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SemiAquatic
Life



Documentation from excursions at the Ravlunda seminar 7th-8th of June 2017 SemiAquaticLife LIFE14/NAT/SE/000201

Map over visited sites at the Ravlunda seminar.



Documentation from seminar at Ravlunda skjutfält 20170607-

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Day on, 7th of June

The first place to be visited was Revingefältet. Here we visited the place where the re-introduction of Spadefoot toad is conducted. The eggs had hatched and the tadpoles were large enough to be released from the enclosures.

Picture 1 and 2. Some tadpoles were put in a jar and observed by Danish and German nature conservation officers. Project assistants releasing the tadpoles in a pond created during the project.



Close to Revingefältet another site for a Life-project (UC for life, <http://www.ucforlife.se>) is situated. The project has re-meandered a stream at Hemmestorps mölla in order to facilitate the conditions for the Thick-Shelled river mussel and its host fishes. These actions also improve the habitats for frogs and semiaquatic insects.

Picture 3. Information sign about UC for Life



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Bäckhalladalen was visited to experience the only site in this project with Fire-bellied toad as target species in Sweden. There are many ponds in the area but only a few a suitable for the Fire-bellied toad. This is because many wetlands are temporary and or/acidic.

Picture 4. The best pond in Bäckhalladalen for Fire-bellied toad.



Vårhallarna is the Swedish donor site for Natterjack toads to be re-introduced at Ravlunda skjutfält. The site was visited in the evening and tadpoles and an adult toad were observed. The site is typical in Sweden for Natterjack toad sites where the bedrock is dominated by rocks. Small pools are created in crevices where the toads are laying their eggs and filled with a combination of rainwater and sea water.

Picture 5 and 6, Vårhallarna, a donor sites for Natterjack toad.



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Day on, 8th of June

This day's excursion was dedicated to visit Ravlunda skjutfält. The purpose was to show habitats for dragonflies and water beetles. In the project new ponds have been created earlier this spring and eggs from Natterjack toads have been translocated from Vårhallarna. Baited traps for catching water beetles were put out one day earlier at two older ponds. These ponds will be restored later on since they have been invaded by the Canadian waterweed (*Elodea canadensis*). The weather was fine and some dragonflies could be seen flying despite the cold spring, among them our target species, *Leucorrhinia pectoralis*.

Picture 7 and 8. Several water beetles and a male crested newt (target species) were found in the traps. Among the larger water beetles, we caught a species found on the red list in Sweden (*Hydrophilus piceus*) and the rare species, *Cybister lateralmarginalis*.



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Picture 9. One action in this area is to remove the invasive plant, *Elodea Canadensis* from five permanent ponds. Later in the autumn this plant will totally cover these ponds at Ravlunda skjutfält.



Picture 10,11,12. Newly deposited egg strings of the Natterjack toad at one of the newly created ponds at Ravlunda. Surprisingly both eggs and adult Natterjack toads were found. This means that the re-introduction program of Natterjack toad to Ravlunda skjutfält in this project will have to be re-evaluated.



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Picture 13. Participants at the field excursion the second day.

