



## Acipenser ruthenus

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|----------------------|---|
| <b>Annex</b>         | V                                       |
| <b>Priority</b>      | No                                      |
| <b>Species group</b> | Fish                                    |
| <b>Regions</b>       | Alpine, Continental, Pannonian, Steppic |

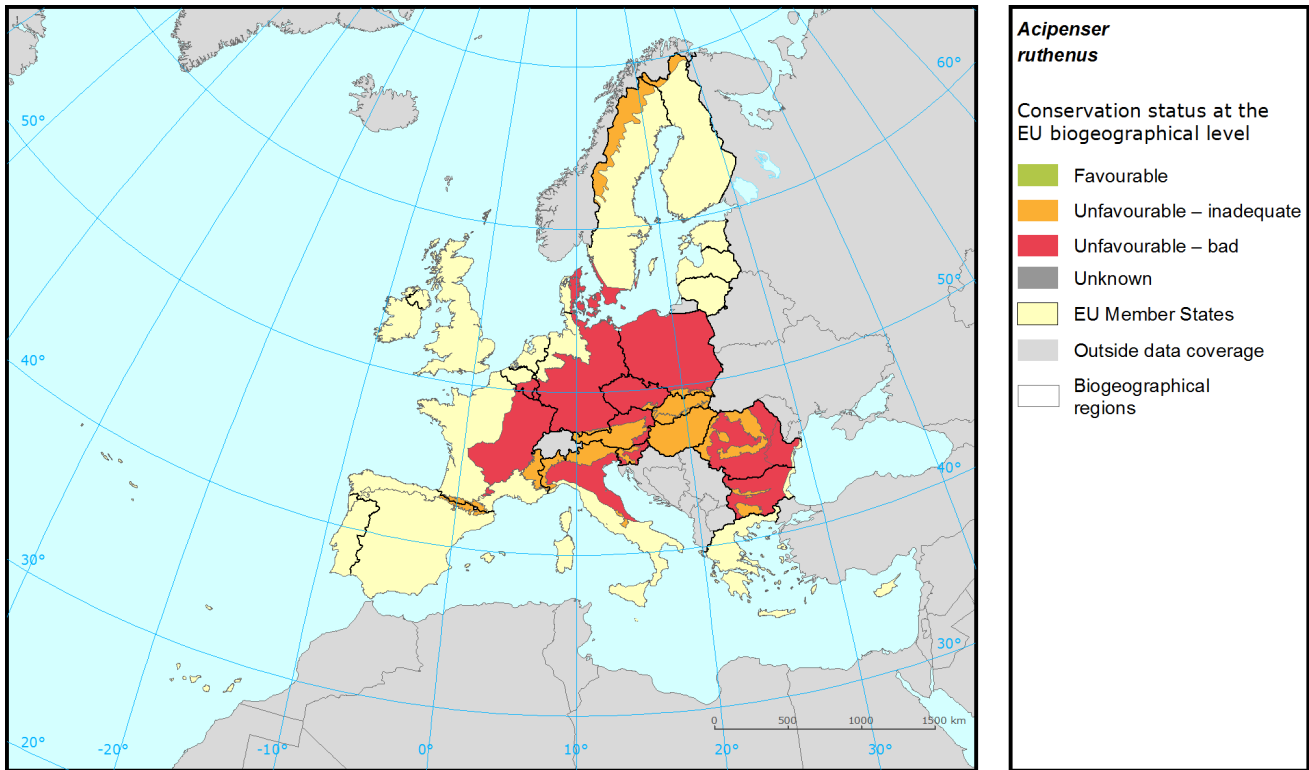
The Sterlet, *Acipenser ruthenus*, is anadromous species (spawns in rivers and spend most of life in sea) from family Acipenseridae. Sterlet inhabits Black, Azov and Caspian Seas and adjacent rivers.

The species has a Unfavourable – Bad conservation status in most of its range (only few individuals in Alpine part of Austria). The species is more widespread in Hungary and therefore Unfavourable – Inadequate in Panonian bioregion but the overall situation is in general bad. Main treata are habitat degradation, issues such as river damming and overfishing. This is in line with its Endangered status in IUCN Red List.

# Species: *Acipenser ruthenus*

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 |            |             |             |             |                   |
| ALP    | XX                                     | U1         | XX      | XX               | U1         | x           | 0.25        | U1          |                   |
| CON    | U2                                     | U2         | U2      | U2               | U2         | -           | 38          | U2          |                   |
| PAN    | FV                                     | U1         | U1      | U1               | U1         | =           | 34          | U1          |                   |
| STE    | U1                                     | U2         | U2      | U2               | U2         | -           | 28          | U2          |                   |

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

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



### *Acipenser ruthenus*

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 |            |             |             |             |                   |
| AT ALP    | XX                                | XX         | XX      | XX               | XX         |             | 100.0       | XX          |                   |
| AT CON    | U2                                | U2         | U1      | U2               | U2         | =           | 5.3         | U2          | Changed method    |
| BG CON    | XX                                | XX         | XX      | XX               | XX         |             |             |             |                   |
| RO CON    | U2                                | U2         | U2      | U2               | U2         | -           | 94.7        |             |                   |
| CZ PAN    | U2                                | U2         | U2      | U2               | U2         | =           | 0.7         | U1          | Better data       |
| HU PAN    | FV                                | U1         | U1      | U1               | U1         | =           | 90.4        | U1          |                   |
| RO PAN    | U2                                | U2         | U2      | U2               | U2         | -           | 8.8         |             |                   |
| RO STE    | U1                                | 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       | 54        |
| J03  | Other changes to ecosystems              | 23        |
| I01  | Invasive alien species                   | 15        |
| F02  | Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources | 8         |

### Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

| Code | Activity                                 | Frequency |
|------|--|-----------|
| J02  | Changes in water bodies conditions       | 50        |
| J03  | Other changes to ecosystems              | 29        |
| I01  | Invasive alien species                   | 14        |
| F02  | Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources | 7         |

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:

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<http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article17/reports2012/species/summary/?group=Fish&period=3&subject=Acipenser+ruthenus>

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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.