

## Conservation Objectives

# Ķemeru Nacionālais parks

LV0200200



2024



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**Cover photo by:** Aivars Gulbis. Ķemeri National Park landscape from the viewing tower.

The work was carried out within the project “Optimising the Governance and Management of the Natura 2000 Protected Areas Network in Latvia” (LIFE19IPE/LV/000010 LIFE-IP LatViaNature), co-financed by the European Union's LIFE programme and the Latvian State, from October 2021 to April 2024.

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Projekts “Natura 2000 aizsargājamo teritoriju pārvaldības un apsaimniekošanas optimizācija” (LIFE19 IPE/LV/000010 LIFE-IP LatViaNature) tiek īstenots ar Eiropas Savienības LIFE programmas un VRAA finansiālu atbalstu.

Informācija atspoguļo tikai projekta LIFE IP LatViaNature īstenotāju redzējumu, Eiropas Klimata, infrastruktūras un vides izpildaģentūra nav atbildīga par šeit sniegtās informācijas iespējamo izmantojumu.

# Introduction

The necessity of determining site-specific conservation objectives (SSCOs) at Natura 2000 site level derives from Article 4(4) of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora (Habitats Directive).

Setting SSCO is mandatory for all European Union member states and must be set for all habitats listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive and species of Annex II in each Natura 2000 site designated for conservation of habitats and non-bird species.

SSCOs are determined based on the guidelines by the European Commission (2012), which are detailed for the national use in Latvia in the national methodology (2019, 2022) and are available [here](#).

Standardized and unified approach is used to set SSCO. Objectives are displayed as **quantitative, measurable result that describes the desirable cover and condition of the habitat**. The objectives indicate specific needs to be achieved and specify to what extent they should be achieved in each Natura 2000 site to reach favourable conservation status – the core objective of both Habitats and Birds Directives.

Each objective includes two components:

(a) **the target cover that must be preserved or achieved**—the target cover almost always includes the current (to be preserved) cover and the potential cover of the habitat identified by evaluating the landscape potential (if any) using certain criteria (to be restored or re-created);

(b) **target condition**—habitat “needs” expressed in a standardized way for the particular site; the target condition derives from the current habitat condition (to be preserved or improved, or re-created), which, in turn, is affected by various impacts in the past and present, the effectiveness of conservation actions, etc. that mirror into the habitat condition assessment.

The **management activities to reach the specified targets** are described in detail in the Natura 2000 site management plans or in some cases stated in other legislative acts. Development and updating of the site management plans is a continuous process and should also include review and update of the SSCO, if applicable (e.g. by linking them to what has already been done to achieve the previously set objectives). However, updating the SSCO, if they are still rooted in the best available data, is not necessary—in many cases, the objectives will likely be relevant for a longer period.

**Data** The best available data on the cover of habitats and the standardized data forms for each habitat patch were acquired from the national biodiversity database “Ozols” (data from 2023) and used in determining SSCO. In setting SSCO, the most comprehensive habitat inventory in Latvia so far—the country-scale inventory carried out during the project “Preconditions for Better Biodiversity Preservation and Ecosystem Protection in Latvia” (Nature Census, 2017–2023) were used. In order to assess the current condition of the habitats and, on the basis of that, determine the target condition, within the scope of this work, special algorithms were developed. They are mostly based on selected statistically significant parameters, using statistical data analysis. If the development of an algorithm for a certain habitat type was not possible for some reason, an expert judgment based on the best available data and knowledge was applied. Full methodology and data sources available [here](#).

## Conservation Objectives for:

Natura 2000 site code	LV0200200
<b>Natura 2000 site name</b>	<b>Ķemeru Nacionālais parks</b>
Additional information about the site	<a href="https://www.daba.gov.lv/lv/kemeru-nacionalais-parks">https://www.daba.gov.lv/lv/kemeru-nacionalais-parks</a>
<p><b>Qualifying Interests</b></p> <p>EU habitat types, including potential EU habitat types</p> <p>* indicates a priority habitat under the Habitats Directive</p>	<p>1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines</p> <p>1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks</p> <p>1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand</p> <p>1640 Boreal Baltic sandy beaches with perennial vegetation</p> <p>2110 Embryonic shifting dunes</p> <p>2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i></p> <p>2130* Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation</p> <p>2140* Decalcified fixed dunes with <i>Empetrum nigrum</i></p> <p>2180 Wooded dunes of the Atlantic, Continental and Boreal region</p> <p>2320 Dry sand heaths with <i>Calluna</i> and <i>Empetrum nigrum</i></p> <p>3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp</p> <p>3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> -type vegetation</p> <p>3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds</p> <p>3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitriche-Batrachion</i> vegetation</p> <p>5130 <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands</p> <p>6120* Xeric sand calcareous grasslands</p> <p>6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates</p> <p>6230* Species-rich <i>Nardus</i> grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas</p> <p>6270* Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands</p> <p>6410 <i>Molinia</i> meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils</p> <p>6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows</p> <p>6510 Lowland hay meadows (<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>, <i>Sanguisorba officinalis</i>)</p> <p>6530* Fennoscandian wooded meadows</p> <p>7110* Active raised bogs</p> <p>7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</p> <p>7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs</p> <p>7150 Depressions on peat substrates of the <i>Rhynchosporion</i></p> <p>7160 Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and springfens</p> <p>7210* Calcareous fens with <i>Cladium mariscus</i> and species of the <i>Caricion davallianae</i></p> <p>7220 Petrifying springs with tufa formation (<i>Cratoneurion</i>)</p> <p>7230 Alkaline fens</p> <p>8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</p> <p>9010* Western Taiga</p>

	<p>9020* Fennoscandian hemiboreal natural old broad-leaved deciduous forests (<i>Quercus</i>, <i>Tilia</i>, <i>Acer</i>, <i>Fraxinus</i> or <i>Ulmus</i>) rich in epiphytes</p> <p>9050 Fennoscandian herb-rich forests with <i>Picea abies</i></p> <p>9070 Fennoscandian wooded pastures</p> <p>9080* Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods</p> <p>9160 Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the <i>Carpinion betuli</i></p> <p>9180* <i>Tilio-Acerion</i> forests of slopes, screes and ravines</p> <p>91D0* Bog woodland</p> <p>91E0* Alluvial forests with <i>Alnus glutinosa</i> and <i>Fraxinus excelsior</i></p>
<p><b>Qualifying Interests</b> EU species types</p>	<p><i>Plants:</i></p> <p><i>Agrimonia Pilosa</i> (1939)</p> <p><i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> (1386)</p> <p><i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> (1902)</p> <p><i>Dianthus arenarius</i> ssp. <i>Arenarius</i> (1954)</p> <p><i>Dicranum viride</i> (1381)</p> <p><i>Liparis loeselii</i> (1903)</p> <p><i>Pulsatilla patens</i> (1477)</p> <p><i>Saussurea alpina</i> ssp. <i>Esthonica</i> (4086)</p> <p><i>Invertebrates:</i></p> <p><i>Dytiscus latissimus</i> (1081)</p> <p><i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> (1065)</p> <p><i>Euphydryas maturna</i> (6169)</p> <p><i>Graphoderus bilineatus</i> (1082)</p> <p><i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i> (1042)</p> <p><i>Lycaena dispar</i> (1060)</p> <p><i>Osmoderma eremita</i> (1084)</p> <p><i>Unio crassus</i> (1032)</p> <p><i>Vertigo angustior</i> (1014)</p> <p><i>Vertigo geyeri</i> (1013)</p> <p><i>Amphibians and reptiles:</i></p> <p><i>Triturus cristatus</i> (1166)</p> <p><i>Mammals:</i></p> <p><i>Myotis dasycneme</i> (1318)</p> <p><i>Fish:</i></p> <p><i>Cobitis taenia</i> (1149)</p> <p><i>Lampetra fluviatilis</i> (1099)</p> <p><i>Lampetra planeri</i> (1096)</p> <p><i>Misgurnus fossilis</i> (1145)</p> <p><i>Rhodeus amarus</i> (5339)</p>
<p><b>Experts involved in setting of the SSCOs:</b></p>	<p>Brigita Laime (coastal areas, sand dunes, and heaths)</p> <p>Lauma Vizule-Kahovska (freshwater habitats)</p> <p>Agnese Priede, Baiba Galniece (grasslands and scrublands)</p> <p>Anita Namatēva, Agnese Priede (mires and springs)</p> <p>Dainis Ozols (caves)</p>

	Sandra Ikauniece (forests) Linda Uzule (plants) Maksims Balalaikins (invertebrates-beetles, dragonflies, butterflies), Digna Pilāte (invertebrates-snails) Valdis Pilāts (mammals) Kaspars Abersons (fish) Andris Čeirāns (amphibians and reptiles)
<b>Work completion date</b>	21.03.2024.

EU habitat types, including potential EU habitat types	Site specific conservation objective	Comments on the target values
<b>Coastal areas, sand dunes, and heathland</b> 1210 Annual vegetation of drift lines 1220 Perennial vegetation of stony banks 1310 Salicornia and other annuals colonizing mud and sand 1640 Boreal Baltic sandy beaches with perennial vegetation 2110 Embryonic shifting dunes 2120 Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> 2130* Fixed coastal dunes with herbaceous vegetation 2140* Decalcified fixed dunes with <i>Empetrum nigrum</i> 2180 Wooded dunes of the Atlantic, Continental and Boreal region 2320 Dry sand heaths with <i>Calluna</i> and <i>Empetrum nigrum</i>	1210: the target habitat area is 0,80 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	1220: the target habitat area is 1,12 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	1310: the target habitat area is 0,11 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	1640: the target habitat area is 1,06 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2110: the target habitat area is 8,75 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2120: the target habitat area is 12,47 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2130* the target habitat area is 17,87 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2140* the target habitat area is 3,39 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2180: the target habitat area is 1698,62 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	2320: the target habitat area is 1,50 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	<b>Freshwater habitats</b> 3140 Hard oligo-mesotrophic waters with benthic vegetation of <i>Chara</i> spp 3150 Natural eutrophic lakes with <i>Magnopotamion</i> or <i>Hydrocharition</i> -type vegetation 3160 Natural dystrophic lakes and ponds 3260 Water courses of plain to montane levels with the <i>Ranunculion</i>	3140: the target habitat area is 1048,81 ha.
3150: the target habitat area is 61,03 ha.		The target area is equal to the current area.
3160: the target habitat area is 89,08 ha.		The target area is equal to the current area.
3260: the target habitat area is 174,29 ha.		The target area is equal to the current area.

<i>fluitantis</i> and <i>Callitricho-Batrachion</i> vegetation		
<b>Grasslands and shrublands</b> 5130 <i>Juniperus communis</i> formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands 6120* <i>Xeric sand calcareous grasslands</i> 6210 <i>Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates</i> 6230* <i>Species-rich Nardus grasslands, on silicious substrates in mountain areas</i> 6270* <i>Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands</i> 6410 <i>Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils</i> 6450 <i>Northern boreal alluvial meadows</i> 6510 <i>Lowland hay meadows (Alopecurus pratensis, Sanguisorba officinalis)</i> 6530* <i>Fennoscandian wooded meadows</i>	5130: the target habitat area is 9,55 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. The target area includes the area assessed during the development of the nature management plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, under development) as a potential juniper stand that can develop with the necessary restoration and management.
	6120*: the target habitat area is 24,14 ha	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. The target area includes areas assessed as potential 6120* habitats during the development of the nature management plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, under development), with continued targeted management of grasslands and fallow fields that do not currently meet the minimum criteria for habitat.
	6210: the target habitat area is 77,54 ha	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. The target area includes areas assessed as potential 6210 habitats during the development of the Nature Management Plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, under development), which have not yet reached the quality of a habitat of EU importance, but which can be increased through targeted restoration and regular management.



	6230*: the target habitat area is 1,09 ha	The target area is equal to the current area.
	6270*: the target habitat area is 147,35 ha	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. The target area includes areas assessed as potential 6270* habitats during the development of the Nature Management Plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, under development), which have not yet reached the quality of a habitat of EU importance, but which can be increased through targeted restoration and regular management.
	6410: the target habitat area is 177,26 ha	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. The target area includes areas assessed as potential 6410 habitats during the development of the Nature Management Plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, under development), which have not yet reached the quality of a habitat of EU importance, but which can be increased through targeted restoration and regular management. The potential area also included the meadows (potentially) suitable for 6410 habitats restored in Kemer National Park under the project "Management measures in specially protected nature areas and micro-reserves to improve the conservation status of

		habitats and species" (2021-2023).
	6450: the target habitat area is 418,45 ha	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. Potential areas include those areas currently designated as <i>6100 Restored EU Protected Habitats</i> in the NDP "Ozols", with future development expected towards 6450 habitats. The Nature Conservation Plan (2023-2035) (Enviroprojekts, 2023, in preparation) also identifies potential areas of alluvial grassland which do not currently qualify as an EU habitat but have a high potential for future management and restoration in overgrown areas.
	6510: the target habitat area is 690,07 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area. The target area consists of current and potential habitat areas. Potential areas include those areas mapped as potential 6510 areas in the Nature Census project (2017-2023), as well as those areas assessed as potential 6510 habitats in the Nature Management Plan (2023-2035)(Enviroprojekt, 2023, under development).
	6530*: the target habitat area is 3,53 ha	The target area is equal to the current area.
<b>Mires and Springs</b> <i>7110* Active raised bogs</i> <i>7120 Degraded raised bogs still capable of natural regeneration</i> <i>7140 Transition mires and quaking bogs</i>	7110*: the target habitat area is 6380,85 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area. As a result of natural succession, the former peat extraction sites are developing towards active raised bog over an area of 133.24 ha.

<p>7150 <i>Depressions on peat substrates of the Rhynchosporion</i></p> <p>7160 <i>Fennoscandian mineral-rich springs and springfens</i></p> <p>7210* <i>Calcareous fens with Cladium mariscus and species of the Caricion davallianae</i></p> <p>7220 <i>Petrifying springs with tufa formation (Cratoneurion)</i></p> <p>7230 <i>Alkaline fens</i></p>	7120: the target habitat area is 685,85 ha.	<p>The target area is equal to the current area.</p> <p>In the longer term, which is at least several decades and is not included in this objective, it is possible that degraded bogs may evolve into active raised bogs, including in areas where restoration of the hydrological regime has already taken place, but it will take a long time for an active raised bog to recover to the 7110* habitat.</p>
	7140: the target habitat area is 141,99 ha.	<p>The target area is larger than the current area.</p> <p>Natural succession has resulted in the development of former peat extraction sites towards transition mires and quaking bogs over an area of 35.67 ha.</p>
	7150*: the target habitat area is 0,67 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	7160: the target habitat area is 0,75 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	7210*: the target habitat area is 246,31 ha.	<p>The target area is larger than the current area.</p> <p>Natural succession is leading to the development of former peat extraction sites towards the 7210* habitat over an area of at least 109.15 ha, becoming overgrown with <i>Cladium mariscus</i>.</p>
	7220: the target habitat area is 6,57 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	7230: the target habitat area is 72,73 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
<p><b>Rock Outcrops and Caves</b></p> <p>8210 <i>Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation</i></p>	8210: the target habitat area is 0,01 ha.	<p>The target area is equal to the current area.</p> <p>The outcrop is located on the edge of a fenced industrial area, on the edge of a quarry that has been excavated and flooded.</p>
<p><b>Forests</b></p> <p>9010* <i>Western Taiga</i></p>	9010*: the target habitat area is 6884,18 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.

<p>9020* <i>Fennoscandian hemiboreal natural old broad-leaved deciduous forests (Quercus, Tilia, Acer, Fraxinus or Ulmus) rich in epiphytes</i></p> <p>9050 <i>Fennoscandian herb-rich forests with Picea abies</i></p> <p>9070 <i>Fennoscandian wooded pastures</i></p> <p>9080* <i>Fennoscandian deciduous swamp woods</i></p> <p>9160 <i>Sub-Atlantic and medio-European oak or oak-hornbeam forests of the Carpinion betuli</i></p> <p>9180* <i>Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and ravines</i></p> <p>91D0* <i>Bog woodland</i></p> <p>91E0* <i>Alluvial forests with Alnus glutinosa and Fraxinus excelsior</i></p>	9020*: the target habitat area is 844,09 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	9050: the target habitat area is 978,79 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	9070: the target habitat area is 53,95 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	9080*: the target habitat area is 1823,13 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	9160: the target habitat area is 99,01 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	9180: the target habitat area is 10,79 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	91D0*: the target habitat area is 2628,41 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.
	91E0*: the target habitat area is 702,46 ha.	The target area is larger than the current area.

EU species types	Site specific conservation objective	Comments on the target values
<p><i>Plants:</i></p> <p><i>Agrimonia Pilosa (1939)</i></p> <p><i>Buxbaumia viridis (1386)</i></p> <p><i>Cypripedium calceolus (1902)</i></p> <p><i>Dianthus arenarius ssp. Arenarius (1954)</i></p> <p><i>Dicranum viride (1381)</i></p> <p><i>Liparis loeselii (1903)</i></p> <p><i>Pulsatilla patens (1477)</i></p> <p><i>Saussurea alpina ssp. Esthonica (4086)</i></p>	<p><i>Agrimonia Pilosa</i>: the target species population is 1889 individuals.</p>	<p>The target population is equal to the current population.</p> <p>It is preferable to provide disturbance at intervals of several years for all sites. The nature of the disturbance may vary: bush cutting, annual roadside mowing, brush cutting or even milling on power lines and forest lines, moderate disturbance every few years.</p>
	<p><i>Buxbaumia viridis</i>: the target species area is 6000 cm<sup>2</sup>.</p>	<p>The target area is equal to the current area.</p> <p><i>Buxbaumia viridis</i> is not threatened, as no forestry activities take place in its habitats. No specific management measures are required for the species.</p>

	<p><i>Cypripedium calceolus</i>: the target species population is 5664 individuals.</p>	<p>The target population is 2x larger than the current population. Most of the <i>Cypripedium calceolus</i> sites in Kemer National Park are at low human disturbance in undisturbed forest sites, where there are no threats. No special protection or management is needed, at least until there are convincing studies on the need for intervention, e.g. to improve light conditions.</p>
	<p><i>Dianthus arenarius</i> ssp. <i>Arenarius</i>: the target species population is 4035 individuals.</p>	<p>The target population is equal to the current population. There is a need to improve <i>Dianthus arenarius</i> ssp. <i>Arenarius</i> habitats by selective felling of pines and willows and eradication of the <i>Rosa rugosa</i>.</p>
	<p><i>Dicranum viride</i>: the target species area is 2051 cm<sup>2</sup>.</p>	<p>The target area is equal to the current area. A non-interference regime is needed.</p>
	<p><i>Liparis loeselii</i>: the target species population is 173 individuals.</p>	<p>The target population is larger than the current population. Open calcareous herbaceous mires should be maintained for the conservation of the species by clearing scrubs and ensuring optimal water levels.</p>
	<p><i>Pulsatilla patens</i>: the target species population is 160 individuals.</p>	<p>The target population is equal to the current population. It is advisable to avoid dense, shading undergrowth, as a thick layer of moss also threatens the existence and spread of the species. Controlled burning is recommended.</p>

	Saussurea alpina ssp. Esthonica: the target species population is 251 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population. To continue existing management activities - tree and shrub felling and grass cutting with harvesting.
<i>Invertebrates:</i> <i>Dytiscus latissimus</i> (1081) <i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> (1065) <i>Euphydryas maturna</i> (6169) <i>Graphoderus bilineatus</i> (1082) <i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i> (1042) <i>Lycaena dispar</i> (1060) <i>Osmoderma eremita</i> (1084) <i>Unio crassus</i> (1032) <i>Vertigo angustior</i> (1014) <i>Vertigo geyeri</i> (1013)	<i>Dytiscus latissimus</i> : the target species population is 1351 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population.
	<i>Euphydryas aurinia</i> : the target species population is 94 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population. Need to specify the area of the species.
	<i>Euphydryas maturna</i> : the target species population is 1802 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population. Regular mowing of the ecotone and clearing of shrubs at least every 5 years is necessary for the sustainable conservation of the species habitat. The aspen and ash understorey and individual trees up to 1.5 metres in height should be retained.
	<i>Graphoderus bilineatus</i> : the target species population is 42940 individuals.	The target population is 3x larger than the current population. Need to develop a specific methodology for inventorying the species (so far the <i>D. latissimus</i> approach has been used).
	<i>Leucorrhinia pectoralis</i> : the target species population is 48867 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population.
	<i>Lycaena dispar</i> : the target species population is 520 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population.
	<i>Osmoderma eremita</i> : the target species area is 1 grid 1x1.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	<i>Unio crassus</i> : the target species population is 33227 individuals.	The target population is almost 44x larger than the current population. Improvement of habitat quality is needed, mainly

		beaver population control and regular removal of beaver dams in the Kauguri Channel.
	Vertigo angustior: the target species population is 123420000 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population.
	Vertigo geyeri: the target species population is 34264500 individuals.	The target population is equal to the current population.
<i>Amphibians and reptiles:</i> <i>Triturus cristatus (1166)</i>	Triturus cristatus: the target species population is 3775 individuals.	The target population is almost 17x larger than the current population. 25 new breeding water bodies correspond to the required population growth.
<i>Mammals:</i> <i>Myotis dasycneme (1318)</i>	Myotis dasycneme: the target species population is 257 individuals.	A method needs to be developed to obtain the number of individuals from the activity index.
<i>Fish:</i> <i>Cobitis taenia (1149)</i> <i>Lampetra fluviatilis (1099)</i> <i>Lampetra planeri (1096)</i> <i>Misgurnus fossilis (1145)</i> <i>Rhodeus amarus (5339)</i>	Cobitis taenia: the target species area is 1329 ha.	The target area is equal to the current area.
	Lampetra fluviatilis: the target species population is 1213235 individuals.	The target population is larger than the current population.
	Lampetra planeri: the target species area is 22,9 ha	The target area is equal to the current area.
	Misgurnus fossilis: the target species area is 1059 ha	The target area is equal to the current area.
	Rhodeus amarus: the target species area is 374 ha	The target area is slightly larger than the current area.