



Coronella austriaca

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

Coronella austriaca

The Smooth Snake is widespread throughout Europe, ranging from southern Scandinavia and the Baltic region, southwards through western, central and eastern Europe, including parts of southwestern France, much of southern Iberia, and the Italian islands of Elba and Sicily. Outside of the EU it is also found in northern Turkey, the Caucasus region, northern Iran and Kazakhstan. According to the IUCN Red List it is found in a variety of habitats, including moorland, rocky coastlines, open woodland, heaths and scrubs, as well as rocky and sparsely vegetated areas.

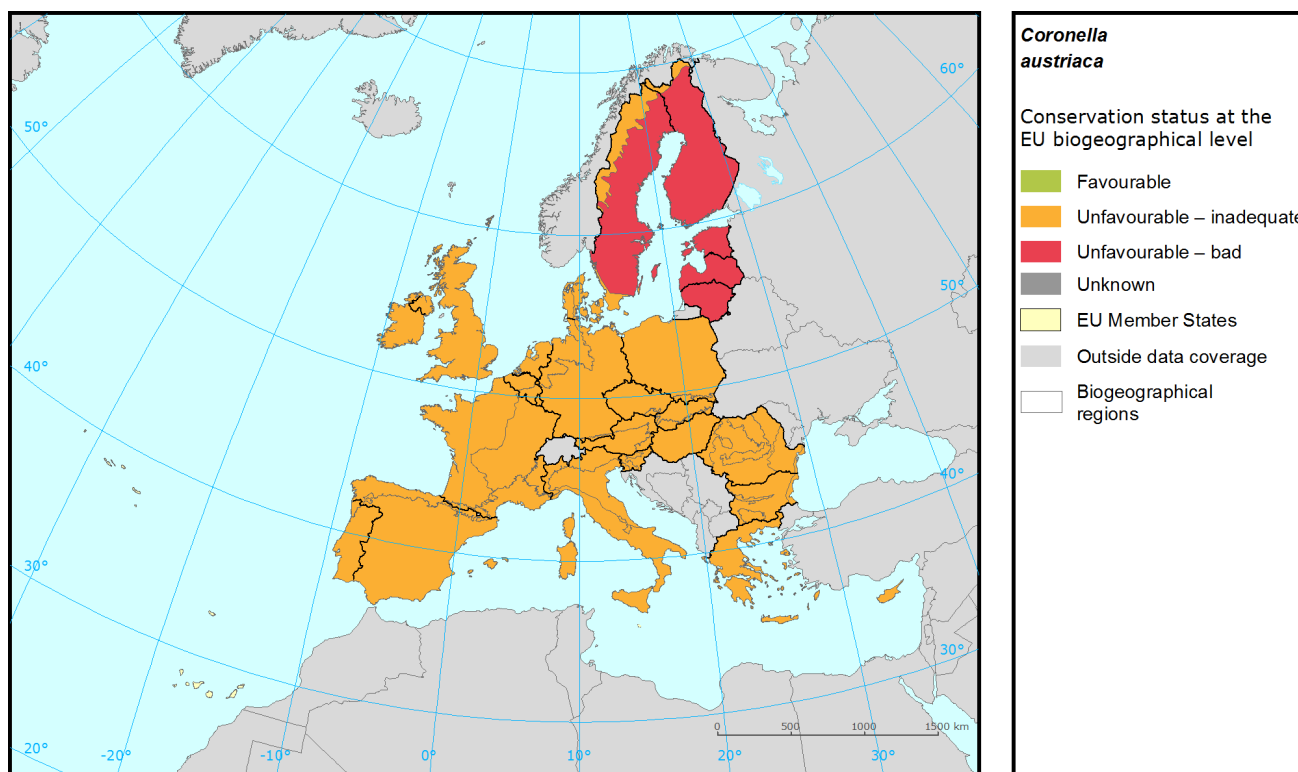
The species is reported for all terrestrial biogeographical regions, with the exception of the Macaronesian region. With the exception of the Boreal region, which is assessed as 'unfavourable-bad' the conservation status assessment for each of these EU regional level assessments is 'unfavourable-inadequate'. Between Member States there is slightly more variance in the conservation status assessments. For example, all three of Italy's reports were assessed as 'favourable' and there were multiple 'favourable' assessments for both the Alpine and Continental regions. However, the majority of Member State assessments were 'unfavourable-inadequate'. Frequently reported pressures and threats include roads and motorways, urbanisation, removal of stone walls and embankments, use of biocides, hormones and chemicals, cultivation, reduction of habitat connectivity and forest planting on open ground.

The IUCN Red List classifies the species as least concern due to its wide distribution, presumed large population, and tolerance for a broad range of habitats (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/157284/1> consulted on 3 March 2015).

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Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

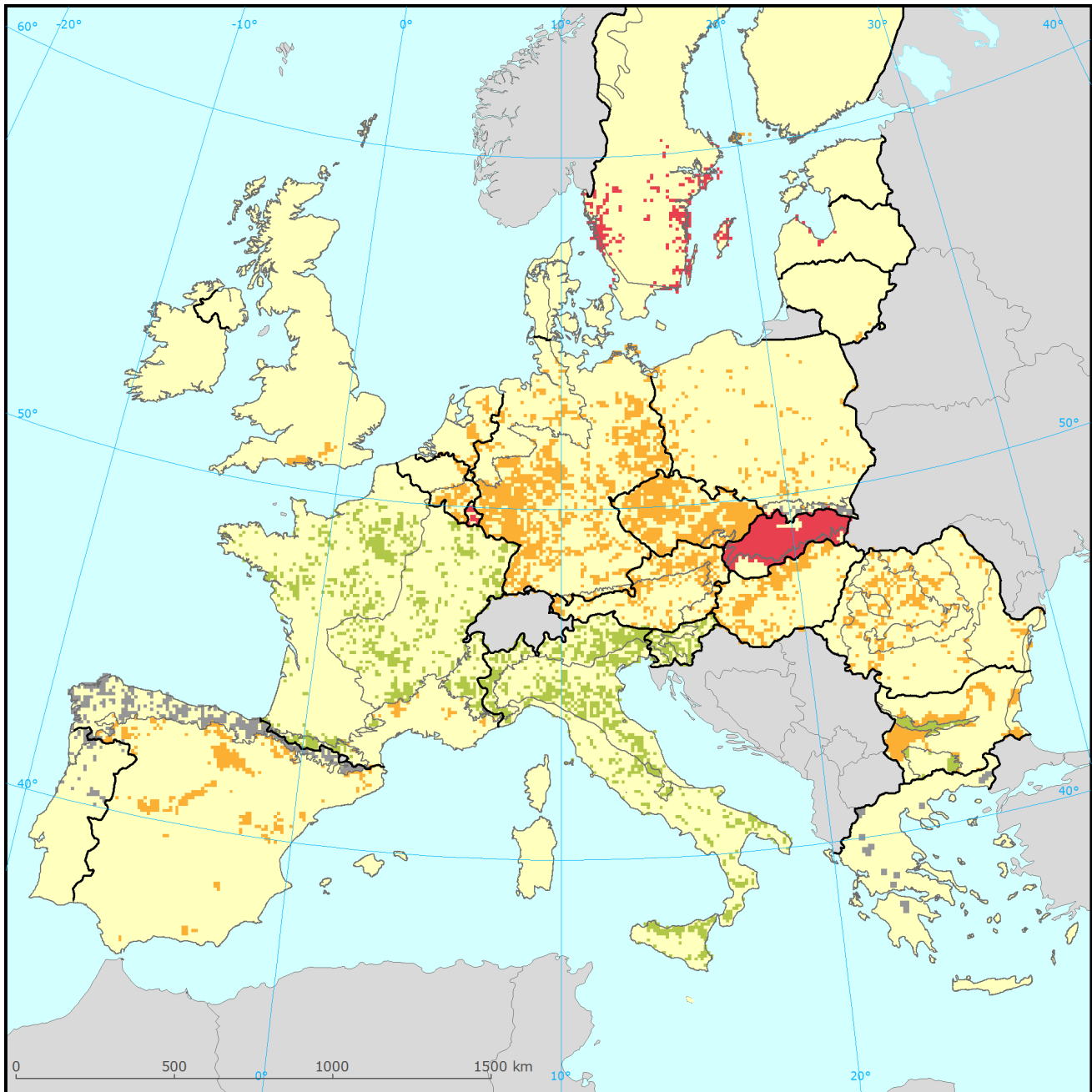


Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	18	U1	
ATL	FV	U1	XX	XX	U1	=	13	U1	
BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	0.48	XX	Not genuine
BOR	FV	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	4	U2	
CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	48	U1	
MED	XX	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	11	XX	Not genuine
PAN	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	x	6	XX	Not genuine
STE	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	0.34	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

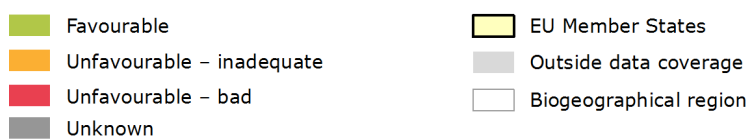
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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



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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	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	10.9	U1	
BG	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		6.4		
DE	ALP	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	1.4	U1	Better data
ES	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		6.1	U2	
FR	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.4	U2	Changed method
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		21.8	FV	
PL	ALP	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		3.1	XX	
RO	ALP	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		7.6		
SI	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		3.2	U1	Better data
SK	ALP	U1	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	29.9	U1	Genuine
BE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	1.9	XX	Better data
DE	ATL	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	11.6	U1	Changed method
ES	ATL	FV	FV	XX	XX	XX		31.6	XX	
FR	ATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		43.3	U1	Changed method
NL	ATL	FV	U1	U1	FV	U1	+	6.3	U2	Changed method
PT	ATL	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX		1.5	U1	Changed method
UK	ATL	U1	U1	FV	FV	U1	+	3.8	U1+	
BG	BLS	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	80.6		
RO	BLS	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		19.4		
FI	BOR	FV	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	5.7	XX	
LT	BOR	FV	U1	U1	XX	U1	=	2.0	U2	Better data
LV	BOR	U2	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	3.7	U2	
SE	BOR	FV	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	88.5	U2-	
AT	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	3.7	U1	
BE	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	2.0	U1	
BG	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	-	6.4		
CZ	CON	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	16.2	U1	
DE	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	33.7	U1	
FR	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		12.1	U1	Changed method
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		9.9	FV	
LU	CON	FV	U1	U2	U1	U2	x	0.5	XX	
PL	CON	XX	XX	U1	XX	U1	x	5.9	U1+	No data
RO	CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1		6.6		
SE	CON	FV	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	1.1	U2-	

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		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
SI	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		1.9	U1	Better data
ES	MED	XX	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	47.1	XX	Changed method
FR	MED	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	5.8	U1	
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		2.8	XX	
IT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		38.9	FV	
PT	MED	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX		5.3	U1	Changed method
CZ	PAN	FV	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	5.9	U1	
HU	PAN	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	x	66.5	XX	Better data
RO	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1		3.8		
SK	PAN	U1	U2	U1	U2	U2	-	23.8	U1	Genuine
RO	STE	FV	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.

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	13
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	12
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	12
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	9
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	6
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	5
J01	Fire and fire suppression	5
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	4
B01	Afforestation	4
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	4

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	12
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	12
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	11
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	11
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	9
A04	Grazing by livestock	4
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	4
B01	Afforestation	4
E03	Discharges (household/industrial)	4
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	4

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=Reptiles&period=3&subject=Coronella+austriaca>

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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.