.2. Wardens' department: changes made

No change

### **5.2.3. Internal policing measures**

No changes

### 5.2.4. Infringement of regulations and damage; legal action

No changes

### II. Influence of the award of the European Diploma of Protected Areas



No changes

#### III. Conditions and/or recommendations for award or renewal

- 1. The management plans for the two nature reserves have not yet been updated.
- 2. Talks with the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency about making the Bullerö nature reserve a national park are on-going.
- 3. The proliferation of toxic algae in the archipelago is being assessed on a regular basis.
- 4. The sources of disturbances in the reserves and the bird sanctuaries are being supervised.
- 5. The efforts to limit the mink population continue.

## Progress with measures taken in order to meet the conditions and/or recommendations defined during the award or renewal of the European Diploma of Protected Areas.

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Copy: The Swedish Environmental Protection Agency