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

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

3160 *Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds*

Habitat code   3160
Priority   No
Habitat group   Freshwater habitats
Regions   Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

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), particularly in western and northern Europe where this habitat is most frequent.
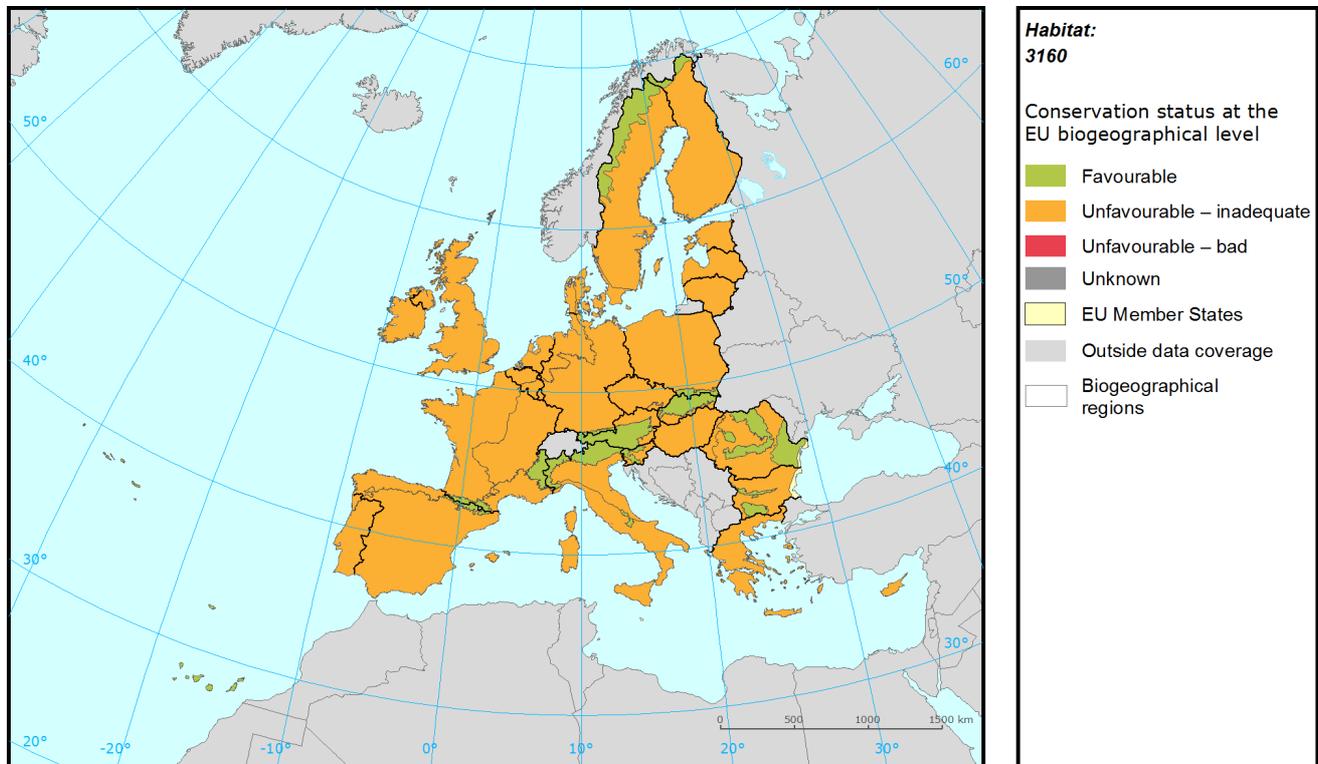
Assessed as Unfavourable inadequate in the Atlantic, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean and Pannonian regions and Favourable in the Alpine, Macaronesian and Steppic regions. There is much variation between Member State assessments and it is Unfavourable bad in many national assessments. Most of the changes in Conservation Status since 2001-06 are due to changes in methods and/or better data but the change from Unfavourable bad to Unfavourable inadequate in the Atlantic region is considered genuine as is a result of improvements in Ireland.

A wide variety of threats and pressures are reported but changes in hydrology, succession and pollution are most frequently noted as being of high importance.

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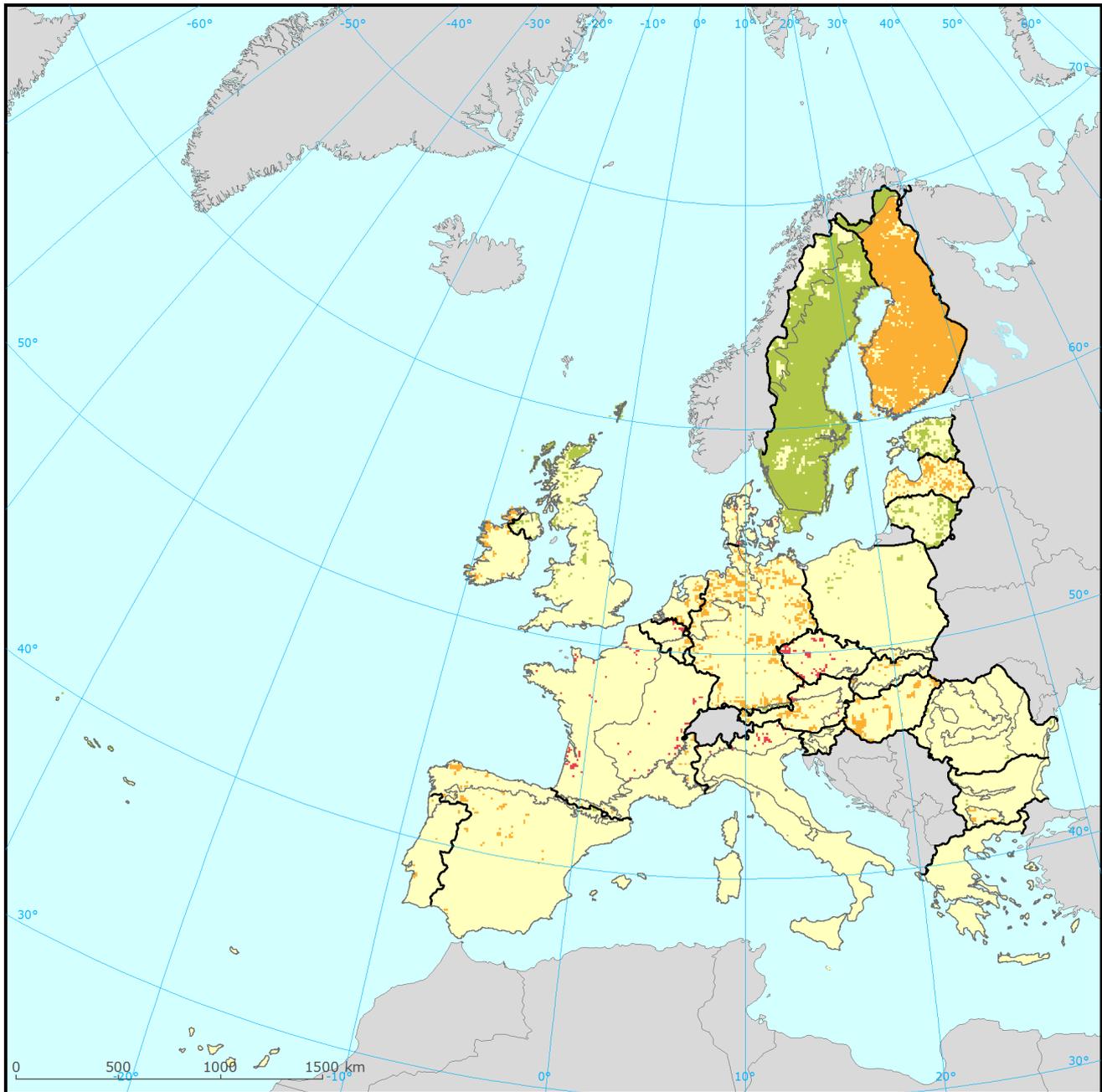## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

Habitat: 3160

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					
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	9	FV	
ATL	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	8	U2	Genuine
BOR	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	72	U1	
CON	U1	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	8	U2	Not genuine
MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	0.15	U1	Not genuine
MED	XX	XX	XX	U1	U1	x	0.75	XX	Not genuine
PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	2	U2	Not genuine
STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.05	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information[i]

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level

Habitat: 3160

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					
AT	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	7.7	U1	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	1.7		
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.0	FV	
ES	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.4	XX	Changed method
FI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		19.1	FV	
FR	ALP	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	2.6	U2	Better data
IT	ALP	XX	XX	U2	U1	U2	-	3.0	U1	Changed method
PL	ALP	U1	U1	U1	FV	U1	=	0.2	U1	
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		60.4	FV	
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.4	FV	
SK	ALP	FV	U1	XX	U1	U1	=	2.3	U1	
BE	ATL	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	=	1.7	U2	
DE	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	24.1	U1	
DK	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	1.6	U2	Changed method
ES	ATL	FV	XX	XX	U1	U1	x	5.0	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	6.4	U2	
IE	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	16.7	U2	Genuine
NL	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	7.4	U1	
PT	ATL	XX	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.3	U1	
UK	ATL	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		36.8	FV	
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.1	XX	Better data
FI	BOR	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	44.2	U1	
LT	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.4	FV	
LV	BOR	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	2.8	FV	Better data
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		48.5	FV	
AT	CON	U1	U2	U1	U2	U2	=	1.3	U2	
BE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	+	2.3	U2	Genuine
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.4		
CZ	CON	FV	U2	U1	FV	U2	+	9.6	U2	Changed method
DE	CON	U1	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	52.4	U2	Better data
DK	CON	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	=	1.4	U2	
FR	CON	U1	U2	U1	U2	U2	=	4.3	U2	
PL	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.5	U1	Better data

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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					
RO	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.0		
SE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		20.9	FV	
PT	MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	U1	Better data
ES	MED	FV	XX	XX	U1	U1	x	75.3	XX	Changed method
IT	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		11.0	U1	No data
PT	MED	XX	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	13.7	U1	
HU	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	95.0	U2	Better data
RO	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.8		
SK	PAN	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	2.2	U1	
RO	STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		

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
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	30
H01	Pollution to surface waters	22
H02	Pollution to groundwater	8
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	8
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	7
C01	Mining and quarrying	5
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	3
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	3
K01	Abiotic natural processes	3
A04	Grazing by livestock	2

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	31
H01	Pollution to surface waters	20
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	11
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	9
H02	Pollution to groundwater	7
A04	Grazing by livestock	4
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	4
C01	Mining and quarrying	4
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	4
B01	Afforestation	2

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

	ALP	ATL	BOR	CON	MAC	MED	PAN	STE
AT	10			30				
BE		80		23				
BG	85			20				
CZ				12				
DE	87	x		90				
DK		11		26				
EE			92					
ES	x	100*				100*		
FI	86		18					
FR	100	14		100				
HU							91	
IE		44						
IT	100					100		
LT			10					
LV			72					
NL		70						
PL	100			100				
PT		x			66	x		
RO				0			0	0
SE	97		14	14				
SI	100							
SK	89						89	
UK		x						

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	20
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	18
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	14
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	14
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	6
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	6
6.0	Other spatial measures	4
2.2	Adapting crop production	2
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	2
4.3	Managing water abstraction	2

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=Freshwater+habitats&period=3&subject=3160

[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.