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

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



## Myotis bechsteinii

**Annex** II, IV **Priority** No

Species group Mammals

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

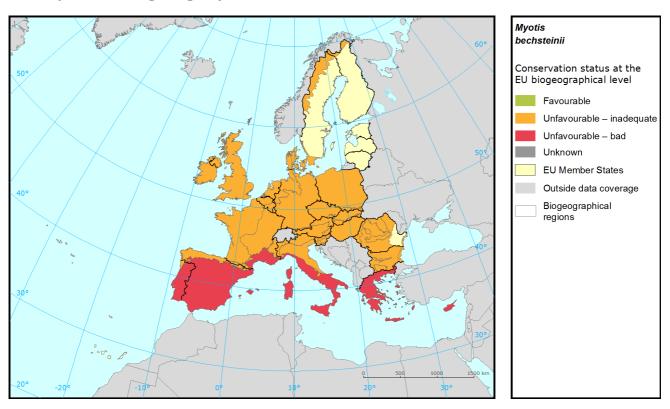
The bat *Myotis bechsteinii* is a western Palaearctic species which occurs in central and southern Europe and temperate south-western Asia. The real distribution is very insular, depending on the presence of suitable habitats. Largely restricted to natural, mainly deciduous, forests with a high proportion of old trees: also found in orchards and parks.

The conservation status is unfavourable-bad in the Mediterranean biogeographical region and unfavourable-inadequate in remaining regions: Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Continental, Pannonian regions. It was recorded substantial improvement of knowledgeabout the species — in previous assessment, the conservation status was assessed unknown in all regions, recently in none.

The species is threatened mostly by removal of dead and dying trees, forest and plantation management & use, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, removal of forest undergrowth, forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth, forestry clearance, modification of cultivation practices, recreational cave visits, closures of caves or galleries.

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## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

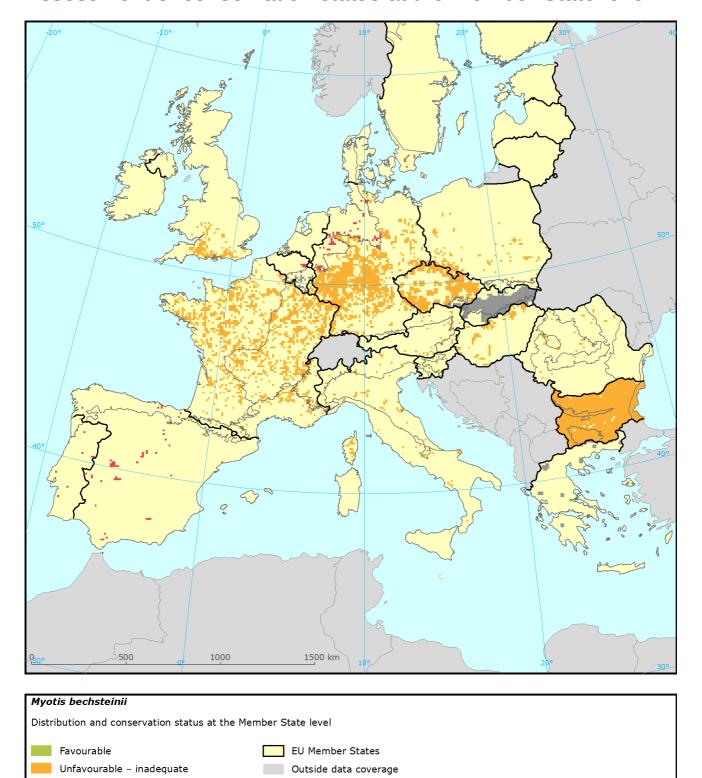


_	Conser	vation status	(CS) of p	arameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
ALP	U1	XX	XX	XX	U1	-	11	XX	Not genuine
ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	x	16	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	2	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	63	XX	Not genuine
MED	U2	XX	U1	XX	U2	-	4	XX	Not genuine
PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	4	XX	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.

Biogeographical region

Unfavourable - bad

Unknown

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_		Cons	ervation state		Current Tr	T	0/ im	Duaviana	Danas far	
MS	Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current	CS CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
AT	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	Х	3.3	U1	Changed method
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	29.9		
DE	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		0.2	U2	Changed method
ES	ALP	U2	XX	U2	U2	U2	x	0.2	U2	Changed method
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	9.9	XX	Better data
IT	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	4.0	U2-	Better data
PL	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		3.0	U1	Changed method
RO	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	2.3		
SI	ALP	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		2.3	FV	
SK	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		45.0	XX	
BE	ATL	XX	U2	FV	U1	U2	x	0.8	XX	Better data
DE	ATL	XX	U2	U1	U1	U2	+	7.5	U2	Better data
ES	ATL	U2	FV	U1	FV	U2	=	1.1	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	x	75.6	XX	Better data
NL	ATL									
PT	ATL	U1	XX	XX	XX	U1	х	0.1		
UK	ATL	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	x	14.8	U1	
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	100.0		
AT	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	х	0.7	U1	Changed method
BE	CON	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		1.0	XX	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	27.9		
CZ	CON	U1	XX	FV	XX	U1	=	12.8	XX	Changed method
DE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	32.4	U1	Genuine
DK	CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	x		XX	Better data
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	18.3	XX	Better data
IT	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	1.1	U2-	Better data
LU	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	0.3	U1	
PL	CON	XX	XX	U1	XX	U1	х	3.8	U1	
RO	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	1.0		
SE	CON	FV	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	0.3		
SI	CON	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		0.4	FV	
ES	MED	U2	XX	U1	XX	U2	-	24.4	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	47.2	XX	Better data
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		10.6	XX	

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MS Region		Cons	ervation statu	ameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for	
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS CS	region	CS	change
										_
IT	MED	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	13.9	U2-	Better data
PT	MED	U2	U1	XX	XX	U2	x	3.9	U2-	Changed method
CZ	PAN	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX		6.9	XX	
HU	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	46.5	U1-	
SK	PAN	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		46.5	XX	

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
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	39
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	9
B03	Forest exploitation	7
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	7
B04	Use of 'pesticides' (forestry)	6
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	6
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	4
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	4
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	35
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	9
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	8
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	8
B03	Forest exploitation	6
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	6
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	5
B04	Use of 'pesticides' (forestry)	5
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4

## 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	CON	MED	PAN
AT	34			56		
BE		50		73		
BG	78		69	55		
CZ				4		10
DE	100	24		56		
DK				100		
ES	X	0			12	
FR	Χ	Χ		Χ	7	
HU						50
IT	Χ			Χ	Χ	
LU				35		
PL	100			27		
PT		Χ			Χ	
RO	100			100		
SE				10		
SI	28			5		
SK	100					3
UK		Χ				

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### 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

C	ode	Measure	Frequency
6.	3	Legal protection of habitats and species	28
6.	.1	Establish protected areas/sites	15
7.	4	Specific single species or species group management measures	13
3.	2	Adapt forest management	10
7.	.0	Other species management measures	10
3.	.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	8
9.	.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	4
2.	2	Adapting crop production	3
4.	.1	Restoring/improving water quality	3
6.	4	Manage landscape features	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=Myotis+bechsteinii

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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 species population occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.

<sup>ii</sup>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.