Welcome to Ulvedybet and Gjøl Bjerg

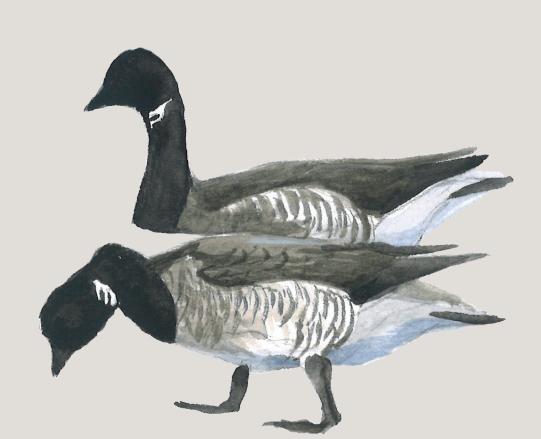
With a view of Limfjorden and Ulvedybet, Gjøl Bjerg is 17 meters above sealevel. In the past, "Bjerget" was an island in the Stone Age Sea or the Litthorina Sea, but today it is surrounded by low-lying, raised seabed. Gjøl Bjerg consists of sand and clay and on the exposed sides, which were excavated in its time for the construction of the dam, you can see the appearance of the chalk. The area is rich in different nature types, from limestone grasslands on Gjøl Bjerg to moist salt marshes in the fringe areas of Ulvedybet.

The history of Ulvedybet originates from a land reclamation project from 1914-1921. Here they established the dam that separated Ulvedybet from Limfjorden and an embankment of the former road.

Vejle is a shallow place in a bay, fjord or similar and adjoining meadows, marshes, or swamps.

NATUREMAN

- The farmer as nature manager in Jammerbugt With support from the project, Jammerbugt municipality can contribute to nature-enhancing measures within the designated areas in the Natura 2000 sites. The project runs until 2026. In the project, the focus is on establishing grazing with frugal cattle breeds as well as the necessary clearing of woody plants and invasive species. In addition, the down-to-earth contact with the farmer is highly valued, so that the best solutions are found out in nature together with the farmer.



Pale-bellied brant goose. Limfjorden is the species' most important resting place from September to the return migration late in May, when the entire Svalbard population is seen around the fjord landscape. Illustrator Peter Kristensen

With its high salt content, Ulvedybet is a brackish water lake and the high nutrient content stems from, among other things, from the catchment's intensively cultivated agricultural land. Ulvedybet covers 557 hectares and is an important resting and breeding area for wading birds, including migratory birds such as Pale-bellied brant goose, eurasian wigeon, and hooper swan. The area around Ulvedybet is a state-designated game reserve and part of the Natura 2000 site Nibe Bredning, Halkær Ådal and Sønderup Ådal, as well as a bird protection area and a Ramsar site.

Ramsar sites are wetlands with so many waterfowl that they are of international importance and must be protected.

Nature care as a business branch

Overgrowth is a general threat to the light-open nature types and thus also biodiversity. Grazing with horses, cows, sheep, and goats works well to create more biodiversity. Natural areas are best grazed with robust cattle breeds that are adapted to extensive natural areas. Suitable breeds are e.g., dexter, Scottish highland cattle, galloway, angus and hereford.



Dexter cattle. In the project, GPS collars are tested in connection with the supervision and counting of animals that graze the natural areas. Photo Jammerbugt Municipality

On Gjøl Bjerg you find dexter cattle, which with their small and agile physique are suitable for moving in the dense scrub and on the hilly terrain. Other breeds of cattle roam the salt meadows, they need more grass and herbs in their food intake. In Natureman, work is being done to spread knowledge of meat from the animals that have grazed the natural areas. The project also investigates whether this meat has a climate advantage. According to analyses, the fatty acid composition is also healthier in meat from cattle slaughtered directly on grass, and it also suggests that the meat may contain more antioxidants.



The monitoring is carried out before the nature care is put into action, and at the end of the project period. Here on the natural area west of Gjøl Bjerg - towards Ulvedybet, monitoring has been carried out, which consists of 10 test fields. The picture shows one of the test fields. Photo Jammerbugt Municipality

Measurement of impact

In LIFE IP Natureman, the impact of the project's nature care efforts on focal species and nature is measured. The monitoring must be seen as a supplement to 'The National Monitoring Program for Water Environment and Nature', NOVANA, which is carried out by the Environmental Protection Agency. The supplementary monitoring must be carried out twice during the project period: before the start of an effort and at the end of the project. This is done to obtain a targeted documentation of the effect of the nature conservation efforts that are initiated in the project.

LIFE IP NATUREMAN

This project is part of the **EU project LIFE IP Natureman - the farmer as nature manager.** The project takes place in 11 nature areas in 8 municipalities. The nature areas are called Natura 2000, and are designated to protect a number of endangered, vulnerable or characteristic animals, birds, plants and habitats. In Natureman there is a special focus on improving the nature content of the rare habitats alcaline fens, petrifying springs and grassland. We want to create larger, cohesive natural areas and increase biodiversity through better care of the areas. In the project we work to promote the economy in nature conservation, among other things by clearing unwanted growth, setting up new fences, agricultural support schemes that supports biodiversity, development of new technology for animals on grass, as well as sales and value chains for agricultural products from

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