



LIFE+ Grote Netewoud
Wilderness on a human scale
1/9/2013 – 31/8/2019

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Beneficiaries

- Coordinator: Natuurpunt
- Partners: VMM, Provincie



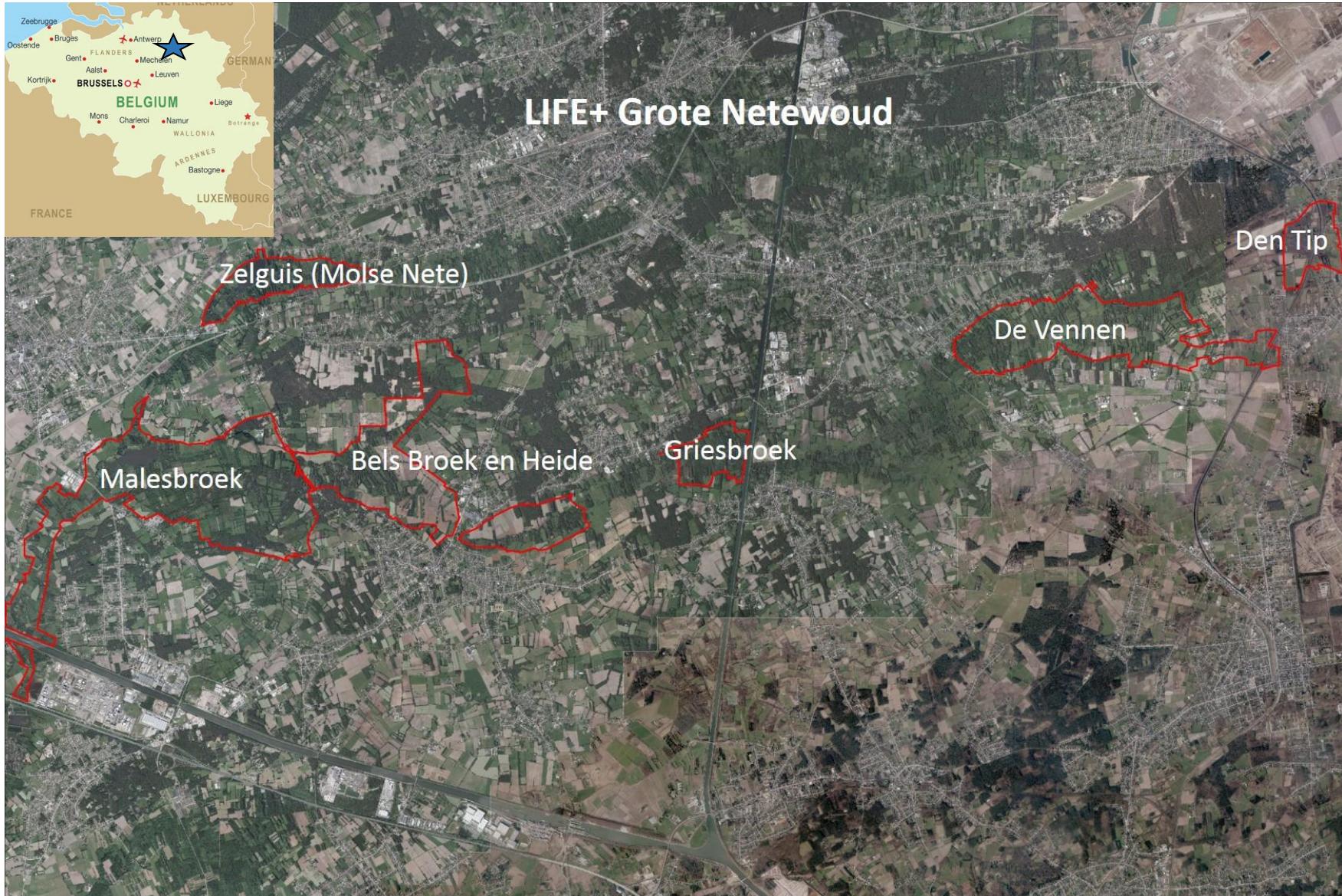
Provincie
Antwerpen



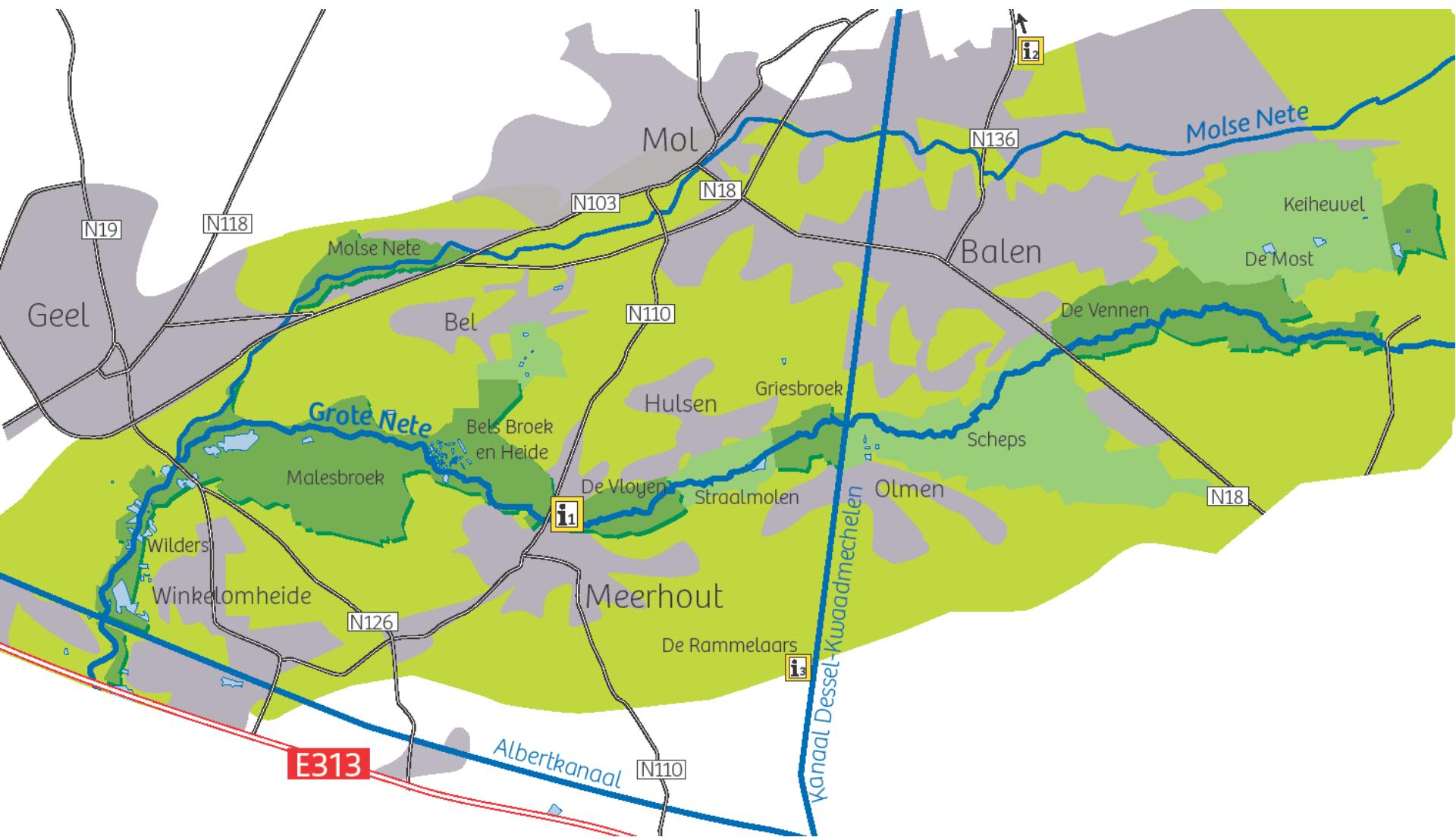
- Voluntary local departments!!
- Professional support



Project area

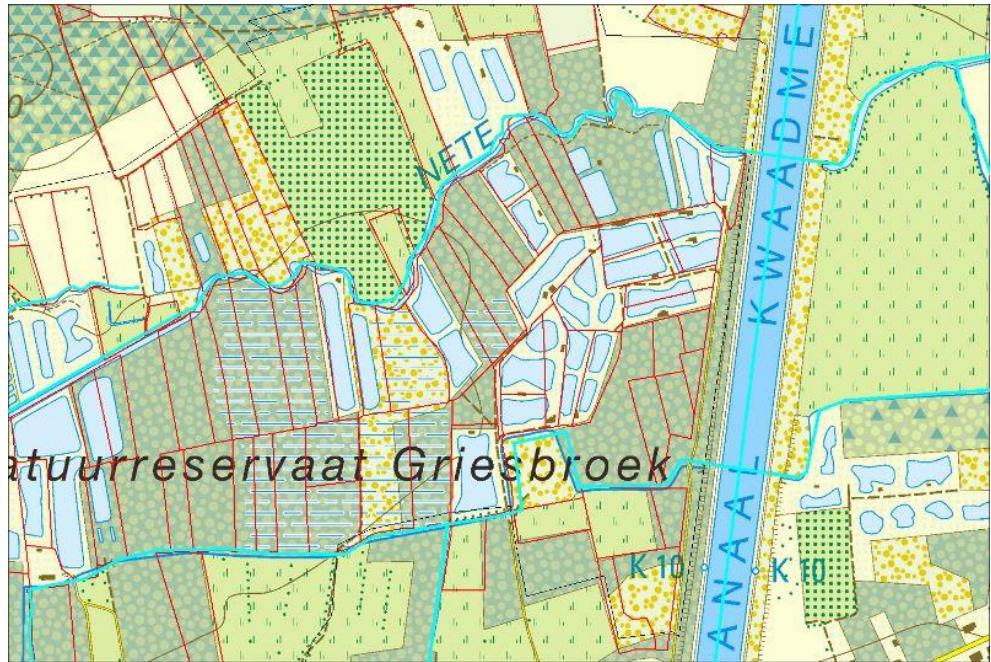


Project area



Threats

- Fragmentation
- Drainage
- Eutrophication
- Plantations
- Recreation
- Lack social support



Objectives

- Restoration 91E0
- Habitat restoration Annex II fish species
- Adventurous visitor experience
- Stimulating social support

- Abiotics

- Mostly sandy
- Peat
- Microtypography
- Iron-rich seepage



91EO



- Species

- *Alnus glutinosa*
- *Fraxinus excelsior*
- *Betula pubescens*
- *Calla palustris*
- *Caltha palustris*
- *Carex elongata*
- *Filipendula ulmaria*
- *Iris pseudacorus*
- ...



Before 91EO restoration

- Preliminary actions needed!!

Preliminary actions

- Land acquisition (120 ha)
 - Local volunteers



Preliminary actions



Preliminary actions

- Ecohydrological study
 - Piezometers
 - Volunteers



Preliminary actions

- Soil and water analysis



Preliminary actions

- Results?
 - Advice for best restoration practice!!

Habitat restoration

- Natural soil profile
 - Soil excavation



Habitat restoration

- Local hydrology
 - Filling up drainage ditches



Habitat restoration

- Transforming plantations
 - Girdling
 - Clearcutting
 - *Populus, Picea, ...*



Habitat restoration

- Eliminating invasive species
 - *Pontederia cordata*
 - *Myriophyllum aquaticum*
 - *Ludwigia grandiflora*
 - *Fallopia japonica*
 - *Impatiens glandulifera*
 - ...



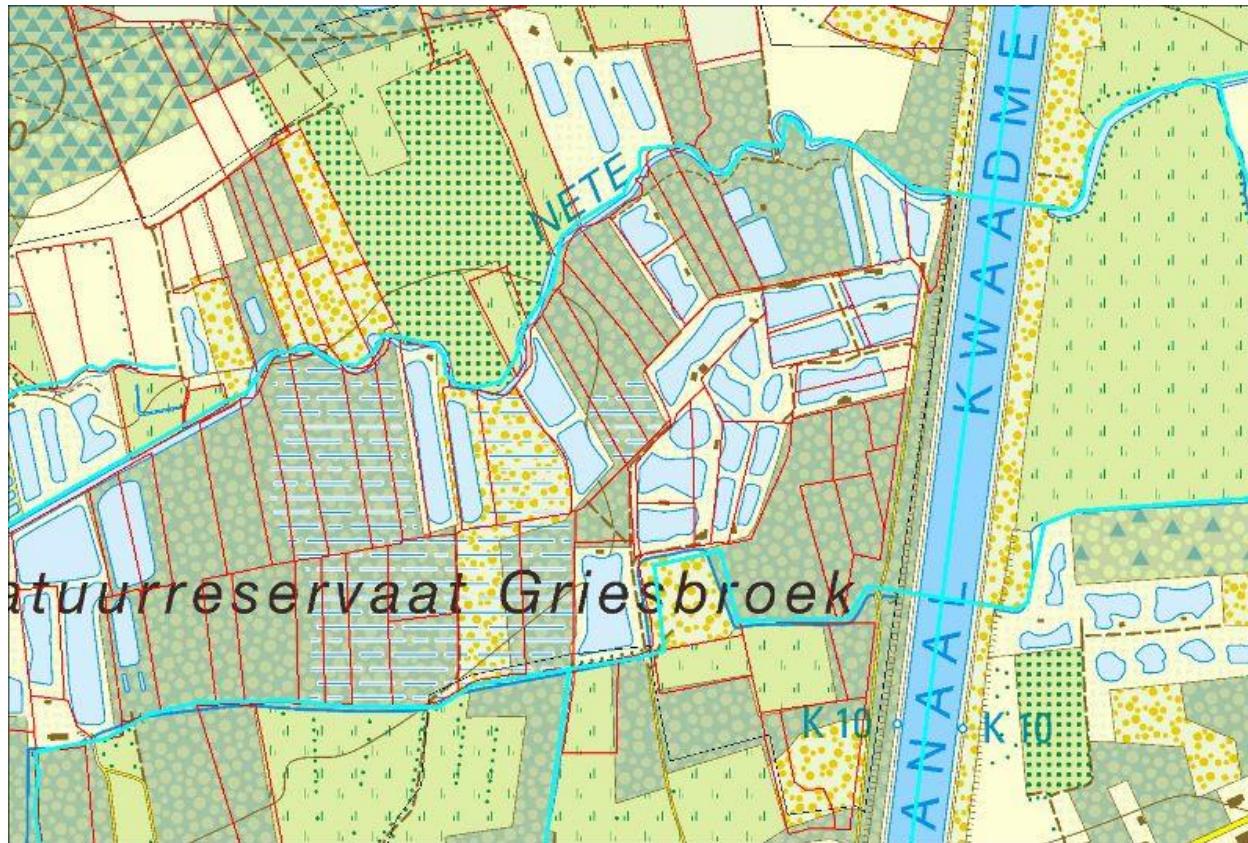
Habitat restoration

- Integration weekend infrastructure



Habitat restoration

- Integration weekend infrastructure



Habitat restoration

- Integration weekend infrastructure



Habitat restoration

- Integration weekend infrastructure



Habitat restoration

- Spontaneous reforestation
 - After excavation, integration or transformation



Habitat restoration

- Reforestation by extensive grazing



Habitat restoration

- Reforestation by extensive grazing
 - Low densities
 - Seasonal
 - Structure (91E0-6430)
 - Trampling
 - Facilitating germination of *Alnus glutinosa*
 - *Alnus* hardly browsed
 - Agreements with local (hobby) farmers
 - Yearly agreements => flexibility
 - Volunteers

- Thank you for your attention!

- Questions?

