



## 4060 *Alpine and Boreal heaths*

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<b>Habitat code</b>	4060
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Habitat group</b>	Heath & scrub
<b>Regions</b>	Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean

The habitat 4060 "Alpine and Boreal heaths" includes small, dwarf or prostrate shrub formations of the alpine and sub-alpine zones of the mountains of Eurasia dominated by ericaceous species, *Dryas octopetala*, dwarf junipers, brooms or greenweeds.

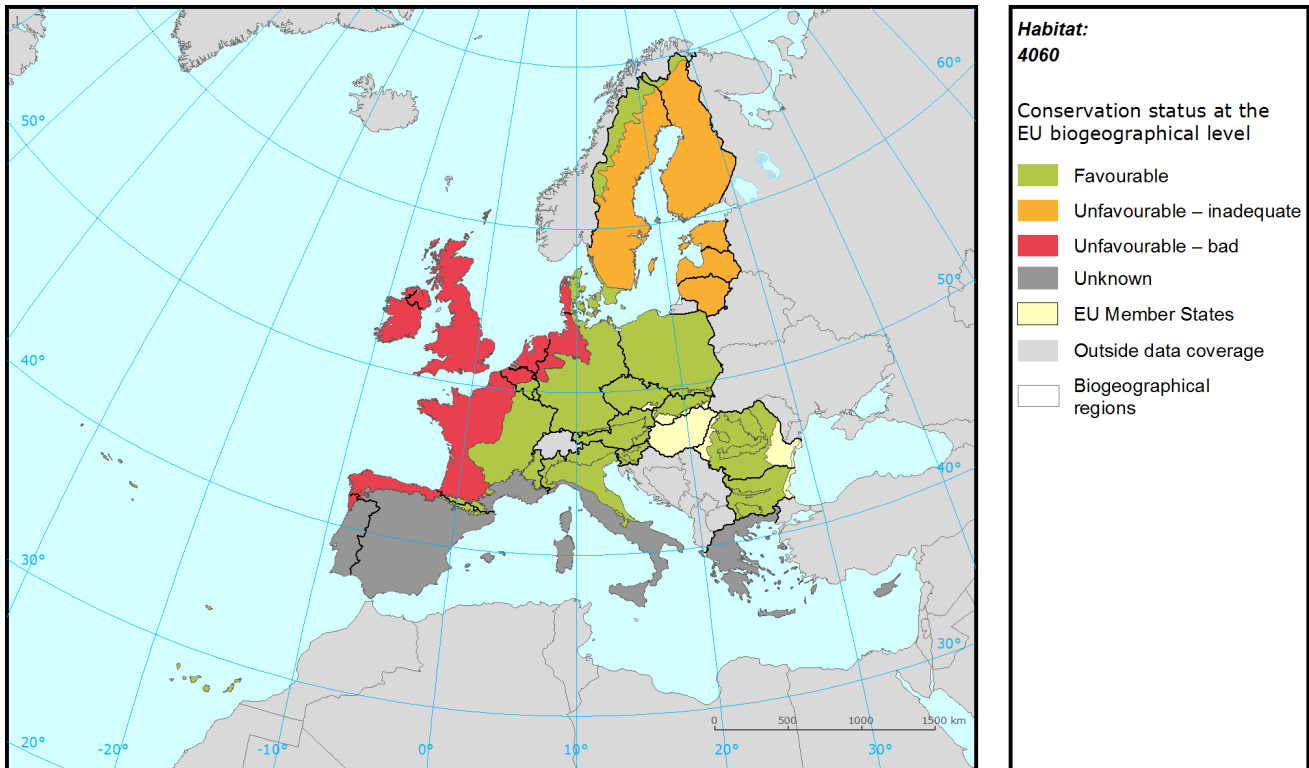
The conservation status of habitat 4060 is considered favourable in Alpine, Continental and Macaronesian biogeographical regions, as unfavourable-inadequate in Boreal region, as unfavourable-bad in Atlantic region and as unknown in Mediterranean region. The range is favourable in almost all country (except Spain in Atlantic and Mediterranean region where is unknown), the area is favourable in most of countries except Spain (the same as for range), Germany in Alpine and United Kingdom in Atlantic regions (both unfavourable-inadequate). Out of 29 assessment on the level country/region, 16 assessments are favourable and only two unfavourable-bad (Ireland and United Kingdom in Atlantic region).

The habitat is threatened mostly by forest planting on open ground, changes in abiotic conditions, grazing, skiing complex. As other important threats are considered air-borne pollutants, biocenotic evolution, succession, burning down, hunting and collection of wild animals, mining and quarrying, disposal of inert materials, removal of terrestrial plants, trampling, overuse.

# Habitat: 4060 *Alpine and Boreal heaths*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



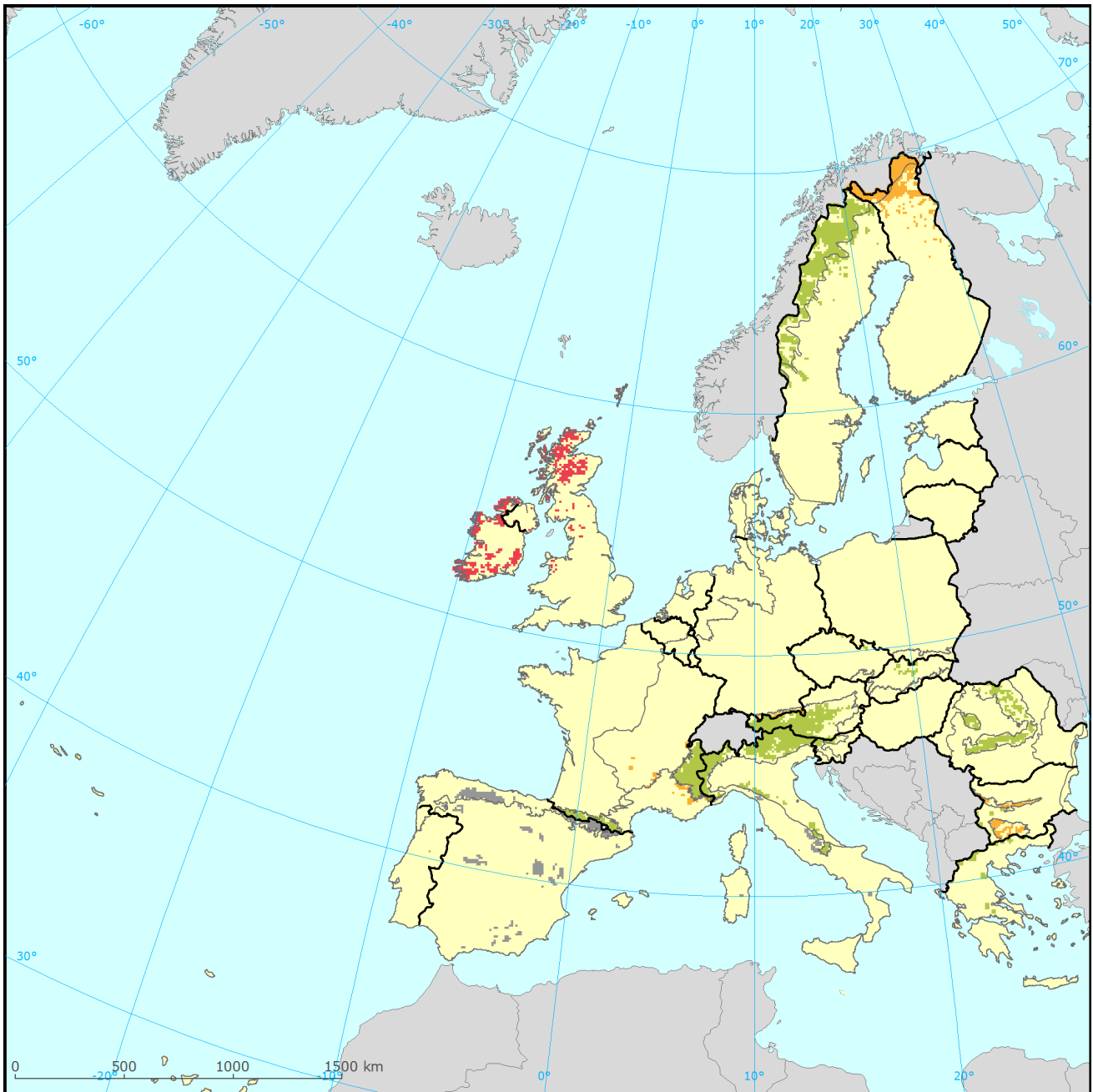
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	64	U1	Not genuine
ATL	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	+	16	U2	
BOR	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	8	U1	
CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	3	FV	
MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	0.05	FV	
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	8	XX	

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

# Habitat: 4060 *Alpine and Boreal heaths*

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### **Habitat: 4060**

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	FV	FV	FV	FV		13.6	FV	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	3.8		
DE	ALP	FV	U1	U1	FV	U1	=	1.1	U1	
ES	ALP	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX		3.0	U1	Changed method
FI	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	8.4	U1-	
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		11.9	FV	
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		17.4	FV	
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.1	FV	
RO	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		10.4		
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		27.8	FV	
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.1	FV	
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.3	FV	
ES	ATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		15.3	XX	
IE	ATL	FV	FV	U2	U2	U2	+	43.8	U1	Genuine
UK	ATL	FV	U1	U2	U2	U2	=	40.9	U2	
FI	BOR	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	61.3	U1-	Changed method
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		38.7	FV	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		28.1		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.6	FV	
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.7	FV	
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	20.7	U1	
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		38.0	FV	
PL	CON	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	-	5.0	U1	
PT	MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	FV	
ES	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		56.9	XX	
FR	MED	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	-	12.9	FV	Better data
GR	MED	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV		10.2	FV	
IT	MED	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX		19.7	U1	No data
PT	MED	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV		0.3	FV	

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.

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## 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	15
B01	Afforestation	15
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	15
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	10
C01	Mining and quarrying	5
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	5
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	5
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	5
F04	Taking and collection of terrestrial plants	5
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	5

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
A04	Grazing by livestock	18
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	18
G02	Sport and leisure infrastructures	12
C01	Mining and quarrying	6
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	6
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	6
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	6
F04	Taking and collection of terrestrial plants	6
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	6
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	6

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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

	<b>ALP</b>	<b>ATL</b>	<b>BOR</b>	<b>CON</b>	<b>MAC</b>	<b>MED</b>
<b>AT</b>	20					
<b>BG</b>	98			100		
<b>CZ</b>				100		
<b>DE</b>	63			91		
<b>ES</b>	60	100*				68
<b>FI</b>	95		87			
<b>FR</b>	10			48		100
<b>IE</b>		80				
<b>IT</b>	32			97		71
<b>PL</b>	100			100		
<b>PT</b>					100	100
<b>RO</b>	77					
<b>SE</b>	50		97			
<b>SI</b>	98					
<b>SK</b>	76					
<b>UK</b>		39				

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	33
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	18
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	15
6.0	Other spatial measures	13
6.4	Manage landscape features	5
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	5
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	3
6.2	Establishing wilderness areas/ allowing succession	3
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	3
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	3

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=Heath+%26+scrub&period=3&subject=4060>

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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.