Report under the Article 12 of the Birds Directive Period 2008-2012

European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



Calidris alba

Annex I No International action plan No

Sanderling, *Calidris alba*, is a species of wader found in unvegetated or sparsely vegetated land and marine inlet and transitional water ecosystems. It breeds in the high Arctic in northern Greenland and Svalbard. This species is a full long-distance migrant that travels mainly via offshore and coastal routes using a number of favoured stopover sites. The species breeds on barren, stony tundra with well-drained ridges, gentle slopes or level alluvial plains supporting scattered vegetation of willow *Salix spp.*, *Dryas spp.* and saxifrage *Saxifraga spp.* usually less than 200 m above sealevel. It is largely coastal during the winter, inhabiting open sandy beaches exposed to the sea, the outer reaches of estuaries, rocky and muddy shores and mudflats (European Red List 2015).

Calidris alba has a winter population size of 68100-75200 individuals in the EU27. The winter population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU population status of *Calidris alba* was assessed as Secure, because the species does not meet any of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened or Near Threatened, or the criteria for Depleted or Declining (the EU27 population or range has not declined by 20% or more since 1980).

Assessment of status at the European level

Breeding	Breeding population trend F		Range	Breeding range trend		Winter	Winter population trend		_Population
population size	Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	population size	Short term	Long term	status
						68100 - 75200 i	+	+	Secure

See the endnotes for more informationⁱ

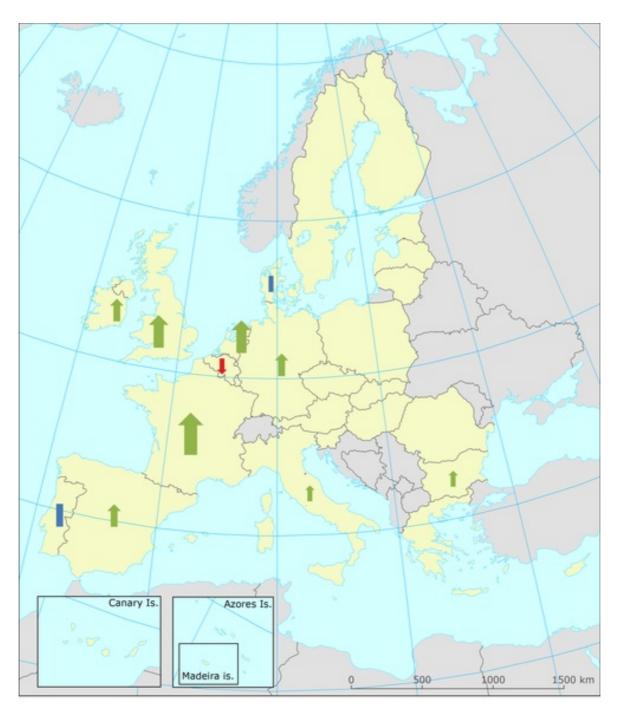
Distribution map not available.

Trends at the Member State level

MS/Ter. % i			Breeding population trend		_ Range _	Breeding range trend		Winter population	Winter population trend	
ws/rei.	MS/Ter. EU27 popu		Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	size	Short term	Long term
BE								239 - 465 i	-	X
BG								1 - 50 i	+	X
DE								3600 - 3600 i	+	+
DK								326 - 326 i	F	F
ES								3919 - 5794 i	+	+
FR								24900 - 24900 i	+	+
IE								5280 - 5280 i	+	+
IT								401 - 563 i	+	+
NL								8858 - 13396 i	+	+
PT								3664 - 3794 i	F	F
UK								17000 - 17000 i	+	+

See the endnotes for more information ii

Short-term breeding population trend was not reported for this species.





Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the 20 most important pressures and threats using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal (http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_12/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. The table below only contains information from Member States, where a species triggers SPA classification. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance', the table below only shows pressures and threats classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten pressures and threats reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures and threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	100

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the size of a species population occurring 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.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
BE	winter	NO	
BG	winter	YES	100
DE	winter	NO	
DK	winter	NO	
ES	winter	YES	40.15
FR	winter	YES	20.87
IE	winter	YES	47.67
IT	winter	NO	
NL	winter	YES	72.8
PT	winter	NO	
UK	winter	YES	58.11

See the endnotes for more information iii

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be

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found on the Article 12 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
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	53
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	40
4.4	Restoring coastal areas	7

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 12 of the Birds Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2008-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at: http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/summary?period=1&subject=A144.

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ⁱ Assessment of status at the European level: The EU assessments of birds population status was made by the European Red List of Birds Consortium (under contract with the European Commission)

The EU27 population trends were assessed using these categories: '+' Increasing, '0' Stable, 'F' Fluctuating, '-' Decreasing, 'xu' Uncertain and 'x' Unknown. The breeding population size is estimated in majority of the cases as 'p' number of pairs. Alternative population units used are: 'males' number of males, 'i' number of individuals, 'cmales' number of calling males and 'bfem' number of breeding females. The winter population size is estimated as number of individuals.

ⁱⁱSpecies trends at the Member State level: The percentage of the EU27 species population occurring in the Member States (% in EU27) is calculated based on the population size reported by the Member States.

iiiPercentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites: 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 and for non-Annex I species in the Czech Republic.