



8330 Submerged or partially submerged caves

Habitat code	8330
Priority	No
Habitat group	Rocky habitats
Regions	Marine Atlantic, Marine Baltic, Marine Black Sea, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean

Habitat 8330.

The habitat “Submerged or partially submerged sea caves“ is according to the Interpretation Manual of European Union Habitats - EUR28;

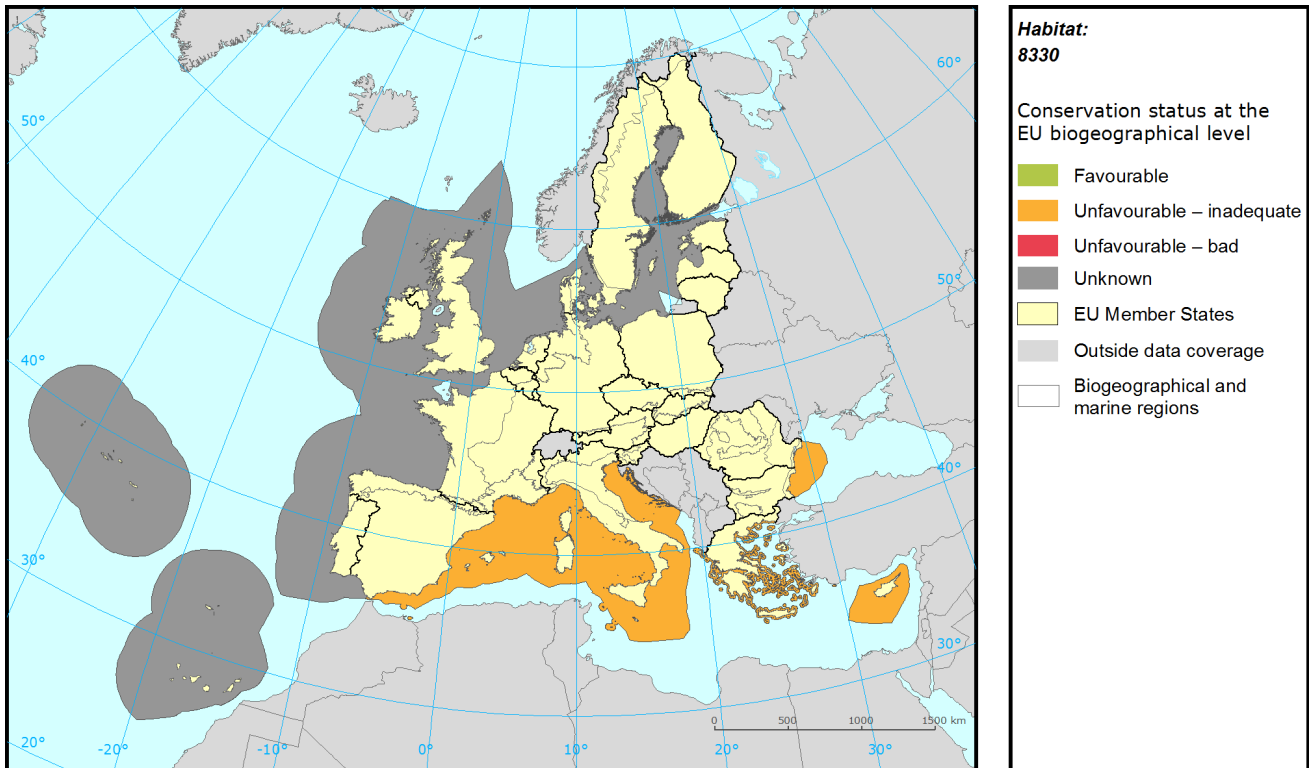
Caves situated under the sea or opened to it, at least at high tide, including partially submerged sea caves. Their bottom and sides harbour communities of marine invertebrates and algae.

The habitat is present in the Marine Atlantic-, Marine Baltic-, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean and Marine Black Sea region.

There is poor knowledge of this habitat type in all biogeographic regions. The overall conclusion is unknown (XX) in the Marine Atlantic-, Marine Baltic-, and Marine Macaronesian region. In the Marine Mediterranean and Marine Black sea regions, overall conclusion is unfavorable-inadequate (U1).

It is likely that the habitat is in unfavorable conditions at least also in the Marine Atlantic- and Marine Baltic region, but more data is needed of especially structures and functions and future prospects to be able to assess the status. Also, numerous pressures and threats are reported from most countries even though their overall conclusion is unknown (XX). High numbers of the pressures and threats are also ranked as “high” and “medium”, further suggesting that the habitat is likely to be in unfavorable conditions. Major pressures and threats are linked to physical destruction of the habitat, water quality, and changes of the marine flora and fauna due to illegal taking/ removal, invasive non-native species, fishing and changes in abiotic conditions.

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



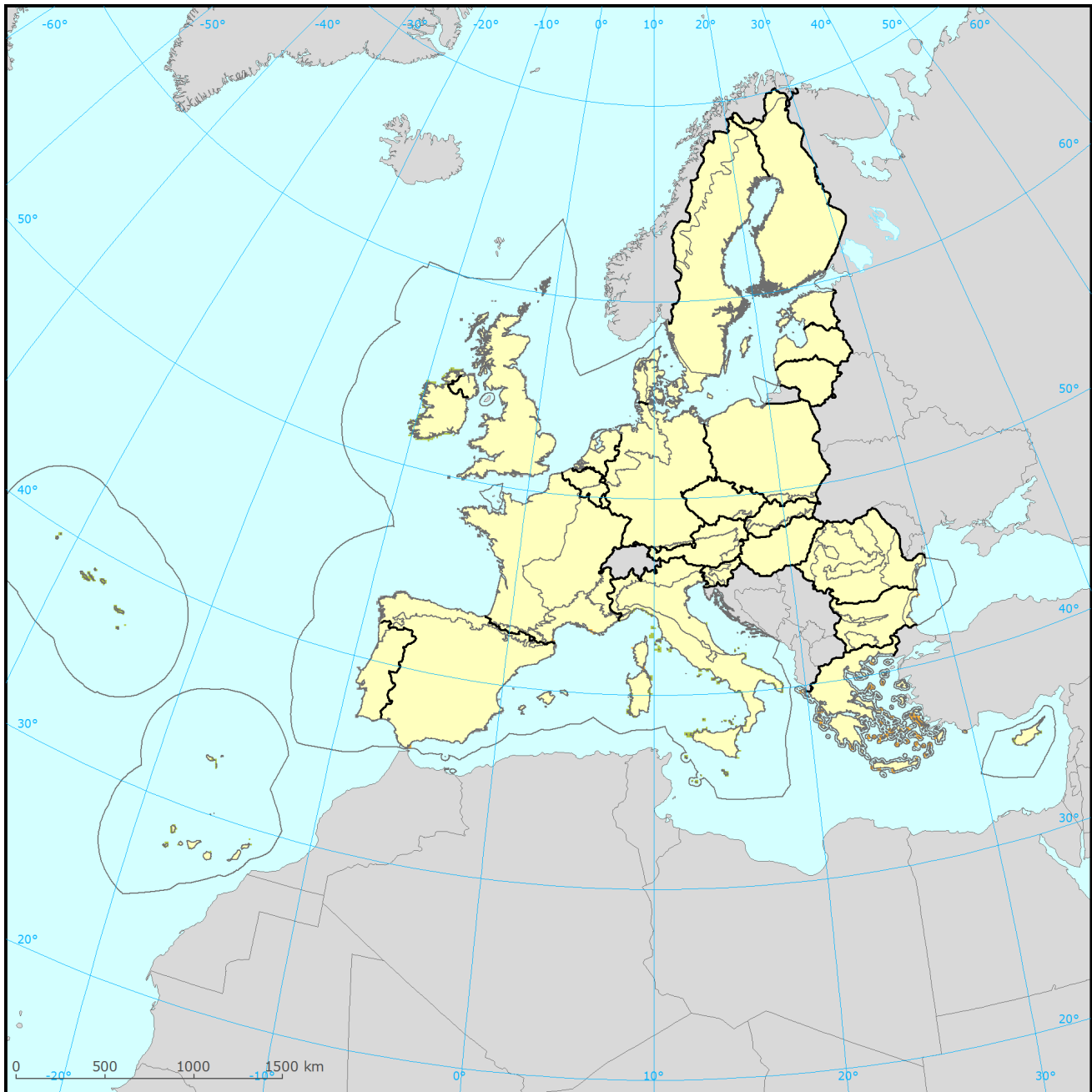
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Area	Structure & Functions	Future prospects					
MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	49	XX	
MBAL	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX	x	0.59	XX	
MBLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	0.59	XX	Not genuine
MMAC	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX	=	11	FV	Not genuine
MMED	FV	FV	XX	U1	U1	=	39	U1	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*








Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Habitat: 8330

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- | | |
|---|--|
|  Favourable |  EU Member States |
|  Unfavourable – inadequate |  Outside data coverage |
|  Unfavourable – bad |  Biogeographical and marine regions |
|  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.

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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					
ES	MATL	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX	10.5	XX		
FR	MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	2.4	U1	Changed method	
IE	MATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	24.6	FV		
PT	MATL	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX	1.8	XX		
SE	MATL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	0.6		
UK	MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	60.0	XX		
DK	MBAL	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX		XX		
SE	MBAL	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	100.0		
BG	MBLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	100.0		
RO	MBLS	XX	FV	FV	XX	XX				
ES	MMAC	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV	22.7	XX	Changed method	
PT	MMAC	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV	77.3	FV		
CY	MMED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	3.5	XX	Better data	
ES	MMED	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX	13.8	XX		
FR	MMED	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	4.3	U1	
GR	MMED	XX	XX	U1	U1	U1	15.3	U1		
IT	MMED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV	59.8	FV		
MT	MMED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV	2.5	XX		
UK	MMED	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	=	0.8	FV	Genuine

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.

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	17
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	14
H03	Pollution to marine waters	14
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	10
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	10
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	3
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	3
E04	Scattered structures and buildings	3
E06	Other urban/industrial developments	3
F01	Marine and freshwater aquaculture	3

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	21
H03	Pollution to marine waters	21
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	14
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	11
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	4
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	4
E04	Scattered structures and buildings	4
E06	Other urban/industrial developments	4
F05	Illegal taking of marine fauna	4
F06	Other hunting, fishing and collection activities	4

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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

	MATL	MBAL	MBLS	MMAC	MMED
BG			100		
CY					100
DK		100			
ES	0			0	0
FR	x				x
IE	x				
IT					x
MT					44
PT	x			x	
RO			100		
SE	57	100			
UK	x				4

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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	24
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	21
8.3	Managing marine traffic	15
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	9
8.1	Urban and industrial waste management	9
9.2	Regulating/Managing exploitation of natural resources on sea	9
5.0	Other marine-related measures	6
7.3	Regulation/ Management of fishery in marine and brackish systems	6

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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=8330>

Habitat: 8330 *Submerged or partially submerged sea caves*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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.