

**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:

S2637 - Hooded Seal (*Cystophora cristata*)

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	S2637
	0.2.2 Species scientific name	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>
	0.2.3 Alternative species scientific name Optional	
	0.2.4 Common name Optional	

1.1 Maps			
1.1.1 Distribution map	False	Sensitive	False

1.1.2 Method used - map	Absent data		
1.1.3 Year or period			
1.1.4 Additional distribution map Optional	False		
1.1.5 Range map	False		

2.1 Biogeographical region & marine regions	<p>MATL</p> <p>A solitary seal found in deep waters of the Arctic regions of the Atlantic on drifting ice (Rice, 1998). This species occurs mainly from Bear Island and Svalbard, to Jan Mayen Island, Iceland, Denmark Strait, Greenland, the east coast of Baffin Island and Labrador. The breeding areas are similar to those of <i>Phoca groenlandica</i> (the Gulf and the Front on the Canadian Arctic, West Ice near Jan Mayen and in the Davis Strait). Telemetry studies of animals from the Jan Mayen (West Ice) stock indicate that they spend some time in the waters around the Faeroe Islands and north and west of Shetland (Folkow et al., 1996). Records in British waters: 1892 one killed River Orwell, Suffolk; 1872 one killed St Andrews, Fife; 1873 one caught in Frodsham, Cheshire; 1890 one shot and one seen on Sanday, Orkney; 1891 uncertain record from Benbecula, Hebrides; two 19th century records also exist for animals killed in Quendale and Spiggie in Shetland but there is no date; 1903 Elgin, mouth of River Lossie; 1980 pup seen Haaf Gruney, Shetland; 1989 pup taken to rescue centre found in Felixstowe; 1991 Mid Yell, Shetland; 1993 juvenile male seen at Norwick, Shetland; 1996 juvenile, taken to rescue centre from River Mersey; 1999, six month old female in Orkney Islands, taken to Orkney Seal Rescue but later dies;</p>
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	2000 one juvenile rehabilitated from Lincolnshire coast; 2001 one juvenile and one immature taken into rescue centre from Norfolk coast and one at Haven beach, Pembrokeshire taken to Milford Haven Seal Hospital; 2004 26 March St Ives Beach, Cornwall and June Dunnet Beach, Caithness; 2005 one seen at the mouth of River Conon, Ross-shire, Scotland; 2006 a young female was taken into West Hatch Wildlife Centre from Saunton Beach, Cornwall. In December 2011, a female hooded seal stranded at Chapel St Leonards, England having previously been rehabilitated and released from the German coastline in October 2011. The young seal (<2years) now resides at an English seal sanctuary in Skegness.
2.2 Published sources	<p>Folkow, L.P., Mårtensson, Blix, A.S. 1996. Annual distribution of hooded seals (<i>Cystophora cristata</i>) in the Greenland and Norwegian Seas. <i>Polar Biology</i>, 16, 179-189</p> <p>Rice, D. W. 1998. Marine mammals of the world: systematics and distribution. Society for Marine Mammalogy.</p>

2.3 Range					
2.3.1 Surface area Range					
2.3.2 Method used Surface area of Range	Absent data				
2.3.3 Short-term trend Period	2001-2012				
2.3.4 Short term trend Trend direction	unknown				
2.3.5 Short-term trend Magnitude Optional	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>a) Minimum</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>b) Maximum</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a) Minimum		b) Maximum	
a) Minimum					
b) Maximum					
2.3.6 Long-term trend Period Optional	1988-2012				
2.3.7 Long-term trend Trend direction Optional	unknown				
2.3.8 Long-term trend Magnitude Optional	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>a) Minimum</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	a) Minimum			
a) Minimum					

	b) Maximum	
2.3.9 Favourable reference range	a) Value in km²	
	b) Operator for FRR	
	c) FRR is unknown (indicated by "true")	True
	d) Method used to set FRR	
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?	False
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.4 Population		
2.4.1 Population size estimation (using individuals or agreed exceptions where possible)	a) Unit	
	b) Minimum	
	c) Maximum	
2.4.2 Population size estimation (using population unit other than individuals) Optional (<i>if 2.4.1 filled in</i>)	a) Unit	
	b) Minimum	

	c) Maximum	
2.4.3 Additional information on population estimates / conversion Optional	a) Definition of "locality"	
	b) Method to convert data	
	c) Problems encountered to provide population size estimation	
2.4.4 Year or period		
2.4.5 Method used Population size	Absent data	
2.4.6 Short-term trend Period	2001-2012	
2.4.7 Short-term trend Trend direction	unknown	
2.4.8 Short-term trend Magnitude Optional	a) Minimum	
	b) Maximum	
	c) Confidence interval	
2.4.9 Short-term trend Method used	Absent data	
2.4.10 Long-term trend – Period Optional	1988-2012	
2.4.11 Long-term trend Trend direction Optional	unknown	
2.4.12 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	

Optional		
	b) Maximum	
	c) Confidence interval	
2.4.13 Long term trend Method used	Absent data	
Optional		
2.4.14 Favourable reference population	a) Number of individuals/agreed exceptions/other units	
	b) Operator	
	c) FRP is unknown (indicated by "true")	True
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?	False
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.5 Habitat for the species	
2.5.1 Area estimation	

2.5.2 Year or period		
2.5.3 Method used Habitat for the species	Absent data	
2.5.4 Quality of the habitat	a) Habitat quality	Unknown
	b) Assessment method	
2.5.5 Short-term trend Period	2001-2012	
2.5.6 Short-term trend Trend direction	unknown	
2.5.7 Long-term trend Period Optional	1988-2012	
2.5.8 Long-term trend Trend direction Optional	unknown	
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
	b) Improved knowledge/more accurate data?	False
	c) Use of different method (e.g. "Range tool")?	False

2.6 Main pressures		
a) Pressure	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance (max 5 entries) M = medium importance L = low importance	

2.6.1 Method used – Pressures	

2.7 Threats		
a) Threat	b) Ranking	c) Pollution qualifier
	H = high importance (max 5 entries) M = medium importance L = low importance	

2.7.1 Method used – Threats	

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 (<i>assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period</i>)		
2.9.1 Range	a) Conclusion	Unknown
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.2 Population	a) Conclusion	Unknown
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.3 Habitat for the species	a) Conclusion	Unknown
	b) Qualifier	

2.9.4 Future prospects	a) Conclusion	Unknown
	b) Qualifier	
2.9.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unknown	
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	a) Unit	
Estimation of population size included in the SAC network		
	b) Minimum	
	c) Maximum	
3.1.2 Method used		
3.1.3 Trend of population size within the network (short-term trend)		
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

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