

Munnikenland

Large floodplain receives improved water level regulation



Luchtfoto Munnikenland en Loevestein (© Siebe Swart).

INTERVENTION

The Munnikenland area is a former inland polder that was depoldered in 2013-2017 as part of the Room for the River program. Since then, the area has been able to flood again when river water levels rise. However, water levels drop relatively quickly, making successful reed bed development difficult. In order to better control water levels in the area for reed bed development, a control structure has been built in a low levee between the floodplain of Loevestein and Munnikenland.



Reed marsh and emerging willow forest in Munnikenland.

ELABORATION

In practice, the lowering of the ground level as part of the Room for the River program me appears to be insufficient to give the desired water reeds sufficient opportunity to grow in the future. Large areas are already becoming overgrown with trees.

The construction of a new culvert will allow the water level in the area to be better adjusted to the requirements of reed beds. On the one hand, this means that the area can be kept wet for longer in the spring, slowing down forest development. On the other hand, it will also be possible to control drying out during specific periods, such as the reed germination period in the summer. This makes the area ideal for species associated with reed beds and wet floodplains, such as bitterns, purple herons, ruffs and water shrews.

PARTNERS

State Forest Management, Public Works and Water Management.



Plan Munnikenland 'Room for the River', showing the location of the new control structures.

In het kort

MEASURE

Installation of an adjustable weir

RIVER SECTION

Waal

MUNICIPALITY

Zaltbommel

TOWN/CHURCH VILLAGE

Brakel

AREA

129 ha

MERLIN CONTRIBUTION

€ 21.000,-

MANAGEMENT

Extensive grazing and ecological water level management by Staatsbosbeheer (the Dutch Forestry Commission)