

**European Community Directive  
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats  
and of Wild Fauna and Flora  
(92/43/EEC)**

Supporting documentation for the  
Third Report by the United Kingdom under  
Article 17

on the implementation of the Directive  
from January 2007 to December 2012  
Conservation status assessment for

Species:

S1044 - Southern damselfly (*Coenagrion mercuriale*)

**IMPORTANT NOTE – PLEASE READ**

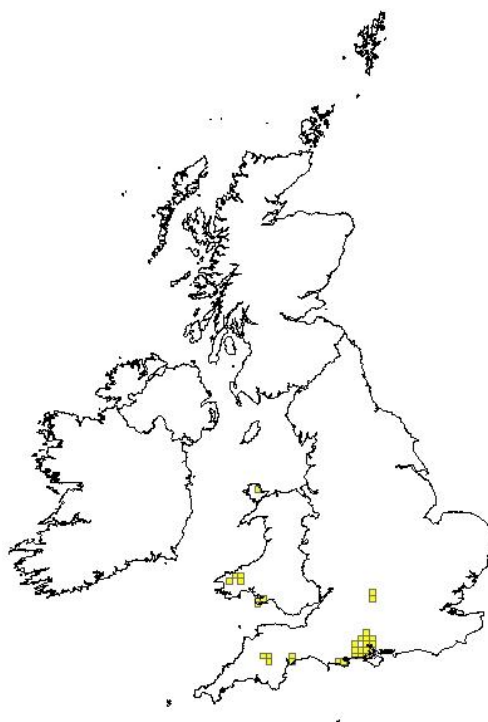
- The country-level reporting information contained in this document is a contribution to the Article 17 UK report for the habitat/species concerned.
- It has been provided by **Natural England** and refers only to the state of the habitat/species in **England** - it does not constitute an assessment for the whole of the UK.
- The Article 17 UK Approach document provides details on how this information has been used and, combined with information supplied by other Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies
- The format of the document is closely aligned to that set out by the European Commission for Member State reporting – as a result, some of the fields are not applicable at a country-level and have deliberately been left blank – in addition, the content of most fields is constrained by the EC reporting categories.

## Reporting format on the 'main results of the surveillance under Article 11' for Annex II, IV & V species

<i>Field name</i>	<i>Brief explanations</i>	
<b>0.2 Species</b>	<b>0.2.1 Species code</b>	<b>S1044</b>
	<b>0.2.2 Species scientific name</b>	<b><i>Coenagrion mercuriale</i></b>
	<b>0.2.3 Alternative species scientific name</b> Optional	
	<b>0.2.4 Common name</b> Optional	<b>Southern Damselfly</b>

### 1.1 Maps

<b>1.1.1 Distribution map</b>		<b>Sensitive</b>	<b>False</b>
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<b>1.1.2 Method used - map</b>	<b>Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling</b>		
<b>1.1.3 Year or period</b>	<b>2007-2012</b>		
<b>1.1.4 Additional distribution map</b>	<b>False</b>		
<b>1.1.5 Range map</b>			

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<b>2.1 Biogeographical region &amp; marine regions</b>	<b>ATL</b>
<b>2.2 Published sources</b>	"I'm not aware of any sources relevant to the distribution of this species in England that have been published since the last reporting round. CCW have mentioned Wilkinson (2009, 2011) and Surry (2012) in relation to SAC monitoring in Wales and I assume they have provided the full references."

<b>2.3 Range</b>	
<b>2.3.1 Surface area Range</b>	
<b>2.3.2 Method used Surface area of Range</b>	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling
<b>2.3.3 Short-term trend Period</b>	2001-2012
<b>2.3.4 Short term trend Trend direction</b>	unknown
<b>2.3.5 Short-term trend Magnitude</b>	a) Minimum
	b) Maximum
<b>2.3.6 Long-term trend Period</b>	
<b>2.3.7 Long-term trend Trend direction</b>	
<b>2.3.8 Long-term trend Magnitude</b>  Optional	a) Minimum
	b) Maximum

<b>2.3.9 Favourable reference range</b>	<b>a) Value in km<sup>2</sup></b>		
	<b>b) Operator for FRR</b>		
	<b>c) FRR is unknown (indicated by "true")</b>	False	
	<b>d) Method used to set FRR</b>		
	<b>2.3.10 Reason for change</b> Is the difference between the reported value in 2.3.1 and the previous reporting round mainly due to...	<b>a) Genuine change?</b>	False
		<b>b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?</b>	False
	<b>c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?</b>	False	

<b>2.4 Population</b>		
<b>2.4.1 Population size estimation</b> (using individuals or agreed exceptions where possible)	<b>a) Unit</b>	NE and CCW have agreed that it is most appropriate to use presence in a 1 km square as the unit for reporting no of 'colonies' (this is consistent with the last assessment). In England the number of occupied 1 km squares in 2007-2012 was 38. 5 of the 6 Devon sites are doing OK (stable) but 1 is suffering from lack of grazing. No data yet this year from New Forest (main stronghold); the Oxon sites have seen numbers drop sharply this year (but this may be a natural fluctuation - to which this species is prone - due to natural factors, rather than anthropogenic ones).
	<b>b) Minimum</b>	
	<b>c) Maximum</b>	
	<b>2.4.2 Population size</b>	<b>a) Unit</b>

<b>estimation</b> (using population unit other than individuals) Optional ( <i>if 2.4.1 filled in</i> )	<b>b) Minimum</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>c) Maximum</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>2.4.3 Additional information on population estimates / conversion</b> Optional	<b>a) Definition of "locality"</b>	
	<b>b) Method to convert data</b>	
	<b>c) Problems encountered to provide population size estimation</b>	<b>Based on the data available, it is difficult to give a meaningful figure for the max population size (which is certainly more than the stated min figure of 38). The stated figure of 96 is the number reported for last time which is probably an over-estimate.</b>
<b>2.4.4 Year or period</b>	<b>2007-2012</b>	
<b>2.4.5 Method used Population size</b>	<b>Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling</b>	
<b>2.4.6 Short-term trend Period</b>	<b>2001-2012</b>	
<b>2.4.7 Short-term trend Trend direction</b>	<b>stable</b> It is noted that the numer of occupied 1 kn squares (in Englands and Wales) iis considerably less than that reported in 2007. However, this is genuinely believed to be due to reporting discrepancies between the two periods and does not represent a sharp decline in populations or number of colonies; as already noted data from the colonies that have been monitored during this period indicate that such declines have not occurred widely (with one decline in Devon known to be due to adverse local factors - lack of grazing).	
<b>2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude</b>	<b>a) Minimum</b>	
	<b>b) Maximum</b>	
	<b>c) Confidence interval</b>	

<b>2.4.9 Short-term trend Method used</b>	<b>Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling</b>	
<b>2.4.10 Long-term trend – Period</b>	<b>1989-2012</b>	
<b>2.4.11 Long-term trend Trend direction</b>	<b>decrease</b>	
<b>2.4.12 Long-term trend Magnitude</b> Optional	<b>a) Minimum</b>	
	<b>b) Maximum</b>	
	<b>c) Confidence interval</b>	
<b>2.4.13 Long term trend Method used</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>2.4.14 Favourable reference population</b>	<b>a) Number of individuals/agreed exceptions/other units</b>	
	<b>b) Operator</b>	
	<b>c) FRP is unknown indicated by "true"</b>	<b>False</b>
	<b>d) Method used to set FRP</b>	
<b>2.4.15 Reason for change</b> Is the difference between the value reported at 2.4.1 or 2.4.2 and the previous reporting round mainly due to:	<b>a) Genuine change?</b>	<b>False</b>
	<b>b) Improved knowledge/more</b>	<b>False</b>

	<b>accurate data?</b>	
	<b>c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?</b>	<b>False</b>

<b>2.5 Habitat for the species</b>		
<b>2.5.1 Area estimation</b>		
<b>2.5.2 Year or period</b>		
<b>2.5.3 Method used Habitat for the species</b>	<b>Absent data</b>	
<b>2.5.4 Quality of the habitat</b>	<b>a) Habitat quality</b>	<b>Good</b>
	<b>b) Assessment method</b>	<b>Anecdotal evidence from habitat assessments on a selection of sites in the New Forest and Dorset.</b>
<b>2.5.5 Short-term trend Period</b>	<b>2001-2012</b>	
<b>2.5.6 Short-term trend Trend direction</b>	<b>stable</b>	
<b>2.5.7 Long-term trend Period</b>	<b>1989-2012</b>	
<b>2.5.8 Long-term trend Trend direction</b>	<b>decrease</b>	
<b>2.5.9 Area of suitable habitat for the species</b>	<b>a) Value in km<sup>2</sup></b>	
	<b>b) Absence of data indicated as '0'</b>	
<b>2.5.10 Reason for change</b> Is the difference between the value reported at 2.5.1 and the previous reporting round mainly due to	<b>a) Genuine change?</b>	<b>False</b>
	<b>b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?</b>	<b>False</b>

	<b>c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?</b>	<b>False</b>

**2.6 Main pressures**

<b>a) Pressure</b>	<b>b) Ranking</b>	<b>c) Pollution qualifier</b>
	H = high importance M = medium importance L = low importance	
A04: grazing	H	
J02: human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	H	
A03: mowing / cutting of grassland	M	
H01: Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	M	

**2.6.1 Method used – Pressures**

**mainly based on expert judgement and other data**

**2.7 Threats**

<b>a) Threat</b>	<b>b) Ranking</b>	<b>c) Pollution qualifier</b>
	H = high importance M = medium importance L = low importance	
A04: grazing	H	
J02: human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	H	
A03: mowing / cutting of grassland	M	
H01: Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	M	

**2.7.1 Method used – Threats**

**expert opinion**



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## 2.8 Complementary information

### 2.8.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

### 2.8.2 Other relevant information

As noted in section 2.4 the minimum number of 1 km squares occupied in both England and Wales is considerably less than that reported previously. However, this is believed to be due to reporting discrepancies between the two periods and does not represent a sharp decline in the species fortunes. During 2001-2006 there was an emphasis on surveying this species and just about all GB populations were surveyed. That has not been the case in the present reporting (with surveys either done causally or on SACs only). Therefore we have had to extrapolate from the data we have for this reporting period to report on the GB population as a whole, and we believe this largely explains the reasons for the notable fall in the minimum number of occupied 1 km squares recorded during this reporting period (which is based on those that were actually surveyed).

### 2.8.3 Trans-boundary assessment

## 2.9 Conclusions (*assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period*)

Please refer to the United Kingdom assessment for this species.

## 3 Natura 2000 coverage & conservation measures - Annex II species (*only applies to species listed under Annex II of the Directive*)

### 3.1 Population

#### 3.1.1 Population size

Estimation of population size included in the SAC network

#### a) Unit

number of map 1x1 km grid cells

#### b) Minimum

38

#### c) Maximum

#### 3.1.2 Method used

Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or

	<b>modelling</b>
<b>3.1.3 Trend of population size within the network</b> (short-term trend)	<b>stable</b>

### 3.2 Conservation measures

Conservation measures taken (i.e. already being implemented) within the reporting period and provided information about their importance, location and evaluation.

3.2.1 Measure	3.2.2 Type					3.2.3 Ranking H = high importance M = medium importance L = low importance	3.2.4 Location where the measure is PRIMARILY applied			3.2.5 Broad evaluation of the measure					
	a) Legal/statutory	b) Administrative	c) Contractual	d) Recurrent	e) One-off		a) Inside	b) Outside	c) Both inside & outside	a) Maintain	b) Enhance	c) Long term	d) No effect	e) Unknown	f) Not evaluated
2.1: Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats				Y		H			Y	Y					
4.1: Restoring/improving water quality					Y	M			Y		Y				
4.2: Restoring/improving the hydrological regime					Y	M			Y		Y				
6.1: Establish protected areas/sites					Y	L		Y				Y			

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