



General

Administration

Director: *Ilona Langgemach*, www.westhavelland-naturpark.de

nonprofit support association: **Förderverein Sternenpark Westhavelland**
sternenpark-westhavelland.eu (new website in progress)
www.facebook.com/sternenparkwesthavelland

Förderverein Sternenpark Westhavelland, Am Neubau 4 OT Gölpe, 14715 Havelaue

Schollene: On June 30, 2016 the concept of the IDSR was presented to the council of Schollene in the neighboring Land Sachsen-Anhalt. In August the major agreed to become part of the IDSR. Hopefully they will accept the lighting guidelines in the near future and they could also become a community of the IDSR though they are outside the Nature Park and situated in another Land (county). But an improved lighting in this community would help to reduce light pollution in the IDSR.

Visitors

It is difficult to estimate the total number of visitors to the IDSR. Participants to activities see below. Some providers of accommodations say that they have about 30% increase of overnight stays due to the IDSR.

The local hunters' association complained during their annual meeting that star gazers might disturb them from their hunting and fear that there might be potential hazards.

Lighting

As the installation of new energy saving luminaires cannot be financed, considerable reduction of lighting is planned by using Dimmlight, which can reduce the energy consumption down to 33%. This will reduce the total amount of light.

Rhinow: Werner-Seelenbinderstr.: shielded LED 3000K were installed, dimming almost all of the lights in Rhinow between 23 – 5

Hohennauen: Dimming by 67% between 20 – 5
Siedlungsweg: 6 shielded LED were installed

Wassersuppe: Dimming by 67% between 20 – 5

Witzke: Dimming by 67% between 20 – 5

Ferchesar: 10 LED 3000 K replacements, but not fully shielded

Parey: 3 cut-off luminaires were masked in the direction of the buildings of the Nature Park administration, in order that astronomical observations are not disturbed there.

Arneburg: The light dome Central Europe's largest pulp factory Stendal at 20 km west of the boundary of the Nature Park is very distracting. Consultations about reducing their light emission have started.

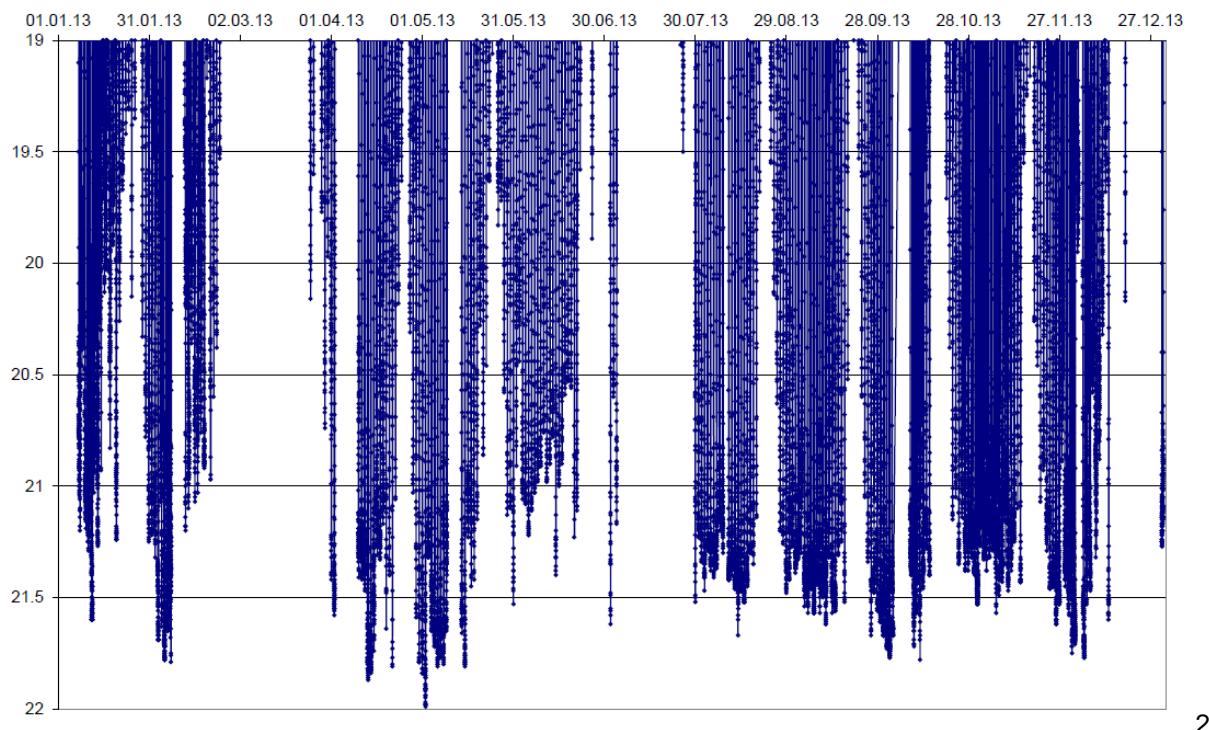
Milow: Sascha Höhne analyzed the public lighting in Milow in his master thesis and discussed several solutions.

Communities

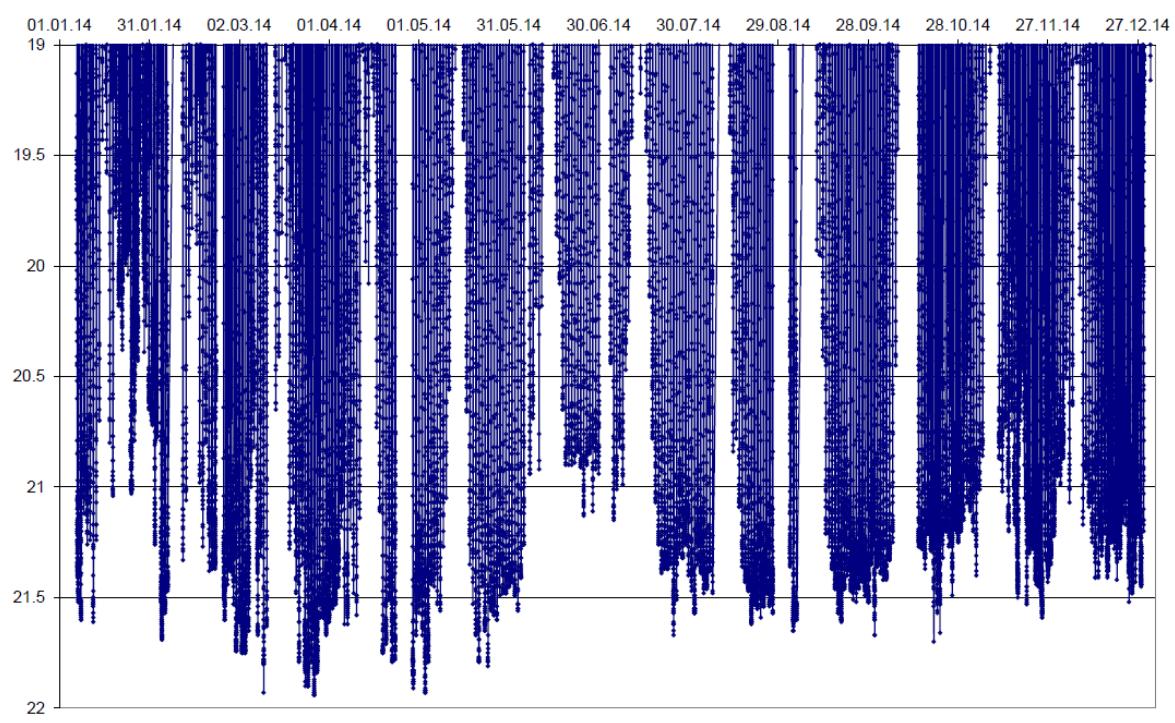
No new installations except the above mentioned are known.

Sky Quality

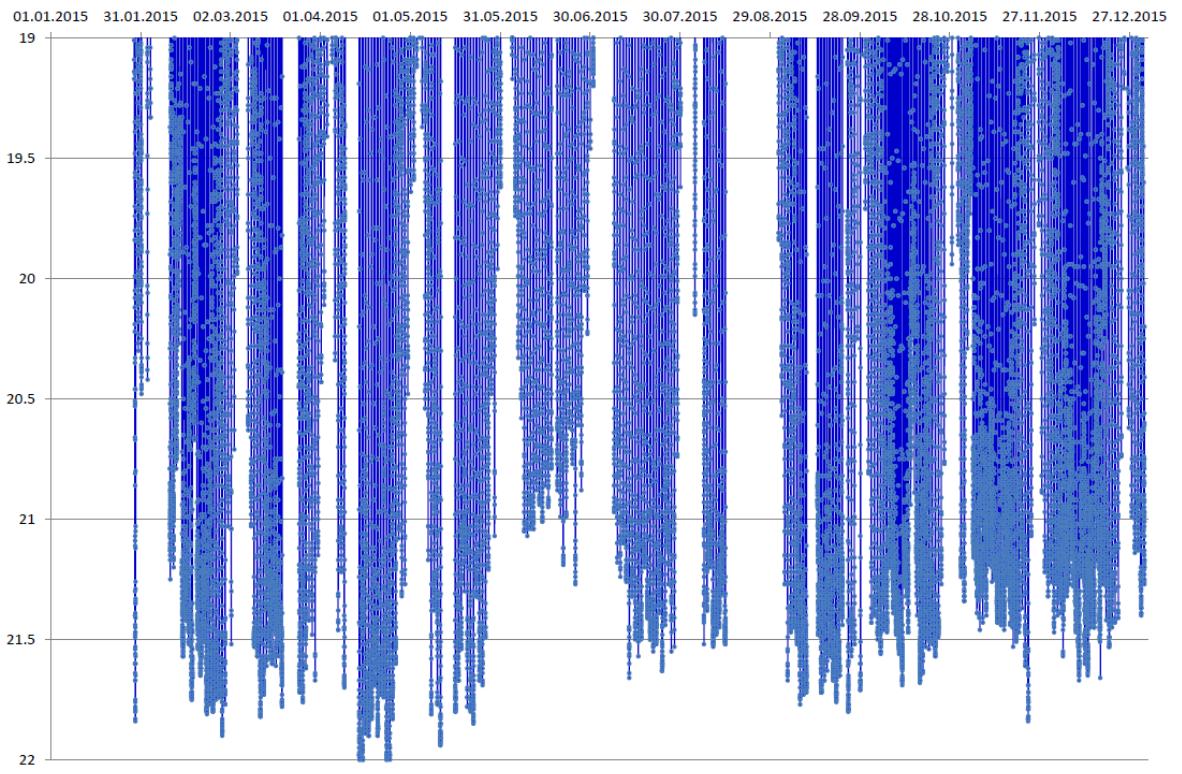
Continuous measurements at the nature park administration Parey



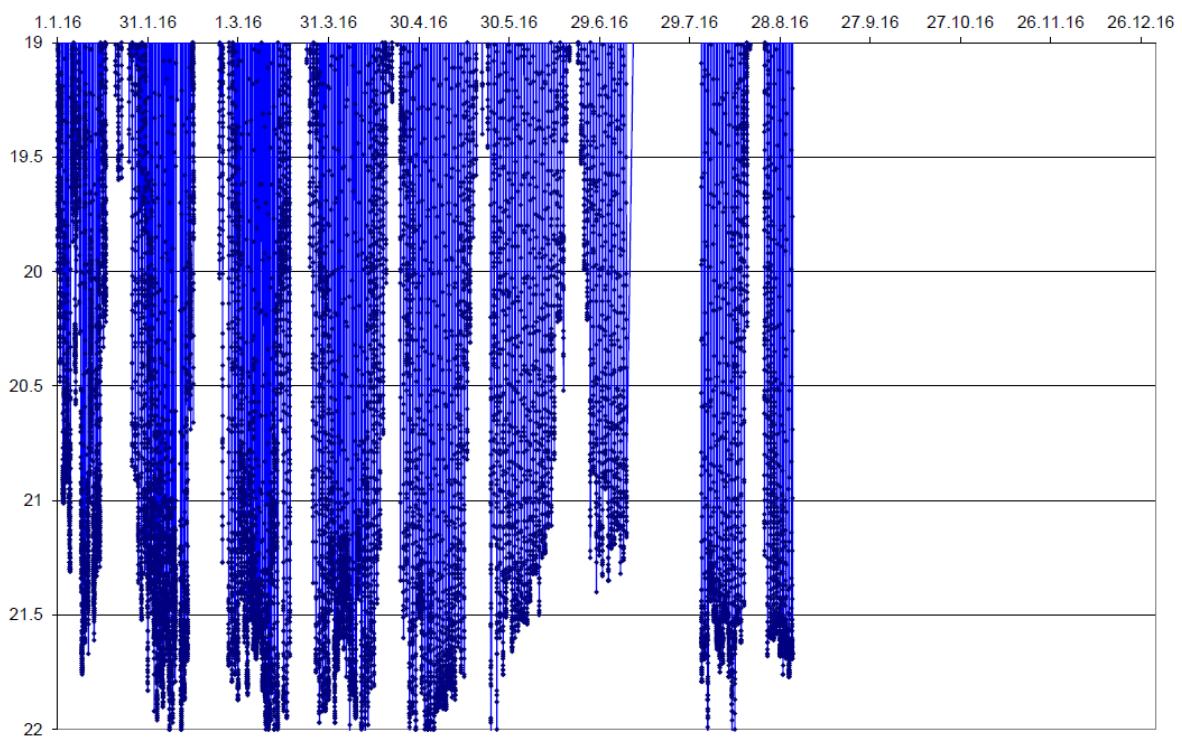
2013



2014



2015



2016

The continuous measurements with the SQM-LE at the nature park administration in Parey do not show significant changes, as the influence from the weather is very large.

Measurements with handheld SQM-Ls mainly during the star parties Westhavelländer Astronomietreffen WHAT (always in August/September) also did not show significant changes.

2011-08-28, 01:00: 21.30
 2012-09-20, 21:00: 21.30
 2013-09-07, 21:10: 21.35
 2014-08-30, 23:00: 21.35
 2015-09-12, 1:00: 21.32
 2016-08-31, 23:30: 21.45

Conservation and Research

First results of the “Verlust der Nacht” test field near Lochow have been published:

Holzhauer, S. et al.: Out of the Dark: Establishing a Large-Scale Field Experiment to Assess the Effects of Artificial Light at Night on Species and Food Webs, *Sustainability* **2015**, 7, 15593-15616

Degen u.a.: Street lighting: sex-independent impacts on moth movement, *Journal of Animal Ecology* 85, 5

During the Geminid meteor shower Dec 2015 and on the occasion of working on a scientific paper international astronomers from Spain and Hungary met in Gülpe and gave a press conference.

Funding

It is now planned to install an observing hut with a telescope in the garden of the administration office. Planning and construction is sponsored by a local firm.

Arts and Culture

In cooperation with students of the Fachhochschule Erfurt (Prof. Günter Barcik) plans for resting and observing areas in the star park have been developed (also for IDSReserve Rhön)

The association Förderverein Sternenpark Westhavelland had initiated a photo competition and the pictures of the winners have been exhibited.



Outreach

Marion Werner, Martin Miethke and Thomas Becker: 11 events with about 90 participants

Special events:

Astronomy Day: Theme Moon, Milow, March 19

Mercury transit Milow: May 09

Perseids observations in Milow: Aug 12/13

Strodehne: Aug 12 and 13

Camping Buntspecht Aug 12

Altogether about 140 visitors took part.

Public observations at the Nature Park Center Milow: 8 evenings with about 125 participants

WHAT 2016

The star party on Sept. 2-4, 2016, again attracted about 60 amateur astronomers staying on the sports area in Gülepe and on Saturday about 150 visitors were attracted by the event though the weather was not too favorable for observations.



Bright meteor over the WHAT 2016

Mit der Kamera nach den Sternen im Westhavelland gegriffen, MAZ, 11./12.06.2016
Immer weniger Menschen können den Sternenhimmel sehen, MAZ, 11./12.06.2016
Sternenpark auch für Schollene interessant, Volksstimme 03.07.2016
Helle Freude am dunkelsten Ort in Deutschland, MAZ 04.07.2016
Sternenpark als regionales Kapital, Brawo 17.07.2016
Wo Sterngucker in den dunklen Himmel schauen, MAZ 06.08.2016
Begegnung mit „109/P Swift-Tuttle, Brawo 07.08.2016
Sternschnuppen-Regen über Brandenburg, MAZ 09-08.2016
Sternenpark bei der Serenade MAZ 11.08.2016
Sternschnuppen Fehlanzeige, MAZ 15.08.2016
Dichte Wolken verhinderten Beobachtung der Perseiden, Brawo, 17.08.2016
Sternengucken auf dem Sportplatz, MAZ 24.08.2016
Durchs Schiebedach zu Sternen schauen, MAZ 26.08.2016
„Wenn man auf die Sterne schaut, bleibt man von alleine wach“, MAZ 31.08.2016
Wundervolle Sternbilder und eindrucksvolle Vorträge, MAZ 05.09.2016
Erst am Samstag gab es Sterne zu sehen, Brawo, 07.09.2016
Schiefspiegler-Teleskop Marke Eigenbau, Brawo 11.09.2016
Unendliche Weiten, Märkische Oderzeitung, 10.9.2016

Online:

<http://www.sciencesetavenir.fr/espace/astrophysique/20160808.OBS5989/carte-pollution-lumineuse-combien-d-etoiles-dans-votre-ciel.html>

TV:

RBB report about the Perseids event: www.rbb-online.de/panorama/beitrag/2016/08/peseiden-regen-berlin-brandenburg-sichtbar-.html
MDR LexiTV-Movie about the WHAT 2016: www.mdr.de/lexi-tv/video-54772.html

This report has been put together by Ilona Langgemach, Andreas Hänel, Thomas Becker in Oct. 2016