IMPACT ON NATURA 2000 SITES

ABOUT LYNETTEHOLM

On 4 June 2021, a broad political majority in the Danish Parliament passed the act on the construction of Lynetteholm. Lynetteholm will be constructed as a peninsula between Refshaleøen and Nordhavn with a coastal landscape facing Øresund, which will help protect Copenhagen from storm surge from the north. CPH City & Port Development will create the land area on Lynetteholm by utilising - in other words, recycling - surplus soil from Copenhagen and construction projects in and around the city.

Prior to Parliament's decision to construct the land area of Lynetteholm, environmental impact assessments were drawn up, illustrating how it is believed the construction of Lynetteholm will impact the surrounding environment. CPH City & Port Development will continuously monitor the construction work, thereby ensuring all environmental considerations.

The signatory parties to the agreement decided to initiate a strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of the future plans for Lynetteholm, which have not yet been politically decided.

NATURA 2000 SITES

There are 275 designated Natura 2000 sites in Denmark: areas where certain species need to be protected. Within the designated areas, special guidelines apply for processing plans and projects, including applications for licences etc., which may affect Natura 2000 sites, the objective being to protect species and types of habitat.

The basis for Natura 2000 is the EU Nature Conservation Directives, which consist of the Birds Directive and the Habitats Directive. The directives obligate EU member states to preserve more than 200 habitats, 700 species of flora and fauna, and more than 170 species of birds.

In the environmental impact assessments of the Lynetteholm project, an initial screening of areas that might be affected was conducted, together with a subsequent materiality assessment of the selected Natura 2000 sites.

As a result of the screening, the following Natura 2000 sites in Denmark and Sweden were selected. They were investigated in terms of whether they could be significantly affected by the creation of Lynetteholm or dredging in the Baltic Sea just over 25 kilometres from Køge:

- → N141 'Brobæk Mose, Gentofte Lake'
- → N142 'Saltholm and surrounding sea'
- → N143 'Vestamager and the sea south'
- → N144 'Nedre Mølleådal and Jægersborg Dyrehave'
- → N206 'Stevns Rev'
- → SE0430183 The sea around Ven
- → SE0430138 Lundåkrabukten
- → SE0430091 Löddeåns mynning
- → Habitat area SE0430095 'Falsterbohalvön' (Sweden)
- → Bird protection area SE0430002 'Falsterbo-Foteviken' (Sweden)

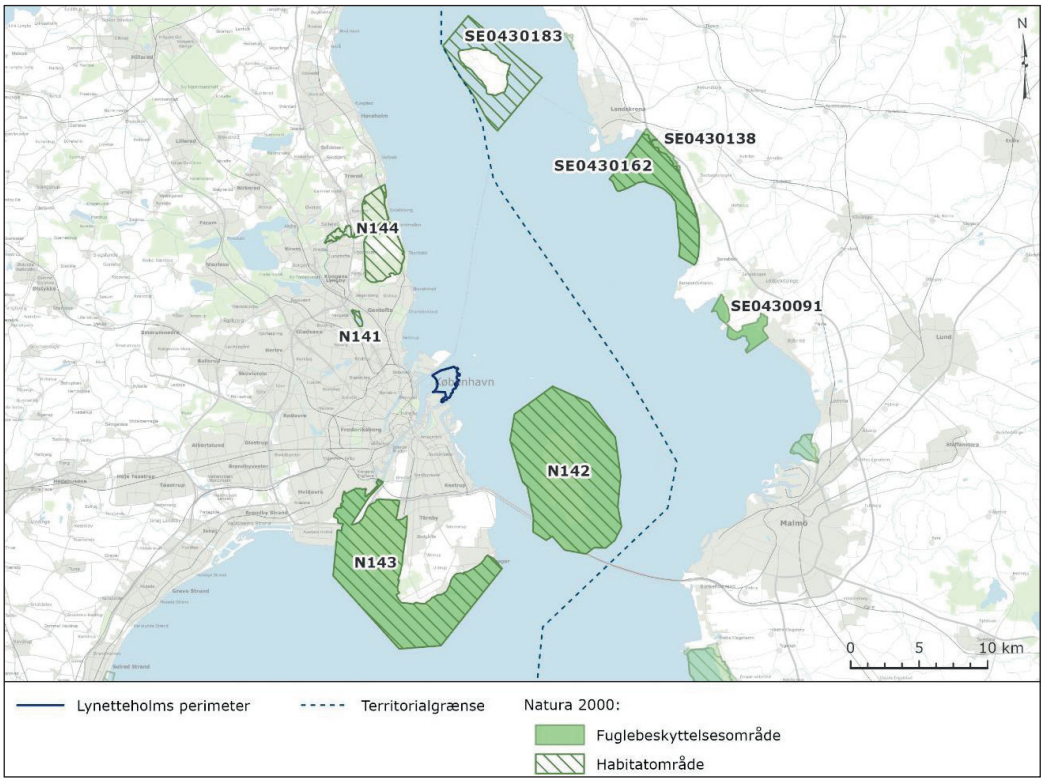

Illustration 1 Natura 2000 sites around Lynetteholm

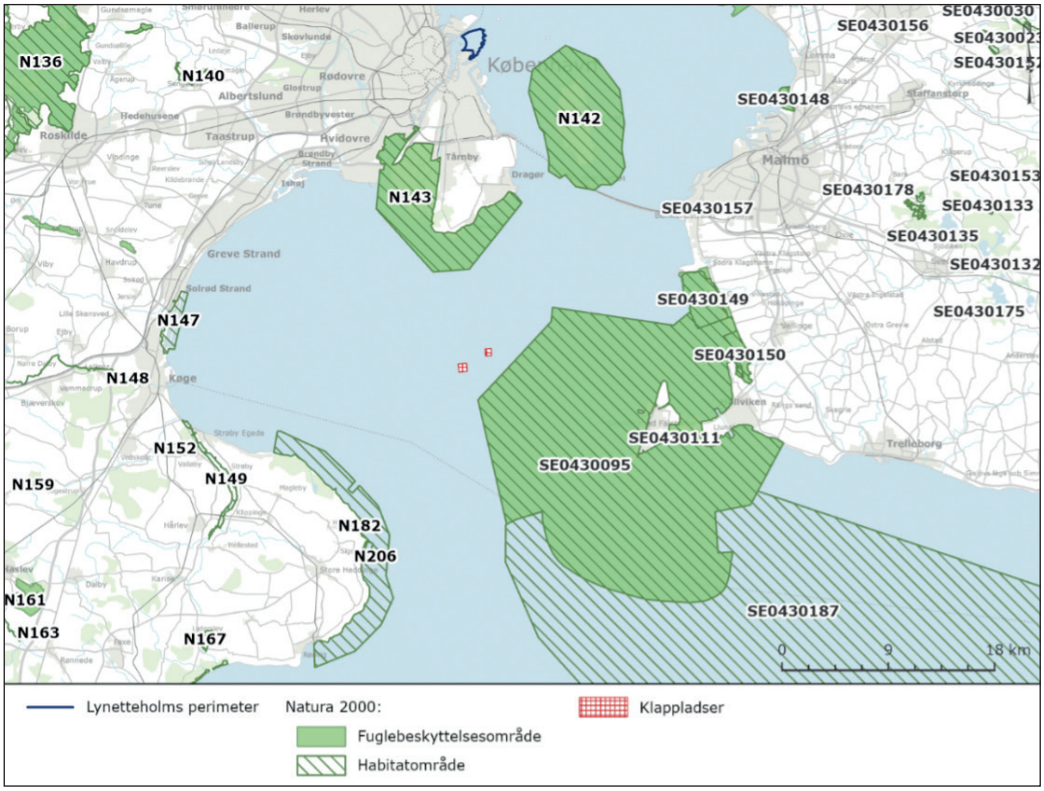

Illustration 2 Natura 2000 sites near the dredging sites

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In the materiality assessment of the various Natura 2000 sites, it is particularly the impact from underwater noise and sediment spreading from seabed material that have been shown to have potential significance.

Noise will come from the actual creation of Lynetteholm and the deepening of fairways during the construction phase: not only, for example, the driving of sheet piles in the perimeter, but also from materials transported by water. The noise (i.e. The noise (i.e. underwater noise) could potentially have a negative impact, particularly on marine mammals such as seals and porpoises, which are part of the designation basis for several Natura 2000 sites. However, calculations have shown that even in a worst-case scenario, there will be no significant impact on either marine marine mammals or birds.

Sediment dispersal will occur when seabed material is dredged below Lynetteholm's perimeter, and when it is subsequently disposed of in the Baltic Sea south of Amager. Disposal involves sailing the dredged seabed material by barge to two disposal sites, where it will be unloaded onto the seabed. Read more about the disposal process in the fact sheet 'Disposal of seabed material in the Baltic Sea and flow in Øresund'

The sediment could affect water quality due to the release of pollutants, and as deposits on the seabed, where, for example, it could block the sun from marine habitats in Natura 2000 sites. The impact of sediment has been thoroughly investigated. The studies show that there will only be very limited impact from the release of sediment in the water and from deposits on the sea bed. There will be no significant impact on benthic flora and fauna, and thus no impact on the food base of the species that are part of the designation basis for the Natura 2000 sites.

MONITORING OF SEDIMENT DISPERSAL

CPH City & Port Development will carry out a monitoring programme to ensure that no unexpected sediment spreads from the disposal site: for example, to Natura 2000 sites. During the start-up phase, ships with meters will sail around the disposal vessels, measuring the specific spread under different weather and current conditions. Measuring stations located on the seabed will measure the specific deposits. Input from the measurements will be included in a hydraulic model that, together with reports on the quantities of material disposed of, can calculate and predict the spread. Monitoring and the calculation model will continuously be adapted according to the experience gained and influence when and how much disposal takes place, thereby preventing undesired spread.

OTHER POTENTIAL IMPACTS

The environmental impact assessments also investigated a number of other potential impacts, including other physical disturbances: from the construction vessels, from environmentally harmful substances in the sediment, release of nutrients, changes in habitat or emissions from the construction vessels etc. We also investigated whether there will be a cumulative impact from the various sub-projects, from Lynetteholm in relation to other projects and from different factors within the same project. Based on the studies, the conclusion is that there will be no significant impact on the Natura 2000 sites as a result of the creation of Lynetteholm.

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