

How the European Green Belt initiative can support the European mink conservation in Central Europe?



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Project Summary

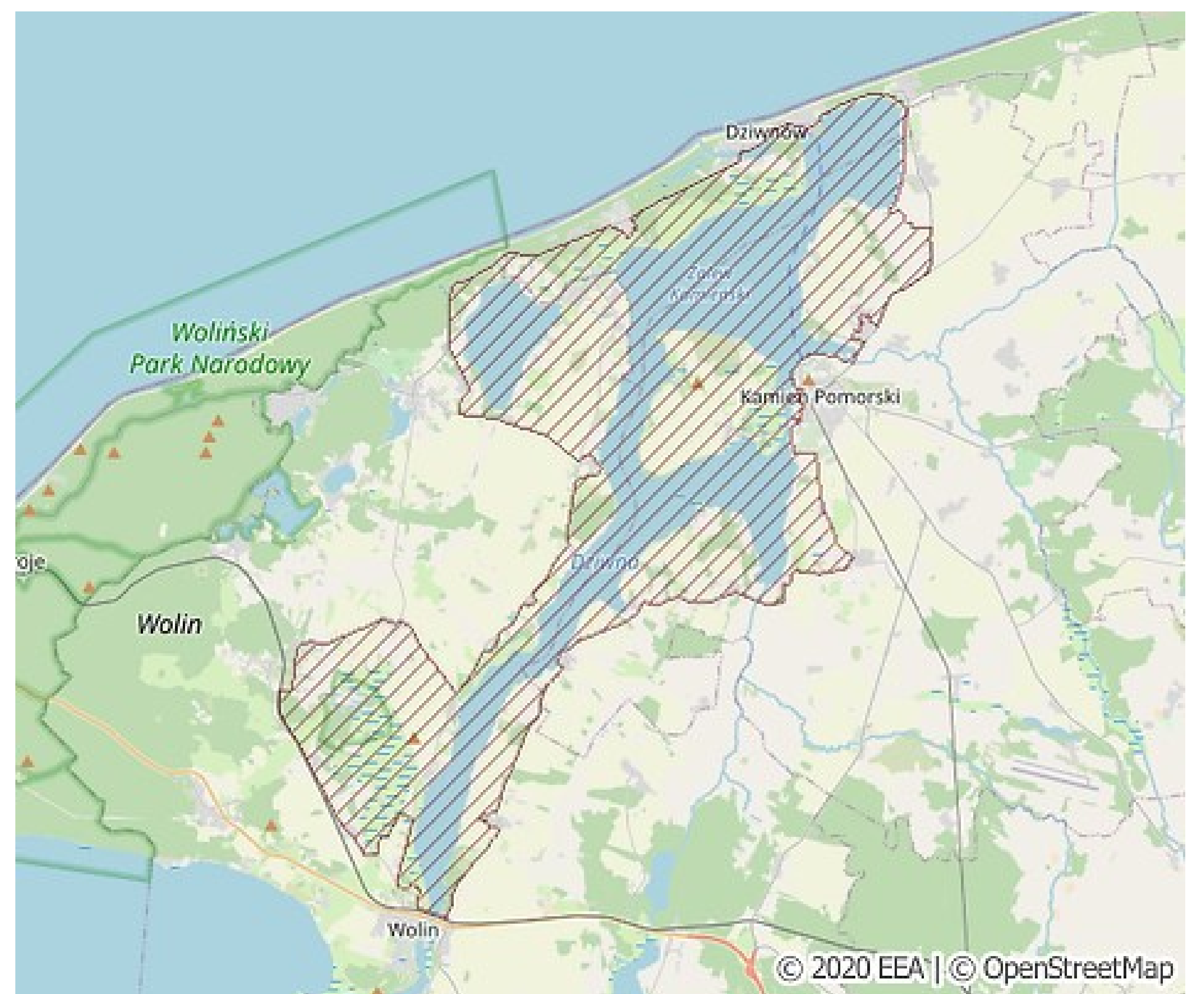
The project aims to enhance avifaunal diversity in the Kamień Lagoon and Dziwna River Natura 2000 area, part of Poland's Oder estuary. Using 25 years of waterfowl monitoring data, it focuses on updating the conservation tasks plan by implementing a standardized bird monitoring system. Key goals include raising public awareness, increasing monitoring frequency, and addressing human impacts on the environment. Collaboration with local authorities, environmental organizations, and universities ensures a comprehensive approach. The project also develops tools to balance conservation with human activities and will publish results to educate stakeholders. It aligns with European biodiversity strategies, promoting sustainable development in the region.

BESTbelt Objectives

The Kamień Lagoon and Dziwna River Natura 2000 area, established in 2007, lacks both a finalized conservation plan and a conservation tasks plan, hindering effective avifauna protection. This project aims to boost bird diversity by developing evidence-based proposals to revise the draft conservation tasks plan, ensuring that protection measures align with current ecosystem needs. A standardized monitoring system will provide ongoing data for informed decision-making and threat mitigation. The project also promotes environmental education and capacity building by engaging local authorities, organizations, and academic institutions. It will publish results to raise awareness and involve local communities, volunteers, and policymakers in sustaining long-term conservation efforts.

Activities

The 24-month project focuses on bird monitoring, data collection, and analysis to inform conservation strategies for the Kamień Lagoon and Dziwna River Natura 2000 area. Regular bird counts will provide updated population data, leading to a standardized monitoring system and conservation recommendations, which will be integrated into proposals for revising the area's draft conservation tasks plan. Key dissemination efforts include a monograph publication, website updates, and meetings with stakeholders, raising awareness about avifauna protection. A monograph and scientific article will highlight the importance of the region for migratory birds and nature conservation in the region. The project aims to ensure long-term conservation and create a model for similar initiatives across Europe.



Location of the Natura 2000 area Kamień Lagoon and Dziwna River (PLB320011)

Expected Results and Impacts

The project aims to establish a standardized ornithological monitoring system within the PLB320011 area to protect waterfowl. It will develop evidence-based proposals to update the conservation plan, enhancing bird diversity. A descriptive format for the area will serve as a tool for authorities and private entities to balance environmental and human activities. The project will highlight the importance of bird monitoring, increasing its frequency, and compile data into a publication for broad engagement. The goal is to revise the conservation plan, based on monthly bird counts by experts, using a SMART approach to ensure objectives are met within the timeline from Oct. 2024 to Sept. 2026.