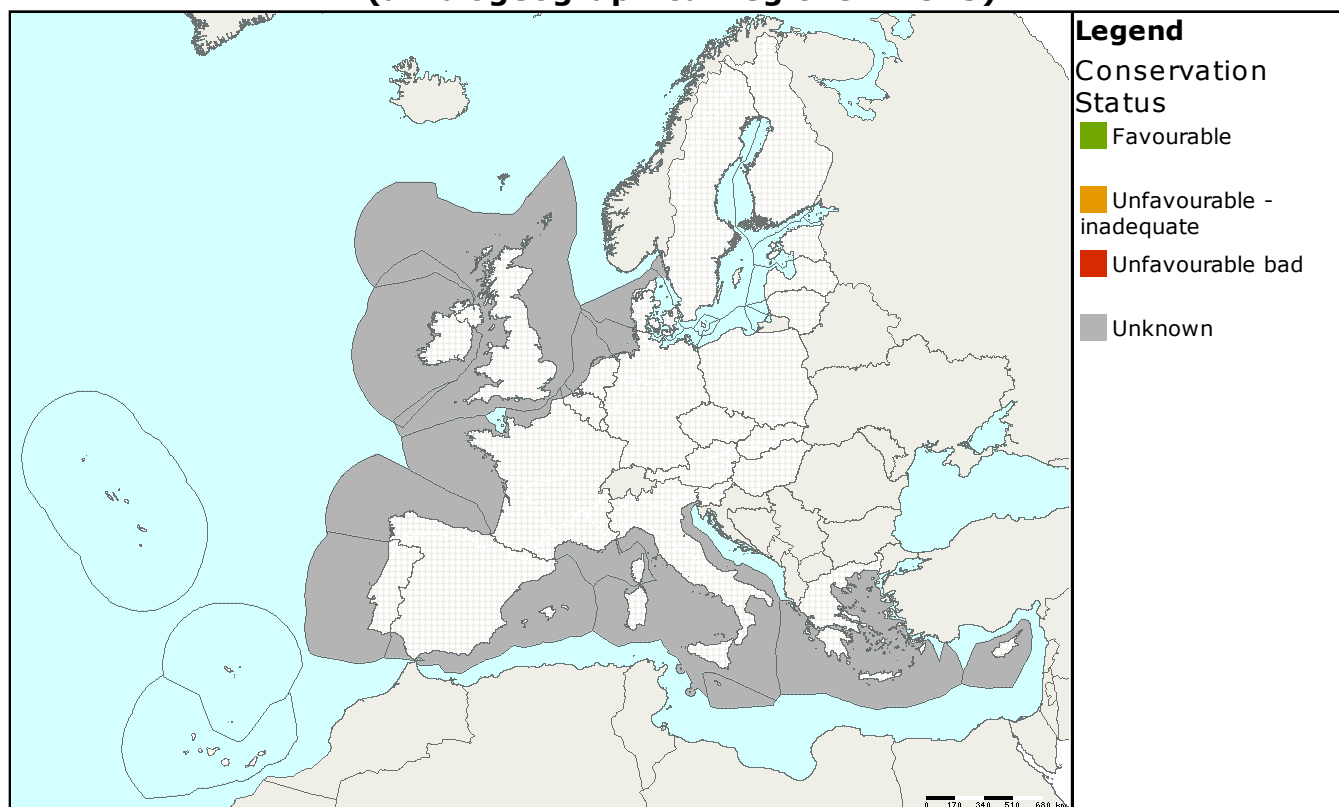


Species name: **Lithophaga lithophaga**
Annex: **IV**

Species group: **Invertebrates**
Regions: **MATL MMED**

Assessments of conservation status at the European level (all biogeographical regions - EU25)



MS	Region	Conservation status assessment					Population size & unit	Population Trend
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Overall		
EU25	MATL							x
EU25	MMED							

The European date mussel, *Lithophaga lithophaga*, is a rock-boring bivalve mollusc that is widespread along the Mediterranean and the eastern Atlantic coasts. The mollusc has an extremely slow growth and it lives inside cavities of calcareous rocky substrates, which it bores with its glandular secretions.

The conservation status is 'unknown' for both the marine Atlantic (as reported by Portugal) and the marine Mediterranean regions due to the lack of data. The main threat for this species lies in the fishing methods used to collect it which involve destructive illegal practices such as dynamite fishing which destroy the rocky reef where it lives.

Assessments of conservation status as reported by Member states (all biogeographical regions - EU25)



MS	Region	Conservation status assessment					Size&unit	Population trend	Data quality
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Overall			
PT	MATL						N/A x	X	
EL	MMED						4 - 30 area	=	2
ES	MMED						N/A x	N/A	
FR	MMED						N/A indiv.	N/A	3
IT	MMED						40 - 40 loc.	-	3
MT	MMED						N/A colony	-	3
SI	MMED						N/A x	-	3

Data quality is based on as assessment by each Member State, 1 = good, 2 = medium, 3 = poor

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2007 and covering the period 2001-2006. More detailed information is available at

<http://biodiversity.eionet.europa.eu/article17>