



## Testudo hermanni

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

Hermann's Tortoise (*testudo hermanni*) occurs commonly in southern and particularly in south-eastern Europe, from northeastern Spain to Bulgaria. Outside the EU the species also occurs commonly across the Balkan Peninsula and Turkey. It inhabits a wide spectrum of open Mediterranean habitats with warm and dry conditions in the summer and mild conditions in the winter.

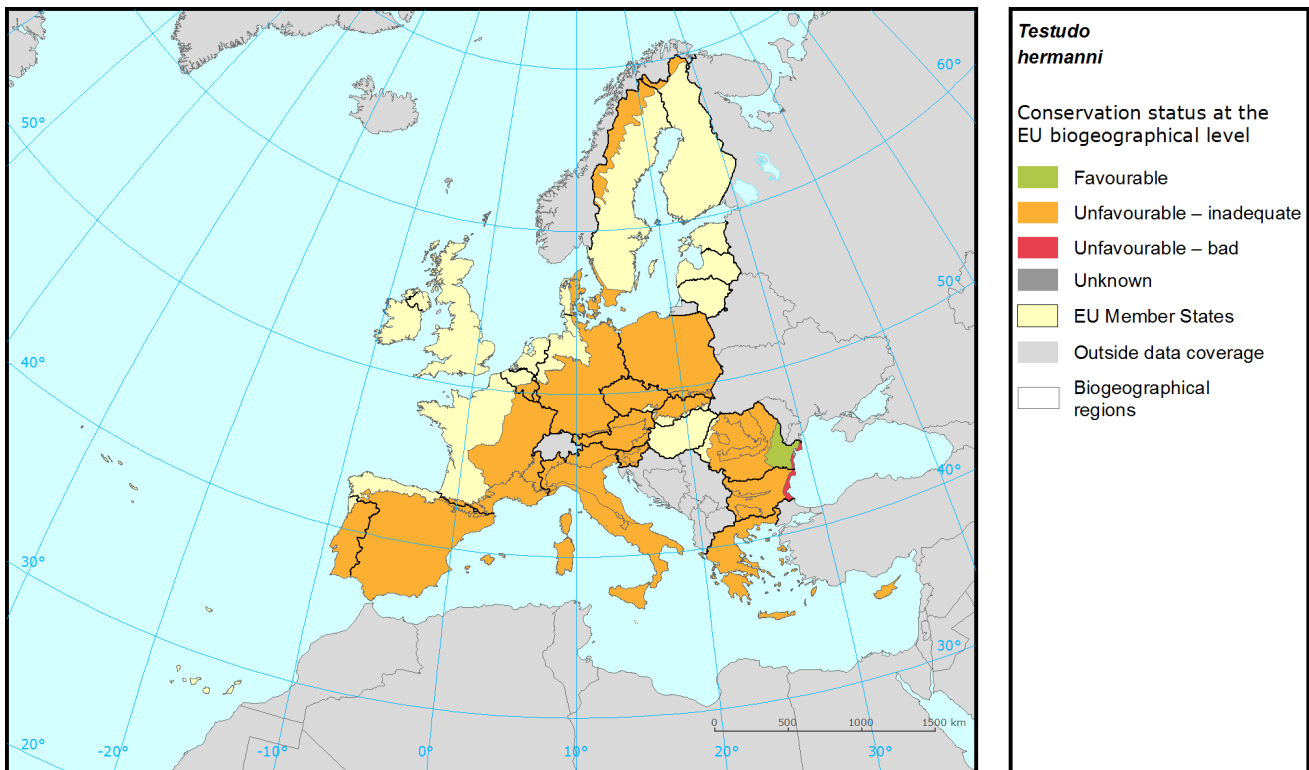
The species is reported in the Alpine, Black Sea, Continental, Mediterranean, and Steppic biogeographical regions. The conservation status for the Alpine, Continental and Mediterranean biogeographical regions is assessed as 'unfavourable-inadequate', while the Steppic region is assessed as 'favourable' and the Black Sea region as 'unfavourable-bad'. No change was reported from the previous reporting period for the Continental and Mediterranean regions, while the other regions were reported for the first time. Important pressures and threats reported by the Member States include collection of animals, fire, genetic pollution, buildings in the landscape, garbage and solid waste, urbanisation and agricultural intensification.

The IUCN Red List classifies the species as near threatened due to its significant decline and widespread habitat loss (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/21648/1> consulted on 3 March 2015).

# Species: *Testudo hermanni*

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	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	6	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	U1	U1	U2	U2	-	4	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	46	U1	
MED	U1	XX	XX	XX	U1	-	44	U1	
STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		0.09	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



### *Testudo hermanni*

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					
BG ALP	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
BG BLS	FV	FV	FV	U2	U2	-	100.0		
BG CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1	-	91.2		
IT CON	U2	U1	U1	U2	U2	-	3.3	U1-	Genuine
RO CON	FV	FV	FV	U1	U1		5.5		
ES MED	U1	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	7.1	U2	Changed method
FR MED	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	=	7.6	U2	
GR MED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		51.6	XX	
IT MED	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	-	33.6	U1-	
RO STE	FV	FV	FV	FV	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
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	27
J01	Fire and fire suppression	19
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	12
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	8
E04	Scattered structures and buildings	8
H05	Soil pollution and solid waste (excl. discharges)	8
I03	Introduced species/genes	8
A04	Grazing by livestock	4
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	4
L09	Fire (natural)	4

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## Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
F03	Hunting and collection of terrestrial wild animals	27
J01	Fire and fire suppression	19
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	8
E04	Scattered structures and buildings	8
H05	Soil pollution and solid waste (excl. discharges)	8
I03	Introduced species/genes	8
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	4
D01	Roads, railroads and paths	4
E02	Industrial or commercial areas	4
I01	Invasive alien species	4

## 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	BLS	CON	MED	STE
<b>BG</b>	x	x	100*		
<b>ES</b>				100	
<b>FR</b>				32	
<b>IT</b>			x	x	
<b>RO</b>			100		100

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

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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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	25
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	25
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	19
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	13
7.0	Other species management measures	6
8.0	Other measures	6
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	6

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=Testudo+hermanni>

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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.