

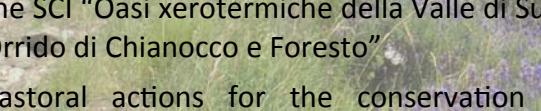
## THE EDUCATIONAL TRAILS

## ***“The xerothermic grasslands rich in orchids”***

## Notice boards of the “Monte Molaras” trail

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  1. The historical agro-pastoral management of the SCI “Oasi xerothermiche della Valle di Susa – Orrido di Chianocco e Foresto”
  2. Pastoral actions for the conservation and restoration of xerothermic grasslands
  3. The xerothermic grasslands rich in orchids
  4. The restoration of xerothermic grasslands encroached by trees and shrubs
  5. Natural environment and biodiversity in the “Xerothermic Oases”
  6. Junipers and other tree and shrub species in the “Xerothermic Oases”

## **Notice boards of the “Truc San Martino” trail**

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  1. The historical agro-pastoral management of the SCI “Oasi xerotermiche della Valle di Susa – Orrido di Chianocco e Foresto”
  2. Pastoral actions for the conservation and restoration of xerothermic grasslands
  3. The xerothermic grasslands rich in orchids
  4. The restoration of xerothermic grasslands encroached by trees and shrubs

## Important warnings:

The entire region is characterized by the presence of cliffs. Please pay particular attention walking through the paths indicated. The fences installed are intended only to contain grazing sheep and are not for the safety of people. Given the lack of water sources in the site and the high temperatures reached throughout all the year, it is always recommended to start with an appropriate supply of water, especially in the warmer months. The drinking troughs installed are destined for sheep and are filled with uncontrolled water. It is also strongly recommended to pay attention to the dogs trained to protect the flock.



## The educational trails

# *“The xerothermic grasslands rich in orchids”*



**For more information:**

### ***Alpi Cozie Protected Areas***

## ***Management Authority***

**Phone:** +39 0122 47064; +39 0122 854720

**E-mail:** segreteria.alpicozie@ruparpiemonte.it



[www.lifexerograzing.eu](http://www.lifexerograzing.eu)



# Semi-natural dry-grassland conservation and restoration in Valle Susa through grazing management



Within the SCI, these habitats are particularly valuable for their extent and the richness in orchids and rare species, but due to the progressive abandonment they are now threatened by tree and shrub encroachment and by changes in floristic composition. The project therefore intends to achieve habitat conservation and restoration defining management guidelines applicable in the SCI "Xerothermic Dases" and in other Natura 2000 areas.

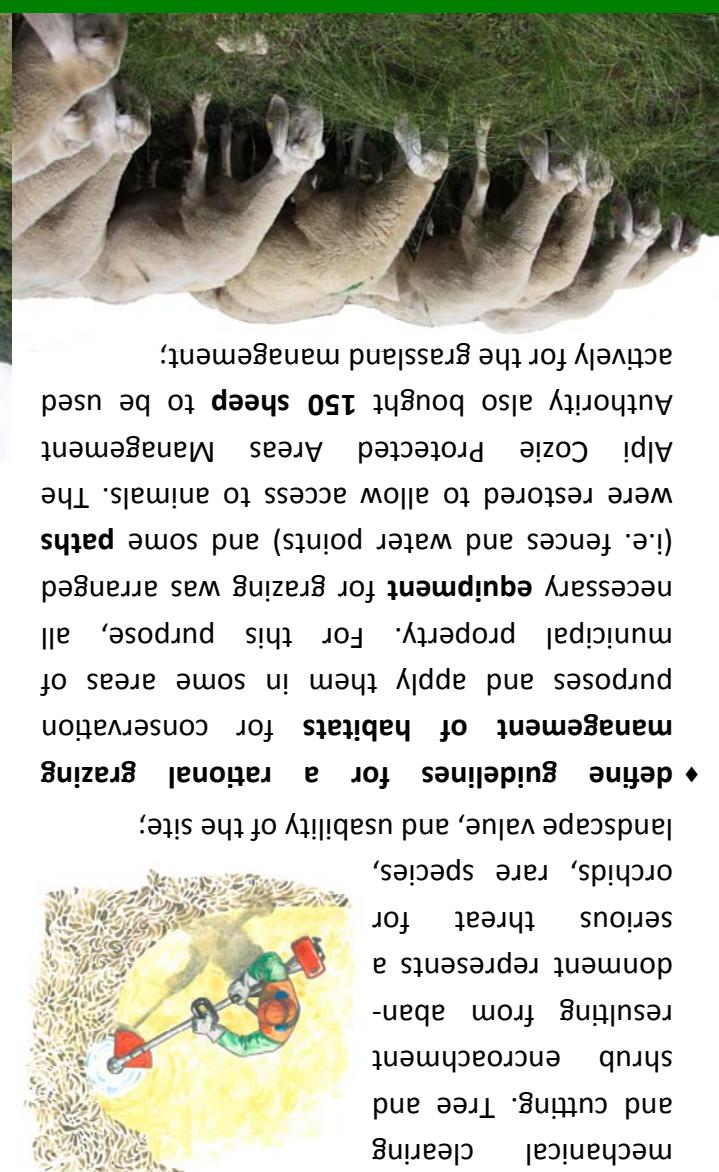
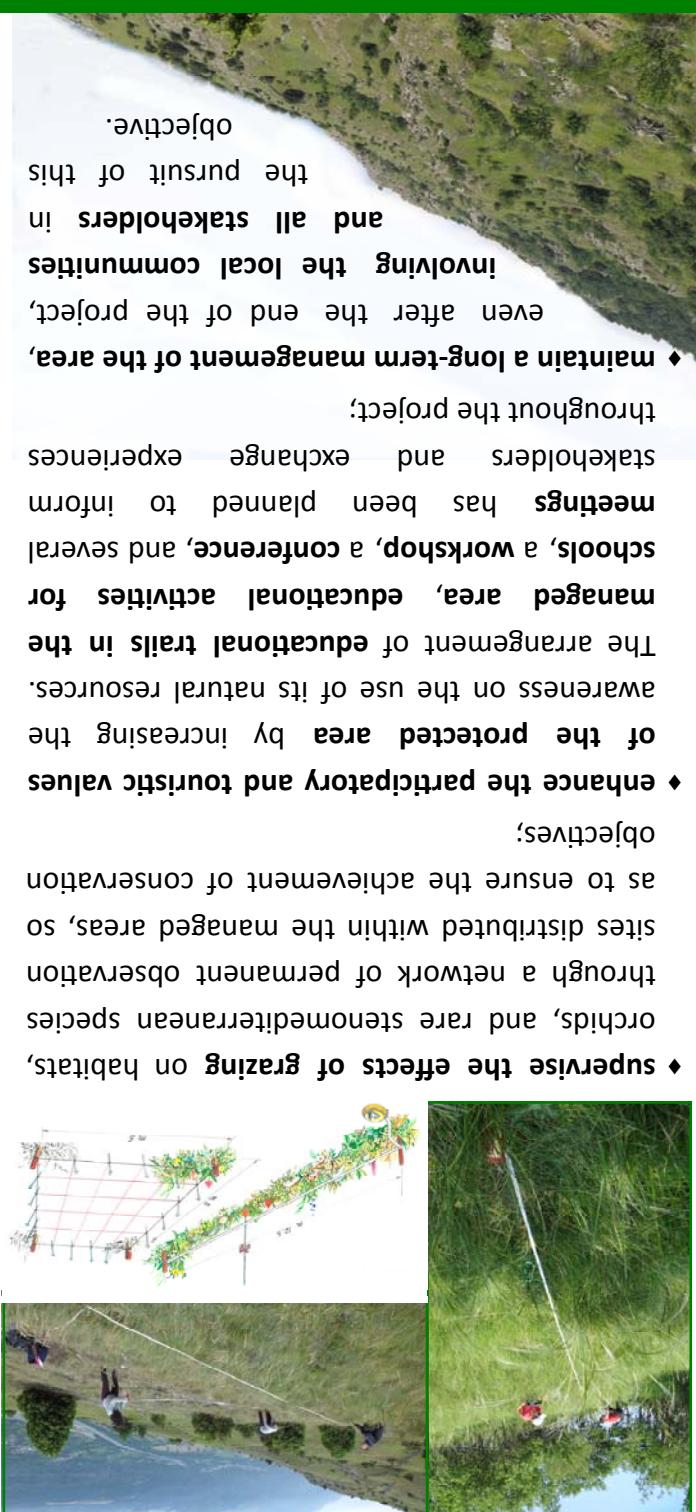
The Project aims to the conservation and restoration of priority habitats **6210\*** "Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates (*Festuco-Brometalia*)" (\*important orchid sites) and **6240\*** "Sub-Pannonic steppic grasslands" within a representative area of the SCI "Grasslands & Forests" (Biodiversity Site).



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LIFE AERO-GRAZING PROJECT

LIFE+ is a financial instrument which supports the environmental policy of the European Community. The programme finances innovative pilot actions, aimed at integrating issues of environmental protection with land-use planning and sustainable development. Grants are awarded to the best projects, especially those with highest practical content.



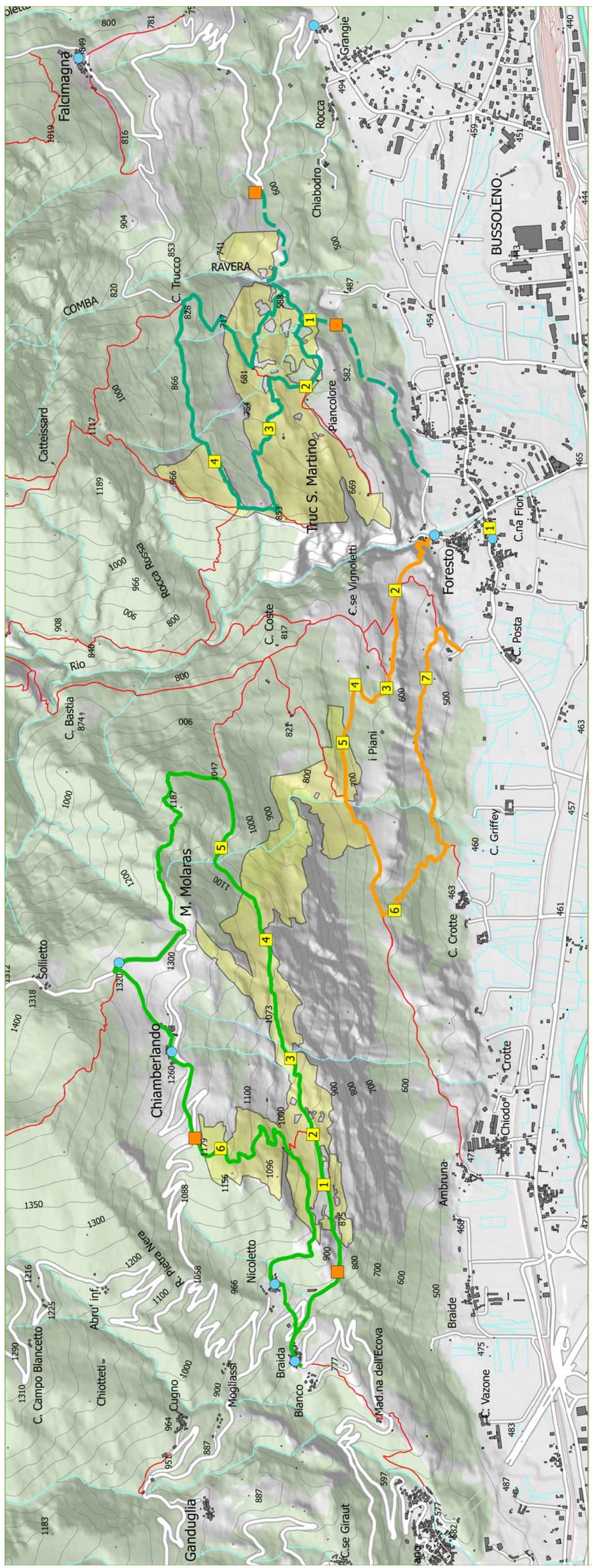
- restore shrub and tree-encroached grasslands

Specifically it aims to:

Mompanteiro municipalties will be involved.

The project will last for five years (deadline: June 2018) and the lands owned by Bussoleno and

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS



The GPS tracks of the educational trails "Monte Molaras" and "Truc San Martino" and the contents of the notice boards can be downloaded from the project website: [www.lifexerograzing.eu](http://www.lifexerograzing.eu). From this website you can also download the GPS track of the "Junipers' trail", a itinerary to discover the characteristics of the Riserva Naturale Speciale dell'Orrido di Foresto.

#### TRAIL "MONTE MOLARAS"

The "Monte Molaras" trail winds through the territory of Mompantero (TO) from Borgata Braida or, alternatively, from Chiamberlando. Both access points can be reached from Susa and Mompantero following the road signs to "Rocciamelone" along the Strada Statale S.S. n. 25. Access from Borgata Braida: after reaching Borgata Braida, about 4 km from Susa, leave the car and take the trail that starts underneath the chapel of the hamlet. Beyond the village, at the first crossroads, go straight to East on the trail. After about 10 minutes you will see the first information board dedicated to the LIFE Xero-grazing project.

Access from Chiamberlando: after Borgata Braida, continue towards Rocciamelone and, later, Chiamberto (white road). The access to the trail will be visible on the right just before reaching the hamlet, in correspondence to the first information board dedicated to the project.

#### TRAIL "TRUC SAN MARTINO"

The "Truc San Martino" trail winds through the territory of Bussoleno (TO) from Foresto or, alternatively, from Falcimagna. Access from Foresto: from Strada Statale S.S. n. 25 turn onto Via Rocciamelone following the road sign "Foresto" (about 3 km from Bussoleno center towards Susa). From Church Square walk along Via San Rocco. After about 100 m turn left onto a white road marked "Percorsi escursionistici". At the end of the road take the trail on the right. In about 10 minutes you will see the first information board dedicated to the LIFE Xero-grazing project.

Access from Falcimagna: after reaching Bussoleno, from Strada Statale S.S. n. 25 turn onto Via Cesare Battisti (white road). The access to the trail will be visible on the right onto Via Mazzini. Continue along the road towards Falcimagna for about 3 km. The access to the trail will be visible in correspondence to the first information board dedicated to the project.

