



6430 *Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities of plains and of the montane to alpine levels*

Habitat code	6430
Priority	No
Habitat group	Grasslands
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

This habitat is formed by tall herbs (sometimes known as 'megaforbs') typical of wet, fertile soils often on cliff ledges, woodland margins and riverbanks. The habitat is widespread throughout Europe although restricted to mountains in some countries.

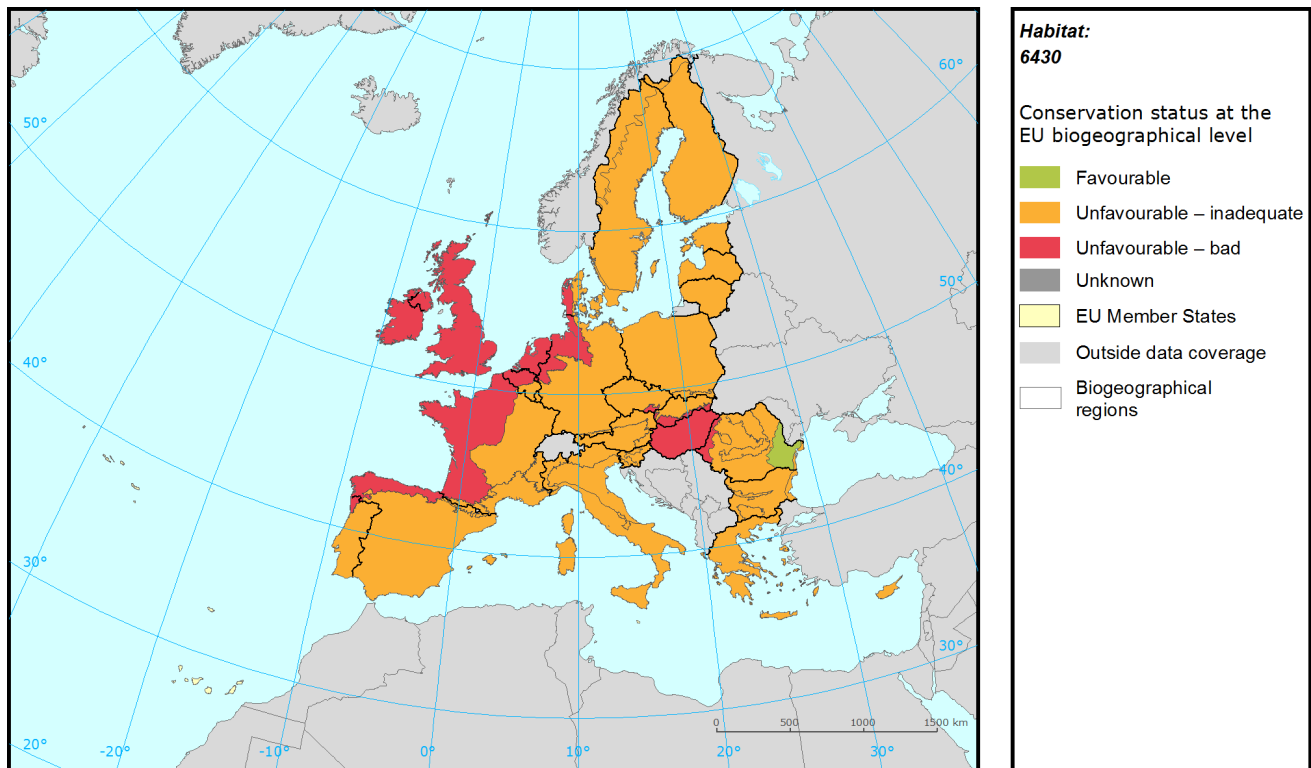
The conservation status of this habitat is unfavourable in all but one region: Unfavourable-bad in two regions (Atlantic and Pannonian) and unfavourable-inadequate in five regions (Alpine, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental and Mediterranean). Only in the Steppic region (Romania only) was the habitat considered Favourable. In the Alpine region most countries assessed the habitat as Favourable and the EU regional assessment was close to the Favourable/Unfavourable-inadequate threshold. In several cases the area reported by Romania seemed too high and the weighting was by distribution. There were no genuine changes in EU regional assessments but the change from Unfavourable-inadequate to Unfavourable-bad (and deteriorating in the Continental region of Slovenia was reported as genuine. Trends are mostly stable or unknown.

The major pressures and threats are changes in hydrology (including water abstraction from groundwater, dykes, canalisation and flooding defence), invasive non-native species and succession, agricultural intensification or abandonment, fertilisation, urbanisation and consequent pollution to surface waters.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



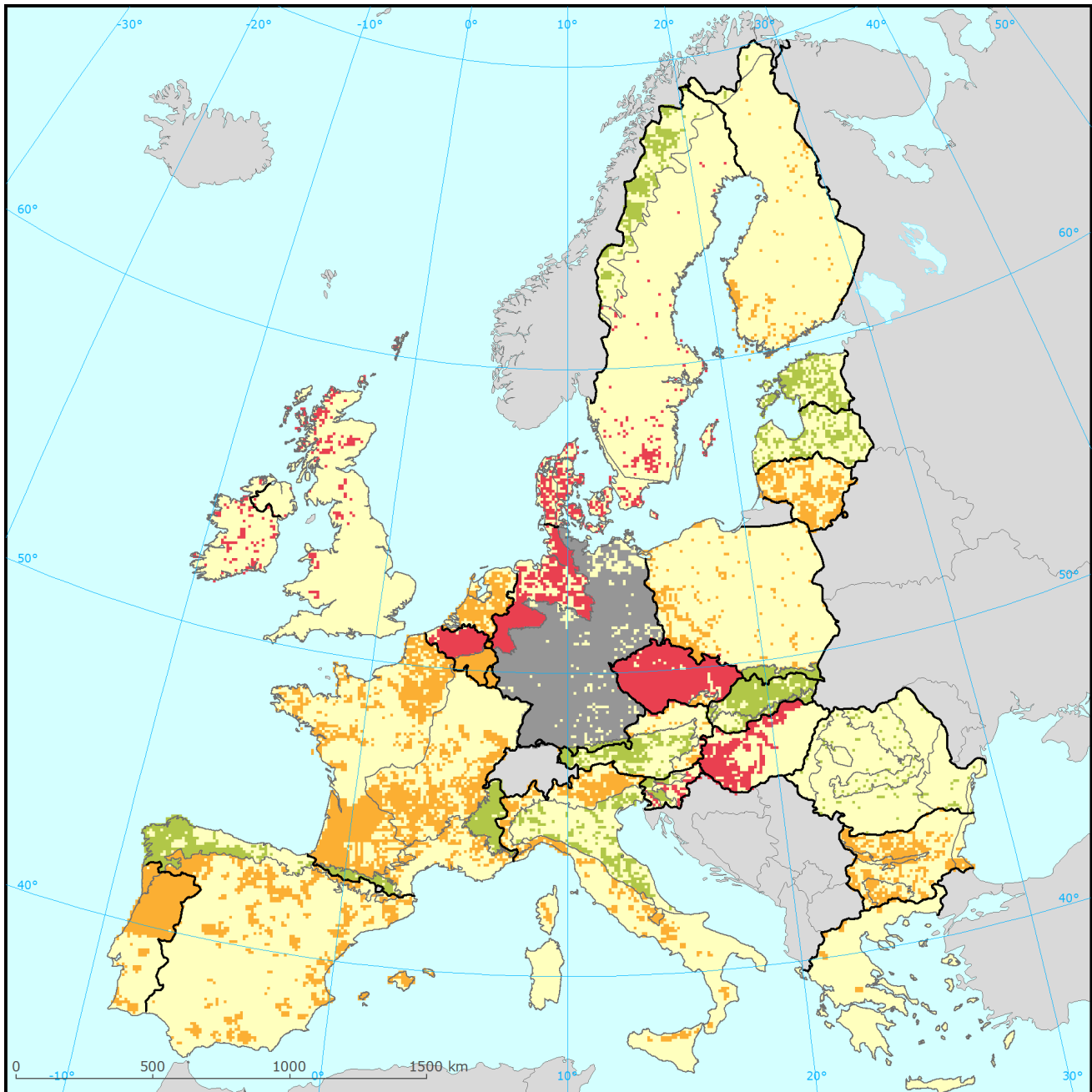
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	14	U1	
ATL	FV	XX	U2	U1	U2	=	21	U2	
BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	0.22	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	=	8	U1	
CON	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	x	40	U1	
MED	FV	XX	U1	XX	U1	-	13	XX	Not genuine
PAN	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	4	U2	
STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	0.13	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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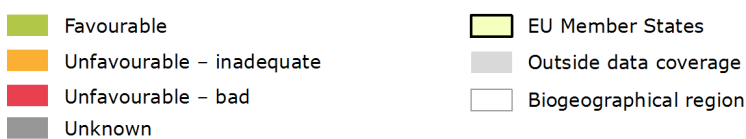
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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



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Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level



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					
AT	ALP	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		13.2	XX	No data
BG	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	6.2		
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.2	FV	
ES	ALP	FV	U1	FV	XX	U1	x	2.3	XX	Changed method
FI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.3	FV	
FR	ALP	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		16.1	FV	
IT	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	16.8	FV	Changed method
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		5.4	FV	
RO	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.4		
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		16.7	FV	
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.8	U1	Better data
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		15.6	U1	Better data
BE	ATL	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	=	6.3	U2	
DE	ATL	XX	XX	U2	U1	U2	-	17.8	U1	Changed method
DK	ATL	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	=	2.4	XX	Better data
ES	ATL	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		12.5	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	41.9	U2	Better data
IE	ATL	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	3.5	U1	Better data
NL	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	8.2	U1	
PT	ATL	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	1.8	U1	
UK	ATL	FV	XX	U2	U1	U2	+	5.7	U2+	
BG	BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	90.0		
RO	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.0		
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		21.9	FV	
FI	BOR	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	=	15.3	U1	Better data
LT	BOR	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	=	31.3	U1	Genuine
LV	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		18.9	FV	
SE	BOR	FV	U2	XX	XX	U2	=	12.6	XX	
AT	CON	U1	U1	XX	U1	U1	x	0.9	XX	No data
BE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	2.4	U1	No data
BG	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	6.3		
CZ	CON	FV	U2	U2	U1	U2	-	13.8	U2	Changed method
DE	CON	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX		48.2	FV	Changed method

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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					
DK	CON	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	=	2.5	XX	Better data
FR	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	12.5	U1	
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		5.1	FV	
LU	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	x	0.5	XX	
PL	CON	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	=	5.4	U1	
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.9		
SE	CON	FV	U2	XX	XX	U2	=	0.5	XX	
SI	CON	FV	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	1.0	U1	Genuine
ES	MED	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	x	47.1	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	10.4	U1	
GR	MED	U1	U1	FV	U1	U1		0.7	U1	
IT	MED	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	13.4	FV	Changed method
PT	MED	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	28.4	U1	
CZ	PAN	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	3.8	U2	Better data
HU	PAN	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	79.0	U2	
RO	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.5		
SK	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		15.7	U1	Better data
RO	STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		

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	23
I01	Invasive alien species	19
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	11
A04	Grazing by livestock	7
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	7
H01	Pollution to surface waters	7
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	5
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	5
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	4
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	2

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
I01	Invasive alien species	22
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	20
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	11
A04	Grazing by livestock	7
H01	Pollution to surface waters	7
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	7
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	5
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	5
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	4
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	2

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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	BOR	CON	MED	PAN	STE
AT	18				45			
BE		25			38			
BG	100		97		87			
CZ					19		11	
DE	57	x			x			
DK		2			2			
EE				92				
ES	96	x				x		
FI	84			29				
FR	x	27			82	100		
HU							74	
IE		59						
IT	100				100	100		
LT				27				
LU					32			
LV				50				
NL		62						
PL	91				82			
PT		x				x		
RO	72		75		70		78	82
SE	100			87	63			
SI	65				1			
SK	25						40	
UK		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
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	25
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	19
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	9
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	9
6.4	Manage landscape features	6
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	5
4.3	Managing water abstraction	5
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	4
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	4
6.0	Other spatial measures	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=6430>

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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.