



1120 *Posidonia* beds (*Posidonion oceanicae*)

Habitat code	1120
Priority	Yes
Habitat group	Coastal habitats
Regions	Marine Mediterranean

Habitat 1120 *Posidonia* beds (*Posidonion oceanicae*)

The habitat 1120 *Posidonia* beds (*Posidonion oceanicae*) is only present in the Marine Mediterranean region. It is according to the Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats - EUR28, *Beds of Posidonia oceanica (Linnaeus) Delile characteristic of the infralittoral zone of the Mediterranean (depth: ranging from a few dozen centimetres to 30 - 40 metres)*. *On hard or soft substrate, these beds constitute one of the main climax communities. They can withstand relatively large variations in temperature and water movement, but are sensitive to desalination, generally requiring a salinity of between 36 and 39‰.*

The habitat is present in Cyprus, Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Malta and Slovenia the Marine Mediterranean region.

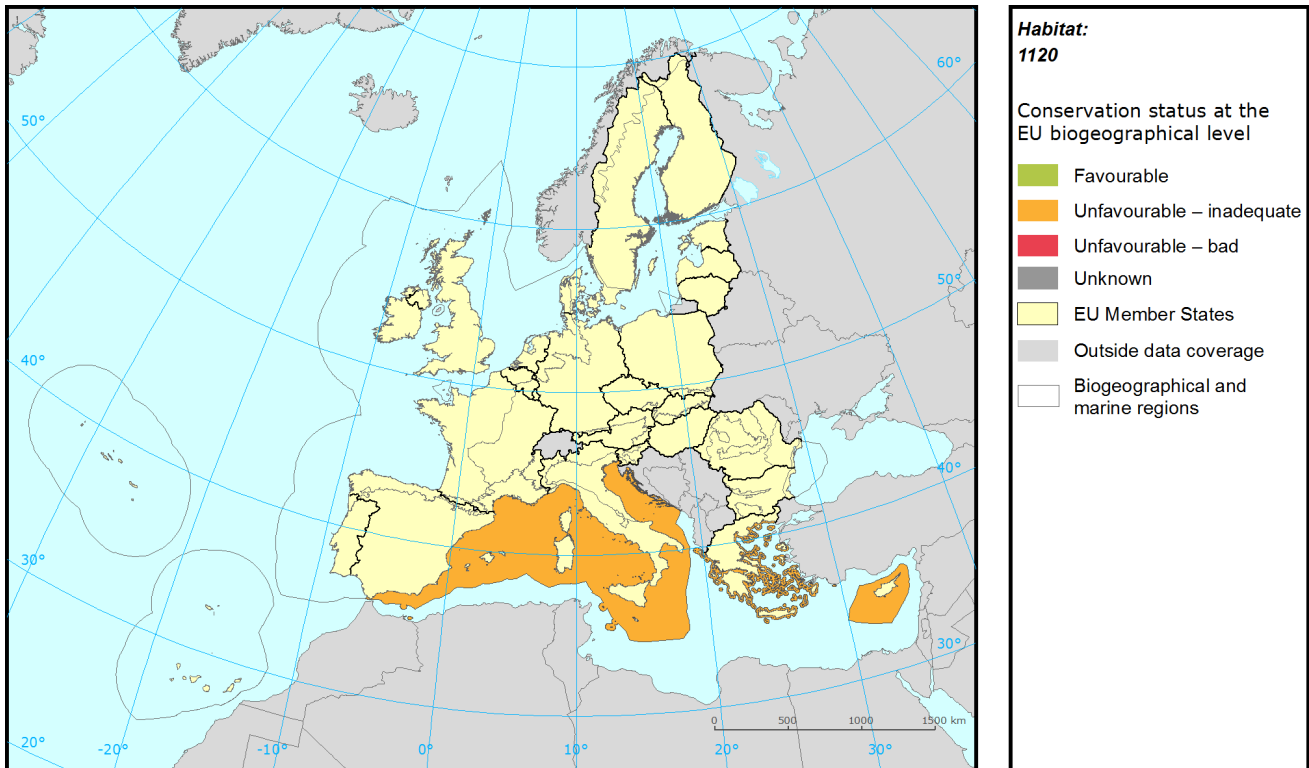
Overall conclusion is unfavorable- inadequate stable (U1), same as in 2001-2007. This is in agreement with the habitat's scientifically known unfavorable situation due to threats such as water quality deterioration due to coastal anthropic pressures and illegal trawling activities. Loss of the habitat and habitat destruction continues, often linked to tourism development.

Main pressures and threats reported are; mechanical damage such as benthic trawling, coastal sand supplementation/ beach nourishment and various constructions, but also water pollution, fishing and harvesting aquatic resources, marine and freshwater Aquaculture, and invasive non-native species.

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Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
MMED	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	=	100	U1	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Habitat: 1120

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|  Favourable |  EU Member States |
|  Unfavourable – inadequate |  Outside data coverage |
|  Unfavourable – bad |  Biogeographical and marine regions |
|  Unknown | |

The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a 10 km x 10 km grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

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MS Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & functions	Future prospects					
CY MMED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		4.5	U1+	Better data
ES MMED	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	24.4	XX	Changed method
FR MMED	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	15.0	U1	
GR MMED	XX	XX	U1+	U1+	U1+		1.2	U1+	
IT MMED	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	=	53.3	U1	Better data
MT MMED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.3	FV	
SI MMED	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV		0.4	U1	Better data

Knowing that not all changes in conservation status between the reporting periods were genuine, Member States were asked to give the reasons for changes in conservation status. Bulgaria and Romania only joined the EU in 2007 and Greece did not report for 2007-12 so no reason is given for change for these countries. Greek data shown above is from 2001-06.

Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

Member States were asked to report the 20 most important threats and pressures using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the [Article 17 Reference Portal](#). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the habitats and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance'; the tables below only show threats and pressures classed as 'high', for some habitats there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	29
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	14
F01	Marine and freshwater aquaculture	14
H03	Pollution to marine waters	14
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	14
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	14

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	27
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	9
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	9
F01	Marine and freshwater aquaculture	9
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	9
H03	Pollution to marine waters	9
I01	Invasive alien species	9
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	9
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	9

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

Member States were asked to report the area of the habitat which is covered by the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of the habitat area covered by the network was estimated by comparing the area within the network and the total area in the biogeographical/marine region.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

MMED	
CY	85
ES	25
FR	44
IT	x
MT	78
SI	100

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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Most frequently reported conservation measures

Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this habitat using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many habitats there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	38
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	23
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	8
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	8
7.2	Regulation/ Management of fishery in limnic systems	8
7.3	Regulation/ Management of fishery in marine and brackish systems	8
8.3	Managing marine traffic	8

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2007-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at:

<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/habitat/summary/?group=Coastal+habitats&period=3&subject=1120>

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i Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level: Current Conservation Status (Current CS) shows the status for the reporting period 2007-2012, Previous Conservation Status (Previous CS) for the reporting period 2000-2006. Reason for change in conservation status between the reporting periods indicates whether the changes in the status were genuine or not genuine. Previous Conservation Status was not assessed for Steppic, Black Sea and Marine Black Sea regions. For these regions the Previous status is therefore considered as 'unknown'. The percentage of the habitat area occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.

ii Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region: In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the habitat area and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece. The values are only provided for regions, in which the occurrence of the habitat has been reported by the Member States.