

**European Community Directive
on the Conservation of Natural Habitats
and of Wild Fauna and Flora
(92/43/EEC)**


**Second Report by the United Kingdom under
Article 17
on the implementation of the Directive
from January 2001 to December 2006**

**Conservation status assessment for
Species:
S1283 - *Coronella austriaca* - Smooth snake**

The information in this assessment corresponds to the "species fact sheet" submitted by the UK to the European Union in February 2008 (second and final submission). Please note that this is a section of the UK's report. For the complete report visit <http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17>

Please cite as: Joint Nature Conservation Committee. 2007. *Second Report by the UK under Article 17 on the implementation of the Habitats Directive from January 2001 to December 2006*. Peterborough: JNCC. Available from: www.jncc.gov.uk/article17

Species Name: *Coronella austriaca*

| 1. National level | |
|---|---|
| Species Code | S1283 |
| Member State | United Kingdom |
| Biogeographic regions concerned within the Member state | ATL |
| 1.1 Range map |  |

1.2 Distribution map



2. Biogeographic level

2.1 Biogeographic region

ATL

2.2 Published sources and/or websites

BEEBEE, T.J.C. & GRIFFITHS, R.A. 2000. Amphibians and reptiles: A natural history of the British herpetofauna. The New Naturalist series. London: Harper Collins.

COOKE, A.S. & SCORGIE, H.R.A. 1983. The status of the commoner amphibians and reptiles in Britain. Huntingdon: Nature Conservancy Council.

GENT, T. & GIBSON, S. 2003. Herpetofauna Workers' Manual. Peterborough: Joint Nature Conservation Committee.

GLEED-OWEN, C., BUCKLEY, J., CONEYBEER, J., GENT, T., MCCRACKEN, M., MOULTON, N., & WRIGHT, D. 2005. Costed plans and options for herpetofauna surveillance and monitoring. English Nature Research Reports, No. 663.

| | | | | |
|---|--|-----------------------------|---------|-----|
| | <p>THE HERPETOLOGICAL CONSERVATION TRUST. 2005. Evaluation of the 2005 Conservation Status of <i>Coronella austriaca</i> in the United Kingdom. Working document, unpublished.</p> <p>Map Data Sources</p> <p>The Herpetofauna Conservation Trust Rare Species Database; Reptile Records for Wiltshire 1900 – 2003; and Reptiles and Amphibians Dataset (via the National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway).</p> | | | |
| 2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region | | | | |
| 2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km) | 4289 | | | |
| 2.3.2 Date of range determination | 1990-2006 | | | |
| 2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range | Moderate | | | |
| 2.3.4 Range trend | Stable (=) | | | |
| 2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%) | Not applicable | | | |
| 2.3.6 Range trend period | 1994-2006 | | | |
| 2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend | Not applicable | | | |
| 2.4 Population | | | | |
| 2.4.1 Population size estimation | Minimum | 354 | Maximum | 354 |
| | Units | Other Occupied 1-km squares | | |
| 2.4.2 Date of population estimation | 2005 | | | |
| 2.4.3 Method used for population estimation | 2 - Extrapolation from surveys of part of the population | | | |
| 2.4.4 Quality of population data | Moderate | | | |
| 2.4.5 Population trend | Stable (=) | | | |
| 2.4.6 Population trend magnitude (%) | Not applicable | | | |
| 2.4.7 Population trend period | 1994-2006 | | | |
| 2.4.8 Reasons for reported trend | Not applicable | | | |
| 2.4.9 Justification of % thresholds for trends (optional) | Not applicable | | | |
| 2.4.10 Main pressures | 100 - Cultivation; 160 - General Forestry management; 300 - Sand and gravel extraction; 400 - Urbanised areas, human habitation; 410 - Industrial or commercial areas; 500 - Communication networks; 601 - golf course; 800 - Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; | | | |
| 2.4.11 Threats | 101 - Modification of cultivation practices; 390 - Mining and extraction activities not referred to above; 400 - Urbanised areas, human habitation; 410 - Industrial or commercial areas; 500 - Communication networks; 800 - Landfill, land reclamation and drying out, general; 950 - Biocenotic evolution; 965 - predation; | | | |
| 2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region | | | | |

| | |
|---|--|
| 2.5 Habitats for the species | This species is predominantly confined to dry lowland heath, but occasionally using woodland margins and bogs adjacent to heath. Generally attracted to features with sunny slopes and diverse vegetation structure (Gent & Gibson, 2003). |
| 2.5.2 Area estimation (sq km) | 238.5 |
| 2.5.3 Date of estimation | 2005 |
| 2.5.4 Quality of data | Good |
| 2.5.5 Trend of the habitat | Increasing (+) |
| 2.5.6 Trend period | 2001-2005 |
| 2.5.7 Reasons for reported trend | 3 - Direct human influence; |
| 2.6 Future prospects | |
| 2.6 Future prospects for the species | Good prospects_Species expected to survive and prosper |
| 2.7 Complementary information | |
| 2.7.1 Favourable reference range (sq km) | 4760 |
| 2.7.2 Favourable reference population | 395 |
| 2.7.3 Suitable Habitat for the species | Unknown |
| 2.7.4 Other relevant information | |
| 2.8 Conclusions <i>(assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</i> | |
| (2.3) Range | (U1+) - Inadequate but improving |
| (2.4) Population | (U1+) - Inadequate but improving |
| (2.5) Habitat for the species | (U1+) - Inadequate but improving |
| (2.6) Future prospects | (FV) - Favourable |
| Overall assessment | (U1+) - Inadequate but improving |