



Gymnocephalus baloni

Annex	II, IV
Priority	No
Species group	Fish
Regions	Black Sea, Continental, Pannonian, Steppic

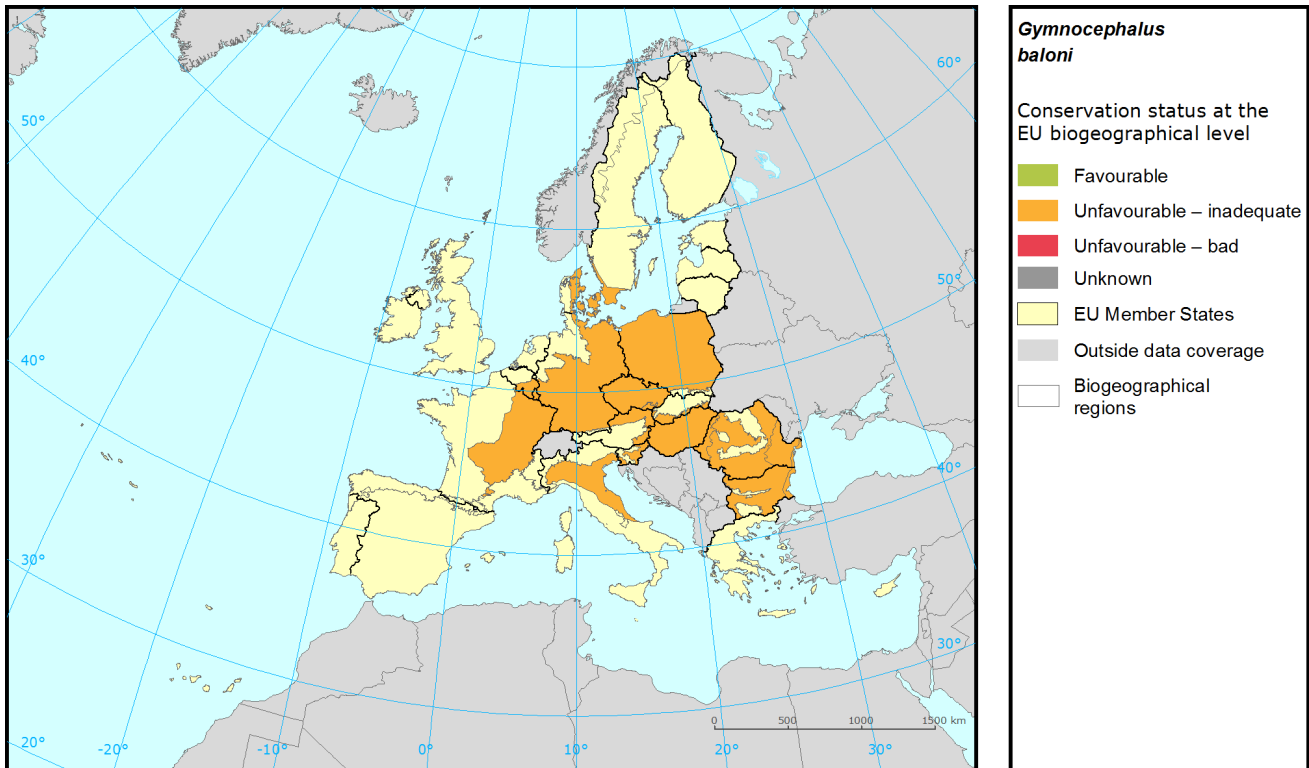
The Balon's Ruffe is a fish species occurring in big rivers of the Danube river system from the Danube delta up to Bavaria. Within the EU the species occurs as well in Romania and Bulgaria; it was recorded from Austria. It is a species of slowly flowing waters. It inhabits mostly sections with deep water.

This species is assessed in Continental and Pannonian region and due to the joining of Romania in EU also in the Black Sea and Steppic region in 2013. The conservation status in all biogeographical regions is 'unfavourable inadequate'. Compared to 2007 assessment this was the same for the Continental biogeographical region while previously the Pannonic region was assessed as 'favourable'. The major proportion of the population in this biogeographical region was reported in Hungary. The species is relatively common here and no major threats to its population or habitats are known. However due to the addition of Romania with 'unfavourable inadequate' status for all parameters and change of status from 'unknown' to 'unfavourable inadequate' or even 'unfavourable bad' in Slovakia the status in Pannonic region is now considered 'unfavourable inadequate'. The major threats to the species in the upper parts of the Danube are migration barrier. This species is listed as Least Concern in The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

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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	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	1	XX	Not genuine
CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	37	U1	
PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	53	FV	Not genuine
STE	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	9	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Gymnocephalus baloni

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					
RO	BLS	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	100.0		
AT	CON	FV	U2	U1	U1	U2	x	13.8		
BG	CON	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		40.8		
DE	CON	U1	U1	XX	U1	U1	+	5.3	XX	Better data
RO	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	-	36.2		
SI	CON	U1	XX	U1	XX	U1	x	3.9	U1	
CZ	PAN	U2	U2	U2	U2	U2	=	0.5	U2	Genuine
HU	PAN	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		70.8	FV	
RO	PAN	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	13.7		
SK	PAN	U2	U2	U1	U1	U2	-	15.1	XX	Better data
RO	STE	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	x	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	47
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	35
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	6
H01	Pollution to surface waters	6
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	6

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	47
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	37
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	5
H01	Pollution to surface waters	5
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	5

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size in the biogeographical/marine region.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

	BLS	CON	PAN	STE
AT		75		
BG		30		
CZ			x	
DE		100		
HU			90	
RO	100	100	100	100
SI		100		
SK			10	

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Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 17 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	33
4.1	Restoring/improving water quality	24
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	19
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	5
6.0	Other spatial measures	5
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	5
7.2	Regulation/ Management of fishery in limnic systems	5
8.2	Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems	5

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=Gymnocephalus+baloni>

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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.

ii Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region: In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece. The values are only provided for regions, in which the occurrence of the species has been reported by the Member States.