GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

Name: Rødme Svinehaver (H241)

Total site surface area (ha): 41 **NUTS region code**: DK008
Project site surface area (ha): 41

Community protection status: SPA[1] ❍ **NATURA 2000 Code:**
pSCI ⊕ **NATURA 2000 Code**: DK008X328

Other protection status:
Protected under the general provision for nature types of the Act on Nature Conservation (§ 3);
Specific protection measures according to a Conservation Order of 7 November 1939 apply to 7,2 ha the site.

Scientific description of site :
Rødme Svinehaver is situated in the hilly moraine landscape of Egebjerg Bakker. Rødme Svinehaver is one of the largest and furthermore the best example of a dry grassland habitat on the Island of Fyn. The site is very interesting both from a nature conservation and a historical point of view as the grasslands has been utilised for grazing through centuries. On a map from 1798 - made for the purpose of the reform of ownership and displacement of farmsteads - the site is shown with a legend of heath land. Before the reform the site was part of a larger common belonging to the nearby village of Rødme.

The present areas of dry grassland are believed never to have been cultivated, supported by the fact that boulders are seen everywhere on the surface of the ground and the existence of anthills from *Lasius flavus.* Furthermore bushes of *Crataegus laevigata* and *Malvus sp*. indicate by their spherical appearance the existence of grazing for a long time period.

The vegetation has a high species diversity and contains many rare plant species, as fertilizers never has been used at the area. The plant species *Arnica montana* has its only known habitat in Fyns County at this site. In addition there are significant populations of the orchid species *Dactylorhiza maculate*, *Dactylorhiza majalis*, *Platanthera clorantha* and *Platanthera bifolia ssp. bifolia.*

In addition to the areas of dry grassland of high quality the site contains a moor and a pond both with a high number of plant species including rare species.

The site is considered to by a core area for biological diversity from where species including rare species can spread to other less valuable grasslands In the region.

[1] SPA= special protected area pSCI= potential sites for community interest

Importance of the site for the conservation of the species/habitat types targeted at regional, national and EU level (give quantifiable information wherever possible) :
The central part of the site holds the best specimen of 6230* Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe) in the County of Fyn. On a national level the site is considered to be a standard specimen of the habitat type 6230* in respect of its vegetation structure, the long continuity in the grazing regime and its biological diversity
Rødme Svinehaver is considered to be outstanding at a national level.

MAP OF THE SITE OR SITES

The map or, where relevant, maps, at a scale of 1:100.000 (or more precise if necessary).

They must show the following information :

- for Member States - the boundaries of the area proposed by the Member State under the Habitats Directive or classified under the Birds Directive. Always verify with the competent national authorities, that the boundaries you have are the official one for the sites targeted
- for 2004 accession countries and candidate countries – the boundaries of the protected area
- the boundaries of the project area
- the location of the principal actions listed in section C of the form

☞ *This map can be presented on a format larger than A4, if necessary.*

Map no:

7.1: Project area and pSCI.
7.2: Current distribution of targeted habitats.
7.3: Ownership.
7.4: Location of management and restoration.
7.5: Areas grazed; currently and foreseen at end of project.

THESE MAPS ARE CONSIDERED AS BEING AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE APPLICATION.

THEY MUST BE OF GOOD QUALITY, SHOWING THE SCALE, AND CONTAIN ALL THE REQUISITE INFORMATION LISTED ABOVE.

HABITATS DIRECTIVE ANNEX I {AND BERN CONVENTION RESOLUTION N° 4 (1996)} HABITAT TYPES PRESENT IN THE SITE AND DIRECTLY TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

Priority ? : *Tick if the habitat type is a priority one according to Annex I of the Habitats Directive.*
Code : *Use only the NATURA 2000 codes (for habitats only listed in the Bern Convention resolution use the corresponding code)*
Name : *Name of the habitat type according to the Habitats Directive (or the Bern Convention resolution).*
% : *% cover of the habitat type over the whole project site.*

Priority	Code	Name	%	Comments (conservation status,etc.)
DIRECTLY TARGETED HABITATS DIRECTIVE ANNEX I HABITAT TYPES				
	6210	Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (* important orchid sites)	2*	Cover: 1 ha Representativity: A Relative surface: C Conservation status: A Global assessment: A ***Inside project area <1 ha***. ***(6210*)***
X	6230	* Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas (and submountain areas in Continental Europe)	12*	Cover: 5 ha Representativity: A Relative surface: C Conservation status: A Global assessment: A ***Inside project area 7 ha***.
CANDIDATE COUNTRIES: DIRECTLY TARGETED HABITAT TYPESACCORDING TO THE BERN CONVENTION RESOLUTION N° 4 (1996)				

* The percentages given is relative to the ***total*** area of the pSCI. Information of the FFH representation inside the project area is listed in the “comments” column.

HABITATS DIRECTIVE ANNEX II {AND BERN CONVENTION RESOLUTION N° 6 (1998)} SPECIES PRESENT IN THE SITE AND DIRECTLY TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

G : ***GROUP: M=Mammals, A=Amphibians, R=Reptiles, F= Fish, I=Invertebrates, P=Plants***

Priority ? : ***Tick if the species is a priority one according to Annex II of the Habitats Directive***

DIRECTLY TARGETED HABITATS DIRECTIVE ANNEX II SPECIES						
G	Priority	SCIENTIFIC NAME (IN LATIN)	POPULATION SIZE FOR THE SITE (quantitative estimates)			
			RESIDENT	MIGRATORY		
				BREEDING	WINTERING	STAGING
CANDIDATE COUNTRIES: DIRECTLY TARGETED SPECIESACCORDING TO						

Comments (conservation status if known, other listed species that will benefit ,etc) :

BIRDS DIRECTIVE ANNEX I {OR BERN CONVENTION RESOLUTION N° 6 (1998)} SPECIES PRESENT IN THE SITE AND DIRECTLY TARGETED BY THE PROJECT

Priority : ***Tick if the species is a "priority for funding under LIFE" according to the ORNIS Committee (see list in Annex 2 of this brochure).***

Priority	SCIENTIFIC NAME (IN LATIN)	POPULATION SIZE FOR THE SITE (quantitative estimates)			
		RESIDENT	MIGRATORY		
			BREEDING	WINTERING	STAGING
DIRECTLY TARGETED ANNEX I SPECIES OF THE BIRDS DIRECTIVE					
CANDIATE COUNTRIES: DIRECTLY TARGETED SPECIESACCORDING TO THE BERN CONVENTION RESOLUTION N° 6 (1998)					
OTHER MIGRATORY SPECIES DIRECTLY TARGETED BY THE PROJECT					

Comments (conservation status if known, other listed species that will benefit etc) :

MAIN THREATS TO THE HABITATS/SPECIES TARGETED WITHIN THE SITES INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT

Threat 1:
Name of the threat:
Lack of grazing or inappropriate grazing regimes.

Description:
Traditional husbandry grazing has almost ceased in dry grasslands in Denmark. Most semi-natural grassland fragments are less attractive for grazing as they represent small distant places with relatively high cost of fencing and water supply for the livestock. On dry grasslands with lack of grazing or insufficient grazing pressure an overgrowth will take place, initially with tall grasses and herbal species invading from nearby areas including non-native species but also an initial overgrowth with scrubs and trees such as *Rosa sp., Prunus spinosa* and *Abies alba*.
The microclimate will change resulting in unfavourable changes to the composition of the plant community and especially to the abundance of key plant species as well as insect species associated with the vegetation of open dry grassland. Summer grazing at a very high grazing pressure may be detrimental too. Although it may help controlling for potentially dominant herbs and grasses, this will often be at the expense of sensitive plant species and invertebrate species depending on flowering vegetation.

Location: (if relevant)

Impact on habitat/species (quantify if possible)
Grazing are needed for 14 ha of dry grassland at this site

Threat 2:
Name of the threat:
Encroachment with woody species (shrubs and trees)

Description:
As a result of the influence of threat 1 'Lack of grazing or insufficient grazing pressure' overgrowth with shrubs and trees over a maximum acceptable threshold have taken place. Overgrowth has been categorized into four degrees of overgrowth:
Overgrowth degree I: 5-25% cover of shrubs and trees
Overgrowth degree II: 25-50% cover of shrubs and trees
Overgrowth degree III: 50-75% cover of shrubs and trees
Overgrowth degree IV: > 75% cover of shrubs and trees

Location (if relevant)
The location of areas with overgrowth is shown on the site map.

Impact on habitat/species (quantify if possible):
Impact on at this site from overgrowth:
Overgrowth degree I: 7 ha
Overgrowth degree II: 0 ha
Overgrowth degree III: 0 ha
Overgrowth degree IV: 5 ha

Threat 5:
Name of the threat:
Low or no support for the conservation of dry grassland among landowners and the public

Description:
There is among landowners and their professional organisations as well as among the public in general a low level of understanding of the crucial importance of the unique qualities of dry grasslands. That goes both for their characteristics as habitat types as well as for their contribution to the conservation of biodiversity in Denmark and Europe. Dry grasslands does not have such spectacular appearances as other habitat types, and there is thus a need for promotion of the assets of dry grasslands among landowners and in the local communities in order to gain support for their conservation.

Location: (if relevant)
Not relevant

Impact on habitat/species (quantify if possible):
The future protection of dry grassland habitats in Denmark will depend to a large degree on the cooperation between nature managers, experts and local landowners. The valuable grassland area is divided on a very large number of small remnant grassland fragments, and conservation efforts can thus not be focused in a few large reserves. The limited knowledge basis of local landowners is considered a serious constraint to a successful future conservation of grassland habitats.

Threat 6:
Name of the threat:
Insufficient management capacity

Description:
There are shortcomings in the capacity of staff of the counties nature conservation departments responsible for managing privately owned land and of the state forest districts of the Danish Forest and Nature Agency responsible for government owned land concerning management of dry grasslands. There is a need for training in the range of adequate management techniques and up-to-date knowledge on the latest research results as well as an exchange of experience between managers.

Location: (if relevant)
National level

Impact on habitat/species (quantify if possible):
Insufficient capacity concerning management methods will lead to delays in implementation of adequate conservation measures and possibly introduction of inappropriate management measures.

Threat 7:
Name of the threat:
Adverse impacts from visitors (tourists)

Description:
At sites known to be visited by large number of people, either local or tourists, due to their natural beauty or proximity to mayor tourist attractions, deterioration is a threat to the favourable conservation status. Potential conflicts with visitors and grazing cattle, sheep or horses and the wear and tear from visitors might de-motivate farmers from providing livestock for an appropriate grazing of the grasslands or from entering into management agreements at all.

Location: (if relevant)

Impact on habitat/species (quantify if possible):
Large number of tourists will damage the sensitive vegetation by the tear imposed by their movements on the ground. Key plant species may be subject of illegal picking. Litter will be thrown. Grazing will not be optimal.

PREVIOUS CONSERVATION EFFORTS ON THE SITES IN QUESTION

Through the years - last time in year 2003 – clearings of overgrowth of bushes and trees have been made and a fence has been established to ensure continued grazing of the 7,2 ha preserved grassland area.

The grasslands of the site have been enlarged by 8 ha in southwards direction. In 1998 an agreement without time limits were entered between county of Fyn and the landowner to convert 8 ha or arable land not cultivated since 1992 into a grassland on the conditions of no use of pesticides and fertilisers, no cultivation and no sowing of grass species. The area is grazed by cattle and horses and no additional fodder will be given,

The County of Fyn has bought an estate situated east of the site whereof approx 14 ha is managed under the same regime as described above.

Within the site the original area of the priority habitat type 6230* of 5 ha. are through the above mentioned measures expected gradually to expand into a total of 29 ha.

THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT OF THE PROJECT

The site Rødme Svinehaver is situated in the central part of the larger Egebjerg Bakker, which is a recreational area of regional importance. Within the site The county of Fyn has bought 14 ha of former arable land with the aim of developing a recreational site for nature tourism and at the same time maintain and restore the nature conservation interest in particular the areas of habitat types 6210 and 6230*.

The local community is in support of this development and the County Nature Conservation Department has excellent working relations with the local landowners.

RELATION BETWEEN THE PROPOSAL AND OTHER EU FUNDS

See Form 26 Complementary of other EU Funds

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE SPECIES TARGETED

Name of the species:

Ecology of the species:

General distribution of the species at European and national level and population trends:

Size of the population target by the project (e.g. n° of individuals, % of European and/or national population):

Main threats to the population targeted:

Threat 1:

Name of the threat:

Description:

Impact on species:

Threat 2

Etc.

Conservation measures already taken or proposed for the species at Community or national level :

PROJECT AREA AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONTEXT

Brief description of the project area:

Socio-economic context:

Relation between the proposal and other EU funds