



Cobitis taenia

Annex	II
Priority	No
Species group	Fish
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

The Spined Loach is a widespread freshwater fish occurring on the Atlantic drainages (from Loire northward), southern part of the Baltic basin, upper Volga and Ural drainages, and northern Black Sea (except Danube); it occurs in slow-flowing and still waters with fine sandy substrates.

Its conservation status in the Alpine region is 'favourable'; however, its conservation status is 'unfavourable-bad' in Austria and 'unknown' in Poland and Slovakia. Main pressures are infilling of water bodies, sand and gravel extraction and other changes in hydraulic conditions.

In the Atlantic region its conservation status is 'unfavourable-inadequate, but with positive range, population and habitat trends'; however, its conservation status is 'favourable' in France, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. Main pressures are urbanisation, water pollution, sand and gravel extraction, agricultural intensification (fertilisation, restructuring of land holding) and other changes in hydraulic conditions.

Its conservation status in the Continental region is 'favourable, with positive range and habitat trends, unknown population; however, its conservation status is 'unfavourable-bad' in the Czech Republic, 'unfavourable-inadequate' in Austria and Romania, and 'unknown' in Belgium, where it was recently (2005) confirmed in two localities of Semois river basin in Wallonia. Its status is also 'favourable' in the Pannonian region, with overall stable range, population and habitat trends; however, its conservation status is 'unfavourable-bad' and deteriorating in the Czech Republic, and 'unfavourable-inadequate' in Romania and Slovakia. Main pressures are infilling of water bodies, water pollution, sand and gravel extraction, dredging, and small hydropower projects (weirs).

Its conservation status in the Boreal region is 'favourable, but with stable range, population and habitat trends'; however, its conservation status is 'unfavourable-inadequate' in Estonia. Main pressures are canalisation and water pollution.

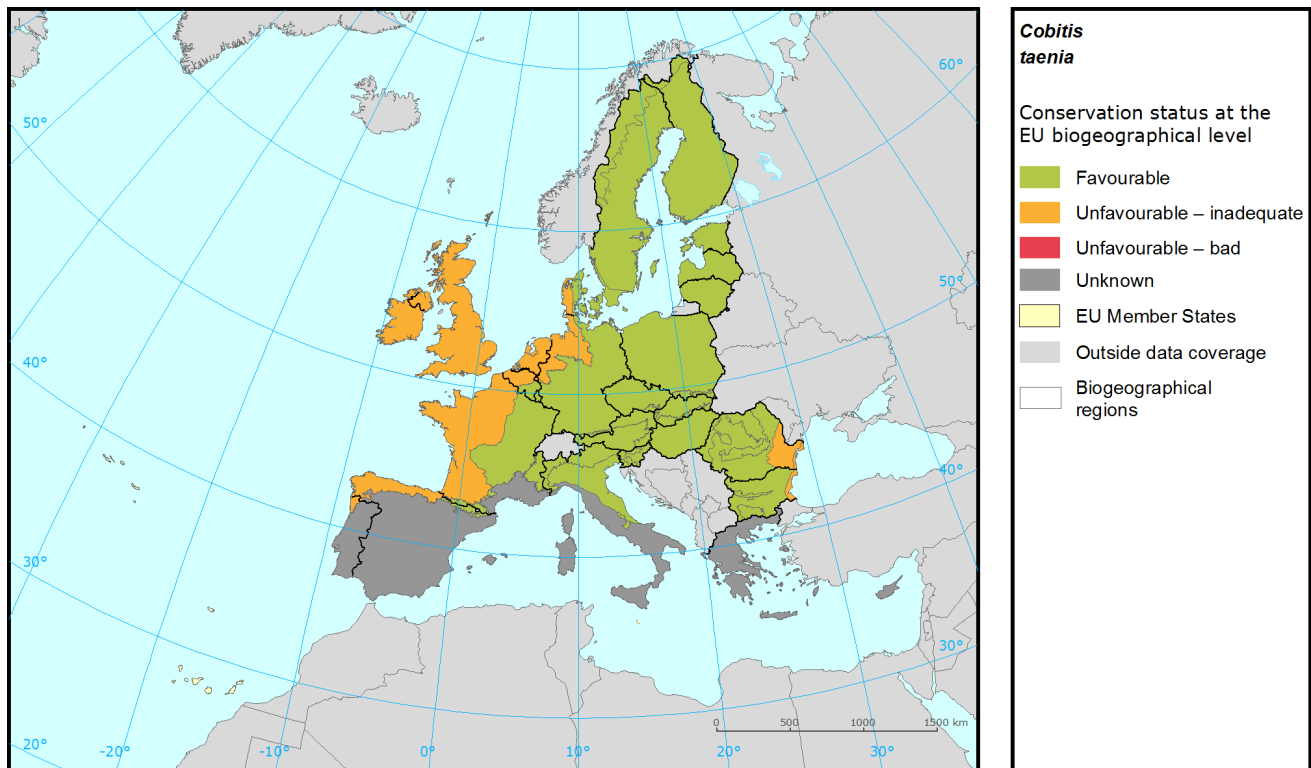
In the Black Sea and Steppic regions its conservation status is 'unfavourable-inadequate' mainly due to the poor habitat for the species. Main pressures are removal of sediments and modification of hydrological conditions (dams, canalisation).

The species is classified by IUCN as 'least concern' (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/5037/0>, consulted on 18 April 2014)

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



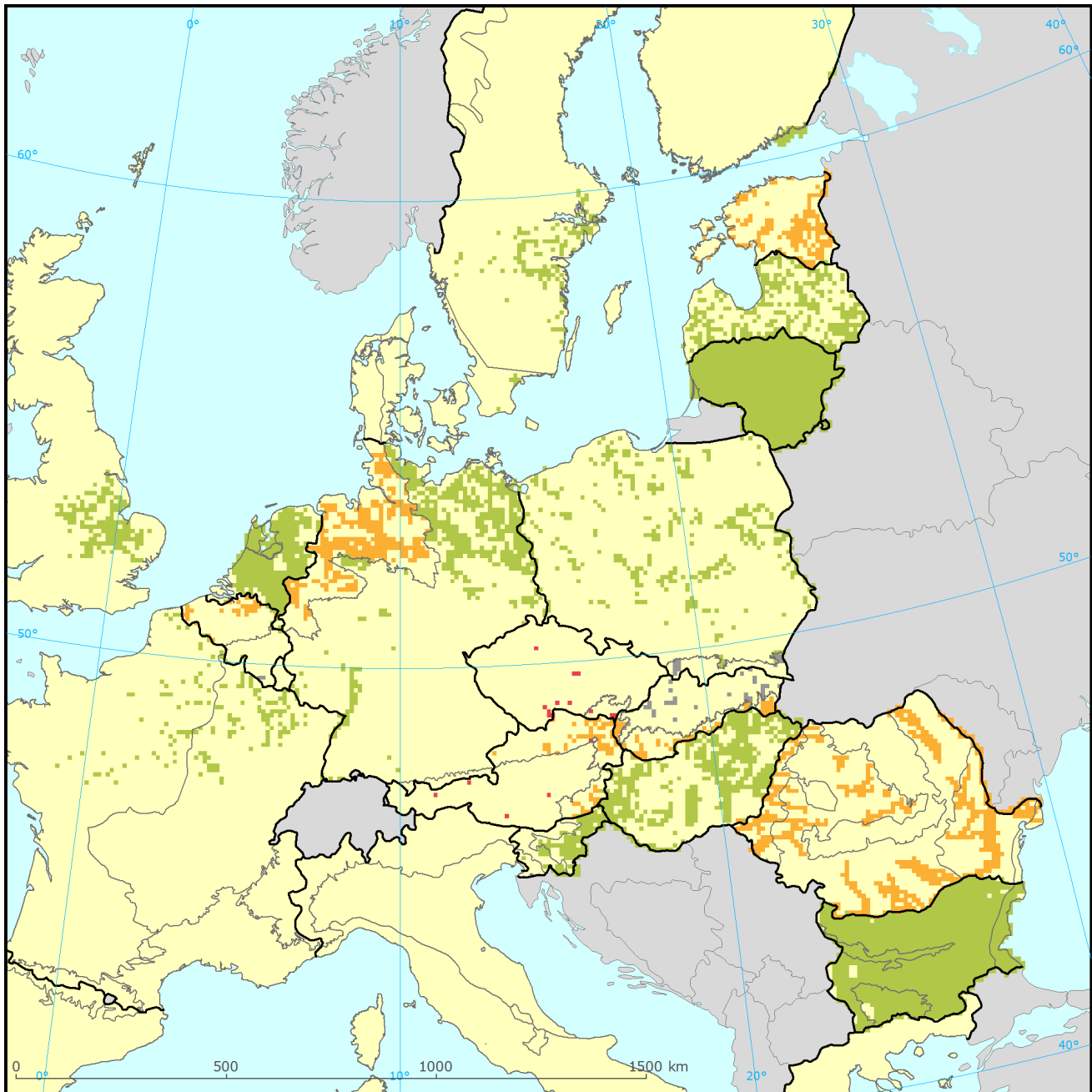
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		4	U1	Not genuine
ATL	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	15	U1	
BLS	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	=	2	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		24	FV	
CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		42	U1	Not genuine
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		11	FV	
STE	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	3	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Cobitis taenia

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.

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

MS	Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
AT	ALP	U2	U2	U1	U2	U2	x	2.1	U2	Changed method
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		71.7		
PL	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		5.8	FV	Changed method
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.9	U1	Better data
SK	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		12.5	XX	
BE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	+	3.6	U1+	Genuine
DE	ATL	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	35.2	U1	
FR	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.3	XX	Genuine
NL	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.4	FV	
UK	ATL	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		18.5	XX	Changed method
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		92.8		
RO	BLS	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	7.2		
EE	BOR	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	12.2	XX	Better data
FI	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.2	XX	Better data
LT	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		55.9	FV	
LV	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		20.6	FV	
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.1	FV	
AT	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	2.8	U2	Changed method
BE	CON	XX	XX	FV	XX	XX		0.1	XX	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		38.6		
CZ	CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	=	0.4	U2	Genuine
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		21.1	U1	Genuine
DK	CON	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV			FV	
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		4.3	XX	Better data
PL	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		14.1	FV	
RO	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	14.5		
SE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.3	FV	
SI	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.8	U1	Better data
GR	MED									
CZ	PAN	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	0.5	U1	Genuine
HU	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		76.0	FV	
RO	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	13.5		
SK	PAN	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	10.0	XX	Better data
RO	STE	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	100.0		

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

MS Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					

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 species 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 species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	50
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	21
C01	Mining and quarrying	12
H01	Pollution to surface waters	6
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	3
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	3
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	3
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	3

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	47
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	25
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	6
C01	Mining and quarrying	6
H01	Pollution to surface waters	6
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	3
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	3
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	3

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size in the biogeographical/marine region.

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

	ALP	ATL	BLS	BOR	CON	PAN	STE
AT	25				25		
BE		22			100		
BG	30		70		30		
CZ					99	94	
DE		9			68		
DK					26		
EE				71			
FI				x			
FR		100			10		
HU						70	
LT				100			
LV				40			
NL		1					
PL	x				10		
RO			100		100	100	100
SE				17	65		
SI	42				5		
SK	10					32	
UK		7					

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species 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 species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	28
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	20
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	17
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	9
7.2	Regulation/ Management of fishery in limnic systems	9
4.3	Managing water abstraction	6
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	5
6.0	Other spatial measures	3
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	2
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	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:

<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Fish&period=3&subject=Cobitis+taenia>

Species: *Cobitis taenia*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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 species population 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 species population 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 species has been reported by the Member States.