



## Balaenoptera acutorostrata

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<b>Annex</b>	IV
<b>Priority</b>	No
<b>Species group</b>	Mammals
<b>Regions</b>	Marine Atlantic, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean

### *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*

The common minke whale, *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, is widely distributed across the marine Atlantic and Macaronesian regions, from latitudes ranging from northwest of the British Isles and the central North Sea to the Canaries in the south. It is the most neritic of all minke whales and is most abundant in ocean areas overlying the continental platform. The common minke whale has no resident population in the Mediterranean Sea. It occurs occasionally as visitor from the Atlantic Ocean.

The overall conclusion for the marine Macaronesian-, and Marine Mediterranean region is unknown (XX), same as in 2001-2007. In the Marine Atlantic region, the overall conclusion is favourable (FV). This has changed from 2001-2007 when the species had overall conclusion unfavourable- inadequate (U1). However, it is not a real change, but a change in methods. Favourable (FV) conclusion is also in agreement with the IUCN Red List of threatened species that list the species as 'Least Concern'.

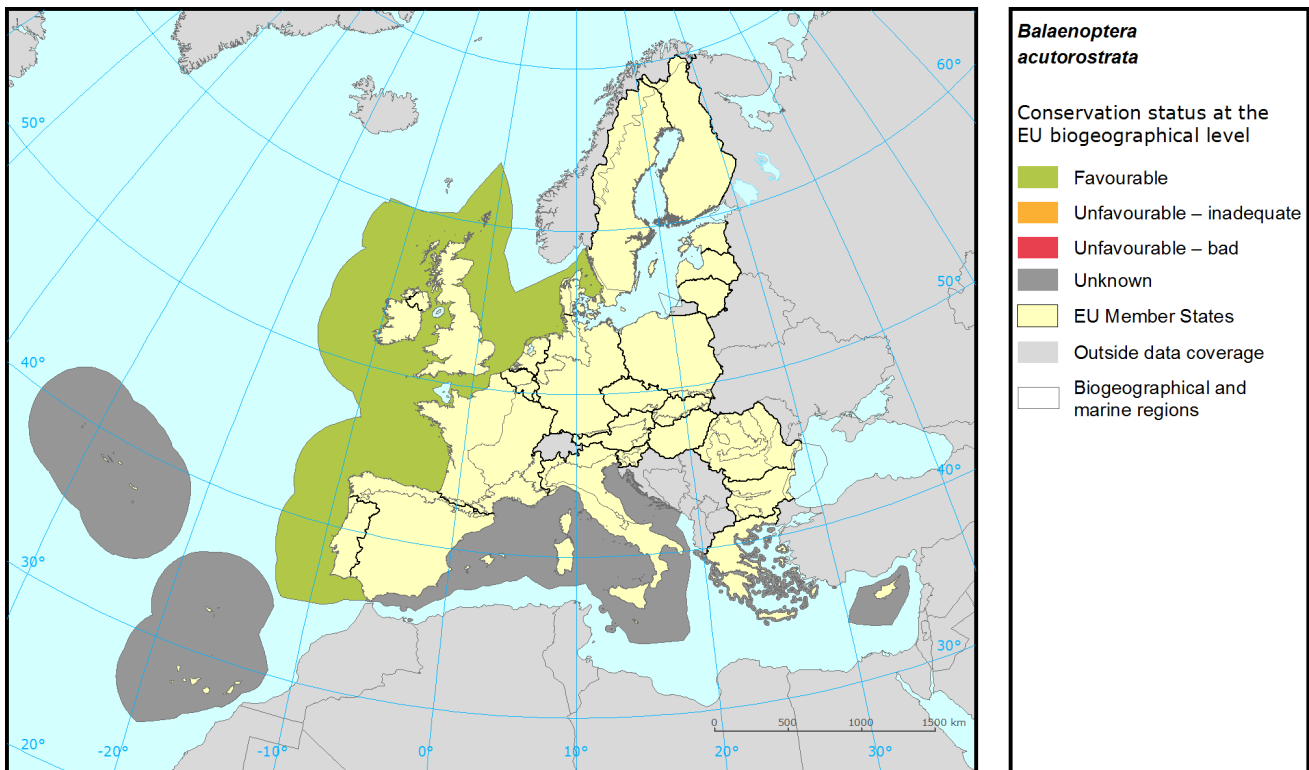
However, Whale and Dolphin Conservation suggests that the assessment from the United Kingdom in the Marine Atlantic region should rather be Unfavourable-Inadequate (conclusions for Population parameter as well and Range and Habitat for the Species as Unknown). This would have had an impact to the Marine Atlantic assesment, suggestion it to be Unfavourable-Inadequate rather than Favourable.

Main threats and pressures for the species are linked to noise pollution, shipping and water pollution.

# Species: *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*

Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



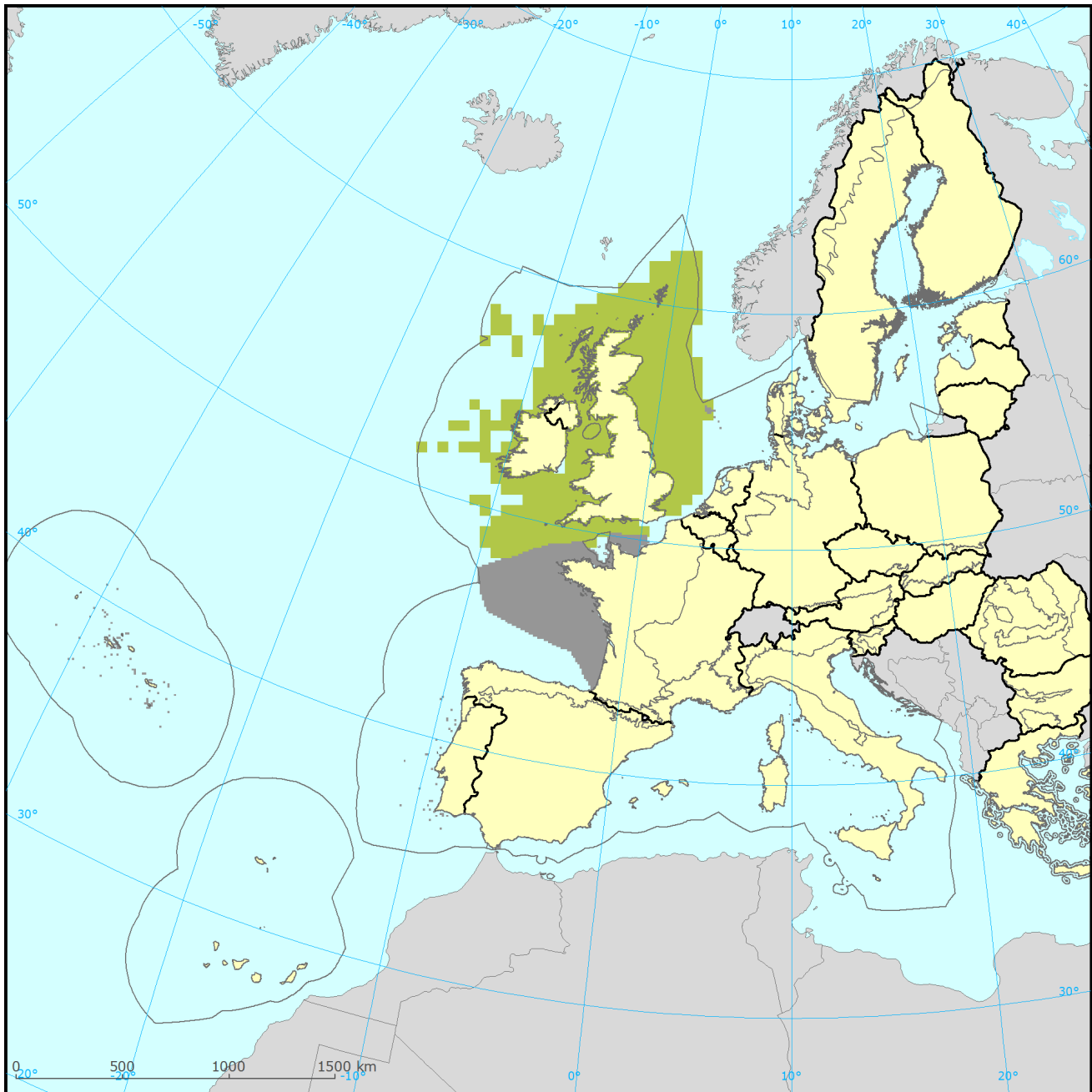
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	=	99	U1	Not genuine
MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	0.68	XX	
MMED					XX	x	0.05	XX	

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

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### ***Balaenoptera acutorostrata***

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Favourable                | EU Member States                   |
| Unfavourable – inadequate | Outside data coverage              |
| Unfavourable – bad        | Biogeographical and marine regions |
| 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					
DE MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
DK MATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV				
ES MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		XX		
FR MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	22.9	XX		
IE MATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	12.5	FV		
NL MATL									
PT MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	0.3	U1	Better data	
UK MATL	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV	64.3	FV		
ES MMAC	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		FV	Changed method	
PT MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	100.0	XX		
ES MMED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX				
GR MMED									
IT MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
UK MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				

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
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	67
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	33

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## Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	50
XE	Threats and pressures from outside the EU territory	25
XO	Threats and pressures from outside the Member State	25

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=Mammals&period=3&subject=Balaenoptera+acutorostrata>

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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.