European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



Aspius aspius

Annex	II, V
Priority	No
Species group	Fish
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Boreal, Continental, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

The Asp, a freshwater fish from the carps family, is widespread in central and northern Europe.

It has a 'favourable' conservation status in the Alpine region, both in Poland and Slovakia. It is a commercial species used in aqualculture and leisure fishing (angling); the latest is a pressure of variable importance.

it occurs in the Atlantic region only in Germany. Its conservation status is 'favourable'.

In the Continental region it has an 'unfavourable-inadequate' conservation status, which is also the status in all countries of this region except Sweden - 'unfavourable-bad' and in a very restricted and isolated area - and Poland - 'favourable'.

The Asp occcurs in all five countries of the Boreal region and it has an 'unfavourableinadequate' conservation status, which is also the status in Estonia and Sweden; however, the status in Finland, Latvia and Lithuania is 'favourable'.

In the Pannonian region it has a 'favourable' conservation status.

it is present in the Black Sea region with an 'unfavourable-inadequate' conservation status, namely due to water pollution and hydraulic modification of rivers (canalisation, dams). Conservation status in Romania part of Black Sea region is favourable, and unfavourable-inadequate in the Bulgarian part with a very restricted range and suitable habitat for the species. it is present in the adjacent Steppic region (Romania) with an 'unfavourable-inadequate' conservation status.

The Mediterranean region represents the southern margin of the species natural range where it is only present in Greece (rivers Evros and Stryman, and lake Volvi). Conservation status is unknown in the Mediterranean region; there is a general lack of knowledge on biology of this species in Greece (data from 2001-2006).

The species is subject to different levels of commercial and leisure fishing, and some of its habitats are being lost due to hydraulic modifications and water pollution. The Asp is widely raised in aquacultures and stocked by fisheries organisations: there are concerns that raised stocks originate from limited numbers of wild individuals from few river basins and that can lead to decrease of intraspecies genetic diversity.

It is classified by IUCN as 'least concern' (http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/2178/0, consulted 2 April 2014).

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

_	Conser	vation status	(CS) of p	arameters	Curront	Trand in	% in	% in Previous Rea		
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change	
ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1	FV		
ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		2	FV		
BLS	U1	FV	FV	FV	U1	=	0.64	XX	Not genuine	
BOR	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	=	37	FV	Not genuine	
CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	38	U1		
MED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		1	XX		
PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		15	FV		
STE	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	4	XX	Not genuine	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level						
Favourable EU Member States Unfavourable - inadequate Outside data coverage Unfavourable - bad Biogeographical region Unknown Hermitian States						

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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		Cons	ervation state	ameters	0	Trendin	0/ 1	Draviaua	Deces for	
MS Region		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current CS	CS	% In region	CS	change
PL	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			XX	Changed method
SK	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	FV	
DE	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	FV	Better data
BG	BLS	U1	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	15.0		
RO	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		85.0		
EE	BOR	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	8.4	U1	
FI	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.8	FV	
LT	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		60.1	FV	
LV	BOR	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		16.1	FV	
SE	BOR	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	+	5.6	U1	Genuine
AT	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	4.6	U1	Changed method
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	37.9		
CZ	CON	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	=	2.8	FV	Better data
DE	CON	FV	U1	U1	FV	U1	+	25.1	U1	Better data
PL	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		5.7	FV	
RO	CON	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	19.6		
SE	CON	FV	U2	FV	U1	U2	=	0.1	U1	
SI	CON	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	x	4.2	U1	
GR	MED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		100.0	XX	
CZ	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.6	FV	Better data
ΗU	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		75.9	FV	
RO	PAN	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	8.0		
SK	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		15.4	FV	
RO	STE	FV	U1	FV	FV	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.

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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 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.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	38
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	38
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	5
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	5
H01	Pollution to surface waters	5
H02	Pollution to groundwater	5
H06	Excess energy (noise, light, heating, electromagnetic)	5

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	47
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	37
C01	Mining and quarrying	5
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	5
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	5

Species: Aspius aspius Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

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	ATL	BLS	BOR	CON	PAN	STE
AT					55		
BG			100		30		
CZ					45	94	
DE		26			53		
EE				100			
FI				х			
HU						84	
LT				100			
LV				4			
PL	22				2		
RO			100		100	100	100
SE				Х	6		
SI					55		
SK	20					26	

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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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
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	22
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	20
7.2	Regulation/ Management of fishery in limnic systems	18
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	11
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	9
6.0	Other spatial measures	7
4.3	Managing water abstraction	4
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	4
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	2
7.0	Other species management 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/species/summary/? group=Fish&period=3&subject=Aspius+aspius

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¹Assessment 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.

ⁱⁱPercentage 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.