



1320 *Spartina* swards (*Spartinion maritimae*)

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Habitat code | 1320 |
| Priority | No |
| Habitat group | Coastal habitats |
| Regions | Atlantic, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean |

This habitat is dominated by grasses from the genus *Spartina* (cord-grasses) and occurs on coastal muds. As well as the native species of *Spartina*, the American species *Spartina alterniflora* and its hybrids such as *Spartina anglica* can be common and in many places are considered invasive aliens. The habitat is widespread along Atlantic coasts, it also occurs locally in the northern Adriatic.

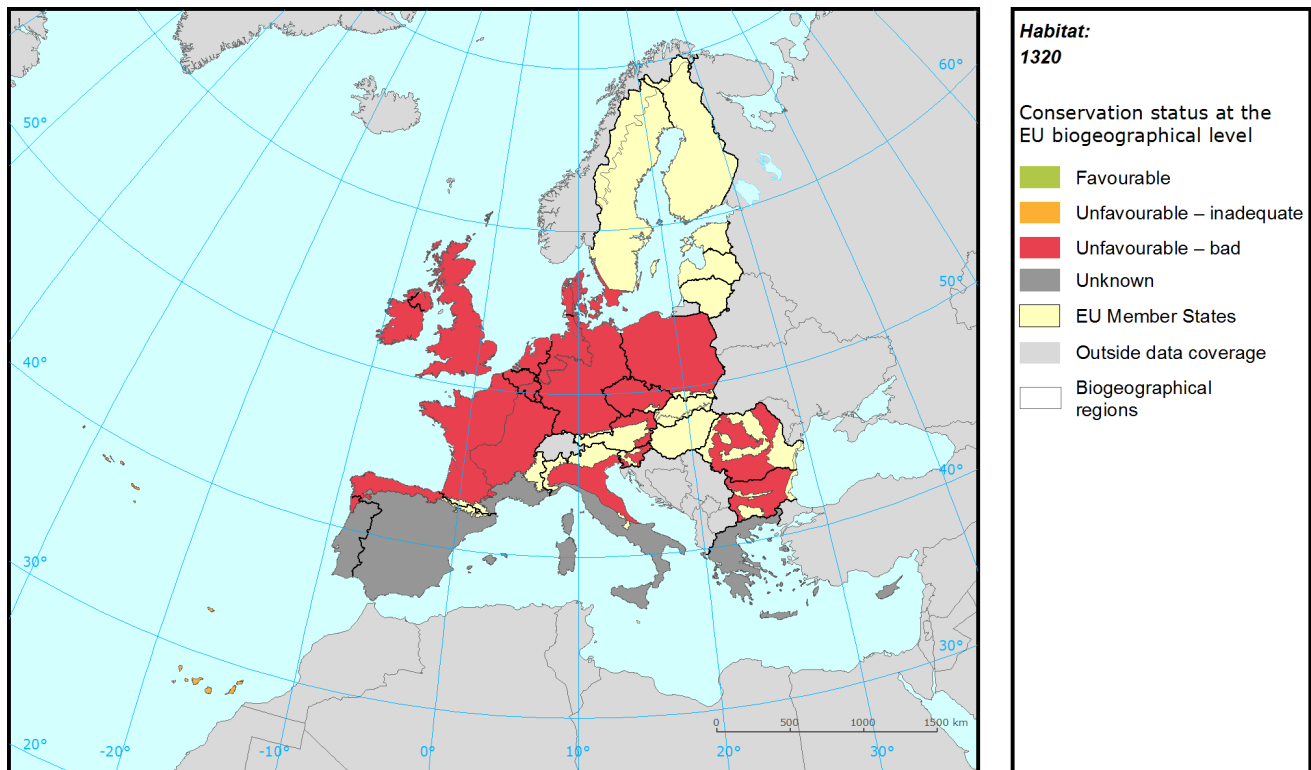
Only reported as "favourable" by Germany and Denmark and assessed as "unfavourable bad" for the Atlantic region with all parameters reported as "unfavourable bad" by two or more countries. Reasons for the bad condition include rising sea levels, invasive aliens/hybrids (e.g. *Spartina anglica*) and human impacts. Assessed as "unfavourable bad" for the Continental region due to structure & functions and the future is "unfavourable bad" in Italy. From Macaronesia it is occurring only on Azores and are reported as "unfavourable inadequate" because of human impact. In the mediterrian region Portugal has reported "favourable" and Spain "unknown" which leads to "unknown".

Better information required (Portugal did not report area of habitat), as well as confirmation that the country reports have all treated the invasive species/hybrids in the same manner.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



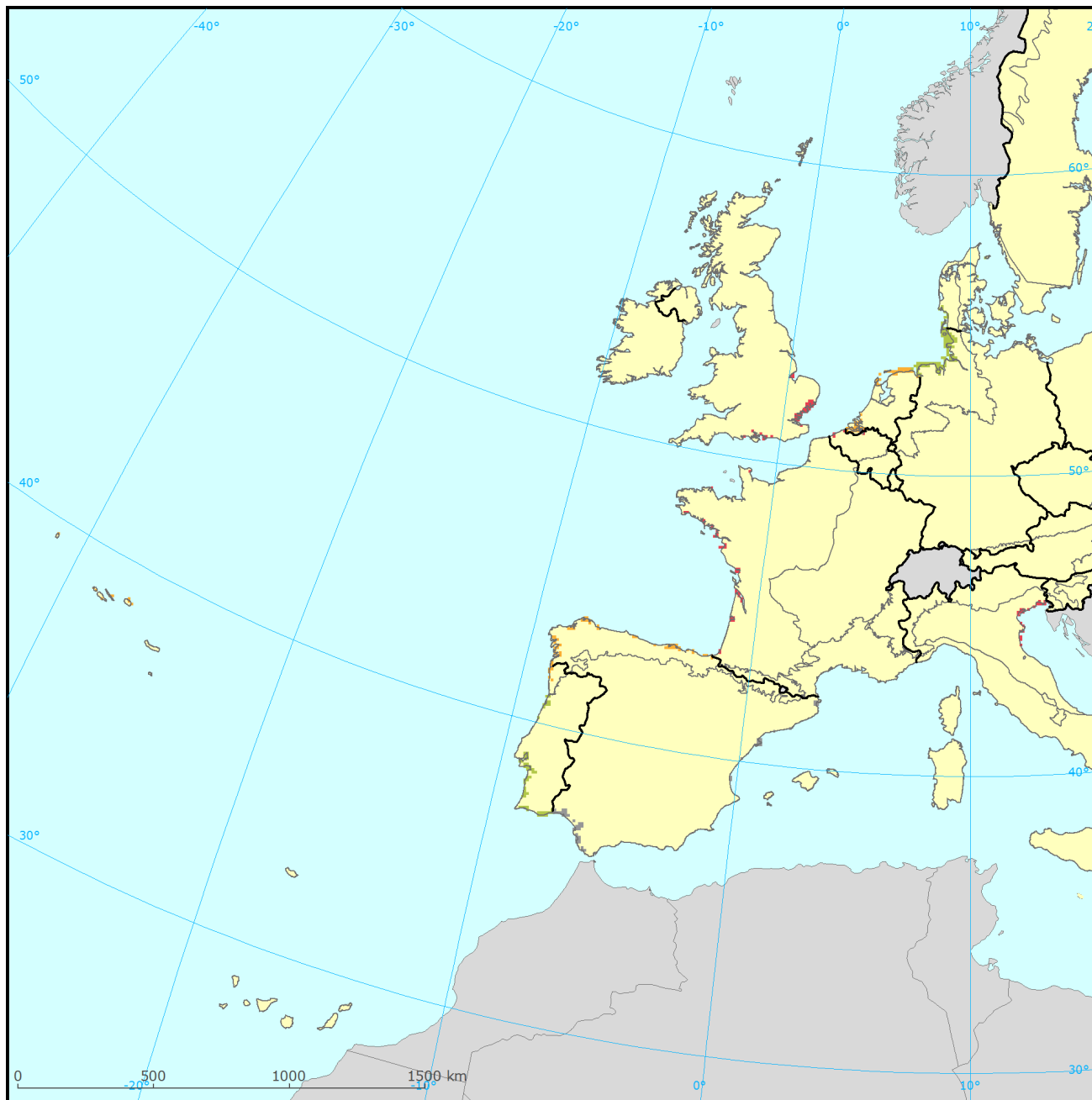
| Region | Conservation status (CS) of parameters | | | | Current CS | Trend in CS | % in region | Previous CS | Reason for change |
|--------|--|------|-----------------------|------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|
| | Range | Area | Structure & Functions | Future prospects | | | | | |
| ATL | U1 | U2 | U1 | U1 | U2 | = | 65 | U2 | |
| CON | U1 | U1 | U2 | U2 | U2 | - | 7 | U1 | Not genuine |
| MAC | U1 | U1 | FV | U1 | U1 | - | 2 | U1 | |
| MED | FV | XX | XX | XX | XX | | 26 | XX | |

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Habitat: 1320

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Favourable |  EU Member States |
|  Unfavourable - inadequate |  Outside data coverage |
|  Unfavourable - bad |  Biogeographical region |
|  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 | | | | | |
| BE | ATL | FV | U2 | U2 | U2 | = | 1.9 | U2 | | |
| DE | ATL | FV | FV | FV | FV | | 31.2 | FV | | |
| DK | ATL | FV | FV | FV | FV | | 2.7 | FV | | |
| ES | ATL | FV | FV | XX | U1 | x | 19.6 | XX | Changed method | |
| FR | ATL | U2 | U2 | U1 | U1 | = | 12.3 | U2 | | |
| NL | ATL | FV | FV | U1 | FV | - | 16.9 | U2 | Changed method | |
| PT | ATL | U1 | U1 | U1 | XX | x | 1.9 | U1 | | |
| UK | ATL | U2 | U2 | U2 | U2 | = | 13.5 | U2- | Genuine | |
| DK | CON | FV | FV | FV | FV | | 11.1 | FV | | |
| IT | CON | U1 | U1 | U2 | U2 | - | 81.5 | U1 | Changed method | |
| SI | CON | FV | U1 | U1 | U1 | = | 7.4 | U1 | | |
| PT | MAC | U1 | U1 | FV | U1 | - | 100.0 | U1 | | |
| ES | MED | FV | XX | XX | XX | | 47.1 | XX | | |
| PT | MED | FV | FV | FV | FV | | 52.9 | 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.

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

| Code | Activity | Frequency |
|------|--|-----------|
| J02 | Changes in water bodies conditions | 30 |
| I01 | Invasive alien species | 17 |
| A04 | Grazing by livestock | 10 |
| D03 | Shipping lanes and ports | 7 |
| E01 | Urbanisation and human habitation | 7 |
| K06 | Other interspecific floral competition | 7 |
| F02 | Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources | 3 |
| G05 | Other human intrusions and disturbances | 3 |
| H01 | Pollution to surface waters | 3 |
| H02 | Pollution to groundwater | 3 |

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

| Code | Activity | Frequency |
|------|--|-----------|
| J02 | Changes in water bodies conditions | 26 |
| I01 | Invasive alien species | 13 |
| A04 | Grazing by livestock | 9 |
| D03 | Shipping lanes and ports | 9 |
| E01 | Urbanisation and human habitation | 9 |
| K06 | Other interspecific floral competition | 9 |
| F02 | Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources | 4 |
| G05 | Other human intrusions and disturbances | 4 |
| I02 | Problematic native species | 4 |
| K01 | Abiotic natural processes | 4 |

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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

| | ATL | CON | MAC | MED |
|----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| BE | 93 | | | |
| DE | 97 | | | |
| DK | 81 | 90 | | |
| ES | 52 | | | 100* |
| FR | 100 | | | |
| IT | | 100 | | |
| NL | 100 | | | |
| PT | x | | 59 | x |
| SI | | 91 | | |
| UK | 100 | | | |

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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 |
|------|--|-----------|
| 4.0 | Other wetland-related measures | 25 |
| 6.0 | Other spatial measures | 19 |
| 6.1 | Establish protected areas/sites | 19 |
| 6.3 | Legal protection of habitats and species | 13 |
| 2.1 | Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats | 6 |
| 4.1 | Restoring/improving water quality | 6 |
| 4.2 | Restoring/improving the hydrological regime | 6 |
| 7.1 | Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking | 6 |

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:

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<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/habitat/summary/?group=Coastal+habitats&period=3&subject=1320>

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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.