European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



Sterna hirundo

Annex I Yes International action plan No

Common Tern, *Sterna hirundo*, is a species of seabird found in wetland, unvegetated or sparsely vegetated land and river and lake ecosystems.

Sterna hirundo has a breeding population size of 132000-213000 pairs and a breeding range size of 1180000 square kilometres in the EU27. The breeding population trend in the EU27 is Increasing in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU population status of *Sterna hirundo* 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).

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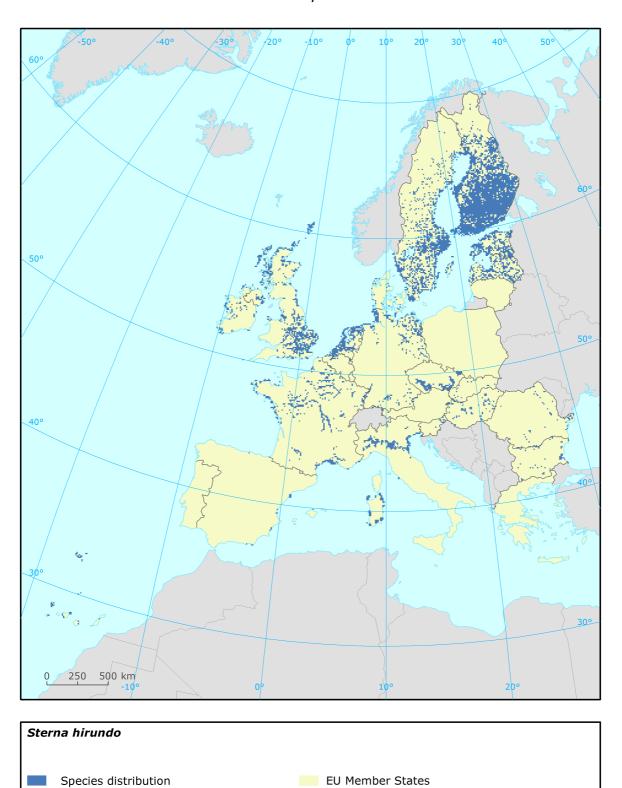
Report under the Article 12 of the Birds Directive

Assessment of status at the European level

Breeding population size	Breeding population trend		Range	Breeding range trend		Winter	Winter population trend		_ Population
	Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	population size	Short term	Long term	status
132000 - 213000 p	+	+	1180000						Secure

See the endnotes for more informationⁱ

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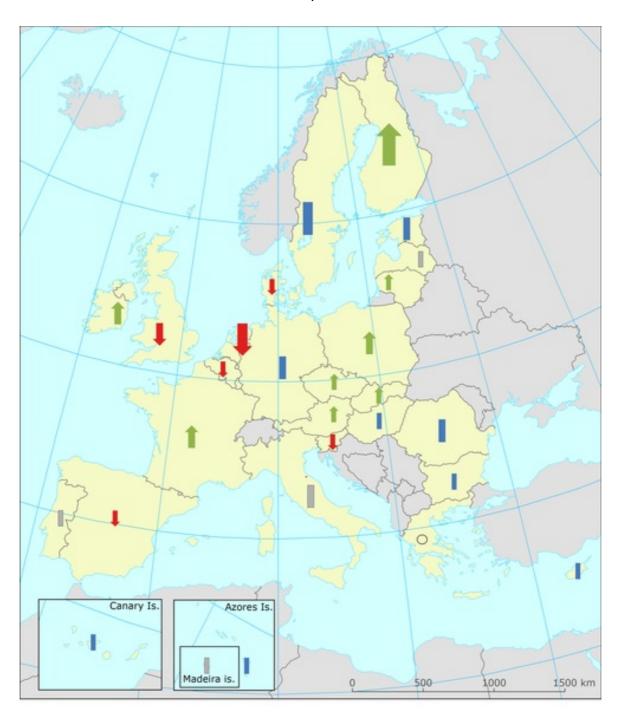


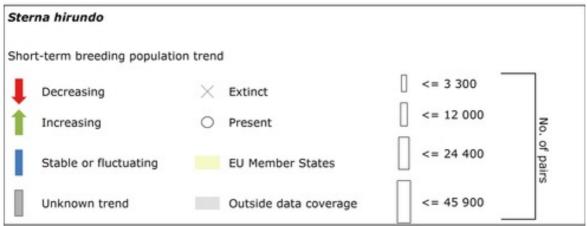
Outside data coverage

Trends at the Member State level

% in		Breeding	Breeding population trend		Range _	Breeding range trend		Winter population	Winter population trend	
M3/161. EU2	EU27	population size	Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	size	Short term	Long term
AT	0.2	400 - 500 p	+	+	2698	0	0			
BE	0.3	855 - 2866 p	-	+	1966	+	+			
BG	1.0	500 - 1200 p	F	F	16600	F	F			
CY		1 - 3 p	0	+	200	0	+			
CZ	1.8	433 - 474 p	+	0	19098	0	+			
DE	4.7	9000 - 10500 p	0	0	44641	0	0			
DK	0.4	420 - 430 p	-	-	7880	0	0			
EE	4.5	6000 - 9000 p	0	-	34700	0	0			
ES	0.3	3196 - 3204 p	-	-	1902	-	_			
ESIC	0.3	50 - 93 p	F	F	5950	F	F			
FI	34.6	30000 - 70000 p	+	+	315100	X	+			
FR	7.0	5500 - 6000 p	+	+	125600	0	+			
GR										
HU	1.2	400 - 1500 p	F	F	7088	F	X			
IE	1.1	4740 - 4740 p	+	+	9100	+	+			
IT	3.5	4000 - 5000 p	X	-	44200	+	+			
LT	2.8	2500 - 3000 p	+	-	57400	0	0			
LV	3.8	2236 - 4761 p	X	+	61987	X	+			
NL	3.1	14800 - 22800 p	-	+	33941	0	0			
PL		6000 - 8000 p	+	0		X	X			
PT		1 - 10 p	X	0	100	0	X			
PTAC	0.7	2087 - 3192 p	F	F	5700	F	F			
PTMA	0.3	500 - 1000 p	X	X	2500	+	X			
RO	0.8	6600 - 6900 p	0	-	11500	X	X			
SE	16.6	18000 - 33000 p	0	+	299300	0	х			
SI	0.2	147 - 202 p	-	+	1562	-	+			
SK	0.4	500 - 900 p	+	+	5500	+	+			
UK	10.4	12000 - 12000 p	-	-	66300	-	0			

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ





Short-term winter 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
K03	Interspecific faunal relations	20
J02	Changes in water bodies conditions	18
101	Invasive alien species	12
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	12
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
H01	Pollution to surface waters	6
H03	Pollution to marine waters	4
102	Problematic native species	4
C01	Mining and quarrying	2
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	2

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
AT	breeding	YES	95.92
BE	breeding	YES	97.45
BG	breeding	YES	47.43
CY	breeding	NO	
CZ	breeding	YES	64.35

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
DE	breeding	YES	91.93
DK	breeding	YES	77.64
EE	breeding	YES	48.11
ES	breeding	YES	99.38
ESIC	breeding	YES	23.46
FI	breeding	YES	46.92
FR	breeding	YES	82.57
HU	breeding	YES	85.66
IE	breeding	YES	51.77
IT	breeding	YES	73.01
LT	breeding	YES	20.43
LV	breeding	YES	17.22
NL	breeding	YES	71.65
PL	breeding	YES	73.93
PT	breeding	NO	
PTAC	breeding	YES	41.27
PTMA	breeding	YES	Х
RO	breeding	YES	45.11
SE	breeding	YES	19.25
SI	breeding	YES	76.11
SK	breeding	YES	88.19
UK	breeding	YES	46.52

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱⁱ

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 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	29
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	22
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	11
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	8
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	6
4.0	Other wetland-related measures	3

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Code	Measure	Frequency
4.4	Restoring coastal areas	3
7.0	Other species management measures	3
9.2	Regulating/Managing exploitation of natural resources on sea	3
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	2

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=A193 .

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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.