

STORK, STORK LANGE BEN STORK, STORK LONG LEGS

Keld Jensen

Nr. 50, december 2023

No. 50, December 2023

Stork, stork langeben

I starten af 1900-tallet var Østhimmerland hjemsted for mange storkepar. Mange landsbyer oplevede hvert år det spændende tidspunkt, hvor storkene ankom fra deres vinterkvarter i Afrika. Vil vi igen få storkeunger i vores by? Østhimmerlands storkeby nr. 1 var landsbyen Veddum. Omkring år 1895 var der ved landsbyen flere end halvtreds beboede reder. Rundt omkring i Østhimmerland var der omkring 1910-15 cirka tres beboede storkereder fordelt rundt om i landskabet.

Storken er i dag stort set forsvundet fra egnen. Hvert år ses nogle strejfer i Lille Vildmose og ind over resten af Østhimmerland. Men storken skal kunne finde mad til sine unger, og i dag har det moderne landbrug drænet og dyrket de enorme vådområder og enge, hvor storken en gang spankulerede rundt og fandt sine padder.

Men nu sker der noget igen. Storken er på vej tilbage – og det er vores vådområder også!

I mange generationer var målet at omlægge naturområder til landbrugsjord. Med stor effektivitet forsvandt det meste af den jyske hede, de store vildmoser og vådområder langs vores landløb. Men nu varsler nye tider. Erkendelsen af menneskehedens voldsomme påvirkning af vores egne levevilkår har ført til omfattende reguleringer, der skal beskytte os selv mod forurening af vores havområder og forurening af vores grundvand.

Et af mange tiltag er at nedbringe næringsstofindholdet i vores lands vandmiljøer, så der igen kan oprettes en god økologisk tilstand i det, der førhen fremstod som vådområder.

Lavbundsarealer kaldes de tidligere eller nuværende vådom-

råder. I en landbrugsaftale fra år 2021, indgået af et bredt flertal i Folketinget, blev et af målene at tage landbrugsarealer i vådområder ud af drift. Dræning af områderne skal ophøre. Dyrkning og anvendelse af kunstgødning skal stoppe. Det skal bringe disse arealer tilbage til naturlige tilstande, så udledningen af drivhusgasser til atmosfæren kan reduceres.

I min hjemegn, Østhimmerland, er der tale om omfattende arealer i forbindelse med de store ådale gennem landsdelen, og i større og mindre mose- og vådområder på den tidligere stenalderhavbund udbredt i de fleste sogne i området.

For Østhimmerlands vedkommende er det samlede areal fastsat i kommuneplaner som lavbundsarealer på i alt 24.562 hektar. Dette svarer til næsten en fjerdedel af hele landsdelens areal.

Jeg oplever landskabet omkring mit hjemsted på cykel- og vandreture. Vi kan allerede glæde os over den arealmæssigt største naturfredning i Danmark af Lille Vildmose. I de kommende år vil disse landskaber forandres, når næsten halvdelen af mit pastors areal skal omlægges til nye naturområder uden dræning og uden tilførsel af næringsstoffer fra landbruget.

Og jeg tror, at de fleste med glæde vil vise deres børn storken oppe i sine rede med ungerne, eller ude på engene på jagt efter føde.

”Stork, stork, langeben. Hvor var du så længe?”

Stork, stork longlegs

In the early 1900s, East Himmerland was home to many pairs of white storks. Every year, a lot of villages experienced the exciting moment when storks returned from their winter quarters in Africa. Will we have stork cubs in our village again? The stork town no. one in East Himmerland was the village of Vedlum. Around the year 1895, there were more than fifty inhabited nests around the village. Around 1910-15 there were about sixty inhabited stork nests around East Himmerland.

Today, the stork has disappeared from the area. Every year, some stray birds are seen in the bog, Lille Vildmose, and across the rest of East Himmerland. But the stork must be able to find food for its chicks, and today modern agriculture has drained and cultivated the huge wetlands and meadows where the stork once strutted around and found its

food.

But now something is happening again. The white stork is on its way back – and so are our wetlands!

For many generations, the goal was to convert natural areas into agricultural land. With great efficiency, most of the Jutland heath, the large wild bogs, and wetlands along our rivers and streams disappeared. But now heralds new development. The recognition of the violent impact of humanity on our own living conditions has led to extensive regulations to protect ourselves from the pollution of our marine waters and pollution of our groundwater.

One of many measures is to reduce the nutrient content of our country's aquatic environments so that good ecological status can be restored in what used to appear as wetlands.

In an agricultural agreement from the year 2021, entered by a broad majority in the Danish parliament, one of the goals was to take agricultural areas in wetlands out of use. Drainage of the areas must end. The cultivation and application of artificial fertilizers must stop. This will bring these areas back to natural states so that greenhouse gas emissions into the atmosphere can be reduced.

In my home region, East Himmerland, there are extensive areas in connection with the large river valleys through the region, and in larger and smaller bogs and wetlands on the former Stone Age seabed widespread in most parishes in the area.

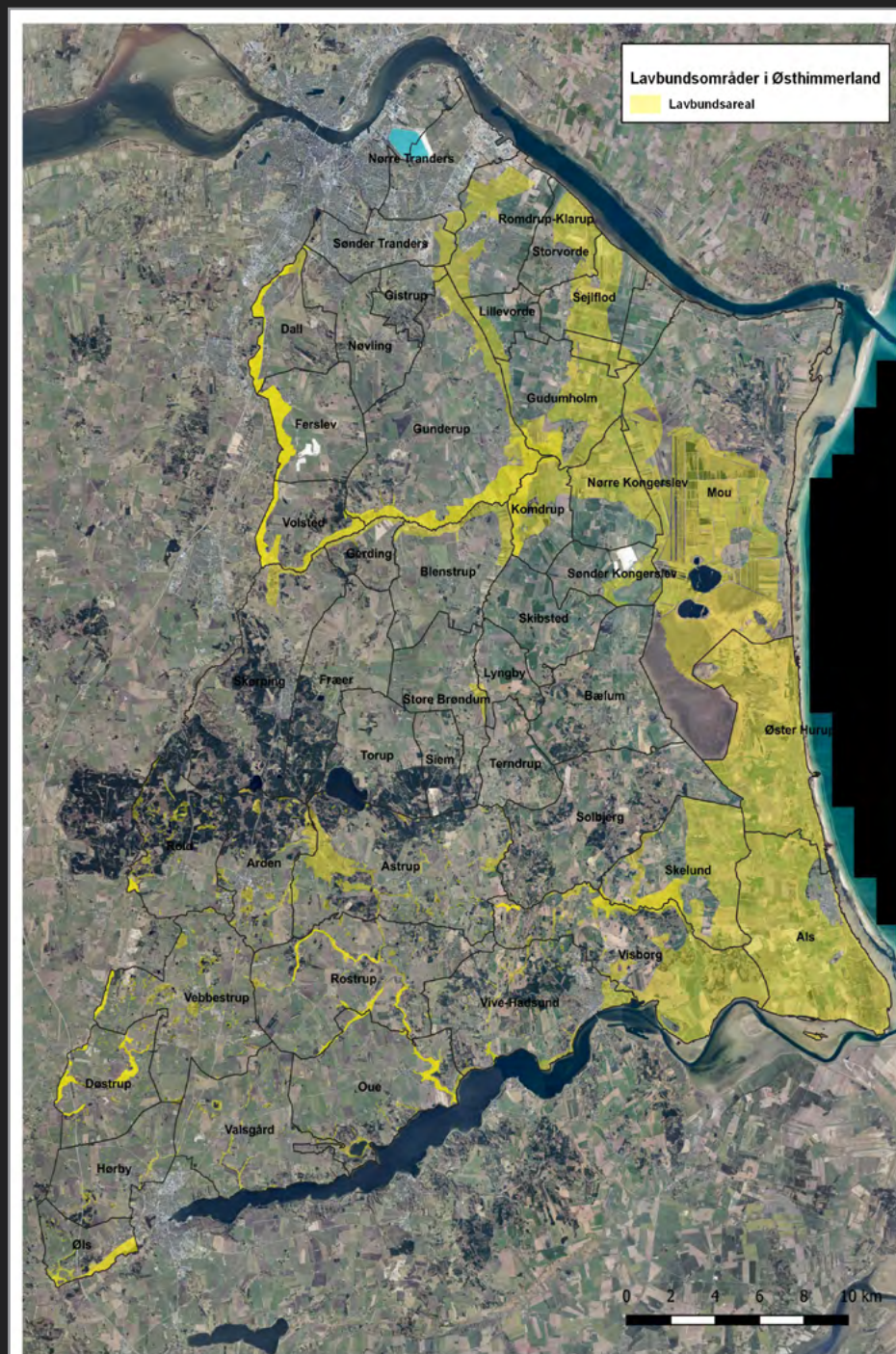
In the case of East Himmerland, the total area is fixed in municipal plans as wetland areas totaling 24,562 hectares. This corre-

sponds to almost a quarter of the entire area of the region.

I experience the landscape around my home on bike and hiking trips. Already we can be pleased with the largest nature conservation in Denmark of the bog, Lille Vildmose. In the coming years, these landscapes will change when almost half of the area of my pastorate is converted to new natural areas without drainage and without the supply of nutrients from agriculture.

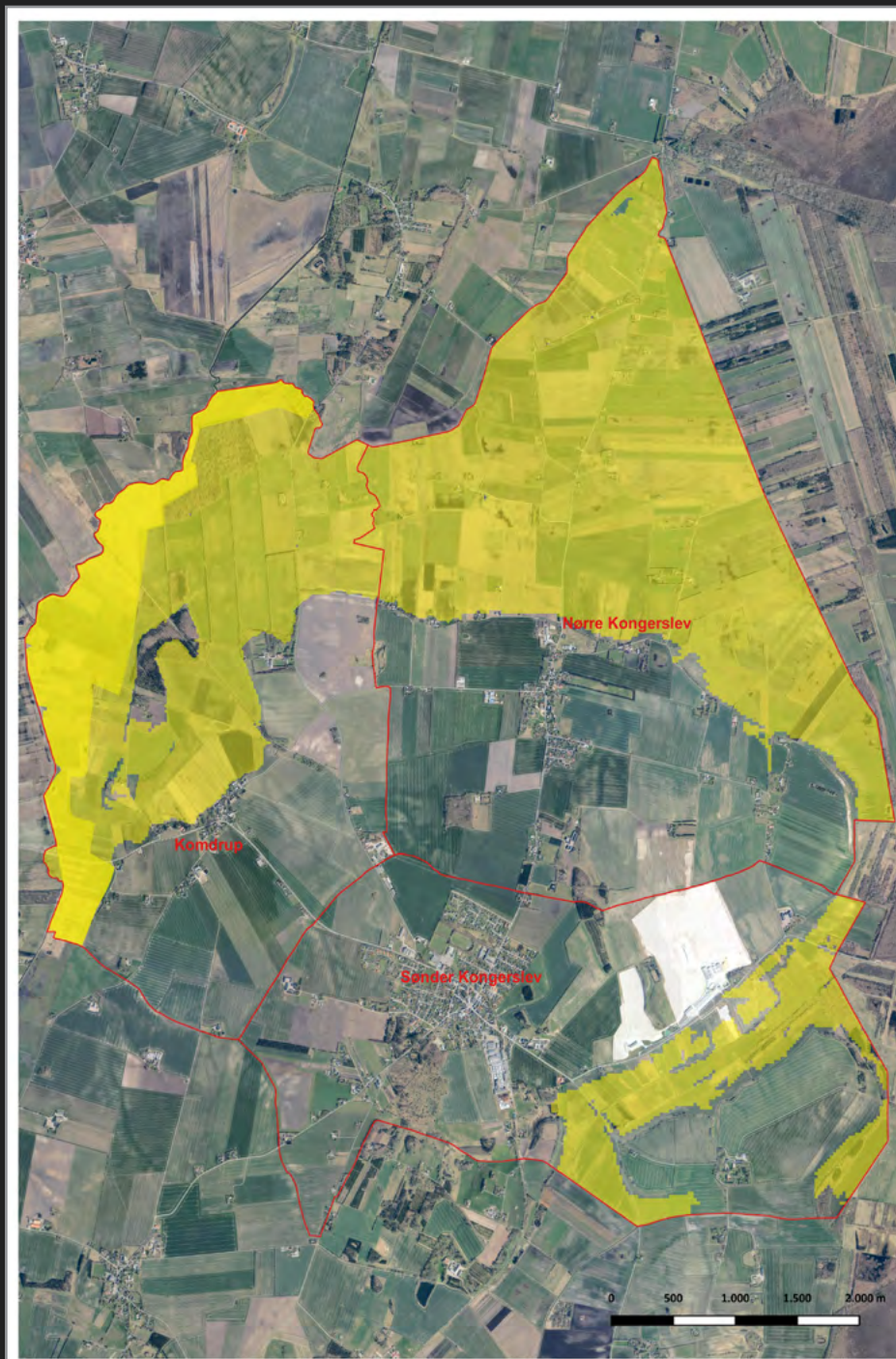
And I think most people will be happy to show their children the white stork up in their nests with the chicks, or out in the meadows in search of food.

“Stork, stork, longlegs. Where were you for so long?” (Text from a Danish folk song).



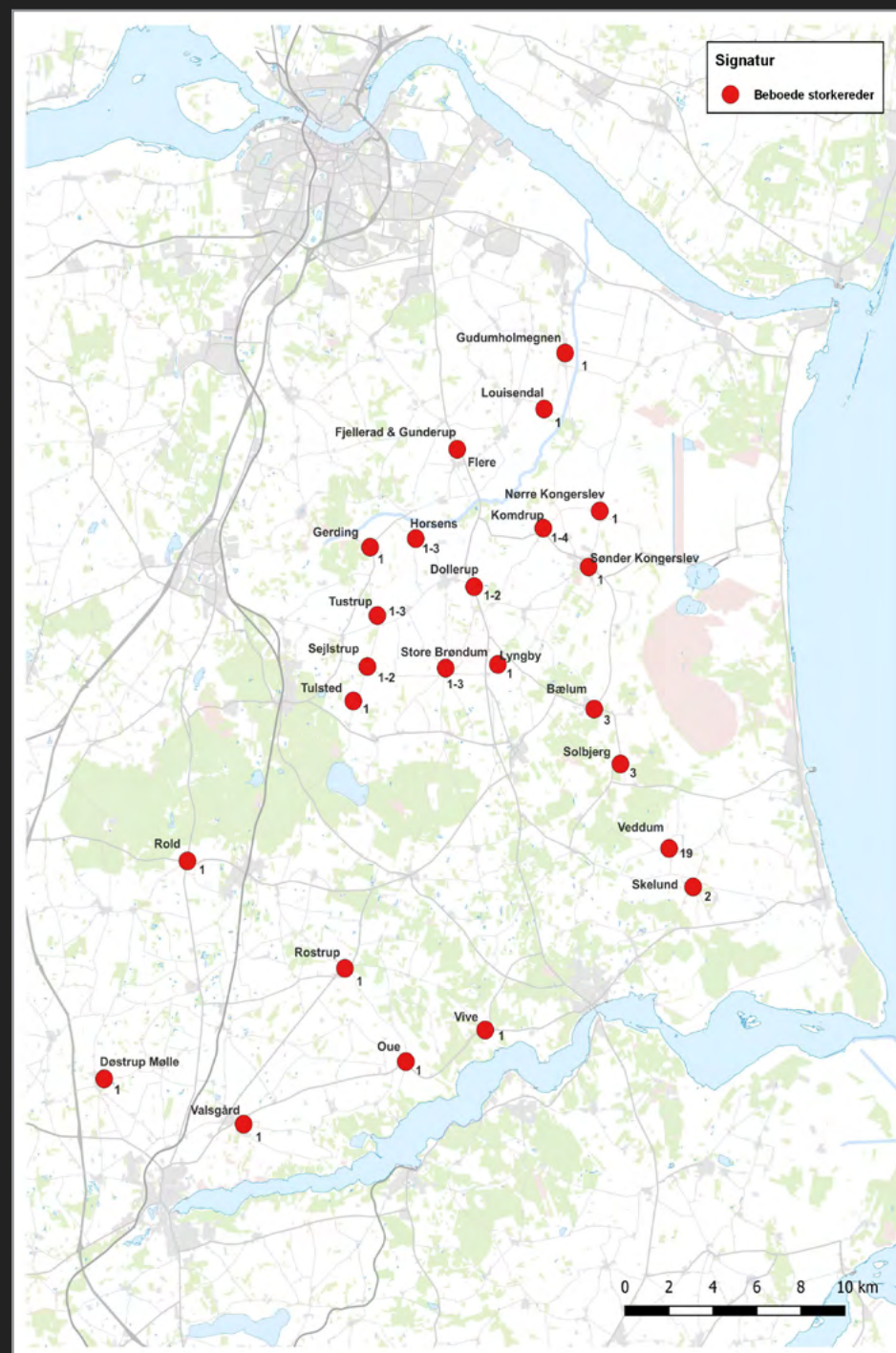
Lavbundsarealer i kommuneplaner

Wetlands in municipal plans



Lavbundsarealer i kommuneplaner

The wetlands in the municipal plans



Beboede storkereder, år 1910-15

Inhabited white stork nests, the years 1910-15



Østhimmerland, februar 2021

East Himmerland, February 2021



Østhimmerland, februar 2021

East Himmerland, February 2021



Østhimmerland, juli 2021

East Himmerland, July 2021



Østhimmerland, februar 2022

East Himmerland, February 2022



Øst-Himmerland, februar 2022

East Himmerland, February 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, februar 2022

East Himmerland, February 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, august 2022

East Himmerland, August 2022



Østhimmerland, maj 2023

East Himmerland, May 2023



Østhimmerland, maj 2023

East Himmerland, May 2023



Østhimmerland, maj 2023

East Himmerland, May 2023



Østhimmerland, maj 2023

East Himmerland, May 2023



Østhimmerland, oktober 2023

East Himmerland, October 2023

KOLOFON

Ugens foto: Stork, stork langeben
Af Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Oprindeligt publiceret december 2023

Alle billeder og tekst © 2023 Keld Jensen

COLOPHON

Photo of the week: Stork, stork longlegs
By Keld Jensen

PDF Version 1
Originally Published December 2023

All images and text © 2023 Keld Jensen

Kilder (sources):

Data til kort over lavbundsarealer: Datafordeleren, december 2023
Historiske oplysninger om storkereder: Å. Vedel Tåning: Storken (Ciconia alba) i Danmark, Dansk Ornitologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, nr. 11 1917