Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive Period 2007-2012

# **European Environment Agency** *European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity*



#### Rhinolophus blasii

Annex II, IV Priority No

Species group Mammals

**Regions** Alpine, Black Sea, Continental, Mediterranean

#### Rhinolophus blasii

Blasius's horseshoe bat has a large range in the Palaearctic and the Afrotropics, throughout which it is widely distributed in patches. In Europe, according to the IUCN Red List data, it is extinct in northeastern Italy and has not been recorded in Slovenia during the last 50 years and is now restricted to south-western Romania, the Balkans and to some Mediterranean islands like Crete and Cyprus.

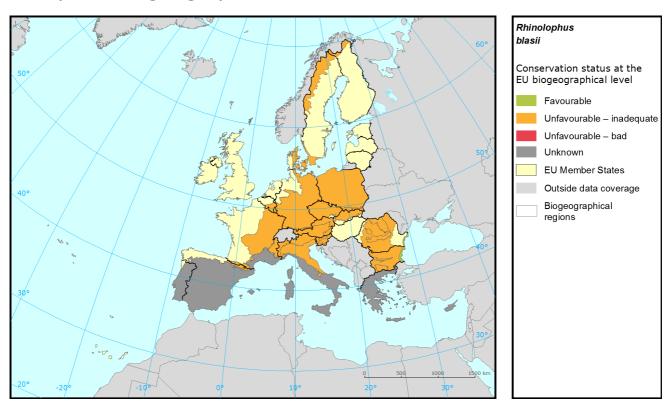
This species was reported by Bulgaria, Romania, Cyprus and Greece. While Greece's conservation status and thus the report for the Mediterranean biogeographical region is 'unknown', the remainder of biogeographical regions was reported as unfavourable-inadequate (i.e. Alpine and Continental) or favourable (Black Sea).

The most commonly high ranked pressures and threats reported by Member States were recreational cave visits, vandalism, the closure of caves or galleries and speleology. The IUCN Red list classifies it as 'vulnerable' as the population is in steady decline across the global range and is expected to decrease by more than 30% over the next three generations (http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/19515/1 consulted on 24 February 2015).

## Species: Rhinolophus blasii

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## Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level

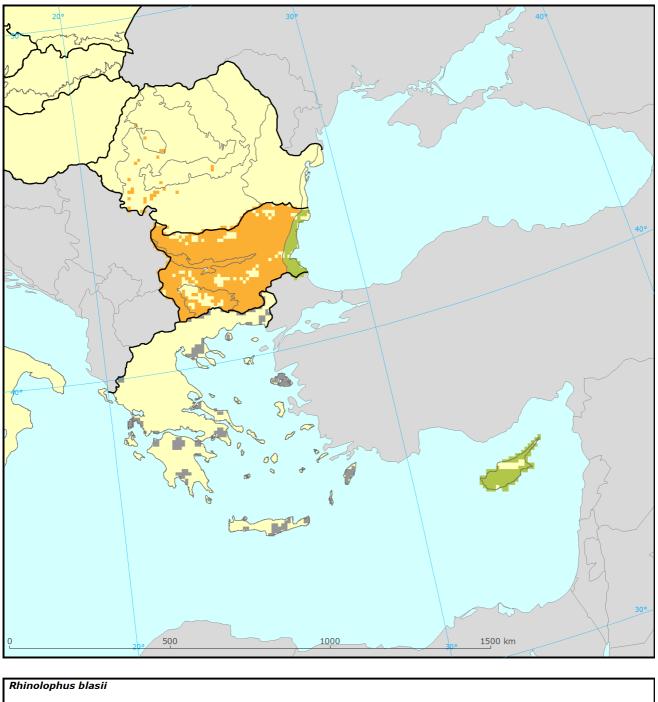


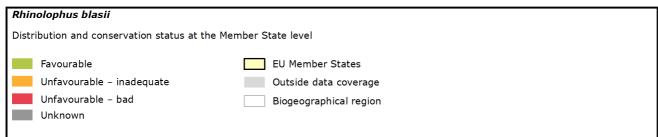
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason for
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	change
ALP	U1	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	11	XX	Not genuine
BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		5	XX	Not genuine
CON	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	67	XX	Not genuine
MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	=	17	XX	

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

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## Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level





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		Cons	ervation stat	us of para	ameters	Current	Trend in	% in	Previous	Reason
		Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects	CS	CS	region	CS	for change
BG	ALP	U1	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	95.7		
RO	ALP	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	4.3		
BG	BLS	FV	FV	FV	FV	FV		100.0		
BG	CON	FV	U1	FV	FV	U1	=	97.4		
RO	CON	U1	U1	U1	U1	U1	=	2.6		
CY	MED	FV	FV	XX	FV	FV		51.9	XX	Better data
GR	MED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		48.1	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
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	40
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	27
E06	Other urban/industrial developments	20
A10	Restructuring agricultural parcels	7
B03	Forest exploitation	7

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

Code	Activity	Frequency
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	42
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	33
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	17
B03	Forest exploitation	8

#### Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive Member States were asked to report the population size 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 in the biogeographical/marine region.

#### Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region

	ALP	BLS	CON	MED
BG	65	78	67	
CY				60
RO	100		100	

See the endnotes for more information ii

## Most frequently reported conservation measures

For species listed in the Annex II of the Directive 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 17 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	29
9.1	Regulating/Management exploitation of natural resources on land	19
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	10
6.4	Manage landscape features	10
7.4	Specific single species or species group management measures	5

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=Rhinolophus+blasii

## Species: Rhinolophus blasii

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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.

iiPercentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites in biogeographical/marine region: 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. The values are only provided for regions, in which the occurrence of the species has been reported by the Member States.