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	**2621**
1.3 Species scientific name	**Balaenoptera physalus**
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name (in national language)	Pterofalena

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

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. 2009. Cetaceans in Greece: Present status of knowledge. Initiative for the Conservation of Cetaceans in Greece, Athens, Greece, 94 pp.
Notarbartolo di Sciara G., Zanardelli M., Jahoda M., Airoldi S. 2003. The fin whale Balaenoptera physalus (L. 1758) in the Mediterranean Sea. Mammal Review 33(2):105-150.
Notarbartolo di Sciara G., Panigada S. 2006. Fin whale Balaenoptera physalus (Mediterranean subpopulation). Pp. 11-15 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.
Notarartolo di Sciara G., Birkun A. Jr., 2010. (compilers and editors). Conserving whales, dolphins and porpoises in the Mediterranean and Black Seas: an ACCOBAMS status report, 2010. ACCOBAMS, Monaco, 211 pp.
Pelagos Cetacean Research Institute. Unpublished data from strandings (1993-2014) and surveys (1998-2014) along the Hellenic Trench and the Aegean Sea.

5. Range

5.1 Surface area

17442

5.2 Short-term trend Period

2007-2018

5.3 Short-term trend Direction

Unknown (x)

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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 b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value
6.3 Type of estimate	
6.4 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)	a) Unit b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value
6.5 Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size Method used	Insufficient or no data available
6.7 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018
6.8 Short-term trend Direction	Unknown (x)
6.9 Short-term trend Magnitude	a) Minimum b) Maximum c) Confidence interval
6.10 Short-term trend Method used	Insufficient or no data available
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	

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6.15 Favourable reference population (using the unit in 6.2 or 6.4)	a) Population size b) Operator c) Unknown d) Method	 x
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)? 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	Insufficient or no data available	
7.3 Short-term trend Period	2007-2018	
7.4 Short-term trend Direction	Unknown (x)	
7.5 Short-term trend Method used	Insufficient or no data available	
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 17442 km2 (equal to range).	

8. Main pressures and threats

8.1 Characterisation of pressures/threats

Pressure	Ranking
No information on pressures (Xp)	

Threat	Ranking
No information on threats (Xt)	

8.2 Sources of information	
8.3 Additional information	In fact, only LOW ranking pressures and threats act on the specific species and this is the reason why they are not included in 8.1, above.

9. Conservation measures

9.1 Status of measures	a) Are measures needed? b) Indicate the status of measures	No

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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

10. Future prospects

10.1 Future prospects of parameters	a) Range	Unknown
	b) Population	Unknown
	c) Habitat of the species	Unknown

10.2 Additional information

11. Conclusions

11.1. Range	Unknown (XX)
11.2. Population	Unknown (XX)
11.3. Habitat for the species	Unknown (XX)
11.4. Future prospects	Unknown (XX)
11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unknown (XX)
11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	
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 b) Minimum c) Maximum d) Best single value
12.2 Type of estimate	

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12.3 Population size inside the network Method used

12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network Direction

12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network Method used

12.6 Additional information

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of % thresholds for trends

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

13.3 Other relevant Information

The species inhabits mainly deep (400 to 2,500m) and oddshore waters, but can also occur in slope and shelf waters as well, depending on exceptional distribution of their prey. Fin whales have been observed occasionally (or stranded) along the Hellenic Trench as well as in the Aegean Sea. However, such observations are considered only occasional and may be due to particular years and oceanographic conditions; this is the reason why they have not been included in the species range. Although the trend for the range is unknown, repeated surveys that covered the south western part of the species range (west of Lefkada Island) failed to make any observation of fin whales. This may be due either to a decrease of the actual range, or just to a statistical aspect of the fact that the density of this population unit may be low.