



Najas flexilis

Annex	II, IV
Priority	No
Species group	Vascular plants
Regions	Atlantic, Boreal, Continental

The plant *Najas flexilis* is an aquatic plant species which is native to Northern Europe and Poland as well as to North America. It grows in brackish, freshwater lakes and bays. The IUCN European Red List classifies the species as Vulnerable (VU). It is classed as Regionally Extinct (RE) in Switzerland and Poland, Endangered (EN) in Sweden, Denmark, Estonia, Finland and Norway; it is protected in the United Kingdom and in Denmark.

In the Atlantic bioregion the status of this species is assessed as "Unfavourable Inadequate". In the Continental and Boreal bioregion this species is assessed as "Unfavourable Bad". The overall conservation trend is stable only in Atlantic bioregion. The trend in other two bioregions is declining

and the changes observed were assessed as genuine.

The species is threatened mostly by water pollution, eutrophication, acidification, invasion by a species.

In Boreal region the change in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 report are assessed as genuine.

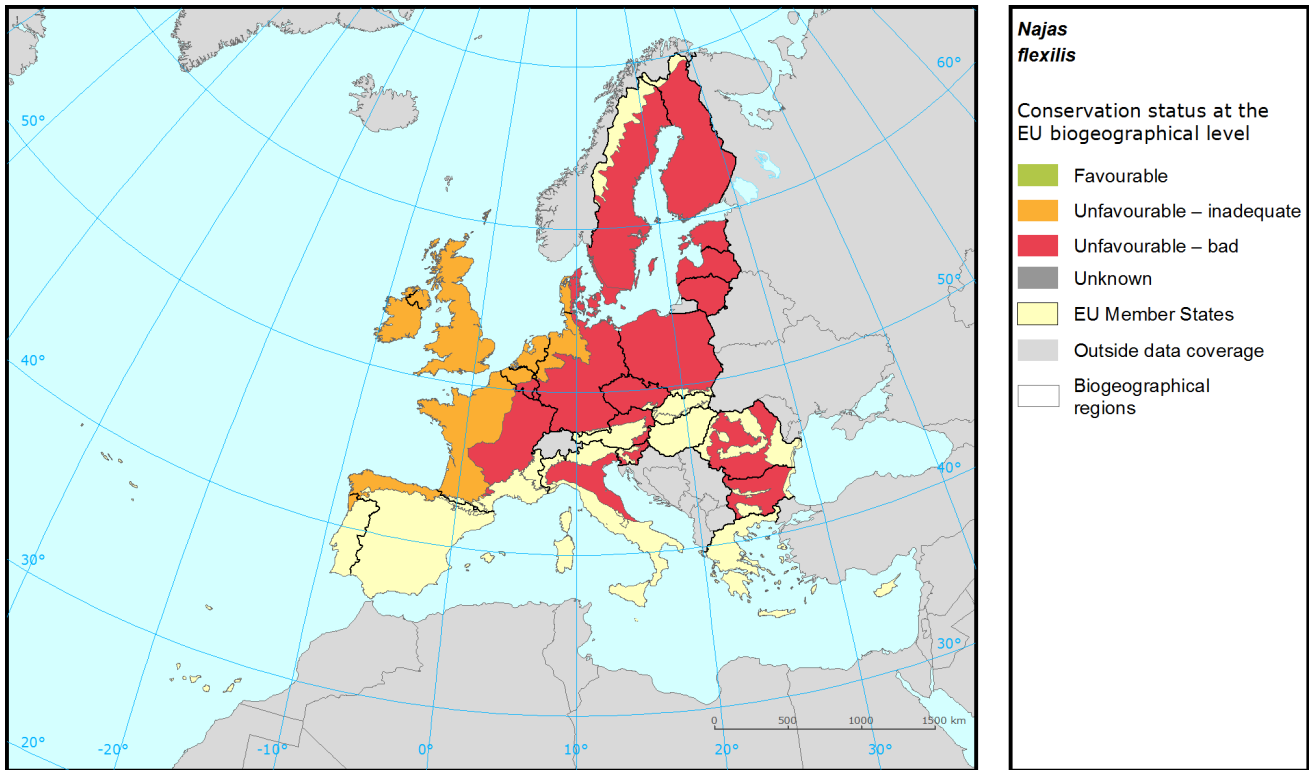
No changes in overall conservation status between 2001-06 and 2007-12 reports in Atlantic and Continental region.

According to the NGO Protect, the species would occur in one location of the Austrian Alpine region (Millstätter See).

Species: *Najas flexilis*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



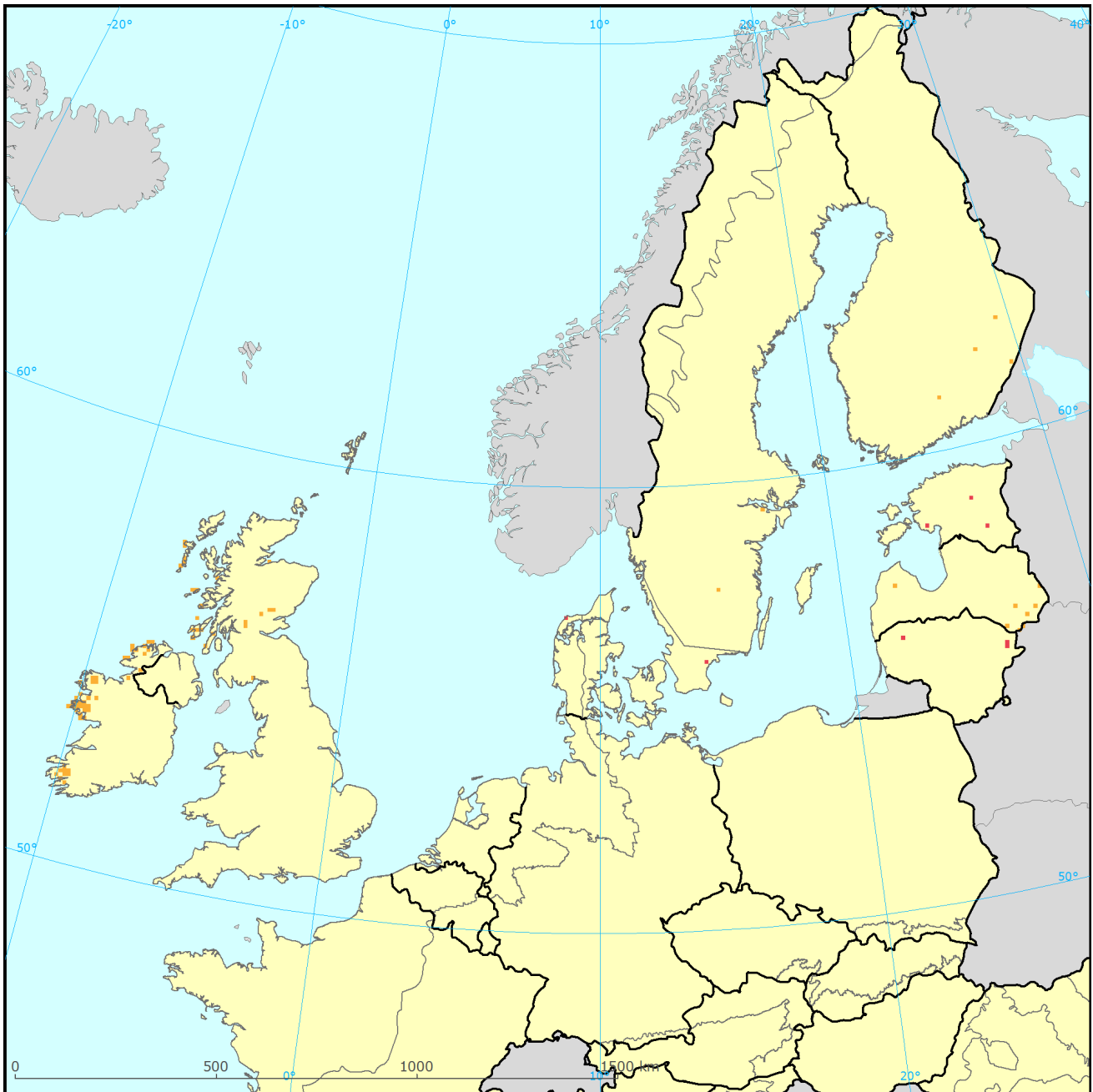
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	77	U1	
BOR	U1	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	22	U1	Genuine
CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	1	U2	

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Najas flexilis

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					
DK	ATL	U1	U2	U2	U2	x	1.4	U2		
IE	ATL	FV	U1	U1	U1	=	65.7	U1		
UK	ATL	FV	U1	FV	FV	=	32.9	U1+	Changed method	
EE	BOR	U1	U2	U1	U1	-	15.0	U1-	Genuine	
FI	BOR	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	20.0	U1		
LT	BOR	U2	U2	U1	XX	x	15.0	U1	No data	
LV	BOR	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	40.0	U1	Genuine	
SE	BOR	FV	FV	U1	U1	=	10.0	U2	Better data	
SE	CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0	U2	Genuine	

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
H01	Pollution to surface waters	31
K04	Interspecific floral relations	31
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	19
A08	Fertilisation in agriculture	6
I01	Invasive alien species	6
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	6

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
K04	Interspecific floral relations	36
H01	Pollution to surface waters	27
K02	Vegetation succession/Biocenotic evolution	18
I01	Invasive alien species	9
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	9

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

	ATL	BOR	CON
DK	1		
EE		100	
FI		22	
IE	100		
LT		82	
LV		34	
SE		100	100
UK	45		

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ

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	40
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	30
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	20
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	10

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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=Vascular+plants&period=3&subject=Najas+flexilis>

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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.