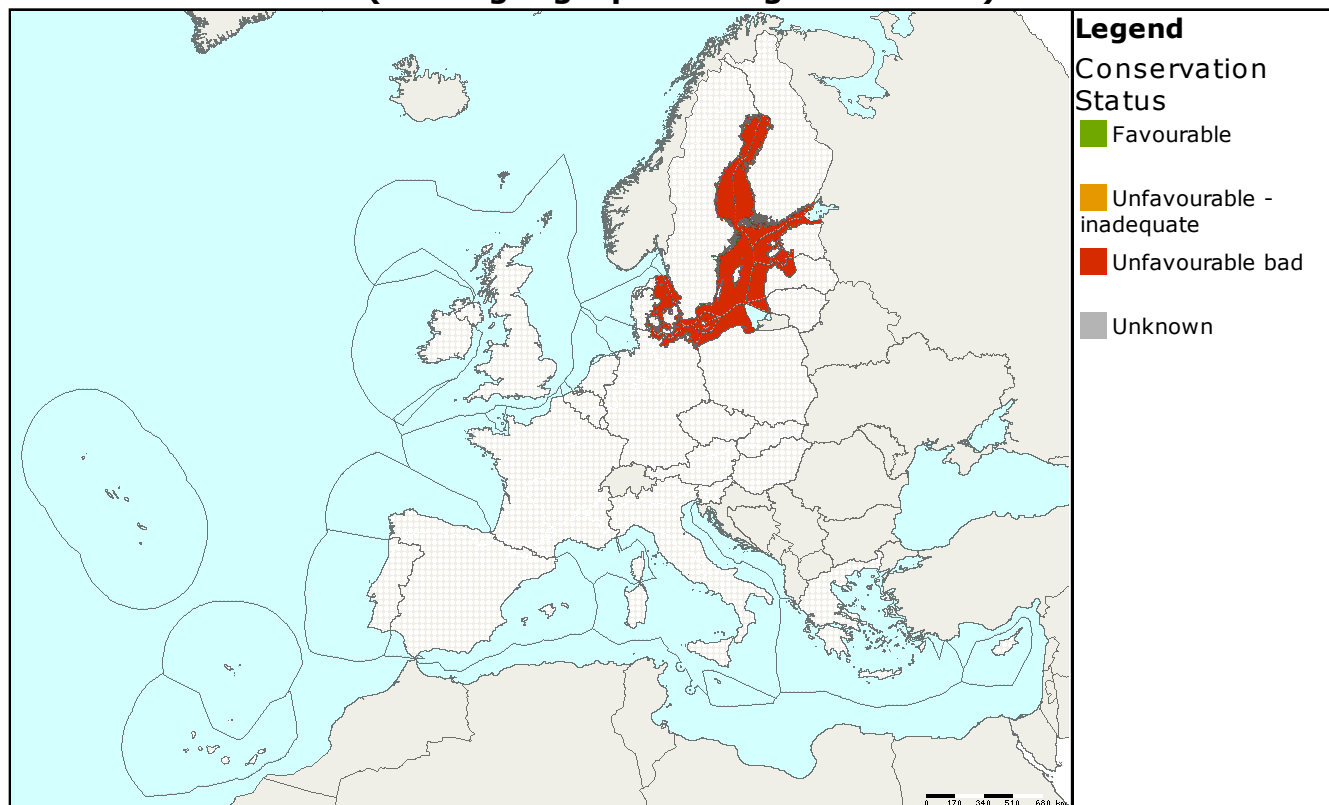


Species name: **Phoca hispida bottnica**
Annex: **II, V**

Species group: **Mammals**
Regions: **MATL MBAL**

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

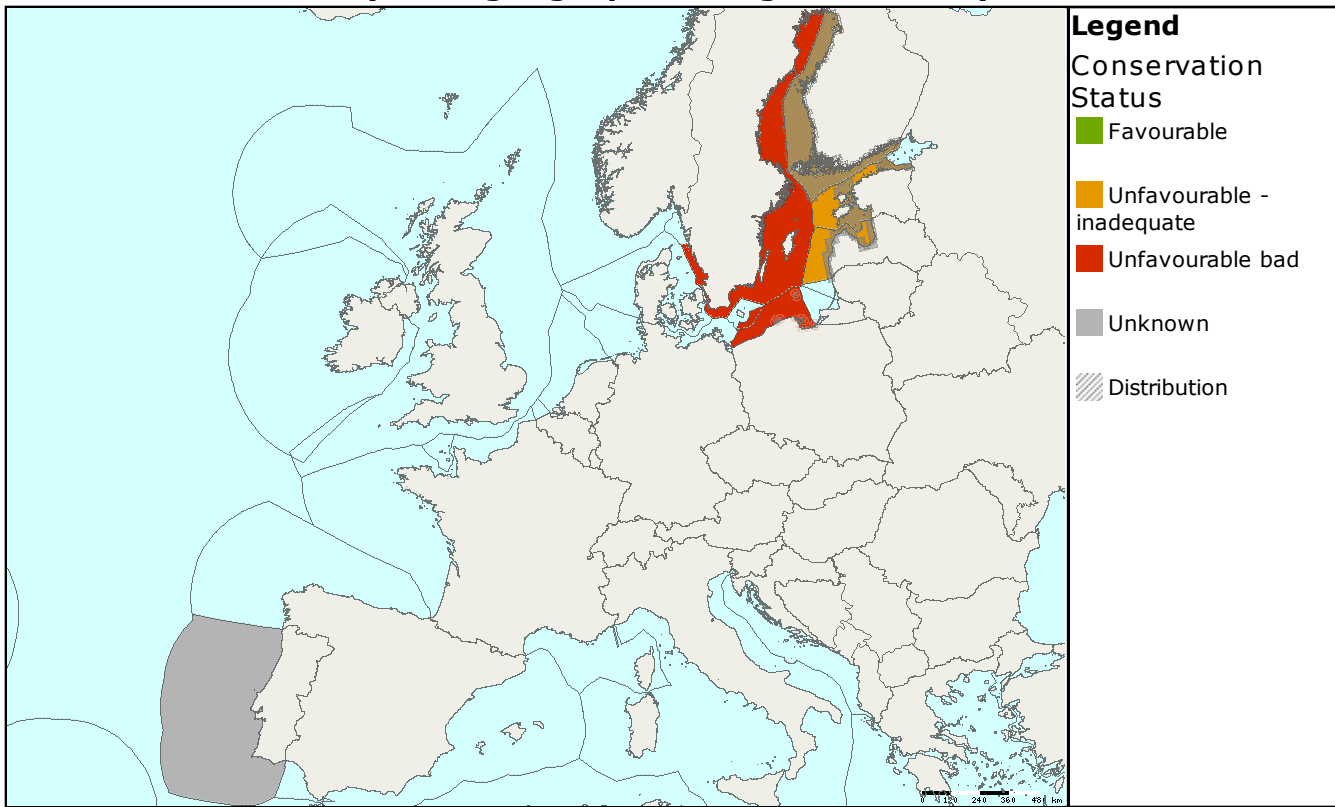


MS	Region	Conservation status assessment					Population size & unit	Population Trend
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	Overall		
EU25	MBAL						11530 - 16920 indiv.	

The Baltic ringed seal is endemic to the Baltic sea. It breeds and moults on ice during the winter. This subspecies has suffered a very severe population decline during the last century due to over-harvesting and low fertility values possibly inhibited by high contaminant loads.

The regional overall assessment is 'unfavourable-bad' and dictated by the fact that more than 25% of the species' distribution lies in Swedish waters for which Sweden has defined the population parameter and the overall assessment as 'unfavourable-bad'. Several factors such as the species' restricted geographic isolation, the high pollution load of the Baltic sea, and the future climate projections in terms of ice coverage for the next 30 years, play a significant role in the endangered status of this species. The species is listed as 'least concern' in the IUCN Red List of threatened species.

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	
EE	MBAL						980 - 1820 indiv.	=	1
FI	MBAL						7000 - 10000 indiv.	+	2
LV	MBAL						50 - 100 indiv.	-	3
SE	MBAL						3500 - 5000 indiv.	+	1
PL	MBAL						N/A grids	X	3

Data quality is based on an 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>