

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

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

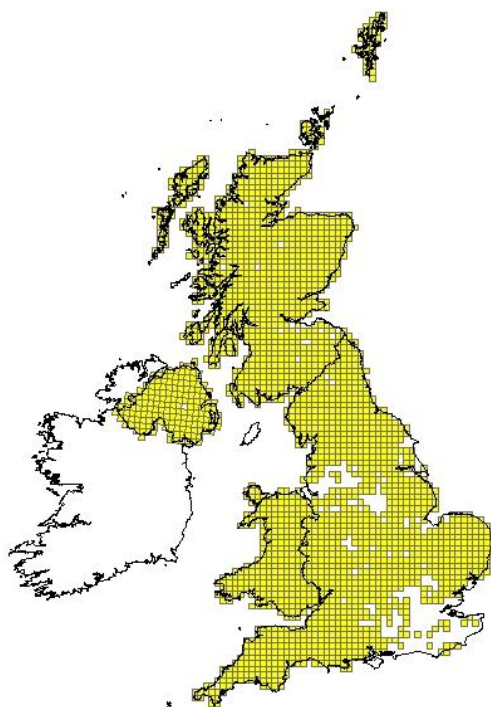
Species:

S1355 - Otter (*Lutra lutra*)

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>	
0.2 Species	0.2.1 Species code	S1355
	0.2.2 Species scientific name	<i>Lutra lutra</i>
	0.2.3 Alternative species scientific name Optional	
	0.2.4 Common name Optional	

1.1 Maps			
1.1.1 Distribution map	True	Sensitive	False
	The distribution map is based on species records which are considered to be representative of the range within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.		



1.1.2 Method used - map	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.
1.1.3 Year or period	1995-2012
	The distribution map is based on species records which are considered to be representative of the range within the current reporting period. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.

1.1.4 Additional distribution map Optional	False
1.1.5 Range map	True The range map was produced by applying the UK range mapping tool to the distribution map presented in 1.1.4. The alpha value for this species was 45km. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.



2.1 Biogeographical region & marine regions	ATL
2.2 Published sources	<p> ANDREWS, E. & CRAWFORD, A.K. 1986. Otter Survey of Wales 1984-85. Vincent Wildlife Trust, London. ANDREWS, E., HOWELL, P. & JOHNSON, K. 1993. Otter Survey of Wales 1991. Vincent Wildlife Trust, London. BATTERSBY, J (Ed.) & TRACKING MAMMALS PARTNERSHIP 2005. UK Mammals: Species Status and Population Trends. JNCC/Tracking Mammals Partnership. CAREY, P.D., WALLIS, S.M., EMMETT, B.E., MASKELL, L.C., MURPHY, J., NORTON, L.R., SIMPSON, I.C. & SMART, S.S. 2008. Countryside Survey: UK headline messages from 2007. Centre for Ecology & Hydrology, Wallingford. CRAWFORD, A. 2003. Fourth Otter Survey of England 2000-2002. Environment Agency, Bristol. Available to download from the Environment Agency website (www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/conservation/483249/?version=1&lang=_e) CRAWFORD, A. 2010. Fifth Otter Survey of England 2009-2010. Environment Agency, Bristol. Available to download from the Environment Agency website (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Leisure/otter_survey_oct10_full_report(1).pdf) </p>

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	<p>Council, Peterborough. UK distribution map data sources</p> <p>England Otter Survey Database Environment Agency Fifth Otter Survey of England 2009-2010. Emailed to JNCC (LH) by Graham Scholey 13/07/2012 Mammal count data from the Breeding Birds Survey: Update Mammals Database NBN Gateway Bedfordshire and Luton Biodiversity Recording and Monitoring Centre GA000479 Extracted 21/08/2012 Bedfordshire Mammals (BNHS) - 1987-2010 NBN Gateway Biological Records Centre GA000074 Extracted 21/08/2012 Mammal records from Britain from the Atlas of Mammals (1993), with some subsequent records NBN Gateway Bristol Regional Environmental Records Centre GA001100 Extracted 21/08/2012 BRERC JNCC May 2012 NBN Gateway Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Environmental Records Centre GA001081 Extracted 21/08/2012 Otter and Watervole data held in custodianship by CPERC NBN Gateway Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre GA000871 Extracted 21/08/2012 Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre. Vertebrate Observation Records, other than Birds. Pre-2010 for Cumbria NBN Gateway Derbyshire Biological Records Centre GA000622 Extracted 21/08/2012 Derbyshire & Peak District Protected Species Database (Summary of available records 1970- 2008) NBN Gateway Devon Biodiversity Records Centre GA000538 Extracted 21/08/2012 Devon Otter Data 1978 to 2008 NBN Gateway Dorset Environmental Records Centre GA001010 Extracted 21/08/2012 Dorset Important Species 2012 for Natural England use only NBN Gateway Environmental Records Information Centre North East GA000604 Extracted 21/08/2012 ERIC North East sensitive species records NBN Gateway Fife Nature Records Centre GA000387 Extracted 21/08/2012 Records for Fife Nature Records Centre NBN Gateway Glasgow Museums BRC GA000462 Extracted 21/08/2012 Mammal records for Clyde Faunal Area, 1850 to 2007 NBN Gateway Gloucestershire Centre for Environmental Records GA000963 Extracted 21/08/2012 Gloucestershire BAP Priority Species - Otter NBN Gateway Greater Manchester Ecology Unit GA000572 Extracted 21/08/2012 Distribution of Species of Conservation Interest in Greater Manchester NBN Gateway Highland Biological Recording Group GA000497 Extracted 21/08/2012 HBRG Vertebrates (not Badger) Dataset NBN Gateway John Muir Trust GA000714 Extracted 21/08/2012 Species Records for John Muir Trust Properties 2007-2009 NBN Gateway Joint Nature Conservation Committee GA000187 Extracted 21/08/2012 Scotland Otter Survey Database NBN Gateway Lancashire Environment Record Network GA001065 Extracted 21/08/2012 LERN Otter Records. NBN Gateway Lincolnshire Biodiversity Partnership GA000625 Extracted 21/08/2012 Lincolnshire Mammals (excluding bats)</p>
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	<p>NBN Gateway Merseyside BioBank GA000991 Extracted 21/08/2012 North Merseyside Mammals (verified)</p> <p>NBN Gateway National Trust for Scotland GA001085 Extracted 21/08/2012 Habitats Directive Article 17 records from the period 1901-2010</p> <p>NBN Gateway National Trust GA001105 Extracted 21/08/2012 Extract of National Trust species database covering Article 17 species</p> <p>NBN Gateway North Ayrshire Countryside Ranger Service GA000528 Extracted 21/08/2012 Species within North Ayrshire from 1984 - Present</p> <p>NBN Gateway Outer Hebrides Biological Recording Project GA001091 Extracted 21/08/2012 OHBRP Otter (<i>Lutra lutra</i>) Dataset - Outer Hebrides</p> <p>NBN Gateway Rotherham Biological Records Centre GA000843 Extracted 21/08/2012 Rotherham Biological Records Centre - Non-sensitive Records from all taxonomic groups</p> <p>NBN Gateway Scottish Natural Heritage GA001145 Extracted 21/08/2012 SNH Species Repository</p> <p>NBN Gateway Scottish Wildlife Trust GA000736 Extracted 21/08/2012 Commissioned surveys and staff surveys and reports for SWT reserves.</p> <p>NBN Gateway Seil Natural History Group GA001092 Extracted 21/08/2012 SNHG Biological Records Dataset</p> <p>NBN Gateway Sheffield Biological Records Centre GA000878 Extracted 21/08/2012 Sheffield Biological Records Centre- Non-sensitive Records from all taxonomic groups.</p> <p>NBN Gateway Shropshire Ecological Data Network GA000693 Extracted 21/08/2012 Shropshire Ecological Data Network Database</p> <p>NBN Gateway Staffordshire Ecological Record GA000549 Extracted 21/08/2012 SER Species-based Surveys</p> <p>NBN Gateway The Wildlife Information Centre GA000368 Extracted 21/08/2012 SWT Scottish Borders Local Wildlife Site Survey data 1996-2000 - species information</p> <p>NBN Gateway The Wildlife Information Centre GA000369 Extracted 21/08/2012 Borders Backyard Biodiversity</p> <p>NBN Gateway Wiltshire and Swindon Biological Records Centre GA000630 Extracted 21/08/2012 Wiltshire & Swindon Incidental Species Records</p> <p>Wales LRC Priority & Protected Species layer OR Otter Survey of Wales 2011. HQ GIS DATA M: GIS_USERS/Jean_M/Article 17 Reporting/FINAL MAPS. Sent to JNCC 08/08/2012</p> <p>UK Distribution Map data sources</p> <p>England Otter Survey Database Environment Agency Fifth Otter Survey of England 2009-2010. Emailed to JNCC (LH) by Graham Scholey 13/07/2012 Mammal count data from the Breeding Birds Survey: Update Mammals Database NBN Gateway Bedfordshire and Luton Biodiversity Recording and Monitoring Centre GA000479 Extracted 21/08/2012 Bedfordshire Mammals (BNHS) - 1987-2010</p>
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2.3 Range					
2.3.1 Surface area Range	<p>243602.05</p> <p>The surface area of the range was calculated from the map presented in 1.1.5. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.</p>				
2.3.2 Method used Surface area of Range	<p>Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling</p> <p>For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.</p>				
2.3.3 Short-term trend Period	<p>2001-2012</p> <p>For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.</p>				
2.3.4 Short term trend Trend direction	<p>increase</p> <p>The short term trend direction was derived by comparing the range map in 1.1.5 with the range map produced in the 2007 report, by considering the range trend in the 2007 report, and by considering any further information provided by the UK country conservation agencies. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.</p>				
2.3.5 Short-term trend Magnitude	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">a) Minimum</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a) Minimum			
a) Minimum					
Optional					

	b) Maximum	
2.3.6 Long-term trend Period	1988-2012	
Optional	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.3.7 Long-term trend Trend direction	increase	
Optional	The long term trend direction was derived by comparing the range map in 1.1.5 with the range map produced in the 2007 report, by considering the range trend in the 2007 report, and by considering any further information provided by the UK country conservation agencies. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.3.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	
Optional		
	b) Maximum	
2.3.9 Favourable reference range	a) Value in km²	240421
	The FRV reported in 2007 has been updated by running the data used for reporting in 2007 through the revised UK range mapping tool. For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.	
	b) Operator for FRR	
	c) FRR is unknown (indicated by "true")	False
	d) Method used to set FRR	The FRV reported in 2007 has been updated by running the data used for reporting in 2007 through the revised UK range mapping tool. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no lower than the range estimate from when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.
	The FRV reported in 2007 has been updated by running the data used for reporting in 2007 through the revised UK range mapping tool. The value is considered to be large enough to support a viable population and no lower than the range estimate from when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document.	

2.3.10 Reason for change Is the difference between the reported value in 2.3.1 and the previous reporting round mainly due to...	a) Genuine change?	True
	The increase in range is thought to be genuine.	
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	False
	The increase in range is thought to be genuine.	
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False
	The increase in range is thought to be genuine.	

2.4 Population		
2.4.1 Population size estimation (using individuals or agreed exceptions where possible)	a) Unit	number of individuals
	The population unit is the same as reported in 2007.	
	b) Minimum	13314
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	c) Maximum	13314
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	a) Unit	
	b) Minimum	
2.4.2 Population size estimation (using population unit other than individuals) Optional (<i>if 2.4.1 filled in</i>)	c) Maximum	
	a) Definition of "locality"	
	b) Method to convert data	
	c) Problems encountered to provide population size estimation	The NI component of the population estimate only relates to the adult females and does not take into account adult males or sub adults.
2.4.3 Additional information on population estimates / conversion Optional	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	2.4.4 Year or period	2007-2012

	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.5 Method used Population size	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.6 Short-term trend Period	2001-2012	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.7 Short-term trend Trend direction	increase	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude Optional	a) Minimum	
	b) Maximum	
	c) Confidence interval	
2.4.9 Short-term trend Method used	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.10 Long-term trend – Period Optional	1988-2012	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.11 Long-term trend Trend direction Optional	increase	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.12 Long-term trend Magnitude Optional	a) Minimum	
	b) Maximum	
	c) Confidence	

	interval	
2.4.13 Long term trend Method used	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling	
Optional	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.14 Favourable reference population	a) Number of individuals/agreed exceptions/other units	11995
	The FRV has been revised because the value reported in 2007 did not take NI into account. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	b) Operator	
	c) FRP is unknown (indicated by "true")	False
	The FRV has been revised because the value reported in 2007 did not take NI into account. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	d) Method used to set FRP	The FRV has been revised because the value reported in 2007 did not take NI into account. The revised FRV has added the first NI otter survey population to the 1994 GB estimate. The value is considered to be large enough for the population to be viable and no lower than the population estimate in GB from when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.
	The FRV has been revised because the value reported in 2007 did not take NI into account. The revised FRV has added the first NI otter survey population to the 1994 GB estimate. The value is considered to be large enough for the population to be viable and no lower than the population estimate in GB from when the Habitats Directive came into force in the UK. For further details please see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.4.15 Reason for change	a) Genuine change?	True
Is the difference between the value reported at 2.4.1 or 2.4.2 and the previous reporting round mainly due to:	The increase in population is thought to be the result of genuine change.	
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	False

	The increase in population is thought to be the result of genuine change.	
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False
	The increase in population is thought to be the result of genuine change.	

2.5 Habitat for the species		
2.5.1 Area estimation	206362	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	There is thought to be a sufficient amount of habitat in the UK to support a viable population of the species.	
2.5.2 Year or period	2001-2012	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.3 Method used Habitat for the species	Estimate based on expert opinion with no or minimal sampling	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.4 Quality of the habitat	a) Habitat quality	Good
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	b) Assessment method	Quality of habitat is inferred from the continuing consolidation of range.
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.5 Short-term trend Period	1998-2012	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.6 Short-term trend Trend direction	increase	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.7 Long-term trend Period	1990-2007	
Optional	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.8 Long-term trend Trend direction	increase	
Optional	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.5.9 Area of suitable habitat for the species	a) Value in km²	
	b) Absence of data indicated as '0'	

2.5.10 Reason for change Is the difference between the value reported at 2.5.1 and the previous reporting round mainly due to	a) Genuine change?	False
	Surface area of habitat was reported as unknown in 2007 so no comparison is possible.	
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	False
	Surface area of habitat was reported as unknown in 2007 so no comparison is possible.	
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False
	Surface area of habitat was reported as unknown in 2007 so no comparison is possible.	

2.6 Main pressures		
a) Pressure	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance (max 5 entries) M = medium importance L = low importance	
A07: use of biocides, hormones and chemicals	H	X
D01: Roads, paths and railroads	H	
F03: Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial)	H	
H01: Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	H	OT
J02: human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	H	
H03: Marine water pollution	M	
A02: modification of cultivation practices	L	X
A04: grazing	L	
A06: annual and perennial non-timber crops	L	
E03: Discharges	L	X

For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
2.6.1 Method used – Pressures	mainly based on expert judgement and other data For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.

2.7 Threats		
a) Threat	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance (max 5 entries) M = medium importance L = low importance	
A07: use of biocides, hormones and chemicals	H	X
H03: Marine water pollution	H	
J02: human induced changes in hydraulic conditions	H	
D01: Roads, paths and railroads	M	
F03: Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial)	M	
H01: Pollution to surface waters (limnic & terrestrial, marine & brackish)	M	OX
E03: Discharges	L	X

For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.

2.7.1 Method used – Threats

expert opinion

For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.

2.8 Complementary information

2.8.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

2.8.2 Other relevant information

2.8.3 Trans-boundary assessment

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

2.9.1 Range

a) Conclusion

Favourable

Range has been assessed as Favourable because range is greater than

	FRV and the short term range trend is increasing.	
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.2 Population	a) Conclusion	Favourable
	Population has been assessed as Favourable because population is greater than the FRV, and the short term trend is increasing.	
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.3 Habitat for the species	a) Conclusion	Favourable
	Habitat for species has been assessed as Favourable because there is thought to be a sufficient amount of habitat for the species to be viable, habitat quality is thought to be good and trend increasing.	
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.4 Future prospects	a) Conclusion	Favourable
	<p>Future prospects is assessed as Favourable on the basis of assessments of the future prospects of the three parameters, range, population and habitat for species:</p> <p>Range future prospects: Good</p> <p>Population future prospects: Good</p> <p>Habitat future prospects: Good</p> <p>Overall future prospects: Favourable.</p> <p>Species is showing a recovery of the population after historic decline, suggesting that pressures on the population have decreased, and the major threats have measures in place to combat them.</p>	
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Favourable	
	Overall assessment is Favourable because all parameter assessments are Favourable.	
2.9.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status		

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	
	b) Minimum	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
	c) Maximum	
	For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
3.1.2 Method used	Absent data For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
3.1.3 Trend of population size within the network (short-term trend)	increase For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level reporting information.	
Optional		

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
1.1: No measures needed for the conservation of the habitat/species						H									

2.0: Other agriculture-related measures				Y		L			Y		Y			Y	
4.0: Other wetland-related measures					Y	L			Y		Y	Y			
4.1: Restoring/improving water quality	Y	Y		Y		L			Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
4.2: Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	Y	Y		Y	Y	L			Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
4.3: Managing water abstraction	Y			Y		L			Y	Y	Y	Y		Y	
6.1: Establish protected areas/sites	Y			Y		L	Y				Y	Y			
6.3: Legal protection of habitats and species	Y	Y		Y	Y	L			Y	Y	Y	Y			
7.1: Regulation/Management of hunting and taking	Y	Y				L			Y		Y	Y			
7.2: Regulation/Management of fishery in limnic systems	Y	Y		Y		L			Y	Y		Y		Y	
7.4: Specific single species or species group management measures	Y	Y		Y		L			Y	Y	Y				Y
8.2: Specific management of traffic and energy transport systems		Y		Y		L			Y		Y	Y			

For further details see the 2013 Article 17 UK Approach document and relevant country-level

reporting information.