



## 8310 *Caves not open to the public*

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<b>Habitat code</b>	8310
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Habitat group</b>	Rocky habitats
<b>Regions</b>	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

In the alpine region, caves have been assessed as unfavorable inadequate in all components mainly based on the assessments of Romania, Italy and Bulgaria. Sand and gravel extraction, disposal of household and recreational facility waste, Vandalism, closures of caves or galleries, recreational cave visits, forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth and grazing have been reported as high important pressures and threats.

In the atlantic region, caves have been reported as unfavorable inadequate which is mainly based on the assessment of France which covers the largest area of caves in this region. The improvement from unfavorable bad, as assessed in the previous report, to unfavorable inadequate was due to the use of different methods, so not genuine.

For the Black See biogeographical region, only Bulgaria provided a report and concluded to unfavorable inadequate, because of unfavorable future prospects.

In the boreal region, caves have been reported as favorable, just as in the previous report.

Caves in the continental regions have been reported as unfavorable inadequate. Mining and quarrying, mountaineering, grazing, forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth, disposal of household, recreational facility waste, rock climbing and speleology have been reported high important pressures and threats.

For the Macronesian region, Portugal reported a favorable conservation status.

The conservation status in the Mediterranean region is unfavorable inadequate due to unfavorable status of structure and function and future prospects in Italy and Portugal.

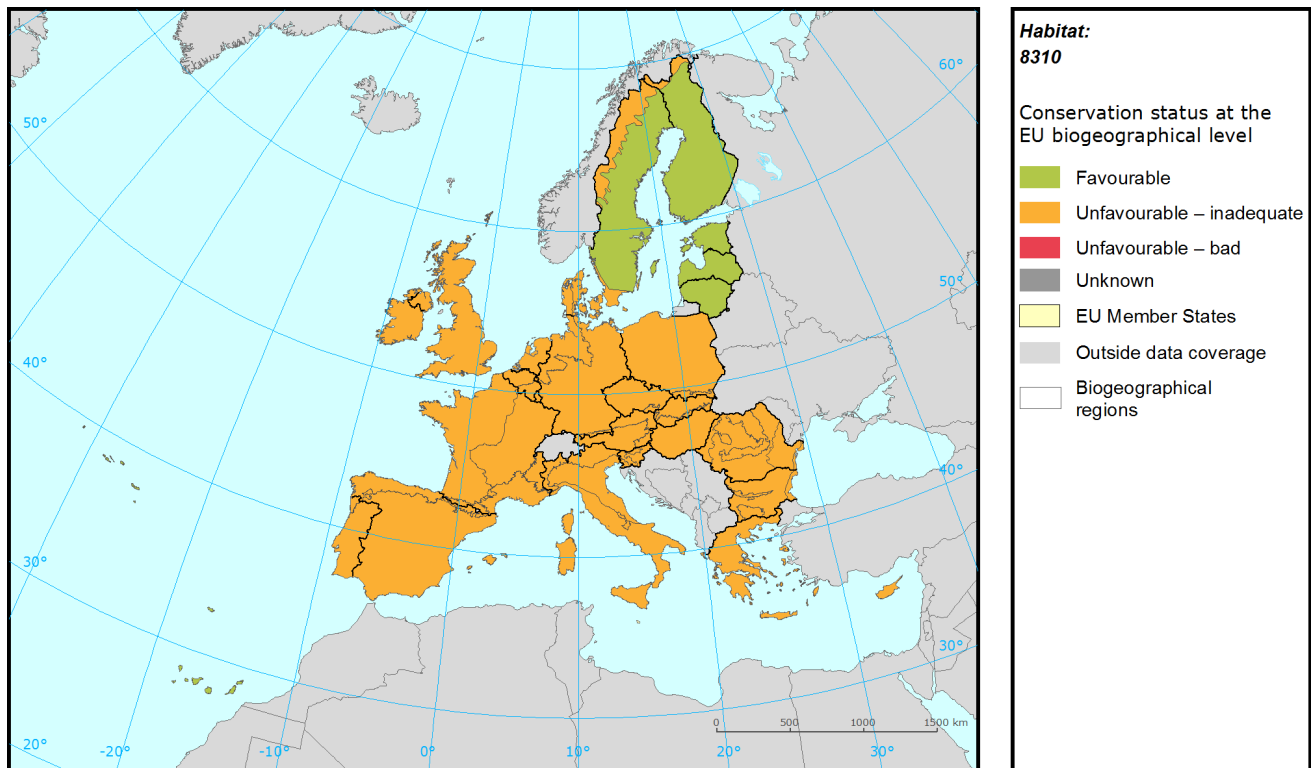
In the pannonian region, caves have been reported as unfavorable inadequate. Hungary noted forestry clearance, mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology, other outdoor sports and leisure activities as high important pressures and threats. Moreover, Hungary reported an unfavorable inadequate conservation status for structure and function and future prospects.

For the steppic region, Romania reported an unfavorable inadequate conservation status for all components.

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## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



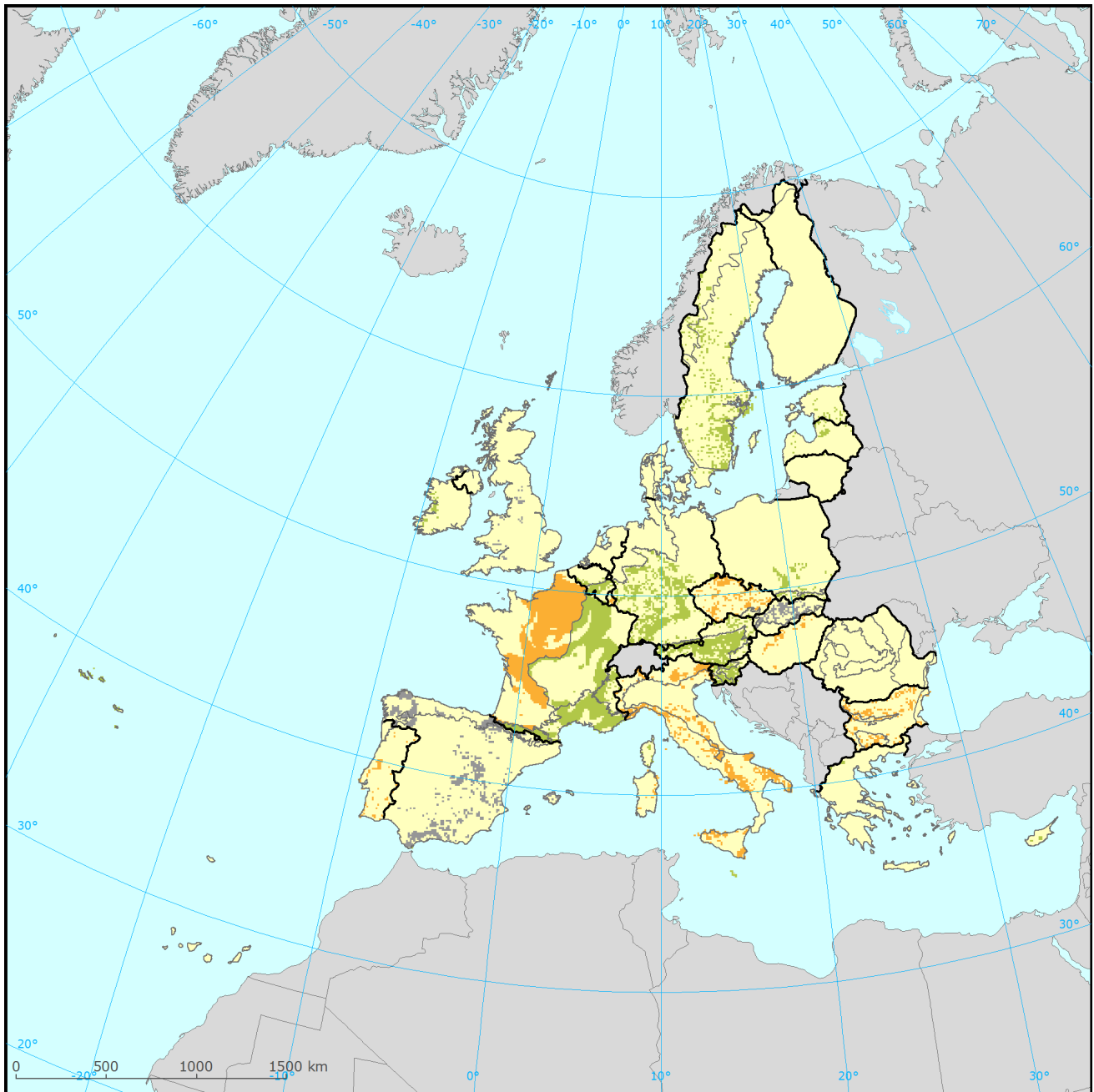
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	16	FV	Not genuine
ATL	U1	U1	U1	XX	U1	x	24	U2	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	0.15	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		8	FV	
CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	31	U2	Not genuine
MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.49	FV	
MED	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	x	20	XX	Not genuine
PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	1	U1	
STE	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=		XX	Not genuine

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

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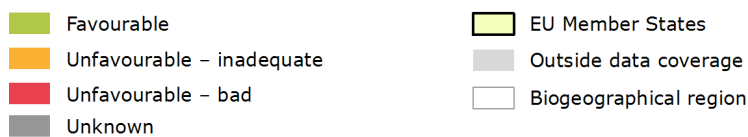
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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### **Habitat: 8310**

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level



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		32.3	FV		
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	U1	=	5.2			
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.5	FV		
ES	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX		2.8	XX		
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV		18.1	FV		
IT	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	14.1	FV	Changed method	
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.5	FV		
RO	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	=				
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV		4.9	FV		
SI	ALP	FV	XX	FV	FV		4.7	U1	Genuine	
SK	ALP	XX	XX	XX	FV		11.0	XX		
BE	ATL	FV	FV	XX	FV		1.4	XX	Better data	
ES	ATL	XX	XX	XX	XX		10.6	XX		
FR	ATL	U1	U1	U1	XX	x	83.3	U2	Changed method	
IE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV		2.1	FV		
PT	ATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	=		XX	Better data	
UK	ATL	FV	FV	XX	XX		2.7	XX		
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	=	100.0			
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.4	FV		
LT	BOR	FV	FV	XX	FV		0.2	FV		
LV	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.6	U1-	Better data	
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV		86.9	FV		
AT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.3	FV		
BE	CON	FV	FV	XX	FV		2.9	XX	Better data	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	=	6.7			
CZ	CON	FV	FV	U1	FV	=	9.6	U1	Changed method	
DE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV		31.0	FV	Genuine	
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	XX		33.0	U2	Changed method	
IT	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	4.5	FV	Changed method	
LU	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	x	0.5	FV	Changed method	
PL	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.7	U1	Changed method	
RO	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	=				
SE	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.0	FV		

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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					
SI	CON	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV	3.7	U1	Genuine	
PT	MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	100.0	FV		
CY	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	0.5	XX	Better data	
ES	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	34.9	XX		
FR	MED	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV	28.1	FV		
GR	MED	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV	0.3	FV		
IT	MED	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	FV	Changed method	
MT	MED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV	0.5	XX		
PT	MED	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	XX	Better data	
UK	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	0.1	FV		
CZ	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	5.4	FV		
HU	PAN	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	U1		
SK	PAN	XX	XX	XX	FV	XX	21.6	XX		
RO	STE	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	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.

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## Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

<b>Code</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	24
C01	Mining and quarrying	9
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	9
H01	Pollution to surface waters	9
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	7
A04	Grazing by livestock	4
A05	Farming and breeding of livestock	4
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	4
B03	Forest exploitation	4
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	4

## Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

<b>Code</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	23
C01	Mining and quarrying	13
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	13
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	10
L05	Collapse of terrain, landslide	8
A05	Farming and breeding of livestock	5
A01	Agricultural cultivation	3
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	3
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	3
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	3

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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	ATL	BLS	BOR	CON	MAC	MED	PAN	STE
AT	51				50				
BE		14			41				
BG	100		100		100				
CY							20		
CZ					2			25	
DE	69				48				
EE				10					
ES	0	0					0		
FR	x	x			x		x		
HU								89	
IE		44							
IT	100				100		93		
LT				100					
LU					74				
LV				88					
MT							56		
PL	95				69				
PT		x				19	x		
RO	3				4				1
SE	6			3	100				
SI	x				x				
SK	0							1	
UK		x					100		

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	40
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	18
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	15
6.0	Other spatial measures	11
7.0	Other species management measures	4
9.0	Other resource use measures	4
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	2
6.2	Establishing wilderness areas/ allowing succession	2
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	2
8.0	Other measures	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=Rocky+habitats&period=3&subject=8310>



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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.