LATVIANATURE

EU LIFE Programme project
«Optimising the Governance and Management of the Natura 2000 Protected Areas Network in Latvia»
LIFE10 IPE/LV/000010 LIFE-IP LatViaNature

State Regional Development Agency Republic of Latvia

Latvian grasslands in numbers

Dabas aizsardzības pārvalde

Vides aizsardzības un reģionālās attīstības ministrija

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Latvijas Dabas fonds

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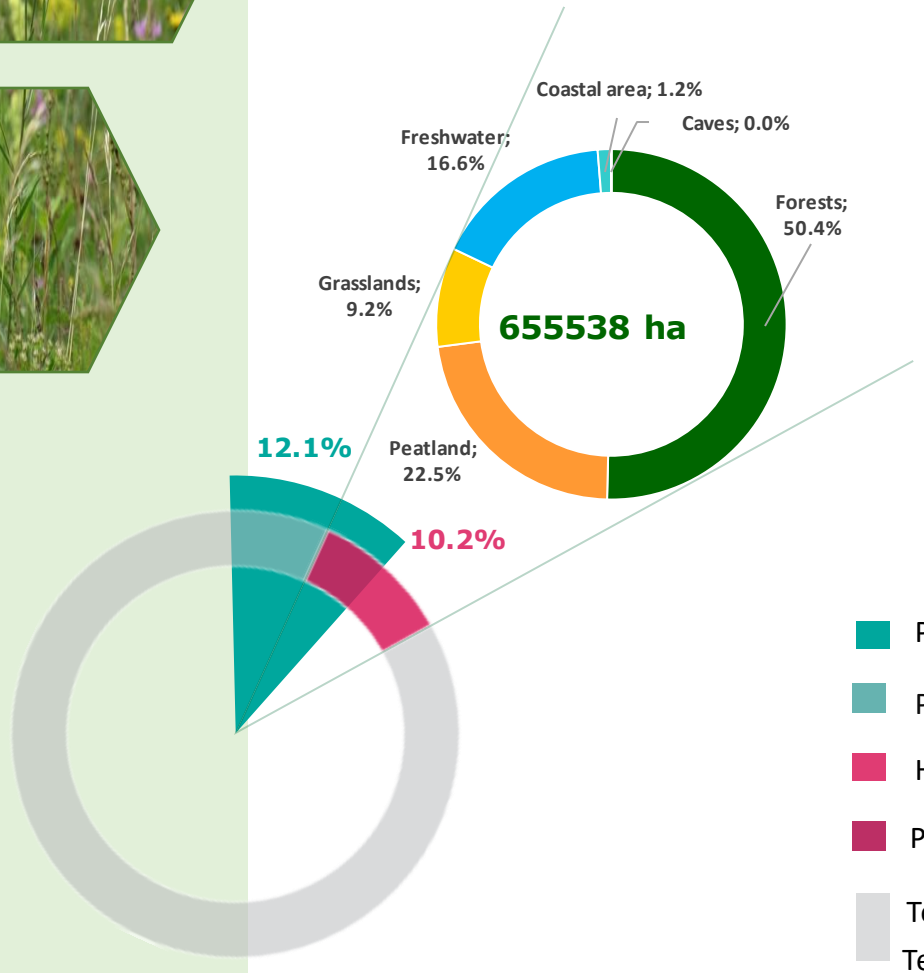
Latvijas Lauksaimniecības universitāte

Protected areas and habitats of EU importance in the territory of Latvia, proportion of habitat groups



Habitat group	Land area, ha
Forests	330 348,17
Peatlands	147 801,31
Semi-natural grasslands	**60 047,78**
Freshwaters	109 110,38
Coastal habitats	8 187,10
Outcrops, caves	42,88

Protected areas (12.1% of territory)

Protected areas without habitats of EU importance (7.3% of territory)

Habitats of EU importance (10.2% of territory)

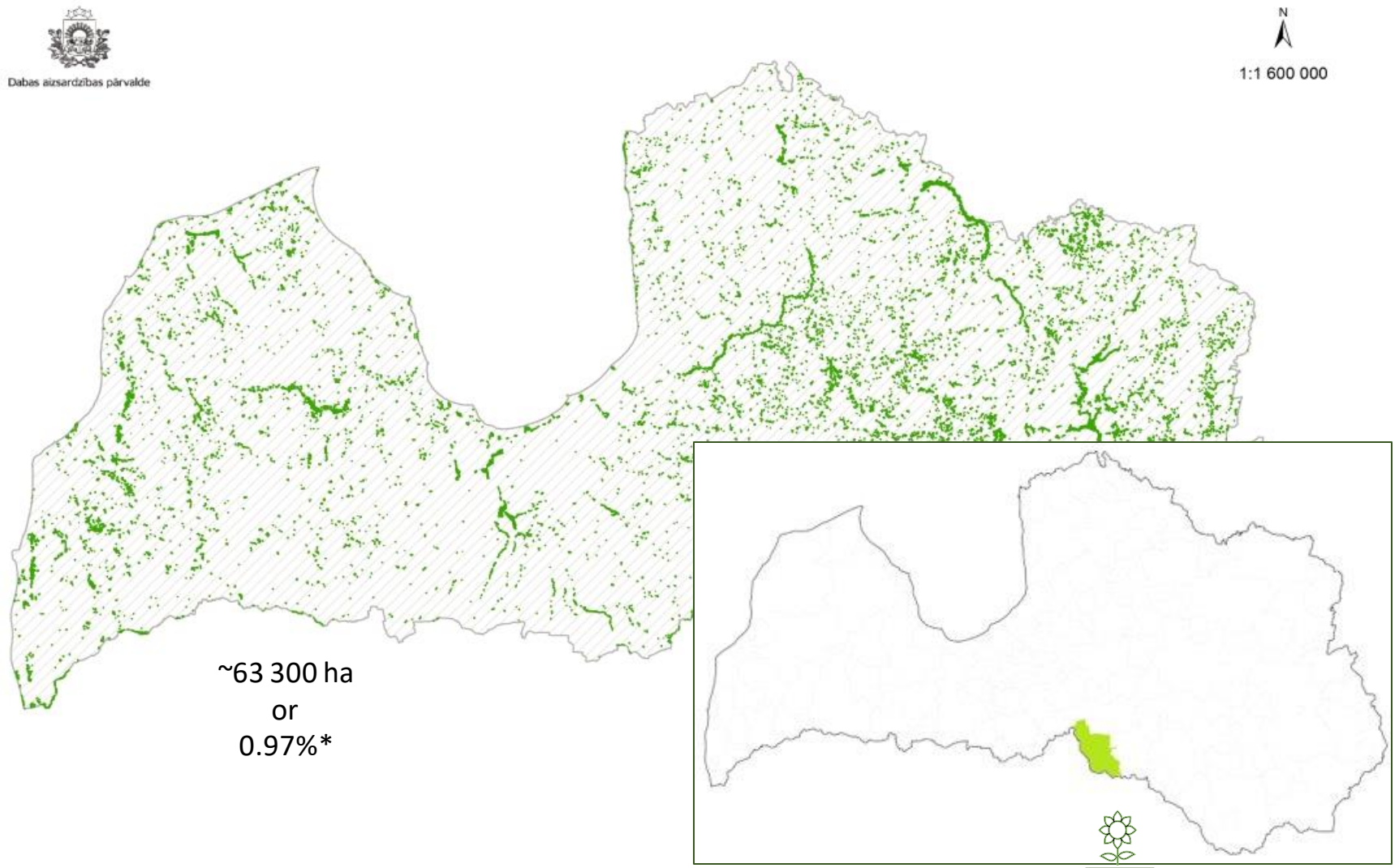
Protected areas with habitats of EU importance (4.8% of territory)

Territory without habitats of EU importance (89.8% of territory)

Territory without protected areas (87.9% of territory)

data from 2022

Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats



**data from 2024 from Ozols and CSB*

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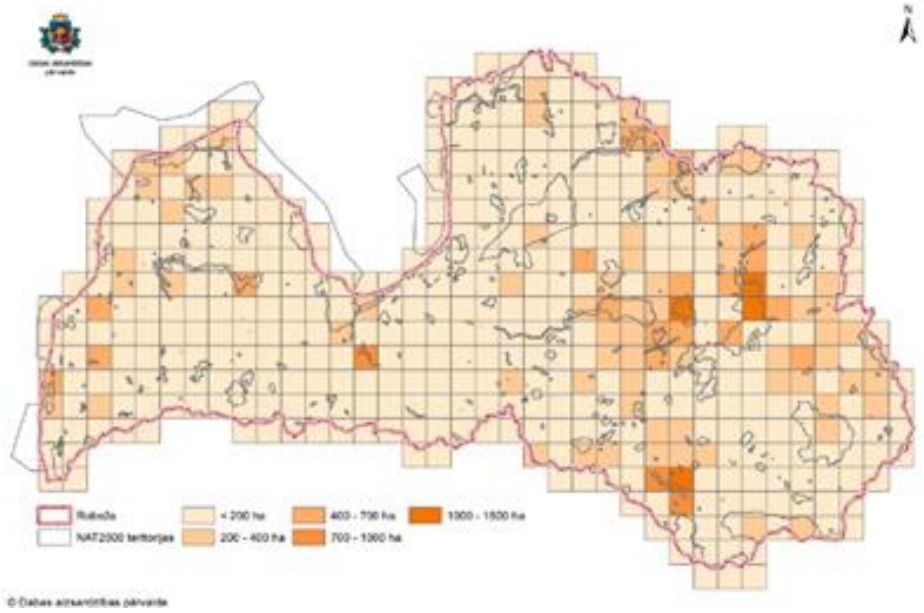
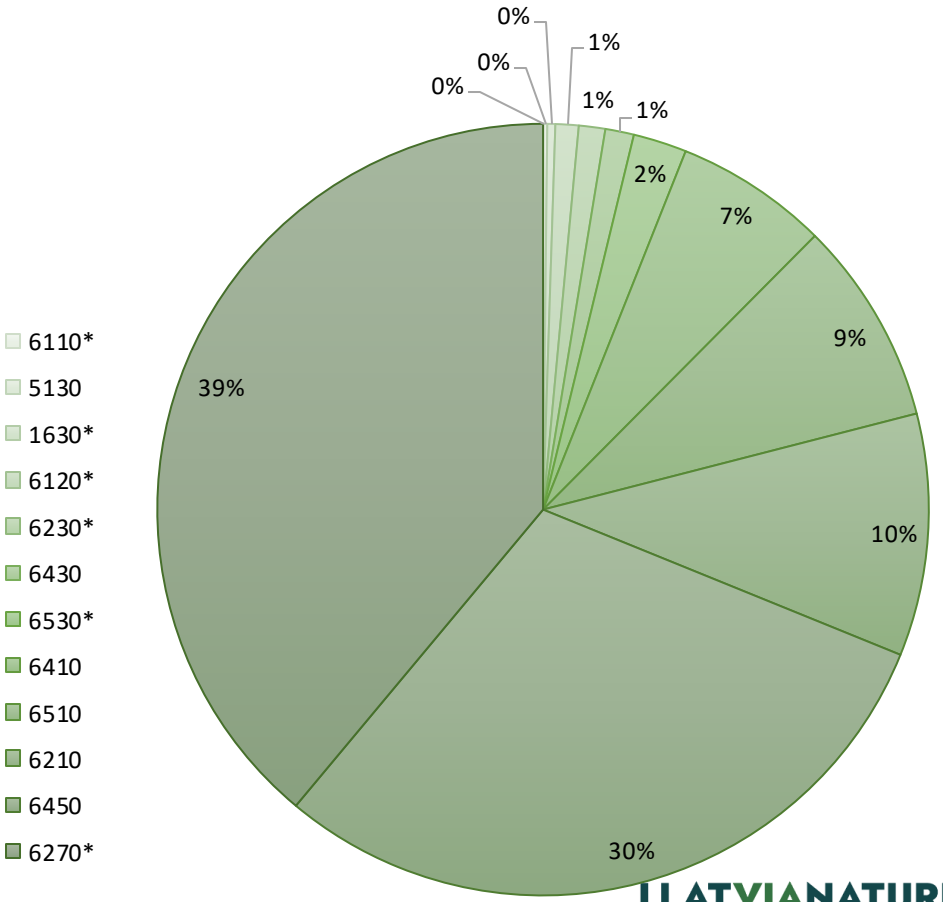
Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats



Combining grassland habitats into classes of area proportion shows that their distribution is very uneven



The proportion of the area of EU protected habitats from the total area of the EU protected grassland habitats

data from 2024

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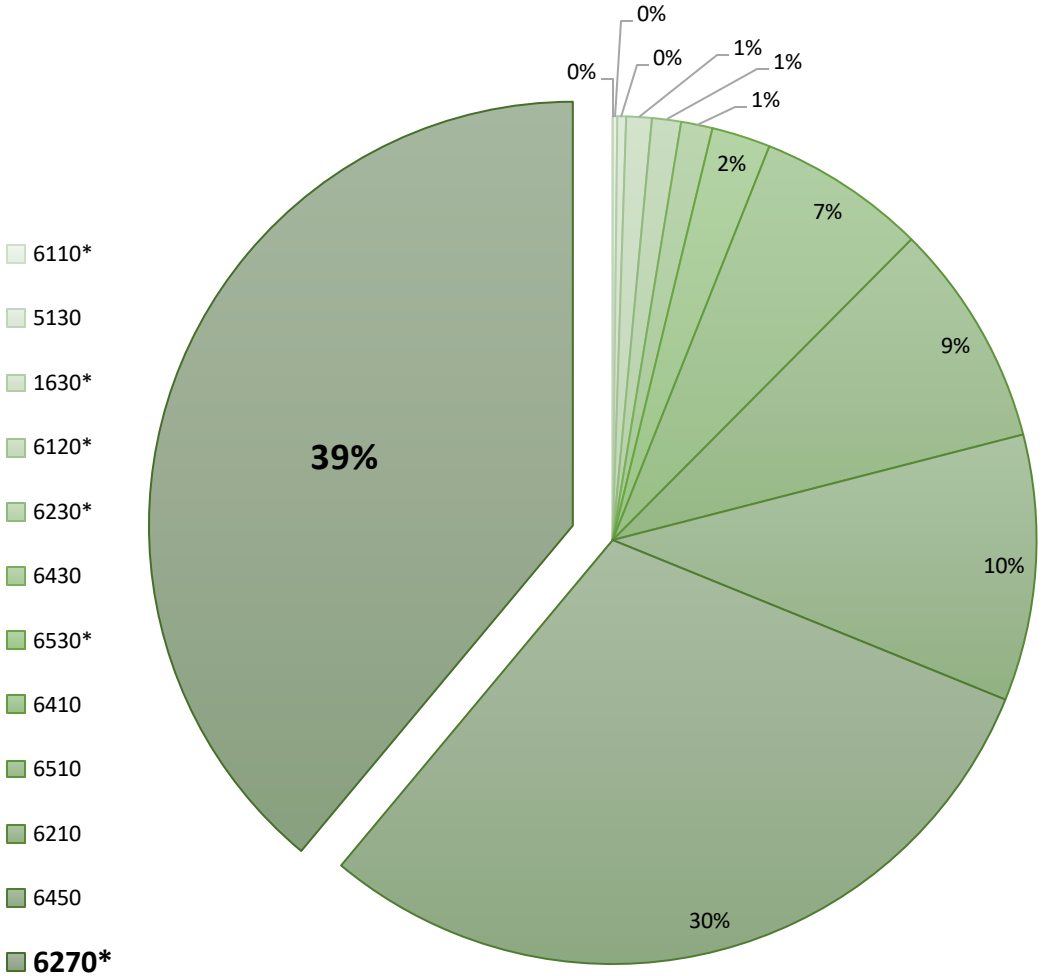
6270* Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands

Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats



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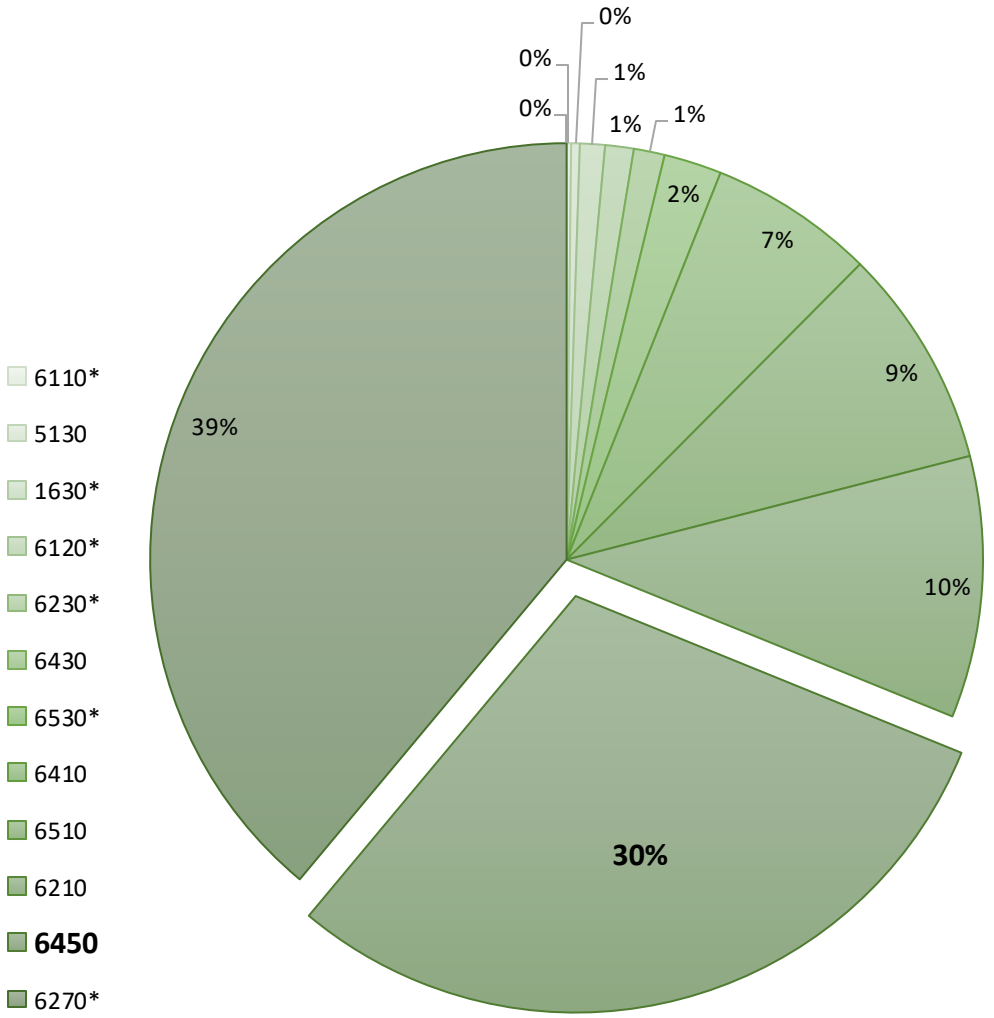
6450 Northern boreal alluvial meadows

Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats



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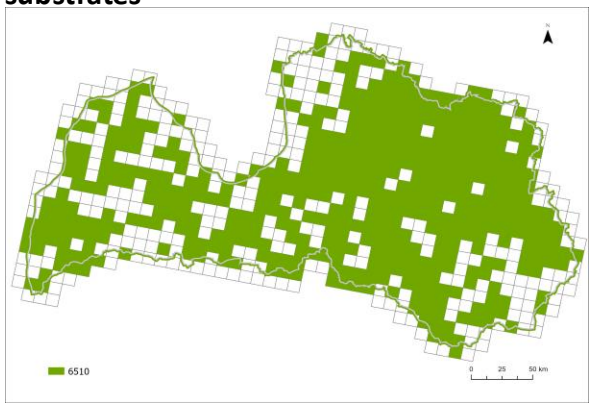
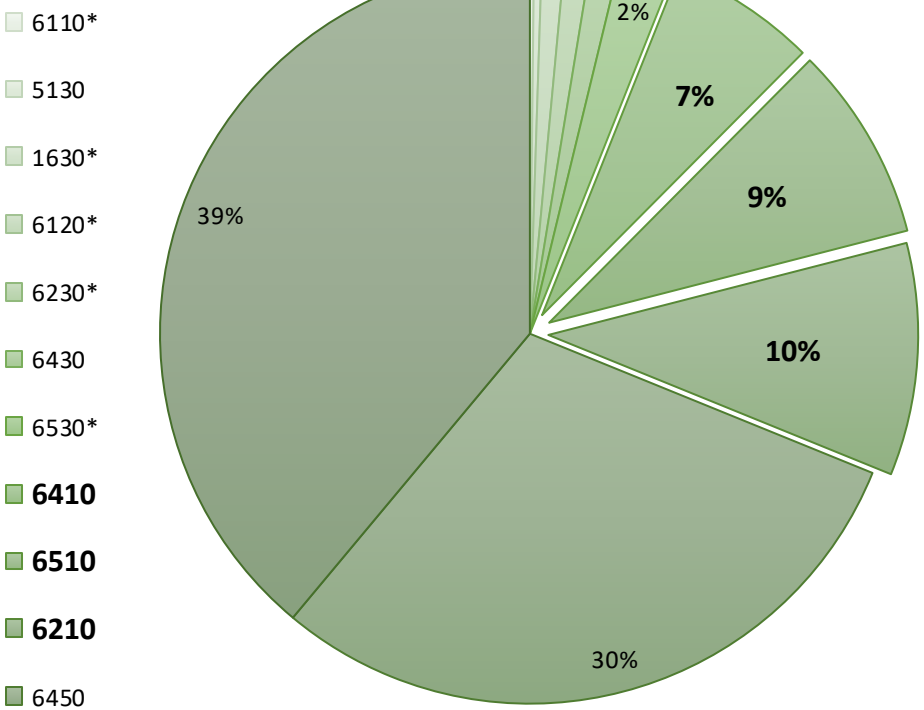
Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats

6210 Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates



6510 Lowland hay meadows

6410 Molinia meadows on calcareous, peaty or clayey-silt-laden soils



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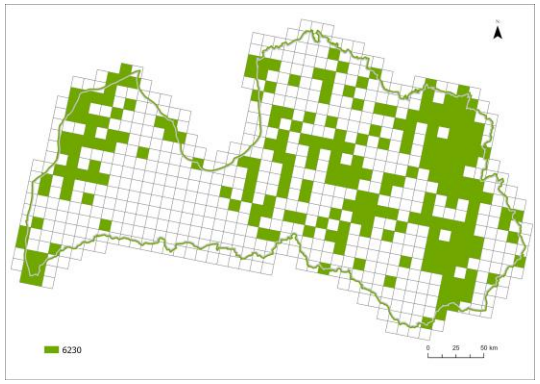
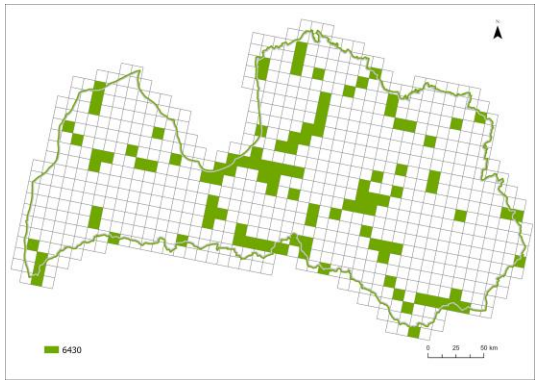
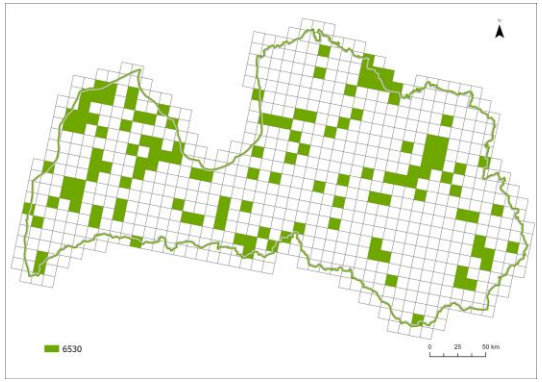
Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats



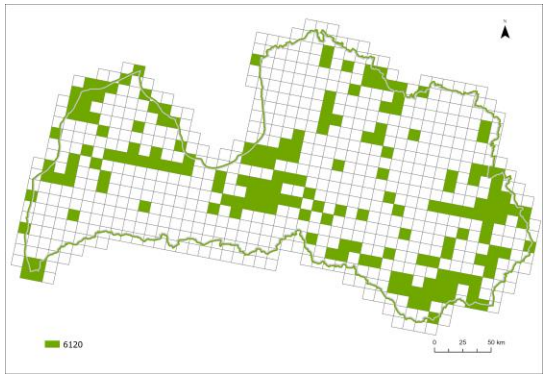
6230* Species-rich Nardus grasslands



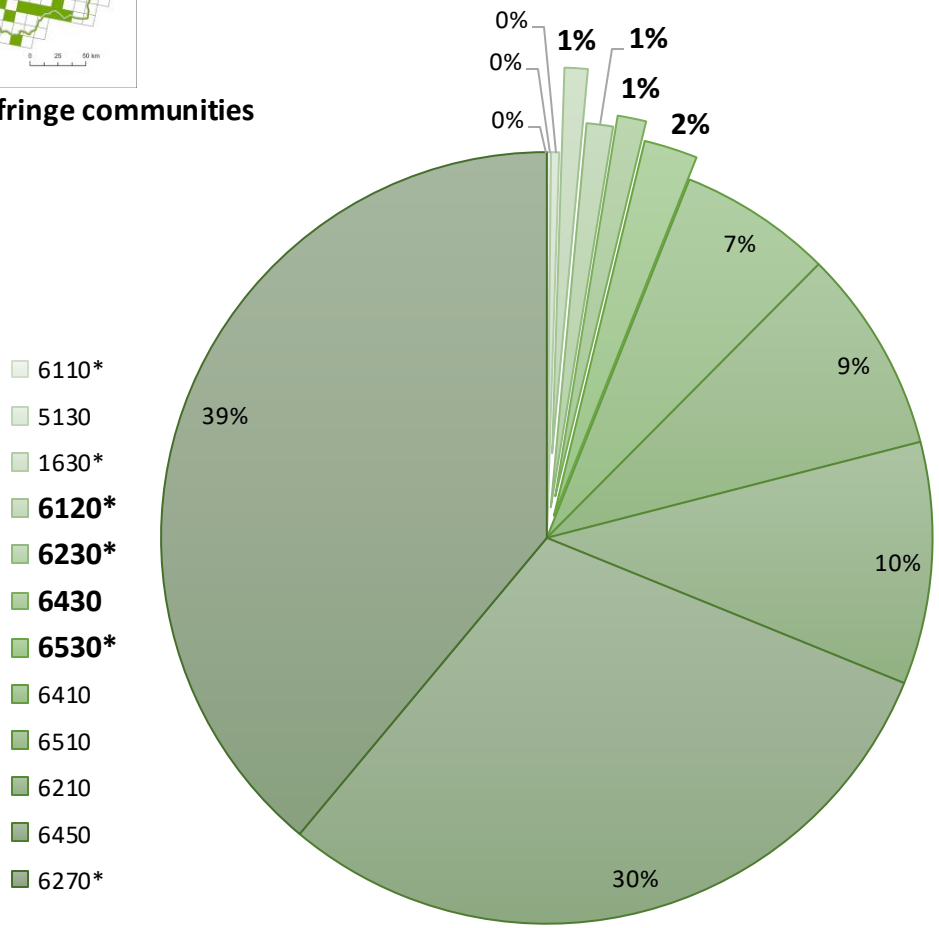
6430 Hydrophilous tall herb fringe communities



6530* Fennoscandian wooded meadows



6120* Grasslands of the Alysso-Sedion albi



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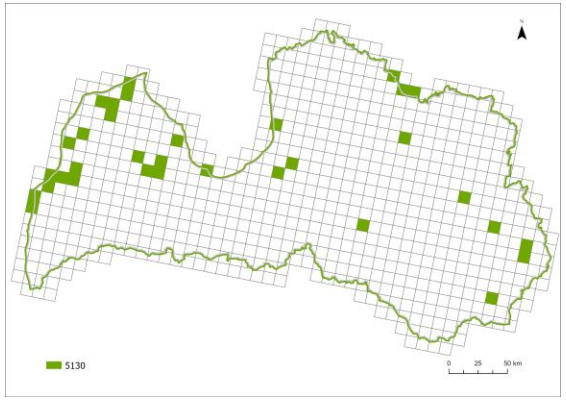
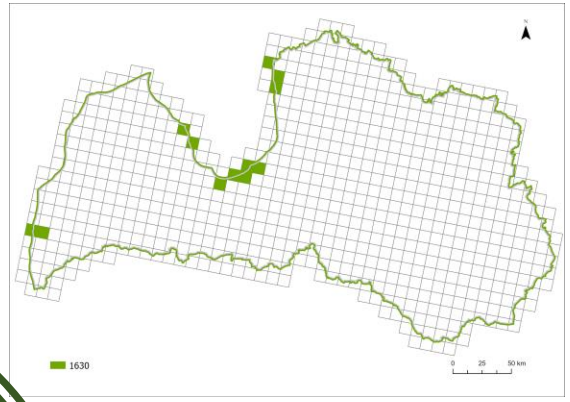
Distribution of EU-importance grassland habitats

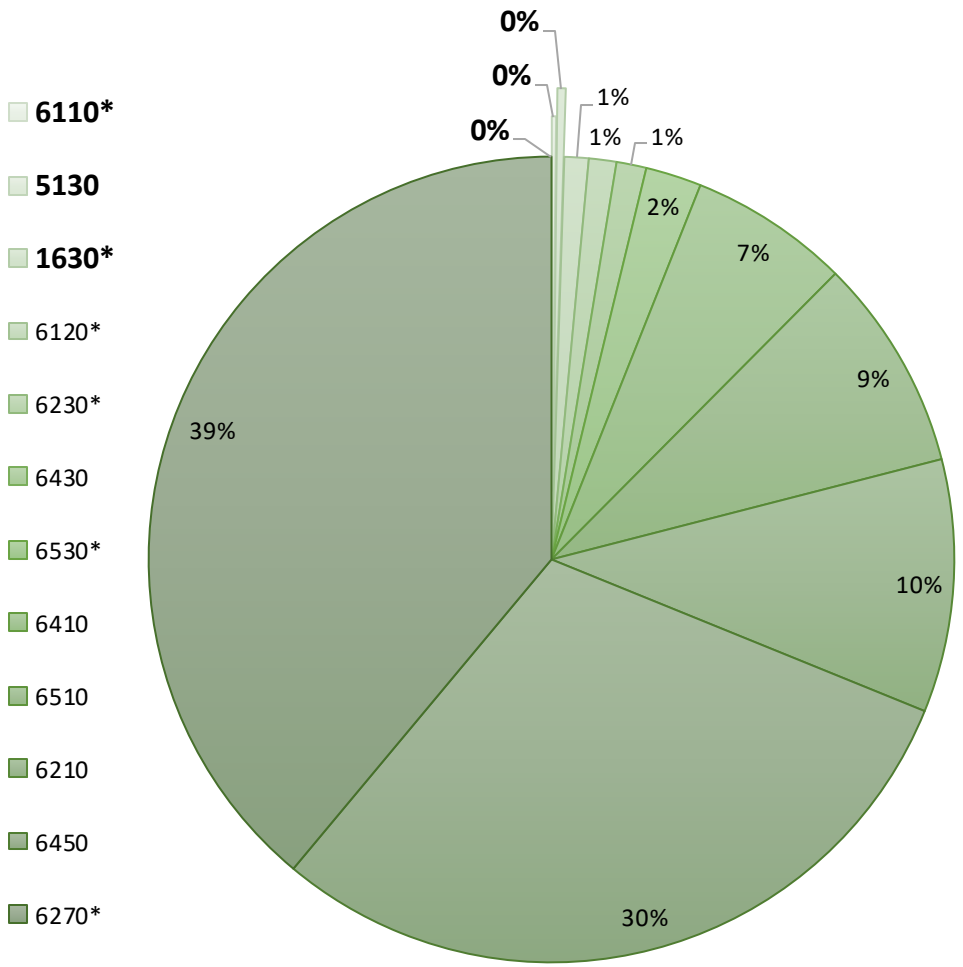


5130 Juniperus communis formations on heaths or calcareous grasslands



1630* Boreal Baltic coastal meadows

6110* Xeric sand calcareous grasslands



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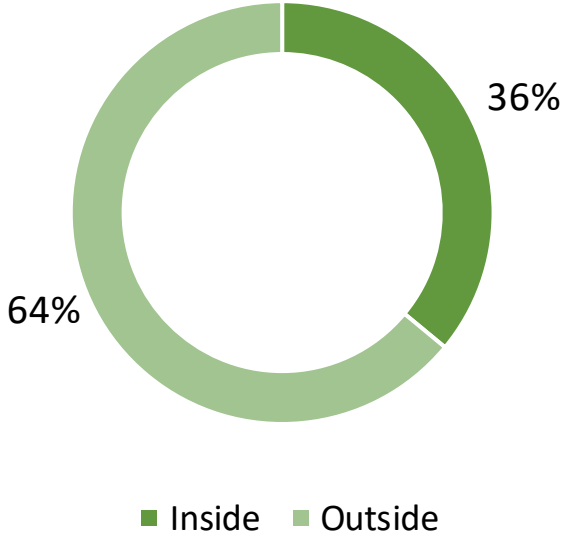

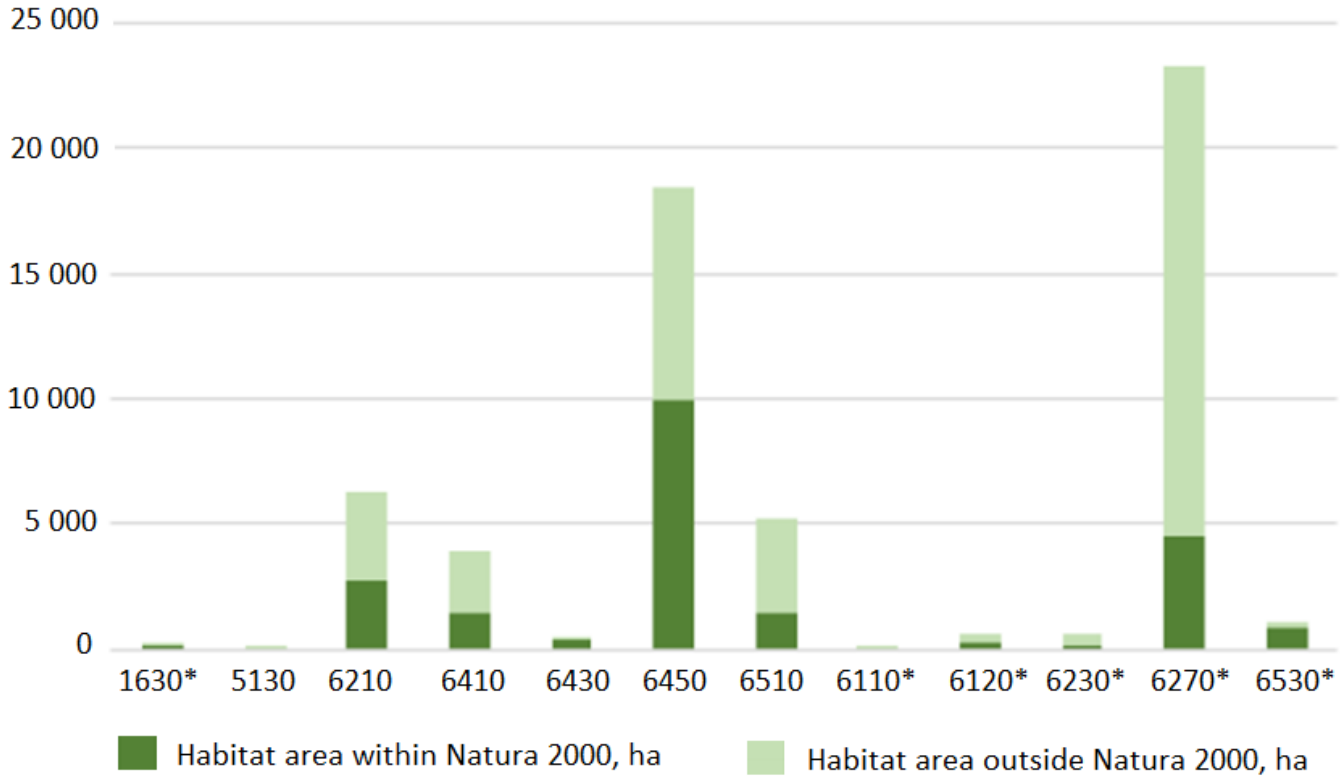

data from 2022

Inside/outside Natura 2000

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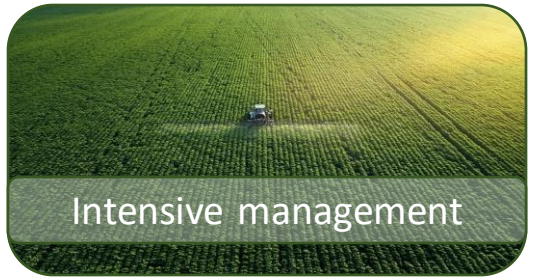
Threats



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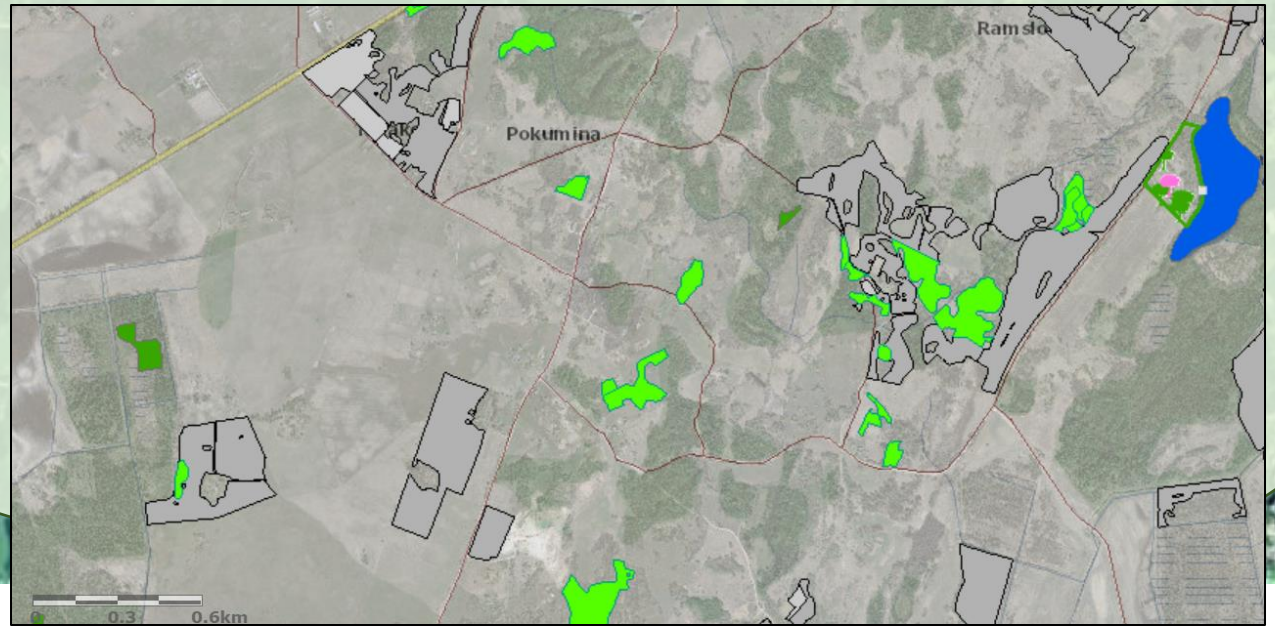
Fragmentation

The main cause of semi-natural grassland **fragmentation** is increasing intensity of mainly agricultural activity.
Only few areas of large continuous semi-natural grassland habitat areas or habitat aggregations still remain. That

- threatens habitat and characteristic species existence;
- dispersal of seeds;
- hinders designation of new protected areas (Natura 2000).



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Where are the semi-natural grassland data used (mainly Nature Census 2017–2023)?

1

Planning and implementing restoration projects and regular habitat management

2

Reporting on the conservation status of species and habitats under Article 17

3

Spatial planning, decision-making

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Where are the semi-natural grassland data used (mainly Nature Census 2017–2023)?

4 INSPIRE Directive

5 Environmental impact assessment process and other plans

6 Site management plans

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Where are the semi-natural grassland data used (mainly Nature Census 2017–2023)?

7

Revision and improvement of Natura 2000 network

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Thank you!

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