Article 17 Reporting

Assessments of conservation status at the EU biogeographical level

Public consultation

This is a background document and 'user manual' for those wishing to participate in the public consultation on the assessments of Conservation Status made by the EEA and its ETC/BD. The public consultation will start on 14th February 2020 and run till the 8th March 2020 at https://nature-art17.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/

14th February 2020

The European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity (ETC/BD) is a consortium of eleven organisations under a Framework Partnership Agreement with the European Environment Agency for the period 2019-2021
MNHN Ecologic ILE-SAS JNCC NATURALIS NCA-CR S4E SLU UBA URJC WENR

Contents

1 Introduction

The 1992 EU Habitats Directive, together with the 1979 Birds Directive, is the most important European legislation aimed at the conservation of the European Union's wildlife. The Habitats Directive is presented as a series of articles together with a number of annexes. Article 11 requires countries to monitor the habitats and species listed in the annexes and Article 17 requires a report to be sent to the European Commission every 6 years following an agreed format – hence 'Article 17 reporting'. The current report covers the period 2013-2018 and concerns 28 EU Member States.

The results from Article 17 will form an important component of the evaluation of the implementation of the European Commission's 2020 biodiversity strategy but will also be widely used to inform policy.

A major part of the Article 17 report is an assessment of the conservation status of all the habitats and species listed on Annexes I & II of the Directive (those for which the countries must propose & designate sites forming part of the Natura 2000 network) together with species noted on Annex IV (species strictly protected) and Annex V (species whose exploitation requires management). This assessment, which is based on the definition of 'Favourable Conservation Status' given in the Directive, is carried out following a methodology agreed by the European Commission and the Member States. This is described in guidelines prepared by the ETC/BD[1]. The assessments cover the entire area of each country and are not restricted to the Natura 2000 network.

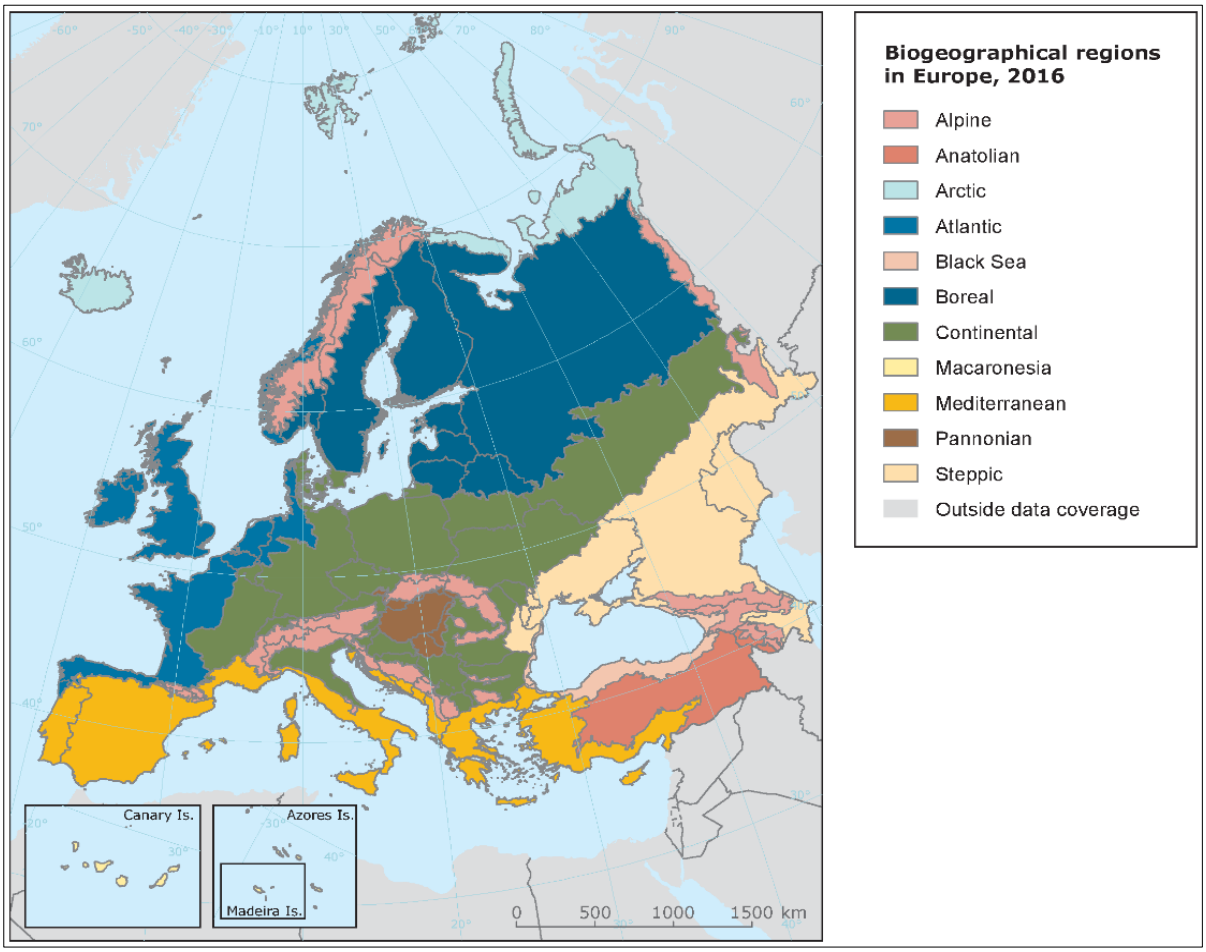
An assessment of conservation status is carried out for each biogeographical region present in a Member State. This division of Europe into biogeographic regions aims to allow a comparison between areas with similar geography and biodiversity. There are nine biogeographical regions mentioned in the Directive. In addition, five marine regions (Marine Atlantic, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean, Marine Baltic & Marine Black Sea) have been added for the purpose of Article 17 reporting (see figure 1).

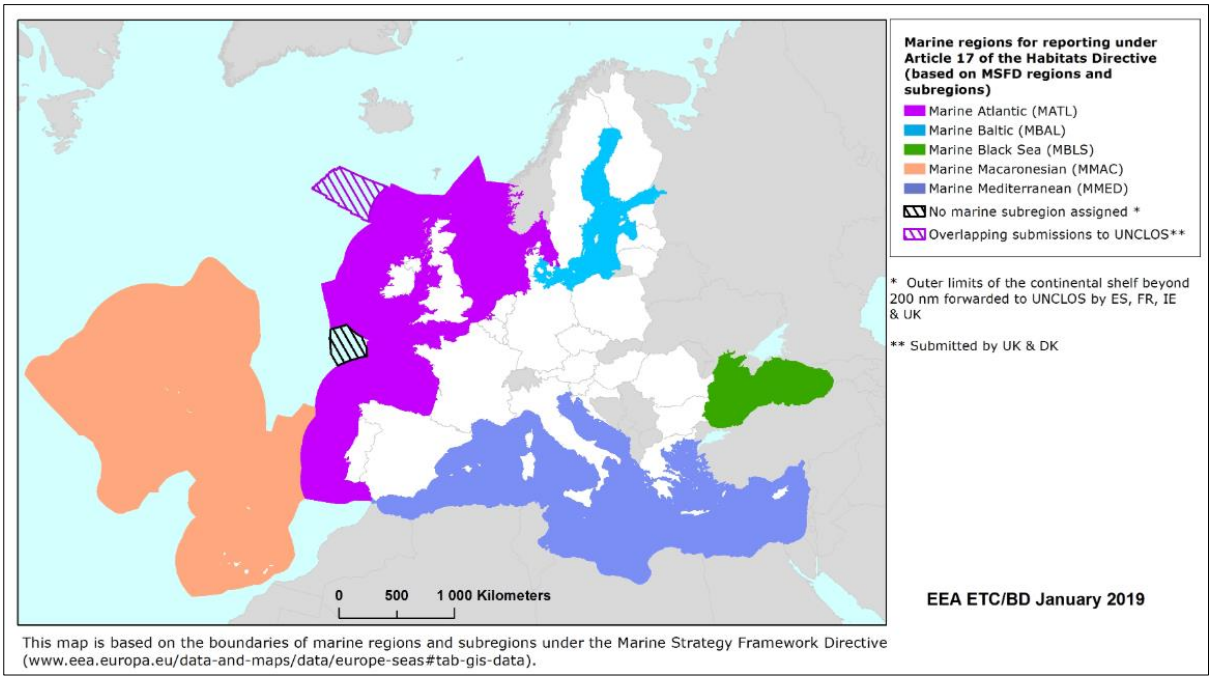
Where a Member State is entirely within one region, such as Luxembourg, only one report is required for each habitat type and species present. If a Member State is in two or more regions a report is required for each region, for example *Bombina variegata* (Yellow-Bellied toad) in Germany occurs in the Alpine, Atlantic and Continental regions and Germany has reported separately for all three regions.

The European Commission has asked the European Environment Agency and its ETC/BD to prepare assessments of Conservation Status across each biogeographic or marine region based on the data sent by the Member States. This assessment followed a method which is described below and which was developed for the 2001-2006 reporting round in close cooperation with experts of the Habitats Directive Scientific Working Group.

[1] Reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive - Explanatory Notes and Guidelines for the period 2013–2018https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/5b74d59f-c82e-424a-8070-bf190fdcf990/Reporting%20guidelines%20Article%2017%20final%20May%202017.docx

Figure 1 The biogeographical* and marine regions for reporting under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive.





*Biogeographical regions (2016) are shown beyond the extent of EU 28.

2 Conservation status as assessed by Member States

Member States assess conservation status using a method developed for the 2001-2006 reporting round and updated for 20007-2012 and 2012-2018 rounds. The assessment is based on separate evaluations of four parameters which reflect the definition of Favourable Conservation Status given in the Habitats Directive, the parameters are slightly different for species and habitats and are listed in table 1. The Conservation Status of the current reporting period (2013 – 2018) is compared with a back-casted Conservation Status from the first reporting period (2001 – 2006) in order to assess the contribution to Target 1 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. This assessment of contribution to Target 1 is described fully in chapter 3.2.

Conservation Status is given as one of three classes

- Favourable
- Unfavourable inadequate
- Unfavourable bad

There is also an 'Unknown' class which can be used where there is insufficient information available to allow an assessment.

For graphical representations, each class is colour coded and given an abbreviation, as shown in table 2. The criteria for assessing each class are given in appendix 1 which also shows how the evaluations of the parameters are combined to give the conclusion of Conservation Status.

Table 1: The parameters for assessments of Conservation Status

Species	**Habitats**
Range	Range
Population	Area
Habitat for the species	Structure & Functions
Future prospects	Future prospects

Table 2: Abbreviations and colour codes for Conservation Status classes

Conservation Status	Colour	Abbreviation
Favourable	Green	FV
Unfavourable inadequate	Amber	U1
Unfavourable bad	Red	U2
Unknown	Grey	XX

Where assessments of Conservation Status had changed since the previous 2007-2012 reports, Member States were also asked to indicate whether this change was genuine or non-genuine (Table 3).

Table 3 Codes used to report nature of change

reported reason for change	code used in the tool	codes used in the Automatic calculations in the assessment tool
genuine change	genuine	**gen**
improved knowledge/more accurate data	knowledge	**nong**
use of different method (including taxonomical change or use of different thresholds)	method	
no information on the nature of change	noInfo	
there is no difference	noChange	**nc**
no reason reported	N/A	**N/A**

As described in the next section, a variety of methods have been used to produce EU regional assessments from the Member States assessments. The codes for each methodology are given here but are discussed in more detail below.

Table 4 Methods used to produce EU regional assessments
(G is spatial data, X is tabular data, A is area, P is population, R is range, D is distribution)

Code	Meaning	Preference
0EQ	Conclusions for a parameter are the same for all MS within the region	**1**
0MS	The habitat or species only occurs in one MS within the region so, unless there are good reasons, the MS assessment is also the EU regional assessment	**1**
1	Parameter assessed using the evaluation matrix after summing the MS data. This should only be used for range, population (species) and area and structure and functions (habitat).	**1**
2XA	Parameter weighted by area of the habitat from Member State data *(habitats only)*	**2**
2XP	Parameter weighted by population from Member State data *(species only)*	**2**
2GD	Parameter weighted by area of distribution from GIS data	**3**
2XR	Parameter weighted by range from Member State data	**4**
3XA	Overall conclusion weighted by area of habitat from Member State data *(habitats only)*	**5**
3XP	Overall conclusion weighted by population from Member State data *(species only)*	**5**
3GD	Overall conclusion weighted by area of distribution from GIS data	**6**
3XR	Overall conclusion weighted by range from Member State data	**7**
Other codes		
MTX	Overall conclusion assessed from assessments using methods 1 or 2 of the 4 parameters, using the last row of the evaluation matrix (only used for overall Conservation Status)	-

OTH	Other method was used, explanations provided in Audit trail	-

Note: where 2 or more methods are given the same preference, often only one will be possible in a given situation.

3 Assessing Conservation Status by biogeographical or marine region

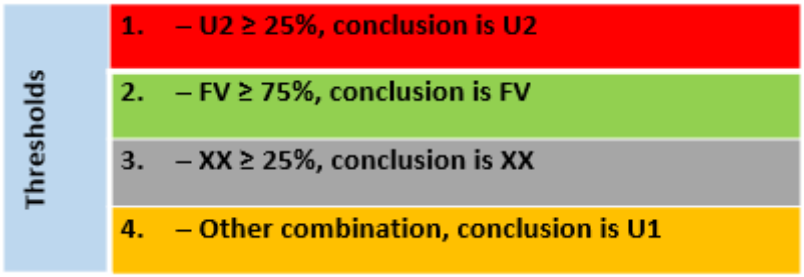
For approximately half of the species and 1/3 of the habitats the conservation status for a whole region is the same as reported by the countries as the habitat and species only occurs in one Member State (e.g. habitat type '9590 Cedrus brevifolia forests (Cedrosetum brevifoliae) only occurs in the Cyprus) or all the Member States where it is present have reported the same evaluation as for the sedge *Carex holostoma* in the Alpine region assessed as 'Favourable'.

Ideally the assessment for each biogeographic region would follow the same method and evaluation matrices as used by the Member States. For 'range', 'population' of species and for 'area' and 'structure and functions' of habitats it is possible, at least in theory, to follow the method used by the Member States (i.e. by using their reported values). However, in many cases a combination of missing data or incompatible data (e.g. population sizes reported using different units, incorrect data reported) makes this impossible.

Where it was not possible to use the data provided by Member States, the assessments of conservation status for the individual parameters from each Member State have been weighed by the proportion of the species/habitat in each country and then evaluated. The preferred weighting, is by population size for species and surface area for habitats followed by gridded distribution data reported and finally by range if the first two are unusable. Where possible the four parameters are evaluated individually and then combined to give a regional assessment using the same method as used by the countries (i.e. use of the matrix in Annex 1).

Where a weighting has to be used, thresholds are required to give Conservation Status and the following have been used; they are applied in sequence.

Figure 2 Decision making chain to identify qualifiers for conservation status



Although these thresholds are arbitrary, trials showed that changing them made little difference to overall conclusions.

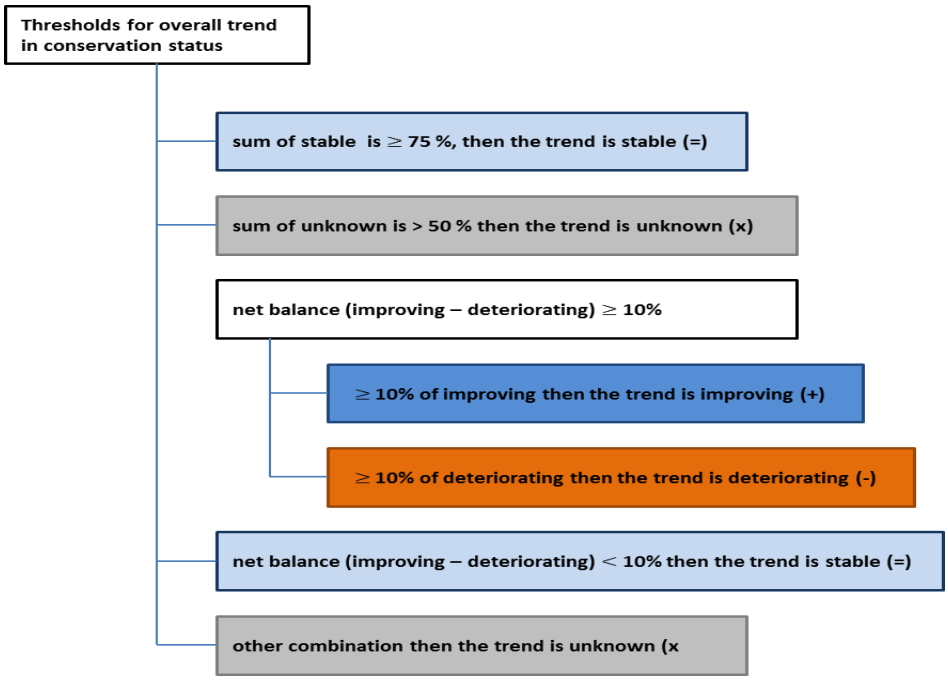
3.1 Trends for overall Conservation Status

Given the definition of 'Favourable conservation status' in the Habitats Directive, changes in the overall conservation status, for example from unfavourable to favourable or, from Unfavourable bad to unfavourable inadequate - require relatively major changes in the individual conservation status parameters to be noted. The use of 'trend of the overall conservation status' allows more subtle changes (improvement or deterioration) of the unfavourable categories to be identified. This

information is also required to measure progress to Target 1 of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. Progress is measured based on the 2013-2018 assessments that are considered as 'Favourable' or 'improving', see section 3.2. A conservation status trend (improvement, stable, deterioration) is given to all unfavourable assessments. These are represented as U1+ (Unfavourable inadequate but improving), U2= (Unfavourable bad and stable), U2- (Unfavourable bad and deteriorating) etc. For 2013-2018 period the trend in conservation status has also been assessed for Favourable assessments although this is not used for evaluation of EU Biodiversity Strategy

The conservation status trends reported by the Member States can be weighted using the same methods as used for the assessments and the EU biogeographical trend is assessed using the following thresholds see figure 4.

Figure 4 Decision making chain to identify qualifiers for conservation status



3.2 Measuring progress to Target 1

Target 1 of the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy concerns nature conservation and restoration and has a focus on the Birds and the Habitats Directives.

Target 1

To halt the deterioration in the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation and achieve a significant and measurable improvement in their status so that, by 2020, compared to current assessments:

(i) 100% more habitat assessments and 50% more species assessments under the Habitats Directive show (a favourable or) an improved conservation status; and

(ii) 50% more species assessments under the Birds Directive show a secure or improved status.

To achieve this, requires a 50% improvement for species and a 100% improvement for habitat types from 2001-2006. To assess progress to this target it is necessary to identify the assessments which

- Are favourable for 2013 - 2018
- Have improved

For conservation status assessments with a genuine or no change from the previous 2007-2012 reporting the possible changes between the two reporting rounds (baseline period, 2001-2006 with back-casting[2], and current period, 2013-2018) are shown in table 5 where the changes are coded to indicate which can be considered as Favourable, Improved, Deteriorated, Stable or Unknown. Table 6 gives an information on how these codes should be attributed based on overall trend in conservation status for assessments with a non-genuine change from the previous 2007-2012 reporting Assessments are considered as 'Improved' (and though feeding into Target 1 evaluations) if the conservation status has changed (genuinely) from U2 to U1, U2 to U2+, U1 to U1+ or XX to U1+ or U2+ or if the overall trend in conservation status for 2013-2018 in case of changes which are non genuine is improving for U1 and U2 assessments.

Table 5 Matrix for measuring progress under Target 1 (where genuine or no-change was recorded from the 2007 – 2012 reporting period)

Conservation status (CS) and its trend		**Conservation Status and trend in 2013–2018**							
		FV	**U1 +**	**U1 =**	**U1 -**	**U2 +**	**U2 =**	**U2 -**	**XX**
Back-casted Conservation Status in 200-2006	**FV**	Favourable A=	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Unknown E
	U1	Favourable A+	Improved B1	No change D	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Deteriorated C	Unknown E
	U2	Favourable A+	Improved B1	Improved B1	Improved B1	Improved B1	No change D	Deteriorated C	Unknown E
	XX	Favourable A=	Improved B1	No change D	Deteriorated C	Improved B1	No change D	Deteriorated C	No change D

Note: Only assessments marked as 'Favourable' or 'Improved' are taken into account for Target 1. U1= and U2= includes stable and unknown conservation status trends (including U1x, U2x).

Table 6 Matrix to identify favourable, improved and deteriorated assessments and assessments that did not change; this matrix is only used for conservation status assessments that did none genuinely changed between 2007-2012 and 2013-2018

Conservation Status and trend in 2013–2018							
FV	**U1 +**	**U1 =**	**U1 -**	**U2 +**	**U2 =**	**U2 -**	**XX**
Favourable A=	Improved B2	No change D	Deteriorated C	Improved B2	No change D	Deteriorated C	No change D

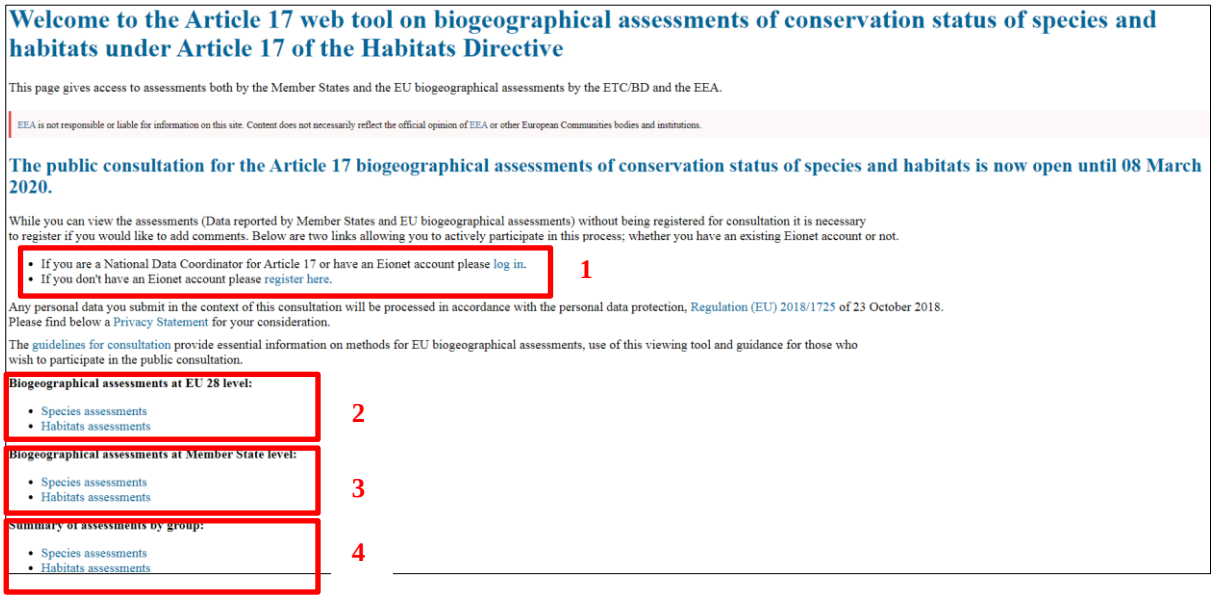
[2] The back-casting procedure is explained in the Appendix 3

4 Presentation of Assessments and Public Consultation

The assessments, both by countries and for the EU biogeographical regions are available to the public using a dedicated website designed by the ETC/BD and co-developed by the European Environment Agency at https://nature-art17.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/ This website will also be used for the public consultation as there it will be possible to comment on the EU biogeographical assessments completed by EEA and ETC/BD. Once the consultation period is finished the ETC/BD will revise the biogeographical assessments.

The use of the website is explained in further detail below.

Figure 5 The homepage of the Article 17 reporting website



1 Registration (see Appendix 2)
2 Biogeographical assessments at EU 28 level
3 Biogeographical assessments at Member State level
4 Summary of assessments by group

4.1 Viewing Data

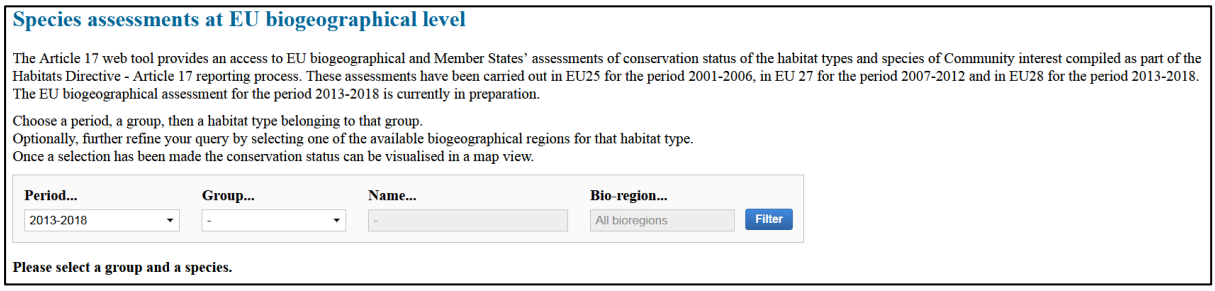
Anybody can view the data as provided by Member States as well as the EU biogeographical assessments.

On the home page, click

Species assessments
Habitats assessments

Under the heading **'Biogeographical assessments at EU 28 level:'** you will be directed to a page (see figure 6) where it is possible to select species or habitats and to see the assessments of Conservation Status.

Figure 6 Selecting species and period

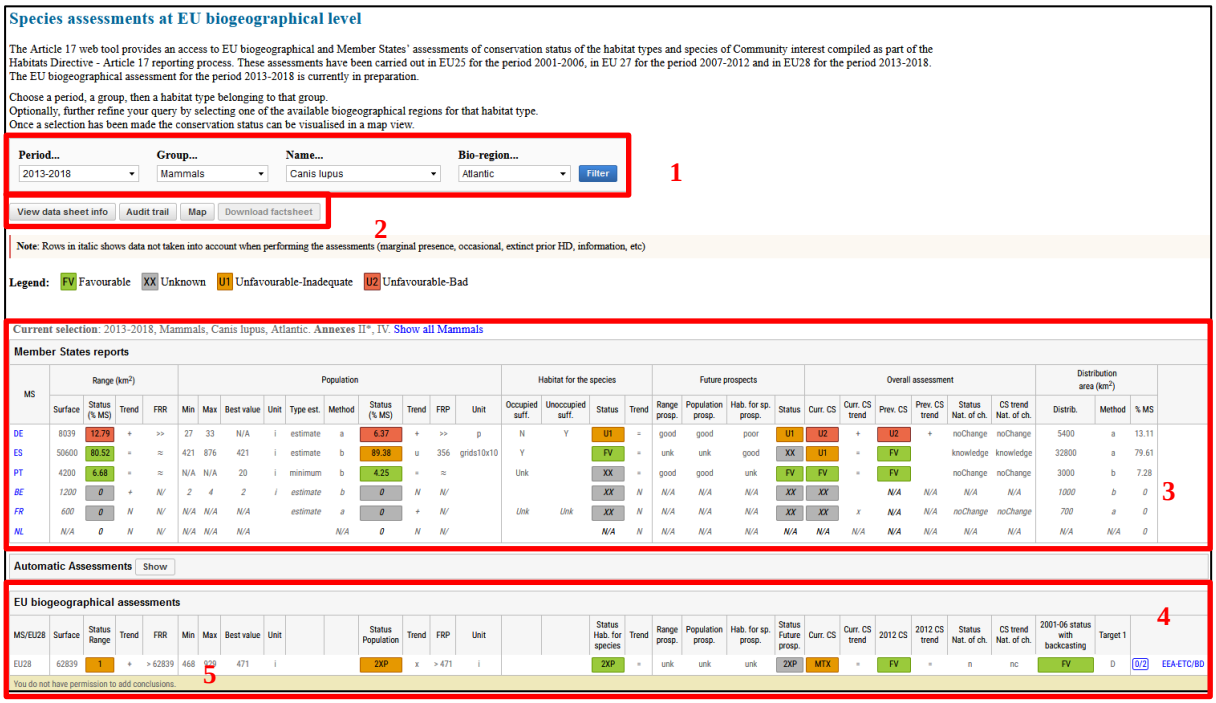


To view the assessments:

1 select the period
2 select the group from the drop down menu
3 select the species/habitat from the drop down menu (typing the start of the name will take you to the appropriate part of the list)
4 Select either a region or 'all bioregions'
5 click on 'filter'

This will lead to page showing the MS regional assessments and the EU biogeographical assessment for the species/habitat selected (figure 7).

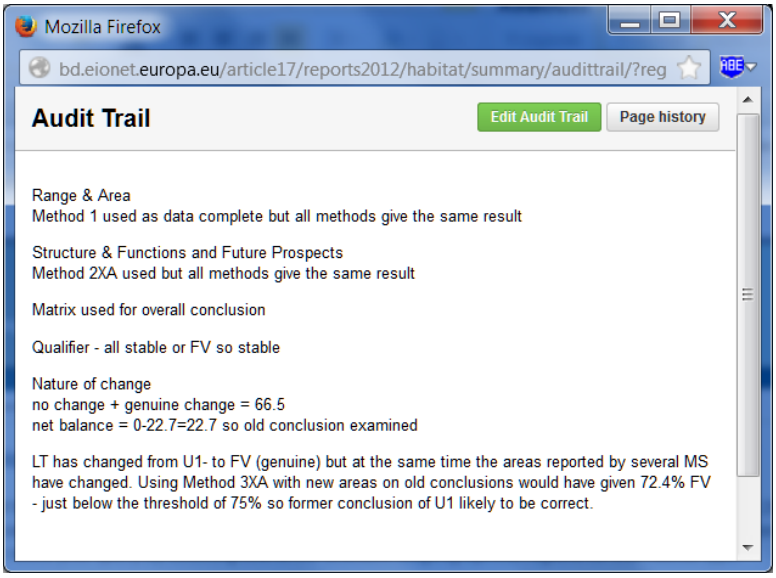
Figure 7 Assessment of the Conservation Status of a species (*Canis lupus* in the Mediterranean region)



1 Select period, species/habitat and region
2 Click to open datasheet text, audit trail and/or map
3 Information from countries
4 EU biogeographical assessment
5 Not registered user can only view the assessment and not participate in the consultation

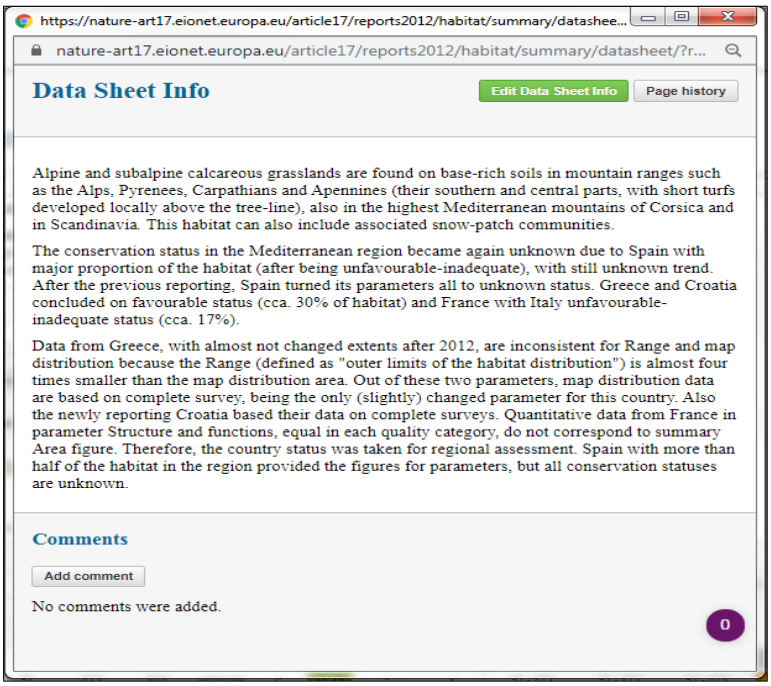
The page presents the status of each of the four parameters together with some of the data used (and links to more) for each Member State. The webpage also shows the EU biogeographical assessment with access to an 'audit trail' which explains which method was chosen and why (figure 8) and a datasheet info giving a brief overview of the species/habitat (figure 9). There is also an option to see a map showing the distribution, coded by the Member States assessments (Figure 10).

Figure 8 An Audit trail (habitat 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes in the Boreal region)



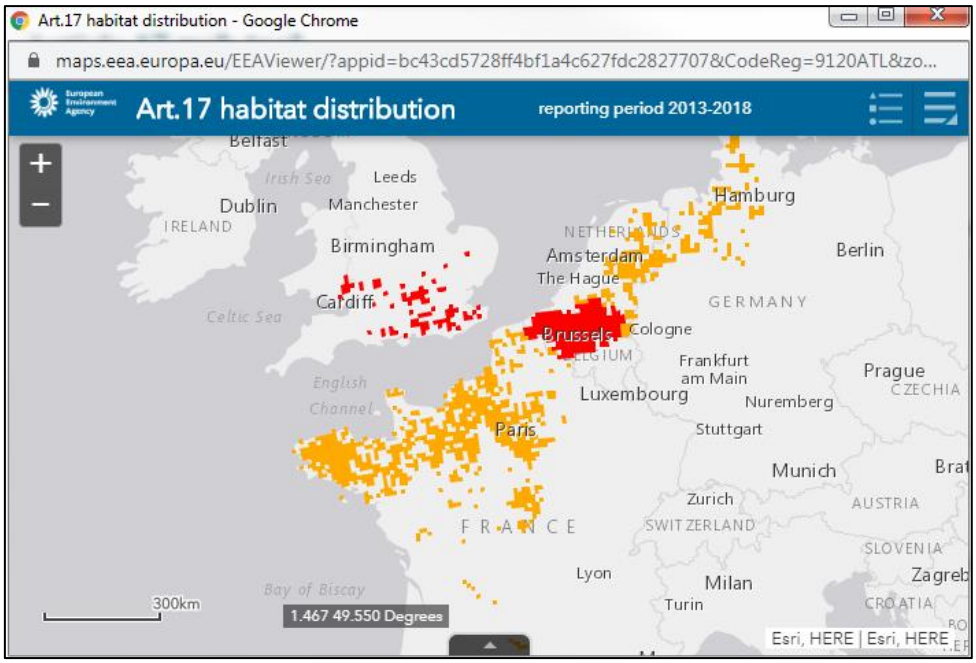
Often the audit trails use the method codes given in table 4 above and the standard ISO 2 letter codes for the Member States (e.g. FR for France).

Figure 9 An example of a datasheet (Habitat 6170 Alpine and subalpine calcareous grasslands in the Mediterranean)



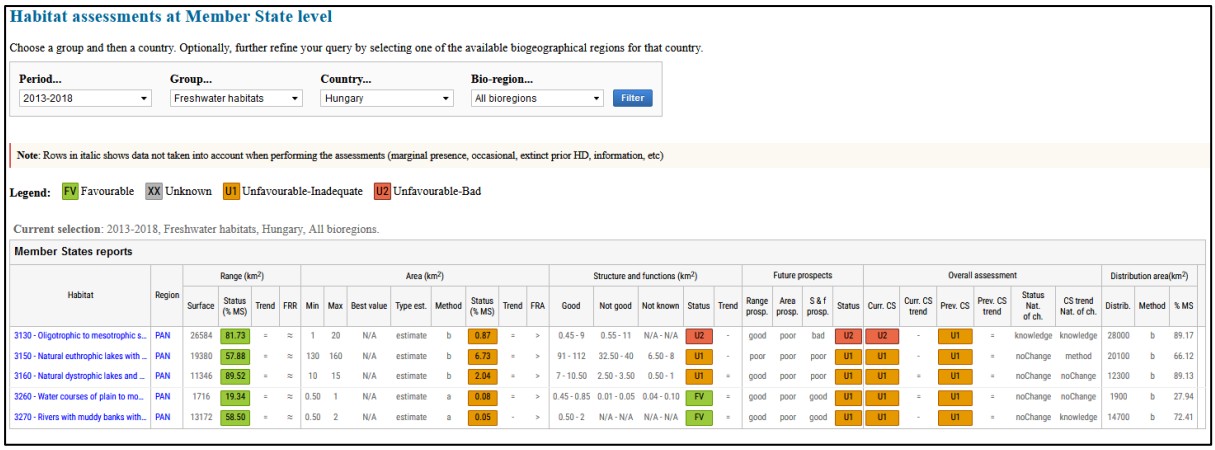
Datasheet info have been prepared for each region in which a habitat or species occurs, a summary datasheet info for all regions has also been prepared. The summary datasheet can be viewed when all bioregions are selected.

Figure 10 Map showing part of the distribution of 9120 Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with *Ilex* and sometimes also *Taxus* in the shrublayer (*Quercion robori-petraeae* or *Ilici-Fagenion*) (colours indicate Conservation Status)



It is also possible to see assessments for one or all Member State for a group of habitats or species by clicking on Species assessments or Habitat assessments under the heading **'Biogeographical assessments at Member State level'** on the homepage (see figure 11) or to see a summary of the EU biogeographical assessments of all the species or habitats in a group under the heading **'Summary of assessments by group'**, for example all mammals or all forests (see figure 12).

Figure 11 Assessment of Conservation Status by Member State (Freshwater habitats in Hungary)



Habitat assessments at Member State level

Choose a group and then a country. Optionally, further refine your query by selecting one of the available biogeographical regions for that country.

Period... 2013-2018 | **Group...** Freshwater habitats | **Country...** Hungary | **Bio-region...** All bioregions | Filter

Note: Rows in italic shows data not taken into account when performing the assessments (marginal presence, occasional, extinct prior HD, information, etc)

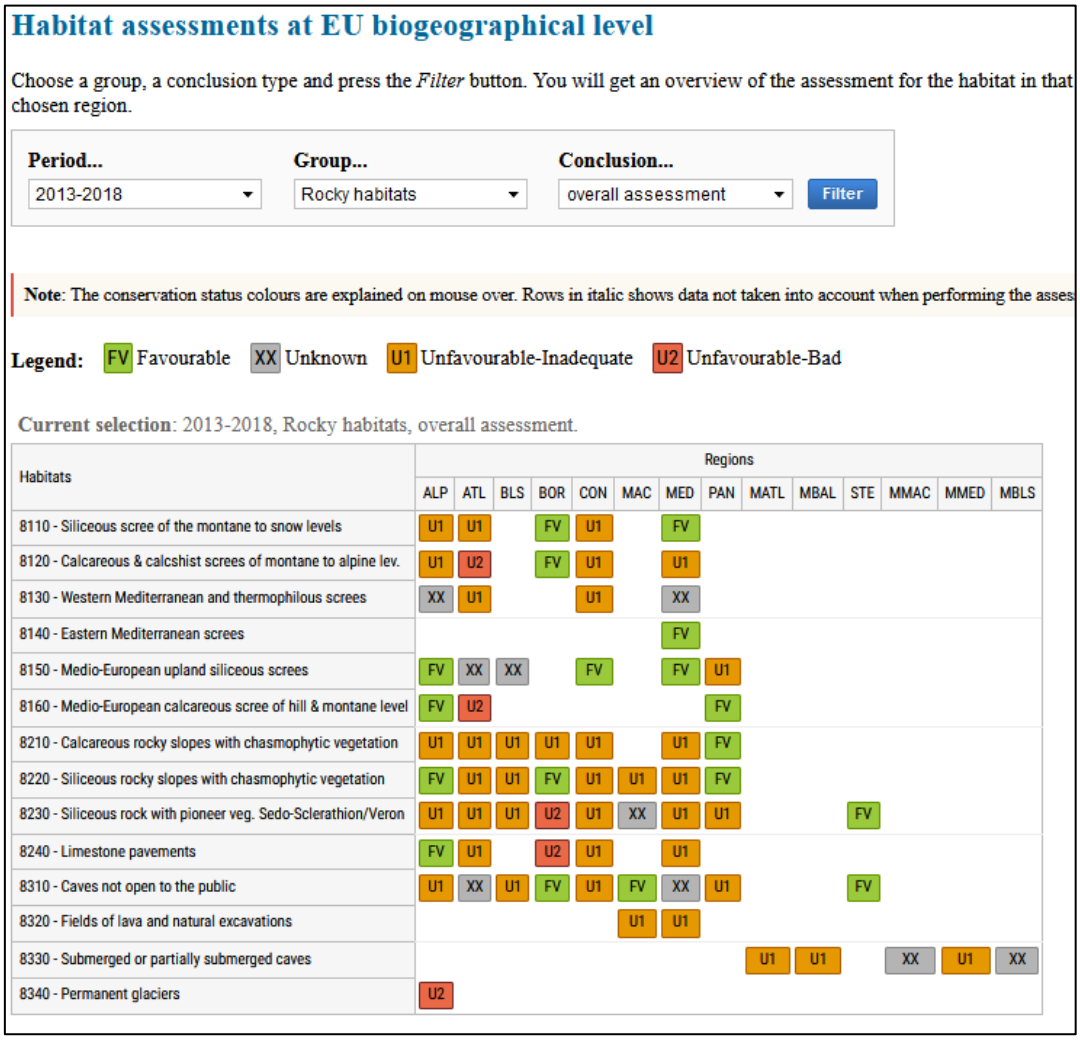
Legend: FV Favourable XX Unknown U1 Unfavourable-Inadequate U2 Unfavourable-Bad

Current selection: 2013-2018, Freshwater habitats, Hungary, All bioregions.

Member States reports

Habitat	Region	Range (km²)				Area (km²)								Structure and functions (km²)					Future prospects				Overall assessment						Distribution area(km²)		
		Surface	Status (% MS)	Trend	FRR	Min	Max	Best value	Type est.	Method	Status (% MS)	Trend	FRA	Good	Not good	Not known	Status	Trend	Range prosp.	Area prosp.	S & f prosp.	Status	Curr. CS	Curr. CS trend	Prev. CS	Prev. CS trend	Status Nat. of ch.	CS trend Nat. of ch.	Distrib.	Method	% MS
3130 - Oligotrophic to mesotrophic s...	PAN	26584	81.73	=	≈	1	20	N/A	estimate	b	0.87	=	>	0.45 - 9	0.55 - 11	N/A - N/A	U2	-	good	poor	bad	U2	U2	-	U1	=	knowledge	knowledge	28000	b	89.17
3150 - Natural euthrophic lakes with ...	PAN	19380	57.88	=	≈	130	160	N/A	estimate	b	6.73	=	>	91 - 112	32.50 - 40	6.50 - 8	U1	-	poor	poor	poor	U1	U1	-	U1	=	noChange	method	20100	b	66.12
3160 - Natural dystrophic lakes and ...	PAN	11346	89.52	=	≈	10	15	N/A	estimate	b	2.04	=	>	7 - 10.50	2.50 - 3.50	0.50 - 1	U1	=	good	poor	poor	U1	U1	=	U1	=	noChange	noChange	12300	b	89.13
3260 - Water courses of plain to mo...	PAN	1716	19.34	=	≈	0.50	1	N/A	estimate	a	0.08	=	>	0.45 - 0.85	0.01 - 0.05	0.04 - 0.10	FV	=	good	poor	good	U1	U1	=	U1	=	noChange	noChange	1900	b	27.94
3270 - Rivers with muddy banks with...	PAN	13172	58.50	=	≈	0.50	2	N/A	estimate	a	0.05	-	>	0.50 - 2	N/A - N/A	N/A - N/A	FV	=	good	poor	good	U1	U1	-	U1	=	noChange	knowledge	14700	b	72.41

Figure 12 Summary of assessments for a species or habitat group (Rocky habitats)



Habitat assessments at EU biogeographical level

Choose a group, a conclusion type and press the *Filter* button. You will get an overview of the assessment for the habitat in that chosen region.

Period... 2013-2018 | **Group...** Rocky habitats | **Conclusion...** overall assessment | Filter

Note: The conservation status colours are explained on mouse over. Rows in italic shows data not taken into account when performing the asses

Legend: FV Favourable | XX Unknown | U1 Unfavourable-Inadequate | U2 Unfavourable-Bad

Current selection: 2013-2018, Rocky habitats, overall assessment.

Habitats	Regions													
	ALP	ATL	BLS	BOR	CON	MAC	MED	PAN	MATL	MBAL	STE	MMAC	MMED	MBLS
8110 - Siliceous scree of the montane to snow levels	U1	U1		FV	U1		FV							
8120 - Calcareous & calcshist screes of montane to alpine lev.	U1	U2		FV	U1		U1							
8130 - Western Mediterranean and thermophilous screes	XX	U1			U1		XX							
8140 - Eastern Mediterranean screes							FV							
8150 - Medio-European upland siliceous screes	FV	XX	XX		FV		FV	U1						
8160 - Medio-European calcareous scree of hill & montane level	FV	U2						FV						
8210 - Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1		U1	FV						
8220 - Siliceous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation	FV	U1	U1	FV	U1	U1	U1	FV						
8230 - Siliceous rock with pioneer veg. Sedo-Sclerathion/Veron	U1	U1	U1	U2	U1	XX	U1	U1			FV			
8240 - Limestone pavements	FV	U1		U2	U1		U1							
8310 - Caves not open to the public	U1	XX	U1	FV	U1	FV	XX	U1			FV			
8320 - Fields of lava and natural excavations						U1	U1							
8330 - Submerged or partially submerged caves									U1	U1		XX	U1	XX
8340 - Permanent glaciers	U2													

5 Commenting on the Biogeographical Assessments

Any user can view the data, but only registered users can insert comments during the consultation period. The registration process is described in ***Appendix 2***.

During the consultation period registered users are invited to comment on the following issues:

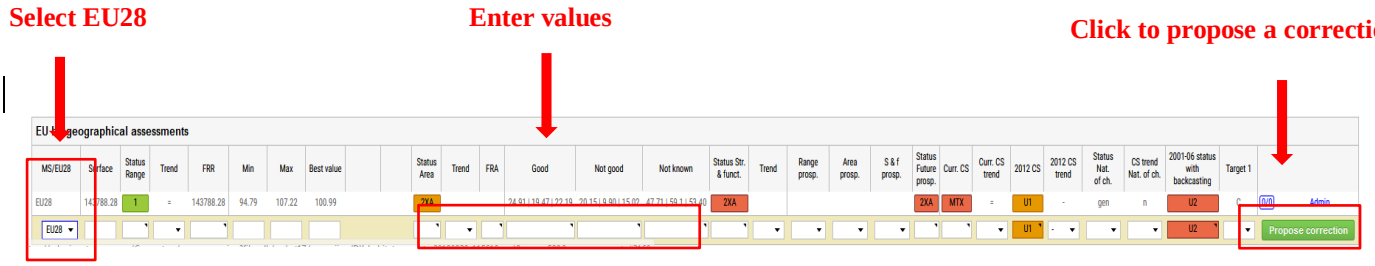
1. The biogeographical assessments at the EU level
2. The Member States biogeographical assessments as reported by MS
3. The text from the data sheet info.

In order to assure the clarity and relevance of comments, the people participating in the public consultation are invited to use the facilities of the Article 17 web tool to submit their comments. Commenting on the EU biogeographical assessments or assessments from Member States consist of filling in (partially) the 'assessment' line of the web tool. Any registered user is allowed to add only one record (for each assessment and type of comment), edit his/her records, mark own records for deletion and undelete own records.

5.1 How to comment on the biogeographical assessment at the EU level

To provide a comment related to the EU biogeographical assessments the 'assessment' line of the web tool must be filled in as described below. To provide a comment make sure you have selected the proper bioregion of the habitat / species you want to comment on:

Figure 13 Commenting on biogeographical assessment at the EU level



1 Verify that under the heading "MS/EU28" the value "EU28" is selected

2 Insert a CORRECTION by filling ONLY the fields that are considered to be wrong or doubtful in the original EEA&ETC/BD assessment and that ideally differ from the given assessment. For example, if the conclusion on population assessed as 'U2' is considered wrong, you may select for example 'U1' from the drop down list

3 Click the "Propose correction" button

4 Click on the blue box with 0/0 which will appear next to your name and insert text in **ENGLISH.** The text should explain why you think the assessment is incorrect. *If no explanation is provided the comment will not be considered*. As an example, you might write *'The assessment for population seems correct as the values provided by the Member States are correct, but the favourable reference population provided by Member State X seems overestimated".*

5 Click the 'Add comment' button

6 If necessary, click on the text '1/1' to see your comment, to change it or to mark it as deleted

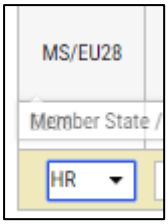
If necessary, click on text 'edit' or 'delete' to change or delete your proposed correction. It may be necessary to refresh your browser to see that the comment has been added.

5.2 How to comment on the biogeographical assessment at Member State level as provided by MS?

A registered user may also comment on a biogeographical assessment from a Member State **if this is influencing the EU biogeographical assessment.**

The process is similar to that described above, except for step 1.

To comment on a specific Member State select its two digit code under the heading 'MS/EU28' (e.g. below).



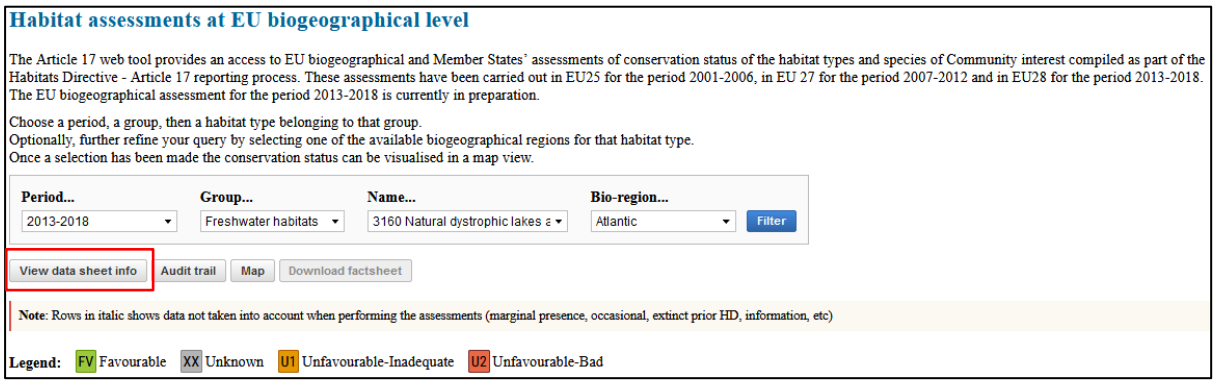
5.3 How to comment on the Data sheets

Anybody can view the audit trail and the text in the data sheets, but only registered users are able to comment/update the text in the data sheet or to propose new formulations.

Comments to datasheet should only be related to the content of the datasheet text, no comment regarding the EEA&ETC/BD's EU biogeographical assessment or Member State assessment should be done here.

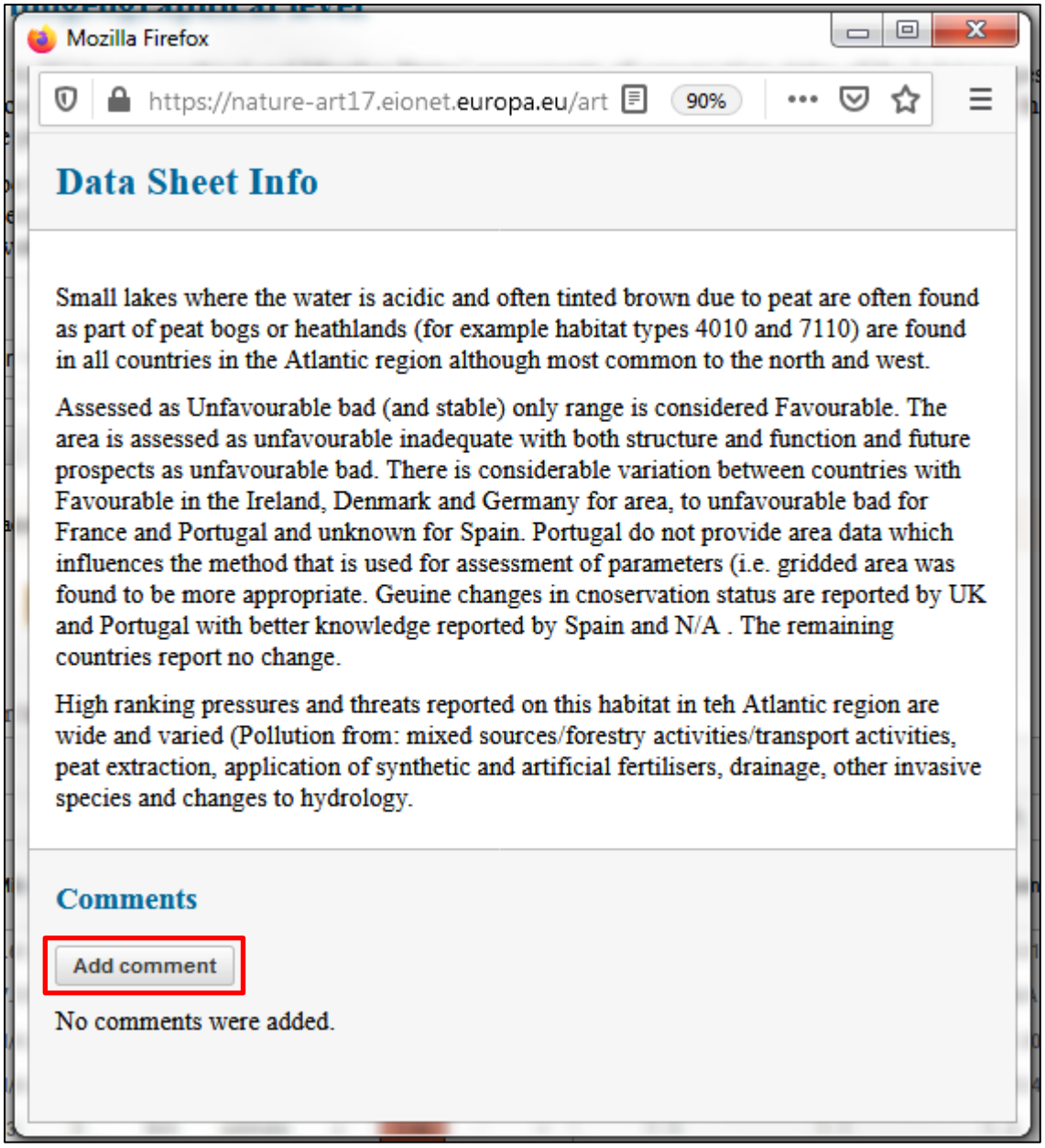
To comment on a 'Data sheet'

1 Click the 'View data sheet info" button

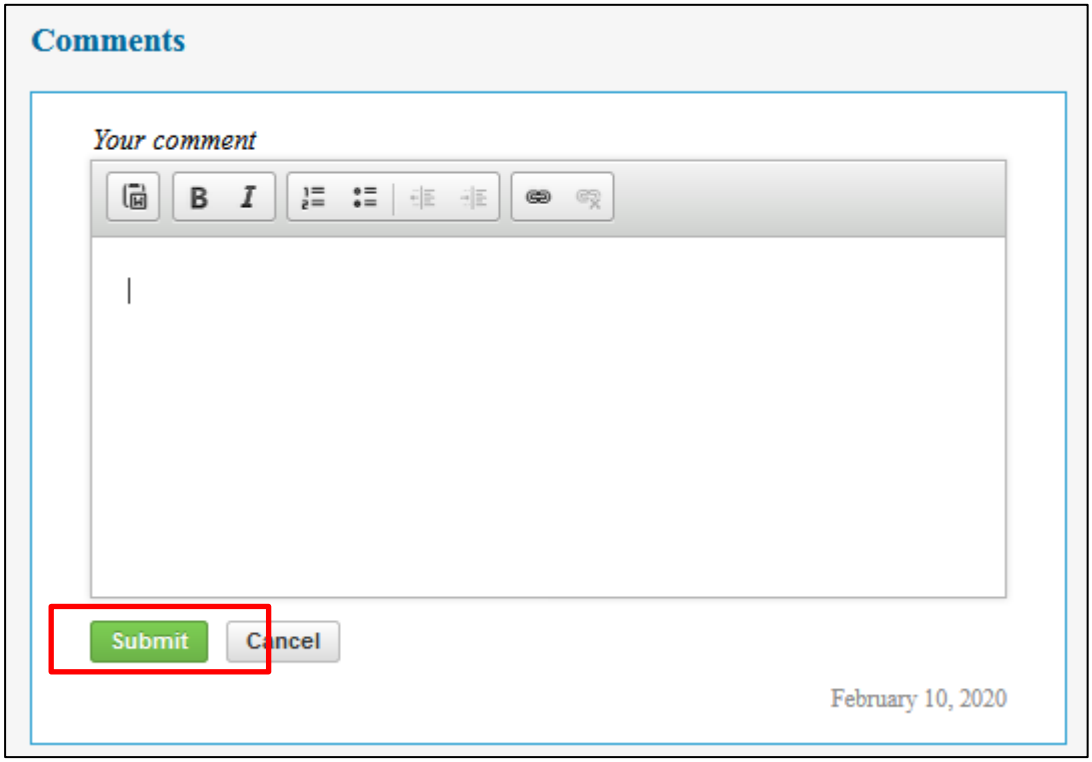


2 Review text

3 Click the "Add comment" button


Mozilla Firefox
https://nature-art17.eionet.europa.eu/art
90%
Data Sheet Info
Small lakes where the water is acidic and often tinted brown due to peat are often found as part of peat bogs or heathlands (for example habitat types 4010 and 7110) are found in all countries in the Atlantic region although most common to the north and west.
Assessed as Unfavourable bad (and stable) only range is considered Favourable. The area is assessed as unfavourable inadequate with both structure and function and future prospects as unfavourable bad. There is considerable variation between countries with Favourable in the Ireland, Denmark and Germany for area, to unfavourable bad for France and Portugal and unknown for Spain. Portugal do not provide area data which influences the method that is used for assessment of parameters (i.e. gridded area was found to be more appropriate. Geuine changes in cnoservation status are reported by UK and Portugal with better knowledge reported by Spain and N/A . The remaining countries report no change.
High ranking pressures and threats reported on this habitat in teh Atlantic region are wide and varied (Pollution from: mixed sources/forestry activities/transport activities, peat extraction, application of synthetic and artificial fertilisers, drainage, other invasive species and changes to hydrology.
Comments
Add comment
No comments were added.

4 Add a comment(s) and click submit



6 Comments are editable or deletable after being added.

6 Appendix 1 - Assessing conservation status of Species and habitats

6.1 Species

Parameter	Conservation Status			
	Favourable ('green')	**Unfavourable - Inadequate ('amber')**	**Unfavourable - Bad ('red')**	***Unknown (insufficient information to make an assessment)***
Range (within the biogeographical region concerned)	Stable (loss and expansion in balance) or increasing AND not smaller than the 'favourable reference range'	Any other combination	Large decline: Equivalent to a loss of more than 1% per year within period specified by MS i. OR more than 10% below favourable reference range	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Population	Population(s) not lower than 'favourable reference population' AND reproduction, mortality and age structure not deviating from normal (if data available)	Any other combination	Large decline: Equivalent to a loss of more than 1% per year (indicative value MS may deviate from if duly justified) within period specified by MS AND below 'favourable reference population' OR More than 25% below favourable reference population OR Reproduction, mortality and age structure strongly deviating from normal (if data available)	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Habitat for the species	Area of habitat is sufficiently large (and stable or increasing) AND habitat quality is suitable for the long-term survival of the species	Any other combination	Area of habitat is clearly not sufficiently large to ensure the long-term survival of the species OR Habitat quality is bad, clearly not allowing long-term survival of the species	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Future prospects (as regards to population, range and habitat availability)	Main pressures and threats to the species not significant; species will remain viable on the long-term	Any other combination	Severe influence of pressures and threats to the species; very bad prospects for its future, long-term viability at risk.	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Overall assessment of CS	All 'green' OR three 'green' and one 'unknown'	One or more 'amber' but no 'red'	One or more 'red'	Two or more 'unknown' combined with green or all "unknown"

6.2 Habitats

Parameter	Conservation Status			
	Favourable ('green')	**Unfavourable – Inadequate ('amber')**	**Unfavourable - Bad ('red')**	***Unknown (insufficient information to make an assessment)***
Range (within the biogeographical/marine region concerned)	Stable (loss and expansion in balance) or increasing AND not smaller than the 'favourable reference range'	Any other combination	Large decrease: Equivalent to a loss of more than 1% per year within period specified by MS OR More than 10% below 'favourable reference range'	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Area covered by habitat type within range[3]	Stable (loss and expansion in balance) or increasing AND not smaller than the 'favourable reference area' AND without significant changes in distribution pattern within range (if data available)	Any other combination	Large decrease in surface area: Equivalent to a loss of more than 1% per year (indicative value MS may deviate from if duly justified) within period specified by MS OR With major losses in distribution pattern within range OR More than 10% below 'favourable reference area'	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Specific structure and functions (including typical species[4]**)**	Structures and functions (including typical species) in good condition and no significant deteriorations / pressures	Any other combination	More than 25% of the area is unfavourable as regards its specific structures and functions (including typical species)[5]	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Future prospects (as regards range, area covered and specific structures and functions)	The habitats prospects for its future are excellent / good, no significant impact from threats expected; long-term viability assured	Any other combination	The habitats prospects are bad, severe impact from threats expected; long-term viability not assured.	*No or insufficient reliable information available*
Overall assessment of CS	All 'green' OR three 'green' and one 'unknown'	One or more 'amber' but no 'red'	One or more 'red'	Two or more 'unknown' combined with green or all 'unknown'

[3] There may be situations where the habitat area has decreased as a result of management measures to restore another Annex I habitat or habitat of an Annex II species. The habitat could still be considered to be at 'Favourable Conservation Status' but in such cases give details in the Complementary Information section ('Other relevant information') of Annex D

[4] See definition of typical species in the Explanatory Notes and Guidelines

[5] E.g. by discontinuation of former management, or is under pressure from significant adverse influences, e.g. critical loads of pollution exceeded

7 Appendix 2 - Registration

Anybody is able to view data without being registered, but only registered users are able to comment on the biogeographical assessment at the regional level as assessed by EEA and ETC/BD and to comment on MS reports if relevant for the EU assessment.

The consultation will run from 14 February 2020 to 8 March 2020

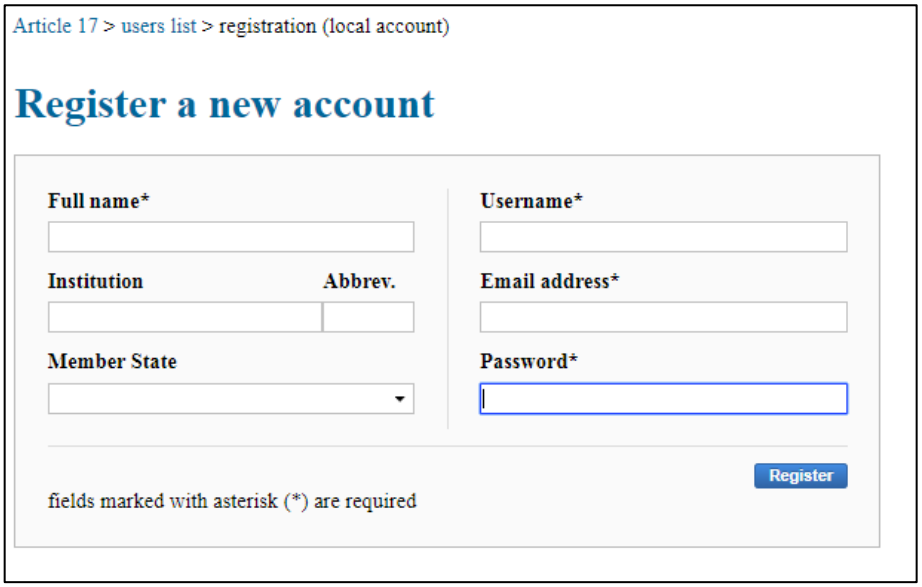
Important: All the National Data Coordinators for the Article17 and user with an Eionet account can be logged in with their EIONET account so there is no need for them to register again for the consultation.

For other users (stakeholders etc):

1. Go to the Article 17 web page https://nature-art17.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/

2. Click on the button 'Register here':

3. Complete and submit the registration form:



4. An e-mail will be sent to the address provided by the user: click on the confirmation link in the body of the email.

[If you are already registered as an EIONET user, then it is just necessary to fill in a simplified form where the username and password need to be provided].

If there are issues with registration or with using the tool throughout the consultation period, please contact nature.helpbesk@eionet.europa.eu.

8 Appendix 3 – Back-casted data

The majority of changes in conservation status reported by the MSs for the period 2007–2012, for both habitats and species, were due to better data or changes in the methodology used, with many habitats and species previously reported as 'Unknown' being reported as one of the three conservation status classes. This in turn, means that many of the EU assessments for biogeographical and marine regions also changed between 2000-2006 and 2007-2013 periods due to non-genuine reasons. The 'back-casted' status for 2000-2006 period should be used to evaluate the progress towards the Target 1.

Explanation of 2000-2006 conservation status with back-casting used for Target 1 assessment
As the nature of change was noted by the assessor for each EU regional assessment in 2007-2012 period it is possible to identify which assessments from 2000-2006 period have changed due to different methods and improved data (non-genuine changes) and to 'back cast' the 2000-2006 conservation status using the 2007-2013 data. For example, habitats and species assessed as 'Unknown' in 2001–2006 would have the same conservation status as in 2007–2012. Similarly, if the reason for change for 2007-2012 was 'non genuine' change, the habitat or species would have the 2007-2012 status.
For back casting the conservation status the late assessments for MED and MMED regions (2007-2012bis period) which included the delayed Greek delivery were not taken into consideration.
For habitat and species which were not reported in 2007-2013 period, the back-casted' status for 2000-2006 period is not provided in the tool and it should be considered as 'unknown'.
Similarly, for species which were split between 2007-2012 and 2013-2018 periods (due to taxonomical revision) and where only one species occurred for 2007-2012 period whereas for 2013-2018 period several species occur in a biogeographical region , the back-casted' status for 2000-2006 period is not provided and it should be considered as 'unknown'.