



# Conservation Status Improvement Targets in Greece: Progress and Achievements

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3<sup>rd</sup> Marine Biogeographical Seminar for the Mediterranean and Black Sea Regions  
12-14 March 2024, Marseille, France



Natural Environment



Protected Areas



Climate Change

Biodiversity



Sustainable Development



**N.E.C.C.A.**







## Presentation Overview

- **Current Conservation Status** of habitat types & species
- **Actions toward Conservation Status improvement**
  - **Relevant national legislation: A review**
  - **LIFE IP - 4 Natura:** Strengthening the relevant national legislation
  - Compilation of **Red List** of Threatened Species of Plants, Animals and Fungi of Greece
  - The Case of **LIFE PanPuffinus!**
  - The Case of **Interreg - Europe: INVALIDIS**
- **Other Indicative Best Practices & Policies** toward Conservation Status Progress
- **Indicative Future Measures** to Improve Conservation Status



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## Habitat Types in Annex I of Directive 92/43/EEC & their Conservation Status

Habitat Code	Habitat Types (Marine & Coastal Waters)	Range	Area	S&F	ACS	TCS
1110	Sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater all the time	FV	FV	U1	U1	D (-)
1120*	Posidonia beds ( <i>Posidonium oceanicae</i> )	FV	U1	FV	U1	D (-)
1130	Estuaries	FV	FV	U1	U1	S (=)
1140	Mudflats & sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide	FV	XX	U1	U1	D (-)
1150*	Coastal lagoons	FV	U1	U1	U2	D (-)
1160	Large shallow inlets and bays	FV	FV	U1	U1	S (=)
1170	Reefs	FV	FV	U2	U2	S (=)
1180	Submarine structures made by leaking gases	XX	XX	XX	XX	X
1310	Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand	FV	U1	FV	U1	S (=)
8330	Submerged/ partially submerged sea caves	FV	XX	XX	U1	S (=)

\* FV: Favourable, U1: Unfavourable - Inadequate, U2: Unfavourable - Bad, XX, X: Unknown, D: Deteriorating, S: Stable, S&F: Specific structure & functions, ACS: assessment of Conservation Status, TCS: trend in Conservation Status

CDR - Eionet: Report data\_2023 - 2018

## Species listed in Annexes II, IV & V of Directive 92/43/EEC & their Conservation Status

Species (Marine & Coastal Waters)		Range	Population	HS	ACS	TCS
INVERTEBRATES	<i>Centrostephanus longispinus</i>	FV	FV	U1	U1	S (=)
	<i>Corallium rubrum</i>	XX	U1	U1	U1	D (-)
	<i>Lithophaga lithophaga</i>	U1	U1	U1	U1	D (-)
	<i>Pinna nobilis</i>	U1	U2	U1	U2	D (-)
	<i>Scyllarides latus</i>	XX	XX	U1	U1	X
REPTILES	* <i>Caretta caretta</i>	FV	U1	U1	U2	D (-)
	* <i>Chelonia mydas</i>	FV	XX	XX	U2	X
	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	FV	XX	XX	U2	X
MAMMALS	* <i>Monachus monachus</i>	FV	U1	U1	U1	I (+)

CDR - Eionet: Report data\_2023 - 2018

\* FV: Favourable, U1: Unfavourable - Inadequate, U2: Unfavourable - Bad, XX, X: Unknown, D: Deteriorating, S: Stable, HS: Habitat for the species, ACS: assessment of Conservation Status, TCS: trend in Conservation Status

## Species listed in Annexes II, IV & V of Directive 92/43/EEC & their Conservation Status

		Species (Marine & Coastal Waters)	Range	Population	HS	ACS	TCS
<b>MAMMALS</b>	C	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	U1	XX	U1	U1	X
	E	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	U1	U2	U2	U2	D (-)
	T	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	XX	XX	U2	U2	D (-)
	A	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	XX	U1	U2	U2	D (-)
	E	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	XX	XX	XX	XX	X
	A	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	XX	XX	U1	U1	X
	N	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	U1	U1	U2	U2	D (-)
	S	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	U1	U1	U2	U2	D (-)
<b>FISH</b>		<i>*Acipenser sturio</i> (MMED)	XX	XX	XX	XX	X
		<i>*Acipenser sturio</i> (MED)	XX	XX	U2	U2	X
		<i>Alosa fallax</i>	XX	XX	U2	U2	D (-)
		<i>Aphanius fasciatus</i>	FV	FV	U1	U1	S (=)
		<i>Petromyzon marinus</i>	XX	XX	XX	XX	X

\* FV: Favorable, U1:, U2: , XX, X: Unknown, D: Deteriorating, I: Increasing, S: Stable, HS: , ACS: , TCS:

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## Bird species under Article 12 of Directive 2009/147/EC



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Bird Species (Marine & Coastal Waters)	Short-term Trend
<i>Anas acuta</i> (W)	=
<i>Aythya fuligula</i> (W)	X
<i>Calonectris diomedea</i> (B)	=
<i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> (W)	+
<i>Cygnus cygnus</i> (W)	+
<i>Larus audouinii</i> (B)	-
<i>Larus melanocephalus</i> (B)	-
<i>Larus michahellis</i> (B)	+
<i>Numenius arquata arquata</i> (W)	X
<i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis desmarestii</i> (B)	=
<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i> (P, W)	
<i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> (B)	=
<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (B)	+

\* W: Winter, B: Breeding, P: Passage

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# Actions toward Conservation Status improvement

## Relevant national legislation: A review

**P.D. 67/81** “On the Protection of native flora and fauna and the definition of a procedure for coordination and control of research on them”, as corrected by the Government Gazette 43/A’/1981 (GG 23/A/1981)

**L. 1650/1986** “For the protection of the environment” (GG 59/1994)

**J. M. Decision 33318-3028/1998** “Definition of measures and procedures for the conservation of wild birds and their habitats” (GG 1289/B/1998)

**L. 3937/2011** “Biodiversity conservation and other provisions” (GG 60/A/2011)

**J. M. Decisions 37338/1807/2010 & 8353/276/2012** Definition of measures and procedures for the conservation of wild birds and their habitats, in compliance with the provisions of Directive 79/409/EEC (103/E/2010 & 103/E/2012)

**L. 4685/2020** “Modernization of environmental legislation, transposition into Greek legislation of Directives 2018/844 and 2019/692 of the European Parliament and the Council and other provisions” (GG 92/A/20)





# Actions toward Conservation Status improvement

## LIFE IP - 4 Natura: **Strengthening** the relevant national legislation

**AIM:** Improve the conservation status for species & habitats, Integrated management of the Natura 2000, Capacity building to strengthen the relevant authorities, engage all the stakeholders involved, Improve public awareness & knowledge



Project reference	LIFE16 IPE/GR/000002
Duration	December 1, 2017 - November 30, 2025
Total budget	17,000,000.00 €

- ✓ Development & Legal adoption of **Action Plan for sea turtles** (LIFE Euroturtles; M.D. 68083/2147 GG 3678/B'/2021)
- ✓ Establishment of **Conservation Objectives for SACs and SPAs** (M.D. 30339/982 - GG 1375/B/2021 & its amendment (GG 1091/B/2023), M.D. 24776/985 GG 1807/B/2023, M.D. 50146/1786 GG 3118/B/2023)
- ✓ Drafting/revision of the **Priority Action Framework (PAF 2021 - 2027)** for the Natura 2000 Network in Greece



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση του Προγράμματος LIFE της Ευρωπαϊκής Ένωσης



Με τη συγχρηματοδότηση του Προσώου Ταμείου



## Compilation of **Red List** of Threatened Species of Plants, Animals and Fungi of Greece



**Strategic achievements:** Through this project, N.E.C.C.A. with the cooperation and support of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Hellenic Zoological Society (HZS) and the Hellenic Botanical Society (HBS):

- ✓ created a **network of 140** Greek and foreign **scientists**
- ✓ assessed **>11,000 species** of animals, plants and fungi and classified them in threat categories
- ✓ created an openly accessible **database** (*will be published until the end of March*)
- ✓ **enriched** the International Red List (**IUCN Red List**) with the assessments of Greek endemic species

<b>Funding Body</b>	NSRF 2014-2020
<b>Start - End</b>	2022 - 2023
<b>Budget</b>	1,744,724.65 €
<b>Operational Programme</b>	Transport Infrastructure, Environment and Sustainable Development
<b>Fund</b>	European Cohesion Fund



## Compilation of **Red List** of Threatened Species of Plants, Animals and Fungi of Greece

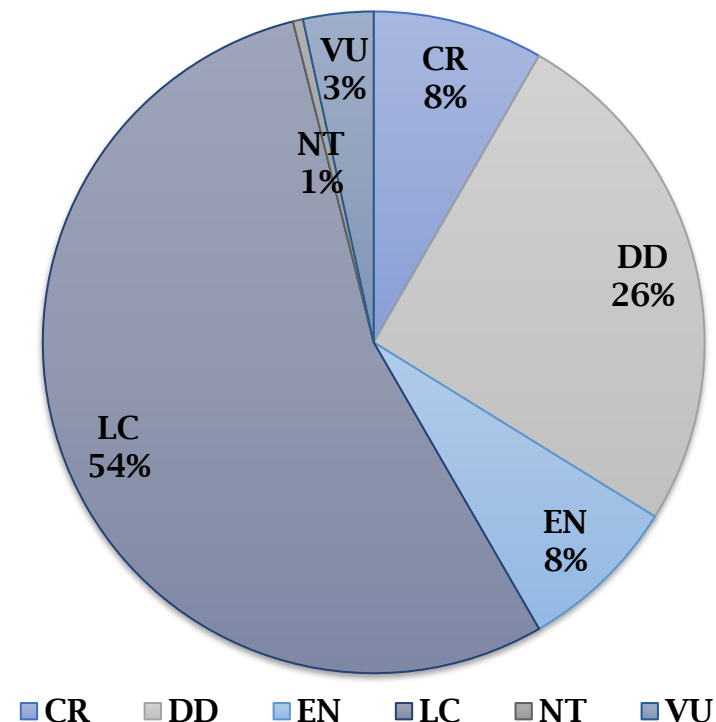


**RED LIST  
GREECE**

- ▶ about 3,000 endemic plants, animals and fungi
- ▶ about 250 marine animals

- ✓ It is mandated by L. 3937/2011 «Conservation of biodiversity and other provisions» and is a key tool for biodiversity management
- ✓ The Red List data constitute a **valuable tool for biodiversity conservation** and will be available on its official website, ensuring access to scientific information regarding flora and fauna species for everyone interested

Percentage (%) of Marine animals per IUCN threat category



**AIM:** Quantify the scale & extent of fisheries bycatch, Reduce fisheries bycatch, Decrease the rate of predation by rats, Drive changes in management through engagement with key stakeholders & by building awareness on seabirds with communities

<b>Start – End</b>	01/09/2020 - 31/08/2025
<b>Budget</b>	3,540,557 €

- ✓ Recording the extent and severity of Puffinus bycatch
- ✓ Recording of predation area by *Rattus rattus* and reduction of predation levels
- ✓ Installation of biosecurity measures
- ✓ Production of sensitivity maps including the fishing activity





“Protecting European Biodiversity from Invasive Alien Species”

- **AIM:** Improve environmental policies, by supporting policy measures for the prevention, early detection and control of Invasive Alien Species (IAS)

**!** At least **242 IAS** within Greek territorial waters  
(Source: *Zenetos et al. 2020*)

<b>Duration</b>	5 yrs (June 2018 – May 2023)
<b>Fund</b>	EU Interreg Europe Territorial Cooperation Program
<b>Budget</b>	1,295,587 €



- ✓ **6 action plans** to improve the addressed policy instruments
- ✓ **3 interregional workshops, 2 site visits & 1 EU-wide policy learning event** to promote capacity building among partners & stakeholders
- ✓ **18 policy briefs** to transfer INVALIS lessons learned to EU authorities
- ✓ **A risk assessment framework** for EU public administrations to assess regional ecosystems’ vulnerability to IAS
- ✓ **4 baseline analysis reports** on territorial needs and IAS management practices

## Other Indicative Best Practices toward Conservation Status Progress

BEST PRACTICES	<p><u>Fund:</u> Operational Program YMEPERAA  <u>Budget:</u> 213,800.00 €  <u>Status:</u> Completed</p>	<p>Supply &amp; installation of <b>44 eco-mooring systems for the protection of habitat 1120*</b> (National Marine Park of Zakynthos: 7, Kefalonia: 8, National Park of Alonissos: 15, Schinias – Marathon National Park: 14)</p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> The MedFund  <u>Budget:</u> 296,000.00 €  <u>Status:</u> In progress, <u>Duration:</u> 60 months</p>	<p><b>“Highly Protected Mediterranean Initiative”</b>, aiming at <b>enhancing management efficiency</b> in the area of <b>strict protection</b> in the <b>Sporades National Park</b></p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> Operational Program YMEPERAA  <u>Budget:</u> 982,627.56 €  <u>Status:</u> In progress</p>	<p>Implementation of Subprojects: Management measures for the <b>Habitats 8330, 1170 &amp; 1120*</b></p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> Interreg – IPA CBC Greece – Albania  <u>Budget:</u> 97,000 €, <u>Status:</u> Completed</p>	<p>“Climate – Smart Coastal Practices for Blue Governance“, improving the management and conservation status of the sea turtle <i>Caretta caretta</i> in the Ionian Sea</p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> INTERREG MED POSBEMED 2,  <u>Status:</u> Completed</p>	<p>“Governance and management of <b>Posidonia beach-dune</b> systems across the Mediterranean”</p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> INTERREG MED Plastic Busters MPAs, <u>Budget:</u> 118,160.00 €</p>	<p><b>“Preserving Biodiversity</b> from Plastics in Mediterranean Marine Protected Areas”</p>
	<p><u>Fund:</u> Green Fund, <u>Status:</u> Completed  <u>Budget:</u> 49,900 €</p>	<p><b>“Sea Guardians”</b>, training sea professionals regarding MPAs of Greece</p>





## Other Indicative Policies toward Conservation Status Progress

POLICIES	M. Decision n. 167378/2007 (D' 241) & M. Decision n. 2886/142447/2019 (D' 105)	<b>Management measures</b> for the sustainable fishery in the Mediterranean Sea designating areas covered with <i>Posidonia oceanica</i> , where fishing with towed gears has been prohibited
	L. 5011/2023 (A' 9)	Activation of Greece's participation in the activities of the Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans in the Black Sea Mediterranean Sea and Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
	J. M. Decision n. 55417/1958/2023 (B' 3376)	Establishment/activation of the <b>beaching network</b> & committee & Design of an <b>integrated information system</b> for recording beaching incidents



## Indicative Future Measures to Improve Conservation Status

- Completion of **Special Environmental Studies**, issuance of relevant Presidential Decrees, establishment of **management plans** and **conservation measures** for habitats and species
- Development of **action plans** for species that are dangerous (i.e. IAS) to native flora and fauna
- Establishment and implementation of the **national action plans** developed in the framework of the LIFE-IP 4 NATURA project (LIFE16 IPE/GR/000002) for two cetacean species (*Phocoena phocoena*, *Tursiops truncatus*) and for the Mediterranean monk seal *Monachus monachus*
- Implementation of the **Memorandum of Cooperation** between the **Monk Seal Alliance** and **N.E.C.C.A.**



- Establishment/activation of the **beaching network** and committee
- An **integrated information system** for recording beaching incidents will be created by N.E.C.C.A.



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Thank you

