

Seminar „Experience exchange – restoration of sensitive biotopes in protected areas”

*May 5 - 7 2009, Dzūkija National Park,
Marcinkonys, Lithuania*

AGENDA

Tuesday, May 5

9.00 – 13.00	Arrival of guests, registration
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Opening of the workshop <i>By EUROPARC Nordic-Baltic Section President Mr Thomas Hansson and Dzūkija National Park Director Mr Eimutis Gudelevičius</i>
14.15	Threatened habitats of Dzūkija National Park and experience of their restoration <i>By Mr. Eugenijus Drobelis and Mr. Mindaugas Lapelė, Dzūkija National Park</i>
15.00	Active management of wetland habitats in Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve <i>By Mr. Arūnas Pranaitis, Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve</i>
15.45	Restoration of Biological Diversity in Military Training Area and Natura 2000 site “Adazi”, LIFE-project, Latvia <i>By Ms. Ieva Mārdega, LIFE-project asisstant</i>
16.30	Coffee break
17.00	Questions and discussion
19.00	Dinner and social activity

Wednesday, May 6

08.00	Breakfast
09.00	Restoration of hydrology in Komosse Nature Reserve, Sweden <i>By Dr. Johan Rova, Jönköping, County Administrative board and Swedish Environmental Protection Agency</i>
09.45	Restoration of deciduous forest in Söderåsen National Park, Sweden <i>By Mr Roland Larsson, Forest Engineer, Söderåsen National Park, Skåne County Administrative Board</i>
10.30	Restoration of Lake Hornborga, Lake Hornborga Nature Reserve, Sweden <i>By Mr Peder Hedberg-Fält, Hornborgasjön Nature Reserve, County Administrative Board of Västra Götaland</i>
11.15	Coffee break
11.45	Questions and discussion, conclusions, open discussion points/needs for further discussions
13.00	Lunch
14.00	Field trip to Musteika heathland, museum of traditional bee-keeping and Skroblus river valley
18.00	Picnic in nature

Thursday, May 7

08.00	Breakfast
09.00	Departure

Short summaries of the presentations

Threatened habitats of Dzūkija National Park and experience of their restoration

Mr. Eugenijus Drobelis and Mr. Mindaugas Lapele

Dzūkija National Park is famous by traditional cultural landscape – mosaic of small fields, meadows and pastures scattered in large area of forests. Due to socio-economical and demographic changes use of such areas is almost ceased and we have observed sharp declining of open habitats, which are valuable for many protected species. To improve the situation management of wet and dry meadows was organized as well as maintaining of habitats, suitable for black grouse.

Active management of wetland habitats in Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve

Mr. Arūnas Pranaitis, Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve

Fens, wet grassland, shallow lake vegetation provides important habitats for many animals and plants in Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve area. Because of restrictions in the protected area traditional land use was ceased there. Lack of management gave negative effects for biodiversity. Fens overgrowing by reeds, higher plants and bushes, *Salix* sp and trees, *Alnus* and *Betula* are main threats for Žuvintas wetland. Breeding wading birds and ducks species were replaced by other bird fauna benefited by overgrowing there.

Cattle grazing and mowing was restored in several parts of Žuvintas fens according to the Management Plan of the Reserve since 2007. Cutting submerged vegetation in the Lake positively effected populations of breeding birds.

Restoration of Biological Diversity in a Military Training Area and the Natura 2000 site “Adazi”, LIFE-project, Latvia

Ms. Ieva Mārdega, LIFE-project assistant

During period 1.11.2006-31.12.2009 State Agency for Defense Properties as beneficiary is implementing European Commission co-financed LIFE-Nature project „Restoration of Biological Diversity in Military Training Area and NATURA 2000 site „Adazi””. Its main objectives are

- integrating military and nature conservation interests;
- restoration of nature values and maintaining them in favorable conservation status.

In order to reach the objectives, three main types of actions are carried out:

- habitat restoration and maintenance actions;
- restriction measures;
- education actions.

This presentation will give insight into habitat restoration actions. We are restoring heath habitats (area of 1040 ha), meadows and inland dunes (35 ha) and raised bog habitats (306 ha) by mowing and cutting of bushes and trees, regulating the water level and burning. Quality of freshwater habitats is restored in oligotrophic Lake Mazuika and mezotrophic Lake Lieluika.

Restoration of hydrology in Komosse Nature reserve, Sweden

Dr. Johan Rova

Komosse Nature Reserve and Natura 2000 site (Jönköping County, southern Sweden) is one of the largest raised bogs in southern Sweden. The central part of the raised bog is relatively untouched, but most of the fens surrounding the bog has been drained in order to increase timber production. In this project, an attempt was made to restore hydrology in parts of the transition zone between bog and forest. The major aim was to regenerate the fens, swamp forests, and wet meadows that once bordered the raised bog. Different types of dams has been evaluated, and a monitoring program has been set up for ground water level, water chemistry, and changes in vegetation.

Restoration of deciduous forest in Söderåsen National Park, Sweden

Mr Roland Larsson, Forest Engineer

A presentation of how and why a restoration of a former production forests into ("semi"-) natural forests is made. The project includes nature conservation and adapted management of a deciduous forest.

Restoration of Lake Hornborga, Lake Hornborga Nature Reserve, Sweden

Mr Peder Hedberg-Fält

Five times the water level was lowered in Lake Hornborga, southern Sweden, causing a total alteration of the ecosystem of the lake. Before the drainage projects the lake was considered to be one of the prime bird lakes in Sweden. Following a government decision, a unique restoration programme began during the latter part of the 1980s with the aim of recreating a functioning bird lake. The restoration has taken more than 30 years and is probably one of the most ambitious wetland restoration in Europe.”

Including the film: “Returning a lake to nature”