



6270 *Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands*

Habitat code	6270
Priority	Yes
Habitat group	Grasslands
Regions	Alpine, Boreal, Continental

Acidic grasslands of the Fennoscandian lowlands resulting from grazing and/or mowing over many years leading to species-rich plant communities. This habitat only occurs in the Boreal region and the adjacent parts of the Alpine and Continental regions in Sweden. This habitat is a northern variant of habitat type 6230 * Species-rich *Nardus* grasslands, on siliceous substrates in mountain areas (and sub-mountain areas, in Continental Europe).

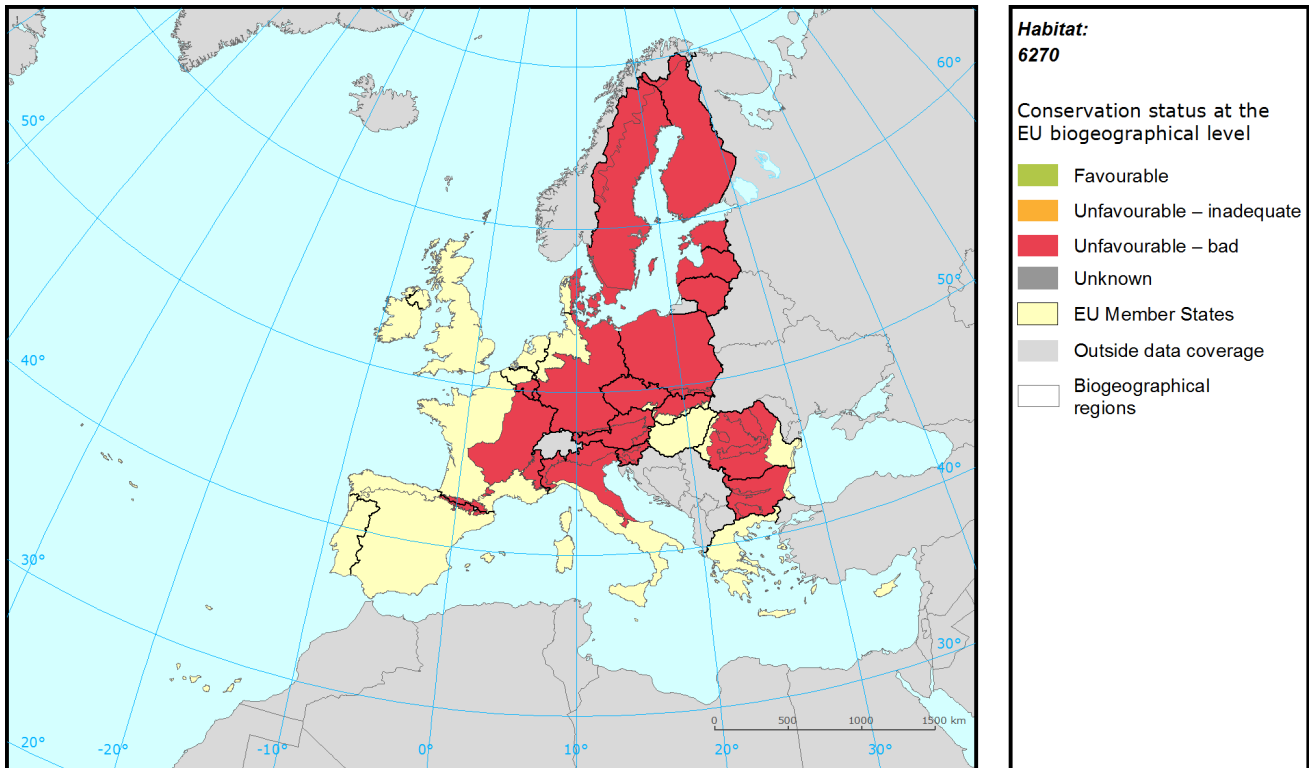
The conservation status of this habitat is still unfavourable-bad and deteriorating in all three reported regions (Boreal, Alpine and Continental). In all regions this is due to Sweden (the only reporting country in the last two regions). In the Boreal region the status is unfavourable in all countries (bad or inadequate).

Main pressures and threats are mostly (especially reported from Sweden) abandonment of grazing and mowing (related to problematic native species), forest planting on open ground, fertilisation (also nitrogen-input and stock feeding) and urbanisation.

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Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



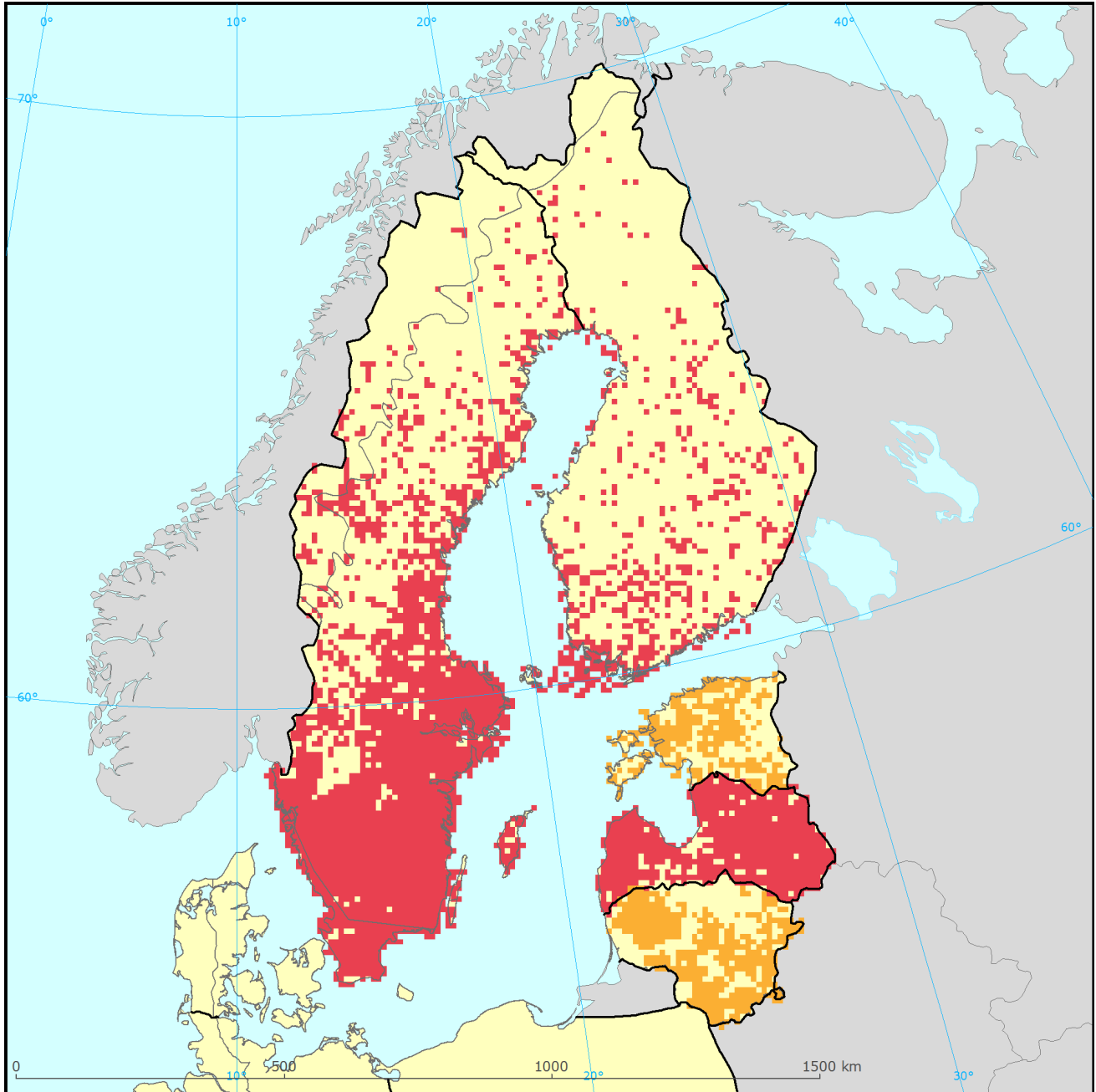
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	2	XX	Not genuine
BOR	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	93	U2	
CON	FV	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	5	U2	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Habitat: 6270

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					
SE	ALP	FV	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0		
EE	BOR	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	7.3	U1-	Genuine
FI	BOR	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	14.8	U2-	
LT	BOR	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	10.2	U1-	
LV	BOR	FV	U1	U2	U1	U2	-	16.0	U1	Better data
SE	BOR	FV	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	51.7	U2-	
SE	CON	FV	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0	U2-	

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
A04	Grazing by livestock	44
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	25
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	6
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	6
B01	Afforestation	6
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	6
I02	Problematic native species	6

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

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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	BOR	CON
EE		52	
FI		47	
LT		4	
LV		21	
SE	8	3	10

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	64
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	18
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	9
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	9

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-

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2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at:
<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/habitat/summary/?group=Grasslands&period=3&subject=6270>

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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.