



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD

# LIFE+ URBANCOWS - Restoration of urban coastal meadow complex in Pärnu town, Estonia

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Project coordinator

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The map shows the Pärnu River flowing through the city. Key streets labeled include Ehilajate tee, Tammiste tee, Riia mnt, and Liivi tee. A blue outline highlights a specific area along the riverbank, likely the subject of the study.

- Project budget: 1 138 413 €;
  - EU contribution: 75% (853 000 €)
  - Own contribution: 25% (284 000 €)
- Duration: 01.01.2012-31.12.2016;
- Beneficiaries: Environmental Board (CB); Pärnu Town Government; Tartu University Pärnu College.



# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- To improve the conservation status of the coastal meadow and coastal lagoon habitat complex of Rannaniidu NATURA 2000 site:
  - to remove old reed and bushes from 220 ha of coastal meadow;
  - to restore 75 ha of coastal lagoons by removing floating reed rhizome and sediments;
  - grazing infrastructure establishment;
  - immediate reintroduction of cattle grazing at restored areas;





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- To introduce the values of the area to the locals and visitors and foster the recreation:
  - visitor infrastructure establishment;
  - disseminate, educate, change the public opinion on the values of the area.





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- An old reed and bushes removed mechanically in 220 ha of coastal meadow;
- Used for bioenergy production, thatched roofs or mulched/burned;





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- 75 ha of coastal lagoons restored mechanically by removing floating reed rhizome from edges; natural water regime improved ;





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- Grazing infrastructure established (fences, shelters);
- immediate reintroduction of cattle grazing after the restoration;





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- Visitor infrastructure established;
- dissemination events, outdoor conservation events, active work with residents and visitors.





# LIFE+ URBANCOWS project (2012-2016)

- Two portable exhibitions produced;
- 55 000 leaflets in 4 languages distributed;
- more than 50 guided tours, seminars and public events organised;
- several specific outdoor learning programs launched;
- more than 80% respondents positively minded towards the restoration and cattle reintroduction (20% increase).

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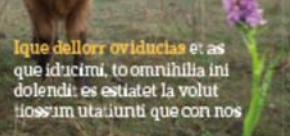
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# Thank you!

More information:

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<http://life.envir.ee/urbancows>



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