

Catchment officers in Sweden

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LEVA

Local Engagement for Water





The effects of catchement officers

- Over **200 meetings** and group meetings with a total of over 2400 participants have been arranged between 2019-2020. Personal contacts and meetings have been held with about **1100 unique farmers**.
- The catchment officers have been part of applying for **€ 15 million** for local measures during 2019-2020. This is an increased exchange of **four times** compared to the state funding of the catchment officers.



Färdiggrävd våtmark hösten 2020. Foto Edlunds schakt AB

Lessons learned among the Catchment officers

- What level of participation can you offer?
- Respect that co-operation takes time
- Be transparent
- Dialog rather than information
- Respect different levels of understanding
- Respect the fragile process of co-operation and trust
- Invest time in meetings and planning meetings
- Understand that different personalities are an asset
- Show good leadership and respect

Lessons learned for the authorities

- Landowners want to perform different measures for the environment, but lack of time, knowledge, and funding is often an obstacle.
- Catchment officers are catalysts on a basin scale, and for the individual farmer. They create incentives for implementing measures and increase participation and legitimacy.
- Continued improvement of knowledge and planning local measurers are needed. At all scales.
- The Regional Water Authorities have suggested in the Programme of Measures 2021-2027 that SwAM continues to head the support function for Catchment officers.

Thank you.

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