



## Elaphe quatuorlineata

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<b>Annex</b>	II, IV
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Reptiles
<b>Regions</b>	Alpine, Continental, Mediterranean, Steppic

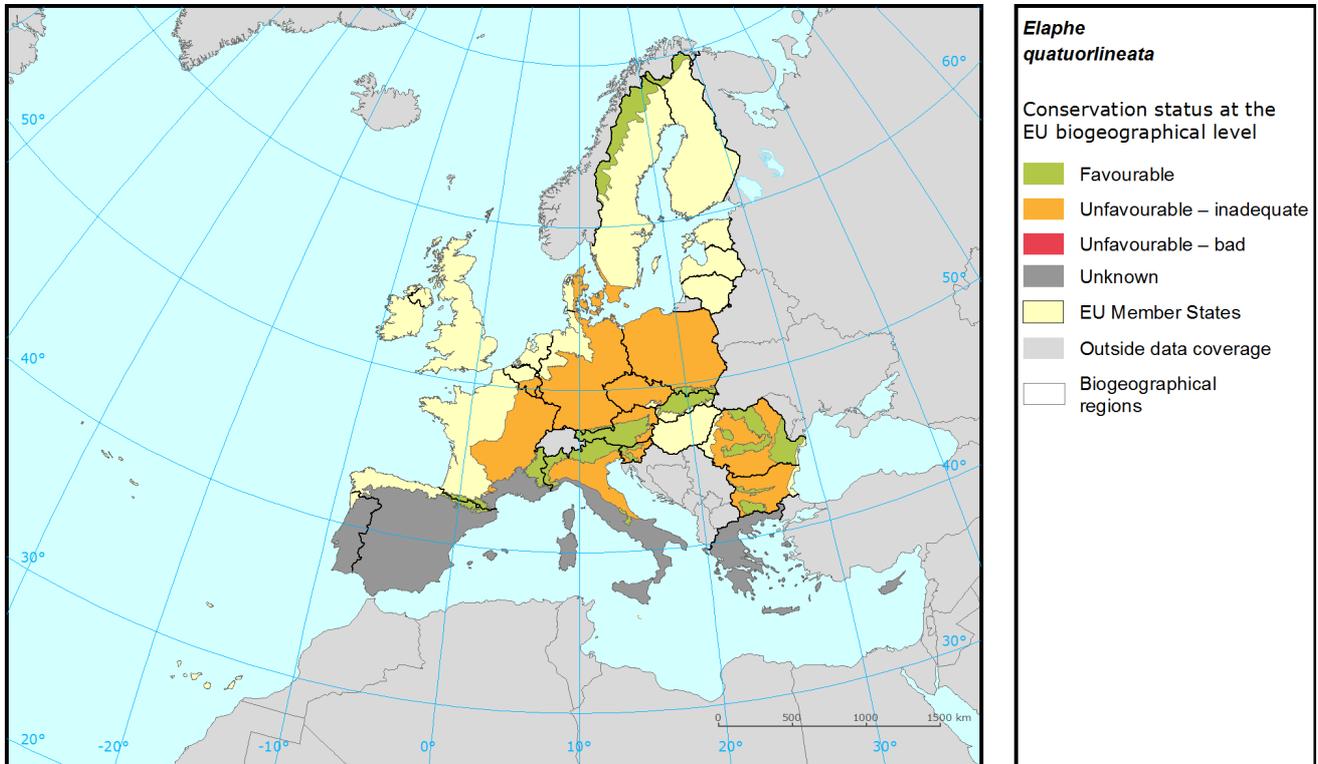
The Four-lined Snake (*Elaphe quatuorlineata*) occurs in southern Europe from central and southern Italy, across the Balkan region to Greece. This snake has a preference for wooded habitats, in particular the Mediterranean maquis, which is a bushy vegetation growing in a rocky and dry environment.

The species is reported by Bulgaria, Italy, Greece, Romania and Slovenia for the Alpine, Continental, Mediterranean and Steppic biogeographical regions. The conservation status of the Alpine and Steppic regions is assessed as 'favourable', whereas the Continental region is assessed as 'unfavourable-inadequate' and the Mediterranean region as 'unknown'. While there was no change from the previous reporting period for the Continental and Steppic regions, the conservation status for the Alpine and Mediterranean regions changed from 'unfavourable-inadequate' for both regions for non-genuine reasons. Pressures and threats reported by the Member States include collection of animals, roads, paths and railroads, solar energy production, fire and improved access to sites.

The IUCN Red List classifies the species as near threatened due to significant decline and widespread habitat loss through much of its range (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/157264/1> consulted on 3 March 2015).

Species: *Elaphe quatuorlineata*  
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	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>		2	<span style="background-color: #FFA500;">U1</span>	Not genuine				
CON	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9;">XX</span>	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #FFA500;">U1</span>	<span style="background-color: #FFA500;">U1</span>	-	12	<span style="background-color: #FFA500;">U1</span>	
MED	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9;">XX</span>	<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9;">XX</span>	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9;">XX</span>	x	84	<span style="background-color: #FFA500;">U1</span>	Not genuine
STE	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	<span style="background-color: #A9A9A9;">XX</span>	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>		2	<span style="background-color: #90EE90;">FV</span>	

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

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### *Elaphe quatuorlineata*

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Favourable                | EU Member States       |
| Unfavourable – inadequate | Outside data coverage  |
| Unfavourable – bad        | Biogeographical region |
| Unknown                   |                        |

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					
IT	ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0	U1-	Better data
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	57.6		
IT	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		35.4	U1	Better data
RO	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		2.0		
SI	CON	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		5.1	U2	Changed method
GR	MED	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX		29.3	XX	
IT	MED	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		70.7	U1	Better data
RO	STE	FV	FV	FV	XX	FV		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
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	33
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	17
D05	Improved access to site	17
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	17
J01	Fire and fire suppression	17

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	33
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	33
J01	Fire and fire suppression	33

## 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	CON	MED	STE
<b>BG</b>		x		
<b>IT</b>	x	x	x	
<b>RO</b>		100		80
<b>SI</b>		63		

See the endnotes for more information<sup>ii</sup>

## 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
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	29
2.0	Other agriculture-related measures	14
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	14
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	14
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	14
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	14

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=Elaphe+quatuorlineata>

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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.