



Canis lupus

Annex	II, IV, V
Priority	Yes
Species group	Mammals
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian

The Grey Wolf was the world's most widely distributed mammal, however it was hunted to extinction in many parts of Europe during the 19th century and its present distribution is more restricted but large populations exist throughout most of eastern and southeastern Europe. Wolves have an ability to adapt to many habitats.

Conservation status of the Grey Wolf is Favourable in the Alpine, Atlantic and Mediterranean region and Unfavourable-Inadequate in other regions of its range.

In the Boreal region the Wolf's conservation status is Unfavourable-Inadequate. There is a decline compared to the previous reporting round. Population trend is increasing, but hunting and poaching, roads and railway lines are reported as major threats and pressures by Estonia, Latvia or Finland. NB the Swedish report for the Boreal region covers the whole Swedish population.

In the Continental region the wolf has, as a whole, Unfavourable-Inadequate conservation status with increasing trend and most likely it was Unfavourable-Inadequate in the previous reporting round with the current number of countries. The Bulgarian NGOs contest the Favourable conservation status reported by Bulgaria due to the fact that the wolf is Vulnerable according to the Bulgarian Red Data Book and due to the use of modelling with tendency to overestimate the distribution. In addition, major threats and pressures and unknown trends support different status for Bulgaria. Most countries report trapping, poisoning, poaching or hunting as major threat or pressures. Some countries report also roads, railways or problems in connectivity as threat or pressures of high level importance. Bulgaria and Romania who both reported Favourable conservation status, reported at the same time also threats and pressures of high importance.

In the Atlantic region (Spain, Portugal, Germany) the wolf has Favourable conservation status largely due to the Spanish population (German population is connected to the Continental population) and likely it was Favourable in the previous reporting round as well. All countries report trapping, poisoning and poaching as major threats or pressures. In addition Portugal reports solar energy production as high importance pressure.

In overall, in the Alpine region the wolf is in Favourable conservation status and it has not changed from the previous, however there are changes within the Alpine subregions, e.g. the status of the Finnish population and the Slovenian Alpine populations are Unfavourable-Inadequate. Only Poland, Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia report major threats or pressures such as trapping, poisoning, poaching, hunting, urbanisation, recreational activities, loss of habitat connectivity, roads or railroads, improved access to sites and sheep grazing. The Spanish Alpine population is not part of the assessment due to its vagrant nature. Bulgarian

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assessment is considered rather Unfavourable-Inadequate than Favourable - same comments as for the Continental region above. There was no report from Austria although wolves occur there although no reproduction known (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/carnivores/pdf/task_1_part2_species_country_reports.pdf).

The status is Unfavourable-Inadequate in the Mediterranean region and it seems that the status has improved from the previous reporting round. However, trapping, poisoning, poaching or predator control are reported as major threats or pressures by Spain and Portugal. In addition Portugal reports reservoirs and wind energy production as threats or pressures of high importance.

Conservation status is assessed as Unfavourable-Inadequate in the Black Sea region (Bulgaria) contrary to Favourable status reported by Bulgaria. This population is connected to the bigger population of the adjacent region, however the major threats and pressures reported, unknown trends, Vulnerable status in the Red Data Book and potentially too optimistic values from the modelling method don't support Favourable status. Bulgaria reports predator control and hunting as major threats and pressures.

There are only few individuals in the Pannonian region as reported by Slovakia and Hungary. Conservation status is Unfavourable-Inadequate and was the same in the previous reporting period. Hungary reports e.g. forest exploitation without replanting as a major pressure.

None of the countries reported hybridation as a major threat, however this seems to be an important threat in Bulgaria (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/carnivores/pdf/task_1_part2_species_country_reports.pdf).

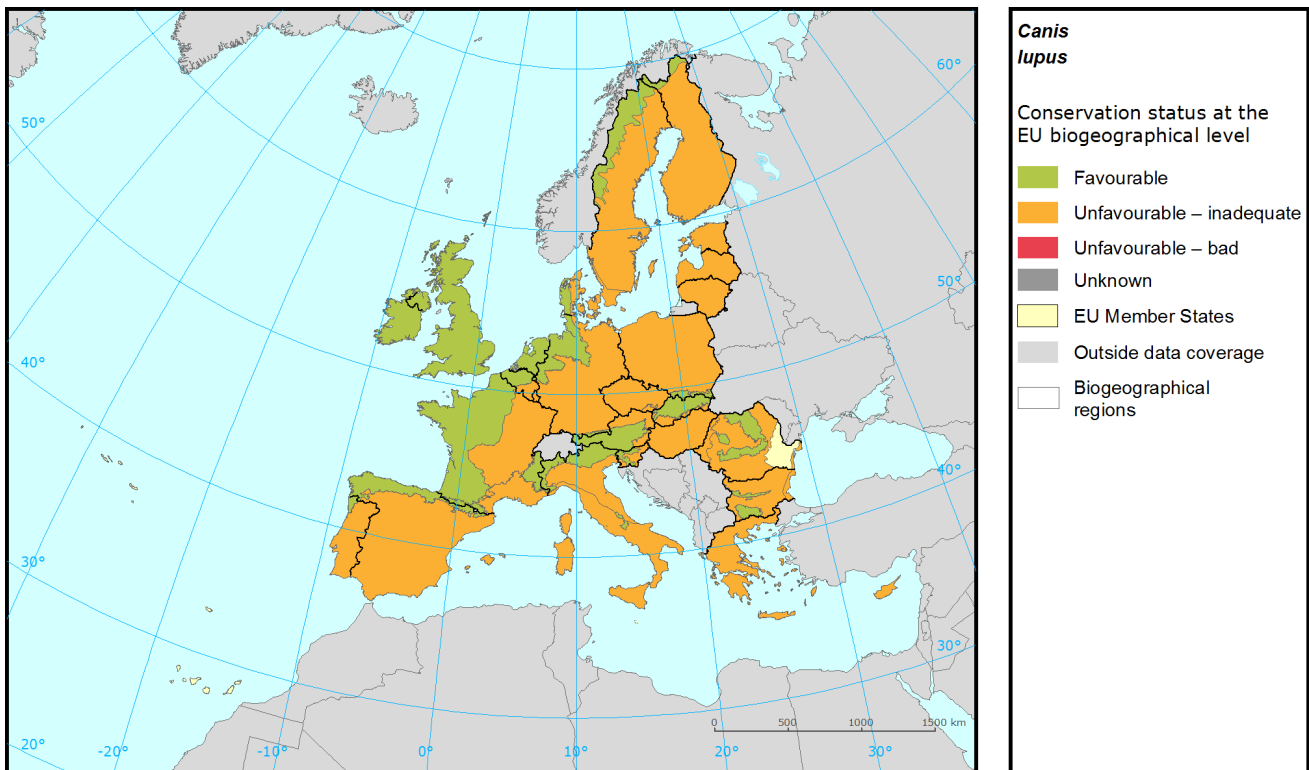
Assessed as 'Least Concern' for Europe by IUCN in 2007 because of its relatively wide range and an increasing population.

The Wolf has been recorded in the Austrian Alpine and Continental regions as a vagrant; however, Austria did not provide a report for the species.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



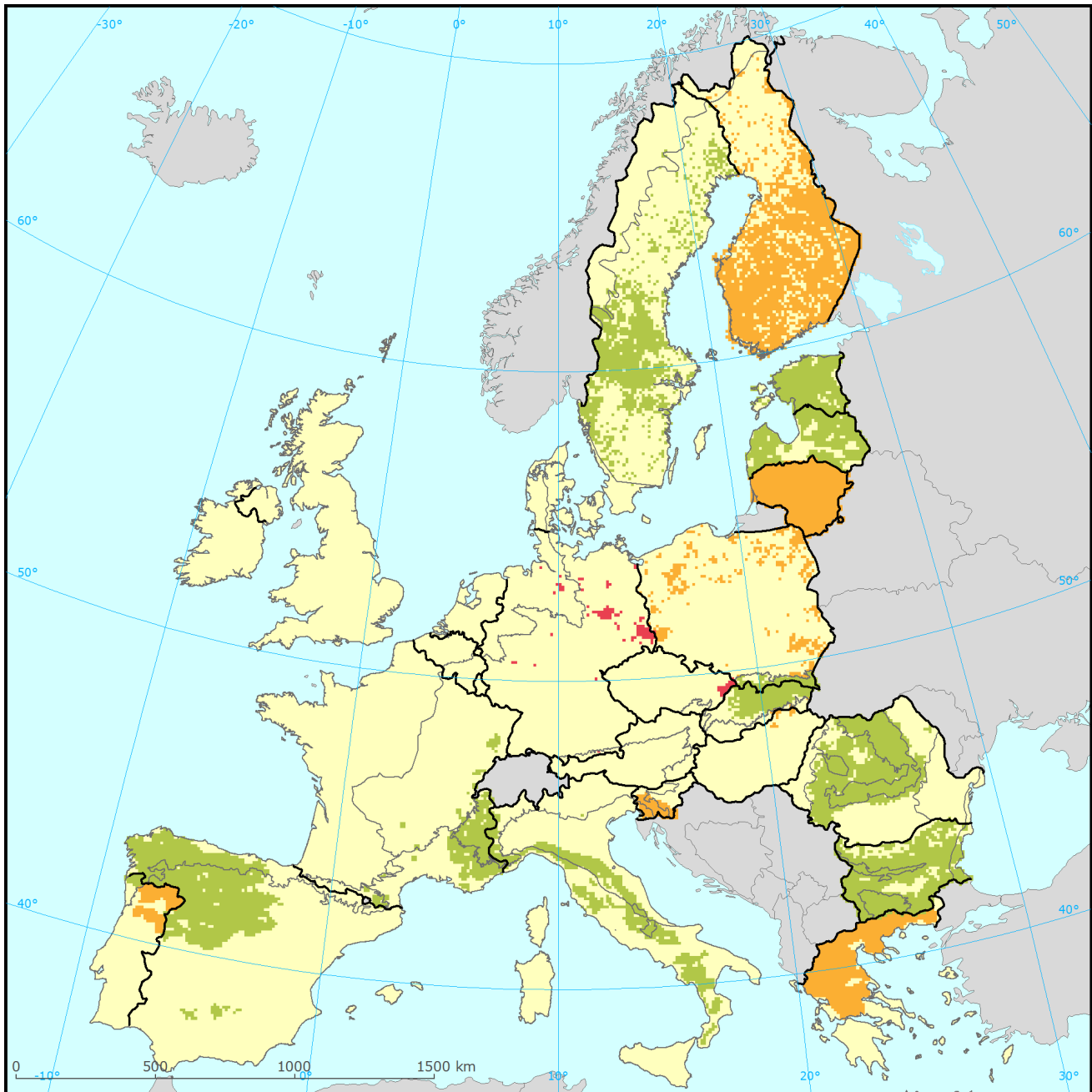
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	12	FV	
ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	4	XX	Not genuine
BLS	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.59	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	44	FV	Genuine
CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	+	18	U2	Not genuine
MED	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	20	XX	Not genuine
PAN	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	0.2	U1	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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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

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| 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 of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV		13.5			
ES	ALP							U1		
FI	ALP	FV	U1	FV	XX	U1	=	0.7	FV	Changed method
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		16.6	FV	
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.4	U1+	Genuine
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.1	FV	
RO	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.8		
SI	ALP	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	3.3	FV	Genuine
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		17.7	FV	
DE	ATL	U2	U2	U2	XX	U2	+	2.1		
ES	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		91.6	XX	Changed method
PT	ATL	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV		6.3	U1	Genuine
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		8.5	FV	
FI	BOR	FV	U1	FV	XX	U1	-	42.6	FV	Genuine
LT	BOR	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	14.5	FV	Better data
LV	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.0	FV	
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		24.4		
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.7		
CZ	CON	U2	U2	U1	U2	U2	=		U2	
DE	CON	U2	U2	U2	U1	U2	+	4.3	U2	Genuine
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.8		Better data
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		8.5	U1+	Genuine
PL	CON	U1	U1	FV	FV	U1	+	18.4	U1	Genuine
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		28.0		
SI	CON	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	2.3	FV	Genuine
ES	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		41.7	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.3		Better data
GR	MED	FV	U1+	U1+	FV	U1+		27.8	U1+	
IT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		16.1	U1+	Genuine
PT	MED	U1	U1	FV	XX	U1	=	7.1	U1	
HU	PAN	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	x		U1	
SK	PAN	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	100.0	U1	

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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
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	45
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	16
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	11
A04	Grazing by livestock	5
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	5
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	5
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	3
B03	Forest exploitation	3
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	3
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	3

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	41
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	14
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	8
A04	Grazing by livestock	5
D05	Improved access to site	5
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	5
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	5
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	5
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	3
B03	Forest exploitation	3

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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	MED	PAN
BG	69		68		48		
CZ					x		
DE		x			x		
EE				x			
ES		25				19	
FI	x			x			
FR	x				x	x	
HU							100
IT	x				x	x	
LT				x			
LV				x			
PL	41				66		
PT		89				44	
RO	23				21		
SE				x			
SI	91				39		
SK	67						71

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
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	20
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	19
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	19
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	14
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	7
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	5
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	3
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	3
6.0	Other spatial measures	3
8.0	Other measures	3

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=Mammals&period=3&subject=Canis+lupus>

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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 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.