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

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

Chelonia mydas

Annex	II, IV
Priority	Yes
Species group	Reptiles
Regions	Marine Atlantic, Marine Macaronesian, Marine Mediterranean

Chelonia mydas

The Green Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*) has a global distribution, occurring throughout tropical and, to a lesser extent, subtropical waters. Population trend is decreasing. Green turtles, like other sea turtle species, are particularly susceptible to population declines because of their vulnerability to anthropogenic impacts during all life-stages: from eggs to adults.

Overall conclusion is unfavorable-bad (U2) in the Marine Atlantic- and Marine Mediterranean region. Knowledge has increased in the Marine Atlantic region that had overall conclusion unknown (XX) in 2001-2006. However population is unknown for both regions and also future prospects in the Marine Atlantic region. Thus more data is needed for this species. The overall conclusion unfavorable- bad (U2) is in line with the IUCN red list of threatened species that list the species as endangered.

In the Marine Macaronesian region, overall conclusion is unknown (XX). In 2001-2006, the overall conclusion was unfavorable (U1). Therefore, more data is urgently needed in this region since this species is likely to be in unfavorable conditions also in the Marine Macaronesian region. Especially, since the IUCN red list of threatened species list the species as endangered.

Pressures and threats mainly involve fishing and other boating activities, water pollution (including macro-pollution) and constructions and other activities on land that disturb breeding, but also light pollution.

Species: *Chelonia mydas*
Report under the Article 17 of the Habitats Directive

Assessment of conservation status at the European biogeographical level
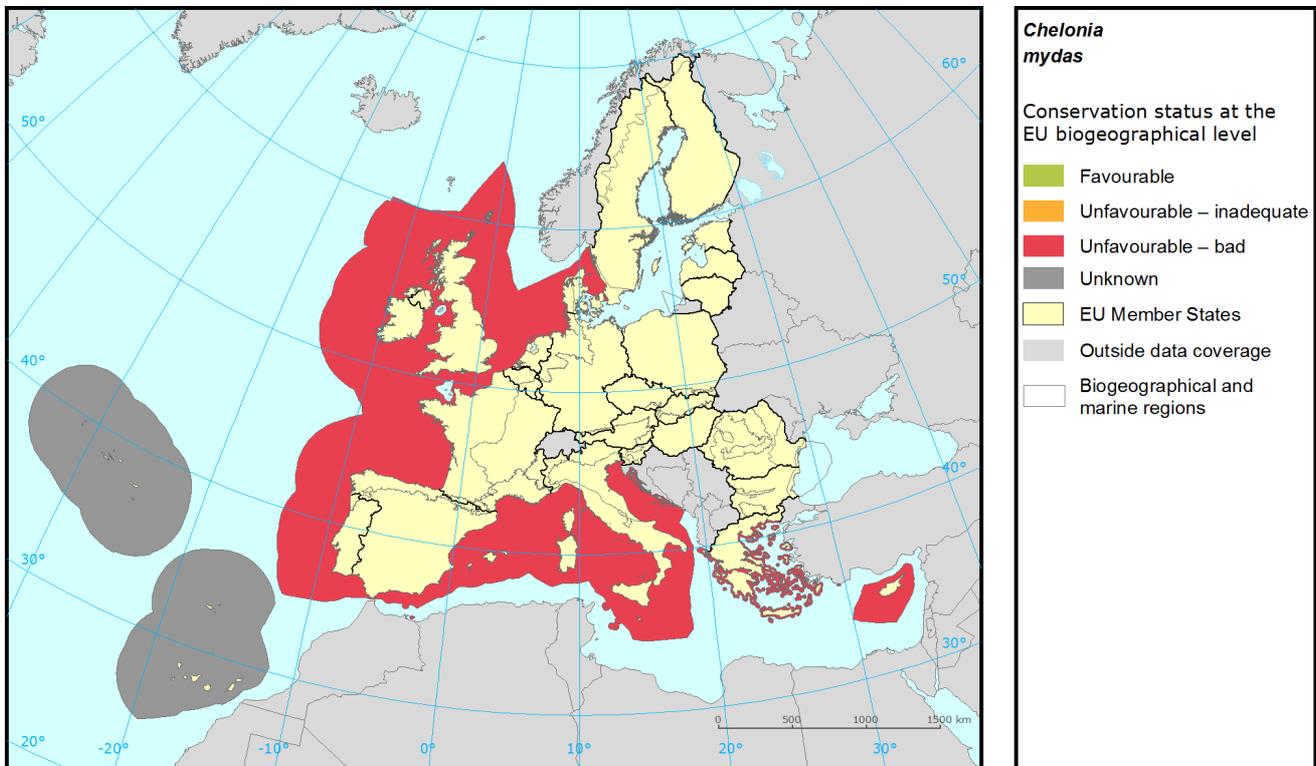
Region	Conservation status (CS) of parameters				Current CS	Trend in CS	% in region	Previous CS	Reason for change
	Range	Population	Habitat	Future prospects					
MATL	FV	XX	U2	XX	U2	=	0.09	XX	Not genuine
MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX	x		U1	Not genuine
MMED	FV	XX	U1	U2	U2	x	100	U2	

See the endnote for more information[i]

Species: *Chelonia mydas*

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Assessment of conservation status at the Member State level
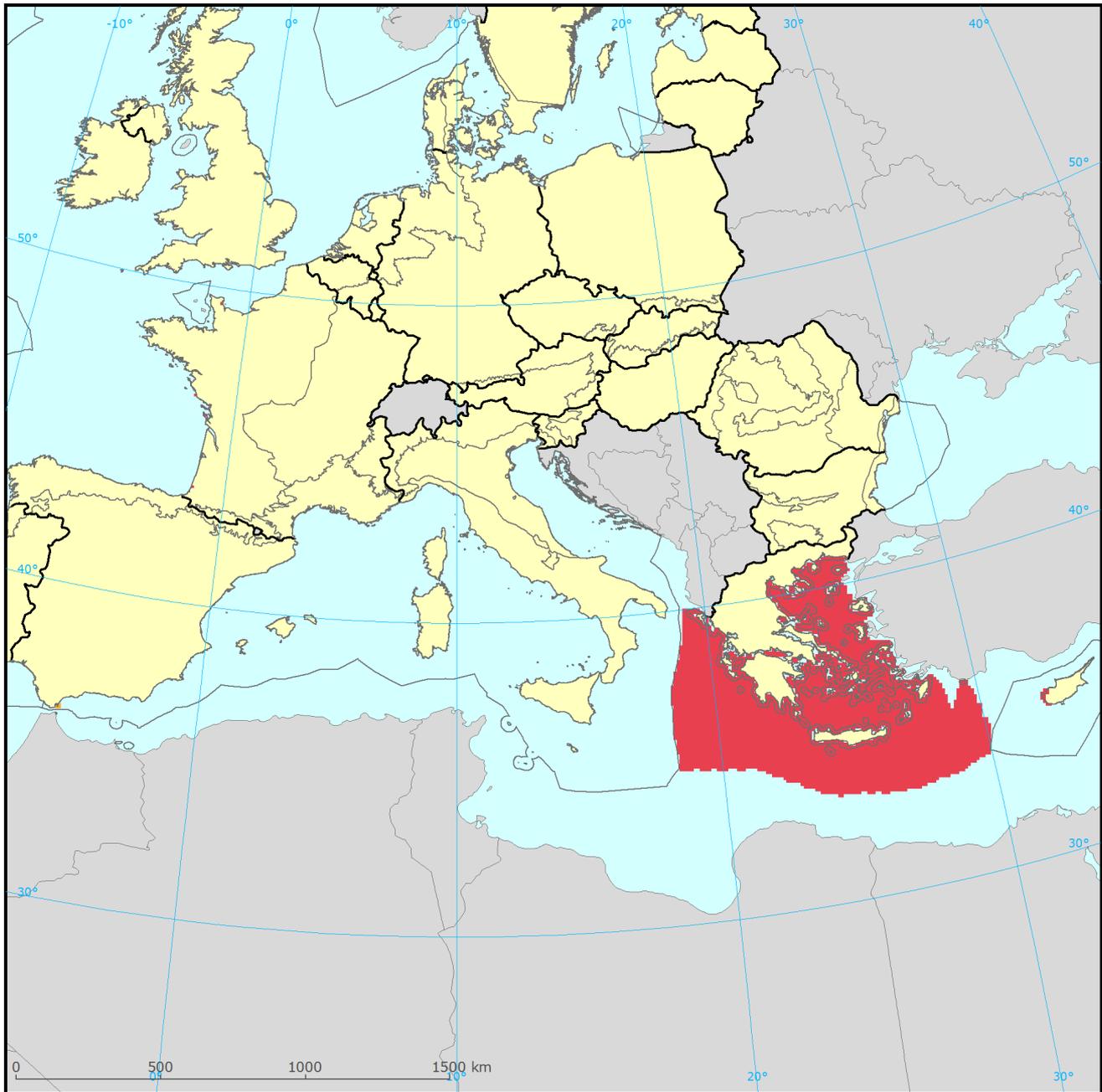
Chelonia mydas

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.

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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	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
FR	MATL	FV	XX	U2	XX	U2	=	100.0	U1	Better data
NL	MATL									
PT	MATL								XX	
UK	MATL	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX				
ES	MMAC	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX		100.0	U1	Changed method
PT	MMAC								U1	
CY	MMED	FV	U2	FV	U1	U2	+	0.3	U2	Genuine
ES	MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
FR	MMED	FV	XX	XX	XX	XX		0.1	U2	Changed method
GR	MMED	FV	XX	U1-	U2	U2		99.6	U2	
IT	MMED	XX	XX	XX	XX	XX			XX	
UK	MMED	XX	XX	FV	U1	U1	=		U1	

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
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	24
H03	Pollution to marine waters	20
F06	Other hunting, fishing and collection activities	16
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	12
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	4
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	4
F05	Illegal taking of marine fauna	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4
H06	Excess energy (noise, light, heating, electromagnetic)	4

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
F02	Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	24
H03	Pollution to marine waters	20
F06	Other hunting, fishing and collection activities	16
G05	Other human intrusions and disturbances	12
G01	Outdoor sports, leisure and recreational activities	8
D03	Shipping lanes and ports	4
E01	Urbanisation and human habitation	4
F05	Illegal taking of marine fauna	4
H01	Pollution to surface waters	4
H06	Excess energy (noise, light, heating, electromagnetic)	4

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

	MATL	MMAC	MMED
CY			100
ES	x	100	x
FR	x		x

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
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	29
7.0	Other species management measures	14
7.3	Regulation/ Management of fishery in marine and brackish systems	14
8.3	Managing marine traffic	14
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	10
8.1	Urban and industrial waste management	10
6.4	Manage landscape features	5
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=Reptiles&period=3&subject=Chelonia+mydas

[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.

[ii]**Percentage 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.