Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

NATIONAL LEVEL

1. General information

1.1 Member State	**GR**
1.2 Habitat code	**6260 - Pannonic sand steppes**

2. Maps

2.1 Year or period	2014
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.3 Distribution map Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
2.4 Additional maps	No

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

3. Biogeographical and marine regions

3.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the habitat occurs	**Mediterranean (MED)**
3.2 Sources of information	Fotiadis G., M. Vrahnakis, Y. Kazoglou & I. Tsiripidis. 2014. Dry grassland types in the Prespa National Park (NW Greece), including the southernmost occurrence of the priority habitat type “Pannonic sand steppes” (code 6260). HACQUETIA 13/1: p. 171-189 (DOI: 10.2478/hacq-2014-0013).

4. Range

4.1 Surface area		
4.2 Short-term trend Period		
4.3 Short-term trend Direction		
4.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
4.5 Short-term trend Method used		
4.6 Long-term trend Period		
4.7 Long-term trend Direction		
4.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) MInimum	b) Maximum
4.9 Long-term trend Method used		
4.10 Favourable reference range	a) Area (km²)	
	b) Operator	
	c) Unknown	Yes
	d) Method	
4.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	The change is mainly due to:	
4.12 Additional information		

5. Area covered by habitat

5.1 Year or period	2014-014-			
5.2 Surface area (in km²)	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Best single value	3,19
5.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate			
5.4 Surface area Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate			
5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018			

5.6 Short-term trend Direction	Unknown (x)		
5.7 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval
5.8 Short-term trend Method used	Insufficient or no data available		
5.9 Long-term trend Period			
5.10 Long-term trend Direction			
5.11 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum	c) Confidence interval
5.12 Long-term trend Method used			
5.13 Favourable reference area	a) Area (km²)		
	b) Operator	Approximately equal to (≈)	
	c) Unknown	Yes	
	d) Method		
5.14 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	The change is mainly due to:		
5.15 Additional information	Actually, this is the first report of the occurance of the 6260 in Greece.		

6. Structure and functions

6.1 Condition of habitat	a) Area in good condition (km²)	Minimum 0	Maximum 0
	b) Area in not-good condition (km²)	Minimum 0	Maximum 0
	c) Area where condition is not known (km²)	Minimum 3,19	Maximum 3,19
6.2 Condition of habitat Method used	Insufficient or no data available		
6.3 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Period	20072018		
6.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Direction	Unknown (x)		
6.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition Method used	Insufficient or no data available		
6.6 Typical species	Has the list of typical species changed in comparison to the previous reporting period?	Yes	
6.7 Typical species Method used	Diagnostic taxa were determined using the algorithm of Tsiripidis et al. (2009). This algorithm uses a fidelity threshold based on relative constancy differences of taxa between groups. Its advantage in comparison with other numerical means of diagnostic species determination is that it conducts multiple comparisons between different combinations of vegetation groups.		
6.8 Additional information	Actually, this is the first report of the occurance of 6260 in Greece. Nomenclature of typical species is based on Euro+Med.		

7. Main pressures and threats

7.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
No pressures (Xxp)	

Threat	Ranking
Modification of hydrological flow (K04)	M

Other invasive alien species (other then species of Union concern) (I02)	M
Natural succession resulting in species composition change (other than by direct changes of agricultural or forestry practices) (L02)	M

7.2 Sources of information

Fotiadis G., M. Vrahnakis, Y. Kazoglou & I. Tsiripidis. 2014. Dry grassland types in the Prespa National Park (NW Greece), including the southernmost occurrence of the priority habitat type “Pannonic sand steppes” (code 6260). HACQUETIA 13/1: p. 171-189 (DOI: 10.2478/hacq-2014-0013).

7.3 Additional information

Actually, no pressures means that only pressures with low ranking act to the priority habitat type 6260.
The major threats to the habitat type are water level fluctuations caused by anthropogenic influences (e.g. excavations, embankments), invasion of non-native species and the absence of grazing. We assume that any further increase in the water level of the lakes will negatively affect the *6260 habitat type in the study area.
The existence of short, shrub-like trees of Salix alba as well as of trees like Robinia pseudoacacia and Morus spp., planted at the localities of the habitat type, may be a threat because of the possible invasion of these species in the habitat. The invasion of Robinia pseudoacacia has been recorded as a serious threat for *6260 in Slovakia (Šefferova Stanova et al. 2008). This species, due to its intensive vegetative spread and its high germination rates after fire, becomes a superior competitor in secondary succession processes.
The study area is only occasionally grazed by cattle. Abandonment of grazing may lead to closed grasslands and increased moss cover (Molnar 2003).
In Lake Megali Prespa the water level cannot be artificially controlled, but the areas occupied by the habitat type do not appear threatened by a potential water level rise as they lie 3–5 m above the present water level.

8. Conservation measures

8.1 Status of measures

a) Are measures needed? No

b) Indicate the status of measures

8.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

8.3 Location of the measures taken

8.4 Response to the measures

8.5 List of main conservation measures

8.6 Additional information

9. Future prospects

9.1 Future prospects of parameters

a) Range	Unknown
b) Area	Unknown
c) Structure and functions	Unknown

9.2 Additional information

Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

10. Conclusions

10.1. Range	Unknown (XX)
10.2. Area	Unknown (XX)
10.3. Specific structure and functions (incl. typical species)	Unknown (XX)
10.4. Future prospects	Unknown (XX)
10.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unknown (XX)
10.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	
10.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend	a) Overall assessment of conservation status No change The change is mainly due to: b) Overall trend in conservation status No change The change is mainly due to:
10.8 Additional information	

11. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex I habitat types

11.1 Surface area of the habitat type inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (in km² in biogeographical/ marine region)	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Best single value 3,19
11.2 Type of estimate	Minimum
11.3 Surface area of the habitat type inside the network Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
11.4 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within the network Direction	Unknown (x)
11.5 Short-term trend of habitat area in good condition within network Method used	Insufficient or no data available
11.6 Additional information	The surface area in 11.1 is based on the results of the updated mapping datasets on terrestrial habitat types within the Natura 2000 network (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) (most recent national project, results became available in 2018). As this project did not include the extended areas of the Natura 2000 sites, nor the newly proposed SCIs, the surface area reported is the minimum.

12. Complementary information

12.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends	
12.2 Other relevant information	This is the first report regarding the southernmost occurrence of the priority habitat type "6260 *Pannonic sand steppes" in the Balkan Peninsula, from sandy soils at the south-southeastern shores of Lake Megali Prespa and on the Slogi islet in Lake Mikri Prespa, in the Prespa National Park of Greece. The prevailing sub-continental climate, the gradual drop of the water level of

Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 17 for Annex I habitat types (Annex D)

Lake Megali Prespa over the past few decades, the alluvial deposits of the river Agios Germanos in Lake Mikri Prespa and, to some extent, mechanical excavation works on the shores of Lake Megali Prespa in recent decades are considered as factors that positively influenced this habitat type.