

**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:**

**S1329 - *Plecotus austriacus* - Grey long-eared bat**

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](http://www.jncc.gov.uk/article17)

**Species Name: *Plecotus austriacus***

<b>1. National level</b>	
Species Code	S1329
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

BOYE, P. & DIETZ, M. 2005. Research Report No 661: Development of good practice guidelines for woodland management for bats. English Nature, Peterborough.

HARRIS, S., MORRIS, P., WRAY, S. & YALDEN, D. 1995. A review of British Mammals: population estimates and conservation status of British mammals other than cetaceans. JNCC, Peterborough.

RICHARDSON, P. (2000) Distribution atlas of bats in Britain and Ireland 1980-1999. Bat Conservation Trust, London.

STEBBINGS, R.E. & GRIFFITH, F. 1986. Distribution and status of bats in Europe. Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Abbots Ripton.

Map Data Sources

	<p>Biological Records Centre - Mammals Database 100m; Natural England - Batsites inventory for Britain (via National Biodiversity Network (NBN) Gateway).</p> <p>Bat Conservation Trust - Distribution atlas of bats in Britain and Ireland 1980-1999, GB data only.</p> <p>Bat Conservation Trust - National Bat Monitoring Programme (NBMP) data to 2005 including: Colony survey (1998-2005), Hibernation survey (1997-2005).</p>			
<b>2.3 Range of species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>				
2.3.1 Surface range of the species (sq km)	13702			
2.3.2 Date of range determination	1980-2005			
2.3.3 Quality of data concerning range	Poor			
2.3.4 Range trend	Stable (=)			
2.3.5 Range trend magnitude (%)	Not applicable			
2.3.6 Range trend period	1980-2005			
2.3.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable			
<b>2.4 Population</b>				
2.4.1 Population size estimation	Minimum	1000	Maximum	1000
	Units	Individuals		
2.4.2 Date of population estimation	1995			
2.4.3 Method used for population estimation	1 - Based on expert opinion			
2.4.4 Quality of population data	Poor			
2.4.5 Population trend	Unknown (X)			
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	000 - None;			
2.4.11 Threats	151 - Removal of hedges and copses; 160 - General Forestry management; 164 - Forestry clearance; 165 - Removal of undergrowth; 166 - Removal of dead and dying trees; 167 - Exploitation without replanting; 490 - Other urbanisation, industrial and similar activities; 502 - routes, autoroutes; 624 - mountaineering, rock climbing, speleology; 803 - infilling of ditches, dykes, ponds, pools, marshes or pits;			
<b>2.5 Habitat for the species in the biogeographic region or marine region</b>				
2.5 Habitats for the species	<i>P. austriacus</i> requires a complex mosaic of habitats to support foraging, roosting and commuting behaviour. Boye & Dietz (2005) provide an			

	<p>overview of this species' habitat requirements.</p> <p>Foraging areas of the species cover arable land, pasture, uncultivated fields, gardens, orchards, and forest edges. Less frequently the bats forage in towns, barns or other buildings. The species forages in open habitats more frequently than <i>P. auritus</i> and has fewer gleaned prey items in its diet. The species also likes to have a source of water nearby maternity roosts.</p> <p><i>P. austriacus</i> is only reported using sinanthropic roosts and has adapted very well to using loft spaces of large old buildings such as churches, barns and old houses.</p> <p>Winter roosts are in caves, mines and cellars, where, animals prefer a temperature around 7°C.</p>
2.5.2 Area estimation (sq km)	Unknown
2.5.3 Date of estimation	2006
2.5.4 Quality of data	Poor
2.5.5 Trend of the habitat	Unknown (X)
2.5.6 Trend period	1994-2006
2.5.7 Reasons for reported trend	Not applicable
<b>2.6 Future prospects</b>	
2.6 Future prospects for the species	Unknown
<b>2.7 Complementary information</b>	
2.7.1 Favourable reference range (sq km)	13702
2.7.2 Favourable reference population	
2.7.3 Suitable Habitat for the species	Unknown
2.7.4 Other relevant information	
<b>2.8 Conclusions</b> <i>(assessment of conservation status at end of reporting period)</i>	
(2.3) Range	(FV) - Favourable
(2.4) Population	(XX) - Unknown
(2.5) Habitat for the species	(XX) - Unknown
(2.6) Future prospects	(XX) - Unknown
Overall assessment	(XX) - Unknown