EUBP Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation
Challenges in peatland restoration in Poland

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Eurosite – the European Land Conservation Network

European Peatland Policy Working Group meeting: online, 16 October 2025

Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation (E02210/18)
EU Biodiversity Platform

Lead DG: ENV - DG Environment

Type: Informal, Permanent

Mission:

To assist in the preparation of delegated acts and in the early preparation of implementing acts before submission to the Commission.

Overview:

- Supports the implementation of the Nature Restoration Regulation.
- Composed of experts from EU Member States, scientific institutions, and key stakeholders.
- Ensures transparent and inclusive policy preparation.
- Operates under EC rules on expert group transparency and ethics.

Tasks of the NRR Expert Group

- Assist the Commission in relation to the implementation of existing Union legislation, programmes and policies
- Assist the Commission in the preparation of delegated acts
- Assist the Commission in the preparation of legislative proposals and policy initiatives
- Coordinate with Member States, exchange of views
- Provides expertise to the Commission when preparing implementing measures, i.e. before the Commission submits these draft measures to a comitology committee

Members of the NRR Expert Group

Type / Description	Count
Type A – Individual expert (personal capacity)	0
Type B – Individual expert (common interest)	0
Type C – Organisation	31
Type D – Member State Authority	27
Type E – Other public entity	7

Organisations Represented in the Expert Group

- Aggregates Europe - UEPG (AE-UEPG)
- BioAgora
- Biodiversa + European Biodiversity Partnership
- Butterfly Conservation Europe (BCE)
- CEE Bankwatch Network (BWN)
- ClientEarth
- Confédération Européenne des Propriétaires Forestiers (CEPF)
- EFI - European Forest Institute
- Eurelectric aisbl (Eurelectric)
- Eurocities
- EuroNatur - Stiftung Europäisches Naturerbe (EuroNatur)
- European Chapter of the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) International (SERE)
- European Environmental Bureau (EEB)
- European farmers (COPA)
- European Landowners' Organization asbl (ELO asbl)
- European Landscape Contractors Association (ELCA)
- European State Forest Association (EUSTAFOR)
- Eurosite - the European Land Conservation Network (Eurosite)
- Federation of Associations for Hunting & Conservation of the EU (FACE)
- Föderation EUROPARC
- Friends of the Earth Europe (FoEE)
- ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability European Secretariat (ICLEI)
- International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements EU Regional Group (IFOAM EU Group)
- International Union for Conservation of Nature EU Representative Office (IUCN EURO)
- OCEANA
- Renewables Grid Initiative e.V. (RGI)
- Saami Council
- Slow Food
- SMEunited aisbl (SMEunited)
- Stichting BirdLife Europe (BirdLife Europe)
- Stichting Rewilding Europe
- THE NATURE CONSERVANCY IN EUROPE gemeinnützige GmbH (TNCE)
- Università Politecnica delle Marche (UNIVPM)
- Wetlands International - European Association (WI-EA)
- World Green Infrastructure Network (WGIN)
- WWF European Policy Programme (WWF EPO)

Meetings so far

Date	Title
10/01/2025	1st Meeting of Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation
10/04/2025	2nd Meeting of Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation
01/07/2025	3rd Meeting of Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation
PLANNED: 6-7/11/2025	4rd Meeting of Expert Group on the Nature Restoration Regulation

Key Points – 3rd Meeting (1 July 2025)

🌿 Pollinators Monitoring Delegated Regulation

- Commission presented draft regulation under Article 10(2) NRR.
- Member States broadly supported it, with discussions on:
  - Reducing monitoring sites (BG, CY, MT, FI)
  - Access to private land (CEPF, ELO)
  - Phasing of species-level identification (DK)
  - Flexibility for rare species and existing schemes
- Written comments invited until 17 July; adoption expected early autumn.

🌿 NRR-related Sub-Groups Updates

- Green Infrastructure WG – urban ecosystems discussion.
- Nature Directives WG – reporting cycles update.
- Ongoing work on NRR financing report.

Key Points – 3rd Meeting (1 July 2025)

🌿 National Restoration Plans (NRPs)

- EEA presented digital tool and explanatory notes for reporting.
- Guidance on typology of measures and ecosystems.
- Member States (FI, FR, LT, PT, ES) shared progress and consultations.

🌿 Other Highlights

- Debrief from Nature Directors' meeting (Warsaw) – timelines, funding.
- Upcoming Commission events on terrestrial and marine ecosystems.
- Presentations by Rewilding Europe, The Nature Conservancy, Wetlands International.

Adoption of the delegated regulation required under Article 10(2) of the Regulation 2024-1991

Please find attached the latest version of the draft delegated regulation establishing a science-based method for monitoring pollinator diversity and pollinator populations, as required under Article 10(2) of the Nature Restoration Regulation, which the Commission intends to adopt.

Please note that there are **no major changes compared to the version of the draft delegated regulation** that was discussed at the EGNRR meeting of 1 July. As indicated by the Commission at that meeting, a number of adjustments were made in the text to accommodate requests from Member States which provide further flexibility and burden reduction.

Please note that **no changes were made in the text following the public feedback** (which gathered more than 4 000 replies). The overwhelming majority of the respondents supported the draft delegated regulation, calling on the Commission to maintain the level of ambition and the core elements of the proposed monitoring method or to further strengthen them.

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Explanatory notes for the NRP preparation tools

We are also pleased to announce that the **explanatory notes** in support of the uniform format, along with the **NRP preparation tool** (which includes data models, extended templates, and instructions), and the **typology of measures and typology of ecosystems**, have been **published by the EEA** on the NRR reference portal (link). The direct links to the documents are:

- Explanatory notes
- NRP preparation tool
- Typology of Measures
- Typology of ecosystems

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Use of a general ecosystem typology as part of the National Restoration Plan (NRP)

This **informal background document** was prepared by the services of the European Commission's Directorate General for Environment for the purpose of facilitating discussions on and future use of the uniform format for national restoration plans. It does not commit the European Commission and is without prejudice to any potential future Commission Communication setting out guidance on the interpretation of the relevant provisions. **It is not legally binding** and does not replace, add to, or amend the provisions of applicable Union law. Only the Court of Justice of the European Union is competent to authoritatively interpret Union law.

While **Member States have freedom in their interpretation of these categories**, the Commission and the European Environment Agency (EEA) were asked by some Member States to provide further clarifications on the typology and its definitions

Use of a general ecosystem typology as part of the National Restoration Plan (NRP)

Table 1:

General ecosystem typology (NRP)	*Annex I & II NRR – ecosystem grouping*	Relation with PAF-categories	*Link to EU ecosystem typology*
Wetland ecosystems (coastal and inland)	Wetlands (coastal and inland)	*Bogs, mires, fens and other wetlands*	*Inland wetlands (ET7), Coastal marshes and salines (ET11.4), Marine inlets and transitional waters (ET10); in addition, associated habitats from other Level 1 ecosystem types, in particular Level 3 sub-type 4.1.2 Broadleaved swamp forest on non-acid and acid peat and the wet component of Level 3 sub-type 5.2.3 Temperate shrub heathland*

Use of a general ecosystem typology as part of the National Restoration Plan (NRP)

EU ecosystem typology (Version: December 2024)

7. Inland wetlands:

7.1 Inland marshes and other wetlands on mineral soil
7.1.1 Inland marshes
7.1.2 Inland salt marshes
7.1.3 Reedbeds
7.1.4 Springs

EU ecosystem typology

7.2 Mires, bogs and fens
7.2.1 Raised bogs
7.2.2 Blanket bogs
7.2.3 Valley mires, poor fens and transition mires
7.2.4 Aapa, palsa and polygon mires
7.2.5 Base-rich fens and calcareous spring mires
7.2.6 **Peat extraction sites**: Peatland areas where peat is being mined or have been mined and natural conditions and vegetation have not (been) restored yet. Includes burnt areas of this type.

Use of a general ecosystem typology as part of the National Restoration Plan (NRP)

4.1.2 Broadleaved swamp forest on non-acid and acid peat

EUNIS
T1.5 Broadleaved swamp woodland on non-acid peat: Deciduous broadleaved forest, commonly dominated by alder (***Alnus glutinosa***, *Alnus incana*), oak (*Quercus robur*) or aspen (*Populus tremula*) on non-acid peat with groundwater at or seasonally above the surface in swamps across the lowlands of the temperate and boreal zones.

T1.6 Broadleaved swamp woodland on acid peat: Deciduous broadleaved or mixed forest on acid peat on or around active bogs and poor fens with nutrient-poor ground waters occurring through the Atlantic region and the boreal zone and locally, where ground conditions permit, also in the continental zone. It is usually dominated by birch (***Betula pubescens***).

Not included???
4.2.6 Spruce, pine and larch mire forests
T3J Pinus and Larix mire forest?
T3K Picea mire forest?

Use of a general ecosystem typology as part of the National Restoration Plan (NRP)

General ecosystem typology (NRP)	Ecological/thematic definition (intended for guidance only, non-binding for Member States)
Wetland ecosystems (coastal and inland)	Inland wetlands are areas that are year-round or seasonally strongly affected by water, in the form of temporary flooding or groundwater levels close to surface. **This class includes natural, semi-natural or modified inland marshes as well as mires, bogs and fens**, plus small temporary water bodies (such as seasonal ponds). Coastal wetland ecosystems include coastal saltmarshes (i.e. vegetated lowlying areas in the coastal zone, mostly above the high-tide line, but always susceptible to flooding by seawater) and salines (i.e. salt-pans for extraction of salt from salt water by evaporation). NRR annex I also includes estuaries, mudflats and sandflats (not covered by seawater at low tide) and coastal lagoons. These correspond to ET10 'Marine inlets and transitional waters': these are habitats on the land-water interface under the influence of tides and with salinity higher than 0.5 ‰.

Typology of measures

M code (NRR)	CM code (HD)	KTM code (WFD)	MSFD code	Measure name	Description
M04				**Restoring (improving and re-establishing) natural peatlands**	Measures to restore active (peat-forming) habitats by e.g. re-wetting, shrub or tree removal; planting peatland vegetation, diaspore transfer e.g., by seeding or transplanting soil ; (re)instating extensive grazing or mowing regimes.
M05				**Restoring or rewetting of organic soils (drained peatlands) used for agriculture, forestry or peat-excavation**	Raising the water table on drained soils to re-establish water saturated conditions, e.g. by blocking drainage ditches or disabling pumping facilities. Rewetting can have several objectives, such as wetland restoration or allowing other management practices on saturated organic soils such as paludiculture.
M06				**Restoring (improving and re-establishing) natural wetlands (other than peatlands)**	Measures to restore natural vegetation e.g. by hydrological measures to re-establish high water-levels; restoration of the natural morphology, hydrological connectivity, and ecological functionality through the removal of artificial obstructions, drainage systems and irrigation ditches, and the improvement of water flow quality; restoration of the natural flooding management of wetlands maintaining natural, permanent, or temporary hydroperiod conditions; the seeding, spreading fresh topsoil, using nurse plants or replanting; controlling non-native vegetation (e.g. removing non-native weed species using fire or solarisation); monitoring and control of herbivores; the reintroduction or implementation of extensive grazing within wetlands or helophyte mowing regimes to diversify plant communities; the creation of vegetation rings around central open water bodies to establish a zoning of plant communities along an elevation/flooding period gradient; mudding or the use of disc harrowing; controlled soil stripping. Measures to restore natural topography e.g.: using excavation, including microtopographic features; flatten riparian zones (e.g. remove foreland, create natural-like irregularities); and implementing a gentle slope between open water/wetland and upland for access for terrestrial fauna (e.g. amphibians). Measures to restore soil conditions, e.g. transplanting or replacing wetland soil; minimising soil compaction during construction/excavation; incorporating fertiliser and organic matter if needed.

Typology of measures

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Restoring or rewetting of organic soils (drained peatlands) used for agriculture, forestry or peat-excavation	Raising the water table on drained soils to re-establish water saturated conditions, e.g. by blocking drainage ditches or disabling pumping facilities. Rewetting can have several objectives, such as wetland restoration or allowing other management practices on saturated organic soils such as paludiculture.
Restoring (improving and re	Measures to restore natural vegetation e.g. by hydrological measures to re-establish high

Situation in Poland –
starting from Annex I natural habitats and Natura 2000 sites
Info from Habitat Directive art. 17 reports (data from 2018)

Habitat	Overall assessment				
	Curr. CS	Curr. CS trend	Prev. CS	Prev. CS trend	Status Nat. of ch.
7110 - Active raised bogs	U1	x	U2	=	genuine
7120 - Degraded raised bogs still ca...	U2	=	U1	=	genuine
7140 - Transition mires and quaking ...	U2	-	U1	-	genuine
7150 - Depressions on peat substrat...	U2	x	U2	-	noChange
7210 - Calcareous fens with Cladium...	U2	-	U2	=	noChange
7220 - Petrifying springs with tufa fo...	U1	=	U1	-	noChange
7230 - Alkaline fens	U2	-	U1	-	genuine

Situation in Poland –
starting from Annex I natural habitats and Natura 2000 site
Info from Habitat Directive art. 17 reports (data from 2018)

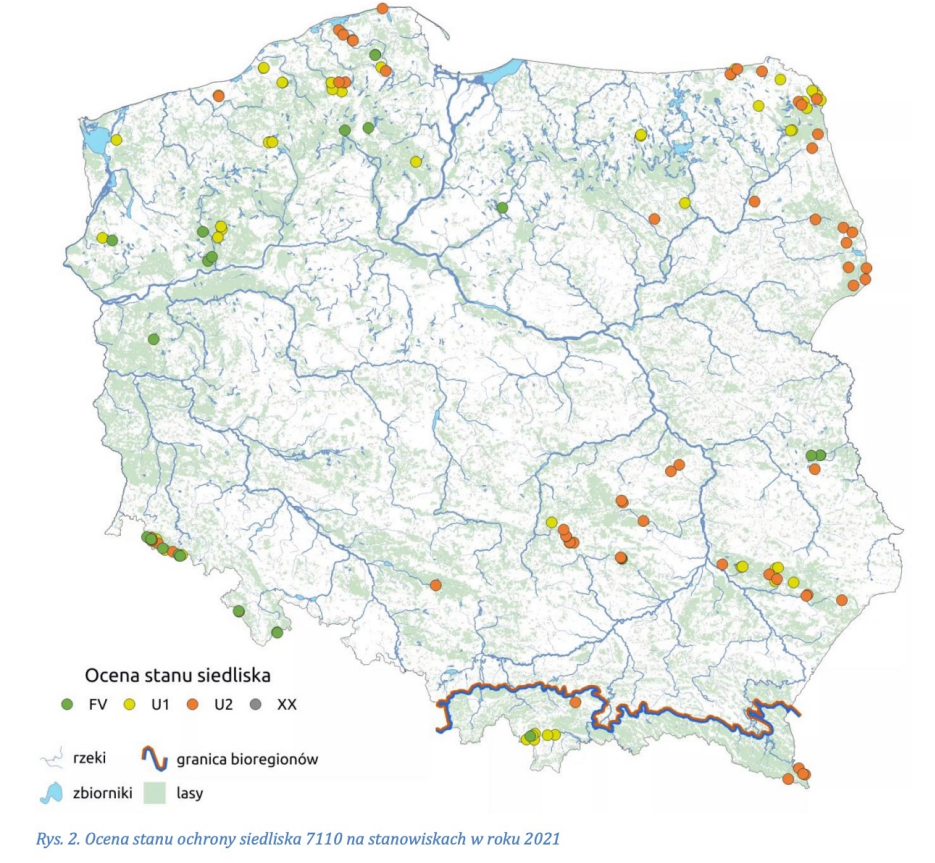
Current selection: 2013-2018, Bogs, mires & fens, Poland, Continental.

Member States reports

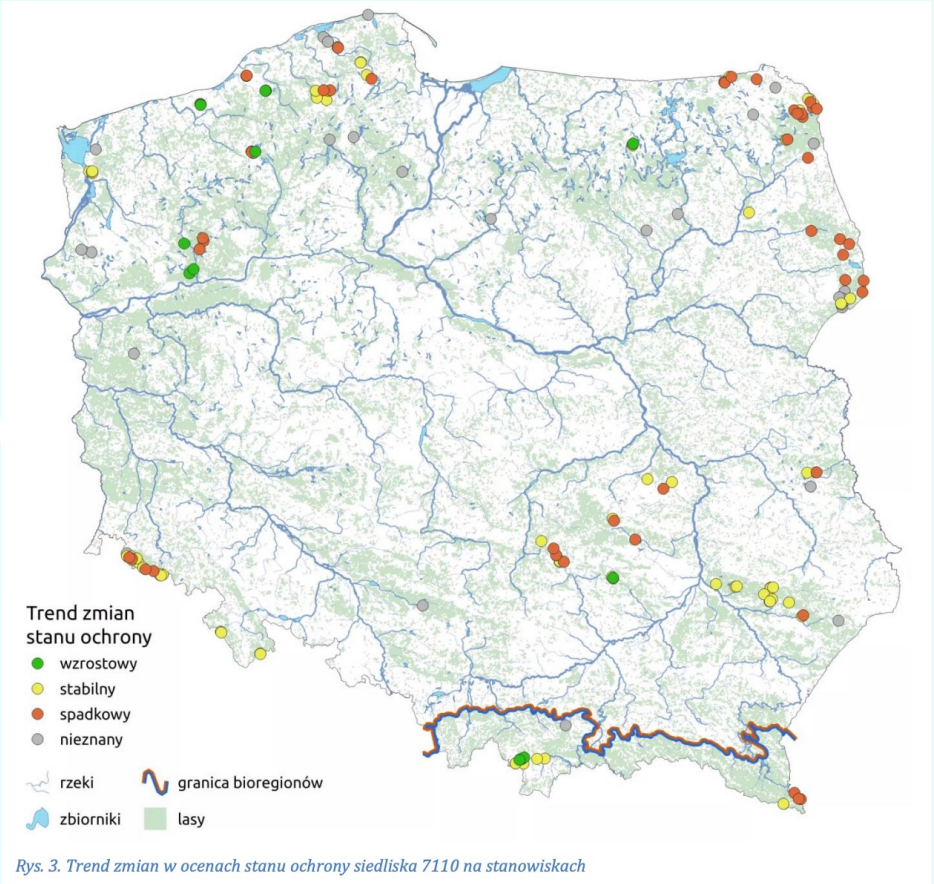
Habitat	Range (km^2)				Area (km^2)							
	Surface	Status (% MS)	Trend	FRR	Min	Max	Best value	Type est.	Method	Status (% MS)	Trend	FRA
7110 - Active raised bogs	58100	47.51	=	≈	15	39	27	estimate	b	18.16	u	>
7120 - Degraded raised bogs still ca…	60500	44.58	=	≈	25	45	35	minimum	c	16.95	x	<
7140 - Transition mires and quaking …	80400	21.96	=	≈	170	350	260	minimum	c	6.66	=	≈
7150 - Depressions on peat substrat…	5600	8.58	u	≈	N/A	N/A	40	estimate	b	24.84	u	≈
7210 - Calcareous fens with Cladium…	5800	8.46	=	≈	N/A	N/A	20	estimate	b	4.36	=	≈
7220 - Petrifying springs with tufa fo…	1600	0.87	=	≈	N/A	N/A	0.02	estimate	b	0	=	≈
7230 - Alkaline fens	49900	19.89	=	≈	N/A	N/A	250	estimate	b	7.31	=	≈

7110 – raised bogs

Changes in conservation status (data from 2021)



Rys. 2. Ocena stanu ochrony siedliska 7110 na stanowiskach w roku 2021



Rys. 3. Trend zmian w ocenach stanu ochrony siedliska 7110 na stanowiskach

Conservation status

RED: U2 (bad)

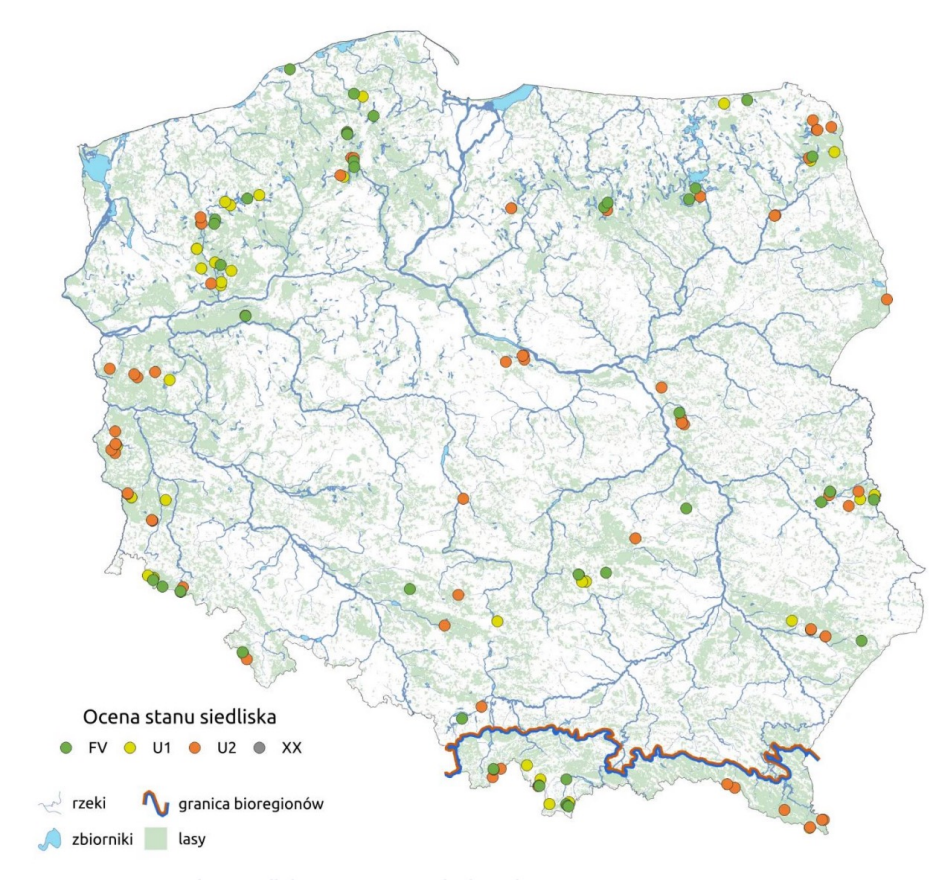
Green: FV (favourable)

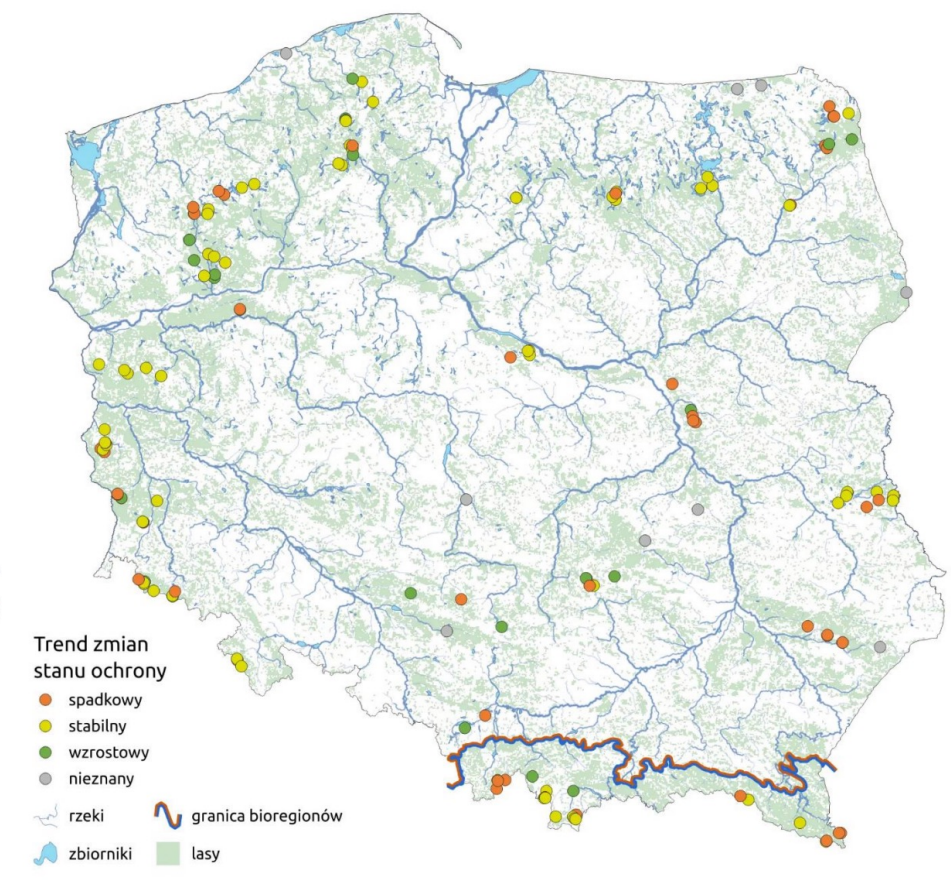
Trend in CS

RED: deteriorating

7140 – Transition bogs and mires

Changes in conservation status (data from 2024)





Conservation status

RED: U2 (bad)

Green: FV (favourable)

Trend in CS

RED: deteriorating

Eurosite

Challenges???

Even in this case it is probably too late for a quick recovery
Blocking ditches will not help if there's no water available…