

MEMORANDUM OF INTENT
THE WASH / NORTH NORFOLK COAST
THE WADDEN SEA

A Joint Initiative
English Nature and
The Trilateral Cooperation
on the Protection of the Wadden Sea

Esbjerg, 13 November 1991

ENGLISH NATURE AND THE TRILATERAL COOPERATION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE WADDEN SEA

hereinafter referred to as the Contracting parties,

Bearing in mind that The Wash / North Norfolk Coast wetland on the North Sea coast of England and the Wadden Sea extending along the North Sea coasts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Federal Republic of Germany and the Kingdom of Denmark, are very important coastal areas of the North Sea and that they are ecologically linked;

Recalling that the Fourth Meeting of the Conference of Contracting Parties of the Ramsar Convention (1990) encouraged the cooperation of parties to enter into bilateral and multilateral cooperation to protect wetlands and migratory species of waterfowl;

Recalling that the Third North Sea Conference agreed to give further protection to marine wildlife and habitats of the North Sea, and to tackle important gaps in knowledge which remain;

Noting that the Wadden Sea States submitted a Joint Statement to the Third North Sea Conference requesting further protection of the species and habitats of the North Sea;

Acknowledging that the development of the Western Palearctic Waterfowl Agreement would profit from a partnership cooperation;

Recognizing that the developments towards a Single European market and the efforts to protect natural and semi-natural habitats and wild fauna and flora in the European Community including a network of protected areas requires common approaches in these areas;

Have made the following arrangements:

1 PURPOSE

The Contracting Parties declare their intention to work together towards

- 1.1 tackling important gaps in knowledge of the wildlife and habitats of the North Sea and
- 1.2 supporting conservation of these two areas which have strong ecological links by initiatives with a long term view of establishing comprehensive protection for a linked network of North Sea coastal areas by
 - a. exchanging information on research, management practices and other issues to enable, where possible, a common understanding and approach on international conservation issues;
 - b. operating and providing finance for exchange visits by staff to broaden work experience, attend seminars, symposia and conferences, and undertake joint projects;
 - c. providing advice in areas of special experience to the Contracting Parties;
 - d. arranging where possible appropriate cross representation on management committees or groups;
 - e. arranging where appropriate joint publications relating to the international aspects of the two areas.

2 BASIC ARRANGEMENTS

- 2.1 The Contracting Parties have agreed to a work programme covering the first three years of this initiative reflecting the Memorandums expression, which is attached.
- 2.2 No action arising from the Memorandum will override the statutory duties or responsibilities of the Contracting Parties.
- 2.3 The Contracting Parties will seek to achieve joint technical collaboration and assistance in an atmosphere of cordial international cooperation.

3 EUROSITE

- 3.1 The Contracting Parties will consider enlisting under Eurosite in the foreseeable future, after having gained experience from this initiative, with a view to becoming part of a wider European network.

4 COMING INTO EFFECT AND PREVIEW

- 4.1 This Memorandum of Intent has effect as from **1 January 1992**.
- 4.2 The Memorandum will be reviewed within three years.

Signed in Esbjerg, 13 November 1991, in two original copies:

Dir. Mr. J. M. Schofield
On behalf of the Chairman of English Nature (Nature Conservancy Council for England)

Minister Mr. P. Stig-Moeller, Denmark
On behalf of the Trilateral Cooperation on the Protection of the Wadden Sea