

**Table S1.** Descriptive statistics of environmental variables measured at successful and depredated nests of little crane (mean  $\pm$  se). For categorical variables (vegetation species, vegetation stage) the percentage of nests in each category is shown. In vegetation species only two most common species are included.

Variable	Successful nests ( <i>n</i> = 32)	Depredated nests ( <i>n</i> = 19)
<b>Landscape scale</b>		
Arable land (%)	1.85 $\pm$ 0.98	5.01 $\pm$ 2.95
Urbanized area (%)	0.32 $\pm$ 0.14	0.35 $\pm$ 0.21
Emergent vegetation (%)	14.77 $\pm$ 0.77	15.43 $\pm$ 1.82
Woodie vegetation (%)	2.28 $\pm$ 0.59	2.01 $\pm$ 0.40
Water body shape (m/ha)	468.1 $\pm$ 27.8	484.6 $\pm$ 35.8
Water body fragmentation (ha/m)	0.141 $\pm$ 0.013	0.145 $\pm$ 0.023
<b>Territory scale</b>		
Reed cover (%)	5.00 $\pm$ 2.17	2.22 $\pm$ 1.43
Sedges cover (%)	6.57 $\pm$ 2.64	4.90 $\pm$ 2.42
Willow cover (%)	1.96 $\pm$ 1.17	0.00 $\pm$ 0.00
Open water(%)	29.06 $\pm$ 3.89	30.89 $\pm$ 5.14
Vegetation density (%)	32.73 $\pm$ 1.26	20.36 $\pm$ 1.00
Water depth (cm)	43.93 $\pm$ 3.61	37.41 $\pm$ 2.99
<b>Nest-site scale</b>		
Vegetation species ( <i>Typha</i> spp.)	78.1%	68.4%
Vegetation species ( <i>Carex</i> spp.)	15.6%	26.3%
Vegetation stage (previous years)	34.4%	31.6%
Vegetation stage (mixed) <sup>c</sup>	62.5%	68.4%
Vegetation height (cm)	107.3 $\pm$ 3.6	90.5 $\pm$ 4.7
Vegetation cover (%)	46.56 $\pm$ 1.87	47.89 $\pm$ 3.27
Water depth (cm)	42.83 $\pm$ 3.72	42.70 $\pm$ 3.94

**Table S2.** Descriptive statistics of environmental variables measured at successful and depredated nests of water rail (mean  $\pm$  se). For categorical variables (vegetation species, vegetation stage) the percentage of nests in each category is shown. In vegetation species only three most common species are included.

Variable	Successful nests ( <i>n</i> = 19)	Depredated nests ( <i>n</i> = 31)
<b>Landscape scale</b>		
Arable land (%)	18.28 $\pm$ 4.59	13.48 $\pm$ 3.63
Urbanized area (%)	1.13 $\pm$ 0.65	1.18 $\pm$ 0.42
Emergent vegetation (%)	11.77 $\pm$ 1.21	14.22 $\pm$ 1.21
Woodie vegetation (%)	3.09 $\pm$ 0.81	3.62 $\pm$ 0.64
Water body shape (m/ha)	694.9 $\pm$ 67.7	613.0 $\pm$ 34.9
Water body fragmentation (ha/m)	0.187 $\pm$ 0.031	0.236 $\pm$ 0.052
<b>Territory scale</b>		
Reed cover (%)	18.99 $\pm$ 6.12	5.95 $\pm$ 1.90
Sedges cover (%)	3.68 $\pm$ 3.13	10.61 $\pm$ 3.58
Willow cover (%)	10.29 $\pm$ 4.35	8.93 $\pm$ 2.75
Open water(%)	5.18 $\pm$ 2.37	7.45 $\pm$ 2.25
Vegetation density (%)	47.24 $\pm$ 2.54	33.84 $\pm$ 2.11
Water depth (cm)	15.35 $\pm$ 1.88	16.96 $\pm$ 1.98
<b>Nest-site scale</b>		
Vegetation species ( <i>Typha</i> spp.)	42.1%	45.2%
Vegetation species ( <i>Carex</i> spp.)	26.3%	35.5
Vegetation species ( <i>Juncus effusus</i> )	15.8%	6.5%
Vegetation stage (previous years)	42.1%	45.3%
Vegetation stage (mixed) <sup>c</sup>	52.6%	51.6%
Vegetation height (cm)	122.7 $\pm$ 9.7	104.4 $\pm$ 5.8
Vegetation cover (%)	68.42 $\pm$ 3.25	58.39 $\pm$ 2.97
Water depth (cm)	16.46 $\pm$ 2.33	17.69 $\pm$ 1.86