European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



#### Plecotus austriacus

Annex Priority	IV No
Species group	Mammals
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Black Sea, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean, Pannonian, Steppic

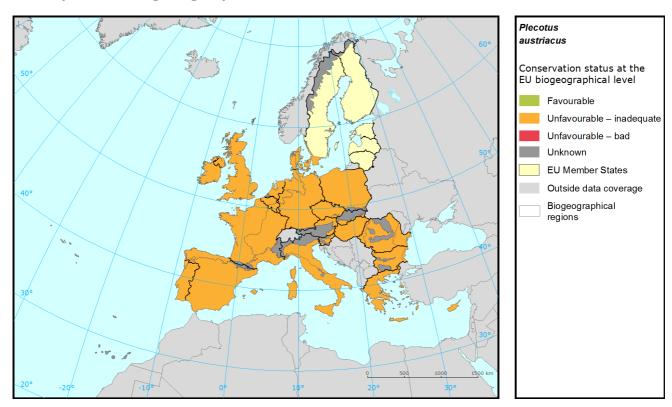
The bat *Plecotus austriacus* is restricted to Europe, excluding northern countries. This species is widespread and generally common. It forages in lowland valleys and open agricultural landscapes in central Europe and in a great variety of open and semi-open habitats in southern Europe. In summer it typically roosts in buildings, although solitary animals may roost in underground sites. In winter it hibernates in buildings, mines and caves.

The conservation status is unfavourable-inadequate in six biogeographical regions and unknown in Alpine and Macaronesian regions. Three parameters (range, population, habitat for species) were assessed as favourable in Atlantic and Black Sea regions. In the country assessments dominate unfavourable-inadequate assessments.

The species is threatened mostly by reconstruction, renovation of buildings, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, removal of dead and dying trees, removal of hedges and copses or scrub, roads, paths and railroads, storage of materials, synthetic compound contamination, demolishment of buildings & human structures, discharges, industrial or commercial areas.

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# Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

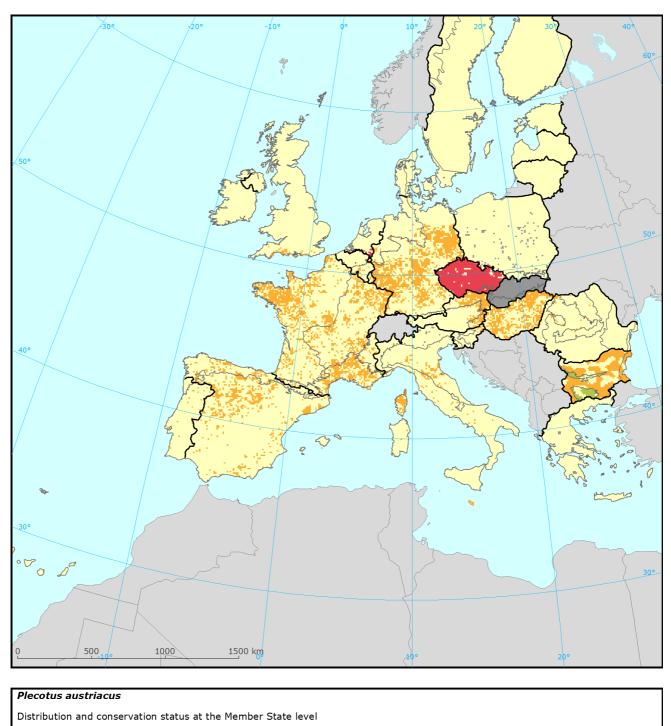


_	Conser	vation status	(CS) of p	arameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for change
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	
ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	х	9	XX	
ATL	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	15	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	1	XX	Not genuine
CON	U1	XX	XX	U1	U1	-	50	XX	Not genuine
MAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	х	0.13	U2	Not genuine
MED	U1	XX	FV	XX	U1	х	15	XX	Not genuine
PAN	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	-	10	U1	
STE	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.01	XX	Not genuine

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

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#### Assessment of 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.

EU Member States

Outside data coverage

Biogeographical region

Favourable

Unknown

Unfavourable – inadequate

Unfavourable - bad

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		Cons	ervation state	us of para	ameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
MS	Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
AT	ALP	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	-	6.9	U1	Changed method
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		18.0		
ES	ALP	U2	XX	U1	U1	U2	х	0.3	XX	Changed method
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	9.5	XX	Better data
IT	ALP	XX	XX	FV	XX	XX		2.5	U1	No data
PL	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		1.8	XX	
RO	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	1.6		
SI	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
SK	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		59.4	XX	
BE	ATL	XX	U2	XX	XX	U2	x	0.5	U1	Better data
DE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	3.1	U1	
ES	ATL	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	10.0	XX	Changed method
FR	ATL	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	78.9	XX	Better data
NL	ATL	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	+	2.4	U2	Genuine
PT	ATL	U1	XX	XX	XX	U1	х	0.1	XX	Better data
UK	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	4.9	XX	Better data
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	100.0		
AT	CON	FV	U1	FV	U1	U1	-	5.9	U1	Changed method
BE	CON	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	х	0.5	FV	
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	17.2		
CZ	CON	FV	U2	FV	XX	U2	=	22.2	U2	
DE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	31.9	U1	Genuine
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	15.3	XX	Better data
IT	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	2.2	U1	No data
LU	CON	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	х	0.3	U1	
PL	CON	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX		3.4	XX	
RO	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.7		
SE	CON	FV	U2	FV	U2	U2	х	0.1		
SI	CON	XX	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	0.5	XX	Genuine
PT	MAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		100.0	U2-	Better data
ES	MED	U1	XX	FV	XX	U1	х	54.9	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	х	35.3	XX	Better data
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		1.2	XX	
IT	MED	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	5.4	U1	No data

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MS Region		Cons	ervation statu	ameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for	
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
MT N	MED	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.9	U1	
PT N	MED	U1	FV	XX	XX	U1	х	2.3	XX	Changed method
CZ F	PAN	FV	U2	FV	XX	U2	=	4.5	U2	
HU F	PAN	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	71.9	U1	Genuine
SK F	PAN	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		23.6	XX	
ROS	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 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
E06	Other urban/industrial developments	25
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	24
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	8
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	6
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	6
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	4
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	4
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	4
E05	Storage of materials	3
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	3

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
A07	Use of 'pesticides' in agriculture	23
E06	Other urban/industrial developments	23
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	8
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	5
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	5
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	5
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	5
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	4
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	3
E05	Storage of materials	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/species/summary/? group=Mammals&period=3&subject=Plecotus+austriacus

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<sup>i</sup>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.