Report on the main results of the surveillance under Article 11 for Annex II, IV and V species (Annex B)

NATIONAL LEVEL

1. General information

1.1 Member State	**GR**
1.2 Species code	**1351**
1.3 Species scientific name	**Phocoena phocoena**
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name (in national language)	Fokena

2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	2015
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
2.5 Additional maps	Yes

3. Information related to Annex V Species (Art. 14)

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild/exploited?	No	
3.2 Which of the measures in Art. 14 have been taken?	a) regulations regarding access to property	No
	b) temporary or local prohibition of the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation	No
	c) regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens	No
	d) application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations	No
	e) establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas	No
	f) regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale or transport for sale of specimens	No
	g) breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species	No
	h) other measures	No

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3.3 Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

a) Unit

b) Statistics/ quantity taken	Provide statistics/quantity per hunting season or per year (where season is not used) over the reporting period					
	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
Min. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Max. (raw, ie. not rounded)						
Unknown	No	No	No	No	No	No

3.4. Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild Method used

3.5. Additional information

BIOGEOGRAPHICAL LEVEL

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs

Marine Mediterranean (MMED)

4.2 Sources of information

Birkun A. Jr., Frantzis A., 2006. Harbour porpoise Phocoena phocoena relicta (Black Sea subspecies). Pp. 39-47 in Reeves R., Notarartolo di Sciara G. (compilers and editors). The status and distribution of cetaceans in the Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea. IUCN Centre for Mediterranean Cooperation, Malaga, Spain. 137 pp.
Cucknell A-C., Frantzis A., Boisseau O., Romagosa M., Ryan, C., Tonay A. M., Alexiadou P., Öztürk A. A., Moscrop A., 2016. Harbour porpoises in the Aegean Sea, Eastern Mediterranean: the species' presence is confirmed. Marine Biodiversity Records 9: 72.
Fontaine M.C., Alodie Snirc A., Frantzis A., Koutrakis E., Birkun A. Jr., Özturk B., Özturk A.A., Austerlitz F., 2012. A history of expansion and anthropogenic collapse in a top marine predator of the Black Sea estimated from genetic data. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America 109(38): E2569–E2576.
Frantzis A., Gordon J., Hassidis G., Komnenou A. 2001. The enigma of harbor porpoise presence in the Mediterranean Sea. Mar. Mammal Sci. 17(4): 937-943.
Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute. Unpublished data from strandings and opportunistic sightings (1993-2007).
Frantzis A., Alexiadou P., Paximadis G., Politi E., Gannier A., Corsini-Foka M., 2003. Current knowledge of the cetacean fauna of the Greek Seas. The Journal of Cetacean Research Management. 5(3): 219-232.
Frantzis A., Alexiadou P., 2005. Towards a Conservation Plan for the Mediterranean Harbour Porpoise. A Proposal prepared for the 3rd Meeting of the Scientific Committee of ACCOBAMS. Document SC3/15. Pp. 19.
Rosel P.E., Frantzis A., Lockyer C., Komnenou A. 2003. Source of Aegean Sea

harbour porpoises. Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 247: 257-261.Frantzis A. 2009. Cetaceans in Greece: Present status of knowledge. Initiative for the Conservation of Cetaceans in Greece, Athens, Greece, 94 pp.
Ryan, C., Cucknell, A.C., Romagosa, M., Boisseau, O., Moscrop, A., Frantzis, A. and McLanaghan, R. 2014. A Visual and Acoustic Survey for Marine Mammals in the Western Mediteranean Sea during summer 2013. Final Report, pp. 56.
Viaud-Martinnez K.A., Martinnez Vergara M., Gol'din P.E., Ridoux V., Ozturk A.A., Ozturk B., Rosel P.E., Frantzis A., Komnenou A., Bohonak A.J., 2007. Morphological and genetic differentiation of the Black Sea harbour porpoise Phocoena phocoena Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 338: 281-294.

5. Range

5.1 Surface area	6211	
5.2 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018	
5.3 Short-term trend Direction	Unknown (x)	
5.4 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
5.5 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data	
5.6 Long-term trend Period		
5.7 Long-term trend Direction		
5.8 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum	b) Maximum
5.9 Long-term trend Method used		
5.10 Favourable reference range	a) Area (km²) b) Operator c) Unknown x d) Method	
5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range	No change The change is mainly due to:	
5.12 Additional information		

6. Population

6.1 Year or period	2015	
6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)	a) Unit	number of individuals (i)
	b) Minimum	30
	c) Maximum	300
	d) Best single value	
6.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate	
6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)	a) Unit b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value	

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6.5 Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
6.8 Short-term trend Direction	Decreasing (-)
6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.10 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on expert opinion with very limited data
6.11 Long-term trend Period	
6.12 Long-term trend Direction	
6.13 Long-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.14 Long-term trend Method used	
6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)	a) Population size b) Operator More than (>) c) Unknown d) Method
6.16 Change and reason for change in population size	No change The change is mainly due to:
6.17 Additional information	

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	a) Are area and quality of occupied habitat sufficient (for long-term survival)? No b) Is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality (for long-term survival)? Unknown
7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
7.3 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
7.4 Short-term trend Direction	Decreasing (-)
7.5 Short-term trend Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
7.6 Long-term trend Period	
7.7 Long-term trend Direction	
7.8 Long-term trend Method used	
7.9 Additional information	The surface area of the habitat is estimated at 6211 km2 and its quality is bad. Based on the very high fishing pressure in the habitat of the species and climate change, given that the species is locally at the southern edge (and hotter waters) of its distribution.

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8. Main pressures and threats

8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
Decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change (N07)	M
Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change (N01)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species (G01)	H
Bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities) (G12)	M

Threat	Ranking
Decline or extinction of related species (e.g. food source / prey, predator / parasite, symbiote, etc.) due to climate change (N07)	M
Extraction of oil and gas, including infrastructure (C03)	M
Temperature changes (e.g. rise of temperature & extremes) due to climate change (N01)	H
Marine fish and shellfish harvesting (professional, recreational) causing reduction of species/prey populations and disturbance of species (G01)	H
Bycatch and incidental killing (due to fishing and hunting activities) (G12)	M

8.2 Sources of information

PRESSURES: Mainly based on expert judgement and other data.
THREATS: Based on expert opinion.

8.3 Additional information

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures

a) Are measures needed? Yes

b) Indicate the status of measures Measures needed but cannot be identified

9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken

9.3 Location of the measures taken

9.4 Response to the measures

9.5 List of main conservation measures

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9.6 Additional information

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10. Future prospects

10.1 Future prospects of parameters	a) Range	Unknown
	b) Population	Unknown
	c) Habitat of the species	Bad
10.2 Additional information		

11. Conclusions

11.1. Range	Unknown (XX)
11.2. Population	Unknown (XX)
11.3. Habitat for the species	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
11.4. Future prospects	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unfavourable - Bad (U2)
11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	Deteriorating (-)
11.7 Change and reasons for change in conservation status and conservation status trend	a) Overall assessment of conservation status No change The change is mainly due to: b) Overall trend in conservation status No change The change is mainly due to:
11.8 Additional information	

12. Natura 2000 (pSCIs, SCIs and SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network (on the biogeographical/marine level including all sites where the species is present)	a) Unit	number of individuals (i)
	b) Minimum	1
	c) Maximum	2
	d) Best single value	
12.2 Type of estimate		Minimum
12.3 Population size inside the network Method used		Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction		Unknown (x)
12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used		Insufficient or no data available
12.6 Additional information		Species for which either new Natura sites have been designated or former ones have been expanded to cover a bigger part of their populations. The population size in 12.1 is reported as minimum due to the recent update of

the Greek Natura 2000 Database (extended areas of current Natura 2000 sites and newly proposed SCIs). No relevant data exist for the extensions or the new Natura 2000 sites.

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

13.3 Other relevant Information

This is the last population of harbour porpoises in the entire Mediterranean Sea, and consists of extremely few or very few animals! Globally, the species usually inhabits shallow, often very coastal waters, at depths of less than 200 m over the continental shelf, and occasionally, can cross deep offshore waters. However, in a recent survey in the North Aegean, it was detected only close to the coasts and at depths up to 50 m. There are 6 stranding cases recorded further south than the reported range in the map (both at the west and east coast of the Central Aegean in Greece and Turkey), but so far they seem to represent occasional explorative excursions of individuals or sick animals. Considering that the species has a very limited distribution, the minimum proposed is the absolute possible minimum for a population to inhabit the North Aegean Sea (30 individuals), considering the number of detections made in a recent survey. Based on the same data and the fact that the coverage of the harbour porpoise habitat was dense and repeated twice during the survey the maximum (300 individuals) is unlikely to be higher than tenfold. Although our knowledge regarding this population is limited, there is little doubt that the future prospects are poor or even bad, since there is an important competition with local fisheries for prey. For the same reason there is clear deterioration of the habitat due to rapid depletion of prey fish stocks, but most importantly due to climate change. The values proposed as minimum and maximum population within the limits of Natura 2000 sites (in 3.1.1 b and 3.1.1 c) are purely indicative, because the marine area of such sites in the range of Phocoena phocoena is too coastal and too small for a valid estimation to be possible and to have a meaning. The reality is that individuals from the neighboring to the Natura 2000 sites population of P. phocoena may occasionally enter in their limits for a very short period, but by no means we are allowed to say that a certain number of individuals live within their limits. The Natura 2000 sites in the Thracian Sea include a very tiny and insignificant part of the habitat of P. phocoena in the area and therefore those sites have to be significantly expanded offshore to have a meaning in the conservation efforts for this species. Phocoena phocoena distribution does not include SAC GR1110004 due to insufficient data, but it is included in the species' range and as mentioned in the species reporting format a future expansion of the existing sea SACs for the species is essential and will be considered.