Workshop 3
Poster presentation
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CONSERVATION STATUS OF THE POPULATIONS OF *Eryngium viviparum* Gay AT THE SOUTHERN LIMIT OF ITS RANGE

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Eryngium viviparum is an endemic of Atlantic regions of Europe. It is a small plant growing at the margins of seasonal lagoons and pools. These environments are considered as Natural Habitats of Community Interest, listed in Annex I of the Habitats Directive 92/43EEC under the heading "Freshwater habitats: Stagnant waters". Since 1979, this species has also been included in Annex I (*Strictly protected plant species*) of the Berne Convention; it is also listed as a priority species in Annex II of the Habitat Directive. In France there is a single known population in Morbihan in Brittany. The remaining populations are all in northwest Spain, where it is considered threatened and has recently been rated as Endangered.

Surveys carried out in recent years in wetlands of the northwest Iberian Peninsula have led to the identification of several previously undetected populations of this species, in inland areas with markedly Mediterranean bioclimatic characteristics. These populations, located in western Zamora Province, constitute the southern limit of this species' known range. This report details these new locations, and provides information on their current conservation status and major threats. Improved conservation of these populations should centre on protection and improved management of the habitats in question. We also discuss other strategies likely to be of value for the conservation of this species.