

INFORMATION NOTE ON THE IUCN RED LIST STATUS



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The 2020-2022 ACCOBAMS Work program foresees - as a Scientific Committee assignment within the CA1 Conservation Action related to improve knowledge about state of cetaceans and monitor cetacean status - 'to assess IUCN threat status of cetaceans in the ACCOBAMS Area and update it regularly, and more specifically to gather information to assess the data deficient species.

Following Recommendation 10.3 from the 10th Meeting of the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee (Nice, France, 20-22 October 2015) and Resolution 6.15, adopted by the Sixth Meeting of the Parties (Monaco, 22-25 November 2016) regarding the assessment of IUCN conservation status of cetaceans in the ACCOBAMS Area, the Scientific Committee decided during its 11th Meeting (Monaco, 7-9 February 2017) to assess the status of killer whale in priority and to postpone the (re)assessment of other species for after the results of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI), when updated information and robust data on population abundance and distribution would be available.

Thus, considering the results of the ASI project, as well as other data and observations collected over the last few years, new assessments on the conservation status of Mediterranean and Black Sea cetaceans, and updates of existing ones according to the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, were launched end of 2019.

This initiative results from a collaboration between ACCOBAMS and the IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation in making use of all new sources of information towards an updated Red List Status of Mediterranean and Black Sea cetaceans.

Species	Previous IUCN Red List status		IUCN Red List status following the 2018-2021 assessments	
Bottlenose dolphin	Mediterranean	Vulnerable	Inner Mediterranean subpopulation	Least Concern
Tursiops truncatus	subpopulation		Gulf of Ambracia subpopulation	Critically Endangered
Bottlenose Dolphin Black Sea subspecies Tursiops truncatus ssp. ponticus	Black Sea subspecies	Endangered	Black Sea subspecies	Endangered ¹
Common dolphin	Mediterranean	Endangered	Inner Mediterranean subpopulation	Endangered
Delphinus delphis	subpopulation		Gulf of Corinth subpopulation	Critically Endangered
Common dolphin Black Sea subspecies Delphinus delphis ssp. ponticus	Black Sea subspecies	Vulnerable	Black Sea subspecies	Vulnerable ¹
Cuvier's beaked whale Ziphius cavirostris	Mediterranean subpopulation	Data Deficient	Mediterranean subpopulation	Vulnerable
Fin whale Balaenoptera physalus	Mediterranean subpopulation	Vulnerable	Mediterranean subpopulation	Endangered

¹ These classifications are provisional as the assessments are under review by IUCN and IUCN SSC Cetacean Specialist Group.

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Species	Previous IUCN Red List status		IUCN Red List status following the 2018-2021 assessments	
Harbour porpoise Black				
Sea subspecies	Black Sea subspecies	Endangered	Black Sea subspecies	Endangered ¹
Phocoena phocoena ssp.				
relicta				
Killer whale	Mediterranean	Not Evaluated	Strait of Gibraltar	Critically Endangered
Orcinus orca	subpopulation		subpopulation	
			Inner Mediterranean	Fadangarad
Long-finned pilot whale	Mediterranean	Data Deficient	subpopulation	Endangered
Globicephala melas	subpopulation		Strait of Gibraltar	Critically Endangered
			subpopulation	
Risso's dolphin	Mediterranean	Data Deficient	Mediterranean	Endangered
Grampus griseus	subpopulation		subpopulation	
Sperm whale	Mediterranean	Endangered	Mediterranean	Endangered
Physeter macrocephalus	subpopulation		subpopulation	
			Mediterranean	Least Company
Striped dolphin	Mediterranean	Vulnerable	subpopulation	Least Concern
Stenella coeruleoalba	subpopulation		Gulf of Corinth	Endangered
			subpopulation	
Rough-toothed dolphin	Mediterranean	Not Evaluated	Mediterranean	Near Threatened
Steno bredanensis	subpopulation		subpopulation	