

## 57. Tabergsån and Lillån

**Close to the river, near a residential area but in a natural setting, are well-used paths and the occasional fishing place. The area is rich in heritage and nature.**

The Tabergsån river runs through the communities of Månsarp, Taberg, Norrahammar and Hovslätt. Close to Jönköping, the long valley broadens out and the Lillån river reaches a large wooded water meadow. The Tabergsån river and the Lillån river are winding rivers in long valleys. The ravine valleys are deep with local height differences of 30-40m and steep slopes in some places. The soil is fertile with deciduous woodland. Closest to the river are marsh woodland and

wooded water meadow. In other places, there is open wetland.

There is great biological diversity in the various natural environments of the river. Beavers live along the river and fell trees here and there, often aspen or willow.

The flat, level wet areas along the Tabergsån river are occasionally flooded and the setting is a wilderness in the vicinity of an urban area. In other places, the river banks are firm, with small, shallow, sandy banks. The bird

fauna includes hawfinch, icterine warbler with its exotic song, wood warbler and of course willow warbler. Other birds characteristic of this area are dipper, kingfisher and grey wagtail.

The Tabergsån river is one of the important migration routes of the salmon trout. This was not always the case. In the 19th and 20th centuries, the Tabergsån river was one of the most dammed in Sweden, providing power to small industries.





#### WORTH KNOWING

The Tabergs-å-leden long-distance footpath goes from the Månsarp station to Munksjön in Jönköping. It is 18 kilometres long; maps are available on [www.jonkoping.se](http://www.jonkoping.se). Along the path you can see local industrial history and the importance of the water for people and the environment. Angling is permitted from 1 May – 1 August. Fishing permits can be bought in such places as the grocery stores in Tabergsådalen.

**HOW TO GET THERE:** Lillån river: Drive to Skogskyrkogården or Råslätt centre.

**PARKING:** At Skogskyrkogården and Råslätts centre.

**BUS:** Bus stop Röde Påle, walk through pinewoods 500m, or bus stop Råslätt centrum and then go through a residential area 750m to the Lillån river.

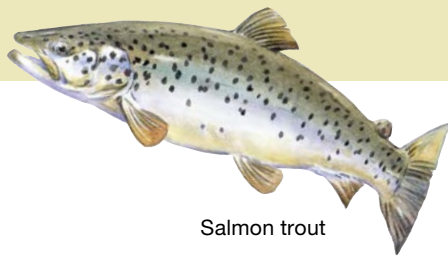
**HOW TO GET THERE: TABERGSÅN RIVER:** Main road through Tabergsådalen.

**PARKING:** Hovslätt hembygdsgård, Taberg station or Månsarp station.

**BUS:** Bus stop Hovslätts rondellen (roundabout) and walk to the hembygdsgård (community centre), about 200m. In Taberg, bus stop Centrum where the Tabergs-å-leden passes the railway station and Masugnsplan.

**TRAIN:** Towards Vaggeryd/Värnamo to Taberg and Månsarp stations.

**DIFFICULTY:** ● *Medium*



Salmon trout

During late autumn when winter is approaching, the salmon trout prepare to migrate up-river for spawning. The Tabergsån river is included in a major conservation project, and hindrances to this migration have been removed. Consequently, the number of young salmon trout in the Tabergsån river have increased. One of the measures involves the dam at Hökhult, which is a heritage item, but the salmon trout can now pass by it. Another example



Tree gnawed by beaver

is the Massa dam which was demolished in 2011 and replaced with flowing rapids.



Ostrich fern