



## 1510 *Mediterranean salt steppes (Limonietalia)*

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<b>Habitat code</b>	1510
<b>Priority</b>	Yes
<b>Habitat group</b>	Coastal habitats
<b>Regions</b>	Mediterranean

These grass-steppes are formed by species of sea lavender (*Limonium* spp) and/or esparto grass (*Lygeum spartum*) growing on saline soils which become very dry in summer. They occur along coasts, particularly in the Mediterranean but also inland, especially in Spain. This habitat is widespread in Spain and Italy but relatively scattered or rare elsewhere.

Four of six countries in the Mediterranean region reported overall conclusion as "unfavourable bad", only Malta reported all parameters and conclusion as "favourable". Overall conclusion "unfavourable bad".

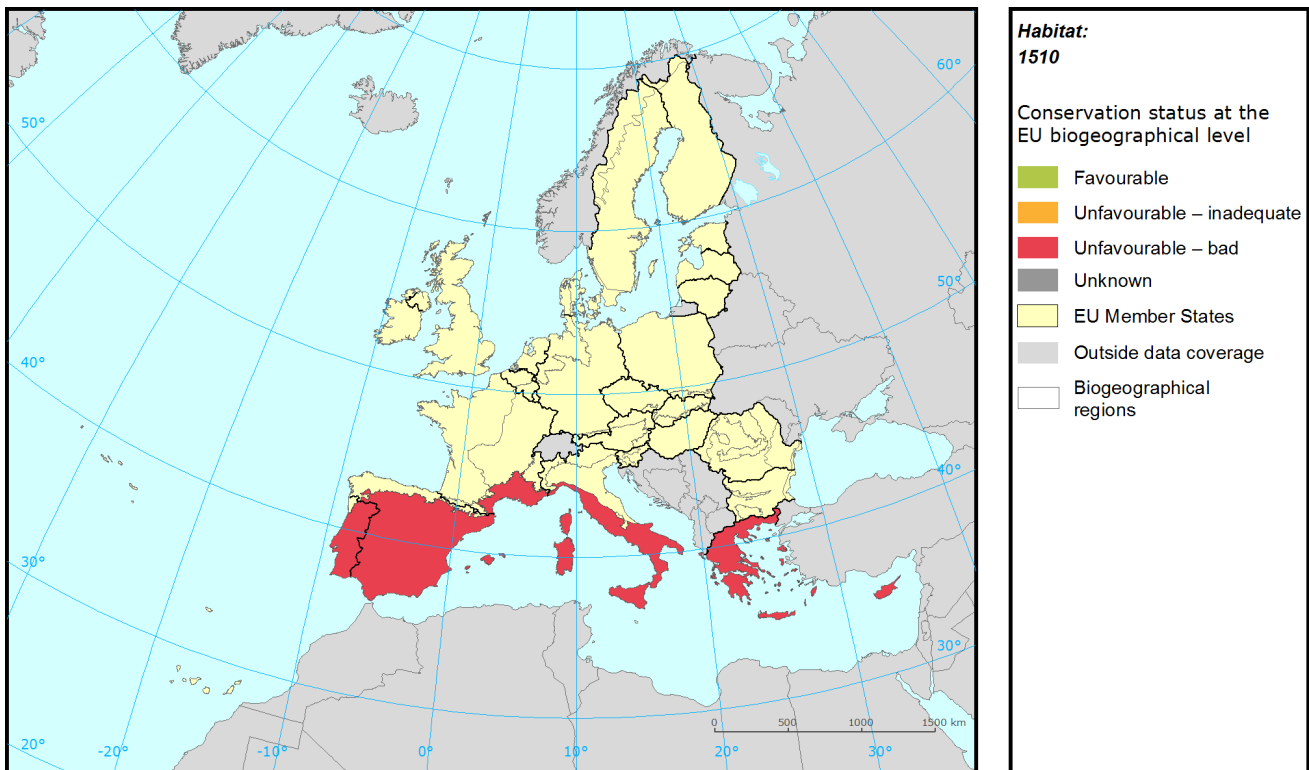
Also reported from the Continental region in Italy 2007, but not this time.

Better information required, particularly from Portugal.

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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	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
MED	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	x	100	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

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



Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### **Habitat: 1510**

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 (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Area	Structure & functions	Future prospects					
ES	MED	XX	U1	U2	U2	x	76.6	XX	Changed method	
FR	MED	FV	U2	FV	U2	=	4.6	U2		
GR	MED	U2	U2	U2	U2		1.0	U2		
IT	MED	U1	U2	U1	U2	=	10.0	XX	Better data	
MT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.1	FV		
PT	MED	U1	U1	FV	U1	=	6.7	U1		

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

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	23
A01	Agricultural cultivation	8
A04	Grazing by livestock	8
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	8
C01	Mining and quarrying	8
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	8
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	8
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
J01	Fire and fire suppression	8
K01	Abiotic natural processes	8

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## Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

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D01	Roads, railroads and paths	23
A01	Agricultural cultivation	8
A04	Grazing by livestock	8
C01	Mining and quarrying	8
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	8
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
H02	Pollution to groundwater	8
J01	Fire and fire suppression	8
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	8
K01	Abiotic natural processes	8

## Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

Member States were asked to report the area of the habitat which is covered by the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of the habitat area covered by the network was estimated by comparing the area within the network and the total area in the biogeographical/marine region.

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

MED	
ES	40
FR	100*
IT	99
MT	79
PT	x

See the endnotes for more information<sup>ii</sup>

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## Most frequently reported conservation measures

Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this habitat 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 habitats there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	44
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	22
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	11
6.0	Other spatial measures	11
9.0	Other resource use measures	11

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/habitat/summary/?group=Coastal+habitats&period=3&subject=1510>

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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 habitat area 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 habitat area 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 habitat has been reported by the Member States.