



Ziphius cavirostris

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

Ziphius cavirostris

Cuvier's Beaked Whale, *Ziphius cavirostris*, inhabits the continental slope and offshore tropical to subpolar waters of the Atlantic ocean. It is also the only species of beaked whale that regularly inhabits the Mediterranean sea where it has a wide distribution though it is not frequently observed. The species is present in the Marine Atlantic-, Marine Macaronesian, and the Marine Mediterranean region.

Knowledge on this species is limited for most parameters reported by Member States. The overall assessment is unknown (XX) in the Marine Atlantic- and in the Marine Macaronesian region. In the Marine Mediterranean region, conclusion is unfavorable- inadequate (U1). The assessment is in agreement with the knowledge in the region as there is likely deterioration of the species habitat. Mainly because of rapid increase of the anthropogenic noise levels introduced to the marine environment and pollution (shipping lanes and traffic, military exercises including use of high level sonar, illegal dynamite fishing, pollution by plastic debris swallowed by Cuvier's beaked whales). Although many parameters regarding the species population are unknown, the threat by the use of military sonar is extremely high, since one single exercise in a geographical zone could rapidly erase an entire population from a large area in the Marine Mediterranean region.

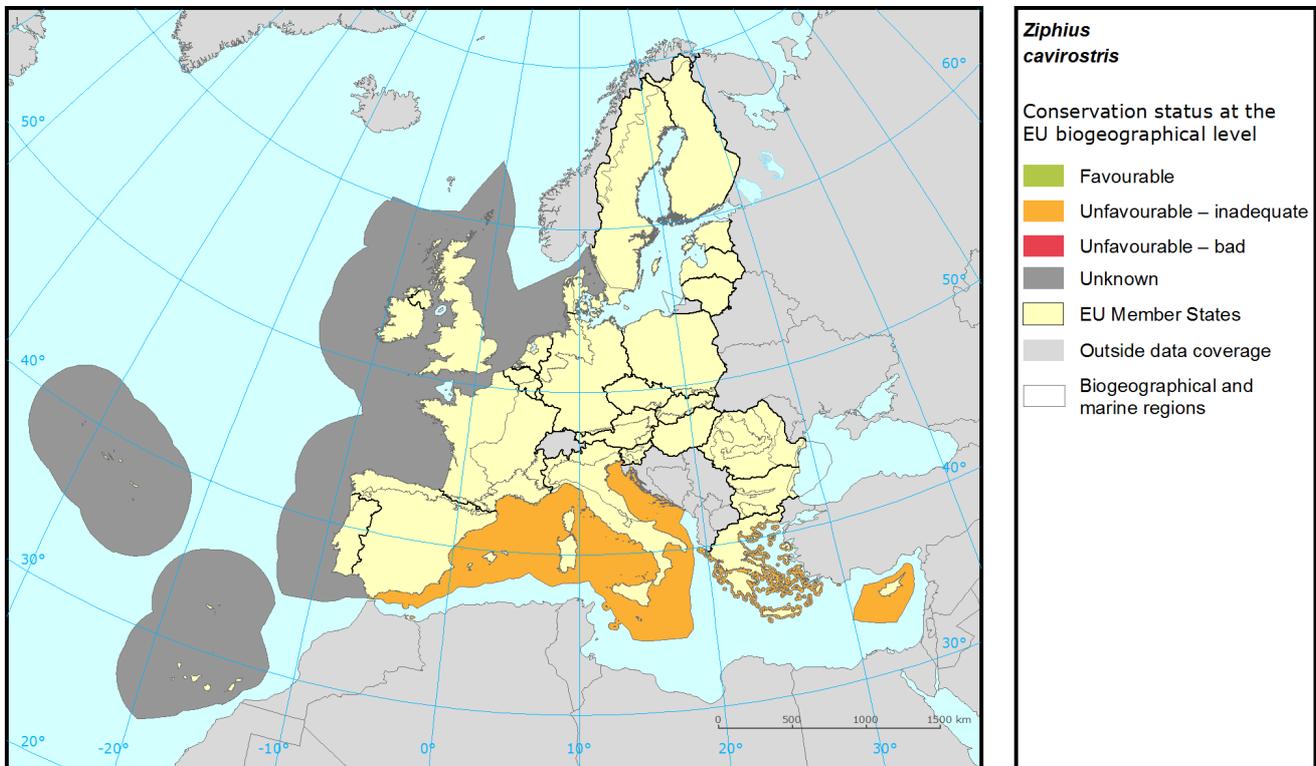
The species is listed as 'least concern' in the IUCN Red List of threatened species but is proposed for listing as 'data deficient' in the IUCN Regional Red List for the Mediterranean sea. More data is needed for this species.

Min pressures and threats reported are linked to noise pollution, but also shipping lanes, and marine water pollution including marine macro-pollution (i.e. plastic bags, styrofoam).

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Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level



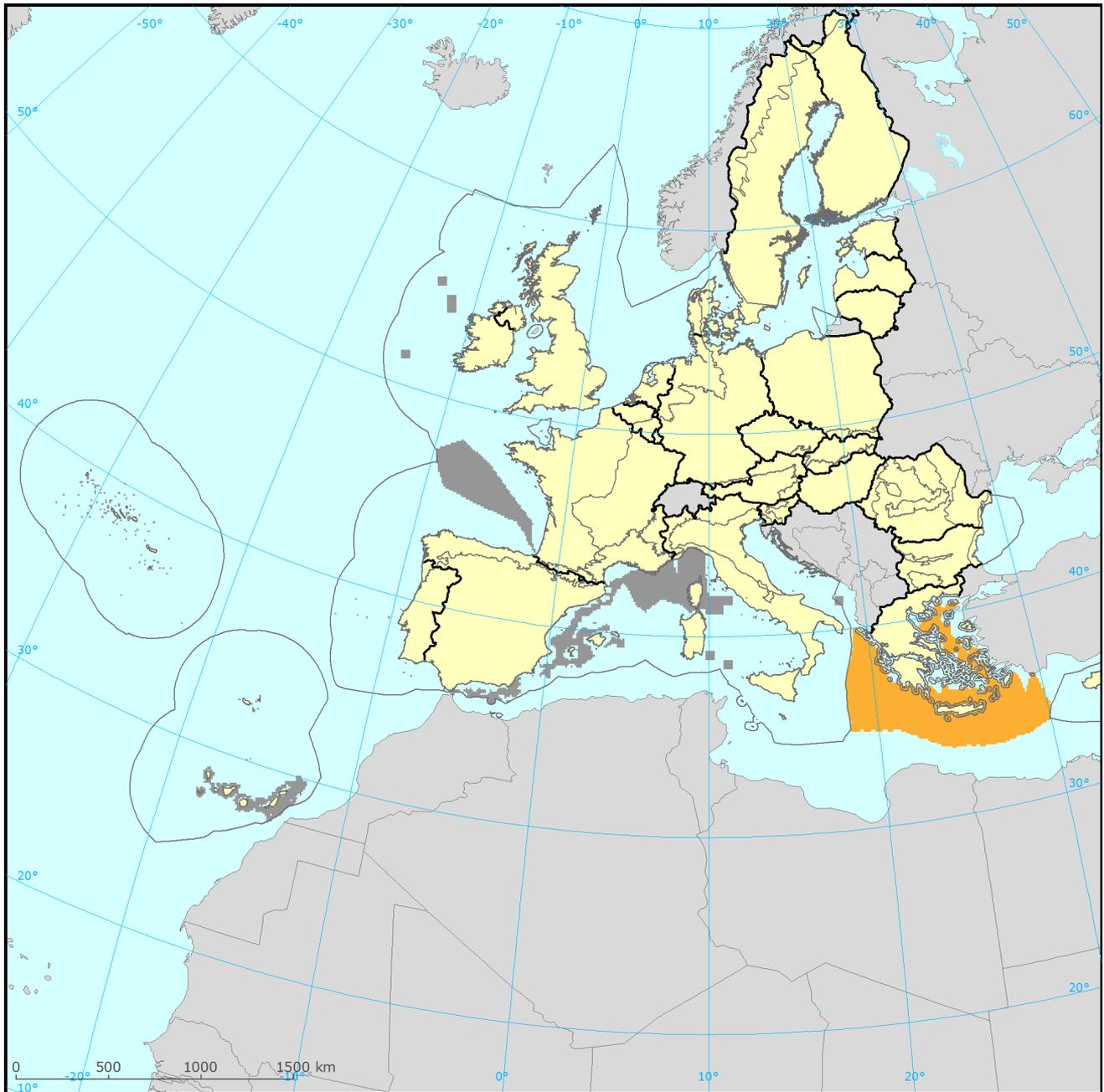
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		17	XX	
MMAC	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	x	8	XX	
MMED	U1	XX	XX	XX	U1	x	75	XX	Not genuine

See the endnote for more informationⁱ

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level



Ziphius cavirostris

Distribution and conservation status at the Member State level

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Favourable | EU Member States |
| Unfavourable – inadequate | Outside data coverage |
| Unfavourable – bad | Biogeographical and marine regions |
| 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					
ES MATL	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
FR MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	91.4		XX	
IE MATL	FV	XX	FV	XX	XX	7.9		XX	
PT MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	0.6		XX	
UK MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
ES MMAC	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	81.0		XX	
PT MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	19.0		XX	
ES MMED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX	13.9		XX	
FR MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	15.3		XX	
GR MMED	U1	XX	U1	U1	U1	64.5		U1	
IT MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	6.3		XX	
MT MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			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
G04	Military use and civil unrest	33
H06	Excess energy (noise, light, heating, electromagnetic)	33
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	11
H03	Pollution to marine waters	11
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	11

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Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
G04	Military use and civil unrest	45
H06	Excess energy (noise, light, heating, electromagnetic)	27
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	9
H03	Pollution to marine waters	9
J03	Other changes to ecosystems	9

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=Ziphius+cavirostris>

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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.