



## Acipenser gueldenstaedtii

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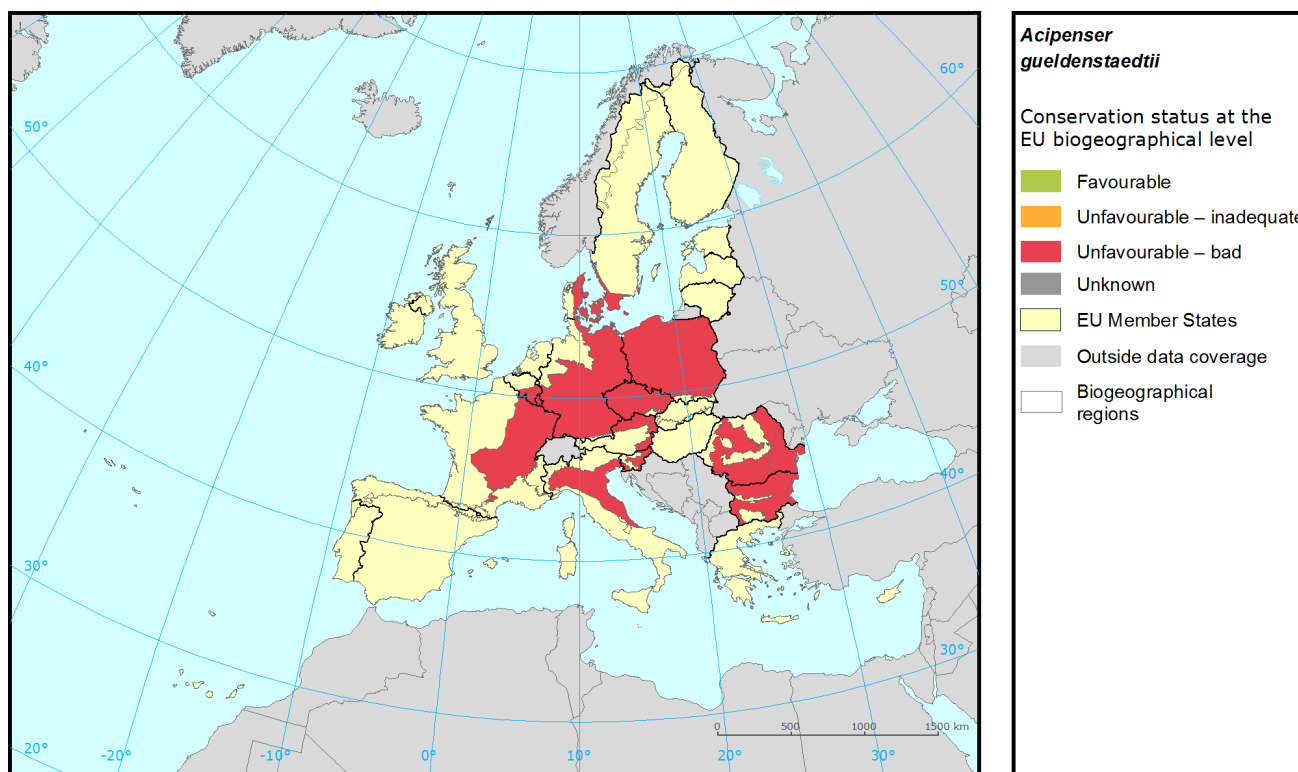
<b>Annex</b>	V
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Fish
<b>Regions</b>	Black Sea, Continental, Steppic

Russian sturgeon is one of the common sturgeon species occurring in the Black Sea. Sturgeons are migratory fish, the Russian sturgeon occurs during reproduction period in large rivers and the rest of its life in sea. This species is an object of the commercial fisheries and is exploited mainly to produce caviar. Together with other Black Sea sturgeons it experienced severe population declines in last decades due to overexploitation, dam constructions and pollution. It's last natural reproducing population in the Black Sea is known from Danube (possibly also in Georgian river Rioni) (IUCN). Within the European Union it only occurs in Romania and Bulgaria. Conservation status in all biogeographical regions was evaluated as unfavourable bad, although the assessment of conservations status in Bulgaria is not available due to lack of recent data. The species is listed as critically endangered in the Red book of Bulgaria. The conservations status is deteriorating due to continuous population decline in Danube and persisting anthropogenic pressures.

# Species: *Acipenser gueldenstaedtii*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
BLS	XX	U2	XX	U2	U2	-	7	XX	Not genuine
CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	42	XX	Not genuine
STE	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	51	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more information<sup>i</sup>

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### *Acipenser gueldenstaedtii*

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Favourable                | EU Member States       |
| Unfavourable – inadequate | Outside data coverage  |
| Unfavourable – bad        | Biogeographical region |
| Unknown                   |                        |

The map shows both Conservation Status and distribution using a 10 km x 10 km grid. Conservation status is assessed at biogeographical level. Therefore the representation in each grid cell is only illustrative.

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MS Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
BG BLS	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
RO BLS	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0		
BG CON	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
RO CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0		
RO STE	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0		

Knowing that not all changes in conservation status between the reporting periods were genuine, Member States were asked to give the reasons for changes in conservation status. Bulgaria and Romania only joined the EU in 2007 and Greece did not report for 2007-12 so no reason is given for change for these countries. Greek data shown above is from 2001-06.

## Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

Member States were asked to report the 20 most important threats and pressures using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the [Article 17 Reference Portal](#). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance'; the tables below only show threats and pressures classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten threats or pressures reported as highly important.

### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	50
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	50

### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	50
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	50

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 17 of the Habitats Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2007-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at:

<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Fish&period=3&subject=Acipenser+gueldenstaedtii>

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**i Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level:** Current Conservation Status (Current CS) shows the status for the reporting period 2007-2012, Previous Conservation Status (Previous CS) for the reporting period 2000-2006. Reason for change in conservation status between the reporting periods indicates whether the changes in the status were genuine or not genuine. Previous Conservation Status was not assessed for Steppic, Black Sea and Marine Black Sea regions. For these regions the Previous status is therefore considered as 'unknown'. The percentage of the species population occurring within the biogeographical/marine region (% in region) is calculated based on the area of GIS distribution.