



Research

Monitoring projects for different kinds of plants and animals are carried out on the grounds of the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg. An exciting area of research is, for example the return of one of Germany's rarest mammals: using photo traps and trained observers, behaviour and new settlements of wolves are being investigated on the Foundation's properties. The Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg oversees research work and takes part in the education of students by offering excursions. Participants of the Voluntary Ecological Year and people doing civilian service get insight into the practice of research and learn how to map fens or collect insects, for example. The Foundation offers a broad spectrum of topics for dissertations and theses. Areas of research are for example natural succession on former military territories, retro-conversion of wetlands and development of fens, networking biotopes or environmental education. Research relationships with universities, institutes and other institutions of higher education are welcome.

Support

Wilderness protection means farsightedness. Wild forests, that our grandchildren will one day marvel at, are coming into being on the properties of the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg. The development is already fascinating. You can help out and get involved with natural treasures in Brandenburg! We need your support to make wilderness accessible, to secure and keep up further areas for environmental protection and to raise awareness for the importance of wilderness. We would be happy to inform you about our projects and opportunities for support. Your donation will provide enduring support to the work of the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg. Donations to the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg are tax-deductible.

Account for Donations:

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or via PayPal www.stiftung-nlb.de

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The Founders:

Zoologische Gesellschaft Frankfurt von 1858 e.V.
Landschafts-Förderverein Nuthe-Nieplitz-Niederung e.V.
Umweltstiftung WWF Deutschland
Land Brandenburg
Naturschutzbund Deutschland e.V.
Mrs Marlene Bensing

Donors:

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About us



Stiftung
Naturlandschaften Brandenburg
Die Wildnisstiftung



Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg

Wilderness areas, in which nature can develop without human intervention, are a rarity worldwide in today's world. The consciousness for their value first grew with the threat of losing the last tropical forests and natural paradises on Earth. We call for the protection of nature globally, yet we can only be credible if we lead the way by good example. An area equivalent to about 300 football fields is converted to use for settlements and transportation every day in heavily populated Germany. It seems like a dream to let wilderness take over sweeping areas. In Brandenburg, we have made this dream a reality: the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg took the opportunity to found a piece of wilderness on the sites of selected former military training grounds. The Foundation, founded in Potsdam by private and public partners in 2000, now owns and takes care of over 12,700 hectares that are unique in Germany for their size, lack of roads and wilderness development.

Wilderness

The Foundation's areas are situated on the former military training grounds Jüterbog, Heidehof, Lieberose and Tangersdorf in the environs of Berlin. Because of their military use, they remained practically untouched by transportation routes, settlements as well as conventional agriculture. A mosaic of sandy areas, heaths, natural forests, lakes and fens offers diverse habitats to animals and plants that change and develop according to natural dynamics. The Foundation makes an important contribution to the realisation of the „National Strategy for the Development of Biodiversity“ that calls for wilderness development on 2% of the land area of Germany by the year 2020. Up to now it has been far less than 1%. Wilderness protection is not a luxury, it's the foundation for our wellbeing and that of future generations: wilderness areas are treasure chambers for biodiversity and evolution, for only here can ecosystems develop without human intervention stably and on a sustained basis. As reference areas for research, they supply important information about forest development or adaptation of animal populations and landscapes to climate change. Near-natural forests and fens store large amounts of CO₂ and thus have a positive effect on the climatic balance.

Experience

Making nature in its beauty and fascination accessible is the stated goal of the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg. Wilderness areas have always held a fascination for us humans. They are therefore demonstrably also an important factor for ecotourism and regional development. The Foundation constructs hiking trails, picnic areas and vistas in selected areas. Visitors can discover the landscape on their own on the paths cleared of munitions. Furthermore guided hikes and bike tours offer exciting insights into areas that are normally not accessible. *Experience the Broom Flower, On the trail of Wild Animals, Amphibian Concert at the Red Puddles* are just some of the names of the excursions that the Foundation for Natural Landscapes in Brandenburg offers together with park rangers, foresters and volunteer environmental protection experts. You can find the programme of events and the overview of the hiking trails on the Internet under www.stiftung-nlb.de, we would also be happy to send it to you by mail.

Networking

Brandenburg is an especially important transportation hub for wild animals with its proximity to Poland and its many near-natural bodies of water and forested areas. Important stepping stone biotopes are often isolated in the built-up cultivated landscape with streets and railroad routes cutting through them. Travelling wild animals like otters, red deer, beavers and wolfs run into insurmountable barriers in their search for food and mating partners. The Foundation is campaigning for the improvement of this situation with its pilot project Ökologischer Korridor Südbrandenburg (Ecological Corridor Southern Brandenburg). Valuable forest and wetlands are being connected for the long term using green bridges, crossing-aids, forest conversion and the improvement of water habitats.