



Long-term Nature Management Planning on the Danish Military Areas

Riga October 2009

Presentation content

Introduction to Danish
Military areas

Experiences with long-term
nature management planning

- Military use
- Nature protection
- Recreational interests

Future Natura 2000 planning

Life projects



Presentation

Matilde Krogh Raahede:

- Employed in the Danish Ministry of Defence (2.division Ressources, 3. department Budget and Finance)
- Environmental strategy, physical planning, environment- and nature protection, areas and properties of the ministry.

Qualifications:

- Msc. in Forestry from University of Copenhagen



Nature management on military areas

- The Ministry of Defence
- Defence Command Denmark
- Danish Defence Estates & Infrastructure Organisation



Danish Military areas

33.000 ha. used by the Army,
Airforce, Navy, Home Guard and the
Police

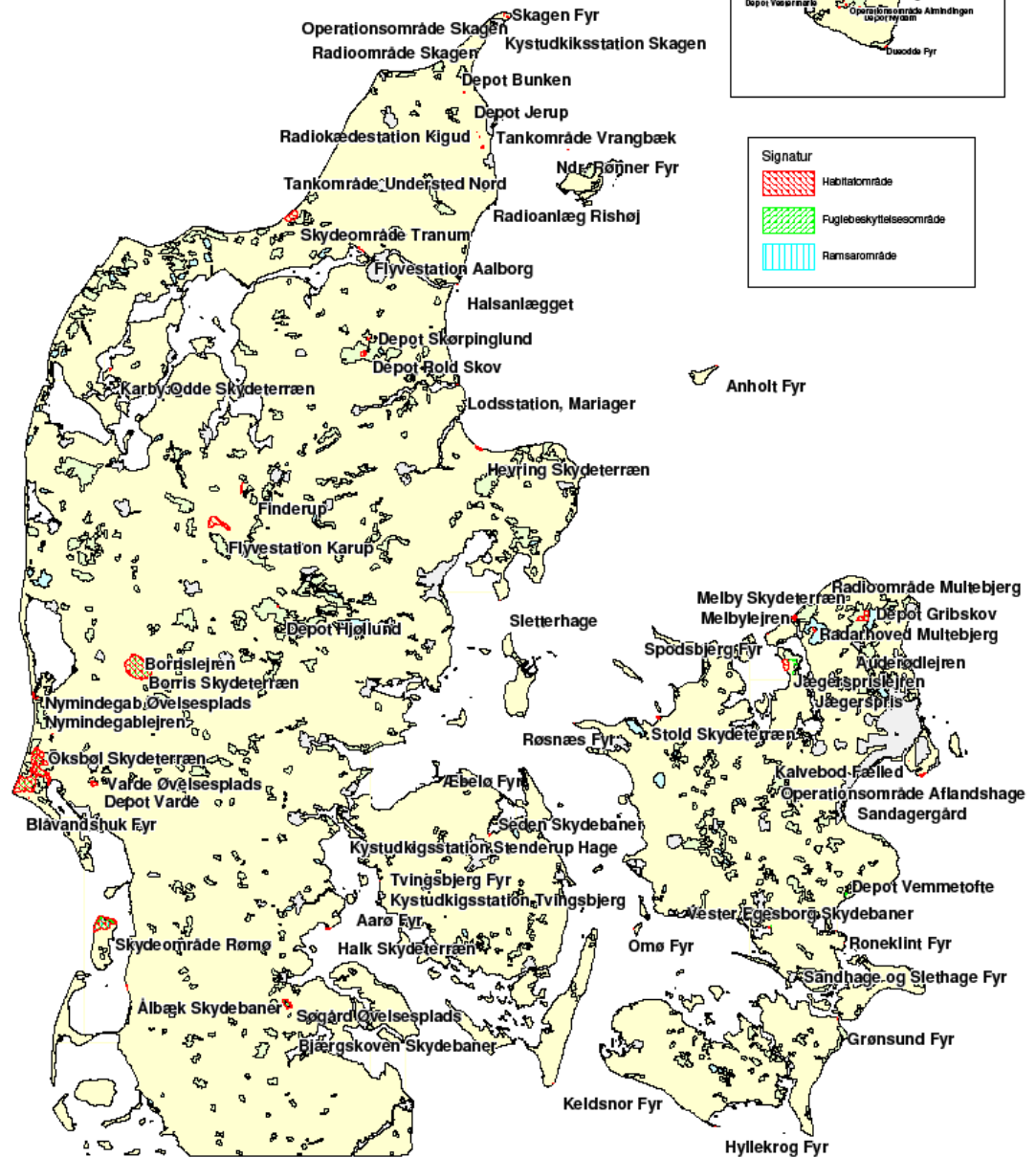
Primary nature habitats:

- Forest 5.000 ha
 - Heath 9.500 ha
 - Dry grassland 7.000 ha
 - Dune 1.500 ha
 - Coastal meadows 700 ha
 - Freshwater meadows 1.700 ha
 - Marshes 2.500 ha
-
- 45 % protected by the Danish Nature protection Act. The Defence are obliged to make active nature management (since 1993)
 - 45 % Natura 2000 (Birdprotection and Habitat)



Natura 2000

Etablissemeter med Natura 2000



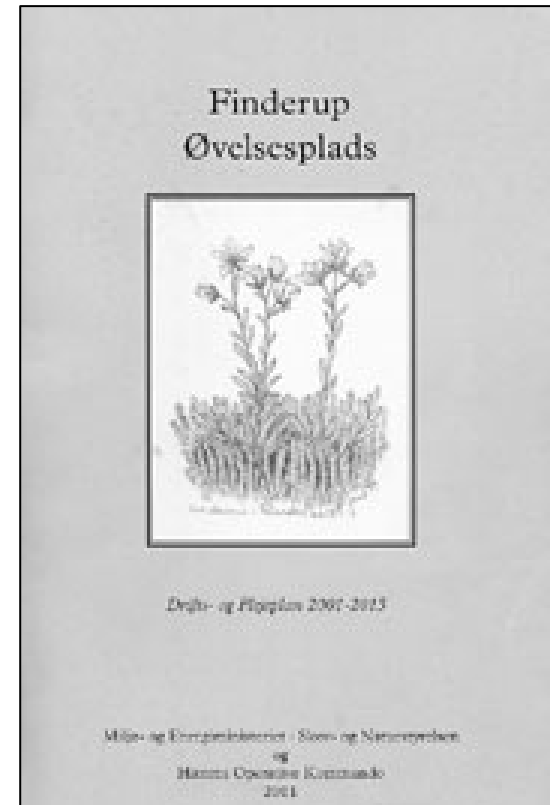
Nature values on Danish military grounds

- Most military areas was created 50-60 years ago – the areas has only been used for military training
- Today the military areas contains nature values of national and international priority
- Authorities and different NGOs has got interest in the Defence nature management



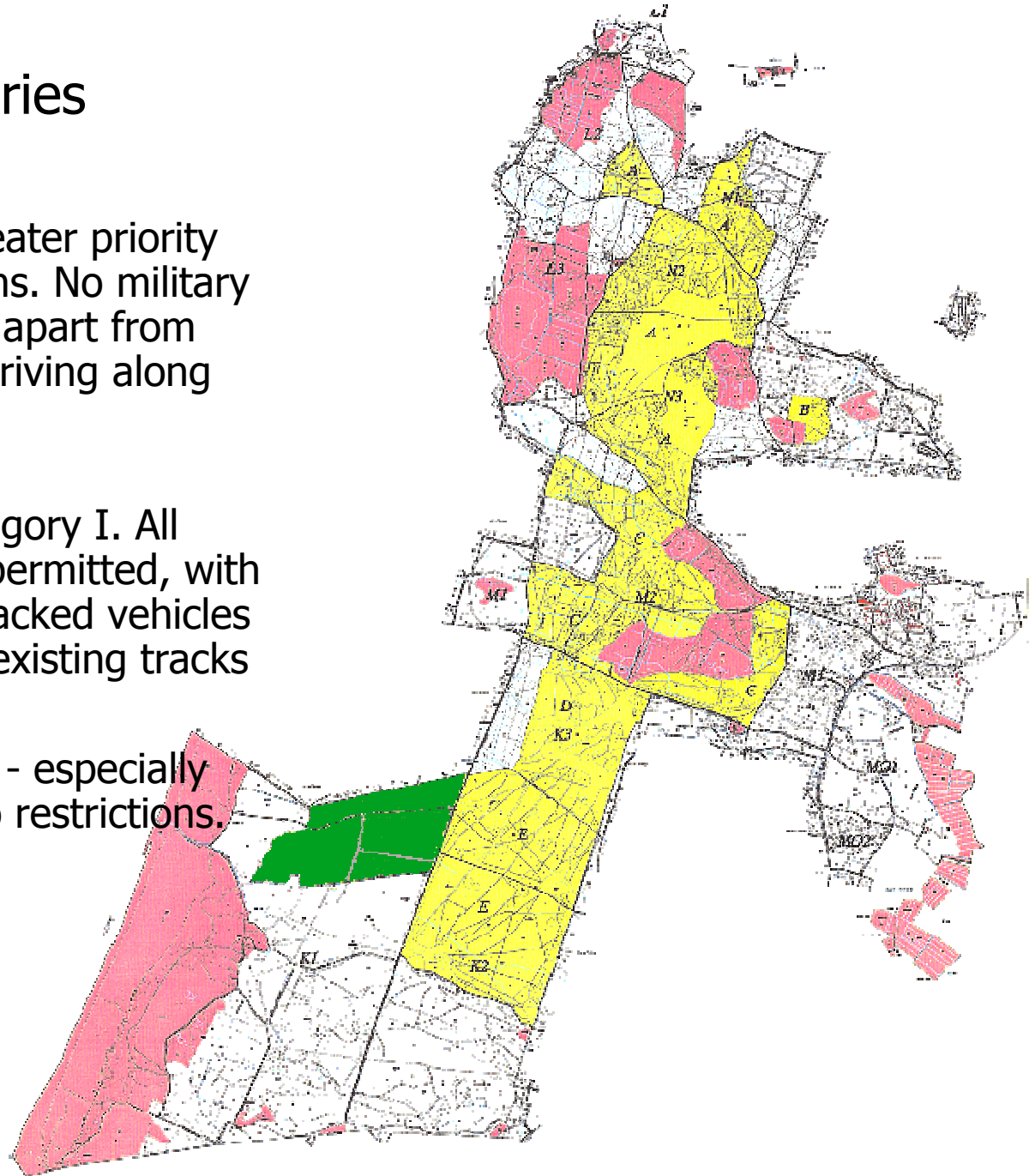
Nature Management Plans (NMP)

- Part of the Danish Defence Ministry Environmental Strategy adopted in 1993:
Trough positive co-operation with other authorities, the Ministry of Defence will...work to conserve, protect and, if possible, restore the environment and nature...”
- Aim: keep and create optimal military training grounds while at the same time conserving nature



NMP - Categories

1. Natural values have greater priority than military applications. No military activities are permitted apart from travelling on foot and driving along existing roads
2. Not as sensitive as category I. All military activities are permitted, with isolated restrictions. Tracked vehicles are to be driven along existing tracks
3. Intensive exercise area - especially for tracked vehicles. No restrictions.



NMP Experiences

- From 1993-2007 The Forest and Nature Agency made Nature Management Plans for 46 military areas.
- The NMP are long-term (15. years) binding agreements between MOD and MOE
- NMP nr. 1. was Oksbøl in 1993
- From 2007 the Danish Defence took over the nature management planning



NMP Experiences – military use

Through NMP the military use are restricted by:

- Compulsory tracks for tracked vehicles
- Traffic regulations
- Regulation of wetlands
- Designation of special shelling areas
- Designation of special exercise areas
- Designation of zones to be left undisturbed



NMP Experiences – Oksbøl military training

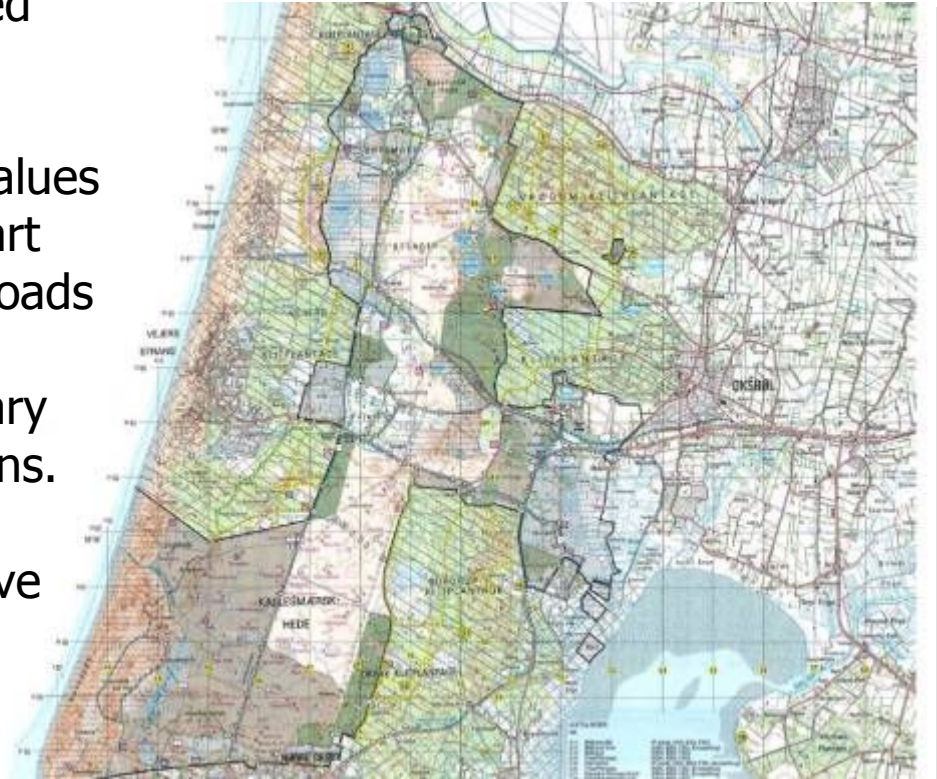
- Oksbøl is the largest and most important Military Training area in Denmark
- The Ministry of Defence owns 6.354 ha. The Forest and Nature Agency owns 8000 ha, that also is used for some military training
- The Training area is primarily created by expropriation
- Large scale military training:
 - Different military units are trained together before international missions etc.



NMP Experiences - Categories

The Training ground in Oksbøl are zoned into 3 categories:

- Category I: 1.416 ha (25%). Nature values > military use. No military activities apart from walking or driving along existing roads
- Category II: 3.259 ha (50%). All military activities are permitted. Some restrictions.
- Category III: 1.687 ha (25%): Intensive exercise area – especially for tracked vehicles.



Recreational interests

- There is a lot of recreational interest in military areas in DK: motocross, walkers, birdwatchers etc.
- Since 2003 the public has been giving access to military areas outside firing and training periods – the access is only limited at a few live firing areas
- There are almost no serious problems related to the public access



NMP Experiences - conclusions 1

- Today the NMP are an accepted and integrated part of the Danish Defence
- The NMP are well-known and accepted among authorities and NGO 's
- The NMP is an important tool for a targeted practical nature management effort
- The existing NMP and the acceptance of the planning idea makes the Danish Defence well prepared for implementation of Natura 2000



NMP Experiences - conclusions 2

- The long-term perspective in the NMP is important – continuity
- Military use is dynamic in time and space – NMP with a 15 year planning period might lose actuality
- Hence focus will be on digital NMP in the future to be able to adapt to new situations



Future MOE Natura 2000 planning

- Specific Natura 2000 plans made by the Danish MOE is to implemented by 2010
- The Defence will have to make supplementary Natura 2000 action plans to the existing NMP



Life projects

Danish sanddunes

(Life02nat/dk/008584)

- Restore sandune habitats
- Recroaching trees
(including non-native trees,
primarily pinus mugo)
- Mosaic burning
- Oksbøl part of the project

Future joint projects with the
Forest and Nature Agency

