European Environment Agency
European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity

Pseudorca crassidens

Annex	IV
Priority	No
Species group	Mammals
Regions	Marine Atlantic, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean

Pseudorca crassidens

The false killer whale, Pseudorca crassidens, inhabits relatively deep offshore temperate waters of the Atlantic ocean up until the 50°N latitude.

The species is reported from Spain, Ireland, Netherlands, Portugal, and United Kingdom in the marine Atlantic region. However, all countries report the species as “occasional, vagrant or marginal” and no values are added. Therefore, the assessment for the region is unknown (XX). The overall assessment for the region was the same in 2007.

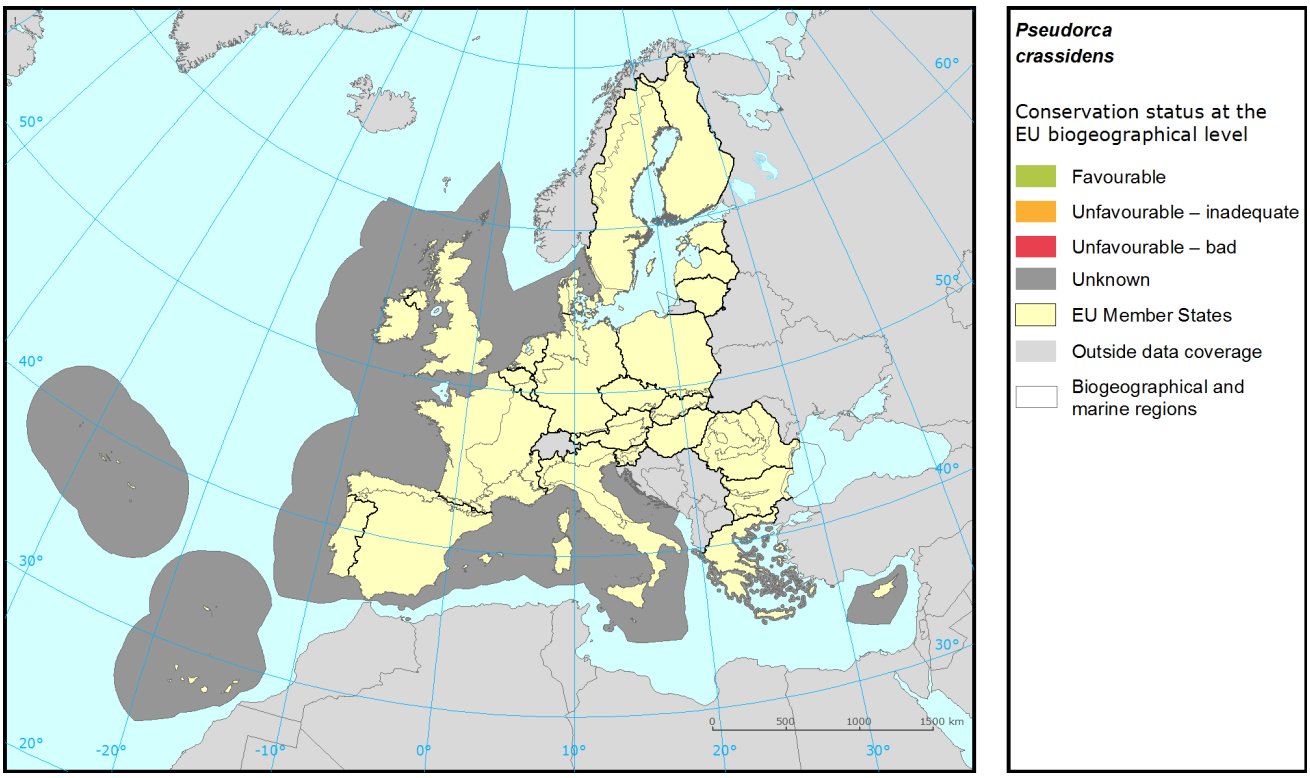
It has been observed in the whole Macaronesian region, and is present in Spain and Portugal. However, Spain reports the species as “occasional, vagrant or marginal”. Therefore, the report from Portugal is used for assessment for the region. Overall conclusion for the region is unknown (XX), same as in 2007.

It the Marine Mediterranean region, the false killer whale is believed to have no resident population. It occurs occasionally as visitor from the Atlantic Ocean. The species is reported from Greece, Spain, Italy and Malta in the marine Mediterranean region. However, all countries but Greece report the species as “occasional, vagrant or marginal” and the only value added is from Greece that has reported gridded area. Therefore, the assessment for the region is unknown (XX), same as in 2007.

The lack of knowledge on this species’ conservation status reflects its IUCN listing as ‘data deficient’ in the Red List of threatened species.

Main threats towards the species are anthropogenic sound, by catches, reduction in prey availability, and various pollutions including macro pollution.

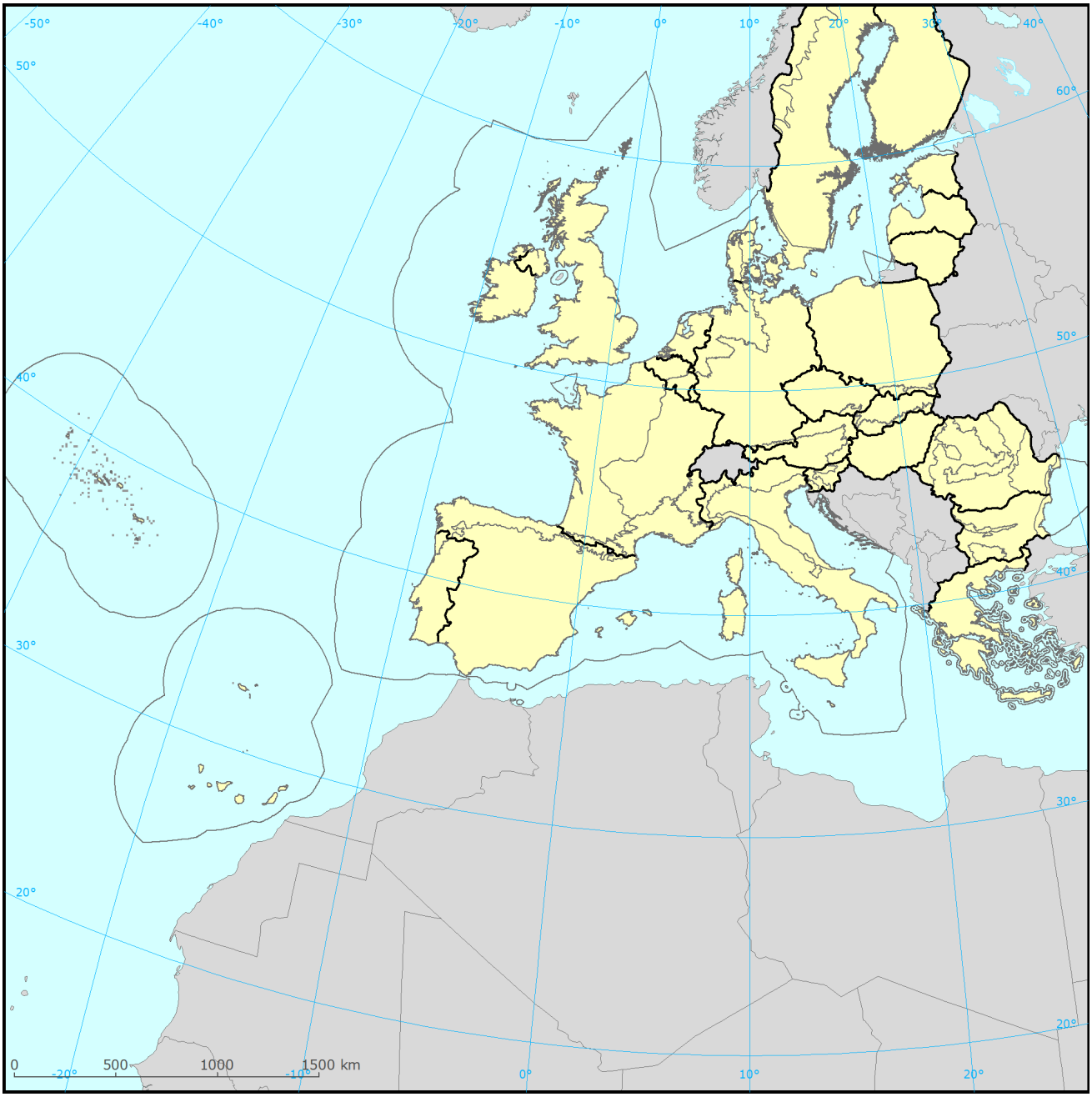
Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MATL					XX			XX	
MMAC	FV	XX	XX	FV	XX	x	98	XX	
MMED					XX		2	XX	

See the endnote for more information[i]

Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Pseudorca crassidens

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- Favourable
- Unfavourable – inadequate
- Unfavourable – bad
- Unknown
- EU Member States
- Outside data coverage
- Biogeographical and marine regions

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.

MS	Region	Conservation status of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
ES	MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX				
IE	MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
NL	MATL									
PT	MATL								XX	
UK	MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
ES	MMAC	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
PT	MMAC	XX	XX	XX	FV	XX		100.0	XX	
ES	MMED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX				
GR	MMED									
IT	MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
MT	MMED								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
No ‘highly important’ pressures were reported.		

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
No ‘highly important’ threats were reported.		

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=Pseudorca+crassidens

[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.