



Acipenser stellatus

Annex	V
Priority	No
Species group	Fish
Regions	Black Sea, Continental, Mediterranean, Steppic

The Stellate sturgeon, *Acipenser stellatus*, is long-lived anadromous species (spawns in rivers and spend most of life in sea) from family Acipenseridae, which inhabits the Caspian, Black and Asov Seas, rarely occurs in Aegean Sea. The adults migrate upriver during spawning migration.

In the Black Sea, the last natural population migrates to Danube. All populations are endangered and declining.

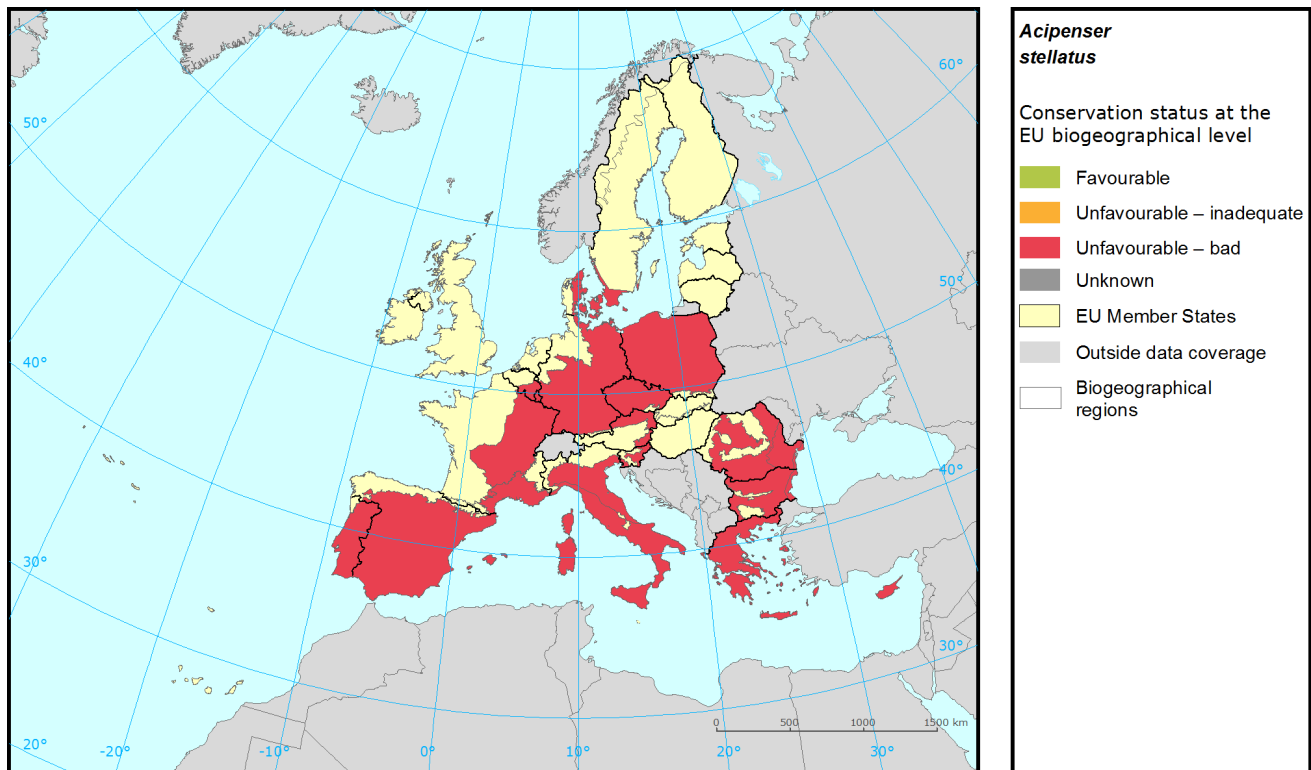
The species reported distribution in Mediterranean region is nowadays limited to a very small Greek area. In the Red List of European Freshwater Fish is the Aegean population hypothesized as extirpated, but current conservation status is not known.

Overfishing for meat and caviar together with reduction of spawning grounds represent the main threats.

Species: *Acipenser stellatus*

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	U1	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	8	XX	Not genuine
CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	38	XX	Not genuine
MED	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	x	9	U1	Not genuine
STE	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	46	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Acipenser stellatus

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					
RO	BLS	U1	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0			
BG	CON	XX	XX	XX	XX					
RO	CON	U2	U2	U2	U2	-	100.0			
GR	MED	U1	U1	U1	U1		100.0	U1		
RO	STE	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+stellatus>

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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.