

52. Nyckelås

There is silence and damp fragrance in the marsh woodland at Nyckelås.

The Nyckelås nature reserve is on the slope down towards the Nässjön lake between Bottnaryd and Mullsjö. The southern part, by the Målskog farm, is in the Municipality of Jönköping while the northern part of the reserve belongs to the Municipality of Mullsjö. In total, it is an unusually large deciduous forest area with many rare species.

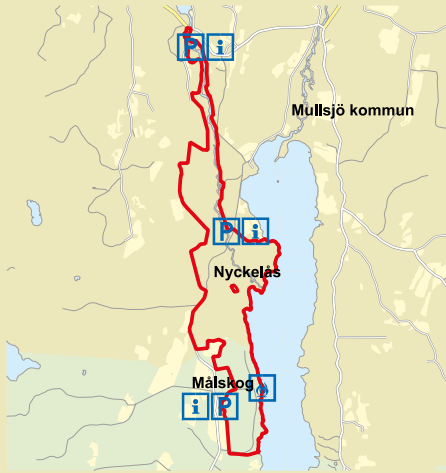
The deciduous forest broadens out on the slope below Målskog and

there are many old large oaks and ash trees. Furthest up closest to the farm is some forest meadow. At the edge of the forest are old ash trees and there are many tall hazel trees in the bush canopy. There is much dead wood throughout the area, and many springs and brooks. A flat area in the southern part consists of marshland.

Vascular plants are common. Also there are many threatened lichens, mosses and fungi. The deciduous

environment hosts lesser spotted woodpecker, long-tailed tit and honey buzzard.

The old maple trees in the avenue which leads to Målskog give a feeling of the natural and cultural value of the farm. The mixed woodland in the south, with spruce, pine, birch and common alder, resemble an old woodland pasture.



WORTH KNOWING

A path some kilometres long goes through the reserve. On a little promontory down at Nässjön is a windbreak with a place where fires may be lit.

HOW TO GET THERE:

From Bottnaryd. Towards Svansö, just before the village turn towards Bjurbäck. Just 2 km after Bjurbäck, left at a sign to Naturreservat (nature reserve) and Liared. Left again after the Tidan river. Just after the farm park on the right-hand side or drive on a few km to a new parking place.

From Jönköping. Road 47 to Mullsjö roundabout, left into road 26. Then right after 1.5 km towards Bjurbäck, then 3.5 km to Liared crossroads. After that, see above.

PARKING: There is parking in the north, central and southern parts of the reserve.

DIFFICULTY: ● *Medium*



Lesser spotted woodpecker



Water avens