Expert input sheet

Conservation and management of Continental Grassland in Poland

Contributor
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Habitat(s):
6230 - Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)

Biogeographical region:
Continental

Member state:
Poland

Region(s) (if applicable):
śląskie voivodship

Issues and pressures
6230

K02 biocenotic evolution, succession

Moving away from traditional management methods in the Pilica river valley which results in succession leading to impoverishment of the floral community due to the disappearance of many light-loving species.

Conservation requirements
6230

Appropriate management/usage of the site regarding mowing, mowing and grazing and grazing as required by the appropriate agri-environment scheme in the frame of the current RDP, whose aim is to safeguard the natural habitat.

Removal of trees and shrubs and, in case the appear in the area.

Conservation management
6230

Appropriate management/usage of the site regarding mowing, mowing and grazing and grazing.

Removal of trees and shrubs and, in case the appear in the area.
Species specific management: 
Yes

6184  Phengaris nausithous  
1758 (Ligularia sibirica)

Barriers and bottlenecks  
Lack of complete data at the moment of creation of areas to be included in Natura 2000.

Restricted circle of experts who have the theoretical and practical knowledge.

No understanding of the need for nature conservation in the frame of the Natura 2000 network on the side of the society.

Negative attitude of owners and site managers to conduct activities in Natura 2000.

Lack of financial means to finance activities or difficult access to those funds.

Solutions and opportunities  
Educational activities.

Consultations.

Easy system for financing activities.

Cross cutting issues  
Launching integrated programs e.g. Life.

Straying away from traditional management, e.g. mowing or mowing and grazing in favour or introducing crops, aorestation, or conversion or farmland into sites for construction or services constitutes an important problem for maintaining protected non-forest habitats. Also leaving land as fallow for too long has a negative impact on the environment as it leads to natural succession, overgrowing of habitats and sometimes even irreversible change in a habitat.

It is therefore important to create a system of funding in the form of agri-environment schemes for farmers who manage land in those areas and create effective incentives to use it. Subsidies for those managing on Natura 2000 sites according to recommendations following from planning documents must be much more profitable than outside of this nature conservation area type. It is necessary to create a system which functions by itself and generates profits from pro-environmental activities, e.g. generating local brands and local products, a network of ecotourism farms of an appropriate standard (focusing on development of tourism which is environmentally friendly).
Realising an integrated Life at the national level dedicated to pilot areas where the above mentioned mechanism will be created and will be multiplied, also through indicating to private persons and local governments the possibilities for activities that support both development and environment.

Activising local inhabitants.

**Lessons learned / best practice**
Lack of experience.

**Opportunities for joint action**
Lack of knowledge.

**References**
Conservation management plans of Natura 2000 sites: Zarządzenie nr 38/2013 Regionalnego Dyrektora Ochrony Środowiska w Katowicach z dnia 31 grudnia 2013 r. w sprawie ustanowienia planu zadań ochronnych dla obszaru Natura 2000 Cieszyńskie Źródła Tufowe PLH240001 (Dz. Urz. Woj. Śl. z dnia 8 stycznia 2014 r. poz. 118)

Zarządzenie Regionalnego Dyrektora Ochrony Środowiska w Katowicach z dnia 24 kwietnia 2014 r. w sprawie ustanowienia planu zadań ochronnych dla obszaru Natura 2000 Podziemia Tarnogórsko-Bytomskie (Dz. Urz. Woj. Śl. z dnia 29 kwietnia 2014r. poz. 2576).

Zarządzenie nr 32/2012 Regionalnego Dyrektora Ochrony Środowiska w Katowicach z dnia 24 grudnia 2012 r. w sprawie ustanowienia planu zadań ochronnych dla obszaru Natura 2000 Suchy Młyn PLH240016 (Dz. Urz. Woj. Śl. z dnia 24 grudnia 2012 r. poz. 6035)

Zarządzenie nr 36/2013 Regionalnego Dyrektora Ochrony Środowiska w Katowicach z dnia 23 grudnia 2013 r. w sprawie ustanowienia planu zadań ochronnych dla obszaru Natura 2000 Graniczny Meander Odry PLH240013 (Dz. Urz. Woj. Śl. z dnia 30 grudnia 2013 r. poz. 7874)