European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



#### Sphagnum spp.

Annex Priority	V No
Species group	Non-vascular plants
Regions	Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal, Continental, Macaronesian, Mediterranean,
	Pannonian

Peat mosses, *Sphagnum*, is a very species rich genus in Europe, especially in the Boreal and Atlantic parts. In total 60 species in Europe (incl. Greenland, Svalbard) are recognised in the most recent monograph by Flatberg in 2013. Within the member states 48 species are known. The assessment include all species except *S. pylaisii* that is threated separately.

The status of each species is quite different in each biogeographical region and in each member state. This very complex situation, different species with different habitat preferences in each member state is difficult to evaluate without detailed knowledge of what habitat and population trend each species has in each member state. In general the trend is negative for the Alpine, Continental, Mediterranean and Pannonian region and stable in the Atlantic and Boreal region.

Conservation status for *Sphagnum* is "Favourable" for Boreal and Macaronesian region, "Unfavourable Inadequate" for Alpine, Continental and Pannonian region, "Unfavourable Bad" for Atlantic region and "Unkown" for Mediterranean region.

Main threats are peat extraction, nitrogen pollution and landuse change.

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 Alpine, Atlantic, Boreal and Continental region.

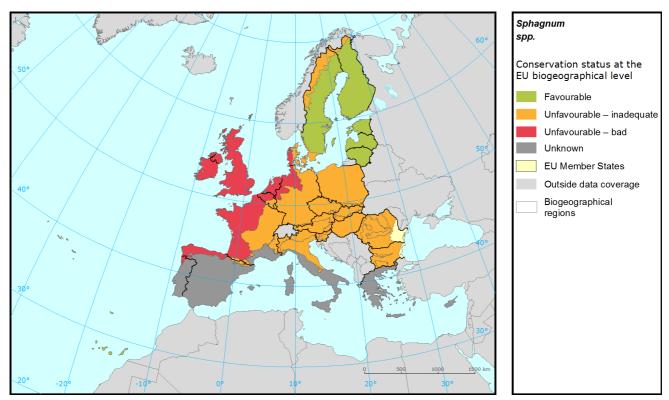
No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Macaronesian, Mediterranean and Pannonian region.

Better data is required from Czech republic, Germany, Italy and Portugal.

Flatberg, K. I. 2013. Norges torvmoser. Akademika forlag. Trondheim.

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# Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

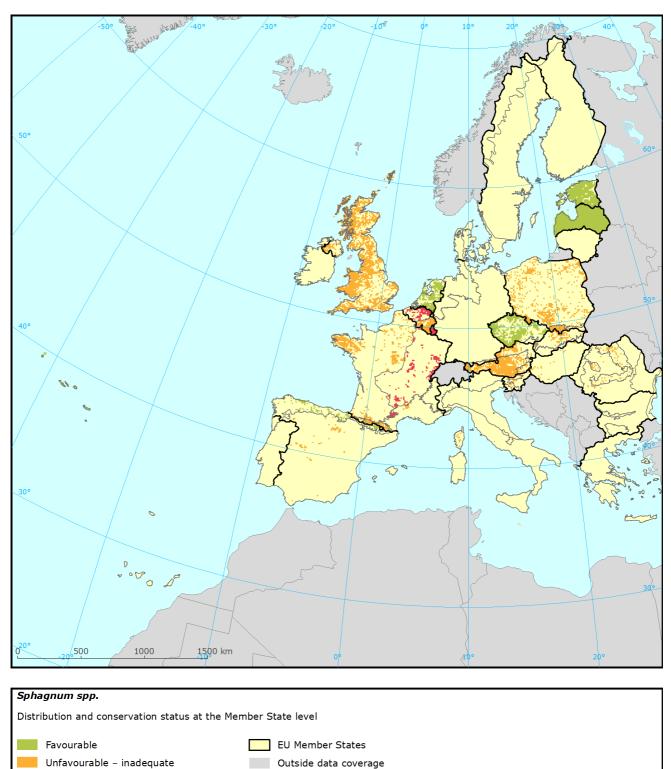


-	Conser	vation status	(CS) of p	arameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for change
Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	
ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	13	XX	Not genuine
ATL	FV	XX	U1	XX	U2	=	39	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV	=	20	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	26	XX	Not genuine
MAC	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	0.62	FV	
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	х	2	XX	
PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	0.69	U1	

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.

Biogeographical region

Unfavourable - bad

Unknown

# Species: Sphagnum spp. Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

		Conservation status of parameters				Conservation statu			Conservation status of parameters		Current Trend in		0/ im	Drovieue	Deces for
MS	Region	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current	CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change					
AT	ALP	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	53.9	U1	Better data					
BG	ALP					U1	=								
DE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			XX						
ES	ALP	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		3.5	XX	Changed method					
FI	ALP					FV			FV						
FR	ALP	FV	FV	U1	XX	U1	х	10.7	U2	Better data					
IT	ALP	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			FV	Changed method					
PL	ALP	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	10.0	FV	Changed method					
RO	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		9.1							
SE	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			FV						
SI	ALP	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	=	2.8	U1						
SK	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	+	10.0	U1+						
BE	ATL	FV	FV	U2	U1	U2	+	3.8	U2-	Genuine					
DE	ATL	XX	U2	XX	XX	U2	x		XX						
DK	ATL	XX	XX	U2	U2	U2	x								
ES	ATL	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		3.9	XX	Changed method					
FR	ATL	FV	XX	XX	U1	U1	x	15.3	U2	Better data					
IE	ATL					U1	=		U1						
NL	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.4	U1+						
PT	ATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			U1	Changed method					
UK	ATL	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	=	67.5	U1						
EE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.6	XX	Better data					
FI	BOR					FV			FV						
LT	BOR	FV	U1	U1	FV	U1	=		U1						
LV	BOR	FV	XX	FV	FV	FV		64.4	FV						
SE	BOR	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			FV						
AT	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	7.5	U2	Better data					
BE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	7.2	U2+						
BG	CON					U1	=								
CZ	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		30.3	XX	Changed method					
DE	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX						
DK	CON	XX	XX	U2	U2	U2	х								
FR	CON	U1	U1	U2	U1	U2	=	12.8	U2						
IT	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			FV	Changed method					

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		Conservation status of parameters					Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
MS Regi		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Current CS	CS	region	CS	change
LU CO	N	U1	U1	U2	U2	U2	x	2.0	XX	
PL CO	N	FV	FV	U1	FV	U1	+	37.7	U1	Better data
RO CO	N	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		1.4		
SE CO	N	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV			U1-	Better data
SI CO	N	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	1.0	U1-	
PT MA	С	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	FV	
ES ME	D	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	=	65.5	XX	Changed method
FR ME	D	XX	FV	U1	XX	U1	=	34.5	U2	Better data
IT ME	D	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			FV	Changed method
PT ME	D	XX	U1	U1	XX	U1	x		U1	
CZ PA	N	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		2.5	XX	Changed method
HU PA	N	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	85.0	U1-	
SK PA	N	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	12.5	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
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	25
C01	Mining and quarrying	11
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	8
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	8
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	8
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	8
A04	Grazing by livestock	6
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	4
F04	Taking and collection of terrestrial plants	4
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	4

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	21
C01	Mining and quarrying	9
H04	Air pollution, air-borne pollutants	9
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	8
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	8
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	6
A04	Grazing by livestock	5
M01	Abiotic changes (climate change)	5
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	3
F04	Taking and collection of terrestrial plants	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=Non-vascular+plants&period=3&subject=Sphagnum+spp.

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<sup>1</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.