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

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

2160 *Dunes with HippophaÃ« rhamnoides*

Habitat code   2160
Priority   No
Habitat group   Dunes habitats
Regions   Atlantic, Black Sea, Continental

Stable dunes with scrub dominated by sea buckthorn (*Hippophaë rhamnoides*) with nitrophilous herbs and dune grasses. Sea buckthorn is native to parts of Europe but in some areas sea buckthorn is an invasive alien species and considered a threat to other dune habitat types.

Dunes with sea-buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*) are found around the coasts of the North Sea and the southern Baltic, plus a few sites in northern France, the northern Adriatic (Italy) and the Danube Delta (Black Sea).
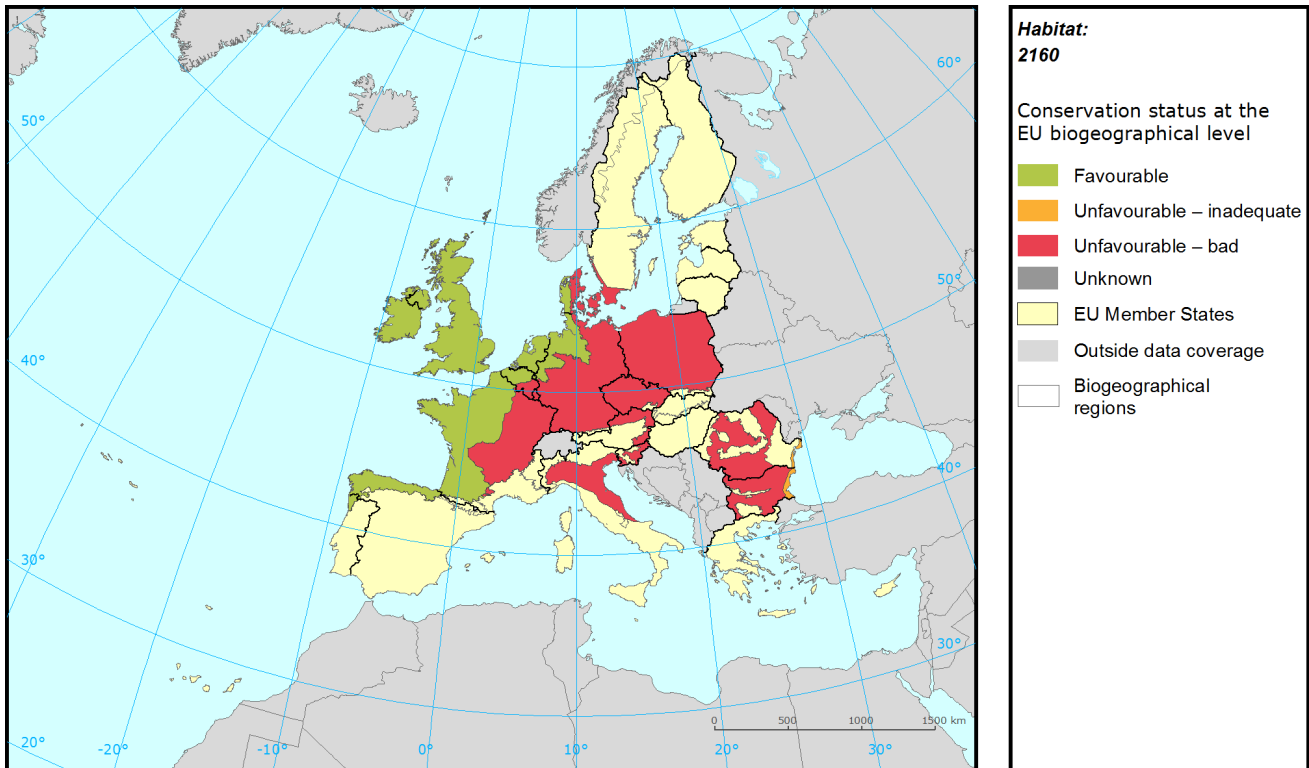
Assessed as Favourable for the Atlantic region (although Unfavourable bad in Denmark and the United Kingdom), Unfavourable in the Black Sea region and Unfavourable-bad in the Continental region. These assessments are sensitive to the weighting used. There have been many changes in the Member State assessments, in turn leading to changes in the EU regional assessments but apart from a genuine deterioration from Favourable to Unfavourable bad (but improving) in the United Kingdom these changes are due to better data and a change in methods. Despite these changes and improvements in data quality some trends and reference values remain unknown.

A variety of threats and pressures are reported, only invasive non-native species and human induced changes in hydraulic conditions are reported by more than one country as highly important, other threats and pressures include sea level changes, afforestation and changes in abiotic conditions.

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

Habitat: 2160

Conservation status at the EU biogeographical level

- 🟩 Favourable
- 🟧 Unfavourable – inadequate
- 🟥 Unfavourable – bad
- ⬛ Unknown
- 🟨 EU Member States
- ⬜ Outside data coverage
- ⬜ Biogeographical regions

Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	71	U1	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	x	1	XX	Not genuine
CON	U1	U1	U2	U2	U2	-	27	U1	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information[i]

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level

Habitat: 2160

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- ■ Favourable
- ■ Unfavourable – inadequate
- ■ Unfavourable – bad
- ■ Unknown

- □ EU Member States
- ■ Outside data coverage
- □ Biogeographical region

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					
BE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		5.2	FV	
DE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		7.8	FV	
DK	ATL	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	x	11.1	FV	Better data
FR	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		15.0	U1	Better data
NL	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		37.9	FV	
UK	ATL	FV	FV	U2	FV	U2	+	22.9	FV	Genuine
RO	BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1		100.0		
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	54.2	FV	Better data
DK	CON	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	x	27.1	FV	Better data
IT	CON	U2	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	11.9	U1	Changed method
PL	CON	U1	U1	U1	FV	U1	=	6.8	XX	Better data

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
I01	Invasive alien species	25
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	25
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	17
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	8
B03	Forest exploitation	8
I02	Problematic native species	8
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	8

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	21
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	21
I01	Invasive alien species	14
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	14
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	7
B03	Forest exploitation	7
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	7
I02	Problematic native species	7

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

	ATL	BLS	CON
BE	94		
DE	88		98
DK	67		50
FR	47		
IT			83
NL	95		
PL			100
RO		1	
UK	100		

See the endnotes for more information[ii]

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	43
4.4	Restoring coastal areas	29
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	14
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	14

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=Dunes+habitats&period=3&subject=2160

[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.