

**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:

S1357 - Pine marten (*Martes martes*)

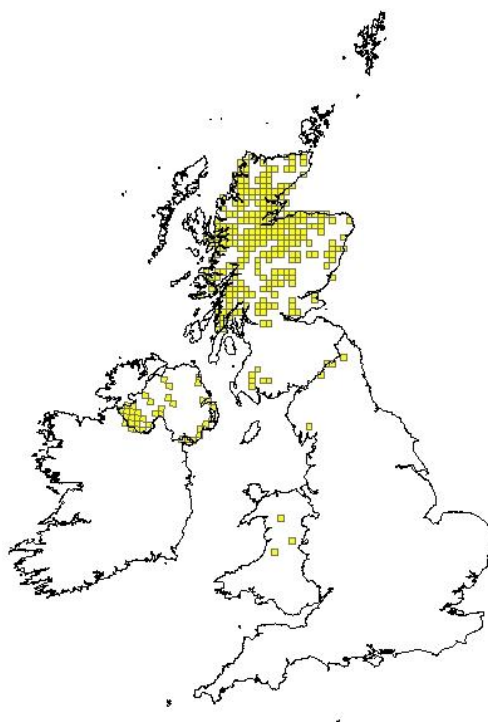
IMPORTANT NOTE – PLEASE READ

- 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 **Northern Ireland Environment Agency** and refers only to the state of the habitat/species in **Northern Ireland** - 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>	
0.2 Species	0.2.1 Species code	S1357
	0.2.2 Species scientific name	<i>Martes martes</i>
	0.2.3 Alternative species scientific name Optional	
	0.2.4 Common name Optional	Pine Marten

1.1 Maps		
1.1.1 Distribution map		Sensitive False



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

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2.1 Biogeographical region & marine regions	ATL
2.2 Published sources	<p>"O'Mahony, D., Turner, P. and O'Reilly, C. 2012. Population status of pine marten in an isolated refuge: the Mourne Mountains. A report to the Peoples Trust for Endangered Species and Northern Ireland Environment Agency.</p> <p>Tosh, D. 2005. An assessment of the conservation status of the pine marten (<i>Martes martes</i>) in Northern Ireland."</p>

2.3 Range							
2.3.1 Surface area Range	<p>755.19</p> <p>Figure based on current 2012 Forest Service estate area. <i>Martes martes</i> preferentially occupies forest plantations of planted spruce and pine, the NI Forest Service estate covers the majority of the known plantations in NI therefore this was deemed the most accurate qualifier for suitable habitat.</p>						
2.3.2 Method used Surface area of Range	<p>Complete survey/Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate</p> <p>Area calculated through ESRI ArcMap 10 GIS platform; the Forest Service Estate boundary data exists as a recognisable shapefile format therefore a basic area calculation can be conducted giving an accurate value which is statistically robust.</p>						
2.3.3 Short-term trend Period	<p>2007-2012</p> <p>Current reporting round period.</p>						
2.3.4 Short term trend Trend direction	<p>decrease 1% or less/year</p> <p>Short term trend direction is calculated from area figures published in NI Forest Service Annual reports for the period 2007/08 and 2011/12 to find a slight decrease in area between 2007 (760.00 km²) to 2012 (755.19 km²)</p>						
2.3.5 Short-term trend Magnitude	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>a) Minimum</td> <td>0.63</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2">A decrease of 0.63% of Forest Service estate for the period 2007-12 has been calculated from the Forest Service annual report data.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>b) Maximum</td> <td>0.63</td> </tr> </table>	a) Minimum	0.63	A decrease of 0.63% of Forest Service estate for the period 2007-12 has been calculated from the Forest Service annual report data.		b) Maximum	0.63
a) Minimum	0.63						
A decrease of 0.63% of Forest Service estate for the period 2007-12 has been calculated from the Forest Service annual report data.							
b) Maximum	0.63						
2.3.6 Long-term trend Period	<p>1997-2012</p> <p>Period of Forest Service Reports therefore accurate data to determine long term habitat changes.</p>						
2.3.7 Long-term trend	increase						

Trend direction	Short term trend direction is calculated from area figures published in NI Forest Service Annual reports for the period 1997/98 and 2011/12 to find a slight decrease in area between 1997 (755.03 km ²) to 2012 (755.19 km ²)	
2.3.8 Long-term trend Magnitude Optional	a) Minimum	0.02
	An increase of 0.02% of Forest Service estate for the period 1997-2012 has been calculated from the Forest Service annual report data.	
	b) Maximum	0.02
2.3.9 Favourable reference range	a) Value in km²	755.19
	Figure based on current 2012 Forest Service estate area.	
	b) Operator for FRR	
	c) FRR is unknown (indicated by "true")	False
	d) Method used to set FRR	Area of NI Forest Service Estate given as a statistically robust area calculated in a GIS platform.
	Area calculations for Forest Service Estate have been conducted in a GIS with minimum error.	
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?	False
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	True
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.4 Population		
2.4.1 Population size estimation (using individuals or agreed)	a) Unit	number of individuals
	b) Minimum	320

exceptions where possible)	minimum 320 individuals	
	c) Maximum	320
2.4.2 Population size estimation (using population unit other than individuals) Optional (<i>if 2.4.1 filled in</i>)	a) Unit	number of individuals
	Recent estimates suggest that the total pine marten population size in Northern Ireland is approximately 320 individuals, with the population largely concentrated in Counties Fermanagh and Tyrone (O'Mahoney et al 2012).	
	b) Minimum	320
	Number of 10km x 10km grids reported on last reporting round (2006).	
	c) Maximum	320
2.4.3 Additional information on population estimates / conversion Optional	Number of 10km x 10km grids reported on this reporting round (2012).	
	a) Definition of "locality"	
	b) Method to convert data	
2.4.4 Year or period	a) Problems encountered to provide population size estimation	
2.4.5 Method used Population size	1990-2012	
2.4.6 Short-term trend Period	Population data from this period used for reporting.	
2.4.7 Short-term trend Trend direction	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude	Population estimated based on explicit focus survey in Mourne mountains and upscaling of population density for this area to Northern Ireland level distribution. Increased recording of species across Northern Ireland	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude	2007-2012	
	Current reporting round period, equates to short term trend period.	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude	increase	
	Increase in population from last reporting round due to increased monitoring and recording of species at a national level, building on work completed by O'Mahony et al (2012)	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	
	b) Maximum	

	c) Confidence interval	
	Not enough data available to calculate a realistic magnitude.	
2.4.9 Short-term trend Method used	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling	
	Population estimated based on explicit focus survey in Mourne mountains and upscaling of population density for this area to Northern Ireland level distribution. Increased recording of species across Northern Ireland	
2.4.10 Long-term trend – Period	1990-2012	
	Period of record availability.	
2.4.11 Long-term trend Trend direction	increase	
	Increase due to increased recording and availability of more qualitative and quantitative published studies since 1990.	
2.4.12 Long-term trend Magnitude Optional	a) Minimum	
	b) Maximum	
	c) Confidence interval	
	Not enough data available to calculate a realistic magnitude.	
2.4.13 Long term trend Method used	2	
	Increased recording of species and availability of more qualitative and quantitative published studies allows for a realistic estimate to be made.	
2.4.14 Favourable reference population	a) Number of individuals/agreed exceptions/other units	
	b) Operator	
	c) FRP is unknown indicated by "true"	True
	Unknow - to better understand the population dynamics of martens in Northern Ireland a more comprehensive nationwide study	

	should be initiated.	
	d) Method used to set FRP	O'Mahony (2012) conducted a <i>Martes martes</i> study in the Mourne mountains of Northern Ireland, the population estimates from this explicit study area were determined and a population estimate for Northern Ireland made.
2.4.15 Reason for change Is the difference between the value reported at 2.4.1 or 2.4.2 and the previous reporting round mainly due to:	a) Genuine change?	False
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	True
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.5 Habitat for the species		
2.5.1 Area estimation	755.19 Area of forest service estate in Northern Ireland which is ideal habitat for <i>Martes martes</i> . Figure derived from NI Forest Service annual reports. It is unknown whether the amount of habitat in the UK is sufficient to support a viable population of the species.	
2.5.2 Year or period	2007-2012 Current reporting period.	
2.5.3 Method used Habitat for the species	Estimate based on partial data with some extrapolation and/or modelling Area is calculated using a GIS however it is not exhaustive as <i>Martes martes</i> may occupy areas outside of the Forest Service estate although data for these habitats area and quality does not exist.	
2.5.4 Quality of the habitat	a) Habitat quality	Unknown Although the habitat requirements of <i>M. Martes</i> are reasonably well documented, the habitat quality of the Northern Ireland Forest Service Estate is not subject to a condition assessment and as such remains unknown.
	b) Assessment method	Although the habitat requirements of <i>M. martes</i> are reasonably well documented, the habitat quality of the Northern Ireland Forest Service Estate is not subject to a condition assessment and as

		such remains unknown.
2.5.5 Short-term trend Period	2007-2012	
	Current reporting period.	
2.5.6 Short-term trend Trend direction	stable	
	Stable - there has been no massive increase or decrease of Forest Service estate in Northern Ireland in the last 6 years.	
2.5.7 Long-term trend Period	1997-2012	
	15 year long term trend period is stable, there has been no massive increase or decrease in Forest Service estate in Northern Ireland in the last 15 years.	
2.5.8 Long-term trend Trend direction	stable	
2.5.9 Area of suitable habitat for the species	a) Value in km²	755.19
	Area of forest service estate in Northern Ireland which is ideal habitat for <i>Martes martes</i> . Figure derived from NI Forest Service annual reports.	
	b) Absence of data indicated as '0'	
2.5.10 Reason for change	a) Genuine change?	False
Is the difference between the value reported at 2.5.1 and the previous reporting round mainly due to	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	True
	More accurate mapping and measurement of Forest Service estate in Northern Ireland over the last 15 years has allowed an accurate calculation of suitable habitat area to be derived.	
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.6 Main pressures		
a) Pressure	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance M = medium importance L = low importance	
B02: Forest and Plantation management & use	H	
B03: forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth	H	

B07: Forestry activities not referred to above	M	
D01: Roads, paths and railroads	M	
F06: Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above	M	
F03: Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial)	L	

2.6.1 Method used – Pressures	mainly based on expert judgement and other data

2.7 Threats		
a) Threat	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance M = medium importance L = low importance	
B02: Forest and Plantation management & use	H	
B03: forest exploitation without replanting or natural regrowth	H	
B07: Forestry activities not referred to above	M	
D01: Roads, paths and railroads	M	
F06: Hunting, fishing or collecting activities not referred to above	M	
F03: Hunting and collection of wild animals (terrestrial)	L	

2.7.1 Method used – Threats	expert opinion

2.8 Complementary information	
2.8.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends	
2.8.2 Other relevant information	Conservation measures: - protected on various schedules of the Wildlife Order (NI) 1985 as a conservation measure – schedule 5 (animals which are protected at all times), Schedule 6 (animals which may not be killed or taken by certain methods) and Schedule 7 (animals which may not be sold alive or dead at

	any time).
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	
	b) Minimum	
	c) Maximum	
3.1.2 Method used		
3.1.3 Trend of population size within the network (short-term trend)		

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	3.2.4 Location	3.2.5 Broad evaluation of the measure
		H = high importance	where the measure is PRIMARILY applied	

	a) Legal/statutory	b) Administrative	c) Contractual	d) Recurrent	e) One-off	M = medium importance L = low importance	a) Inside	b) Outside	c) Both inside & outside	a) Maintain	b) Enhance	c) Long term	d) No effect	e) Unknown	f) Not evaluated

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