



D6.5 Birdwatch Platform User Manual

Deliverable for the Horizon Europe Project BirdWatch

Version 1.1



**Funded by
the European Union**

Legal Disclaimer

This document reflects only the views of the author(s). Neither the European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency (EUSPA) nor the European Commission is in any way responsible for any use that may be made of the information it contains. The information in this document is provided “as is”, and no guarantee or warranty is given that the information is fit for any particular purpose. The below referenced consortium members shall have no liability for damages of any kind including without limitation direct, special, indirect, or consequential damages that may result from the use of these materials subject to any liability which is mandatory due to applicable law.

This document and the information contained within may not be copied, used, or disclosed, entirely or partially, outside of the BirdWatch consortium without prior permission of the project partners in written form.

© 2026 by BirdWatch Consortium.



**Funded by
the European Union**

Document Information

GA Number	101082634		Type of Action	Horizon-IA
Full Title	BirdWatch - a Copernicus-based service for the improvement of habitat suitability of farmland birds via satellite-enabled monitoring, evaluation and optimisation of CAP greening measures			
Project Acronym	BirdWatch			
Start Date	February 1 st , 2023		Duration	36 Months
Project URL	https://birdwatch-europe.org/			
Deliverable	D6.5 BirdWatch Platform User Manual			
Work Package	WP6			
Project Month of Delivery	Contractual	M36	Actual	M36
Nature	DEM	Dissemination Level		PU
Lead Beneficiary	LUP			
Responsible Author	Ursula Plötz, LUP			
Contributions from	Nastasja Scholz, LUP Laura Panner, LUP			



**Funded by
the European Union**

History of Changes

Version	Issue Date	Stage	Description	Comments	Contributor
1.0	29.01.2026	Draft	First draft		Ursula Plötz Nastasja Scholz
1.1	17.02.2026	Draft	Second draft	Changes consist of # the inclusion of Version 1.1 of the Manual, which now includes an image of the main page the platform # a fixed typo	Ursula Plötz Nastasja Scholz



**Funded by
the European Union**

Introduction	6
User Manual Overview.....	7
Final Remarks	8
Appendix – BirdWatch Platform User Manual.....	9



**Funded by
the European Union**

Introduction

BirdWatch's aim is to provide an EU-wide service supporting the monitoring and improvement of farmland habitat suitability for bird species which breed or forage on agricultural land.

The main output of the BirdWatch service consists of a geospatial data-based monitoring service which evaluates the habitat suitability of farmland parcels for specific bird species as well as of a tailored optimisation workflow, providing decision-support for the identification of appropriate policy-supported agri-environmental measures.

The service relies on different types of geospatial data, including environmental parameters derived from the Sentinel-1 and Sentinel-2 satellites of the Copernicus Program of the European Space Agency (ESA) and auxiliary spatial datasets, most importantly the national or regional Land Parcel Identification System (LPIS) data.

The service is made available to users via a web-based GIS application, which has access to the previously described products by way of a backend database for data storage and management. As soon as the platform is officially launched, users have access to the platform via a web-based interface.

This deliverable provides the accompanying user manual for the BirdWatch platform, which serves to guide new users through the process of registration, user administration, and platform capabilities.

It reflects the status of the platform as of January, 2026.



**Funded by
the European Union**

User Manual Overview

The user manual was designed to provide a concise description of the platform functionalities, without focusing too much on the details of the content.

It developed out of the instruction manuals which were generated for the internal tests, user demonstration rounds and workshops which were predominantly conducted in the 2nd half of 2025.

The following aspects are described:

- Access, registration, login
- Account functionalities (password reset, account deletion, changes to profile settings)
- Platform use (search options, map functionalities, status and optimisation layers, uploading of a user's own geospatial data)
- Information and FAQ

Details on the approach and region-specific content are covered under the About and FAQ-links on the platform to keep the manual legible.

The manual is added in the Appendix of this deliverable and will be made available on the platform, via the following URL:

<https://bw.lup-umwelt.de/>



**Funded by
the European Union**

Final Remarks

The manual reflects the platform's current status as of January 2026 and will be updated following any substantial changes made to the platform (e.g., new or updated functionalities).



**Funded by
the European Union**

Appendix – BirdWatch Platform User Manual

See following pages



**Funded by
the European Union**



MANUAL v1.1

BirdWatch

Monitoring Biodiversity from Space



First Steps

Access

BirdWatch is a web-based platform to be used with a web browser.

Supported browsers:

- Latest versions of Chrome, Firefox, Safari, and Microsoft Edge
- Please ensure that your browser is **up-to-date**
Updates can be accessed in most browsers in the advanced menu (3 dots) → "Help" → "About/Info."

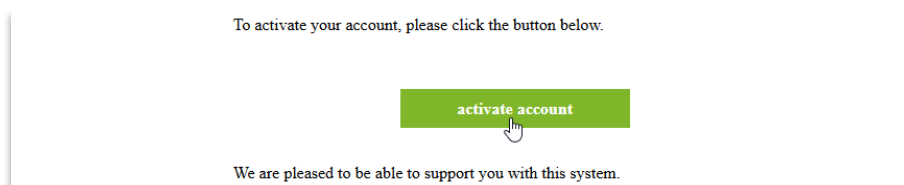
URL:

<https://bw.lup-umwelt.de/>



Register

1. To create an account, click on 'Register' on the home page or open the registration page directly:
<https://bw.lup-umwelt.de/?id=190>
2. After registering, you will receive an email to activate your account:
Open the activation link and press the 'Activate Account' button:



A page will be opened with information about the successful activation of your account. You can now log into BirdWatch.



Login

- Link: <https://bw.lup-umwelt.de/?id=199>
- Insert your Username and Password to login.

Account functionalities

Password reset

- To reset your password, go to Login and select the “Forgot password” button

The screenshot shows a login form with two input fields: 'Username' and 'Password'. Below the 'Password' field, there are two buttons: a green 'login' button and a green 'Forgot password?' button. A mouse cursor is pointing at the 'Forgot password?' button.

- Insert your email address and select “Send”
- You will receive an email with a link to reset your password

Delete your account

- You can permanently delete your account after logging into your account via your Profile settings:

Click on “PROFILE” in the header menu and then on “Delete profile”

The screenshot shows a profile settings form. At the top, there is a 'Preferred language' dropdown menu set to 'english'. Below this are two buttons: a green 'Save' button and a grey 'Reset' button. At the bottom of the form, there is a green 'Delete profile' button with a mouse cursor pointing at it.

All data will be irreversibly removed.

Profile

- Click on “PROFILE” in the header menu
- Here you can change the following settings:
 - Email address
 - Username
 - Password

Switch back to the main functionality of BirdWatch by clicking on “MAP” or by clicking on the BirdWatch logo.



How to use it

Search

1. Login
2. Use the **search window** that pops up to select the area you want to look at:
 - a. Insert a **parcel ID** and select the country in which your parcel is located

The search window is a white box with a green 'Search' header and a close button (X) in the top right. It contains three input fields: a dropdown for 'Parcel - ID', a dropdown for 'Select Country', and a text input for 'Insert Parcel - ID'. A green 'Search' button is on the right.

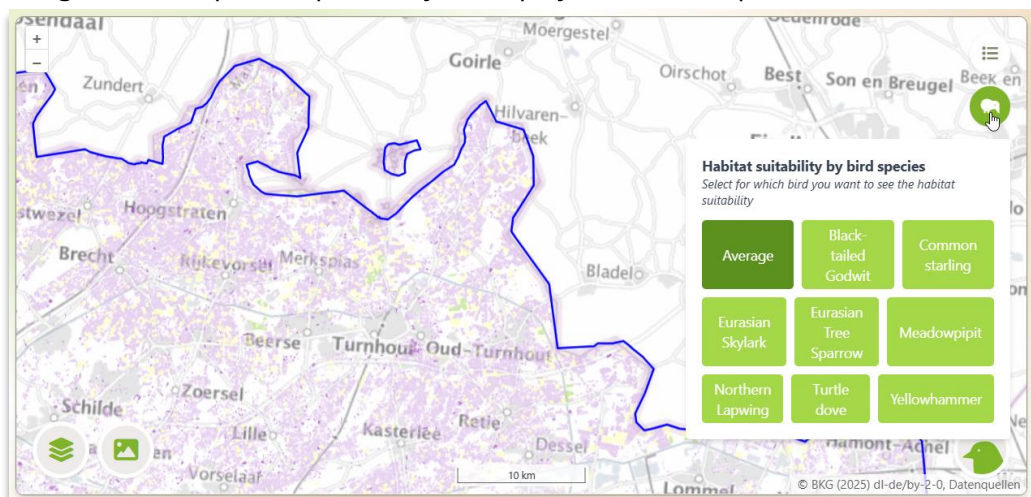
- b. Or choose a region within your country

The search window is shown with the 'Country' dropdown set to 'Belgium'. The 'Select region / federal state' dropdown is open, showing a list of regions with 'Flanders' selected. The background shows a map of Belgium.

3. Your selected parcel or region will be shown on the map and with additional data on the left side.

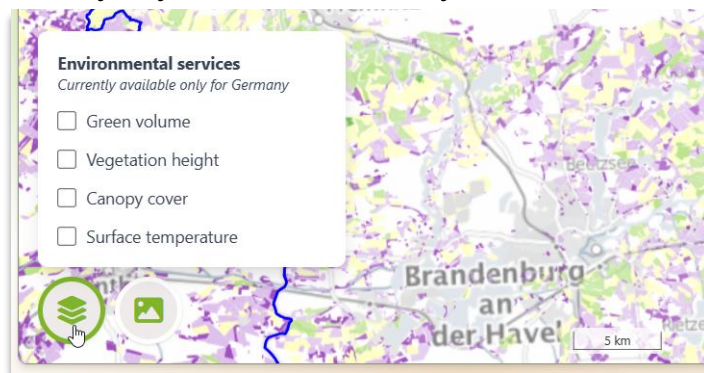
Map functionalities

1. You can **use the map** after choosing to display a parcel or a region:
 - a. Zoom and navigate:
e.g., after displaying a parcel you can click on other parcels
e.g., after displaying a region you can zoom in until parcels become visible and click on them
 - b. change the bird species-specific layers displayed on the map:

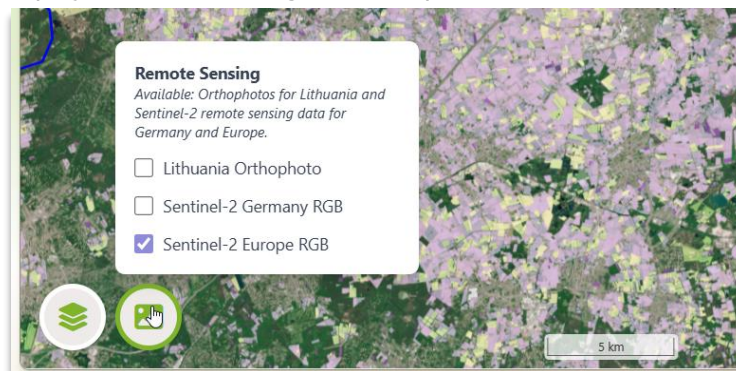




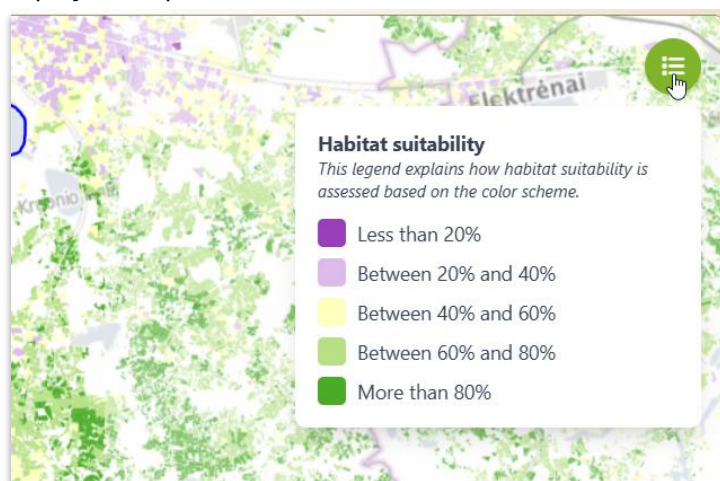
- c. display additional data layers (e.g., Canopy cover, Surface temperature – currently only available for Germany):



- d. display additional background maps:

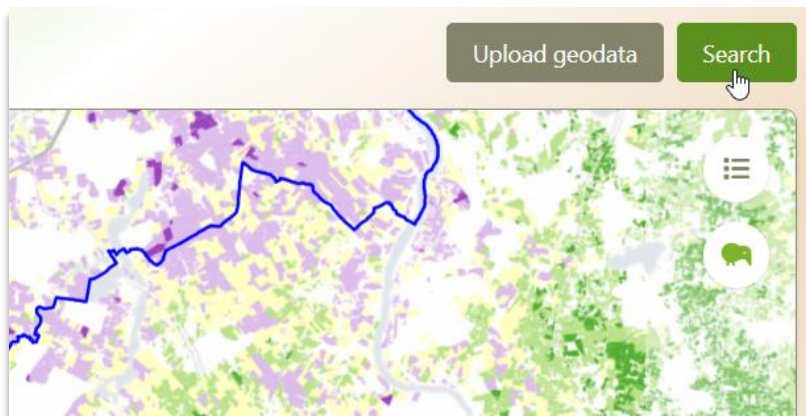


The **legend** button of the map will always show a legend matching the currently displayed map:

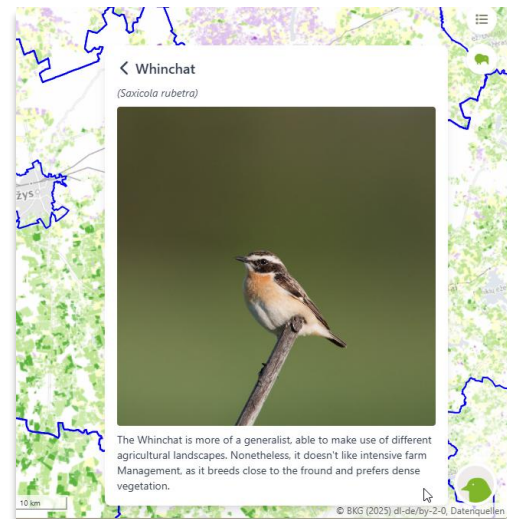
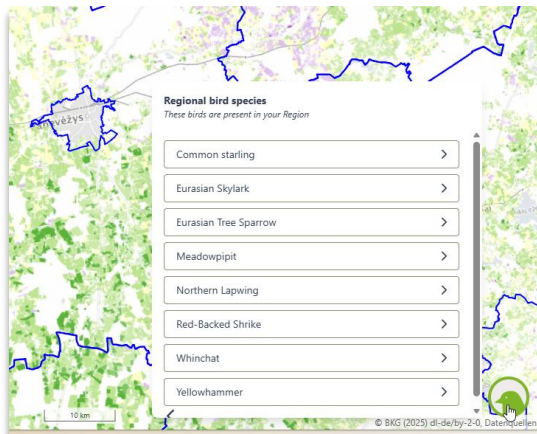




2. If you want to change which region of interest: **Open the search window** above the map again:



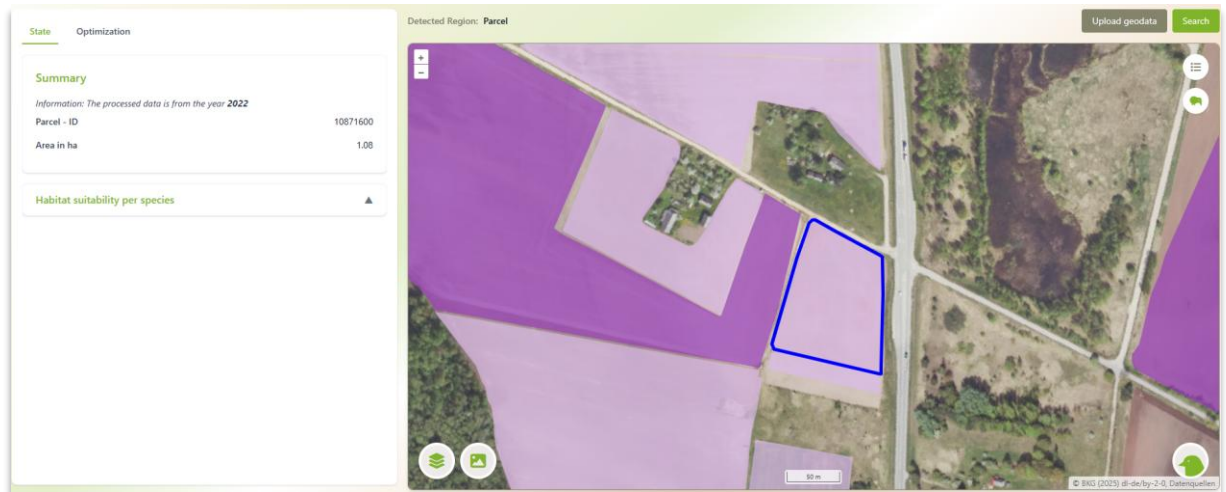
3. For additional information about the preferences of the individual bird species, select the Bird button on the bottom right of the map and the select a bird:



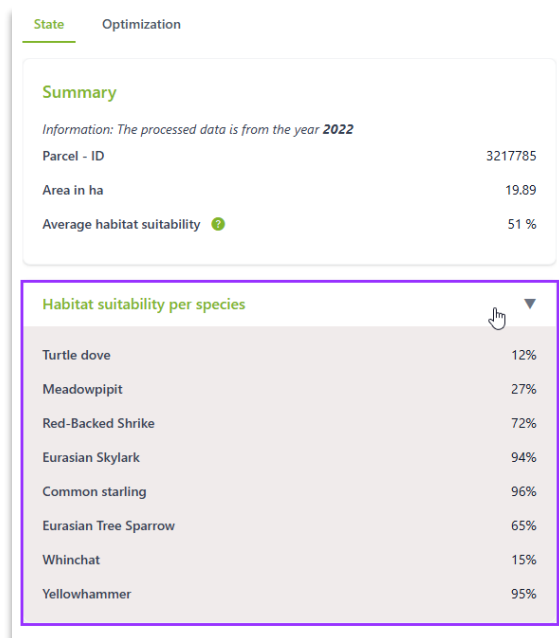


Parcels – Status

1. Open the search window and search for a parcel ID
or
Select a region and navigate to select (click on) a parcel
2. On the map you can see the parcel's average habitat suitability.
You can change to specific bird species layers or change to other background maps (see chapter “Map functionalities”).



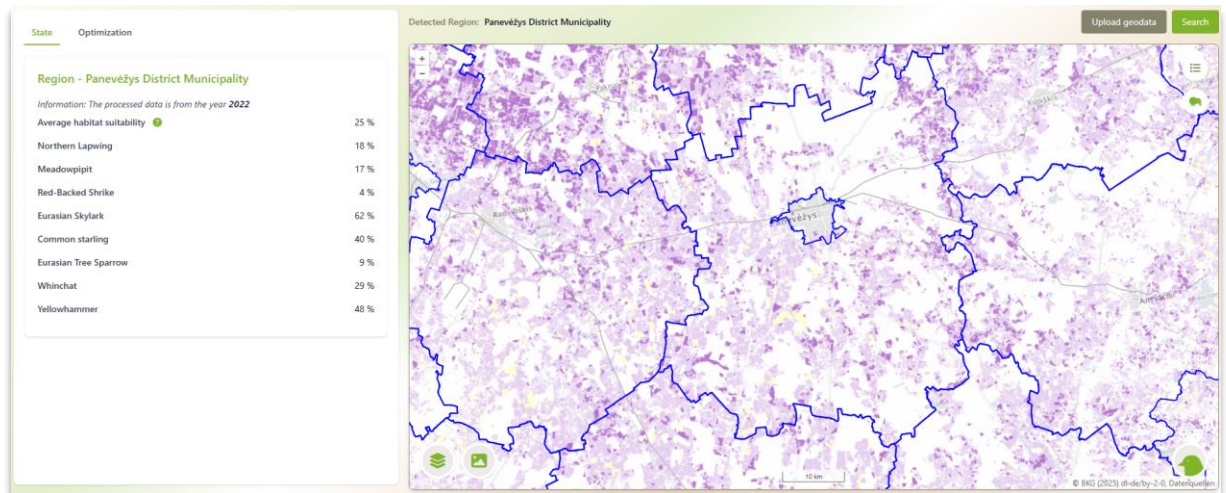
3. On the left side, a summary is displayed, including the year for which the habitat suitability was calculated, the Parcel ID and the parcel area in ha
 - Click on “Habitat suitability per species” to see the habitat suitability values for all bird species available for this region.





Regions – Status

1. Open the search window and select a region
2. On the map you can see the region's average habitat suitability.
You can change to specific bird species layers or change to other background maps (see chapter "Map functionalities").
3. On the left side, a summary is displayed, including the year for which the habitat suitability was calculated, the average overall habitat suitability and the average habitat suitability per bird species.



Upload of your own geodata

You can use the **"Upload"** function to add your own region of interest and view it on the map:

1. Click on "Upload geodata" above the map



2. You will be guided to your profile settings where there is the central point for managing your own data:

Profile settings

You can upload your own geodata in GeoJSON format or as a shapefile (requiring .shp, .dbf, .shx, and .prj files). The maximum upload size is 15 MB. After uploading, the region becomes available via the search function and can be displayed on the map.

Upload

Region name

File type Shapefile (.shp + .dbf + .shx + .prj) ▼

- Shapefile (.shp + .dbf + .shx + .prj)
- GeoJSON (.geojson)

- a. Insert a name for your Geodata under "Region name"



- b. You can choose between ESRI Shapefiles or GeoJSON and select and upload your files

Projections: To see which projections are supported please check the [FAQ](#).

- c. After uploading, you can directly go to the map view:

Profile settings

Upload

Note: Your geodata has been successfully uploaded. You can now find your region via the search display it on the map. You can delete the layer at any time or replace it with a new upload.

Test example

Filename: example.geojson
File type: shp

To the map

- d. Or you can find it as additional option in the Search window:

Search

Parcel - ID

Parcel - ID
Country
Test example

Select Country

Insert Parcel - ID

Search

- e. To change or delete your geodata, go back to “Profile” – “Upload” where you can delete the geodata and upload new geodata

Note: Currently, only one geodata file can be uploaded at a time.

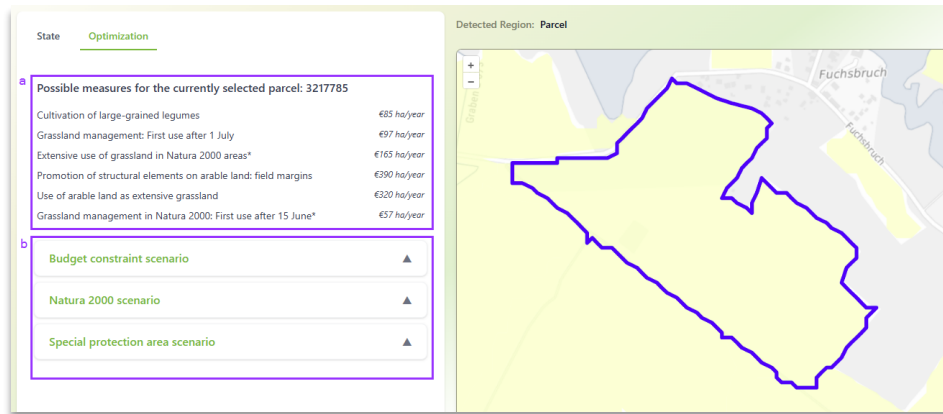
Optimization for parcels

1. Search for a parcel ID or view a region, zoom in and then click on a parcel
→ returns the current habitat suitability (Status) of this parcel
2. Click on the tab “Optimization” in the left side panel

State

Optimization

3. You get access to:
 - a. a list of available treatment options for this parcel including their subsidy
These treatment options reflect the suitability of the selected parcel for the available conservation measures under the current agricultural policy
 - b. the optimization scenarios pre-calculated for the region of this parcel
Scenarios are different for each region; more details can be found in the [FAQ](#).

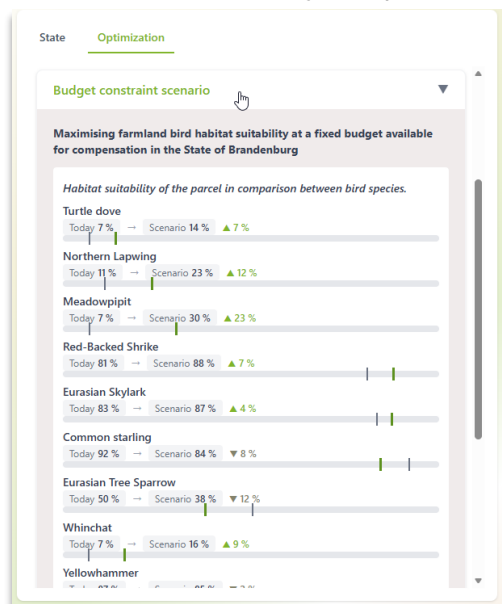


4. Click on one of the scenarios to open them.

You get access to:

- a comparison chart for all available bird species in the *selected* scenario and parcel:

Current habitat suitability vs. optimised habitat suitability



- Specific layers to display the optimized habitat suitability of a bird for the selected scenario and parcel

- Select a bird species

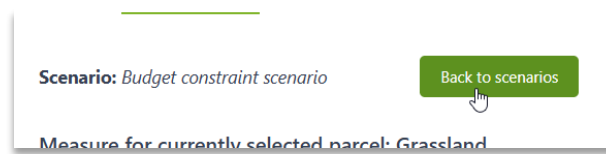
→ The map will now display the habitat suitability of the chosen bird species for this scenario for this parcel

→ The left side panel will display the measure(s) to support this (including the subsidy for the measure)





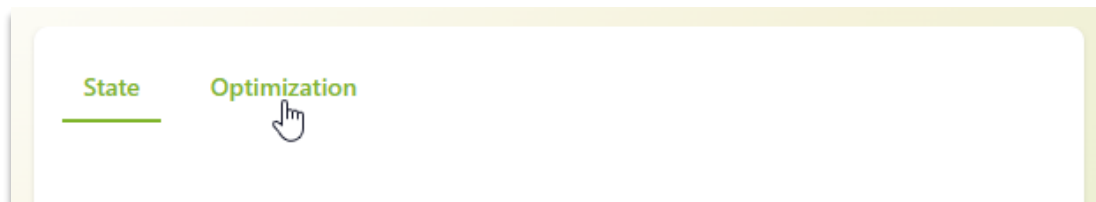
- ii. You can click on the button “Back to scenarios” to return to the overview of the available scenarios



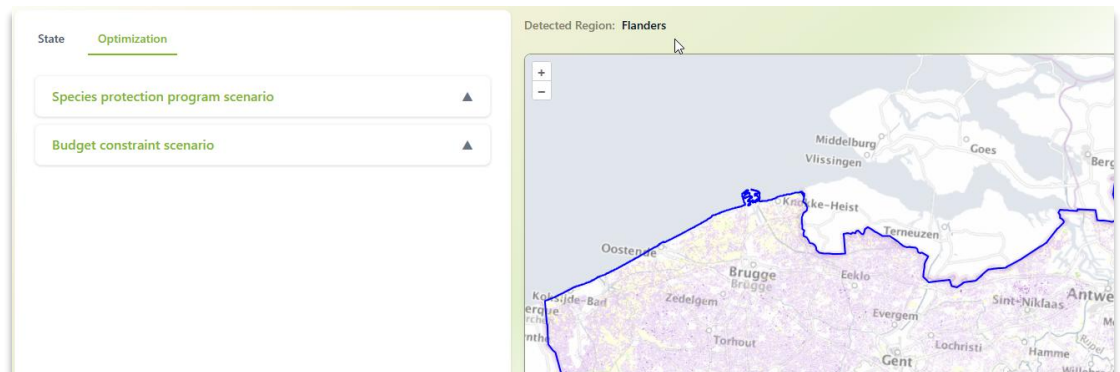
Note: It can happen that there is no optimization available for a selected parcel because not every parcel got treatment options in specific optimizations scenarios.

Optimization for regions

1. Search for your region
→ returns the current habitat suitability (Status) of this region
2. Click on the tab “Optimization” on the left side panel



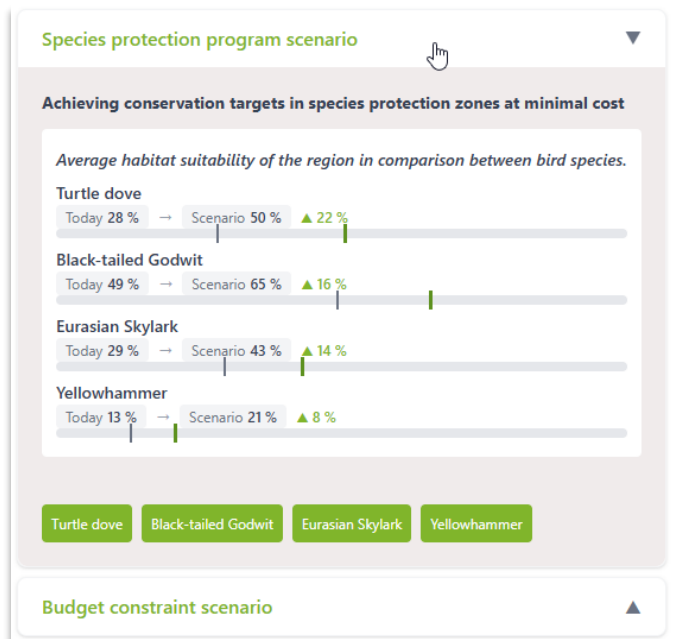
3. You get access to:
 - a. all available optimization scenarios for the region
Scenarios are different for each region; more details can be found in the [FAQ](#).



4. Click on one of the scenarios.
You get access to:
 - a. a [comparison chart](#) for all available bird species in the region:



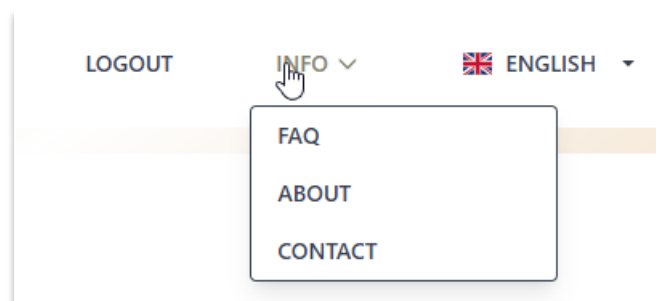
Current habitat suitability vs. optimised habitat suitability in the selected scenario



- b. Specific layers to display the optimized habitat suitability of a bird for the selected region
- Select a bird species
- The map displays only those parcels for which a measure under the current scenario has been proposed
- You can zoom into the map and select a parcel among those for which a measure has been proposed
 - In the parcel view you can see possible measures for this parcel associated this scenario; see chapter “Optimization for parcels”

Info and FAQ

More information can be found under “About” and “FAQ” as well as the available contact options by clicking “INFO” in the header:



- Or you can send your questions directly to: bw@lup-umwelt.de
- All FAQs can also be found online at: <https://bw.lup-umwelt.de/?id=301>