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

European Environment Agency *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



6150 Siliceous alpine and boreal grasslands

Habitat code 6150 Priority No

Habitat group Grasslands

Regions Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental

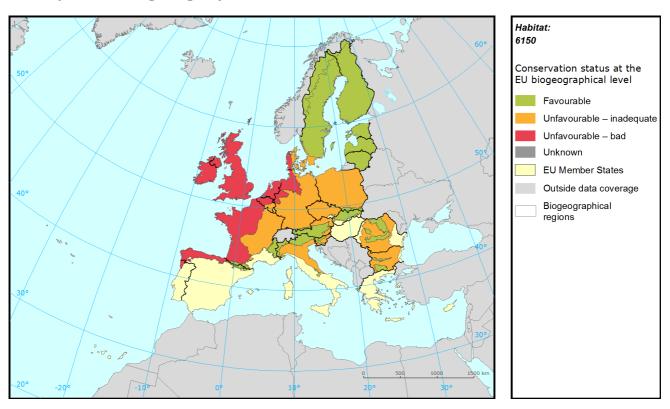
Acidic grasslands of mountains in the Alps, Carpathians and Scandinavia together with higher mountains elsewhere in northern Europe such as in the north of the British Isles. Similar vegetation in the Pyrenees and northern Spain is habitat type '6140 - Siliceous Pyrenean *Festuca eskia* grasslands'.. Associated snow-bed communities are also included.

The conservation status of this habitat is favourable in the regions where it is most widespread – Alpine and Boreal - with almost all countries reporting favourable. It is unfavourable-inadequate in the Continental region, but only due to habitat area, particularly in Italy which reported this habitat for the first time in this region leading to a change in regional conservation status from the previous favourable. Assessed as unfavourable-bad status in the Atlantic region where it only occurs in the United Kingdom The trend in all regions is stable. No genuinechanges were reported.

In the regions where the habitat is not considered favourable, the main pressures and threats are mostly grazing, air pollution (both in the United Kingdom) and sport or recreational activities and infrastructure (in Italy linked to skiing, in the United Kingdom linked to hunting or collection of wild animals) with related nitrogen-input and changes in species composition. A common denominator in Poland is erosion. These factors were also reported from other regions but only as medium or low importance, together with pressures and threats linked to climate change (extremes in temperature and precipitations) and resulting in competition between plant species.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

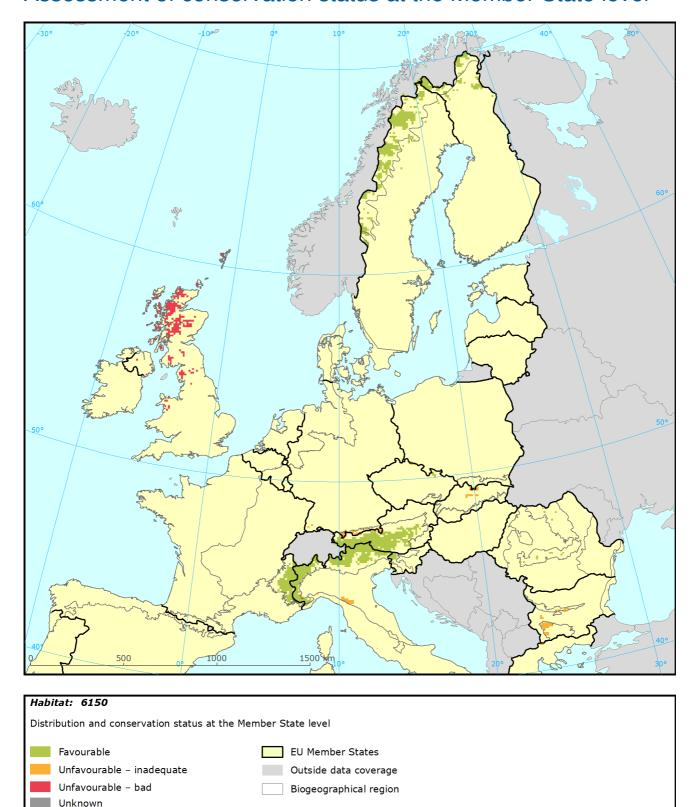


	Conservation status (CS) of parameters								
Region	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects	Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	81	U1	Not genuine
ATL	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	14	U2	
BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	3	FV	
CON	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	2	FV	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information¹

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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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		Conservation status (CS) of parameters								D
MS	Region	Range	Area	Structure & functions	Future prospects	Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
AT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		22.6	FV	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	2.4		
DE	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	2.6	U1	
FI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.7	FV	
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.0	FV	
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		26.4	FV	
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.3	U1	Better data
RO	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.2		
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		25.5	FV	
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.1	FV	
SK	ALP	U1	FV	FV	XX	U1	=	1.2	U1	
UK	ATL	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	100.0	U2	
FI	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		71.4	FV	
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		28.6	FV	
BG	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	17.9		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		17.9	FV	
DE	CON	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	10.3	FV	Better data
IT	CON	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	x	48.7		
PL	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	5.1	U1	

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
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	17
A04	Grazing by livestock	8
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	8
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	8
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	8
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	8
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	8
K01	Abiotic natural processes	8
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	8
K04	Interspecific floral relations	8

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	17
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	17
M02	Biotic changes (climate change)	17
A04	Grazing by livestock	8
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	8
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	8
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	8
K01	Abiotic natural processes	8
K04	Interspecific floral relations	8

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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	BOR	CON
AT	26			
BG	99			100
CZ				100
DE	44			Χ
FI	90		100	
FR	Χ			
IT	24			31
PL	100			100
RO	52			
SE	40		15	
SI	100			
SK	91			
UK		49		

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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	38
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	23
6.4	Manage landscape features	12
6.0	Other spatial measures	8
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	8
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	4
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	4
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	4

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=Grasslands&period=3&subject=6150

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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.