

**HABITATS DIRECTIVE
ARTICLE 17 REPORT
(2001 – 2006)**

**STATE AND DESIGNATION OF
SITES OF COMMUNITY IMPORTANCE AND
SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION**

This paper is part of the web-based Article 17 Technical Report (2001-2006)
<http://biodiversity.eionet.europa.eu/article17>
compiled by the European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity for the
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ETC/BD, Paris, 2008

State and designation of Sites of Community Importance and Special Areas of Conservation

Number and area of Sites of Community Importance and Special Areas of Conservation designated by the Member States in each biogeographical region

Member States were asked to provide the following information concerning Natura 2000 sites under the Habitats Directive:

Provide separate information for each biogeographical region.

Site designation: number of sites of Community importance (SCIs), total area of sites of Community importance, number of sites designated as special areas of conservation (SACs) and total area of special areas of conservation.

For the purpose of this section of the report the term 'sites of Community importance' includes:

- *Sites officially proposed by the Member State, but not yet included in a biogeographical Community list (pSCIs)*
- *Sites included in a biogeographical Community list approved by a Commission decision (SCIs)*
- *SCIs already classified by the Member State as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)*

Where appropriate give figures for both marine & terrestrial sites separately.

Surface areas should be given in km².

This status corresponded to the situation in the Member State at the end of the reporting period, i.e. on 31 December 2006. Therefore, the figures provide below correspond to the situation at that date.

Meanwhile the designation process evolved in many Member States. Actual data on designations can be found at http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/barometer/index_en.htm.

Table 1 - Number and surface area of Sites of Community Importance (including proposed sites) and of Special Areas of Conservation reported by Member States in each biogeographical and marine region.

Region	Sites of Community Interest (SCIs)		Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	
	Total		Total	
	No.	Area (km ²)	No.	Area (km ²)
BE - Atlantic	77	1207		
BE - MATL	1	181		
BE - Continental	201	1947		
CZ - Continental	768	6932		
CZ - Pannonian	108	312		
DK - Atlantic	68	3451		
DK - MATL	13	2232		
DK - Continental	193	8229		
DK - MBAL	67	5367		

Region	Sites of Community Interest (SCIs)		Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	
	Total		Total	
	No.	Area (km ²)	No.	Area (km ²)
DE - Alpine	45	1549		
DE - Atlantic	674	19243	291	3800
DE - MATL	22	15394	1	2589
DE - Continental	3898	32501	936	8543
DE - MBAL	55	4798	1	0.4
EE - Boreal	509	10590		
EE - MBAL	33	3450		
IE - Atlantic	413	7175		
IE - MATL	80	3386		
EL - Mediterranean	239	27671		
EL - MMED	102	6133		
ES - Alpine	63	4122	1	62
ES - Atlantic	200	13343	2	37
ES - MATL	50	686		
ES - Macaronesian	153	2833		
ES - MMAC	18	1111		
ES - Mediterranean	957	92380	2	43
ES - MMED	81	2480		
FR - Alpine	144	10 769	37	1 739
FR - Atlantic	521	21 974	26	716
FR - MATL	79	4 165	17	633
FR - Continental	494	11 309	34	503
FR - Mediterranean	269	14 630	15	357
FR - MMED	42	1 431		
IT - Alpine	457	12 865		
IT - Continental	560	7 335		
IT - MMED	397	2 298		
IT - Mediterranean	1263	20 549		
CY - Mediterranean	36	876		
CY - MMED	5	50		
LV - Boreal	331	7 663		
LV - MBAL	6	1 185		

Region	Sites of Community Interest (SCIs)		Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	
	Total		Total	
	No.	Area (km ²)	No.	Area (km ²)
LT - Boreal	266	6 493		
LT - MBAL	1	171		
LU - Continental	47	383		
HU - Pannonian	467	13 974		
MT - Mediterranean	27	48		
MT - MMED	1	8		
NL - Atlantic	141	7 508		
NL - MATL	4	4 099		
AT - Alpine	107	6 256	71	1 585
AT - Continental	59	2 632	11	223
PL - Alpine	18	3 029		
PL - Continental	214	11 534		
PL - MBAL	2	2 753		
PT - Atlantic	7	1 254		
PT - Macaronesian	34	768		
PT - Mediterranean	54	18 095		
SI - Alpine	92	4 158		
SI - Continental	168	2 240		
SK - Alpine	241	5 306		
SK - Pannonian	148	602		
FI - Alpine	12	12 043		
FI - Boreal	1 696	38 188		
FI - MBAL	98	5 460		
SE - Alpine	151	39 289		
SE - Boreal	3 471	21 161		
SE - MBAL	242	4 568		
SE - Continental	416	2 332		
SE - MATL	89	1 279		
UK - Atlantic			611	25 047
UK - MATL			73	12 059

Table 2 - Number and surface area of Sites of Community Importance (including proposed sites) and of Special Areas of Conservation for each biogeographical and marine region. This table is based on information included in the national Article 17 reports.

Region	Sites of Community Interest (SCIs)		Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)	
	Total		Total	
	No.	Area (km ²)	No.	Area (km ²)
Alpine	1 330	99 386	109	3 386
Atlantic	2 101	75 155	930	29 600
Boreal	6 273	84 095		
Continental	7 018	87 374	981	9 269
Macaronesian	187	3 601		
Mediterranean	2 845	174 249	17	400
Pannonian	723	14 888		
Marine Atlantic	338	31 422	91	15 281
Marine Baltic	504	27 752	1	
Marine Macaronesian	18	1 111		
Marine Mediterranean	628	12 400		

Changes in designations during the period 2001-2006

A comparison between the status of designation of Sites of Community Importance at the beginning (2001) and at the end (2006) of the reporting period is given in Table 3 below. Figures were taken from the Natura 2000 barometers (http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/info/pubs/natura2000nl_en.htm).

Table 3 – Comparison of the number and surface area of Sites of Community Importance (including proposed sites) for each Member State and the beginning (2001) and at the end (2006) of the reporting period. Data from the Natura 2000 Barometers.

Member State	N° Sites		Area (ha)		Increase in No. of sites	Increase in area (km ²)
	2001	2006	2001	2006		
Austria	127	165	914 385	888 492	38	-25 893
Belgium	209	278	110 453	322 088	69	211 635
Germany	45	4 617	74 112	5 329 392	4 572	5 255 280
Denmark	194	254	1 025 922	1 113 595	60	87 673
Spain	1 194	1 380	11 362 158	11 911 213	186	549 055
Finland	1 380	1 715	4 713 572	4 855 164	335	141 592
France	1 076	1 305	3 100 638	4 894 237	229	1 793 599
Greece	236	239	2 722 845	2 764 097	3	4 1252
Ireland	155	413	252 833	1 056 074	258	803 241
Italy	2 431	2 286	3 924 617	4 497 881	-145	573 264
Luxembourg	38	47	35 215	38 311	9	3 096
Netherland	76	141	707 822	751 000	65	43 178
Portugal	94	94	1 215 779	1 650 294	0	434 515
Sweden	2 454	3 981	5 086 450	6 255 651	1 527	1 169 201
United Kingdom	340	613	1 765 955	2 510 892	273	744 937
Cyprus		36		71 125	36	71 125
Czech Republic		864		724 413	864	724 413
Estonia		509		1 059 108	509	1 059 108
Hungary		467		1 392 921	467	1 392 921
Lithuania		267		666 358	267	666 358
Latvia		331		765 127	331	765 127
Malta		27		4 821	27	4 821
Poland		192		1 312 385	192	1 312 385
Slovenia		259		635 961	259	635 962
Slovakia		382		573 936	382	573 936
Total	10 049	20 862	37 012 756	56 044 537	10 813	19 031 780

Note: negative changes in the number of sites normally indicate that several smaller sites were merged into a larger site; negative changes in the surface area of sites generally indicate that boundaries of sites in 2001 were not yet final.

The most noticeable change was the addition of sites from the 10 Member States that joined the European Union in May 2004.

Overall, the number of sites more than doubled (Figure 1) and the surface area increased by more than 50% (Figure 2) between 2001 and 2006.

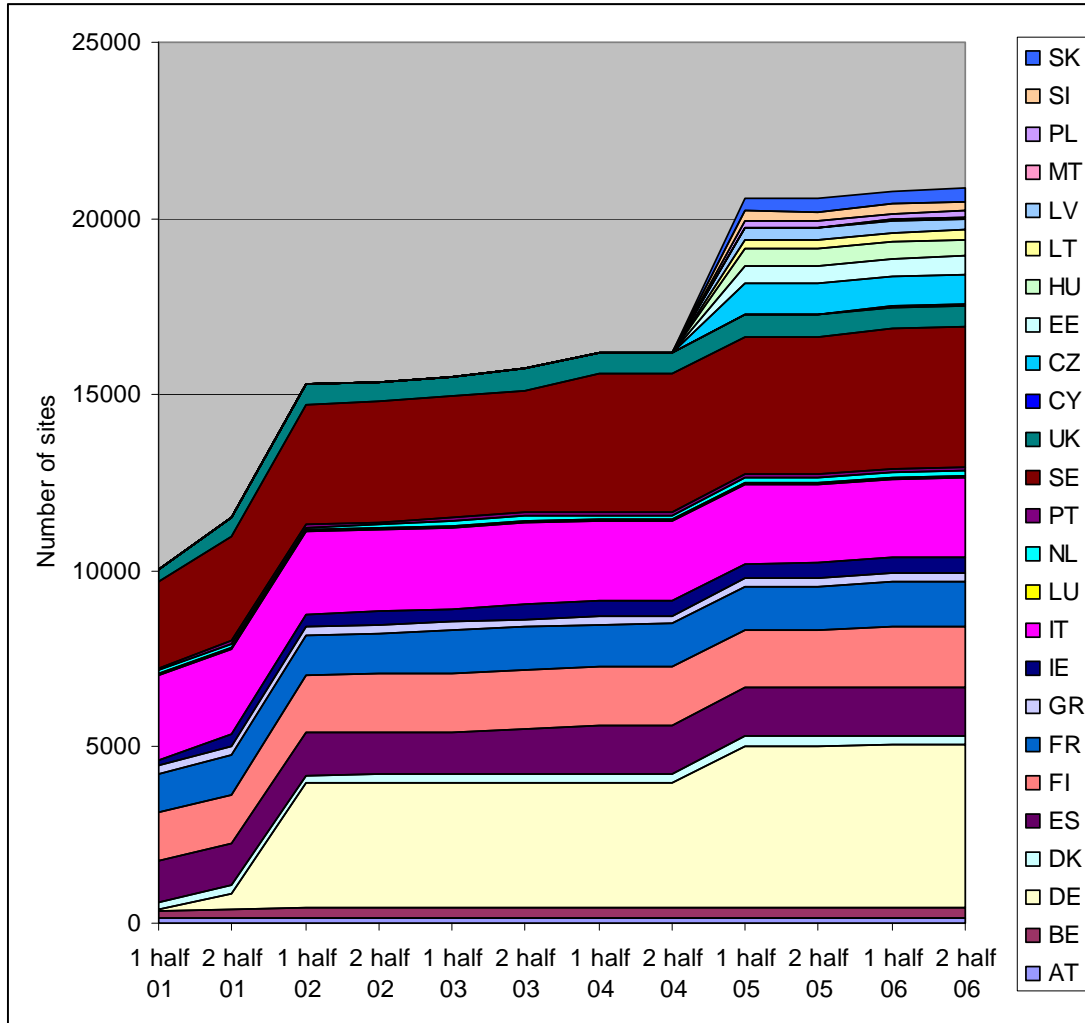


Figure 1 - Evolution in the number of Sites of Community Importance (proposed and adopted) between early 2001 and late 2006

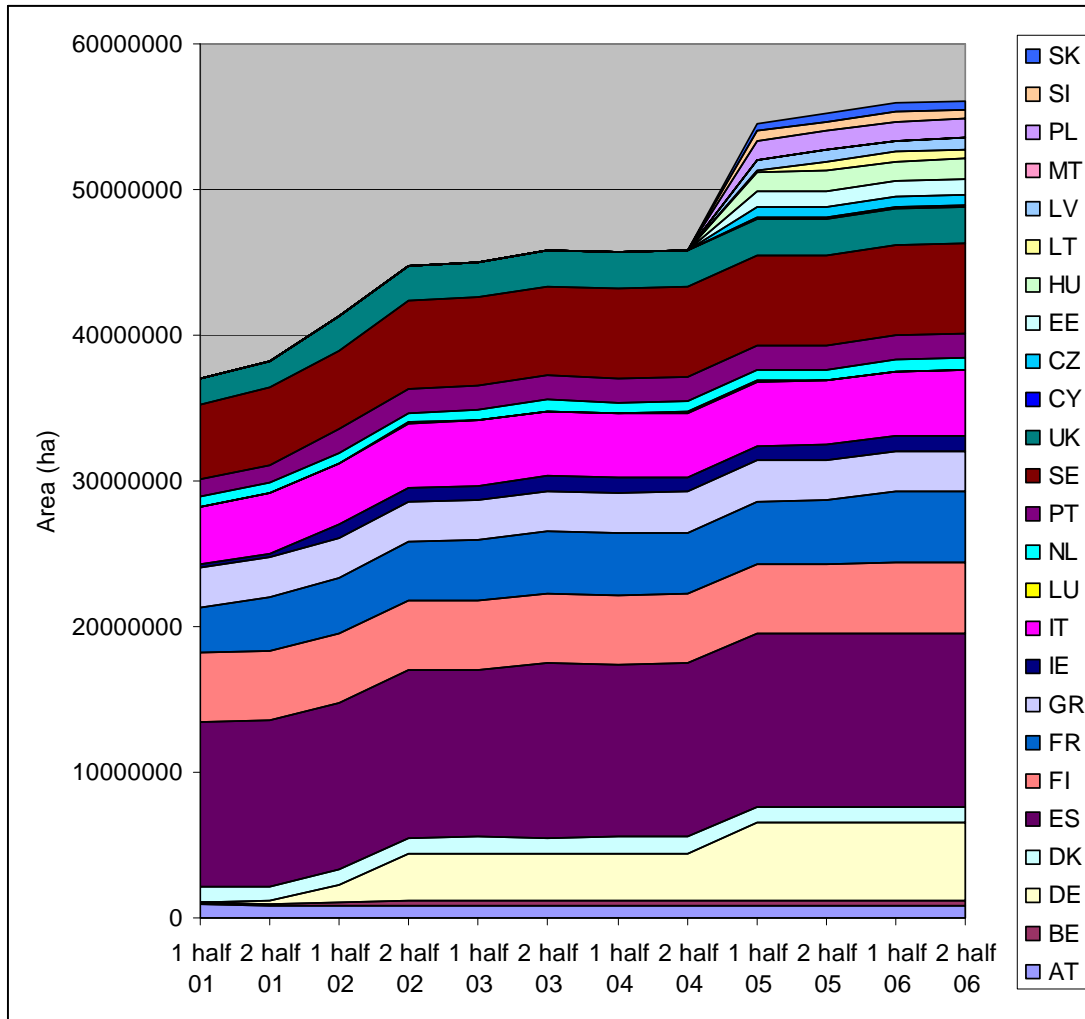


Figure 2 - Evolution in the area (ha) of Sites of Community Importance (proposed and adopted) between early 2001 and late 2006