



Discover our flourishing port

North Sea Port Nature Vision

Creating space for nature in our port

Our port is about more than shipping, industry and logistics. Across the port area, between docks, businesses, embankments and waterways, nature is finding room to grow. Plants and animals thrive in unexpected places: on dykes, in ditches, along pipeline corridors and on vacant sites that naturally come to life.

In this brochure, we invite you to explore our Nature Vision. Through it, we continue to build a port where economic development and biodiversity go hand in hand. Discover how we consciously create space for nature across our 9,100-hectare port area, without losing sight of the port's vital role.

This is by no means a new approach for us. For many years, nature, agriculture and recreation have had their place in the connection areas between our port and its surroundings, and we have been investing in biodiversity within our port area for many years. Examples include ecological verge management, protecting gull breeding sites, creating temporary nature in the Koegorspolder and monitoring waterbirds.

Our Nature Vision brings these initiatives together under a single shared framework, creating a clear, integrated cross-border approach throughout our entire port area.



Economic development and biodiversity go hand in hand. Across a port area of more than 9,100 hectares, North Sea Port is shaping a sustainable future. Our ambition? **A clear framework where nature and industry flourish together.**

Where do we create space for nature?



Objective 1 A Clear and Legally Robust Framework

- **Cross-border consistency:** one consistent approach across the Netherlands and Flanders.
- **Efficiency:** faster investment and permitting processes. We take nature into account, even before an investment is made or a permit is granted.

Objective 2 Strengthening Biodiversity

- **Making smart use of space:** both temporary and permanent nature have a place within our port.
- **Nature-inclusive construction:** infrastructure and buildings actively contribute to stronger biodiversity.

How do we make this happen?



Compensation & enhancement

Integrated nature compensation that fits the surrounding area and contributes to sustainable port development.



Building together

Close cooperation between businesses, land managers, governments and nature organisations.



Temporary & permanent nature

Through two targeted approaches, we create space for flora and fauna.



Targeted & adaptive management

Where possible, we give nature the space to develop naturally.



Monitoring & adjusting

From local nesting sites to large nature areas, we closely monitor how nature develops and adjust where necessary.



Working together? It's in our nature.

Nothing in nature exists in isolation. And collaboration is in our nature too. It's no coincidence that our motto is:

Together. Smarter.

Nature doesn't stop at property boundaries. That's why collaboration is at the heart of our Nature Vision. Together with land managers, businesses, governments and nature organisations, we work to strengthen and protect biodiversity throughout the port area.

We're already putting this approach into practice across the port. Companies such as Zeeland Refinery, Yara and Elia work with us to manage sites where nature is given room to thrive. Their local knowledge and commitment are of great value. By bringing together expertise, site experience and insights, we can take a smarter and stronger approach to nature development.





Providing Legal Certainty for Port Development

Objective 1

Room for development, with an eye for nature

We are creating a clear and legally robust framework for future port development. At the heart of this framework is an integrated approach to nature compensation across our entire port area. By organising compensation at port-area level, there's no longer a need to address this complex issue separately for each individual project. The result? Permitting processes that are clearer, better substantiated and faster.

On board with nature

This also means that we handle protected nature with great care. Both European and national legislation require that the potential impact on nature is always assessed first. Can damage be avoided? Are there alternatives? Only when there is no other solution and a project serves an overriding public interest does nature compensation come into play.

But what is nature compensation exactly? When development unavoidably results in the loss of nature, new nature is created elsewhere with equivalent ecological value. The aim is not simply to replace the area, but to restore the same ecological functions and biodiversity. New compensation areas must therefore provide suitable habitat for the plants and animals that depend on that particular type of nature.

Nature compensation is subject to careful oversight. Each compensation plan is carefully developed, monitored and assessed by the competent authorities. Progress is also monitored to ensure the new nature develops as intended.

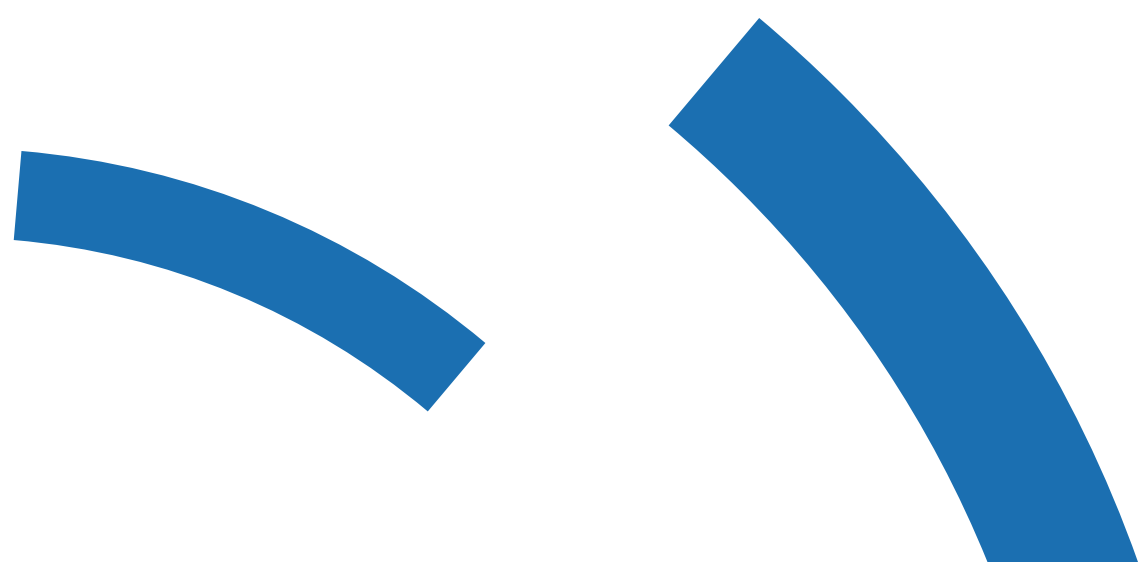
Growing more port nature, together

We consciously opt for an integrated approach to nature compensation. Instead of small, separate compensation projects, we focus on larger and stronger areas of port nature with greater ecological coherence. This not only benefits biodiversity, but also provides greater clarity and a more efficient process for future investments.

In Flanders, clear agreements have already been made with the relevant authorities. Much of the compensatory nature has already found its place within the connection areas in and around the port. In addition, new nature is being developed in the Moervaart Valley, including reedbeds and wetland habitats that are important for biodiversity. Step by step, this creates larger, more resilient natural areas with stronger ecological coherence while also creating more room for future developments in the Ghent Canal Area.

In the Netherlands, we're also working towards a similar approach. Through a Species Management Plan and monitoring, we continue to build a cross-border compensation strategy for the entire port area.

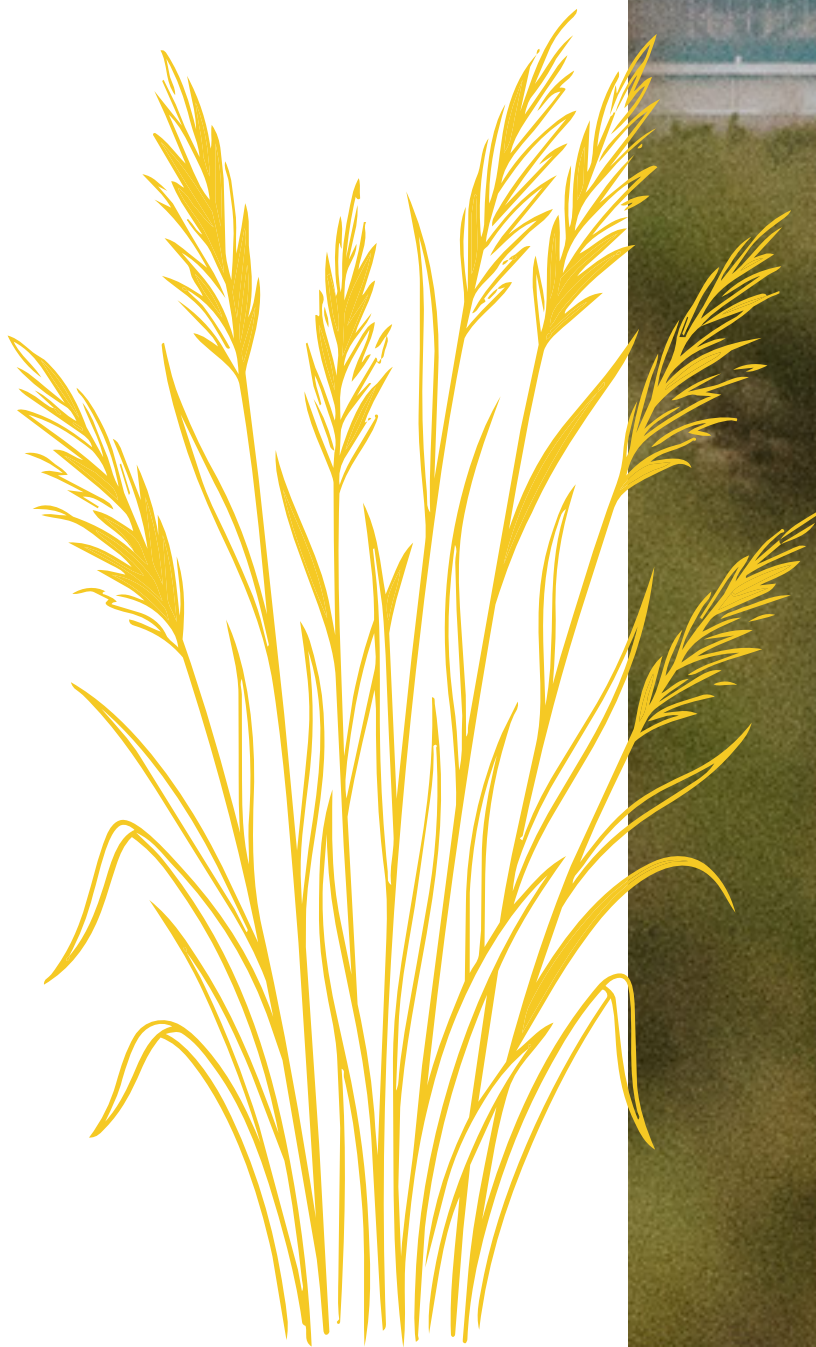
This is how we chart a course towards a port where economy and nature are the wind in each other's sails.



Objective 2

Embedding nature in our port

Where possible, nature is given space within our port. Verges, ditches, pipeline corridors, railway areas and vacant sites can all play an important role in supporting biodiversity. Together, they form a green-blue network that helps plants and animals move through the port area and establish themselves there.



Strengthening biodiversity where possible





Temporary nature

Some sites within the port remain vacant for extended periods before they are developed. In these locations, temporary nature can be an attractive option. It allows spontaneous nature development to take place temporarily, without compromising future economic activities.

Why is this valuable? Temporary nature creates additional opportunities for plants and animals in an environment where space is limited. Pioneer species in particular – species that quickly colonise new areas – can find a suitable habitat here.

In the Netherlands, we already have experience with this approach, including in the Koegorspolder, around the Mariahoeve and at Zeeland Refinery. There, nature is temporarily given space on sites that may still be developed in the future.

Temporary nature also provides a positive alternative to actively managing or keeping unused sites bare at an early stage. With clear agreements and proper monitoring, these sites can temporarily provide added ecological value without delaying future plans for the site.

Permanent nature

Alongside temporary nature, there are also places within our port where nature can develop permanently. These include roadsides, railway verges, ditches, infiltration areas, pipeline corridors and other unpaved spaces throughout the port area.

Individually, these places may seem small, but together they make a significant difference. Across a port area of more than 9,100 hectares, these zones form a valuable network of green connections for plants and animals.

We deliberately choose ecological management over large-scale artificial interventions. Because many port sites are free from pesticides and fertilisers, nature can often develop spontaneously. In some cases, adapted management, such as nutrient reduction and sinus mowing, is all that is needed.

Infrastructure and buildings can also contribute to biodiversity. Green roofs, nesting boxes, ecological banks and the nature-inclusive design of buildings and sites further strengthen nature within the port.

Permanent nature does not mean that economic development becomes impossible. Here too, nature and port activities continue to coexist. By strengthening biodiversity on a larger scale, the port area remains flexible for future developments.

Together with businesses, landowners and site managers, we continue to give biodiversity the space to take root in our port.

Our approach: nature types & umbrella species

Every roadside verge, reed bed and flower-rich strip is the result of a carefully considered approach. Rather than focusing only on what grows today, we look at which types of nature are best suited to each location.

That is why we use nature types and umbrella species. Together, they help us manage nature more effectively, monitor its development and strengthen biodiversity where nature and port activities support one another.

Our starting point is always the landscape itself: its soil, water system, nutrient levels, sunlight and surrounding land use. Based on these characteristics, we identify the nature types that naturally fit each location through a Landscape Ecological System Analysis (LESA).

To monitor nature development effectively, we also work with umbrella species: recognisable species that represent a particular habitat. If these species are doing well, many other plants and animals are likely to benefit too.

For now, underwater nature falls outside the scope of the current Nature Vision, but it will be included in the further development of the next steps.



The nature types of our port

Pioneer vegetation

Where?
Residual strips, railway corridors and pipeline corridors.

What?
Open vegetation on disturbed or sandy soils.

Why is it important?
Provides ideal habitat for species that thrive in dynamic, open environments.

Home to
Five-spot Burnet (*Zygaena trifolii*) · Wild Bees · Common Centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*)



Dry grasslands

Where?
Road verges, inner dykes and reclaimed land.

What?
Flower-rich grasslands on dry, nutrient-poor soils.

Why is it important?
Strengthens biodiversity while helping to keep dykes strong and stable.

Home to
Queen of Spain Fritillary (*Issoria lathonia*) · Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) · Lizard Orchid (*Himantoglossum hircinum*) · Common Centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*)



Hedgerows & scrub

Where?
Verges and residual strips.

What?
Dense shrubs and linear vegetation.

Why is it important?
Provide shelter, resting places and nesting sites for wildlife.

Home to
European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*) · Little Owl (*Athene noctua*) · Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*)



The nature types of our port



Nature around infrastructure

Where?
Roofs, bridges, tunnels and façades.

What?
Nature adapted to stony and industrial environments.

Why is it important?
Creates additional habitat without taking up extra space.

Home to
Commo Swift (*Apus apus*) · Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) · Bats

Saline nature

Where?
Salt marshes, mudflats and salt grasslands.

What?
Nature shaped by salt water.

Why is it important?
Essential for migratory birds and salt-tolerant species.

Home to
Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*) · Sea Aster Cuckoo Bee (*Epeolus tarsalis*) · Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*) · Common Scurvygrass (*Cochlearia officinalis*)



Wetlands

Where?
Reed beds, ditches, fire-fighting ponds and infiltration areas.

What?
Marshy nature with water-dependent vegetation.

Why is it important?
Important for water storage, biodiversity and climate adaptation.

Home to
Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*) · Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*) · Marsh Helleborine (*Epipactis palustris*)



Zeeland and Flanders

Umbrella species: ambassadors of our port nature



Southern Skimmer
Orthetrum brunneum

Bluethroat (*Luscinia svecica*)

Habitat
Wetlands and scrub.

Why this species?
The Bluethroat thrives in species-rich transition zones between reed beds, shrubs and marshes.

What does this species tell us?
Where Bluethroats occur, there is often a healthy insect population and strong biodiversity.

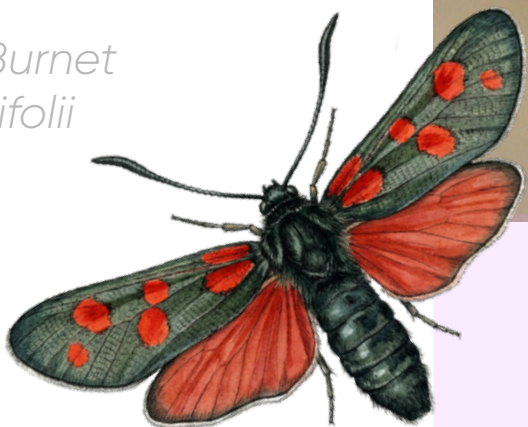
Companion species
Sedge Warbler (*Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*) · Bearded Reedling (*Panurus biarmicus*) · Eurasian Otter (*Lutra lutra*) · Red Bartsia · Southern Skimmer (*Orthetrum brunneum*)



Bluethroat
Luscinia svecica



Five-spot Burnet
Zygaena trifolii



Five-spot Burnet (*Zygaena trifolii*)

Habitat
Rough grassland, pioneer vegetation and dry grasslands.

Why this species?
This striking moth thrives in flower-rich, nutrient-poor habitats.

What does this species tell us?
Its presence shows that flowers, insects and open habitats have sufficient space.

Companion species
Meadow Pipit (*Anthus pratensis*) · Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*) · Field Scabious (*Knautia arvensis*) · Early Mining Bee · Common Centaury (*Centaureum erythraea*) · Pyramidal Orchid (*Anacamptis pyramidalis*) · Grey Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) · Brown Argus (*Aricia agestis*) · Blue-winged Grasshopper (*Oedipoda caerulescens*)



Eurasian Otter
Lutra lutra

Common Centaury
Centaureum erythraea



Glassworts
Salicornia spp.

Eurasian Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)

Habitat
Wetlands, saltwater nature and infrastructure.

Why this species?
The Eurasian Oystercatcher is a typical port bird that breeds on open ground, gravel roofs and mudflats.

What does this species tell us?
Where this striking wader thrives, other coastal and waterbirds also benefit from protection measures, with sufficient peace, food and safe nesting sites.

Companion species
House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) · Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) · Mustelids (*Mustelidae*) · Glassworts (*Salicornia* spp.)



Eurasian Oystercatcher
Haematopus ostralegus





Common Swift (Apus apus)

Habitat

Buildings and infrastructure.

Why this species?

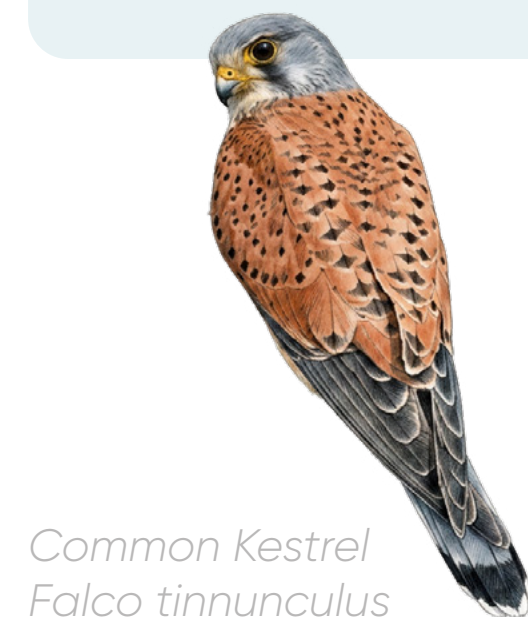
These graceful birds spend almost their entire lives in the air. They only land to breed, often in cracks and crevices in buildings, silos or bridges.

What does this species tell us?

Swifts show how buildings and infrastructure can become valuable habitats for nature. With nest boxes, nesting bricks and reduced light disturbance, not only swifts but many other species can thrive in the port as well.

Companion species

Common Kestrel (Falco tinnunculus) · Serotine Bat (Eptesicus serotinus) · Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus) · Western House Martin (Delichon urbicum)



Common Kestrel
Falco tinnunculus



Eurasian Curlew
Numenius arquata

Grey Partridge
Perdix perdix



Grey Partridge (Perdix perdix)

Habitat

Hedgerows, scrub, rough grassland and dry grasslands.

Why this species?

The Grey Partridge thrives in open landscapes with sufficient cover, species-rich vegetation and abundant insects.

What does this species tell us?

Where Grey Partridges thrive, the landscape often offers plenty of variation: flower-rich field margins, rough vegetation and safe shelter. Many other birds, insects and small mammals benefit from this too.

Companion species

Meadow Pipit (Anthus pratensis) · Western Yellow Wagtail (Motacilla flava) · Eurasian Skylark (Alauda arvensis) · European Polecat (Mustela putorius) · Stoat (Mustela erminea) · Least Weasel (Mustela nivalis) · Common Whitethroat (Curruca communis) · European Turtle Dove (Streptopelia turtur) · Lesser Whitethroat (Curruca curruca) · Common Linnet (Linaria cannabina)

Hermelijn



Marsh Helleborine (Epipactis palustris)

Habitat

Wetlands.

Why this species?

This rare orchid grows in damp, nutrient-poor places where water and soil are in good balance.

What does this species tell us?

Where Marsh Helleborines flower, nature is often healthy, wet and species-rich. These places also provide opportunities for other special plants, insects and birds.

Companion species

Southern marsh orchid (Dactylorhiza praetermissa) · Early Marsh Orchid (Dactylorhiza incarnata) · Lesser centaury (Centaurium pulchellum) · Grass of Parnassus (Parnassia palustris) · Northern Pintail · Eurasian Curlew (Numenius arquata)



European Hedgehog
Erinaceus europaeus



Marsh Helleborine
Epipactis palustris

Common Vole
Microtus arvalis



European Stonechat (Saxicola rubicola)

Habitat

Hedgerows, scrub, rough grassland and grasslands.

Why this species?

The European Stonechat thrives in open areas with rough vegetation, shrubs and plenty of lookout posts. Think of vacant sites, dykes and road verges, all common features within the port area.

What does this species tell us?

Where European Stonechats occur, there is space and variety in the vegetation, as well as a healthy insect population. This also attracts many other birds, small mammals and pollinators.

Companion species

Common Whitethroat (Curruca communis) · Meadow Pipit (Anthus pratensis) · European Hedgehog (Erinaceus europaeus) · Common Pipistrelle (Pipistrellus pipistrellus) · Common Linnet (Linaria cannabina) · Common Vole (Microtus arvalis)

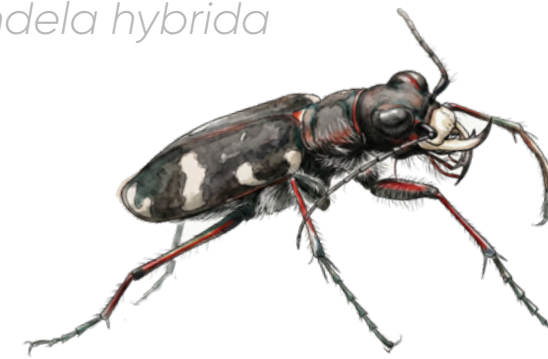
Queen of Spain Fritillary
Issoria lathonia



Brown Argus
Aricia agestis



Northern Dune Tiger Beetle
Cicindela hybrida



Meadow Clary
Salvia pratensis



Queen of Spain fritillary (*Issoria lathonia*)

Habitat

Rough grassland, pioneer vegetation and dry grasslands.

Why this species?

This striking butterfly thrives in sunny places with flowers, open sandy areas and a mix of short and taller vegetation.

What does this species tell us?

Where Queen of Spain Fritillaries are found, there is often sufficient food, warmth and shelter for insects. Their presence indicates a well-managed, flower-rich and insect-rich habitat.

Companion species

Wild Pansy (*Viola tricolor*) · Field Cricket (*Gryllus campestris*) · Meadow Clary (*Salvia pratensis*) · Dwarf Spurge (*Euphorbia exigua*) · Brown Argus (*Aricia agestis*)



Bats (Chiroptera)

Habitat

Wetlands, grasslands, infrastructure and scrub.

Why these species?

Bats are excellent indicators of healthy nature. At night, they fly across the port area in search of insects, water and quiet roosting places, and they respond quickly to changes in their surroundings.

What do these species tell us?

Where bats thrive, water quality, biodiversity and ecological connections are usually in good condition too. Their sensitivity to light disturbance, pesticides and habitat fragmentation helps us monitor the health of nature in the port.

Companion species

A broad range of insects, birds and other species that depend on healthy water and green networks.



Trimmer's Mining Bee
Andrena trimmerana



Blue-winged Grasshopper
Oedipoda caerulea



Wild bees (Anthophila)

Habitat

Sandy pioneer vegetation and flower-rich verges.

Why these species?

Our port area provides surprisingly suitable habitat for rare wild bee species, including the *Andrena nycthemera*, xx? and Trimmer's Mining Bee. This makes wild bees excellent ambassadors for the unique nature that can develop within port areas.

What do these species tell us?

Wild bees depend on both bare sandy soils and an abundant supply of flowering plants to survive. Their presence shows that there are sufficient flowers, nectar and open space, and that nature is in good condition.

Companion species

Italian Tree Cricket (*Oecanthus pellucens*) · Field Cricket (*Gryllus campestris*) · Blue-winged Grasshopper (*Oedipoda caerulea*) · European Stonechat (*Saxicola rubicola*) · Furrow Bees (*Halictus* spp. / *Lasioglossum* spp.) · Northern Dune Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela hybrida*) · Bee Wolf · Common Centaury (*Centaurea erythraea*) · Grass of Parnassus (*Parnassia palustris*) · Northern Pintail · Eurasian Curlew (*Numenius arquata*)



Andrena nycthemera



Wild Pansy
Viola tricolor



Vlissingen

Umbrella species: ambassadors of our port nature

Lady's Bedstraw
Galium verum



Lizard Orchid (*Himantoglossum hircinum*)

Why this species?

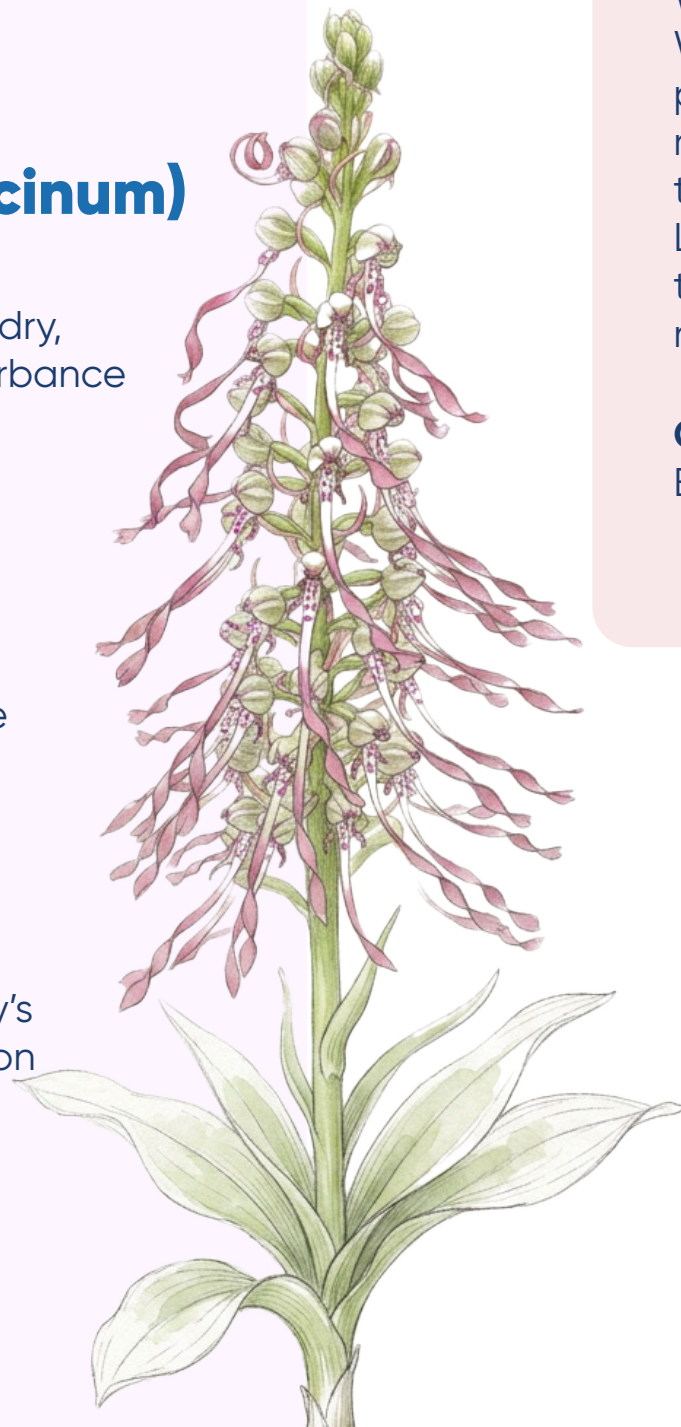
This striking, rare orchid grows on dry, nutrient-poor soils with little disturbance and plenty of light.

What does this species tell us?

Where this orchid can grow, the conditions are often also suitable for many other plant and animal species that depend on the same natural habitat. That makes it a strong indicator of good nature management.

Companion species

Brown argus (*Aricia agestis*) · Lady's bedstraw (*Galium verum*) · common lizard



Little Owl
Athene noctua

Little Owl (*Athene noctua*)

Habitat

Hedges, scrub, rough vegetation, pioneer vegetation, and infrastructure.

Why this species?

The Little Owl is a small owl with striking yellow eyes that likes to live in places where open space, shrubs, and shelter come together. It nests in old trees, buildings, or nest boxes, and at dusk it goes out in search of insects and small animals.

What does this species tell us?

Where Little Owls feel at home, there is enough peace, shelter, and life to be found. Hedges, herb-rich grasslands, and insect-rich areas help not only the Little Owl, but also many other animals. If the Little Owl can spread further through the port area, that says a lot about how strong and connected nature here is.

Companion species

Bank vole (*Myodes glareolus*) · Barn swallow



Barn Swallow
Hirundo rustica



Bank Vole
Myodes glareolus



Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*)

Habitat

Saline nature and pioneer vegetation.

Why this species?

The Little Tern is a small, photogenic coastal bird that likes to breed in open places with sand, shells, and plenty of peace. Think of sandy flats, shorelines and breakwaters with little vegetation. Such dynamic coastal landscapes have become rare, but they are artificially present in port areas.

What does this species tell us?

Little Terns are very sensitive to disturbance and overgrowth. Where they can breed safely, open coastal landscapes remain healthy and in motion. Because their colonies are easy to see and monitor, they also help us track nature development and management in the port area.

Companion species

Common Ringed Plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*) · Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) · Saltmarsh Rush (*Juncus gerardii*)



Common Ringed Plover
Charadrius hiaticula



Pied Avocet
Recurvirostra avosetta



Sea Aster Bee
Colletes halophilus



Epeolus tarsalis

Epeolus tarsalis

Habitat

Saline habitats.

Why this species?

The *Epeolus tarsalis* is a rare cuckoo bee found in open saline habitats and salt marshes in Zeeland. She lives as a brood parasite of the Sea Aster Bee and is highly dependent on healthy salt marshes with abundant flowers, open sandy areas and undisturbed nesting sites. This makes her an important ambassador for vulnerable saline habitats in the port area.

What does this species tell us?

Where *Epeolus tarsalis* occur, flowering salt-tolerant plants, open sandy patches, and suitable nesting sites are well connected. This shows that salt marshes and pioneer vegetation are given enough space to develop in a healthy way -- alongside many other insects and salt-loving plants.

Companion species

Sea Aster (*Tripolium pannonicum*) · Sea Aster Bee · Lesser Sea-Spurrey (*Spergularia marina*) · Sea-Milkwort (*Glaux maritima*)

North Sea Port Nature Vision

Terneuzen

Umbrella species:
ambassadors of our port
nature



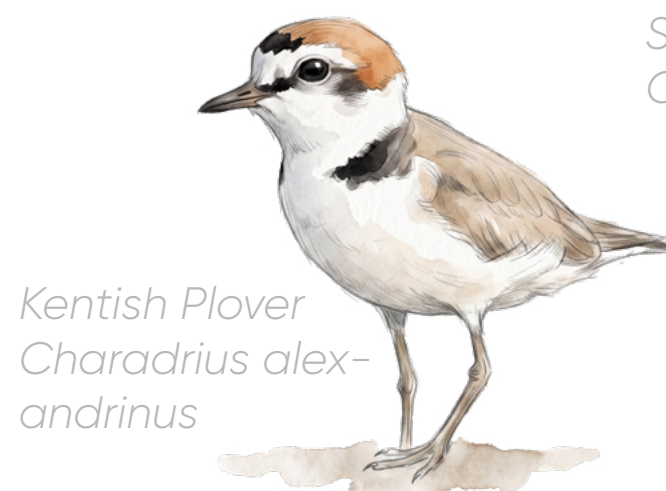
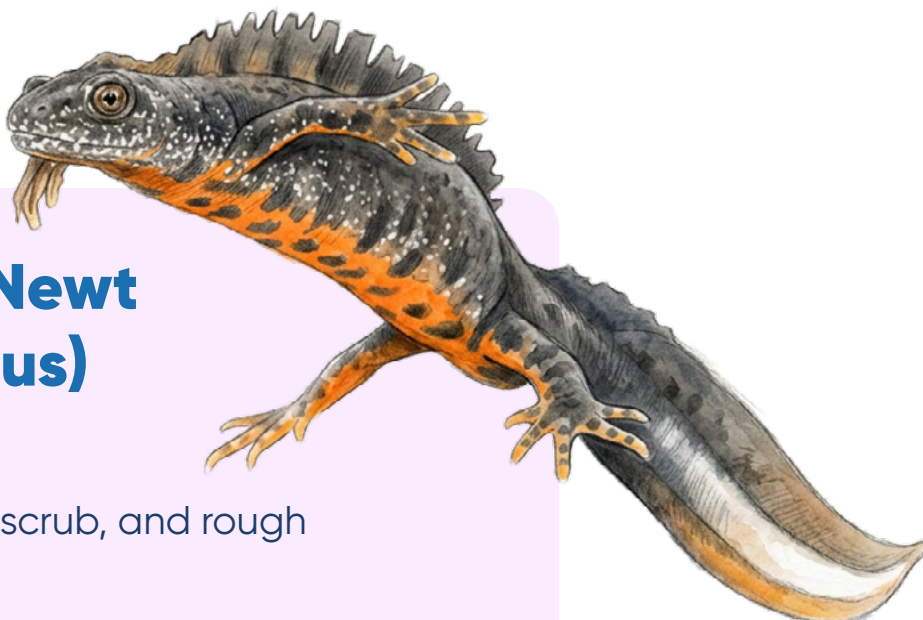
Great Crested Newt (*Triturus cristatus*)

Habitat
Wet nature, hedges and scrub, and rough vegetation.

Why this species?
The Great Crested Newt is a large, striking salamander that in the western Netherlands is now only found in Zeelandic Flanders. During the breeding season, the male develops an impressive serrated crest along its back. The species lives in places where clean water, aquatic plants, rough grassland, and shrubs are close together.

What does this species tell us?
The Great Crested Newt needs many different kinds of habitat to live, shelter, and hibernate. Where this species occurs, water, greenery, and shelter therefore work well together. That makes it a strong indicator of healthy and connected nature in the port area.

Companion species
Eurasian Water Shrew (*Neomys fodiens*) · Daubenton's bat (*Myotis daubentonii*) · Large White-Faced Darter (*Leucorrhinia pectoralis*) · Sand Martin (*Riparia riparia*)



Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*)

Habitat
Wet nature, saline habitats, and infrastructure.

Why this species?
The Common Tern is an elegant coastal bird that catches small fish by diving into the water. It likes to breed in colonies in quiet, open places with little vegetation, such as sandbanks, islands, salt marshes, or flat roofs.

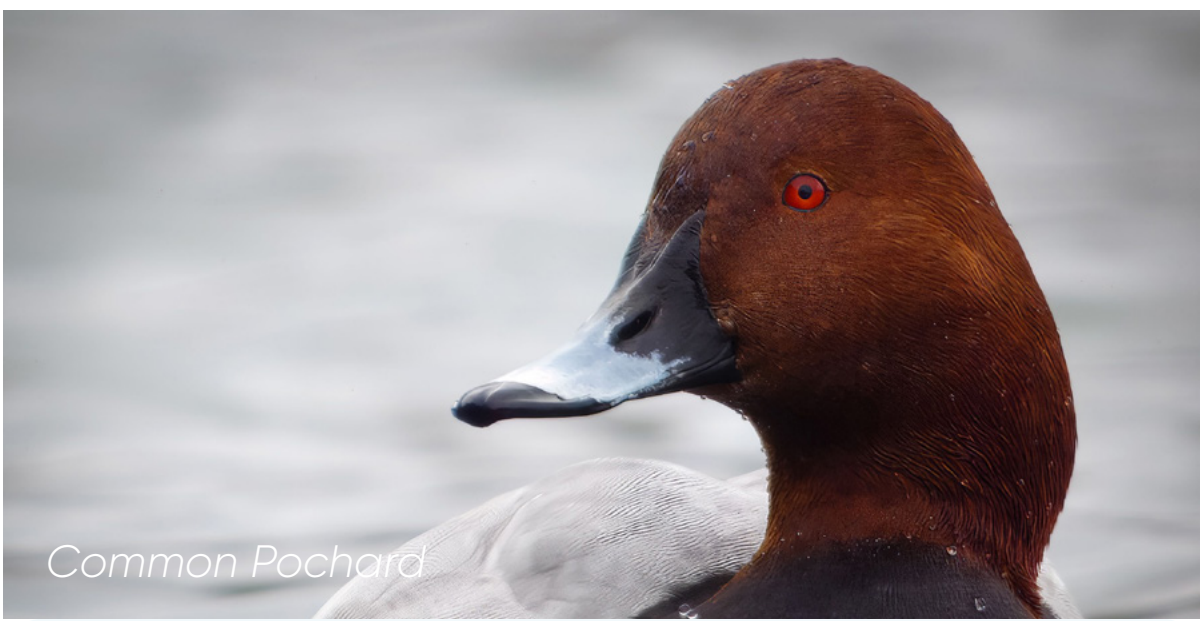
What does this species tell us?
Where Common Terns can breed safely, there is peace and quiet, open space and food. Creating additional nesting sites in the port area can help reduce the number of birds that move to rooftops in urban areas, while also benefiting other coastal and waterbirds that depend on the same habitat.

Companion species
Little Tern (*Sternula albifrons*) · Kentish Plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*) · Pied Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) · Sea Rocket (*Cakile maritima*) · Blue-Winged Grasshopper (*Oedipoda caerulescens*)



Ghent

Umbrella species:
ambassadors of our port
nature



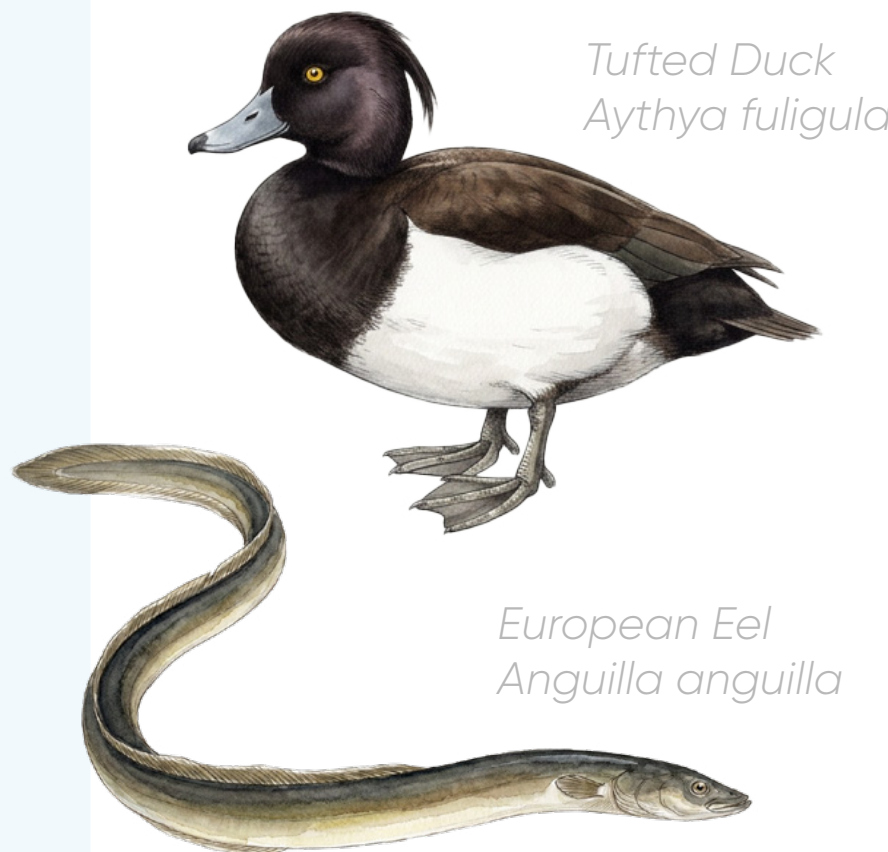
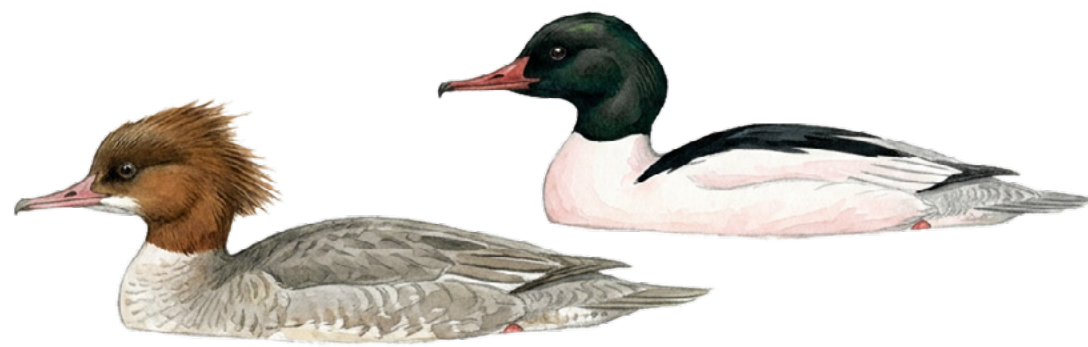
Waterbirds of the Ghent Canal Zone

Habitat
Open water, docks, canals, and wet nature.

Why this species?
The Ghent Canal Zone is part of an important network for waterbirds and has been designated an Important Bird Area (IBA). In particular, diving ducks such as the Tufted Duck and Common Pochard find suitable resting, feeding, and roosting places on the docks and open waters. Species such as Gadwall, Northern Shoveler, Common Shelduck, Eurasian Spoonbill, and Black-headed Gull also use the area.

What does this species tell us?
The presence of these waterbirds shows the importance of the docks and open waters in the Ghent Canal Zone. They make clear how important open water and wet nature are for biodiversity in our port.

Accompanying species
European Eel (*Anguilla Anguilla*) · Goosander (*Mergus merganser*) · Eurasian Wigeon (*Mareca Penelope*) · Northern Pintail · Eurasian Teal (*Anas crecca*)





Charting the next course for port nature

With this Port Nature Vision, we are not drawing a line under the work, but taking the next step. It is not an endpoint, but a compass for how nature and port development can grow together. The vision helps us continue to connect nature, the living environment, and economic development in the future.

We are already taking concrete action today. We are drawing up ecological management plans for green areas in the port, actively monitoring umbrella species, and investigating how docks and water zones can further strengthen biodiversity. In addition, together with partners, we are stepping up our efforts to tackle invasive alien species, one of the biggest threats to biodiversity today.

Cooperation remains essential in this too. “Together. Smarter.” is not in our nature for nothing. Together with companies, land managers, ecologists, and public authorities, we want to share knowledge, inspire one another, and embed nature more firmly in the port area. Think of joint actions around nesting sites for Common Terns and gull-proofing measures, excursions to example projects, and a practical menu of concrete measures for land managers.

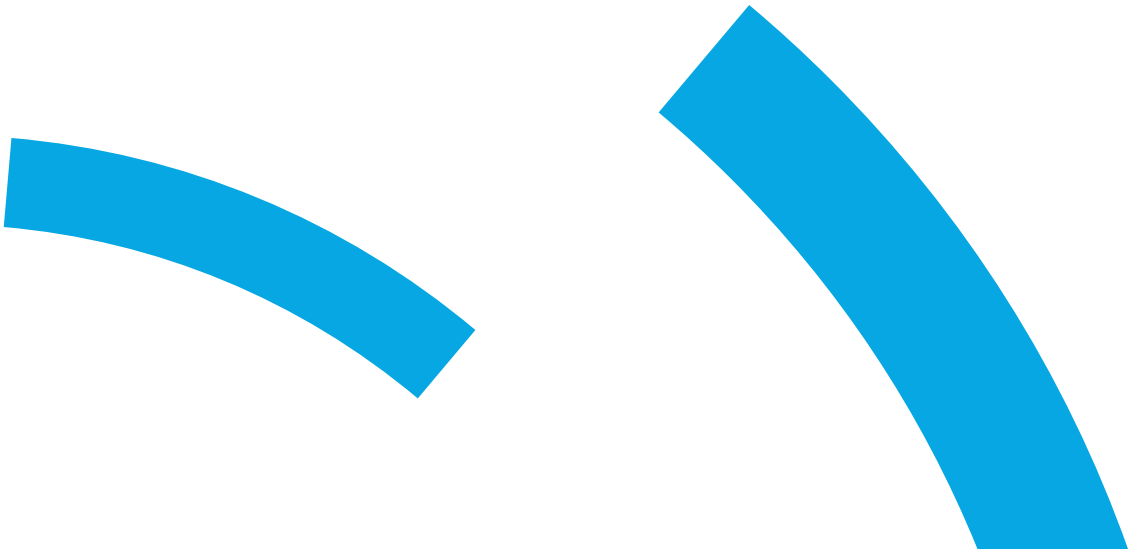
Step by step, port nature grows alongside our port.

Keeping nature on course

With our Port Nature Vision, we aim for at least a strong basic quality of nature: a healthy minimum standard in which plants and animals in our living environment get enough opportunities to live and develop.

To assess whether we are achieving that quality, we actively monitor nature in the port area. Every year, we check how many hectares of temporary nature, permanent nature, and compensation nature are present, as well as how much land is managed according to the principles of our Port Nature Vision.

In addition, every two to three years we also monitor different umbrella species, together with partners and databases in Flanders and Zeeland. This helps us see which habitat types are developing well, where species are establishing themselves, and where extra attention or adjustments are needed.



North Together. Smarter. Sea Port

Interreg
Vlaanderen-Nederland



Gefinancierd door
de Europese Unie

Leefbaar NorthSeaPortDistrict

The Port Nature Vision was developed on the initiative of North Sea Port and with its resources, in close cooperation with various partners and stakeholders. At the same time, the communication around it is closely aligned with the Interreg project 'Liveable North Sea Port District', which aims to strengthen the quality of life in and around our port area. This brochure therefore serves as a tool within that project to easily open up dialogue about nature, liveability, and port development with customers, stakeholders, and the surrounding community. The vision itself is an initiative of North Sea Port; the 'Liveable North Sea Port District' project helps to share this story more widely and embed it in society. That's how we set course together towards a future-proof port.

