Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012

# **European Environment Agency** *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



### 9150 Medio-European limestone beech forests of the Cephalanthero-Fagion

Habitat code 9150 Priority No Habitat group Forests

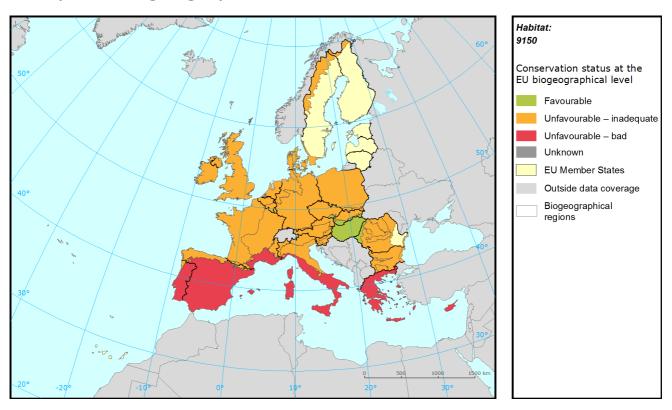
**Regions** Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian

Xero-thermophile beech (*Fagus sylvatica*) forests often on superficial soils of steep slopes on calcareous soils. This habitat type can be found in mountain areas with sub-atlantic climates, mostly in western, central and northern Central Europe. The herb and scrub layer is often species rich including several species of orchid including the Annex II and IV lady's slipper orchid (*Cypripedium calceolus*).

The conservation status is "unfavourable inadequate" and in all regions except Mediterranean, "unfavourable bad" and Pannonian "favourable". Range and area are "favourable" in all regions and both structure & functions and future prospects are reason for the "unfavourable" assessments.

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### Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

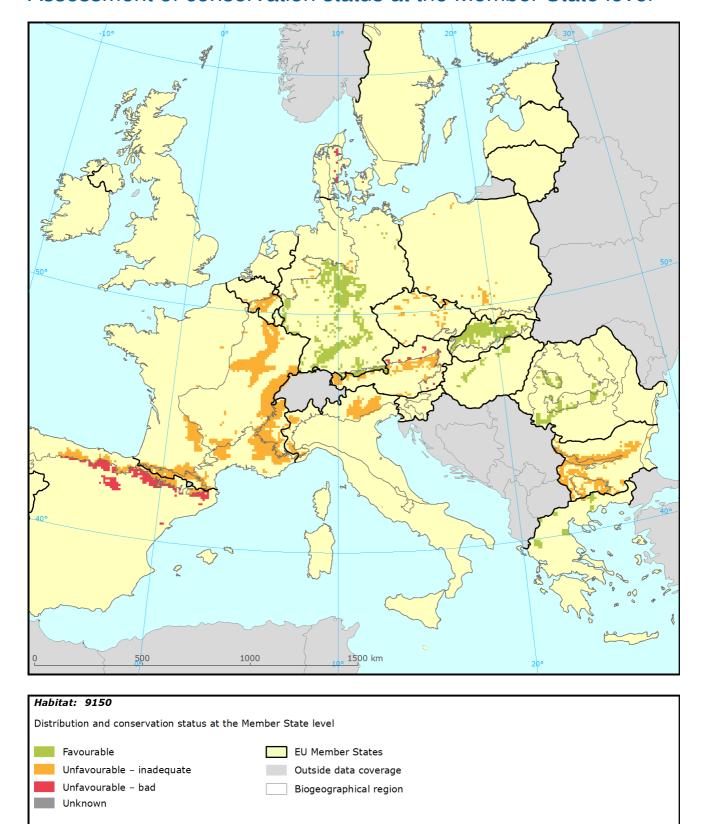


	Conservation status (CS) of parameters								
Region	Range	Area	Structure Future & prospects Functions		Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	31	U1	
ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	8	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	0.06	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	47	U1	
MED	FV	FV	U2	XX	U2	=	13	XX	Not genuine
PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	2	U2	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

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#### Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



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

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		Conserva	ation statu	ıs (CS) of p	arameters					
MS	Region	Range	Area	Structure & functions	Future prospects	Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
AT	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	14.2	U1	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	12.0		
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.8	FV	
ES	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	6.5	XX	Changed method
FR	ALP	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	21.2	U1	
IT	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	15.3	FV	Changed method
PL	ALP	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	0.5	FV	Better data
RO	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.5		
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		19.1	FV	
BE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	5.1	U2	Better data
DE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	7.2	U2	Changed method
ES	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	32.1	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	55.7	U1	
BG	BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	100.0		
AT	CON	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	=	1.5	U1	Changed method
BE	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	+	3.7	U2	Changed method
BG	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	16.2		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	3.8	U2	Better data
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.4	FV	
DK	CON	FV	XX	U2	U2	U2	=	1.0	XX	
FR	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	x	31.0	XX	Better data
LU	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.1	FV	
PL	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	+	2.9	FV	Changed method
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		4.3		
ES	MED	FV	FV	U2	U1	U2	=	46.3	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	49.0	U1	
GR	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		4.7	FV	
HU	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		92.2	U2	Changed method
SK	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.8	FV	

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.

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### 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
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	37
A04	Grazing by livestock	11
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	11
A05	Farming and breeding of livestock	7
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	7
K04	Interspecific floral relations	7
B07	Other forestry activities	4
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	4
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	4
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	4

#### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	29
B03	Forest exploitation	13
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	13
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	8
K04	Interspecific floral relations	8
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	8
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	4
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	4
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	4
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	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

	ALP	ATL	BLS	CON	MED	PAN
AT	51			39		
BE		36		60		
BG	71		100	50		
CZ				54		
DE	89	83		59		
DK				50		
ES	75	92			71	
FR	21	Χ		20	55	
HU						91
IT	32					
LU				100*		
PL	100			64		
RO	60			70		
SK	60					81

See the endnotes for more information ii

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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
3.2	Adapt forest management	26
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	25
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	19
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	9
6.2	Establishing wilderness areas/ allowing succession	5
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	5
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	4
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	4
6.0	Other spatial measures	2
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	2

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: <a href="http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/habitat/summary/?group=Forests&period=3&subject=9150">http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/habitat/summary/?group=Forests&period=3&subject=9150</a>

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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.

iiPercentage 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.