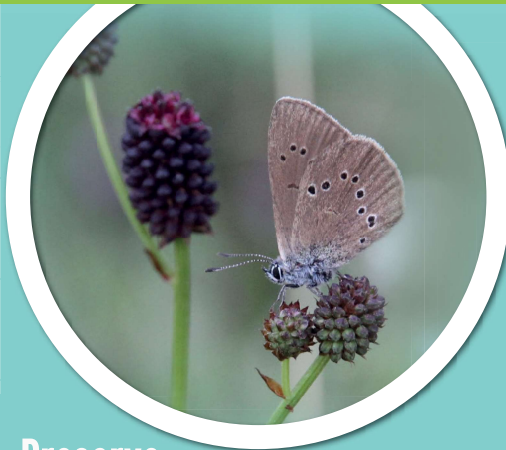


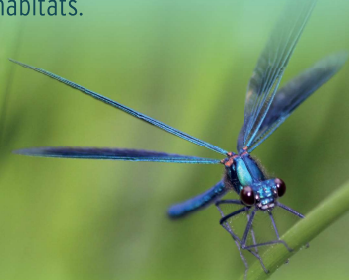
Conserve Natural Resources



Preserve habitats for biodiversity

Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas support high biodiversity, which is the variety of different kinds of plants and animals in an environment, because:

- They are large, uninhabited areas.
- There is very limited pesticide and insecticide use due to a lack of farming activity.
- Military training causes small land disturbances creating a diverse pattern of habitats.



Implement mitigation projects

Several projects were completed in recent years to restore and preserve valuable habitats. By German law and approval of local authorities, these projects can be accounted for mitigation. Examples are removing shrubs from open land, re-naturalizing creeks, or converting monoculture forests into mixed forests.



Manage European "NATURA 2000" sites

Because of an abundance of different habitats and biodiversity in military training areas, the Federal Republic of Germany nominated Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas as protected sites under the "EU Directive on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora." The training areas are refuges and stepping stones for protected species like greater horseshoe bat, white-tailed eagle, common crane, and European lynx.



Protect threatened and endangered species



Currently, there are almost 900 legally protected species in Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas. Some of these species like yellow-bellied toad, wood lark, and maiden pink thrive because of ongoing military training. They depend on small disturbances caused by natural reasons or military vehicles.

