



Lycaena helle

Annex	II, IV
Priority	No
Species group	Arthropods
Regions	Alpine, Boreal, Continental

The violet copper is a Palearctic butterfly which is found from the Pyrenees to North Europe and to Central Asia. It has a preference for wet grasslands or marshlands along creeks, rivers and lakes. It is redlisted as Endangered (EN) in the IUCN European redlist because of a rapid decline all over Europe.

The conservation status is "Unfavourable bad" in Alpine and Boreal region, and "Unfavourable inadequate" in Continental region. Trends is negative in all regions. All national reports are "Unfavourable".

Main threats are changed agricultural practises, abandonment of grasslands and lack of grazing.

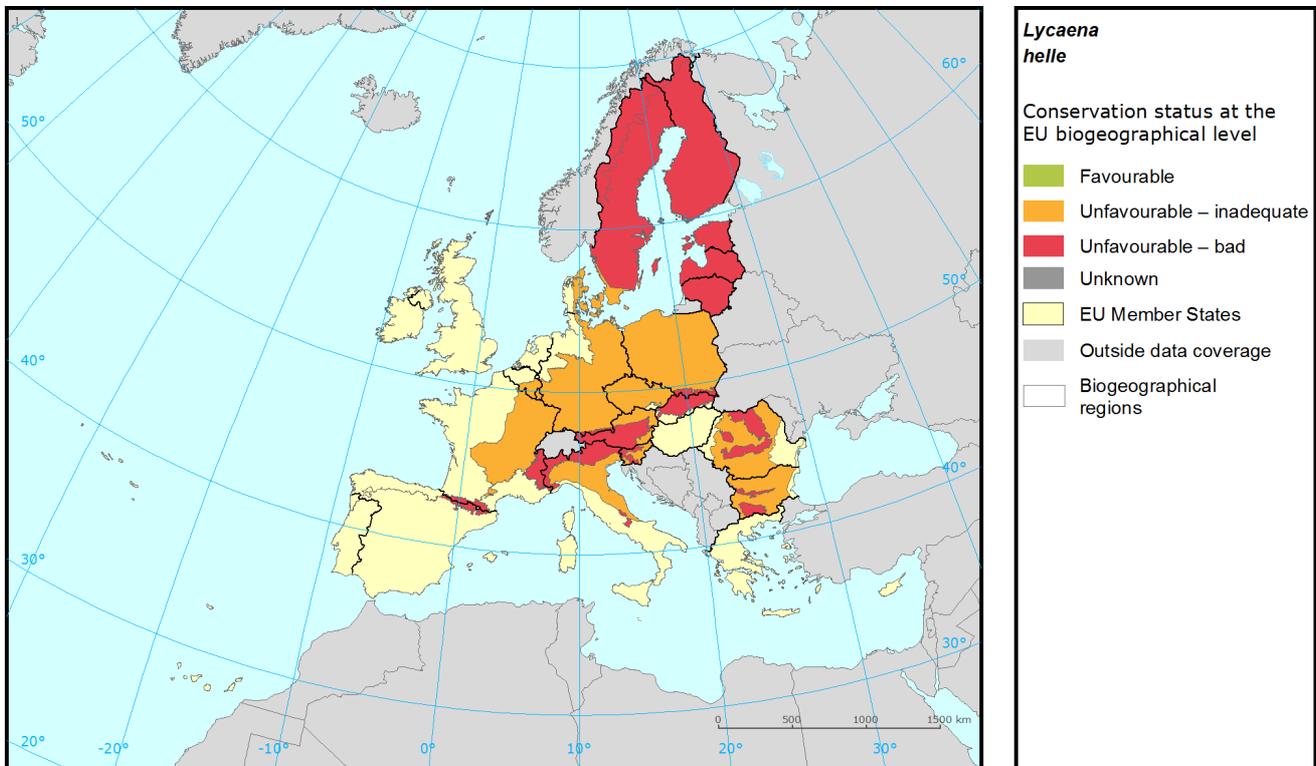
Changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 report are mostly caused by different methodical approach and better data rather than real change in conservation status in Continental region. No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Alpine and Boreal region.

In the Red List of Austria, the speices is classified as "Critically endangered" (CR); therefore, the NGO Protect considers that an assessemnt of U2 in Austria would better reflect the situation of the species.

Species: *Lycaena helle*

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	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	U2	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	6	U2	
BOR	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	22	U2	
CON	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	72	U2	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



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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 of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
AT	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	34.8			
DE	ALP	U2	U2	U1	U1	=	4.3	U2		
FR	ALP	FV	U1	U1	XX	-	13.0	FV	Genuine	
SE	ALP	U2	U2	U1	U1	x	47.8	XX	Better data	
FI	BOR	U1	U2	U2	U2	-	34.1	U2-		
LT	BOR	U1	U1	XX	XX	=	5.7	XX	Better data	
SE	BOR	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	60.2	U2-		
BE	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	17.2	U2		
DE	CON	U1	U2	U1	U1	-	12.4	U1	Genuine	
FR	CON	FV	U1	U1	XX	=	17.6	U2	Better data	
LU	CON	FV	U1	U2	U2	x	2.8		No data	
PL	CON	FV	XX	U1	U1	x	50.0	U1		
RO	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1					

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 species 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 species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	17
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	13
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	13
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	13
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	13
A04	Grazing by livestock	8
B01	Afforestation	8
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	4
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	4
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	4

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	17
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	13
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	13
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	9
A04	Grazing by livestock	9
B01	Afforestation	9
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	9
A06	Crops of annuals & perennials (non-timber)	4
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	4
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	4

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size in the biogeographical/marine region.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

	ALP	BOR	CON
AT	17		
BE			75
DE	x		93
FI		10	
FR	x		x
LT		100	
LU			43
PL			47
RO			100
SE	20	21	

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species 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 species 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	35
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	24
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	12
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	12
6.4	Manage landscape features	6
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	6
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	6

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/species/summary/>

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[group=Arthropods&period=3&subject=Lycaena+helle](#)

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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 species population 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 species population 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 species has been reported by the Member States.