

Name of the project area:

Vällö

Surface area (ha): 2,750.600

EU protection status:

SPA X NATURA 2000 Code : SE0330126

pSCI X NATURA 2000 Code : SE0330126

Forestry 45%, husbandry 5% and water 50%.

Private land 100%.

Main land uses and ownership status of the project area:

The main island within the Vällö archipelago is Husön, where all the archipelago settlements are concentrated. In addition to this island are over 100 other islands, islets, rock outcroppings and reefs (*1150, 1160, 1170, 1620). The archipelago is in fact a moraine deposited during the last glacial retreat approximately 10-11,000 years ago. Pine is the dominant tree throughout most of the archipelago, although deciduous forests, meadows and fields are also commonly seen (6410, 6430, 9070). Lichen and moss-rich pine forests neighbour blueberry pine forests in most of the area. On the main island as well as on Sandö, Taktö and Eneskär, the old common lands are covered mostly by oak trees as well heath and meadows (*1630).

Connected to the settlements in the villages are crop fields. These were most widespread at the beginning of the 20th century. Today, agriculture in the area has almost completely disappeared and the lands are only occasionally grazed by cattle and/or sheep.

Scientific description of project area:

Moraine archipelagos are very unusual within the EU boreal region. Nationally, Vällö has also been recognised as being of national interest for its natural values. Vällö is also an important resting and breeding area for seabirds. The overgrowth of coastal meadows would not only result in a loss of valuable flora, but would also mean a loss of breeding areas for seabirds. The site is pointed out as of National Interest for Nature conservation.

The project will address threats from overgrowing of grassland habitats and grazed forests by measures included in action C1, targeting 35.4 hectares (ha).

Habitats that will be improved by action C1:

1620; 1.1 ha

9070; 2.7 ha

Other grassland habitat 12.9 ha

Wooded habitats 18.3 ha

Other land 0.4 ha