## HABITAT DIVERSITY CREATES BIODIVERSITY!

The reclamation of depleted opencast mines is referred to as recultivation. It pursues the goal of creating a self-sustaining and efficient ecosystem over the long term, providing a habitat for people and nature. Recultivation in the Rhenish mining area is considered exemplary worldwide by experts due to its habitat diversity and biodiversity.

Around 3,000 animal species and over 1,500 plant and fungus species. Above-average proportion of rare and endangered species.



Photographers: H.-J. Bolzek, O. Diestelhorst, K. Görgen, D. A. Gray, M. Gutmann, U. Hürten, F. Kirstein, Dr. M. Schindler, A. Schumacher, M. Stollberg, P. Stollwerk, J. Rodenkirchen, C. Thiel-Bender, J. Weglau, N. Wolf

#### **Continuous improvement**

The many methods and processes that are integral components of recultivation - from planning and selecting suitable substrates for new soils, to reforesting the areas or using them for agricultural purposes, to monitoring their successful ecological development - are continuously improved with the help of scientific monitoring.



## RECULTIVATION AS AN OPPORTUNITY!



At the interface between science, mining and nature conservation, the **Recultivation Research Centre** provides a common forum for exploring the diverse, interdisciplinary issues of recultivation research. Together with many independent scientists from the various fields of ecology and with experts working in nature conservation in a voluntary capacity, the employees of RWE's Recultivation Research Centre continuously carry out investigations in the recultivated landscape to monitor the success of the recultivation measures and to constantly improve the methods used.

# RWE Power Recultivation Research Centre Authorities, institutions & companies RWE Power Recultivation Research Centre Conservation volunteers Universities

#### WE RESEARCH!

Recultivation research

Conducting scientific studies on recultivated landscape/data collection and management.



#### WE SHOW!

Leisure and recreation

Sustainable recreational use of recultivated areas with a focus on the environment/environmental education.



#### WE IMPROVE!

**Biodiversity strategy** 

Key objectives for various fields of action in recultivation that contribute to promoting biodiversity.





#### WE PROMOTE

Nature conservation & species protection

Practical implementation of study results in the recultivation process, carried out by RWE Power.



### WE REPORT!

Public relation

Preparation and publication of expert reports/professional exchange at events and conventions; teaching, lectures/excursions, guided tours, homepage, social media.



#### NE CONNECT

Sustainable structural change

Exchange of experience at conferences/advice on green projects/knowledge transfer.



