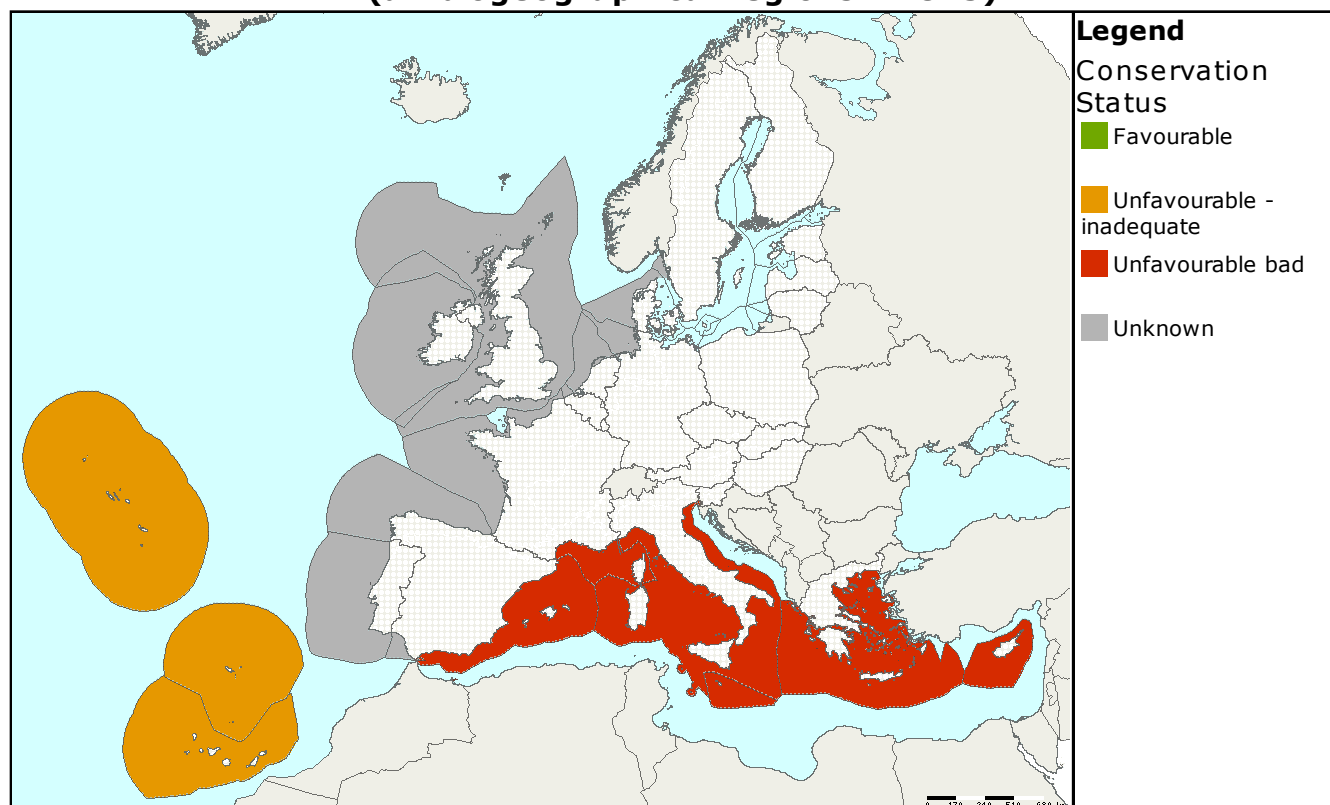


Species name: **Physeter catodon**  
Annex: **IV**

Species group: **Mammals**  
Regions: **MATL MMAC 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						581 grids	
EU25	MMAC						> 978 grids	X
EU25	MMED							

The sperm whale inhabits the continental slope and deeper (over 1,000 meters) temperate to sub-polar waters of the marine Atlantic, Macaronesian and Mediterranean regions. Its distribution range includes all of the northwestern and western range of the marine Atlantic and extends south until the Azores and the Canaries islands and into the entire marine Mediterranean region.

The overall assessment in the marine Atlantic is 'unknown' because of knowledge gaps for all parameters with the exception of those provided by the United Kingdom. The overall assessment is 'unfavourable-inadequate' in the marine Macaronesian region due to unfavourable-inadequate subconclusions for almost all parameters. In the marine Mediterranean region the assessment is 'unfavourable bad' due to preliminary information indicating a population decline and bad future prospects due to various ongoing threats. In general, most conclusions are based on expert opinion and indicate the need for better data collection on the species' conservation status. Most countries reported the species as vulnerable to boat collision, noise disturbance, mixed forms of

pollution, and bycatch in illegal use of driftnets in the Mediterranean sea. The species is listed as 'vulnerable' in the IUCN Red list of threatened species and as 'endangered' in the proposed IUCN regional Red list for the Mediterranean sea.

**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			
FR	MATL						N/A indiv.	X	
IE	MATL						N/A x	N/A	
UK	MATL						N/A x	X	3
NL	MATL						N/A x	N/A	
PT	MATL						N/A x	X	
ES	MMAC						500 - (500) indiv.	X	1
PT	MMAC						N/A x	X	
EL	MMED						180 - 280 indiv.	-	2
ES	MMED						96 - (96) x	=	1
FR	MMED						N/A indiv.	X	3
IT	MMED						N/A x	-	3
MT	MMED						N/A x	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>