

From national planning to regional implementation: initiatives for reconnection of habitats in key areas in Schleswig-Holstein (Germany)

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Germany's northernmost federal state Schleswig-Holstein is the gateway to Southern Scandinavia and therefore of vital importance for transnational exchange processes between central and northern Europe, both for human traffic and biodiversity

Currently the construction and enlargement of several motorways in this key region improves the quality of the transportation network, but at the same time threatens interregional biological migration routes, regional dispersal and local habitat qualities. Thus the department transportation plans to implement a regional dense network of green bridges and other fauna passages. These passages are the first step to enhance the landscape permeability, but the reconnection of valuable habitats linked to the passages is essential and must follow. Therefore the state foundation for nature conservation has funded several regional project initiatives: 1) "Holsatian Habitat Corridors" in central Schleswig-Holstein, its preliminary study was funded by the federal German agency for nature conservation, 2) INTERREG-funded "BioGrenzKorr" at the border to Denmark. Both initiatives aim at implementing a network of habitat corridors linked to fauna passages.

In this presentation we will describe:

- types of measurements we will use in the projects areas,
- partnerships that have been established between regional stakeholders
- financing concept we have developed.

We show the project's relevance as a component of national and regional habitat networks, which ensures biological exchange processes via the road network.