



**NPWS**

An tSeirbhís Páircanna  
Náisiúnta agus Fiadhúlra  
National Parks and Wildlife  
Service

# Third Natura 2000 Biogeographical Seminar for the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine regions

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Background Document



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## 1. Introduction to the Natura 2000 biogeographical process and the Natura 2000 seminars

The Natura 2000 biogeographical process was launched in 2011 by the European Commission. The objective of the process is to promote knowledge exchange, networking, and cooperation on Natura 2000 related issues at a biogeographical region level. At the heart of the process lie the Natura 2000 seminars, as well as a networking programme consisting of the organisation of workshops, events, or meetings relevant to the objective of the process and various communication actions.

Since Member States in each region are likely to face similar challenges in the management of Natura 2000 sites and protected habitats and species, the Natura 2000 seminars are intended to stimulate transnational exchanges and promote a coherent management of Natura 2000 at biogeographical region level. This approach is particularly relevant for the marine environment, where the management of Natura 2000 sites often involves addressing transboundary or even basin-scale pressures and activities which also often affect highly mobile species not restricted to the marine area of one Member State.

As the responsibility for implementing Natura 2000 lies with the Member States, the seminars create an opportunity for these key actors to exchange information at biogeographical level. In addition, they also stimulate engagement with and involvement of other key stakeholders and expert networks, including civil society and economic operators.

### 1.1. EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030

The strategic orientation of the process has evolved over time. In 2020, the European Commission adopted the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 “Bringing nature back into our lives”<sup>1</sup>, which was supported by Member States<sup>2</sup>. The strategy sets out a comprehensive, ambitious, long-term plan for protecting nature and reversing the degradation of ecosystems and ecosystem services. Specific targets are to be achieved by 2030, among them two that are particularly relevant for the Natura 2000 biogeographical process:

- **Protected areas:** legally protect at least 30% of the land, including inland waters, and 30% of the sea in the EU, of which at least one third (10% of land and 10% of sea) to be under strict protection. Effectively manage all protected areas, defining clear conservation objectives and measures, and monitor them appropriately.

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<sup>1</sup> EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 Bringing nature back into our lives <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1590574123338&uri=CELEX:52020DC0380>

<sup>2</sup> <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-11829-2020-INIT/en/pdf>

- **Conservation status:** ensure that at least 30% of species and habitats covered by the Birds<sup>3</sup> and Habitats<sup>4</sup> Directives not currently in favourable status are in that category or show a strong positive trend, as well as ensure no deterioration in conservation trends and status of all protected habitats and species.

These targets are not legally binding and do not replace the legal obligations that Member States have under the Birds and Habitats Directives. Rather, they represent a political agreement for action to drive their delivery and help stop and reverse biodiversity loss. Commission's guidance documents have been produced that provide further clarifications for each of the targets<sup>5,6</sup>. These targets have also added a new and over-arching context for the Natura 2000 biogeographical process.

## 1.2. Pledge and review process

As part of the initiative to meet the objectives set out within the Biodiversity Strategy 2030, the European Commission has requested that Member States make pledges to show how they will meet the protected area and conservation status targets. These should follow the format<sup>7</sup> and contents agreed between the Member States, the Commission, and the European Environment Agency (EEA), using the Excel file template developed by the EEA and the European Topic Centre for Biodiversity (ETC-BD) for pledge submission to the EEA's Reportnet platform. Pledges will be peer reviewed by the Commission, the EEA, and Member States. The expanded Natura 2000 biogeographical process and seminars will be central to this review process.

## 1.3. Biogeographical process and Natura 2000 seminars

To provide additional support to Member States and the pledge and review process, the scope of the Natura 2000 biogeographical process has been expanded. In addition to helping Member States to implement their legal obligations under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives, the process will also help them to contribute to the full implementation of targets under the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

Sharing information, experience, and knowledge on best practices, and ensuring cooperation and common understanding at transnational level are key to making progress towards achieving a coherent

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<sup>3</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32009L0147>

<sup>4</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A01992L0043-20130701>

<sup>5</sup> Commission guidance on the protected areas targets: [https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/criteria-and-guidance-protected-areas-designations-staff-working-document\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/criteria-and-guidance-protected-areas-designations-staff-working-document_en)

<sup>6</sup> Commission guidance on the status improvement targets: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/6f30d1d2-d6f2-4c6e-a4dc-1feb66201929/library/bd8a2cd4-f774-4574-bd88-0b1fa012b725/details>

<sup>7</sup> Format for the protected areas target: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/6f30d1d2-d6f2-4c6e-a4dc-1feb66201929/library/55ebe353-e369-49ab-92b1-4ddab67424b0/details>

Format for the status improvement target: <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/6f30d1d2-d6f2-4c6e-a4dc-1feb66201929/library/395c7cde-e2c4-40b0-9afc-638a214d6b39/details>

EU-wide network of protected areas, improving the effectiveness of its management, and ultimately ensuring progress towards reaching favourable conservation status at biogeographical level by 2030. Natura 2000 seminars will therefore support key players in:

- achieving a common understanding of the objectives and processes in relation to relevant targets under the Biodiversity strategy,
- presenting national pledges related to the targets for a peer review in the seminars,
- achieving a common understanding on relevant topics, especially in relation to Natura 2000, to address challenges in implementation and management, financing, and monitoring and reporting, to ensure coherence and effectiveness of implementation at regional/biogeographical level,
- sharing good practices in regulation, supervision, conservation, and restoration with a view to promoting and upscaling them, and
- facilitating the setup of joint projects to support delivery of these objectives, including on management/restoration.

#### **1.4. Biogeographical process in the marine regions**

The EU Biodiversity strategy applies equally to the marine as to the terrestrial environment. The protected area (PA) targets are to be met at the level of each marine biogeographical region by designating new, or expanding existing, Natura 2000 sites (special areas of conservation under the Habitats Directive or special protection areas under the Birds Directive) or MPAs designated under national legislation or through international agreements such as regional sea conventions.

Strictly protected areas are defined as follows<sup>8</sup>: *“Strictly protected areas are fully and legally protected areas designated to conserve and/or restore the integrity of biodiversity-rich natural areas with their underlying ecological structure and supporting natural environmental processes. Natural processes are therefore left essentially undisturbed from human pressures and threats to the area’s overall ecological structure and functioning, independently of whether those pressures and threats are located inside or outside the strictly protected area”*.

In addition, other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs) can be counted towards the targets if they meet relevant criteria stipulated by the Convention on Biological Diversity. What constitutes an OECM in the marine context is currently being elucidated<sup>9</sup>, with fisheries management areas being one topic of focus.

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<sup>8</sup> Commission guidance on the protected areas targets:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/criteria-and-guidance-protected-areas-designations-staff-working-document\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/publications/criteria-and-guidance-protected-areas-designations-staff-working-document_en)

<sup>9</sup>[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/events/pdf/2.%20Ellen%20Kenchington\\_WT\\_OPS\\_Marine%20OECMs.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/events/pdf/2.%20Ellen%20Kenchington_WT_OPS_Marine%20OECMs.pdf)



The situation with conservation status (CS) targets is distinctly different. The CS improvement target does not distinguish between habitats and species in marine and terrestrial regions. While this target could be met in theory by addressing only terrestrial habitats and species, there is a strong presumption that for coastal states efforts should be made across both environments. In any case, the part of the target concerning no deterioration in conservation trends and status will still have to be met for marine habitats and species where relevant. A second objective of the target is to ensure that, by 2030, the quality of national monitoring has become sufficiently comprehensive in each of the Member States to allow for complete and up-to-date reporting that provides a reliable assessment of status and trend for all relevant species and habitats. This is particularly important for marine habitats and species given that a large proportion of conservation status assessments are classed as unknown. Finally, this target is conceived as a national-level target to be achieved by each Member State individually without any further regional or biogeographical breakdown.

A new contract has been put in place under the Natura 2000 biogeographical process to provide better and more focused support to Member States working in marine regions<sup>10</sup>. The terrestrial and marine biogeographical processes are complementary and there is a strong level of coordination between them, including a joint communications platform and a shared wiki<sup>11</sup>. The Atlantic and Macaronesian seminar is the first of a series of three marine regional events that will support the delivery of the biodiversity pledge and review process in the EU seas.

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<sup>10</sup> Support for the Natura 2000 Biogeographical Process in the Marine Regions ENV/2022/OP/0006

<sup>11</sup> <https://biogeoprocess.net/>

## 2. The Atlantic and the Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions

Figure 1 shows the marine biogeographical regions that are relevant in the context of the EU Biodiversity strategy 2030. It is important to note that these are purely biogeographical areas, and do not reflect national jurisdictions.

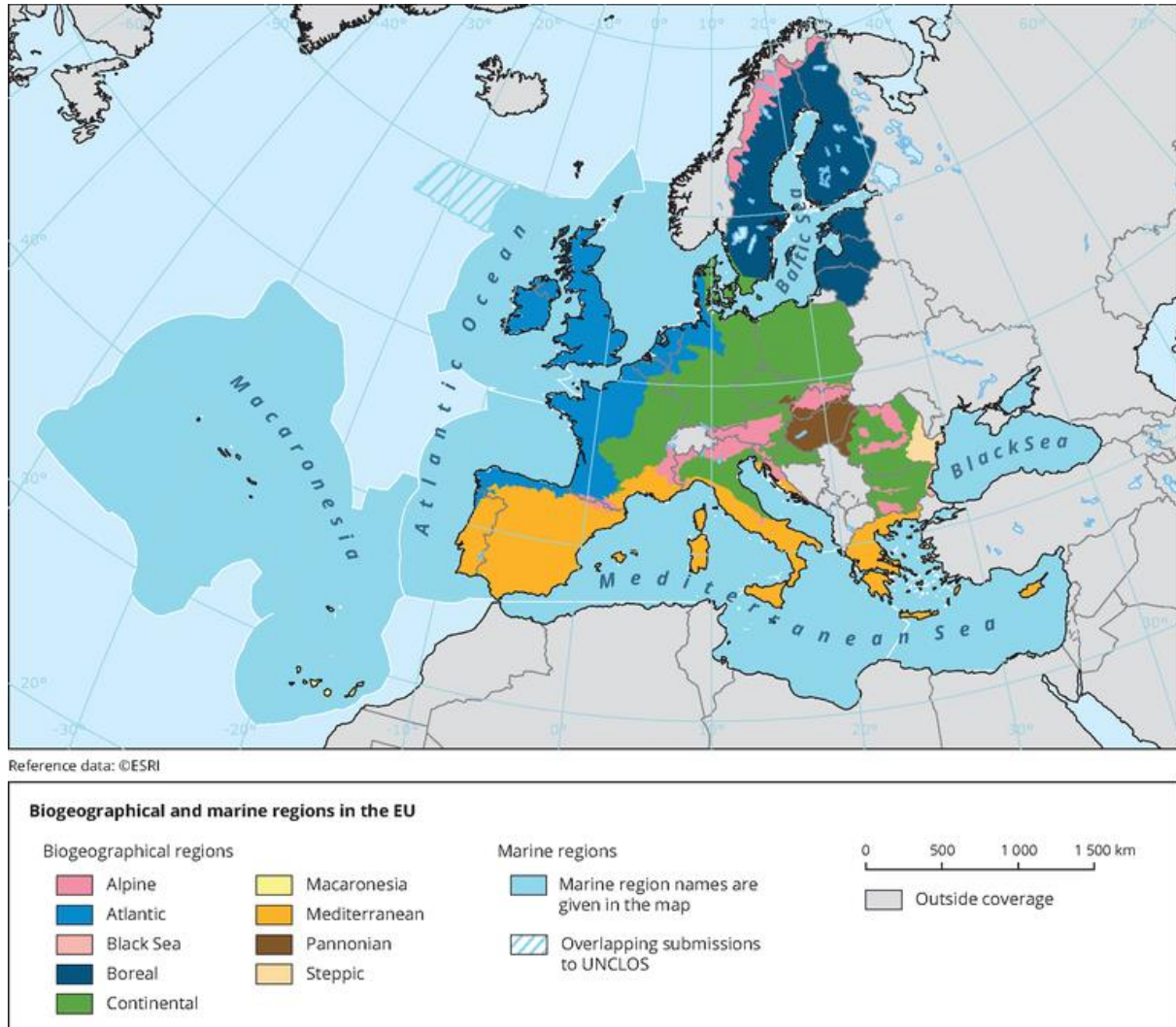


Figure 1: Biogeographical regions in Europe (source: EEA<sup>12</sup>, last modified October 2020)

Relevant coastal Member States are Spain, Portugal, France, **Ireland, Netherlands, Belgium**, Germany, Denmark, and Sweden (coastal states in bold are solely in the Atlantic region, while the others have coasts in more than one marine biogeographical region – see Table 1).

Member State	Atlantic	Macaronesian	Baltic	Mediterranean
Belgium	X			
Denmark	X		X	
France	X		X	X

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/figures/biogeographical-and-marine-regions-in>

Member State	Atlantic	Macaronesian	Baltic	Mediterranean
Germany	X		X	
Ireland	X			
Netherlands	X			
Portugal	X	X		
Spain	X	X		X
Sweden	X		X	

Table 1 – Member States and relevant marine biogeographical regions

## 2.1. The biogeographical process for the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine regions

The first marine biogeographical seminar was held in St Malo, France in 2015<sup>13</sup>. It covered all EU marine regions and, appropriately for a first event, was broad in scope addressing three themes.

- **Theme 1:** Setting conservation objectives for Natura 2000 sites
- **Theme 2:** Reconciling Natura 2000 objectives and marine activities/ conservation management planning
- **Theme 3:** Regional integration of Natura 2000 issues

The second marine biogeographical seminar was held in Palma, Spain, in 2018<sup>14</sup>. The themes addressed in this event were:

- **Theme 1:** Setting conservation objectives at site, national and regional levels
- **Theme 2:** Setting favourable reference values (FRVs)
- **Theme 3:** Developing conservation measures to achieve the conservation objectives

Discussions were based on biogeographical groupings of Member States: Baltic, Atlantic and Macaronesian, and Mediterranean and Black Sea.

## 2.2. Current protected area coverage

The most recent analysis of marine protected area coverage at marine biogeographical regions level was conducted by European Environment Agency based on the data reported by the end of 2021 for Natura 2000 sites and for nationally designated areas (Figure 2). It combines data for Natura 2000 sites with those for nationally designated areas reported by Member States and therefore provides an overview of the total area that is designated as protected, accounting for overlaps between different designations. The overview at regional level also includes sites designated under regional sea conventions (accounting for the overlap between them and Natura 2000 and nationally designated sites). The data about the areas under strict protection are currently not reported but this will become available once all pledges are submitted.

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<sup>13</sup> All documentation for the first marine seminar can be found here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/knowledge\\_exchange/28\\_document\\_library\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/knowledge_exchange/28_document_library_en.htm)

<sup>14</sup> All documentation for the second marine seminar can be found here:

[https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/knowledge\\_exchange/28\\_document\\_library\\_en.htm](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/platform/knowledge_exchange/28_document_library_en.htm)

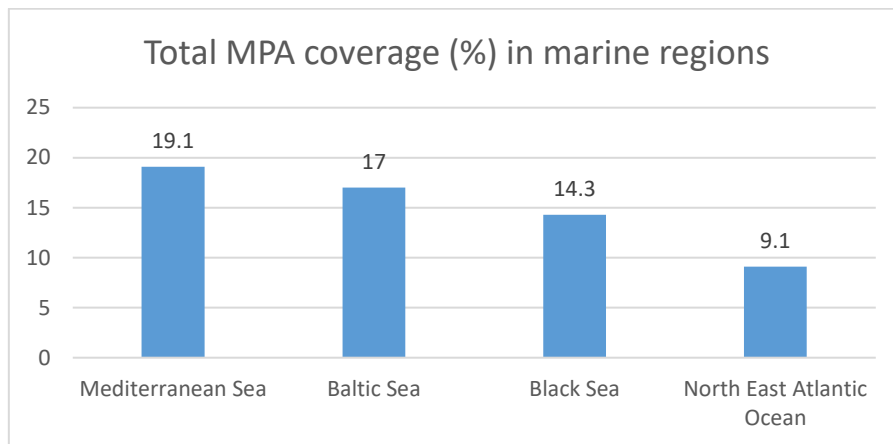


Figure 2 - Total MPA coverage in each marine biogeographical region, % of the total EU MS marine area of the region

For the Atlantic region and Macaronesian region specifically, it is also possible to break down the figures at the level of Member States that have marine waters within these regions (Figures 3 and 4).

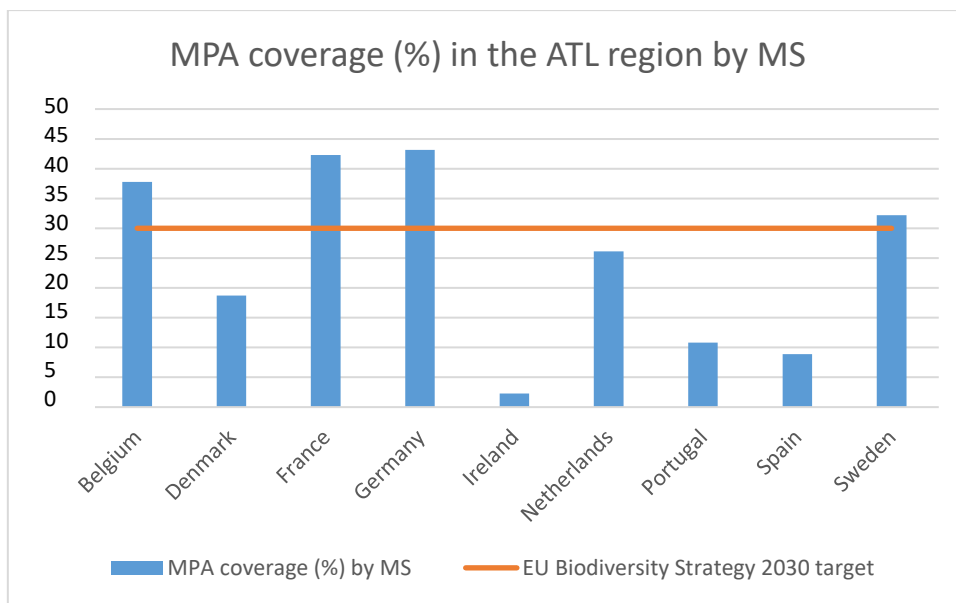


Figure 3 - Percentage of the marine area of each MS covered by Natura 2000 sites or nationally designated areas (with overlaps accounted for) in the Atlantic marine biogeographical region (excluding Macaronesian region for which a separate figure is provided).

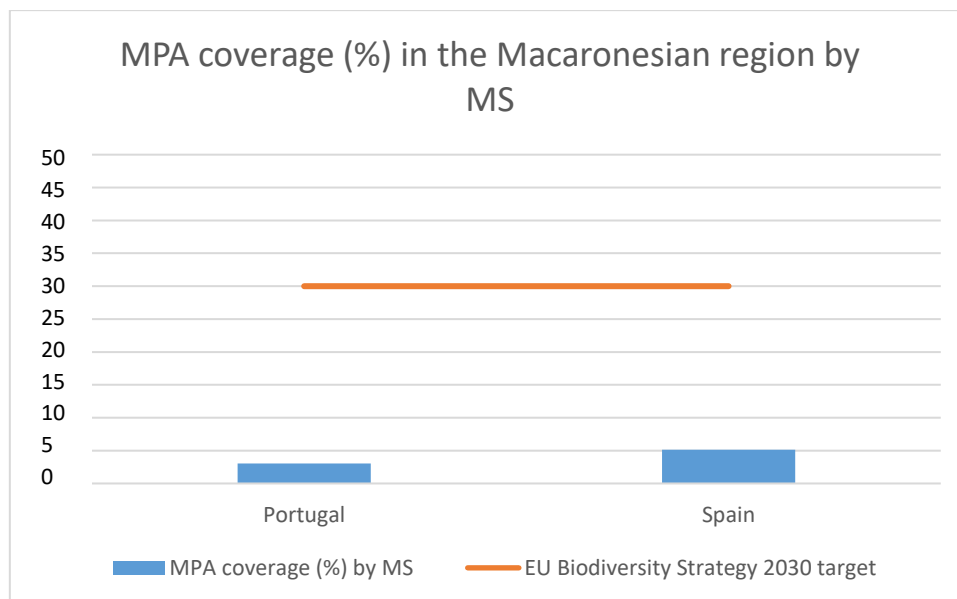


Figure 4 - Percentage of the marine area of each MS covered by Natura 2000 sites or nationally designated areas (with overlaps accounted for) in the Macaronesian marine biogeographical region.

### 2.3. Current conservation status

Information on the conservation status of habitats and species in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions is available through the most recent reports under Article 12 of the Birds Directive and Article 17 of the Habitats Directive, for the period 2013-18<sup>15</sup>. This provides a baseline against which progress towards the conservation status targets can be assessed.

#### 2.3.1. Habitats

Member States report on the conservation status of habitats and species under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. The charts below (Figure 5) combine the results of conservation status assessment for habitat types as reported by Member States for the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions for the period 2013-18<sup>16</sup>. Each habitat is assessed as favourable (FV), unfavourable-inadequate (U1), unfavourable-bad (U2) or unknown (XX). In addition, a trend value is reported for each assessment value, declining (D), increasing (I), stable (S), or unknown (Unk). Note that in some cases no data are reported, in which case these are identified as 'blank'.

These assessments reflect a wider issue when it comes to marine conservation – the lack of data on the status or trends in the conservation status of habitats. This is the case in both Atlantic and

<sup>15</sup> Note that the summary reporting for this period includes data from the United Kingdom

<sup>16</sup> Article17\_2020\_habitatsEUassessment [https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-ec-2/article-17-2020-dataset/article-17-2020-data-csv-format/at\\_download/file](https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-ec-2/article-17-2020-dataset/article-17-2020-data-csv-format/at_download/file) (accessed 11-07-2023)

Macaronesian marine regions. Where data are available to underpin an assessment, these suggest that habitats are in unfavourable conservation status.

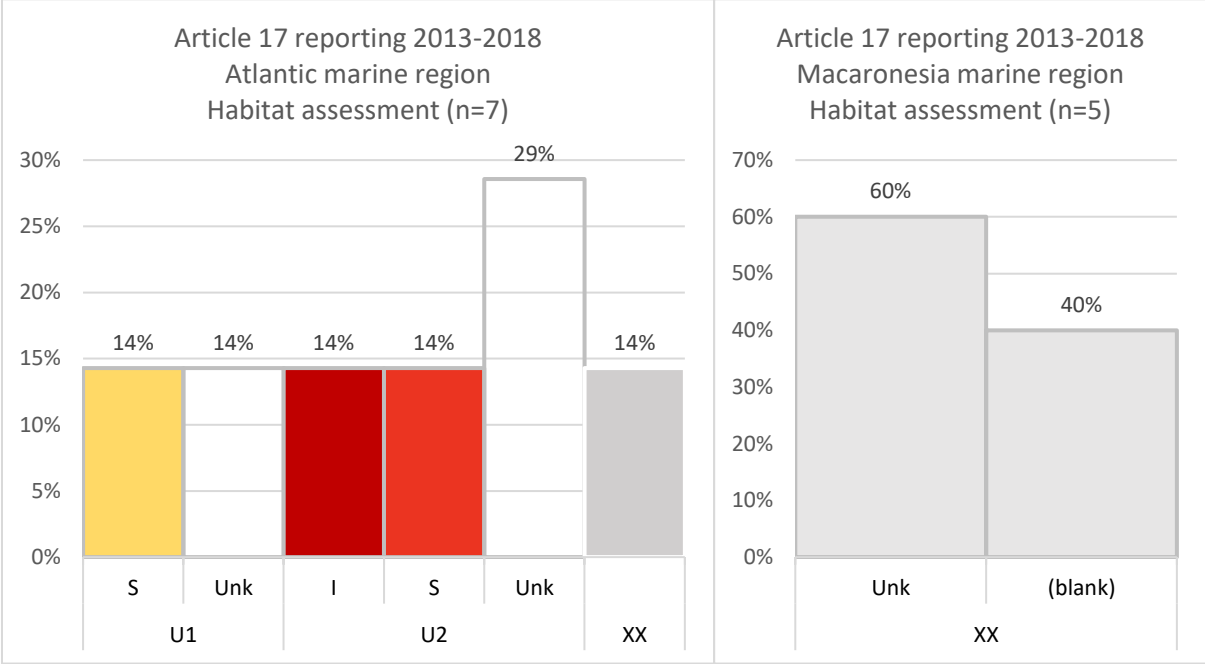


Figure 3 - Habitat assessments under Article 17 reporting 2013-2018 for Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions

**2.3.2. Species**

Member States report on the conservation status of non-avian species under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive. The charts below combine the results of conservation status assessments for marine species as reported by Member States for the Atlantic (Figure 6) and Macaronesian (Figure 7) marine biogeographical regions for the period 2013-18<sup>17</sup>. Each species is assessed as favourable (FV), unfavourable-inadequate (U1), unfavourable-bad (U2) or unknown (XX). In addition, a trend value is reported for each assessment value, declining (D), increasing (I), stable (S), or unknown (Unk). Note that in some cases no data are reported, in which case these are identified as ‘blank’.

As in the marine habitat assessments, the main issue is the lack of knowledge regarding the conservation status and trends of marine species, with around 80% of marine species in both regions reported as unknown. Only 4% of marine species, all in the Atlantic marine biogeographical region, are assessed as having favourable status.

<sup>17</sup> Article17\_2020\_speciesEUassessment [https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-ee-2/article-17-2020-dataset/article-17-2020-data-csv-format/at\\_download/file](https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-ee-2/article-17-2020-dataset/article-17-2020-data-csv-format/at_download/file) (accessed 11-07-2023)

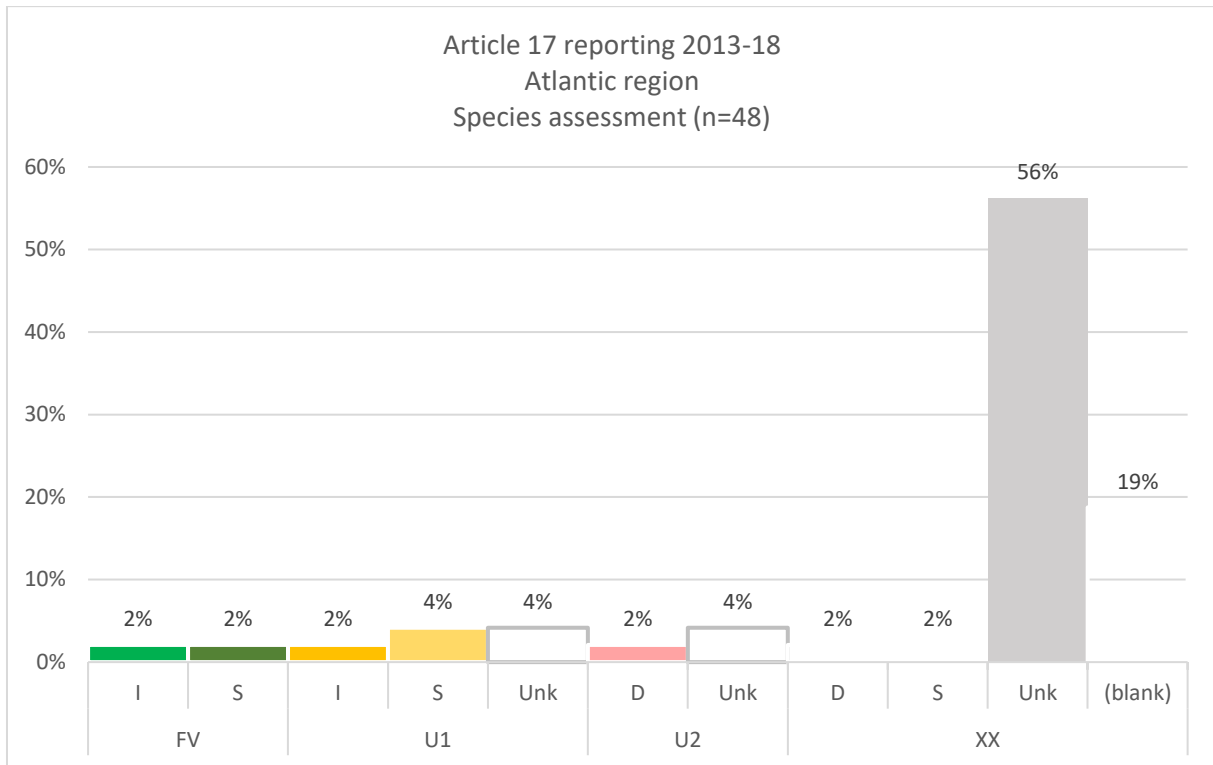


Figure 4 - Atlantic marine region – species conservation status and trends assessment

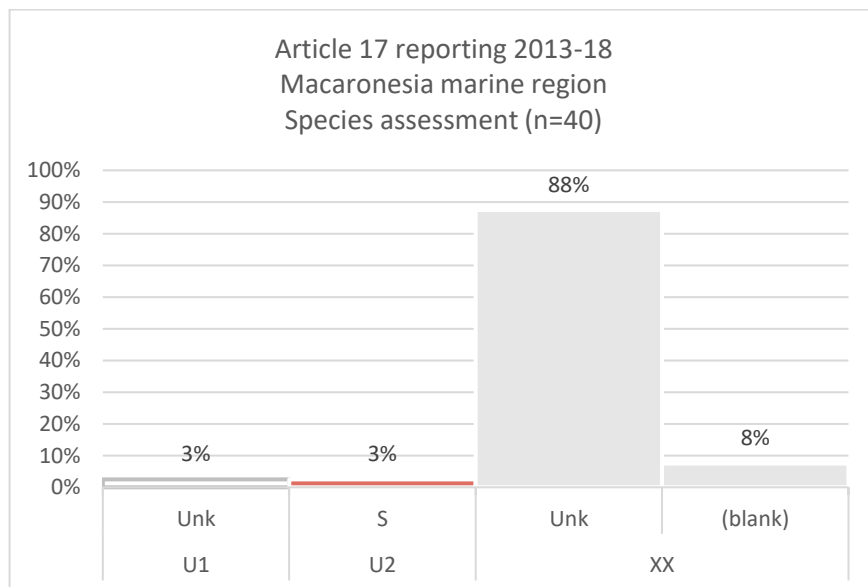


Figure 5 - Macaronesian marine region - species conservation status and trends assessment

### 2.3.3. Birds

Data regarding current conservation status and trend in relation to bird species are reported by Member States under Article 12 of the Birds Directive. These are not reported by biogeographical region, but at either EU or Member State level, and there is no distinction made in the data between

marine and terrestrial species. However, a list of marine bird species<sup>18</sup> can be used to separate out relevant data and information on the conservation status at an EU level provides some context for Member State pledges.

Figure 8 summarises the results of the most recent status assessment for marine bird species.<sup>19</sup> This shows that 35% of EU marine bird populations are either threatened or near threatened, with only 39% secure. A complete list of species and assessments is provided in Annex 1.

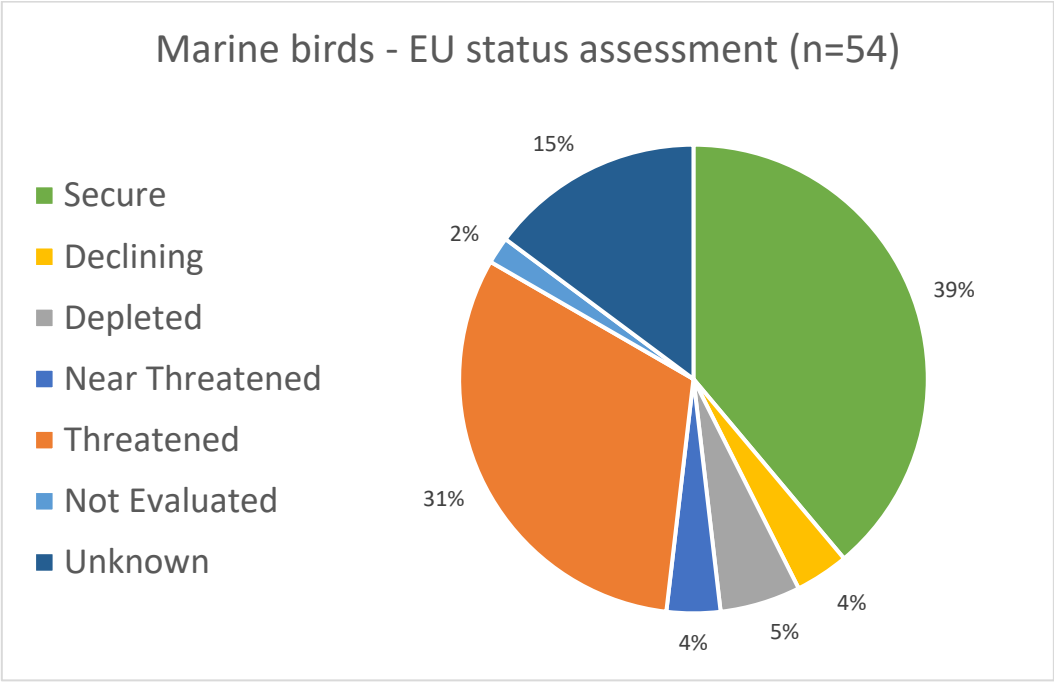


Figure 6 - Summary of marine bird species status assessment under Article 12 reporting at EU level

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<sup>18</sup> Marine bird species subset determined from [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/appendix\\_2\\_listing\\_species\\_habitats.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/appendix_2_listing_species_habitats.pdf)  
<sup>19</sup> Current status from EEA bird data (Article12\_2020\_birdsEUpopulation) <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-12-database-birds-directive-2009-147-ec-1>



### **3. Pledge and review – analysis**

#### **3.1. Introduction to analysis methodology**

This section describes the methodology for analysis and assessment of the Member State pledges for action towards the Protected Area and Conservation Status targets. In addition, it sets out an overview of the information presented to provide context for those Member States who will be submitting pledges soon.

It should be noted that a draft methodology<sup>20</sup> for analysis and assessment of pledges was suggested and discussed in the meeting of the Marine Expert Group (sub-group on marine issues under the Commission’s Biodiversity Platform). This methodology cannot be currently applied because not all Member States have submitted their pledges yet. However, guiding principles of that draft methodology have been used in the analysis presented here.

##### ***3.1.1. Protected Area pledges – analysis methodology***

The pledges for protected areas targets could only be analysed partially, as only pledges from some Member States have been received. With only some pledges available it is not yet possible to have a full picture at the regional level.

Nonetheless, analysis could be undertaken for each Member State. The analysis for progress on the protected area targets is straight forward and mainly involves checking the relevant biogeographic marine areas and percentage calculations for actual and expected coverage of protected areas and strictly protected areas provided by Member States in their data forms.

A preliminary analysis has also been undertaken to look at the question of the current baseline through reviewing the responses of the countries regarding nationally designated areas which should be counted towards the 30% target.

##### ***3.1.2. Conservation Status pledges – analysis methodology***

The methodology used for analysis of pledges for improving the conservation status of habitats and species protected under the Habitats Directive is different from that used for the analysis of pledges for improving the conservation status of birds. This is because of the different way in which these data are reported (i.e. the lack of assessment at the biogeographical region level for birds).

Habitat and species conservation status assessments under Article 17 of the Habitat Directive are reported at the level of each biogeographical region within each Member State. This allows for the extraction of information relating to habitats and species in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine

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<sup>20</sup> <https://circabc.europa.eu/ui/group/00564ca7-9d16-4b81-bac5-b35fcb84aa33/library/0adb9c80-658e-4e94-b22f-0b0b2c527826/details>

biogeographical regions. In contrast, the assessments of the status of bird species under Article 12 of the Birds Directive are reported by Member State and aggregated at a whole-EU level, with no gathering of information by biogeographical region. Also, especially relevant to the current study, there is no distinction made between bird species that are largely marine, and those that are wholly terrestrial. As a result, additional analysis is needed before assessing pledges, in order to pull out data for bird species that are predominantly marine.

However, in both cases, pledges made in relation to conservation status, whether aiming at status improvement, prevention of detrimental trends or gathering additional information to address 'unknowns', are assessed in relation to the reported status of habitats and species, or birds.

#### *Habitats and species - analysis*

The following steps are taken in assessing the Member State pledges to improve the Conservation Status of marine habitats and species under the Habitats Directive:

- Determine the marine habitats and species that are relevant for the Member State, in the appropriate marine biogeographical region – data provided by the EEA for both habitats<sup>21</sup> and species<sup>22</sup> - as well as identifying priority habitats and species.
- Determine the current conservation status in the appropriate database for all relevant marine habitats<sup>23</sup> and species<sup>24</sup>. For the purposes here, the Current Status, under the Overall Assessment is used. This provides an overall assessment of: FV – favourable, XX – unknown, U1 – unfavourable, inadequate, or U2 – unfavourable, bad.
- For each relevant marine habitat and species, note which of the Conservation Status pledges apply, based on the Member State input<sup>25</sup>. These are categorised as: 30% – status improvement target; non-det – non-detriment target; UNKN – target to address unknowns; Unlikely – non-detriment target unlikely to be achieved; or N – no target specified.

Tables setting out the analysis results for each Member State that has submitted Conservation Status pledges are presented in Annex 2, while summary charts can be found in the following section.

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<sup>21</sup> Article 17\_2020\_habitats\_check\_list in <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-eec-2>

<sup>22</sup> Article 17\_2020\_species\_check\_list in <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-eec-2>

<sup>23</sup> Article 17 web tool <https://nature-art17.eionet.europa.eu/article17/habitat/report/>

<sup>24</sup> Article 17\_2020\_data\_species\_regions in <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-17-database-habitats-directive-92-43-eec-2>

<sup>25</sup> Individual Member State Conservation Status pledges in <https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/dataflow/705>

## *Birds – analysis*

Similar steps are taken in assessing the Member State pledges to improve the Conservation Status of bird species under the Birds Directive, though as previously mentioned some additional work is required to identify those species that are largely marine:

- Determine the bird species that are relevant for the Member State – data provided by the EEA<sup>26</sup> and determine which of these are considered largely marine.<sup>27</sup> It should be noted that where a Member State has coasts in more than one marine biogeographical region, it will not be possible to identify if any region is relevant for each species. However, as Conservation Status pledges for birds do not specify a biogeographical region, this is not considered a significant issue.
- Assess the current Conservation Status using the appropriate database for all relevant marine bird species<sup>28</sup>. For the purposes of the current assessment, the Population Trend is used<sup>29</sup>. This provides an overall assessment of D – Decreasing; I – Increasing; S – Stable; U – Uncertain; Unk – Unknown; or F – Fluctuating. It is important to note that there may be more than one assessment for any particular bird species, for example if there are different breeding and wintering populations. Each assessment is counted as a separate datapoint.
- For each relevant bird species, note which of the Conservation Status pledges apply, based on the Member State input<sup>30</sup>. These are categorised as: 30% – status improvement target; non-det – non-detriment target; UNKN – target to address unknowns; Unlikely – non-detriment target unlikely to be achieved; or N – no target specified.

Again, tables setting out the results of analysis for each Member State that has submitted Conservation Status pledges are presented in Annex 2, while summary charts can be found in the following section.

## *Sankey diagrams – presenting results*

Where a Member State has provided relevant pledges, a summary of assessment results is presented through a Sankey diagram. Figure 9 shows such a diagram, based on the assessment of Germany's Conservation Status pledges for marine habitats and species. This illustrates the relationship between conservation status categories, on the left-hand side, and the corresponding pledge category on the right. For example, there are no pledges made for any of the three habitats or species that are currently in favourable condition – as indicated by the broad blue line between FV, favourable, on the top left

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<sup>26</sup> Article 12\_2020\_bird\_check\_list in <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-12-database-birds-directive-2009-147-ec-1>

<sup>27</sup> Marine bird species subset determined from

[http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/appendix\\_2\\_listing\\_species\\_habitats.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/natura2000/marine/docs/appendix_2_listing_species_habitats.pdf)

<sup>28</sup> Article 12\_2020\_data\_birds in <https://www.eea.europa.eu/data-and-maps/data/article-12-database-birds-directive-2009-147-ec-1>

<sup>29</sup> Note that only population or distribution trends are reported by Member State. Broad conservation assessments are only reported at a whole-EU level.

<sup>30</sup> Individual Member State Conservation Status pledges in <https://reportnet.europa.eu/public/dataflow/705>

and 'no pledge' on the bottom right. While actions to address 'unknowns' are pledged for all three habitats or species assessed as unknown – as indicated by the broad yellow line between XX, unknown, at the bottom left, and the pledge to address unknowns, middle right.

The summary diagrams for bird species follow the same approach, though the left-hand side categories represent population trends rather than conservation status assessments.

The diagram does not specify which habitat or species is in each category, it simply deals with total numbers. So, for example, one of the habitat or species classified as U2, unfavourable – bad, is not linked to any improvement pledge. From the diagram alone, it is not possible to say which feature this is. It is, however, possible to look at the detailed chart for this assessment, to be found in the relevant Annex, to identify that this is 1130 - Estuaries.

The summary diagrams for Article 17 reporting combine conservation status and pledges for habitats and species into a single chart, as Member State reporting also combines the two. However, the detailed results in Annex 2 present separate tables for habitats and species.

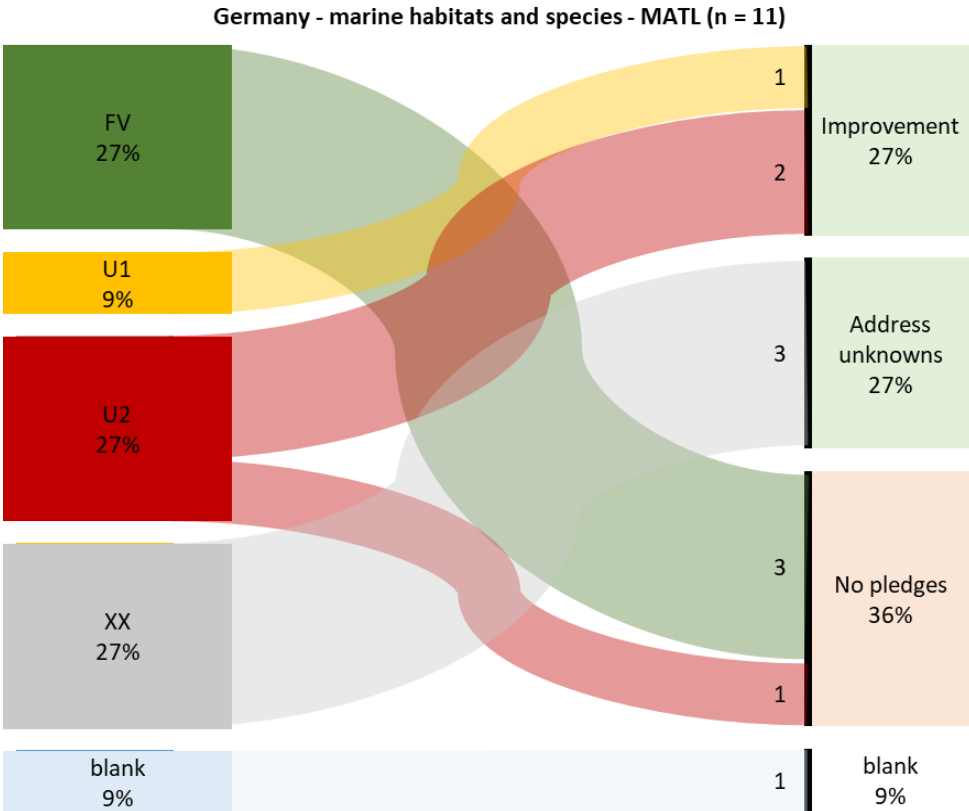


Figure 7 - Example Sankey diagram (see text for explanation)

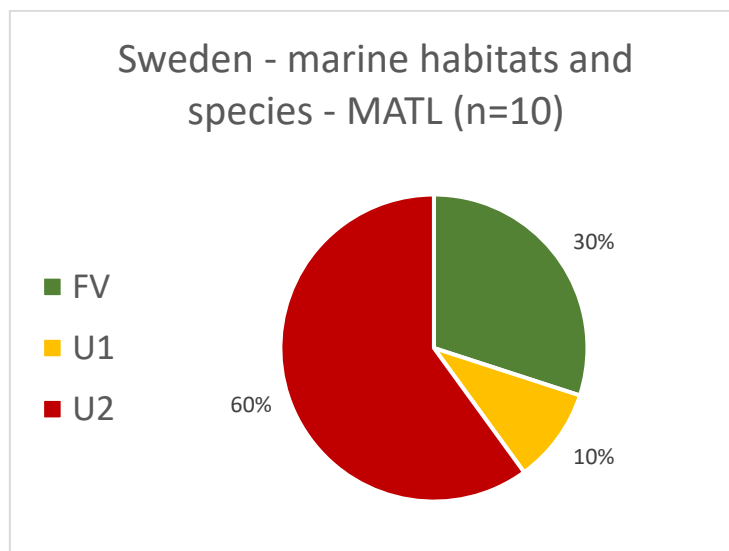
A final point to remember is that the assessments presented in this report only address pledges made for marine habitats and species, so that pledges for terrestrial habitats and species must also be considered when measuring progress towards the 30% improvement target.

### *Assessing measures – appropriate action?*

A main aim of the 'pledge and review' process is to bring about change, to drive action to improve the conservation status of habitats and species. In addition to simply meeting numerical targets, it is important that effective measures are put in place to support pledges. Member States have reported on measures that will be introduced as part of the process and these will be reviewed. At this stage, such a review will only be qualitative, with a brief commentary on the types and scope of measures that are proposed. In due course, as more pledge data are received from Member States, a methodology for a more detailed analysis of measures can be developed.

### *In the current absence of pledges*

At this early stage in the 'pledge and review' process, there are still some Member States in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions that are still to provide pledge data. To provide a more complete picture of the current background against which pledges are expected, some basic information on the current conservation status of habitats and species, and birds will be provided for these Member States. These will take the form of simple pie chart. Figure 10 provides an example of the type of summary that will be presented (while Sweden has made pledges for habitats and species in the Baltic, and for bird species, there are no pledges made for the Atlantic marine biogeographical region).



*Figure 8 - Example pie chart summarising current habitat (N=7) and species (N=3) conservation status*

As with the Member States where pledge data have been received, detailed tables, setting out the current status for each marine habitat and species, and for all bird species, will be provided in Annex 3.

#### **4. Pledge and review – analysis of Member State inputs**

This section summarises the results of the analysis of Member State pledges on Protected Area and Conservation Status targets. **It should be noted that this is only a preliminary analysis based on the information submitted by Member States which is expected to be further updated. It is a working example to feed the discussions in the seminar and not intended to be a final assessment.**

##### **4.1. Overview of Member States' response**

In response to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 “Bringing nature back into our lives”, the following Member States have provided pledges for either the Protected Areas targets, the Conservation Status targets, or both<sup>31</sup>:

- Cyprus
- Denmark
- Germany
- Luxembourg
- Spain
- Sweden

with responses from Denmark, Germany, Spain, and Sweden being relevant to the current marine seminar addressing Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions. Tables summarising these pledges are included in Annex 4.

Only Denmark and Sweden have made pledges for the Protected Area targets, while all four Member States have provided pledge data for Conservation Status targets (though not necessarily for all features or for all relevant marine biogeographical regions).

##### **4.2. Protected Area pledges – results by Member State**

This analysis is based on the information submitted by four Member States in their protected areas pledges – Denmark, Germany, Spain, and Sweden. It should be noted that no information has been yet provided by Spain for the Macaronesian region and no pledge has been submitted by Portugal, therefore the analysis below concerns the Atlantic region without Macaronesia.

It should be further noted that some Member States who have submitted initial pledges, continue compiling information, therefore the results provided below should not be considered as final.

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<sup>31</sup> As of mid-September 2023.

The information provided by the Member States in the pledges gives an overview of the expected increase in the total marine protected areas coverage in the Atlantic region and is summarized below in Figure 11.

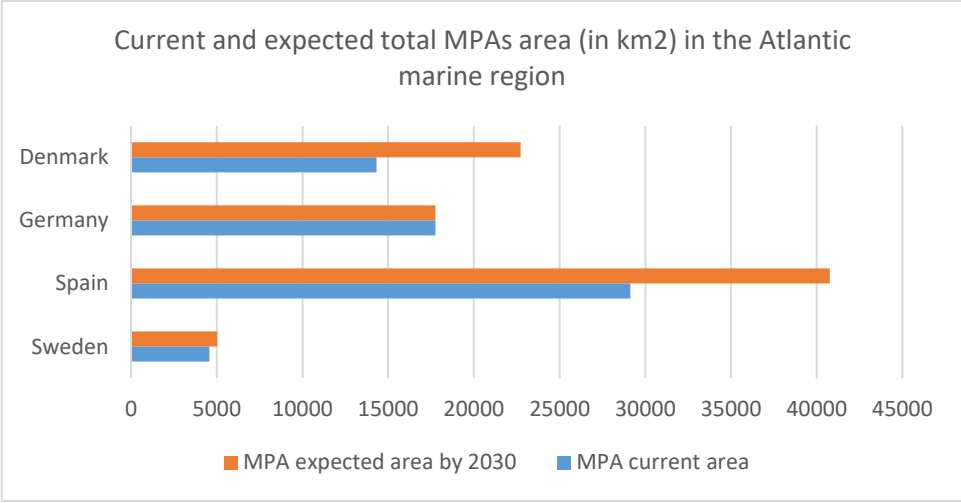


Figure 9 - Current and expected total MPAs area (in km<sup>2</sup>) in the Atlantic marine region

With this information it is also possible to have an overview of the percentage of the marine waters of each Member State covered by protected areas currently and expected by 2030 compared to the 30% target (Figure 12). However, as pledges from all Member States in this region have not been submitted yet, it is too early at this stage to assess the progress towards the 30% target at the level of biogeographical regions, rather than individual Member States.

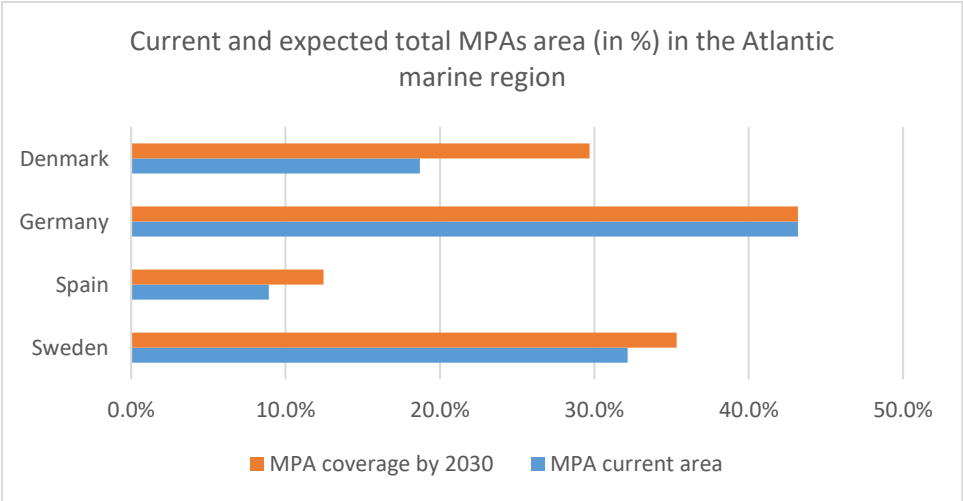


Figure 10 - Current and expected total MPAs area (as a percentage) in the Atlantic marine region

A similar overview can be made for the total area under strict protection (Table 2). As of now, most Member States, except Spain, report that there are no areas that could currently be considered as being under strict protection. However, it is understood that this is based on preliminary consideration and that further work is ongoing to identify areas that correspond to the criteria of strict protection. As for the 2030 projections, only Denmark provides an estimate of marine areas that would be under

strict protection in the Atlantic biogeographical region by this time. This area would correspond to 4.8% of the marine waters of Denmark within the Atlantic marine biogeographical region.

Member State	Strict protection current (km <sup>2</sup> )	Strict protection by 2030 (km <sup>2</sup> )
Denmark	0	3644.79
Germany	0	not reported
Spain	141.04	not reported
Sweden	0	0

Table 2 - Areas under strict protection (km<sup>2</sup>) reported and predicted in the Atlantic marine biogeographical region

More detailed analysis will be possible later with, for example, a full set of Member State pledges allowing an assessment of network coherence at the level of marine biogeographical region. However, while analysis at the regional level might be limited, it is possible to carry out an additional assessment at the Member State level, looking at what has been reported in terms of site management.

Denmark proposes 24 new designations, either additional protection for existing sites, extension of current sites or new protected areas. Six are new Natura 2000 sites, while the remaining 18 are designated under national legislation. It is reported that the Natura 2000 sites will have management plans, with a timeline of introducing measures by 2027. While all sites have a responsible management body identified, only the Natura 2000 sites are regarded as being sufficiently resourced.

While Sweden has pledged to increase the extent of marine protected areas, it does not report any information at a site-based level at this stage.

**4.3. Conservation Status pledges – results by Member State**

This section provides a summary of the results of the analysis of Conservation Status pledges for marine habitats and species and for bird species that are largely marine, for Member States in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions that have submitted pledges, namely: Denmark, Sweden, Germany, and Spain. These will be analysed as described above and the following information presented:

- Sankey diagrams setting out the relationship between conservation status and pledges for marine habitats and species and between population trends and pledges for marine bird species
- Brief commentary on key points<sup>32</sup>
- Qualitative overview of proposed measures to deliver the pledges

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<sup>32</sup> Note that as described above a detailed analysis of progress and distance to 30% improvement target is not possible as this depends on combining results of the analysis for both marine and terrestrial pledges and the methodology for such a process has yet to be developed. At this stage, only a brief overview of the extent of conservation status pladges is provided.



Where no pledges have been received, a chart summarising current conservation status will be provided.

#### 4.3.1. Denmark

##### *Habitats and species*

In the absence of pledges for marine habitats and species, Figure 13 provides a summary of the current conservation status of marine habitats (n=6) and species (n=8) in Denmark’s waters within the Atlantic

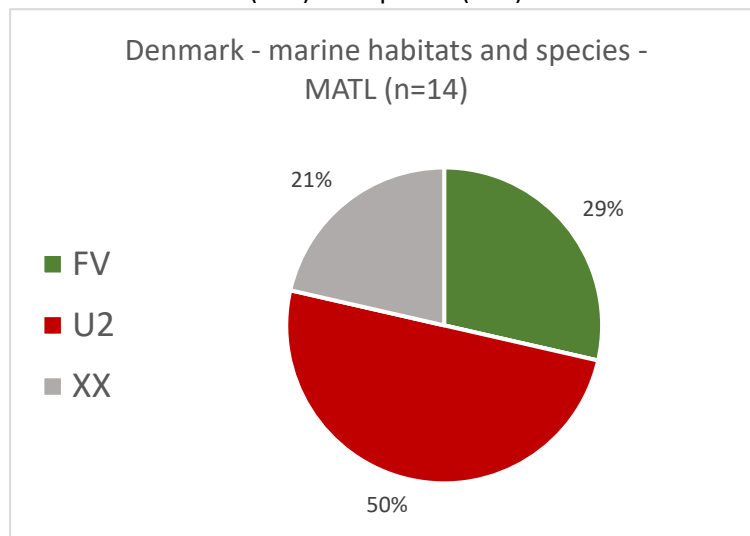


Figure 11 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

marine biogeographical region. Of the 14 features, 29% are in favourable condition, 50% are unfavourable – bad, while the status of 21% are unknown.

##### *Birds*

Figure 14 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Denmark’s marine birds and the population trend data. This shows that most species for which no pledges have been specified are either increasing or stable. Similarly, most of the species where population trends are unknown are linked to a pledge addressing ‘unknowns’. However, of the eight species that are listed as declining, three have no pledges for any improvement and for another three it is reported that any non-deterioration is considered unlikely.

##### *Measures*

Denmark reports management measures for the three marine bird species subject to a pledge to improve conservation status. These involve the continuation of existing initiatives relating to the protection of breeding sites, and the development of infrastructure to reduce the accidental killing or disturbance of birds, with two of the measures applying to populations that are already increasing.

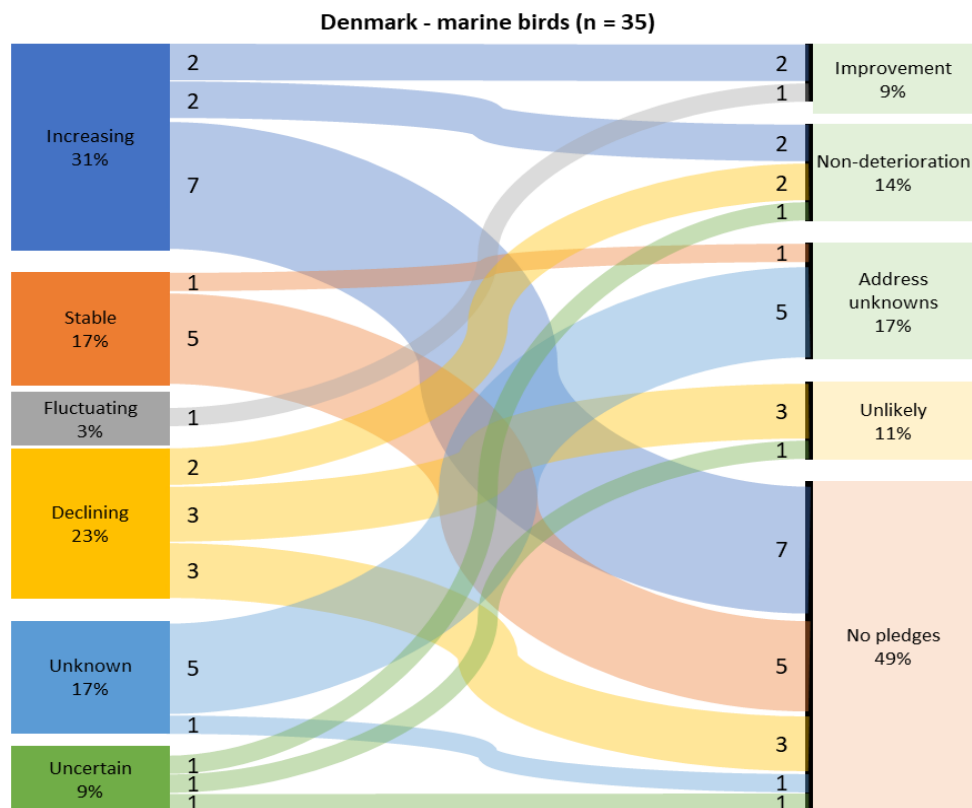


Figure 12 – Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Denmark’s pledges for marine birds

Management measures are also reported for the five species for which non-deterioration pledges have been made. Two of these are reported as a continuation of current management practices, while others include establishing artificial islands to encourage breeding and expanding SPAs.

Measures for improving the data available for the assessment of the conservation status of bird species are also reported, including the development of a new methodological approach to the use of data and a reduction in the level of expert opinion used in assessments.

No pledge data are reported for any marine habitats and species under the Habitats Directive, so no management measures are set out<sup>33</sup>.

<sup>33</sup> The format of the reporting form is such that no measures can be reported in the absence of pledges. As Denmark has made no pledges for habitats and species reported under the Habitats Directive, no relevant measures, such as addressing ‘unknowns’, are reported.

### 4.3.2. Sweden

#### Habitats and species

In the absence of pledges for marine habitats and species, Figure 15 provides a summary of the current conservation status of marine habitats (n=7) and species (n=3) in Sweden's waters within the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. Of the 10 features, 30% are in favourable condition, 10% are unfavourable – inadequate, while 60% are unfavourable – bad.

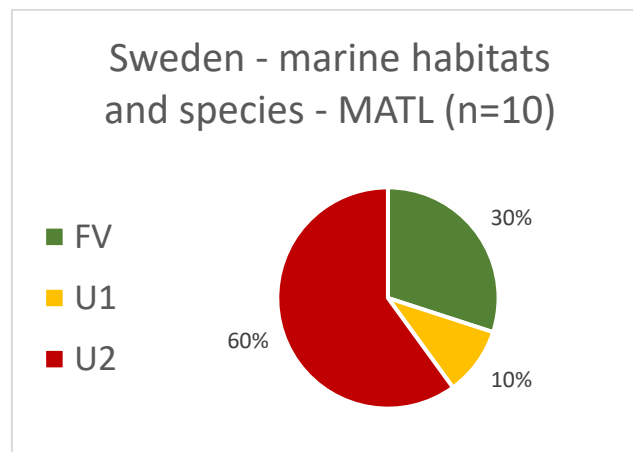


Figure 13 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

#### Birds

Figure 16 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Sweden's marine birds and the population trend data. This shows that for 90% of the species, no pledges are reported. While 15 species are listed as increasing, and another 15 as stable, there are still seven listed as fluctuating, nine declining and six uncertain where no action is proposed.

#### Measures

Sweden reports management measures for the single marine species for which a non-deterioration pledge has been made. One of these is a continuation of existing management, while others relate to the improvement and protection of fish spawning grounds.

No improvement pledges have been made for marine habitats and species, or for marine bird species, and no non-deterioration pledges made for any marine bird species.

Measures for improving the data available for the assessment of the conservation status of bird species are also reported. However, these do not appear to introduce any new approaches.

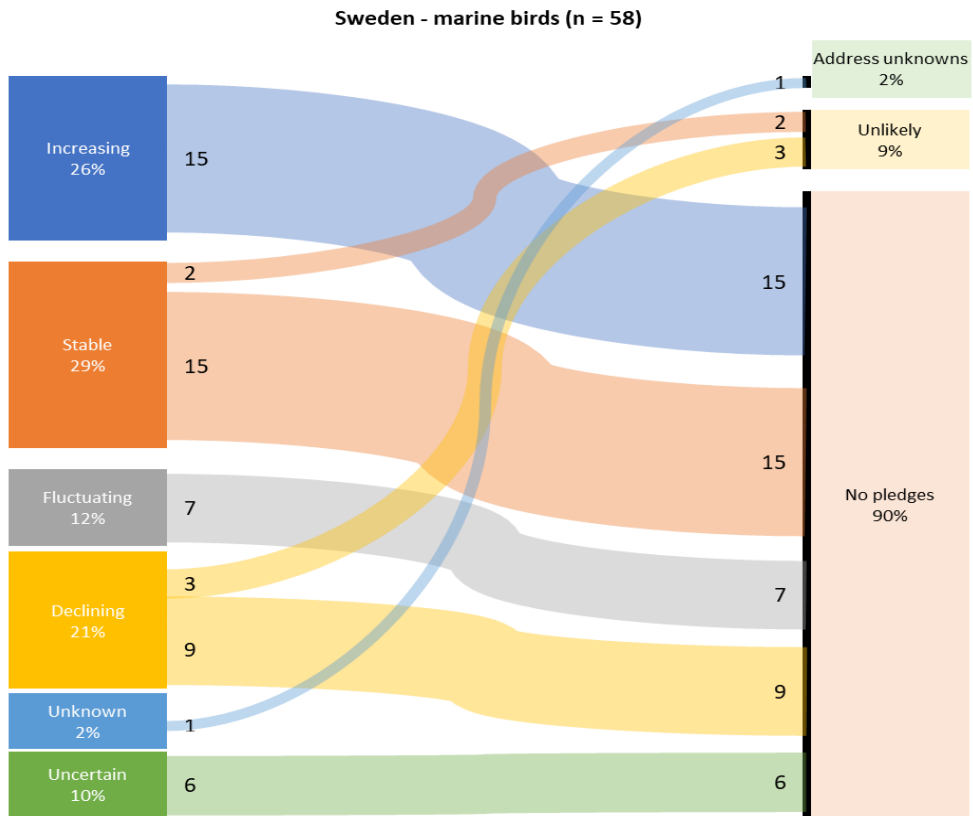


Figure 14 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Sweden's pledges for marine birds

### 4.3.3. Germany

#### Habitats and species

Figure 17 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Germany's habitats (n=5) and species (n=6) within the Atlantic marine biogeographical region.

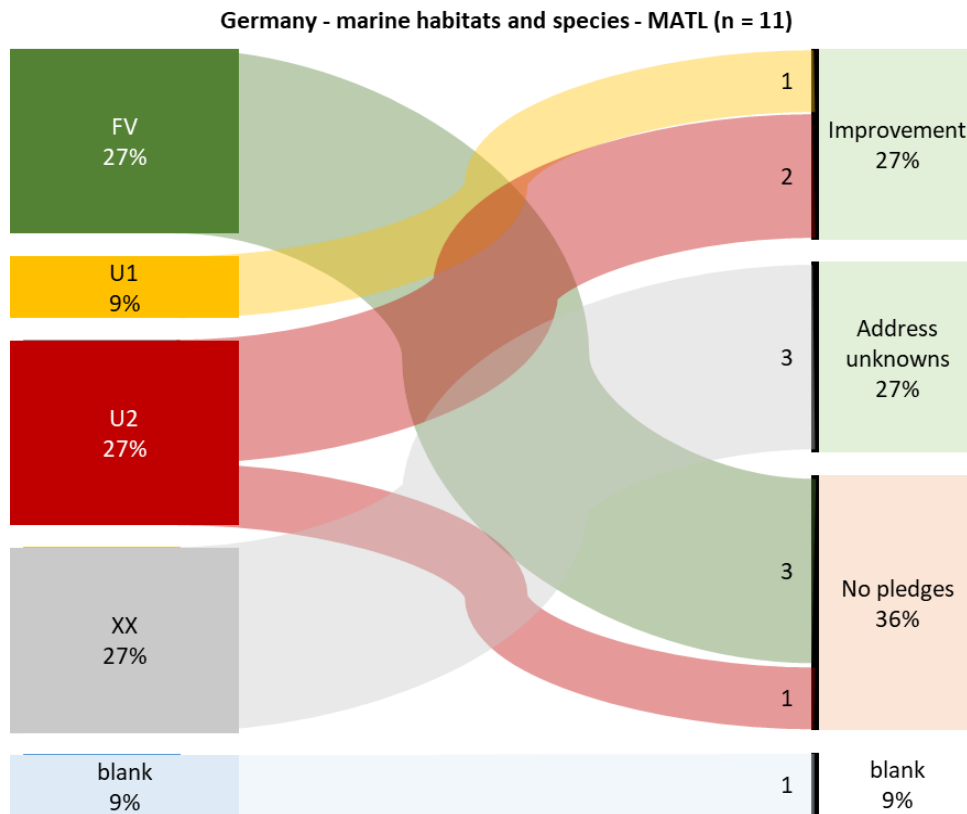


Figure 15 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Germany's pledges for marine habitats and species

This shows that most of the features with no pledges have a favourable conservation status. All the features where the status is unknown have this issue addressed, while most of the unfavourable features (U1 and U2) have improvement pledges. There is, however, one feature, 1130 Estuaries, assessed as U2, which has no associated pledge.

#### Birds

Figure 18 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Germany's marine birds and the population trend data. As with the habitats and species, most of the species for which there are no pledges have populations that are either increasing or stable. All the species for which trends are unknown are linked to action to address this uncertainty, or which should result in improvements. There is only one species *Fulmarus glacialis* where breeding populations are declining with no associated pledges.

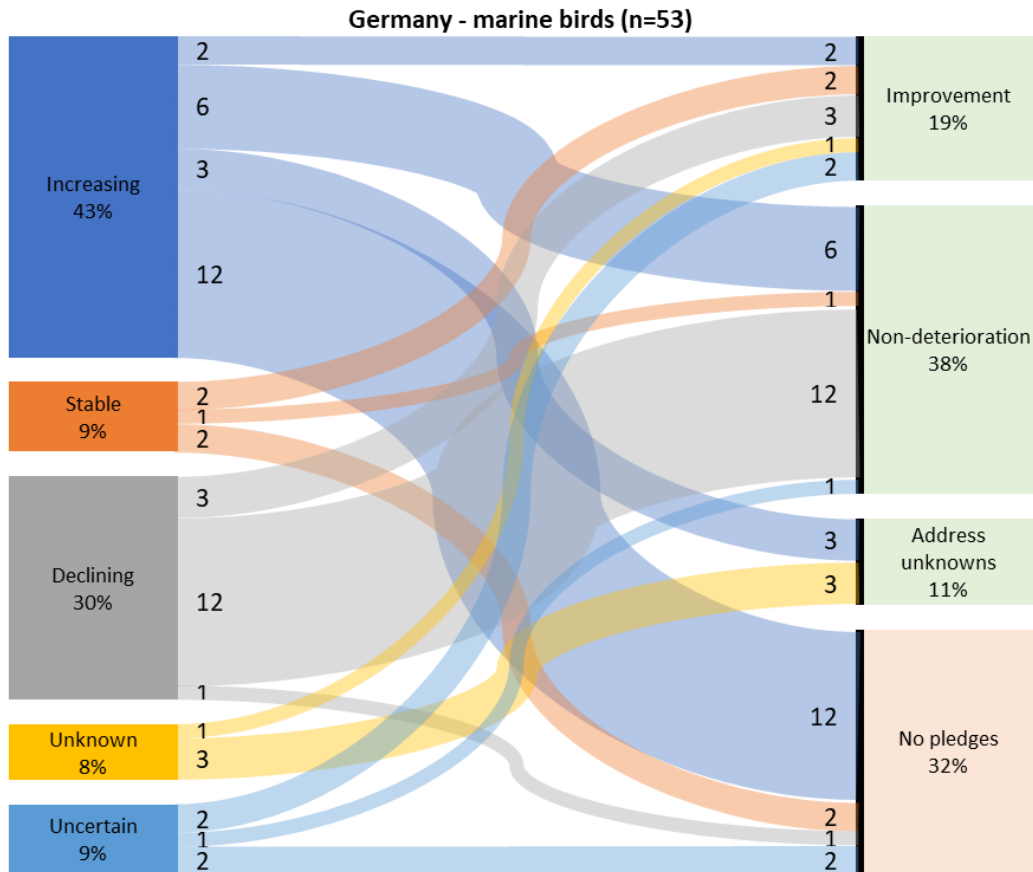


Figure 16 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Germany's pledges for marine birds

### Measures

Germany has indicated that it is taking an iterative approach to the pledge making process. In its current round of reporting<sup>34</sup> it has identified that relevant management measures will be introduced for marine habitats and species, and bird species, where improvement, non-deterioration and addressing 'unknown' pledges have been made. However details are not currently available.

<sup>34</sup> As of mid-September 2023.

#### 4.3.4. Spain

##### Habitats and species

Spain reports data under Article 17 for both the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions. Figure 19 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Spain's habitats (n=7) and species (n=35) within the Atlantic marine biogeographical region.

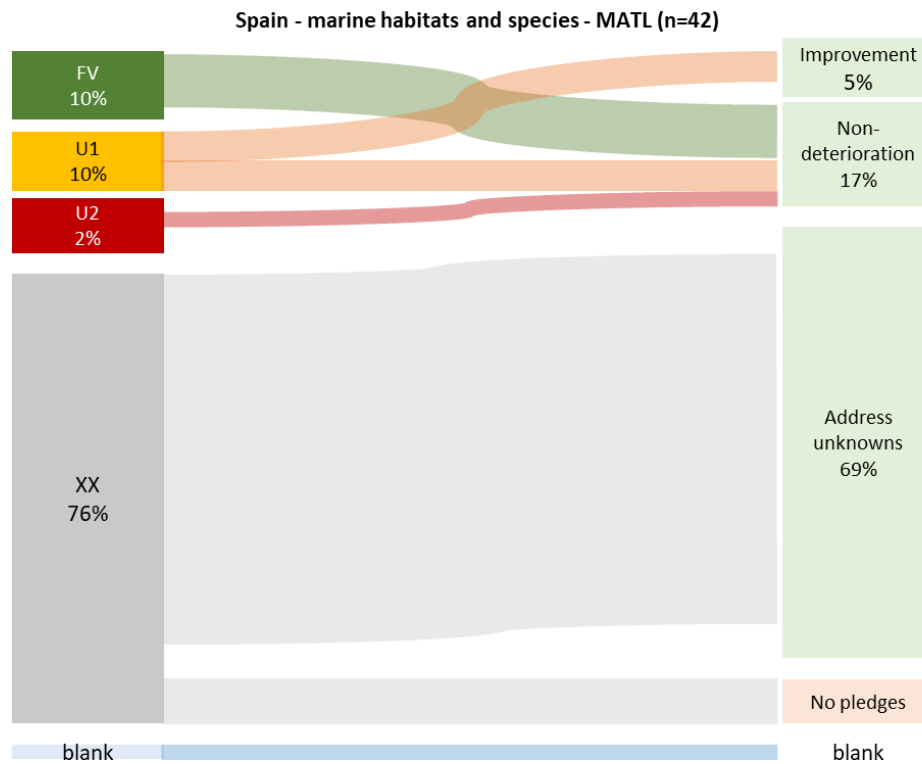


Figure 17 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Spain's pledges for marine habitats and species (MATL)

This shows that the conservation status of most habitats and species is unknown, with pledges made to address this deficiency in all but three features. All features assessed as in unfavourable condition have pledges for either improvement or no further deterioration, and the four features that are favourable are also pledged for non-deterioration.

Figure 20 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Spain's habitats (n=3) and species (n=35) within the Macaronesian marine biogeographical region. This shows a very similar picture to that seen in the Atlantic marine biogeographical region, with the status of most habitats and species unknown, and this is addressed through pledges. One feature, reported as unfavourable, is pledged for improvement.

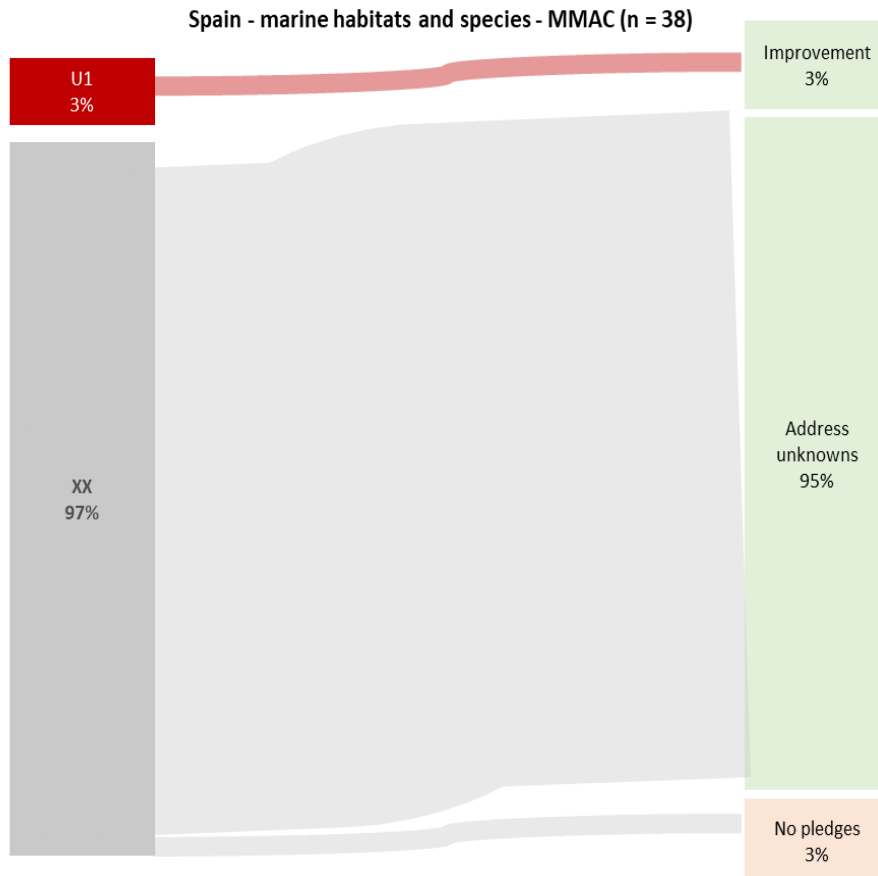


Figure 18 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Spain's pledges for marine habitats and species - MMAC

### Birds

Spain reports bird data for the Canary Islands separately from those for the rest of the country. It is therefore possible to allocate marine bird species data to both the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions.

Figure 21 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Spain's marine birds and the population trend data in the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that pledges have been made for either improvement, non-deterioration or addressing 'unknowns' for around 80% of the marine bird species. Most of the species that have increasing or stable populations have non-deterioration pledge, while most with declining populations have pledges for improvement or, at least, non-deterioration.

Figure 22 summarises the relationship between the pledge data received for Spain's marine birds and the population trend data in the Macaronesian marine biogeographical region. This shows that the



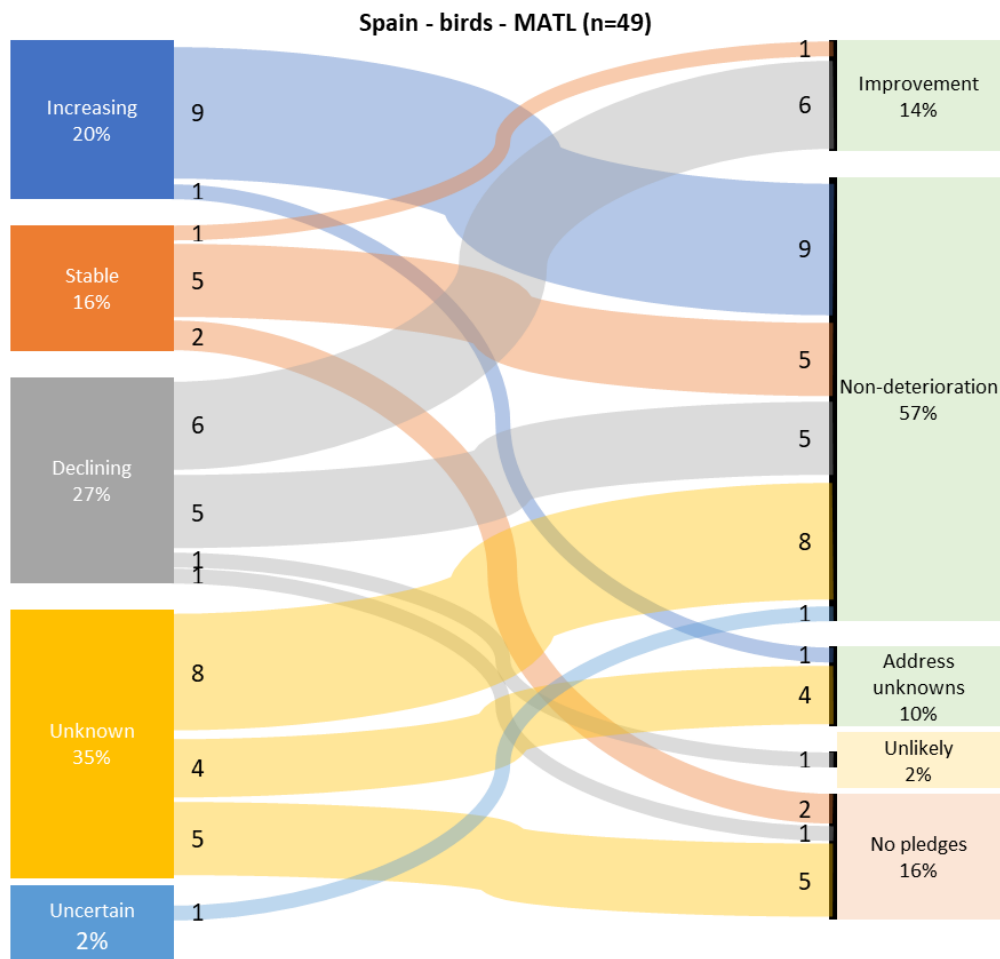


Figure 19 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Spain's pledges for marine bird species – MATL

population trend of all marine bird species is unknown. There are no pledges for addressing this issue, and only one species is pledged for non-deterioration. It is worth noting that the number of bird species reported as largely marine is considerably less for the Macaronesian marine biogeographical region than for the Atlantic. This is because the islands are volcanic and lack many habitats (including shallow waters) used by marine birds.

### Measures

Spain has reported many management measures aimed at improving the conservation status of habitats and species. However, information about which habitat or species each refers to is not provided, though the descriptions of some of them are noted as applying to coastal habitats, and some are specific to marine species, such as turtles, suggesting that measures relevant to marine habitats and species are intended. Management measures aimed at improving the conservation status of marine bird species are also reported including broad actions such as the development of national strategies, or more specific activities such as the control of predation at breeding colonies.

While the detailed explanations of these are still to be defined in many cases, regional approaches to management (e.g. in the Balearic Islands and Catalunya) are indicated.

Spain - birds - MMAC (n=12)

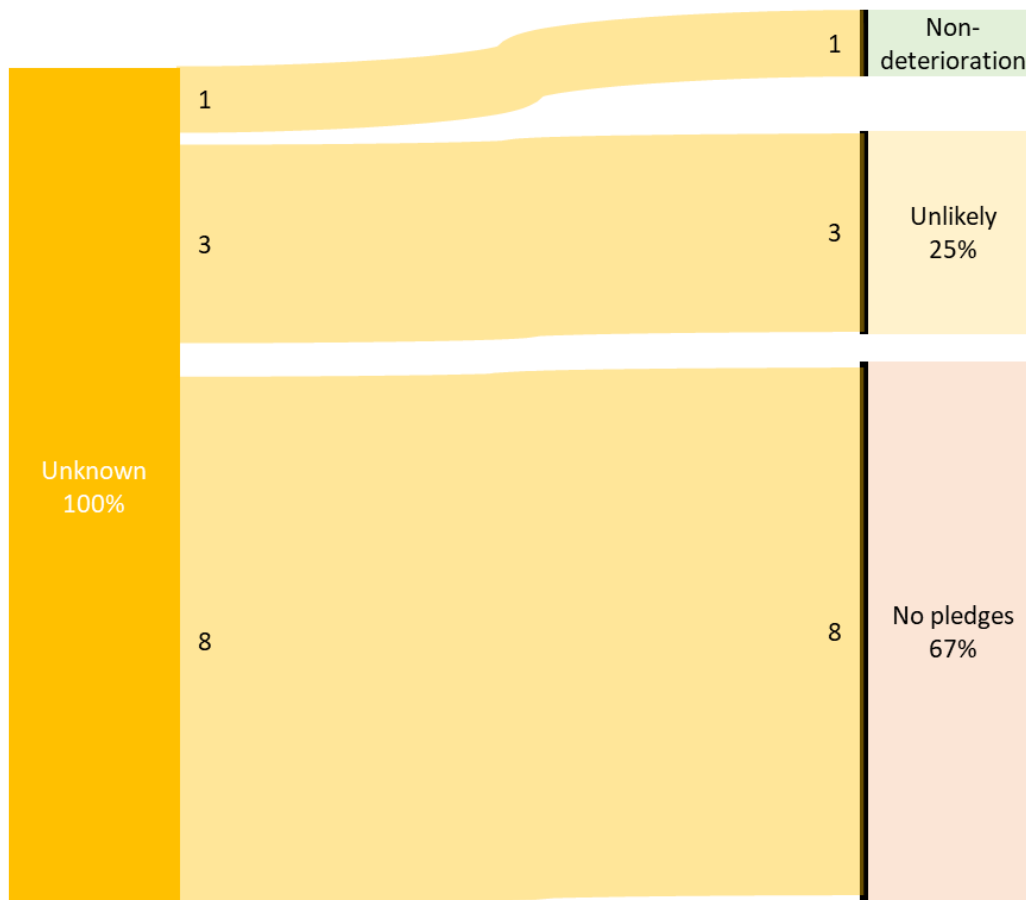


Figure 20 - Sankey diagram summarising analysis of Spain's pledges for marine bird species - MMAC

Management measures aimed at preventing deterioration are also reported for marine habitats and species. These include management of marine aquaculture, commercial fisheries management, reducing the conversion of coastal habitat to agricultural use and reducing the impacts of leisure activities. Measures to implement non-deterioration pledges for marine bird species are also reported, but those are yet to be defined in most cases.

Spain also reports measures to reduce the number of 'unknowns' in the assessment data, highlighting the recent development of a new monitoring system for the terrestrial and marine environment.

#### 4.4. Conservation Status – summary by Member State

This section provides a summary of the Conservation Status for marine habitats and species and for bird species that are largely marine, for the Member States in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions which have yet to submit pledge data – Netherlands, Belgium, Ireland, France, and Portugal. Tables providing full details of current status are presented in Annex 3.

##### 4.4.1. Netherlands

###### *Habitats and species*

Figure 23 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=5) and species (n=35) in the Dutch part of the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that there are no data for most features (73%), and only 9% are in favourable condition. 15% of the features are in unfavourable condition.

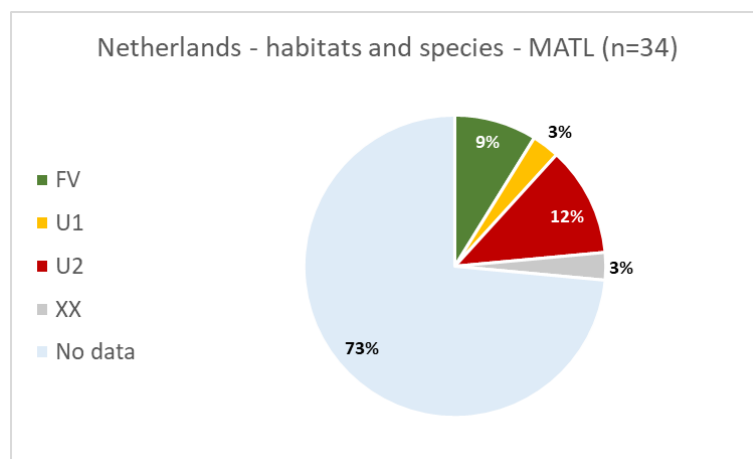


Figure 21 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

###### *Birds*

Figure 24 summarises the population trends in the Netherlands for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that over half (51%) of species have populations that are either stable or increasing. 21% are declining, while over a third (38%) have populations that are either unknown or uncertain.

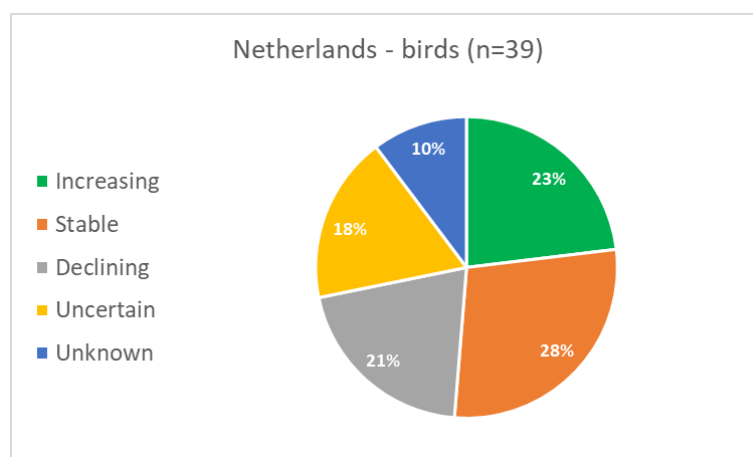


Figure 22 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

#### 4.4.2. Belgium

##### *Habitats and species*

Figure 25 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=4) and species (n=5) in the Belgian part of the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that 23% of features are in favourable condition, while 44% are unfavourable. A third of features (33%) have a status that is unknown, or have no data reported.

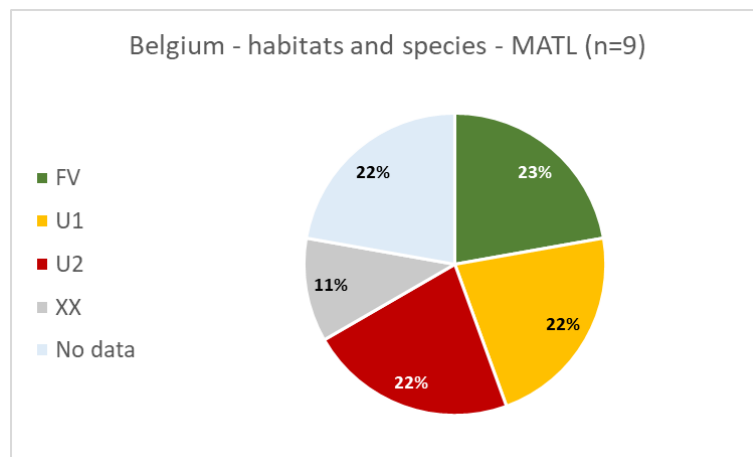


Figure 23 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

##### *Birds*

Figure 26 summarises the population trends in Belgium for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that over half (55%) of species have populations where trends are either unknown or uncertain. Only 19% have populations that are increasing or stable, while 26% are either fluctuating or declining.

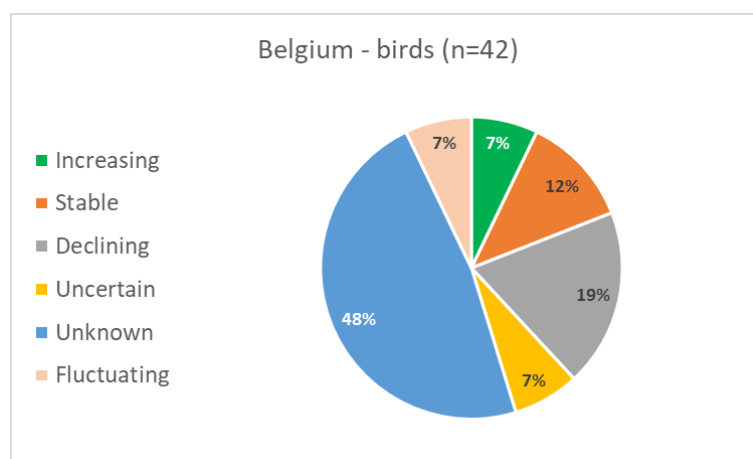


Figure 24 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

#### 4.4.3. Ireland

##### *Habitats and species*

Figure 27 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=7) and species (n=29) in the Irish part of the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that half of features (50%) are in

favourable condition, while only 17% are unfavourable. A third of features (33%) have a status that is unknown.

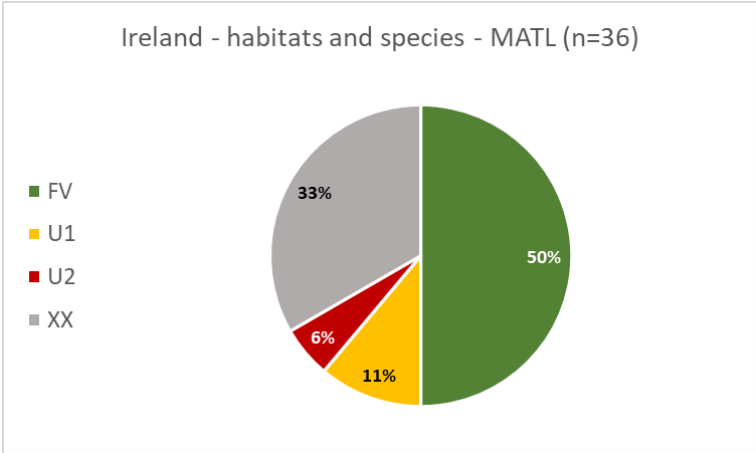


Figure 25 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

*Birds*

Figure 28 summarises the population trends in Ireland for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that 44% of species have populations where trends are unknown. Around the same number (41%) have populations that are increasing or stable, while 15% are declining.

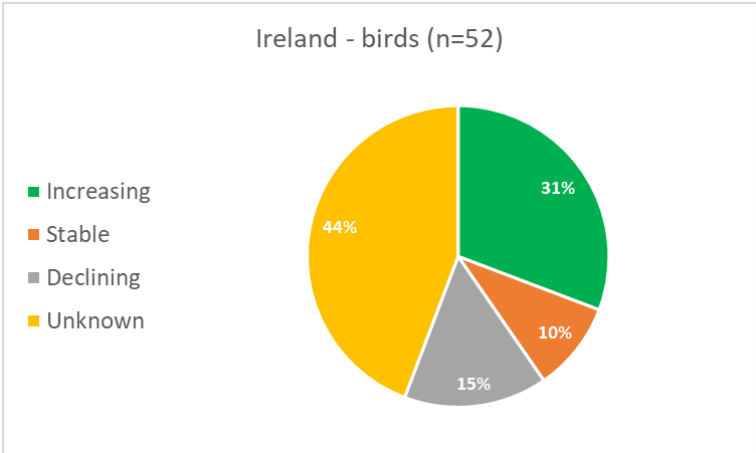


Figure 26 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

**4.4.4. France**

*Habitats and species*

Figure 29 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=7) and species (n=32) in the French part of the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that over half of features (64%) have a status that is unknown. 28% of features are in unfavourable condition, with only 8% favourable.

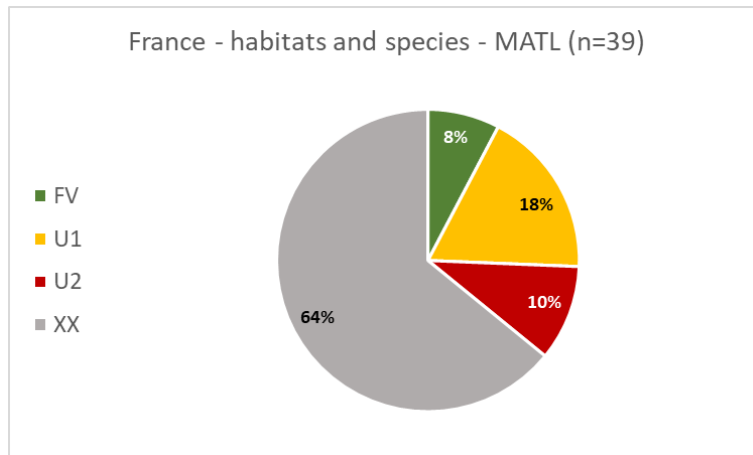


Figure 27 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

### Birds

Figure 30 summarises the population trends in France for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that 38% of species have populations that are increasing or stable, while 28% are fluctuating or declining. 34% have population trends that are uncertain, unknown, or for which there are no data.

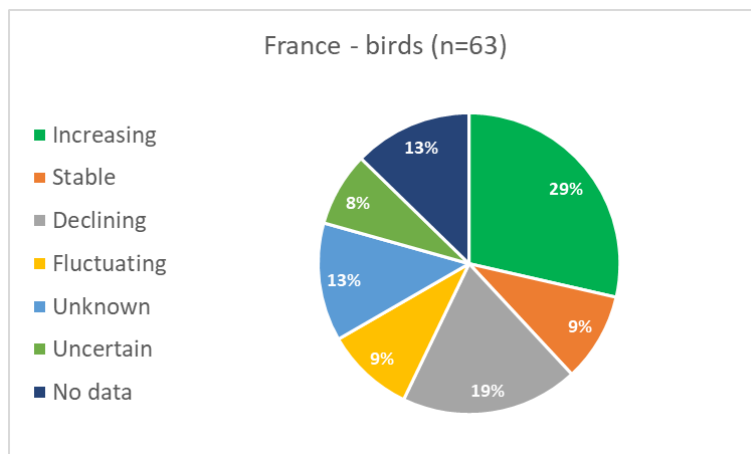


Figure 28 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

## 4.4.5. Portugal

### Habitats and species

Portugal has waters in both Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical areas, and habitat and species data are reported for both. Figure 31 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=6) and species (n=30) in the Portuguese part of the Atlantic marine biogeographical region. This shows that half (50%) of the features have no data reported, while 28% are assessed as unknown. 22% of features are in unfavourable condition, and there are none that are favourable.

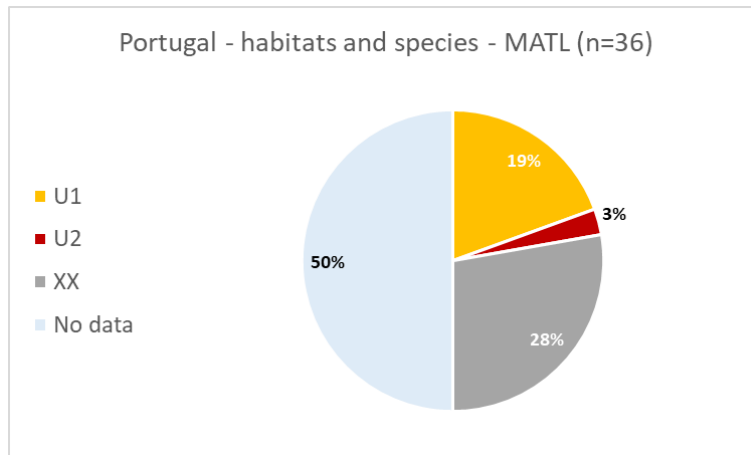


Figure 29 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

Figure 32 summarises the conservation status of marine habitats (n=5) and species (n=35) in the Portuguese part of the Macaronesian marine biogeographical region. This shows that nearly three-quarters (72%) of the features are assessed as unknown, while 10% have no data reported. 12% of features are in favourable condition, and 6% unfavourable.

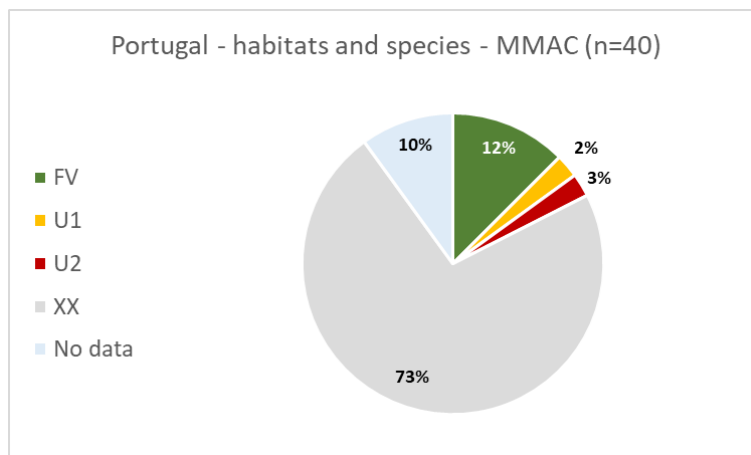


Figure 30 - Summary of current conservation status of marine habitats and species

### Birds

Portugal reports bird data for the Azores and Madeira separately from those for the rest of the country. It is therefore possible to allocate marine bird species data to both the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine biogeographical regions. Data for the Azores and Madeira will be summarised separately as some species have different population trends in each area.

Figure 33 summarises the population trends in the mainland of Portugal for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that most species (90%) have population trends that are uncertain, unknown, or for which there are no data. 5% have populations that are increasing, while a further 5% are declining.

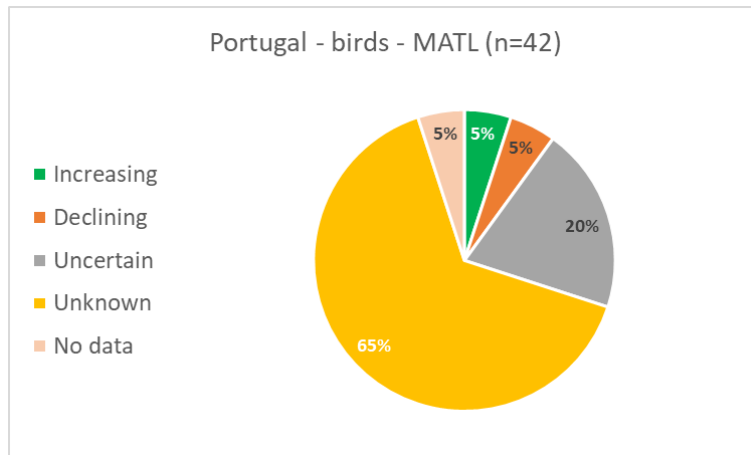


Figure 31 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

Figure 34 summarises the population trends in the Azores for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that 18% of species have population trends that are increasing and 18% fluctuating, while most species (64%) have population trends that are unknown.

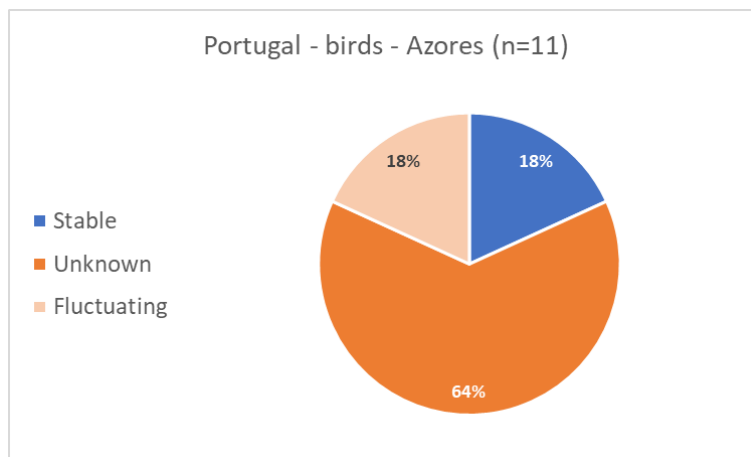


Figure 32 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

Figure 35 summarises the population trends in Madeira for bird species that are largely marine. This shows that nearly half (46%) of species have population trends that are increasing or stable. 27% are declining, while a further 27% are unknown.

It is worth noting that the number of species of birds that are largely marine is considerably less for the Azores and for Madeira than for mainland Portugal. This is a similar trend to that for bird data reported for Spain, where the number of marine bird species reported around the Canary Islands is less than that reported for the rest of the country, for similar reasons.



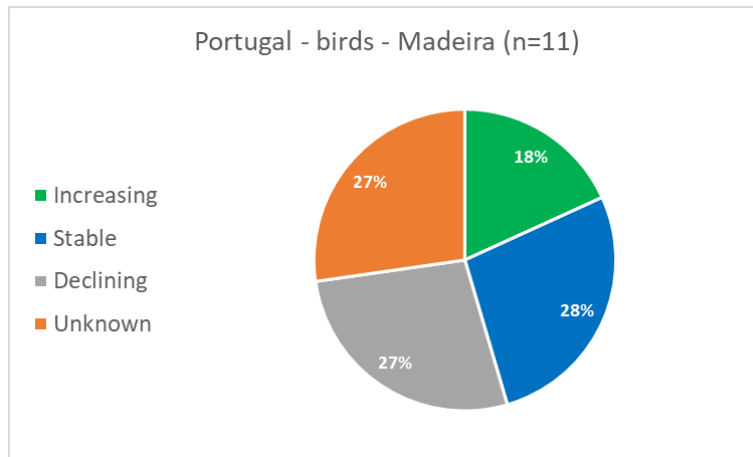


Figure 33 - Summary of population trends for bird species that are largely marine

## **5. Background information and issues for consideration in relation to the three selected discussion themes**

In addition to discussion of the progress with the pledge and review process, the third Atlantic and Macaronesian marine seminar will consider three topics that are of common concern across Member States for the implementation of Biodiversity strategy targets and for the management of the Natura 2000 network. The Marine Expert Group was consulted on the proposed themes with the invitation to the seminar.

- Theme 1: Role of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs in marine restoration
- Theme 2: Strict protection in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine region
- Theme 3: Renewable energy and marine conservation

The following sections provide a short context and proposed questions for seminar discussions on each theme, along with introductions to relevant case studies.

### **5.1. Theme 1: Role of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs in marine restoration**

An important part of the EU Biodiversity strategy is the EU Nature Restoration Plan. The Strategy underlines that marine restoration will, along with effective protected areas, bring substantial health, social and economic benefits to coastal communities and the EU as a whole. Among other things, it aims to reconcile the use of bottom-contacting fishing gear with biodiversity goals and to reduce the by-catch of protected species so as not to threaten their conservation status. In addition, fisheries-management measures must be established in all marine protected areas according to clearly defined conservation objectives and on the basis of the best available scientific advice. To accelerate the necessary actions, the Commission published an EU Action Plan: Protecting and restoring marine ecosystems for sustainable and resilient fisheries<sup>35</sup>.

The Commission also proposed a Regulation on nature restoration<sup>36</sup> which combines an overarching restoration objective for the long-term recovery of nature in the EU's land and sea areas with binding restoration targets for specific habitats and species, including those in the marine environment. The proposal is currently being discussed between the co-legislators.

Against this background, if the restored marine areas comply (or are expected to comply once restoration produces its full effect) with the criteria for protected areas, these restored areas should also contribute towards the EU targets on protected areas.

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<sup>35</sup> [https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/policy/common-fisheries-policy-cfp/action-plan-protecting-and-restoring-marine-ecosystems-sustainable-and-resilient-fisheries\\_en](https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/policy/common-fisheries-policy-cfp/action-plan-protecting-and-restoring-marine-ecosystems-sustainable-and-resilient-fisheries_en)

<sup>36</sup> [https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/nature-restoration-law\\_en](https://environment.ec.europa.eu/topics/nature-and-biodiversity/nature-restoration-law_en)

Equally, protected areas can also provide an important contribution to the restoration targets in the strategy, by creating the conditions for restoration efforts to be successful. It is therefore important to enable exchanges on the relevant experiences in view of increased efforts and investments in marine restoration and protection in the future.

#### **5.1.1. Questions for discussion at the thematic session**

- Which marine restoration activities in MPAs have been successful so far and could they be upscaled to the EU MPA network?
- What are the main challenges in marine restoration in MPAs and how to overcome them?
- Would designation of MPAs in areas subject to restoration be one way to ensure non-deterioration and long-term ecological and socio-economic benefits of restored habitats?

#### **5.1.2. LIFE Case Study – Better BirdLIFE (Improvement of natural habitats for coastal birds)**

##### **Coordinating Beneficiary: Middelfart Kommune (Denmark)**

The status of several habitat types and bird species is unfavourable within 12 Natura 2000 sites in Denmark and Germany. This is the case for 14 bird species, 10 of which are listed in the Annex 1 of Birds Directive, and 10 habitat types listed in the Annex 1 of Habitats Directive. There are several issues and barriers preventing improvement of these species' and habitats' status in both the terrestrial and marine zones. Better BirdLIFE is taking measures to counteract these issues and improve the conservation status of two marine habitats namely coastal lagoons (1150) and reefs (1170) partly through restoration actions. As an additional benefit, it will also help improve the conservation status of two marine mammals, the harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) and the harbour seal (*Phoca vitulina*). The project is also contributing to implementing Natura 2000 plans in accordance with Danish and German legislation (The Environmental Targets Act).

One important part of the project has been the restoration of 30 ha of stone reefs in three Natura sites in clusters of 10 ha each in depths of up to 6 m. This restoration has been fully accomplished. The objective is to provide feeding ground for Common Eider ducks, as the new reefs will recolonise with blue mussels, a preferred food item for this species. However, this type of restoration can clearly benefit a wide range of other species and of course the blue mussels will provide added benefits in terms of a natural filtration mechanism to remove coastal pollutants.

Denmark leads the field in this kind of restoration following the pioneering LIFE BlueREEF project completed in 2013. This project was carefully designed to restore 5 ha of degraded boulder reef and stabilise 6.5 ha of disturbed reef. The restoration practice was documented in a best practice guide. Surveys of the reefs at the end of the project revealed some exceptional results which clearly demonstrated extensive ecosystem recovery after 4 years with an increase in macroalgal vegetation and bottom fauna of approximately 6- and 3-ton ash-free biomass respectively; an estimated surplus of nearly 700 million fauna; increase in cod on average of 3-6 fold in the reef area; and an instant, positive effect on harbour porpoises in the area. The latest report from the national monitoring

program (2020) showed that the area had good conditions for macro-algae with a two-layer vegetation layer of brown and red algae developed down to a depth of 16m forming an excellent basis for the food web.

Twelve smaller reefs, in addition to the Better BirdLIFE reefs, have already been constructed and many more are planned with state funding. Private enterprises have taken up the challenge and the Danish Anglers Society are restoring up to 4 additional reefs with private financing from the Velux Foundation. A critical element of the project has been the ban on bottom towed fishing gear in the area which was implemented in 2017 with the by-law on regulation of fisheries in marine Natura 2000 areas for protection of reef structures.

Stone reef design and placement continues to evolve in the Better BirdLIFE project, monitoring is underway to fully catalogue the impact but it is too early to say what the exact impact of the project might be. More projects of this type are expected in the coming years led and financed by the associated beneficiaries.



Placement of boulders



Boulder reef after placement



Boulder reef after 4 years

A second element of the project is the restoration of 1.6 ha of eelgrass in at least two of the designated sites in water depths of between 1 and 3m. The restoration process involves the transplantation of single shoots and rhizomes from a designated donor site to the recipient site. The target of seagrass restoration has been achieved and the beneficiaries are now monitoring the effectiveness of the measures. The project is examining possibilities of transplanting eelgrass into suitable recipient sites but in deeper water.

## 5.2. Theme 2: Strict protection in the Atlantic and Macaronesian marine regions

The strategy sets a target of at least one third of all protected areas in the EU, representing 10% of EU land and 10% of EU sea, to be under strict protection by 2030. In the context of the 10% target in the Biodiversity Strategy, strictly protected areas are defined as follows: *“Strictly protected areas are fully and legally protected areas designated to conserve and/or restore the integrity of biodiversity-rich natural areas with their underlying ecological structure and supporting natural environmental processes. Natural processes are therefore left essentially undisturbed from human pressures and threats to the area’s overall ecological structure and functioning, independently of whether those pressures and threats are located inside or outside the strictly protected area”*.

The condition that natural processes should be left essentially undisturbed by human pressures and threats means that many strictly protected areas will be non-intervention areas, where only limited and well-controlled activities that either do not interfere with natural processes or enhance them will be allowed.

In addition, strictly protected areas may also be areas in which active management sustains or enhances natural processes. Activities authorised in strictly protected areas should also include those that are necessary for the restoration of the natural values of the areas in question.

The Strategy also stated that significant areas of carbon-rich ecosystems, such as seagrass meadows should be strictly protected and that achieving good environmental status of marine ecosystems, including through strictly protected areas, must involve the restoration of carbon-rich ecosystems as well as important fish spawning and nursery areas.

To make progress with the implementation of this target, it is important to identify habitats and areas which are suitable for such protection regime. It is also important to exchange experience in ensuring that these areas deliver benefits to society and economic activities, in particular fisheries. Finally, strictly protected areas also need to be effectively managed which requires proper control and enforcement.

### **5.2.1. Questions for discussion at the thematic session**

- Which Atlantic and Macaronesian habitats are likely to benefit most from strict protection?
- Can you highlight examples of best practice in the regulation and enforcement of strictly protected marine areas?
- What mechanisms are available to ensure the wider benefits of strict protection are reflected in other sectors e.g. ecosystem services, cultural preservation or local community resilience?
- How can we better support trans-boundary connectivity and collaborative management of strictly protected areas across the Atlantic and Macaronesian biogeographical regions?

### **5.2.2. LIFE Case Study – MarHa (Nature Integrated Project for effective and equitable management of marine habitats in France)**

#### **Coordinating Beneficiary: Office Français de la Biodiversité (OFB)**

During the last round of Article 17 reporting in 2018, the National Museum of Natural History reported that the conservation status of the eight Natura 2000 marine habitats targeted by the MarHa project were assessed as **unfavourable** for the Atlantic region. Launched in November 2017, the MarHa project was designed to contribute to reversing this status by working towards restoring and improving favourable conservation status across all habitat types. The project is working across the entire network of 98 designated Natura 2000 sites in the Atlantic region which represents 34% of territorial waters within 12 nautical miles of the French coast.



Maerl seabed (*Lithophyllum fasciculatum* and *Lithothamnion coralloides*) in bay of Brest (Brittany)  
OFB/Alain Pibot

In response to the EU Biodiversity strategy 2030's call to bring 10% of EU marine waters under strict protection, the French national strategy for protected areas confirmed the ambition to bring one third of protected areas under strong protection. Furthermore, a national decree was published in April 2022 defining 'strong protection' and clarifying the designation process. The OFB, and network of marine protected area managers is working with French authorities to develop a methodological framework to make sure that the designated Strict MPA effectively responds to the conservation issues (e.g. fishing) and not simply represents quick and easy wins (e.g. remote areas where there is no human activity).

The MarHa project has, among many other practical project activities, specific actions to implement strong protection in three existing Natura 2000 sites in the Atlantic region. In the Bay of Brest, two sites aim to protect the maerl beds and boulder habitats, while in the Chaussée de Sein they plan to capitalise on an area where fishing has already been excluded.



Kelp forest of *Himanthalia elongata* and *Saccorhiza polyschides* in Iroise sea OFB/Yves Gladu

In March 2022 the project hosted a platform meeting in La Rochelle to discuss marine protected area management experiences towards strictly protected areas with representatives from across Europe which helped to inform the agenda around strong protection moving forward. In parallel, the project launched a series of 10 webinars designed to get a better understanding of the process of setting up strong protection zones which were released throughout 2022. The webinars covered a wide range of topics including the political and regulatory frameworks, coherence within the SMPA network, ecological and socio-economic benefits, feedback from MPA managers and methods for implementing SMPAs. Slides and videos can still be downloaded from the project website. <https://www.life-marha.fr/webinairesZPF>

In February 2023, the project presented their progress at IMPAC5 in Vancouver on the theme of Managing Marine Protected Areas and Human Activity – Building a Global Marine Protected Area Network – based on the work in the Platform meeting and practical experience of the project.

### **5.3. Theme 3: Renewable energy and marine conservation**

More sustainably sourced renewable energy will be essential to fight climate change and biodiversity loss, which are interlinked. The development of offshore renewable energy however provides both opportunities and threats to biodiversity conservation. The Biodiversity strategy states that the EU will prioritise solutions such as ocean energy, offshore wind, which also allows for fish stock regeneration. It is therefore essential to explore such technologies and ways of implementing renewable energy projects in the marine environment that can be compatible with or even foster marine conservation and restoration.

The EU Strategy for offshore renewable energy<sup>37</sup> states that the development of offshore renewable energy must comply with the EU environmental legislation and the integrated maritime policy and that designated sea spaces for offshore energy exploitation should be compatible with biodiversity protection, consider socio-economic consequences for sectors relying on good health of marine ecosystems and integrate as much as possible other uses of the sea.

In this context, maritime spatial planning is an essential and well-established tool to anticipate change, prevent and mitigate conflicts between policy priorities while also creating synergies between economic sectors. Offshore renewable energy can and should coexist with many other activities, especially in crowded areas. To this end, national maritime spatial planning should adopt a holistic, multi-use/multipurpose approach.

### **5.3.1. Questions for discussion at the thematic session**

- Are there good examples of synergies between renewable energy (or certain technologies) and marine conservation/restoration that can be upscaled in the region?
- How to plan offshore renewable energy in a way that is compatible with protected area targets in the Biodiversity strategy?
- How to better use marine spatial planning to minimise conflicts between renewable energy and different uses of marine space, including on the sea basin level?

### **5.3.2. LIFE Case Study – SeaLIFE (Seas full of life)**

**Coordinating Beneficiary: Marine Conservation Society (MCS) a member of the Seas at Risk group (recipient of LIFE NGO operational grant)**

The Marine Conservation Society is a UK based NGO founded in 1983 and works directly with a range of marine stakeholders to protect vital ecosystems. They are a member of Seas at Risk, an association of environmental organisations from across Europe, and have made a significant contribution to the discussion concerning offshore renewable energy and co-location in protected areas. The SeaLIFE project recognises that climate change and environmental degradation are existential threats to Europe and that the marine environment can contribute to the European Green Deal objective of preserving and restoring ecosystems and biodiversity and in meeting climate neutrality. Nevertheless, they recognise that the sea has considerable potential for renewable energy production but that here are legitimate concerns over the impact of large-scale infrastructure developments on biodiversity, including fisheries.

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<sup>37</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2020:741:FIN&qid=1605792629666>





Figure 34 – Offshore wind turbine Image credit MCS/Malcom Watson

The EU Offshore Renewable Energy Strategy (2020) plans for a 25-fold increase in offshore wind by 2050, together with significant deployment of wave, tidal, thermal, and other marine renewable energy. While offshore renewable energy will help mitigate climate change, the biodiversity concerns it raises need to be addressed. In response to this, Seas at Risk, published guidance for planning offshore renewable energy with nature in mind (2021) under a LIFE NGO operating grant.

The UK is one of the leading nations in the development of offshore wind capacity with over 2500 turbines installed covering 2000km<sup>2</sup> of seabed since 2000. In 2022<sup>38</sup>, new offshore wind installations in UK generated 1,200 MW, compared with only 500MW of terrestrial wind power generation. Many marine sites overlap historic fishing grounds and protected areas and so the MCS conducted a study to understand the relationship between the presence of offshore wind farms (OWF) and fishing activities. Furthermore, they investigated

whether OWFs could act as de facto MPAs (with respect to fisheries management, provided that other environmental impacts were mitigated. The findings have been published in Marine Policy (2022<sup>39</sup>).

The presence of windfarm infrastructure and any resulting reduction in fishing pressure from vessels using bottom-towed gear has potential benefits for the marine ecosystems, effectively through the creation of artificial reef structures on former sedimentary structures. This shift in habitat dynamics leads to structures rich in suspension feeders in an otherwise depositional and scavenging environment. The downside is a potential reduction in abundance of soft-bottom fish species which, together with the shift in habitat dynamics, is controversial especially within Natura 2000 sites which may have been designated for the soft bottom features. This clearly requires some mitigation in the approach to development of the OWF, Nevertheless, the ecological communities attracted by the structures (see pictures) and the effective restrictions to bottom towed fishing gear brought about by safety issues could enable OWF to be considered as other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).

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<sup>38</sup> Wind Europe (2022). Wind Energy in Europe: 2022 statistics and the outlook for 2023-2027.

<sup>39</sup> <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0308597X22003098>

The socio-economic benefits resulting from the removal of fishing pressures from OWFs could also mimic those offered by MPAs. Spill-over of commercially important fish species found to become more abundant and diverse within the arrays, provides opportunities for fishing outside the OWF sites, with vessels benefiting from a 'reserve effect'.

The ecosystem services benefits of OWFs could also be realised through carefully considered marine spatial planning and sensitive co-location of compatible activities such as restoration of historic native oyster reefs or sustainable mariculture.

They concluded that bottom-towed fishing activity is affected by turbine layout, with OWFs likely offering some protection to the benthic environment from bottom-towed gear which may provide space for co-location opportunities. Further research is being undertaken using fish tagging and tracking as part of the FISH INTEL cross channel Interreg project being carried out with IFREMER and Belgian partners, particularly with respect to bass in and around OWF arrays.

Based on the findings of this study, MCS are developing policy suggestions in respect of MPAs and opportunities and threats of offshore wind developments.

## ANNEXES

- Annex 1 – Conservation status of marine birds – EU combined assessment
- Annex 2 – Conservation status pledge tables – analysis by Member State
- Annex 3 – Conservation status tables – analysis by Member State
- Annex 4 – Pledge tables – by Member State
- Annex 5 – List of relevant LIFE projects

### Annex 1 – Conservation status marine birds – EU combined assessment

Species code	Species name	Season assessed	Red list category	CS conclusion
A200	<i>Alca torda</i>	B	LC	Secure
A203	<i>Alle alle</i>	W	NE	Not Evaluated
A062	<i>Aythya marila</i>	B	EN A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde; C1	Threatened
A067	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	B	LC	Secure
A387	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A202	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	B	LC	Depleted
A064	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	W	LC	Depleted
A204	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	B	LC	Secure
A009	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	B	EN A4abcde	Threatened
A002	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	B	LC	Secure
A003	<i>Gavia immer</i>	W	LC	Secure
A001	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	B	LC	Secure
A014	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A862	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A184	<i>Larus argentatus</i>	B	VU A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde	Threatened
A181	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	B	VU A3bce+4abce	Threatened
A182	<i>Larus canus</i>	B	LC	Declining
A183	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A180	<i>Larus genei</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A185	<i>Larus glaucooides</i>	W	LC <sup>oo</sup>	Unknown
A186	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	W	LC <sup>oo</sup>	Unknown
A187	<i>Larus marinus</i>	B	NT A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde	Near Threatened
A176	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A604	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A179	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	B	VU A2bcde	Threatened
A066	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	B	VU A2abcde	Threatened
A070	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	B	LC	Secure
A069	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	B	NT A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde	Near Threatened
A016	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A389	<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	B	EN B2ab(iii,v)	Threatened

A392	<i>Phalacrocorax a. desmarestii</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A018	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i>	B	LC	Depleted
A017	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	B	LC	Secure
A170	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	B	LC	Declining
A007	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	B	VU C1	Threatened
A005	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A006	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	B	VU A2bcde+3bcde+4bcde	Threatened
A008	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	B	LC	Secure
A506	<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	W	EN A2bcd+3bcd+4bcd; C1	Threatened
A385	<i>Pterodroma madeira</i>	B	EN D	Threatened
A693	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	B	CR A4abcde	Threatened
A013	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	B	LC	Unknown
A464	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	B	VU A2abcde	Threatened
A188	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	B	EN A2abcd+3bcd+4abcd	Threatened
A063	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	B	VU A2abcde+A3abcde+A4abcde	Threatened
A174	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	B	LC	Secure
A173	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	B	EN A2bcd+3bce+4bce	Threatened
A192	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	B	LC	Secure
A193	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	B	LC	Secure
A194	<i>Sterna paradiseae</i>	B	LC	Secure
A885	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	B	LC	Secure
A862	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	B	LC	Secure
A419	<i>Uria aalge ibericus</i>	B	CR (PE) D	Threatened
A199	<i>Uria aalge</i>	B	LC	Secure

The following marine bird species were not listed in the Art.12 reporting and so have had to be excluded from the assessment:

Oceanodroma leucorhoa
Phalaropus fulicarius
Pterodroma feae
Puffinus griseus
Stercorarius pomarinus
Stercorarius skua
Sterna nilotica

## Annex 2 – Conservation Status pledge tables

### Sweden

#### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

##### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status	Pledge
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2	N
1130	Estuaries	U2	N
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U2	N
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U2	N
1170	Reefs	U2	<b>N</b>
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	U2	<b>N</b>
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	U1	<b>N</b>

#### Marine species – Habitats Directive

##### MATL

Species code	Species	Status	Pledge
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	FV	N
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV	N
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV	N

#### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend	Pledge <sup>40</sup>
A200	B	<i>Alca torda</i>	I	N
A203	W	<i>Alle alle</i>	F	N
A062	B	<i>Aythya marila</i>	I	N
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	D	
A067	B	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D	N
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	S	
A202	B	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>	I	N
A064	B	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	D	ND unlikely
A064	W	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	D	
A002	B	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	S	N
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	F	N

<sup>40</sup> 30% - 30% targets for improving trends, Non-det – non-deterioration target, ND unlikely – non-deterioration unlikely to be achieved; UNKN – reducing unknowns; N – no pledge

A001	B	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	S	N
A001	P	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	S	
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	U	
A890	B	<i>Larus argentatus argentatus</i>	S	N
A459	W	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	S	N
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	S	N
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	S	N
A640	B	<i>Larus fuscus fuscus</i>	D	N
A185	W	<i>Larus glaucooides</i>	F	N
A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	F	N
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	D	N
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	F	N
A604	W	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk	UNKN
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	S	N
A066	B	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	D	N
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	I	
A900	B	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	U	N
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	I	
A767	B	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	D	N
A767	P	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	I	
A767	W	<i>Mergellus albellus</i>	I	
A070	B	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	S	N
A070	P	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	I	
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	U	
A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	S	ND unlikely
A069	P	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	S	
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D	
A684	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	I	N
A684	W	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	I	
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S	N
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I	
A170	B	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	U	N
A007	B	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	U	N
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	U	N
A005	P	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	D	
A006	B	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	S	N
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	D	N
A506	W	<i>Polysticta stelleri</i>	F	N
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	S	N
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	D	N
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	I	
A174	B	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	F	N
A173	B	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	S	N
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	S	N
A194	B	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	I	N
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	I	N
A887	B	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	I	N

## Denmark

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status	Pledge <sup>41</sup>
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2	N
1130	Estuaries	U2	N
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U2	N
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U2	N
1170	Reefs	U2	N
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	U2	N

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

MATL

Species code	Species	Status	Pledge
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	FV	N
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	U2	N
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV	N
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	XX	N
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX	N
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	FV	N
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	FV	N
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX	N

### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend	Pledge
A200	B	<i>Alca torda</i>	I	30%
A203	B	<i>Alle alle</i>	Unk	UNKN
A062	B	<i>Aythya marila</i>	D	Unlikely
A067	B	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	S	N
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	I	
A202	B	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	I	N
A064	B	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	U	Unlikely
A002	B	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Unk	UNKN
A001	B	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Unk	N

<sup>41</sup> 30% - 30% targets for improving trends, Non-det – non-deterioration target, ND unlikely – non-deterioration unlikely to be achieved; UNKN – reducing unknowns; N – no pledge

A890	B	<i>Larus argentatus argentatus</i>	I	N
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	D	N
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	I	N
A185	B	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Unk	UNKN
A186	B	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Unk	UNKN
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I	N
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I	N
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	D	Non-det
A066	B	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	U	N
A900	B	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	U	Non-det
A070	B	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	S	N
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	I	
A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D	N
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I	Non-det
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I	
A007	B	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Unk	UNKN
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	D	N
A006	B	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	S	N
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	S	UNKN
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	S	N
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	D	Unlikely
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	D	
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	F	N
A194	B	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	D	Non-det
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	F	30%
A887	B	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	I	30%



## Germany

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status	Pledge <sup>42</sup>
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2	30%
1130	Estuaries	U2	N
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	FV	N
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	XX	UNKN
1170	Reefs	U2	<b>30%</b>

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Species code	Species	Status	Pledge
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	No data	
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	U1	30%
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV	N
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV	N
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	XX	UNKN
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	XX	UNKN

### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend	Pledge
A200	W	<i>Alca torda</i>	U	N
A200	B	<i>Alca torda</i>	I	N
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	I	UNKN
A062	B	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Unk	
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D	Non-det
A067	B	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	I	
A202	W	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	D	30%
A064	W	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	I	N
A009	B	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	D	N
A009	W	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	U	
A002	P	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	U	30%
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	U	

<sup>42</sup> 30% - 30% targets for improving trends, Non-det – non-deterioration target, ND unlikely – non-deterioration unlikely to be achieved; UNKN – reducing unknowns; N – no pledge

A001	P	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	I	30%
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	I	
A890	B	<i>Larus argentatus argentatus</i>	D	Non-det
A182	W	<i>Larus canus</i>	D	Non-det
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	D	
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	I	N
A187	W	<i>Larus marinus</i>	D	Non-det
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I	
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	S	N
A604	W	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	I	N
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	I	N
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	S	30%
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	I	N
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	I	N
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	D	Non-det
A070	B	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	I	
A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	S	N
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	I	
A016	W	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	I	N
A016	B	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	I	
A683	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	Unk	UNKN
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	D	Non-det
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S	
A007	W	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	I	UNKN
A007	B	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Unk	
A007	P	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	I	
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	D	Non-det
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	I	
A006	B	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	D	Non-det
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	D	Non-det
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	I	
A188	W	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	U	Non-det
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	D	
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	I	N
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	I	
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	S	30%
A194	B	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	D	30%
A885	P	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Unk	30%
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	D	
A887	B	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	I	Non-det
A887	W	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	D	

## Spain

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status	Pledge <sup>43</sup>
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	XX	UNKN
1130	Estuaries	XX	N
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U1	Non-det
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	XX	N
1170	Reefs	XX	UNKN
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	XX	N
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	XX	UNKN

Note: 1160 and 1180 in EEA habitats check list as SCR - Scientific Reserve – no status assessment expected

#### MMAC

Habitat code	Habitat	Status	Pledge
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	XX	UNKN
1170	Reefs	XX	UNKN
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	XX	UNKN

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Species code	Species	Status	Pledge
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	XX	UNKN
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	XX	UNKN
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	XX	UNKN
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX	UNKN
<b>1224</b>	<b><i>Caretta caretta</i></b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>UNKN</b>
1008	<i>Centrostephanus longispinus</i>	XX	UNKN
<b>1227</b>	<b><i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>UNKN</b>
1001	<i>Corallium rubrum</i>	U2	Non-det
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	XX	UNKN

<sup>43</sup> 30% - 30% targets for improving trends, Non-det – non-deterioration target, ND unlikely – non-deterioration unlikely to be achieved; UNKN – reducing unknowns; N – no pledge

1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	XX	UNKN
1225	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	XX	UNKN
2627	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	XX	UNKN
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX	UNKN
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	XX	UNKN
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV	Non-det
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	XX	UNKN
2623	<i>Kogia simus</i>	XX	UNKN
1226	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	XX	UNKN
1027	<i>Lithophaga lithophaga</i>	U1	30%
1376	<i>Lithothamnium coralloides</i>	U1	Non-det
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	XX	UNKN
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>		
2625	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	XX	UNKN
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	XX	UNKN
2037	<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>	XX	UNKN
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	FV	Non-det
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	XX	UNKN
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	U1	30%
1377	<i>Phymatholithon calcareum</i>	FV	Non-det
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	FV	Non-det
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	XX	UNKN
1090	<i>Scyllarides latus</i>	XX	UNKN
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX	UNKN
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	XX	UNKN
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	XX	UNKN

## MMAC

Species code	Species	Status	Pledge
1001	<i>Corallium rubrum</i>	XX	UNKN
1008	<i>Centrostephanus longispinus</i>	XX	UNKN
1027	<i>Lithophaga lithophaga</i>	XX	UNKN
1090	<i>Scyllarides latus</i>	XX	UNKN
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	XX	UNKN
<b>1224</b>	<b><i>Caretta caretta</i></b>	<b>XX</b>	<b>UNKN</b>
1225	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	XX	UNKN
<b>1227</b>	<b><i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>	<b>U1</b>	<b>30%</b>
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	XX	UNKN
1348	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	XX	N
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	XX	UNKN
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	XX	UNKN
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	XX	UNKN
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	XX	UNKN
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	XX	UNKN

2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX	UNKN
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	XX	UNKN
2033	<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	XX	UNKN
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX	UNKN
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	XX	UNKN
2037	<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>	XX	UNKN
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	XX	UNKN
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	XX	UNKN
2620	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	XX	UNKN
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX	UNKN
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	XX	UNKN
2623	<i>Kogia simus</i>	XX	UNKN
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	XX	UNKN
2625	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	XX	UNKN
2627	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	XX	UNKN
2628	<i>Stenella frontalis</i>	XX	UNKN
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	XX	UNKN
5023	<i>Lagenodelphis hosei</i>	XX	UNKN
5033	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	XX	UNKN
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	XX	UNKN

### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

#### ES mainland

Species code	Season	Species	Trend	Pledge
A200	W	<i>Alca torda</i>	Unk	UNKN
A850	B	<i>Calonectris diomedea s. str.</i>	Unk	UNKN
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	D	Non-det
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	I	Non-det
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Unk	Non-det
A014	B	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	Unk	UNKN
A181	B	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	D	30%
A181	P	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	D	30%
A181	W	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	D	30%
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	D	N
A489	P	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk	N
A489	W	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk	N
A180	B	<i>Larus genei</i>	I	Non-det
A180	P	<i>Larus genei</i>	Unk	Non-det
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I	Non-det
A187	P	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I	Non-det
A187	W	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Unk	Non-det
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I	Non-det
A176	W	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	S	Non-det

A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk	Non-det
A604	P	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk	N
A604	W	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk	N
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	S	Non-det
A179	P	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	I	Non-det
A179	W	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	I	Non-det
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	I	UNKN
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D	Non-det
A684	W	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	S	30%
A684	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	D	30%
A683	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	S	N
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I	Non-det
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S	Non-det
A007	W	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	S	N
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	U	Non-det
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	I	Non-det
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	S	Non-det
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	S	Non-det
A693	B	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	D	30%
A693	P	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	D	30%
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	D	Non-det
A188	W	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	Unk	Non-det
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Unk	N
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	D	Non-det
A193	P	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk	Non-det
A194	P	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Unk	Non-det
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	D	Non-det
A885	P	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Unk	Non-det
A887	W	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	Unk	UNKN
A419	B	<i>Uria aalge ibericus</i>	D	Unlikely

#### ES Canary Islands

Species code	Season	Species	Trend	Pledge
A387	B	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	Unk	N
A851	B	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	Unk	N
A874	B	<i>Hydrobates castro</i>	Unk	N
A854	P	<i>Hydrobates leucorhous</i>	Unk	N
A014	B	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	Unk	Unlikely
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk	N
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk	Unlikely
A389	B	<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	I	N
A880	B	<i>Puffinus lherminieri</i>	Unk	N
A013	B	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Unk	Unlikely
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk	Non-det
A863	P	<i>Thalasseus sandvicensis</i>	Unk	N

## Annex 3 - Conservation status tables – by Member State

### Belgium

#### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

##### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U1
1130	Estuaries	U2
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	FV
1170	Reefs	U2

#### Marine species – Habitats Directive

##### MATL

Species code	Species	Status
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	No data
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	U1
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	XX
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	No data

#### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A203	W	<i>Alle alle</i>	Unk
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Unk
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Unk
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	U
A001	P	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Unk
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	D
A862	P	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Unk
A890	W	<i>Larus argentatus argentatus</i>	Unk
A895	B	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	D
A895	W	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	Unk
A459	W	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	Unk
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	Unk
A182	W	<i>Larus canus</i>	Unk
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	D
A489	P	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk

A489	W	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk
A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Unk
A187	P	<i>Larus marinus</i>	Unk
A187	W	<i>Larus marinus</i>	F
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I
A176	P	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Unk
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	S
A604	W	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	D
A179	W	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Unk
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	F
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	F
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	U
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S
A007	W	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Unk
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	I
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	S
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	I
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	U
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	S
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	D
A193	P	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	D
A885	P	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Unk



## Netherlands

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2
1130	Estuaries	U2
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U1
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U2
1170	Reefs	U2

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Species code	Species	Status
1101	<b><i>Acipenser sturio</i></b>	No data
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	No data
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	No data
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	No data
1224	<b><i>Caretta caretta</i></b>	No data
1227	<b><i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>	No data
2637	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	No data
5029	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	No data
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	No data
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	No data
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	No data
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	No data
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV
5033	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	No data
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	No data
2031	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	No data
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	XX
1226	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	No data
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	No data
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	No data
2626	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	No data
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	No data
2639	<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	No data
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	FV
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	No data
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	No data

6305	<i>Pusa hispida</i>	No data
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	No data

Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A203	W	<i>Alle alle</i>	Unk
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	I
A067	B	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	U
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D
A064	W	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	S
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Unk
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	I
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	D
A862	B	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	U
A862	P	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	I
A894	P	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	I
A895	B	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	D
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	D
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	S
A185	W	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	I
A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	S
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	S
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	I
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	D
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	U
A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	S
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	S
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	S
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	D
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	S
A006	B	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>	U
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	S
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	U
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	I
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	D
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	S
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	D
A194	B	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	U
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	U
A887	P	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	Unk

**France**

Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2
1130	Estuaries	U2
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U1
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U2
1170	Reefs	U1
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	XX
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	FV

Marine species – Habitats Directive

MATL

Species code	Species	Status
1101	<b><i>Acipenser sturio</i></b>	U2
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	XX
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	XX
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	XX
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX
1224	<b><i>Caretta caretta</i></b>	XX
1227	<b><i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>	XX
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	U1
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	XX
1348	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	XX
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	XX
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV
5033	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	XX
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	XX
2031	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	XX
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	XX
1226	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	XX
1376	<i>Lithothamnium coralloides</i>	U1
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	XX
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	XX
2625	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	XX
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	XX
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	XX

1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	U1
1377	<i>Phymatholithon calcareum</i>	U1
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	XX
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	XX
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	U1
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	XX

Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A200	B	<i>Alca torda</i>	I
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	D
A067	B	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	I
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D
A850	B	<i>Calonectris diomedea s. str.</i>	S
A064	W	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	U
A204	B	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	I
A009	B	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	S
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	U
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Unk
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	F
A014	B	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	I
A862	W	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Unk
A894	P	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	No data
A895	B	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	D
A181	B	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	D
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	F
A182	W	<i>Larus canus</i>	D
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk
A180	B	<i>Larus genei</i>	I
A180	W	<i>Larus genei</i>	I
A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	F
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I
A187	W	<i>Larus marinus</i>	F
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	i
A176	W	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	D
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Unk
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	U
A900	P	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	No data
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	U
A070	B	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	I
A070	W	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	I

A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	I
A069	P	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	No data
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D
A016	B	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	S
A684	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	I
A392	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii</i>	Unk
A683	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	D
A683	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	Unk
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I
A007	W	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	S
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	Unk
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	S
A006	B	<i>Podiceps griseigena</i>	F
A008	B	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Unk
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	D
A693	P	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	No data
A013	B	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	I
A464	B	<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i>	U
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	S
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	F
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	D
A192	B	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	D
A192	P	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	No data
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	D
A193	P	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	No data
A194	P	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	No data
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	I
A885	P	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	No data
A887	B	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	I

## Ireland

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	FV
1130	Estuaries	U1
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U1
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U2
1170	Reefs	U1
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	FV
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	FV

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Species code	Species	Status
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	FV
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	XX
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	XX
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	FV
5029	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	XX
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	FV
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	XX
1348	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	XX
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	FV
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	FV
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	FV
5033	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	XX
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	XX
2031	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	FV
2032	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	FV
1376	<i>Lithothamnium coralloides</i>	U2
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	XX
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	FV
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	XX
2037	<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>	XX
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	XX
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	FV
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	FV
1377	<i>Phymatholiton calcareum</i>	U2

2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	FV
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	XX
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	FV
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	FV
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	FV

Marine bird species – Birds Directive

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A200	B	<i>Alca torda</i>	I
A062	W	<i>Aythya marila</i>	D
A067	W	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	D
A851	P	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	Unk
A202	B	<i>Cephus grylle</i>	I
A064	W	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Unk
A009	B	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	S
A002	W	<i>Gavia arctica</i>	Unk
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Unk
A001	B	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	S
A001	W	<i>Gavia stellata</i>	Unk
A854	B	<i>Hydrobates leucorhous</i>	Unk
A014	B	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	Unk
A862	W	<i>Hydrocoloeus minutus</i>	Unk
A895	B	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	I
A895	W	<i>Larus argentatus argenteus</i>	Unk
A182	B	<i>Larus canus</i>	I
A182	W	<i>Larus canus</i>	Unk
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	I
A489	W	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk
A185	W	<i>Larus glaucoides</i>	Unk
A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Unk
A187	B	<i>Larus marinus</i>	I
A176	B	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	I
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	I
A179	W	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Unk
A066	W	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	Unk
A900	B	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	D
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	Unk
A070	B	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	S
A069	B	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	D
A016	B	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	I
A684	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	I
A683	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	I

A683	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo carbo</i>	D
A170	B	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	I
A007	W	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	Unk
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	S
A005	W	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	D
A013	B	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Unk
A188	B	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	D
A063	B	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Unk
A063	W	<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Unk
A192	B	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	I
A192	P	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Unk
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	I
A193	P	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk
A194	B	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	S
A194	P	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	Unk
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	I
A887	B	<i>Uria aalge all others</i>	I



## Portugal

### Marine habitats – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U1
1130	Estuaries	U1
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	U1
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	U1
1170	Reefs	U1
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	XX

#### MMAC

Habitat code	Habitat	Status
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time	U2
1140	Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	XX
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	XX
1170	Reefs	XX
8330	Submerged or partially submerged sea caves	XX

### Marine species – Habitats Directive

#### MATL

Species code	Species	Status
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	U1
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	No data
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	No data
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX
1224	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	XX
1227	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	No data
1001	<i>Corallium rubrum</i>	XX
2637	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	No data
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	U1
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	No data
1225	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	No data
1348	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	No data
2627	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	No data
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	XX

1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	No data
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	No data
1226	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	No data
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	No data
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	No data
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	No data
2625	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	No data
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	No data
1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	No data
1351	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	U2
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	XX
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	No data
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	XX
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	XX

## MMAC

Species code	Species	Status
2618	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	XX
2619	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	XX
2620	<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	FV
5020	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	XX
2621	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	XX
1224	<b><i>Caretta caretta</i></b>	XX
1227	<b><i>Chelonia mydas</i></b>	XX
2637	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	No data
1350	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	FV
1223	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	XX
1225	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	No data
1348	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	XX
2627	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	FV
2029	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	XX
2030	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	XX
1364	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	No data
5033	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	XX
2622	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	XX
1226	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	XX
1345	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	XX
2038	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	XX
2625	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	XX
5034	<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	XX
2037	<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>	XX
1366	<b><i>Monachus monachus</i></b>	U1
2027	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	XX

1365	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	No data
2624	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	XX
2028	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	XX
1090	<i>Scyllarides latus</i>	XX
2034	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX
2628	<i>Stenella frontalis</i>	FV
2033	<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	XX
1349	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	FV
2035	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	XX

### Marine bird species – Birds Directive

#### PT – mainland

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A874	B	<i>Hydrobates castro</i>	Unk
A014	P	<i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>	No data
A894	W	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	Unk
A181	B	<i>Larus audouinii</i>	Unk
A489	B	<i>Larus fuscus all others</i>	Unk
A176	W	<i>Larus melanocephalus</i>	Unk
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk
A179	B	<i>Larus ridibundus</i>	Unk
A900	W	<i>Melanitta nigra s. str.</i>	Unk
A069	W	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	U
A016	W	<i>Morus bassanus</i>	Unk
A684	B	<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis</i>	Unk
A391	B	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	I
A391	W	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i>	U
A005	B	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	U
A008	W	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	U
A693	W	<i>Puffinus mauretanicus</i>	Unk
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk
A885	B	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>	Unk
A419	B	<i>Uria aalge ibericus</i>	D

#### PT Azores

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A387	B	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	S
A851	B	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	Unk
A003	W	<i>Gavia immer</i>	Unk
A874	B	<i>Hydrobates castro</i>	S
A884	B	<i>Hydrobates monteiroi</i>	Unk

A186	W	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	Unk
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	Unk
A880	B	<i>Puffinus lherminieri</i>	Unk
A013	B	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	Unk
A192	B	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	F
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	F

PT Madeira

Species code	Season	Species	Trend
A387	B	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	I
A851	B	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	I
A874	B	<i>Hydrobates castro</i>	Unk
A604	B	<i>Larus michahellis</i>	D
A389	B	<i>Pelagodroma marina</i>	D
A872	B	<i>Pterodroma deserta</i>	S
A385	B	<i>Pterodroma madeira</i>	S
A880	B	<i>Puffinus lherminieri</i>	S
A013	B	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	D
A192	B	<i>Sterna dougallii</i>	Unk
A193	B	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	Unk

## Annex 4 – Pledge tables – by Member State

### Protected area

Member State	MPA Target (figures in ha)											
	Region code	Area of marine waters	MPA Area Current	MPA Area Expected	Gain	MPA % current	MPA % new	Strict Protection Current	Strict Protection Expected	Gain	Strict protection % current	Strict protection % new
Denmark	MATL	7,656,100	1,431,848	2,273,157	841,309	19%	30%	0	364,479	364,479	0%	5%
	Total	12,281,500	1,957,049	3,021,558	1,064,509	16%	25%	0	417,053	417,053	0%	3%
Sweden	MATL	1,420,000	457,914	502,914	45,000	32%	35%	0	0	0	0%	0%
	Total	15,562,500	2,318,348	3,043,348	725,000	15%	20%	0	0	0	0%	0%

### Conservation status

Member State	Biodiversity Target			
	30% target for improving trends	Non-deterioration target	Non-deterioration unlikely to be achievable	Reducing unknowns
Denmark	<i>MATL</i>			
	<i>Birds</i>			
	Sternula albifrons-A885 Alca torda-A200 Uria aalge all others-A887	Larus ridibundus-A179 Melanitta nigra s. str.-sensu stricto [excluding americana]-A900 Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis-A391 Somateria mollissima-A063 Sterna paradisaea-A194	Aythya marila-A062 Clangula hyemalis-A064 Fulmarus glacialis-A009 Somateria mollissima-A063	Alle alle-A203 Gavia arctica-A002 Larus glaucoides-A185 Larus hyperboreus-A186 Podiceps auritus-A007 Podiceps nigricollis-A008
Germany	<i>MATL</i>			
	1110-Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1170-Reefs Phocoena phocoena-1351			1160-Large shallow inlets and bays Lagenorhynchus albirostris-2032 Balaenoptera acutorostrata-2618

Member State	Biodiversity Target			
	30% target for improving trends	Non-deterioration target	Non-deterioration unlikely to be achievable	Reducing unknowns
	1110-Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1170-Reefs Phocoena phocoena-1351			
	<i>Birds</i>			
	Cepphus grylle-A202 Gavia arctica-A002 Gavia stellata-A001 Larus ridibundus-A179 Sterna hirundo-A193 Sterna paradisaea-A194 Sternula albifrons-A885	Bucephala clangula-A067 Larus argentatus argentatus-A890 Larus canus-A182 Larus marinus-A187 Mergus merganser-A070 Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis-A391 Podiceps cristatus-A005 Podiceps grisegena-A006 Podiceps nigricollis-A008 Rissa tridactyla-A188 Uria aalge all others-A887		Aythya marila-A062 Phalacrocorax carbo carbo-A683 Podiceps auritus-A007 Sternula albifrons-A885
Spain	<i>MATL</i>			
	Lithophaga lithophaga-1027 Phocoena phocoena-1351	1140-Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide Corallium rubrum-1001 Halichoerus grypus-1364 Lithothamnium coralloides-1376 Orcinus orca-2027 Phymatholiton calcareum-1377 Physeter macrocephalus-2624		1110-Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1170-Reefs 8330-Submerged or partially submerged sea caves Balaenoptera acutorostrata-2618 Balaenoptera borealis-2619 Balaenoptera musculus-5020 Balaenoptera physalus-2621 Caretta caretta-1224 Centrostephanus longispinus-1008 Chelonia mydas-1227 Delphinus delphis-1350 Dermochelys coriacea-1223 Eretmochelys imbricata-1225 Globicephala macrorhynchus-2627 Globicephala melas-2029 Grampus griseus-2030 Hyperoodon ampullatus-5033 Kogia breviceps-2622 Kogia simus-2623 Lepidochelys kempii-1226

Member State	Biodiversity Target			
	30% target for improving trends	Non-deterioration target	Non-deterioration unlikely to be achievable	Reducing unknowns
				Megaptera novaeangliae-1345 Mesoplodon densirostris-2625 Mesoplodon europaeus-5034 Mesoplodon mirus-2037 Phoca vitulina-1365 Pseudorca crassidens-2028 Scyllarides latus-1090 Stenella coeruleoalba-2034 Tursiops truncatus-1349 Ziphius cavirostris-2035
<b>MMAC</b>				
	Chelonia mydas-1227			1110-Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1170-Reefs 8330-Submerged or partially submerged sea caves Balaenoptera acutorostrata-2618 Balaenoptera borealis-2619 Balaenoptera edeni-2620 Balaenoptera musculus-5020 Balaenoptera physalus-2621 Caretta caretta-1224 Centrostephanus longispinus-1008 Corallium rubrum-1001 Delphinus delphis-1350 Dermochelys coriacea-1223 Eretmochelys imbricata-1225 Globicephala macrorhynchus-2627 Globicephala melas-2029 Grampus griseus-2030 Hyperoodon ampullatus-5033 Kogia breviceps-2622 Kogia simus-2623 Lagenodelphis hosei-5023 Lithophaga lithophaga-1027 Megaptera novaeangliae-1345 Mesoplodon densirostris-2625 Mesoplodon europaeus-5034 Mesoplodon mirus-2037 Orcinus orca-2027

Member State	Biodiversity Target			
	30% target for improving trends	Non-deterioration target	Non-deterioration unlikely to be achievable	Reducing unknowns
				Phocoena phocoena-1351 Physeter macrocephalus-2624 Pseudorca crassidens-2028 Scyllarides latus-1090 Stenella coeruleoalba-2034 Stenella frontalis-2628 Steno bredanensis-2033 Tursiops truncatus-1349 Ziphius cavirostris-2035
	<i>Birds</i>			
	Larus audouinii-A181 Phalacrocorax aristotelis aristotelis-A684 Puffinus mauretanicus-A693	Gavia arctica-A002 Gavia immer-A003 Gavia stellata-A001 Larus genei-A180 Larus marinus-A187 Larus melanocephalus-A176 Larus michahellis-A604 Larus ridibundus-A179 Mergus merganser-A070 Mergus serrator-A069 Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis-A391 Podiceps cristatus-A005 Podiceps nigricollis-A008 Rissa tridactyla-A188 Sterna hirundo-A193 Sterna paradisaea-A194 Sternula albifrons-A885	Uria aalge ibericus-A419	Alca torda-A200 Calonectris diomedea s. str.-A850 Hydrobates pelagicus-A014 Larus michahellis-A604 Melanitta nigra s. str.-A900 Puffinus puffinus-A013 Uria aalge all others-A887
Sweden	<i>MATL</i>			
	<i>Birds</i>			
			Clangula hyemalis-A064 Mergus serrator-A069	Larus michahellis-A604



## Annex 5 – List of relevant LIFE projects

Reference	Project acronym	Project title	Website	Habitats	Species	Summary
LIFE05 ENV/NL/000 018	MNoMEPorts	Noise Management in European Ports	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2526">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2526</a>			Mainly dealt with noise mapping on land - however, increasing awareness of contribution of land based noise sources to marine noise - although not explicit in project could be implicit in the results i.e. a reduction in land noise leads to reduction in underwater noise.
LIFE06 NAT/DK/000 159	BLUEREFF	Rebuilding of Marine Cavernous Boulder Reefs in Kattegat	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2685">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2685</a>	1170 - Reefs		Restoration resulted in 6 tonnes of macroalgae and 3 tonnes of bottom fauna, plus 700 million individual fauna. Changes in the fish community structure were also evident. Cod increased by three to six fold in the restored reef area. Potential implications for MSFD.
LIFE06 NAT/P/0001 92	Biomares	Restoration and Management of Biodiversity in the Marine Park Site Arrabida Espichel	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2740">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2740</a>	1110 - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1170 - Reefs		Habitat restoration for reefs and submerged sandbanks in an MPA plus restoration of Zostera seagrass beds.
LIFE06 ENV/F/0001 36	Mar Clean	Risk based reduction of microbial pollution discharge to coastal waters	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2680">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2680</a>			Assessed levels of microbial pollution loads to sea - developed tools to reduce loads from a number of sources - specifically targeted shellfish toxicity and clean beaches.
LIFE07 NAT/P/0006 46	CETACEOSMA DEIRA II	Identifying critical marine areas for the bottlenose dolphin and surveillance of cetacean conservation status in Madeira archipelago	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2870">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2870</a>		Globicephala macrorhynchus, Tursiops truncatus	Identification of critical areas for bottlenose dolphins in Madera waters - establishment of marine Natura 2000 sites for their protection.
LIFE07 ENV/UK/000 943	Pisces	Partnerships involving stakeholders in the Celtic sea Eco-system	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2807">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2807</a>			Development of a set of transferable guidelines for the ecosystem based approach to marine management developed by stakeholders. Specifically designed to demonstrate how stakeholders can work together and participate in EU marine policy at a multi-national scale.
LIFE07 ENV/D/0002 29	ECOSMA	Ecological certification of products from sustainable marine aquaculture	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2825">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/2825</a>			Developed and promoted criteria for organic mariculture - reduced pollution associated with mariculture practices and improved water quality.

LIFE09 NAT/PT/000 038	MarPro	Conservation of Marine Protected Species in mainland Portugal	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3277">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3277</a>		Phocoena phocoena, Tursiops truncatus, Puffinus mauretanicus	Reduction of impacts on target cetacean and seabird populations through inappropriate fishing techniques (promotion of new fishing gears to reduce by-catch) - aim to implement SCI/SPA in Portuguese waters and increase Natura 2000 network.
LIFE09 INF/PT/0000 45	ECO- COMPATIVEL	Communicating for the sustainability of socio economic activities, human use and biodiversity in Natura 2000 network sites in Madeira Archipelago	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3217">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3217</a>		Monachus monachus	To address and resolve conflicts between conservation and users on two heavily populated islands within a Natura 2000 site - target here is fishing community conflict with monk seals.
LIFE09 ENV/NL/000 426	BLUETEC	Demonstration of the technological, economic and environmental sustainability of a full scale tidal energy device in an offshore environment	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3102">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3102</a>			Demonstration of the technological, economic and environmental sustainability of a full-scale tidal energy device in an offshore environment.
LIFE11 ENV/SE/000 839	BUCEFALOS	BIUe ConcEpt For A Low nutrient/carbOn System – regional aqua resource management	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3497">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3497</a>			Demonstration of a holistic approach for the regional coordination of sustainable resource management of aquatic biomass.
LIFE11 ENV/UK/000 392	CSP	Celtic Seas Partnership (CSP) – stakeholder driven integrated management of the Celtic Seas Marine Region	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3531">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3531</a>			Collaborative approach to planning for seabed activities - mapping areas of conflicting and complementary uses e.g. windfarms and fishing.
LIFE12 ENV/FR/000 316	PcheAPiedeLo isir	Pilot experiments on sustainable and participatory management of recreational seafood hand harvesting	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3877">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/3877</a>		Ruditapes philippinarum, Ruditapes decussatus, Cerastoderma edule	Promotion of effective and transferable methods for promoting sustainable approaches to shore-based sea angling in 11 pilot areas using ecosystem based approach to marine management, Includes plans for MPAs. Species listed are not protected.
LIFE13 NAT/ES/000 974	LIFE Madeira Monk Seal	Mediterranean monk seal conservation in Madeira and development of a conservation status surveillance system	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4034">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4034</a>		Monachus monachus	To resolve known threats to the monk seal and improve its long-term conservation in the Madiera region.

LIFE13 NAT/PT/000 458	LIFE Berlengas	Conserving threatened habitats and species in Berlengas SPA through sustainable management	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4106">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4106</a>		Phalacrocorax aristotelis, Oceanodroma castro, Larus michahellis, Larus fuscus, Calonectris diomedea	To establish a legally binding management plan with clear and measurable actions and targets for defined sites in the Atlantic coastal archipelago.
LIFE14 CCM/ES/00 1209	LIFE DEMOWAVE	Demonstration of the efficiency & environmental impact of wave energy converters (WEC) in high-energy coasts	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4220">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4220</a>			Demonstrating the feasibility of the use of wave power for electric generation in order to mitigate the climate change and to reduce greenhouse gases' emissions.
LIFE14 NAT/ES/001 213	CONVIVE-LIFE	Integration of human activities in the conservation objectives of the Natura 2000 Network in the littoral of Cantabria	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4269">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4269</a>	1110 - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time 1130 - Estuaries 1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide 1310 - Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand 1320 - Spartina swards (Spartinion maritimae) 1330 - Atlantic salt meadows (Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae) 1420 - Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (Sarcocornetea fruticosi) 2110 - Embryonic shifting dunes	Baccharis halimifolia, Platalea leucorodia, Ardea cinerea, A. purpurea, Ixobrychus minutus, Recurvirostra avosetta	Improving the conservation status of habitats and species of Community interest by restoring ecological and hydrodynamic functioning - also modelled impact of climate change.
LIFE14 NAT/UK/000 394	LIFE14 Roseate Tern	Improving the conservation prospects of the priority species roseate tern throughout its range in the UK and Ireland	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4289">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4289</a>		Sterna dougallii, S. sandvicensis, S. paradisaea, S. hirundo	Improving the conservation prospects of roseate tern (Sterna dougallii) in the UK and Ireland and contributing to a long term goal of improving the conservation status of roseate tern across Europe.
LIFE14 IPE/BE/0000 02	BNIP	Belgian Nature Integrated Project	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4337">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4337</a>			Developing and managing the operational planning for the implementation of the prioritised action frameworks of the Flemish and Walloon regions and the execution of the

						Natura 2000 objectives of the Flemish, Walloon and federal governments.
LIFE14 NAT/FR/000 669	LIFE BARGE	Preservation, restoration and valuation of coastal habitats of European interest of the Aiguillon Bay	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4329">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4329</a>		Acrocephalus scirpaceus, Anas clypeata, Himantopus himantopus, Luscinia svecica, Recurvirostra avosetta, Tringa totanus	Restoring the Aiguillon Bay and Aiguillon Pointe habitats (e.g. mudflat habitats, salt marshes, dune habitats) and strengthening the role of coastal habitats to offer passive resistance to sea floods.
LIFE15 ENV/ES/000 252	LIFE LEMA	Intelligent marine litter removal and Management for local Authorities	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4464">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4464</a>			Defining a management service for local authorities for tackling the problem of floating marine litter (FML) before it arrives at shore areas with difficult access, or it sinks.
LIFE15 IPE/NL/000 016	DELTA Nature	Integrated approach N2000 Delta Nature to catalyse the implementation of the Netherlands Prioritised Action Framework	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4613">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4613</a>			Implementing the Dutch PAF and achieving the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy - includes sensitive coastal areas.
LIFE15 IPE/ES/0000 12	LIFE-IP INTEMARES	Integrated, Innovative and Participatory Management for N2000 network in the Marine Environment	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4611">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4611</a>			Implementing the PAF for Natura 2000 in the Spanish marine Natura 2000 network and ensuring that, upon completion, Spain has a consolidated network of marine Natura 2000 sites managed in a demonstrative, effective and integrated way.
LIFE16 IPE/FR/0000 01	LIFE IP Marine Habitats	Nature Integrated Project for effective and equitable management of marine habitats in France	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4812">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4812</a>		Posidonia oceanica	Achieving or maintaining a favourable conservation status for marine habitats listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive by ensuring effective and transparent management of the sites.
LIFE16 NAT/NL/000 155	Fish migration & BirdLIFE	A new approach: a gradual, ecological freshwater-saltwater transition between Wadden Sea, IJsselmeer and the hinterland	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4757">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4757</a>		Petromyzon marinus, Lampetra fluviatilis, Alosa alosa, A. fallax, Salmo salar, Coregonus oxyrinchus, Acipenser sturio, Anguilla Anguilla, Thalasseus sandvicensis, Sterna hirundo, S. albifrons, S. paradisaea, Botaurus stellaris, Podiceps cristatus, Phalacrocorax	Restoring of a natural river course – to encourage fish migration – by restoring the connectivity between the Wadden Sea and the IJsselmeer with the natural landscaping of the fish migration river and creating of breeding islands and high-tide resting areas for birds

					carbo, Hydrocoloeus minutus, Chlidonias niger, Mergus merganser, Mergellus albellus, Anas crecca, A. Penelope, A. acuta, Haematopus ostralegus, Recurvirostra avocetta, Numenius arquata, Tringa tetanus, Arenaria interpres, Circus aeruginosus, Acrocephalus schoenobaenus, Charadrius hiaticulas, C. alexandrines, Somateria mollissima	
LIFE17 IPE/PT/0000 10	LIFE-IP AZORES NATURA	Active protection and integrated management of Natura 2000 Network in Azores	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5001">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5001</a>		Pyrrhula murina	Establishing the basis for implementing the Prioritised Action Framework for Natura 2000 (PAF) proposed for the Azores.
LIFE17 NAT/DK/000 498	Better BirdLIFE	Improvement of natural habitats for coastal birds in the West Baltic Sea	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4853">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4853</a>		Sterna paradisaea, S. hirundo, S. sandvicensis, S. albifrons, Somateria mollissima, Crex crex, Calidris alpina, Pluvialis apricaria, Aythya marila, Recurvirostra avocetta, Mergus serrator, Philomachus pugnax, Asio flammeus, Porzana porzana	Improving the conservation status of the 14 bird species and 10 habitat types targeted within the project area - component of marine habitat restoration to improve food areas for birds (offshore) - recreation of 30 ha of stone reefs.
LIFE17 CCA/SE/000 048	LIFE CoastAdapt	Coastal adaptation to climate change by multiple ecosystem-based measures	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4980">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4980</a>			Project has one element to recreate natural reef structures for macroalgae this is a new technique and is done primarily for coastal protection as a by-product it will create valuable habitat for invertebrates and fish.
LIFE17 NAT/FR/000 519	LIFE SALLINA	Sustainable Actions on Loire Lagoons for Improvement and Assessment	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4856">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4856</a>	1150 - Coastal lagoons 1330 - Atlantic salt meadows	Recurvirostra avocetta	Restoring salt marshes in three targeted Natura 2000 sites and initiating a range of conservation actions aimed at ensuring

						appropriate long-term management of these habitats.
LIFE17 NAT/UK/000 023	SoLIFE	Sands of LIFE	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4871">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4871</a>	2110 - Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 - Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria 2130 - Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation 2170 - Dunes with Salix repens ssp. argentea (Salicion arenariae) 2190 - Humid dune slacks		Restoring dynamic processes in Welsh sand dunes, so enabling the free movement of sand necessary to improve the conservation status of all Habitat Directive Annex I sand dune habitats, especially the priority 'grey dune' habitat.
LIFE17 NAT/UK/000 570	DuneLIFE	Dynamic Dunescapes	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4961">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/4961</a>	2110 - Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 - Shifting dunes along the shoreline with Ammophila arenaria 2130 - Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation 2150 - Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) 2170 - Dunes with Salix repens ssp. argentea (Salicion arenariae) 3110 - Oligotrophic waters containing very few minerals of sandy plains (Littorelletalia uniflorae)		Proving the conservation status of habitats and species in eight coastal Natura 2000 network sites in England.
LIFE18 ENV/FR/000 308	LIFE PIAQUO	Underwater noise impact reduction of the maritime traffic and real-time adaptation to ecosystems	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5120">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5120</a>			
LIFE18 NAT/SE/000 959	LIFE LOPHELIA	Method development for cold-water coral reef habitat restoration with implementation in Kosterfjord-Väderöfjord, Sweden	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5155">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5155</a>		Lophelia pertusa	To achieve a network of viable reproductive reef sites which are able to exchange larvae to maintain rejuvenation, and to update the national Red List status of Lophelia pertusa in Sweden from critically endangered to endangered or better.

LIFE18 NAT/UK/000 039	LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES	Reducing and Mitigating Erosion and Disturbance Impacts affecting the Seabed	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5171">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5171</a>	European Red Listed Habitat A5.53 Seagrass beds on Atlantic infralittoral sand (non-Macaronesian)		Aims to reduce the negative impacts of recreational activities on the marine environment, in Natura 2000 sites (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)) where pressure from recreational boating is greatest and having the most impact on seagrass beds.
LIFE18 CCA/ES/001 160	LIFE ADAPTA BLUES	Adaptation to climate change through management and restoration of European estuarine ecosystems	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5067">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5067</a>			To demonstrate the potential of conserving and restoring European estuaries following an ecosystem-based approach to climate change adaptation, decreasing risks to coastal areas while contributing to climate change mitigation.
LIFE18 NAT/PT/000 927	LIFE Ilhas Barreira	Conserving the Barrier Islands in Algarve to protect priority species and habitats	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5104">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5104</a>			Aims to characterise the local ecological requirements and conservation threats of the target species and habitat types, in order to implement effective conservation actions.
LIFE19 CCA/PT/001 178	LIFE DUNAS	LIFE DUNAS	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5254">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5254</a>			To improve the resilience of Porto Santo Islands dune ecosystems to the impacts of climate change.
LIFE20 NAT/ES/001 007	LIFE INSULAR	Integrated strategy for sustainable management of insular habitats in Natura 2000 islands of the Atlantic Ocean	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5627">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5627</a>	2130 - Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation		To implement a transnational strategy for an integrated restoration of the priority habitat type 2130* ("grey dunes") and the habitat 4030 (European dry heath) in five Atlantic Ocean islands spread across the Atlantic and Macaronesian biogeographical regions, promoting their favourable conservation status and increasing their resilience to climate change.
LIFE20 NGO4GD/U K/000019	SEALIFE	Seas Full of LIFE MCS4EUGD	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5835">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/5835</a>			A recent study published in Nature found that bottom trawling releases a gigaton of carbon every year, as much carbon as produced by the aviation industry. Less than 5% of UKs marine protected areas were truly protected at the time of applying for grant. Bottom trawling in MPAs both destroys biodiversity and releases carbon stored in marine sediments. Project has influenced the policy agenda through advocacy, engagement with youth audiences, stakeholder buy-in and education.

LIFE21-NAT-DK-COASTal-LIFE/101074422	COASTal LIFE	Restoration of coastal habitat zones	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/101074422">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/101074422</a>	<p>1110 - Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time</p> <p>1140 - Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide</p> <p>1150 - Coastal lagoons</p> <p>1160 - Large shallow inlets and bays</p> <p>1170 - Reefs</p>	<p>Recurvirostra avosetta</p> <p>Sterna albifrons</p> <p>Sterna hirundo</p> <p>Sterna paradisaea</p> <p>Calidris alpina schinzii</p>	<p>To re-establish the original coastal habitats in parts of 4 Natura 2000 sites, to expand protected habitats and create larger ecological corridors and natural areas.</p> <p>Marine habitats targeted include sandbanks, mudflats and sandflats, shallow bays and coves, and stone reefs. Living conditions for protected birds will also be improved, with beneficial effects overall for species associated with the coastal zones. Furthermore, COASTal LIFE will address climatic changes and rising sea levels, restore biodiversity and ecosystem services, and increase the environmental resilience of the water bodies concerned.</p>
LIFE21-NAT-FR-LIFE-SEADETECT/101070722	LIFE-SEADETECT	Marine automated DETECTION and anti-collision system with cetaceans	<a href="https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/101070722">https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/life/publicWebsite/project/details/101070722</a>			<p>To considerably reduce the risk of collision, the SEADETECT project aims to develop two innovative systems that can ensure the detection of the cetaceans with a radius range of 1km in most of the weather conditions, day and night in real-time. Deployed on 3 high speed ferries, using passive acoustic monitoring (PAM). Target so save 100 cetaceans per year by end of the project.</p>