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# Facts and Figures

## The Green Belt Compensatory measures around BER

The airport company supports a variety of projects for ecological compensation for the inevitable changes to the landscape associated with expansion of the new Berlin Brandenburg Airport.

These mitigation measures are grouped in three major fields:

- Compensatory measures in the immediate vicinity of the airport (approx. 500 ha)
- Complex compensation measures in the Zülow lowlands
- Compensation charge for soil sealing

### **I. Measures in the immediate vicinity of the airport:**

These compensatory and replacement measures span a total area of 500 hectares around the new airport like a green belt. The aim of creating recreation areas in the vicinity of the airport and strengthening the habitat network has been achieved with the completion of the Compensation Measures in 2015. The airport operating company has pledged to ensure that all implemented measures develop optimally over a period of 25 years.

The individual measures have been implemented in the following areas:

- Großziethen Landscape Park
- Green corridor Glasowbach – Selchower flood channels
- Open landscape Schönefelder Platte
- Waltersdorfer flood channels and Deutsch-Wusterhausen irrigation fields
- Measures relating to traffic infrastructure

In accordance with the planning approval notice, the implementation of these measures took place prior to the opening of the new airport. It was rolled out

according to spatial and functional aspects, e.g. the reforestation measures were started at an early point to take the long development and growth period into consideration.

### **Großziethen Landscape Park**

- The aim was to create recreation areas in the transition zone between town and countryside, and to strengthen the regional green belt to the northwest of the airport.
- Three landscape parks have been built – “Am Vogelwäldchen”, “Am Dörferblick” and “In den Gehren” – and three historic parks were restored – “Gutspark Großziethen” and “Gutspark Dahlewitz” (Teltow Fläming municipality).
- The landscape and habitat network was structured by planting rows of trees and hedges. In total, 56 kilometres of tree-lined roads, rows of trees, habitat networks around ponds and lakes, and hedges were planted and eight small ponds were built.
- Structural diversity was increased by planting orchards and woodlands.
- Planting took place between 2008 and 2010.

### **“In den Gehren” Landscape Park**

- The park “In den Gehren” covers an area of more than 28 hectares.
- In addition to pastures and recreational areas, large groups of trees and bushes, solitary trees and semi-open biotopes create valuable habitats for animal and plant species.
- “In den Gehren” is integrated into Schönefeld’s network of foot and cycling paths.
- As well as pastures the park also includes meadows, copses and hollows.
- A total of 1,270 trees, including field maples, hornbeams, English oaks, silver limes and elms, were mostly planted as stem bushes or multi-stemmed trees in order to preserve the character of the cultivated landscape.

- The main difference to the two other landscape parks is the fact that parts of the pastures can also be used as grazing grounds for wild horses (in keeping with the Wilderness Landscape concept).
- The presentation of the “Liebenthaler Wildlinge”, a breed of Przewalski horses, by the town of Liebenwalde to the airport operating company and to the municipality of Schönefeld gives these wild horses a new habitat in the In den Gehren park.

#### **Green corridor Glasowbach – Selchow flood plains**

- To the west of the airport a network of green corridors and a habitat network have been created across the fields, thus strengthening the regional green spaces.
- Individual measures include the creation of interconnected woodlands (approx. 50 hectares reforested), meadows were planted, natural diversity was increased by building small watercourses and the environment was structured by planting rows of trees and hedges.

#### **Open Landscape Schönefelder Platte**

- BER has been integrated in the landscape by creating landscape structures along the southern perimeter of the airport (woodlands, deciduous trees and meadows)
- These measures enhance the regional recreational areas to the south and the southwest of the airport.
- Additionally, the landscape has been structured by planting rows of trees and hedges.

#### **Waltersdorf flood channels and Deutsch-Wusterhausen irrigation fields**

- The quality of important natural and recreation areas to the east and the southeast of the airport has been boosted.
- The following measures have been implemented and all contribute to enhancing the quality of the areas: restoration and rehydration as part of the river development measures, the implementation of nature conservation and maintenance concepts in the flood channels and the structuring of the landscape by planting rows of trees along the flood channels and in the irrigation fields.

### **Measures relating to traffic infrastructure**

- All around BER the traffic infrastructure, e.g., rail and roads, are being neatly integrated in the landscape. This is being achieved by planting bushes on embankments and spaces within the traffic junctions, by creating substitute habitats and building tree-lined roads.
- Additionally, the construction of stretches of road and rail has been planned in such a way so as to ensure that habitats are not bisected; amphibian crossing have been integrated.

### **II. Complex compensation measures in the Zülow lowlands**

The development of the landscape and ecological upgrade of the Zülow lowlands is the biggest individual project within the airport operator's compensation measure programme. The open lowlands cover around 2,600 hectares and are located to the south of Berlin. In collaboration with local farmers, compensatory measures are being applied on arable land, creating a biotope network that is to be maintained by the respective farms. These measures have been enhanced by planting trees and hedges, by altering the diversity of the surrounding woodlands to created mixed forests and through watercourse development (building small watercourses, fish passes and by rehydrating former wetlands). Implementation started in 2013.

### **III. Compensation charge for soil sealing**

The airport operating company pays €34 million, payable in instalments over a period of 14 years, to the nature fund Naturschutzfond Brandenburg. These funds can be reinvested in the region around the airport.

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