

EUROBATS National Implementation Report

In the Resolution 7.4, the 7th Meeting of Parties to EUROBATS decided to adopt a new format for the National Implementation Reports and instructed the Secretariat to make this new format available for online completion in time for MoP8.

Present format of national reports was carefully revised by the relevant Intersessional Working Group during the 20th Meeting of the Advisory Committee (2015) in order to include the Resolutions of MoP7 and is now available on the CMS Family Online Reporting System (ORS).

Please visit the Support Centre page in case of any questions regarding the Online Reporting System. The link is available in the bottom left corner.

A. General Information

Name of your country

> Belarus

Period covered by this report

> June 2014 - June 2018

Is your country a party to EUROBATS Agreement?

No

Compilers and contributors to this report

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Range state information

Please describe the situation with ratification of EUROBATS Agreement by your country

> Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus continues to study the advisability of joining EUROBATS.

B. Status of bat species within the territory

Please assess a national status ONLY for those bat species from the Annex 1 to EUROBATS Agreement that were recorded in your country

Barbastella barbastellus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Restricted and rare species. Several large hibernation sites (up to 3 000 specimens in total) are located on the territory of the Brest Fortress.

Overall national trend

Positive

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

EN, Endangered

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Eptesicus nilssonii (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and common species

Overall national trend

Positive

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

NT, Near Threatened

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Eptesicus serotinus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and common species

Overall national trend

Stable

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis brandtii (Eversmann, 1845)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Restricted and rare species

Overall national trend

Negative

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis dasycneme (Boie, 1825)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and rare species

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

EN, Endangered

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis daubentonii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and common species

Overall national trend

Stable

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis myotis (Borkhausen, 1797)

Status of the species occurrence

Occasional

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Five registrations in 1918-1970.

Overall national trend

Indeterminate

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

DD, Data Deficient

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis mystacinus (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and rare species.

Overall national trend

Negative

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Myotis nattereri (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Restricted and rare species

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Nyctalus lasiopterus (Schreber, 1780)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> After last registration in 1930, a few maternity colonies were registered in the Central Palesse in 2015.

Overall national trend

Indeterminate

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

DD, Data Deficient

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Nyctalus leisleri (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and rare species.

Overall national trend

Negative

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

VU, Vulnerable

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Nyctalus noctula (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required
> Widespread and common species

Overall national trend

Stable

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Pipistrellus kuhlii (Kuhl, 1817)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required
> Several registrations of hibernating animals and maternity colonies since 2012.

Overall national trend

Indeterminate

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Pipistrellus nathusii (Keyserling & Blasius, 1839)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required
> Widespread and common species.

Overall national trend

Stable

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Pipistrellus pipistrellus (Schreber, 1774)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

Overall national trend

Indeterminate

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Pipistrellus pygmaeus (Leach, 1825)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and common species.

Overall national trend

Indeterminate

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Plecotus auritus (Linnaeus, 1758)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and common species.

Overall national trend

Stable

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Plecotus austriacus (Fischer, 1829)

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Restricted and rare species.

Overall national trend

Stable

Status in the National Red List (when it exists)

NT, Near Threatened

Year of assessment

> 2016

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

Vespertilio murinus Linnaeus, 1758

Status of the species occurrence

Resident

General comments

Comments

Add specific comments, if required

> Widespread and frequent species

Overall national trend

Positive

Year of assessment

> 2018

Has the status been reported under the Article 17 of the Habitat Directive or for the Emerald network (non-EU countries)?

No

C. Measures taken to implement Article III of the Agreement

Does the national legislation protect all bat species?

Yes

Please, give details of the legislation which is protecting bats

> All bat species are protected by the Law on Fauna, 8 species are included in the Red Data Book of Republic of Belarus and protected by the Law on Environmental Protection. According to the national legislation, the deliberate capture, keeping or killing of bats are illegal activities and punished by fines, with the exception of capture for scientific or educational purposes.

Which species are not protected and why?

> E. serotinus, M. daubentonii, N. noctula, P. kuhlii, P. nathusii, P. pipistrellus, P. pygmaeus, Pl. auritus, V. murinus are not included in the Red Data Book due to, mainly, relative lack of modern data on distribution, population size and trends. M. myotis (last registration in 1970) and N. lasiopterus (registrations in 1930 and since 2015) were moved from the last edition of the Red Data Book to the List of species requiring an attention

1. Guidelines for the issue of permits for the capture and study of captured wild bats

Does the system of permits or licenses for the capture of bats exist in your country?

Yes

Comments (optional)

> Capture of bats is allowed for scientific and educational organisations.

System of permits or licences to keep bats for educational or animal welfare purposes

In place

Comments

> Keeping of bats is allowed for scientific and educational organisations.

System of permits or licences for sampling, ringing, killing of bats for scientific studies

Exists

Comments (optional)

> Sampling, ringing, killing of bats for scientific studies are allowed for scientific and educational organisations. The special permission of Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Protection of Belarus is required for the deliberate capture, keeping or killing of bats, included in the Red Data Book.

2. Identified and protected sites which are important to the conservation of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 5.7. Guidelines for the protection of overground roosts, with particular reference to roosts in buildings of cultural heritage importance

2.4. List of national important overground roosts (including legal/physical protection status)

Doesn't exist

2.5. National guidelines for custodians of historical buildings on the protection of bat roosts have been developed

No

Resolution 7.6. Guidelines for the protection and management of important underground habitats for bats

Updated counts of bats at each listed site are submitted to the Secretariat

No

2.1. List of important underground sites

2.1. List of important underground sites for bats and measures of their protection (including Natura 2000, Emerald or other status) was submitted to EUROBATS

No

2.2. Management of important underground sites for bats is in accordance with EUROBATS Publication n°2

No

3.Consideration given to habitats which are important to bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 7.7. Bat conservation and sustainable forest management

National guidance has been developed based on the principles in the EUROBATS Bats and Forestry leaflet

No

Examples of best practice for forest management are submitted to the Secretariat

No

Resolution 7.8. Conservation and management of critical feeding areas, core areas around colonies and commuting routes

Awareness of the importance of critical feeding areas, core areas around known colonies and commuting routes for bats exists

No

Measures to take bats into account in land use and planning decisions

No

Research and monitoring to improve understanding of the use of landscape by bats are ongoing

No

National guidelines, drawing on the general guidance published in EUROBATS Publication have been developed

No

4. Activities to promote the awareness of the importance of conservation of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

4.1. International Bat Night. Give details for each year: number of events and number of people participated

> International Bat Nights, supported by APB-BirdLife Belarus, are held every year in Minsk and gather usually about 150-200 persons.

4.2. Details of other important activities which are worth to mention (educational centres, etc.)

> Lots of articles and interviews for media, popular bat lectures in the frame of some educational programs (MovaNanova, Massaraksh etc.) in different cities of Belarus.

Resolution 4.11. Recognising the important role of NGOs in bat conservation

4.4. Details of NGOs participating in /contributing to bat protection and most valuable activities that have the potential to substantially improve transboundary cooperation and mutual assistance

> APB-BirdLife Belarus usually supports International Bat Nights in Belarus and takes part in international bat research projects, such as:

-researches on *N. lasiopterus* on the territory of Belarusian Palesse, supported by the Frankfurt Zoological Society and EUROBATS;

-bat researches within the framework of the project « Polesia - Europe's largest wilderness area», supported by Frankfurt Zoological Society and partners

5. Additional actions undertaken to safeguard populations of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 2.2. Consistent monitoring methodologies

5.1. Implementation of EUROBATS guidelines published in EUROBATS Publication n°5 to ensure consistency and information exchange between Parties and Range States

No

Resolution 5.4. Monitoring bats across Europe

5.11. Involvement in a long-term pan-European surveillance to provide trend data

No

Awareness-raising of the importance of underground sites

No

Collaboration and information exchange with other Parties and range states on surveillance and monitoring activities

Yes

Please provide details

> There is collaboration and information exchange with Ukraine, Poland, Germany, Netherlands and Armenia.

5.14. Monitoring bats in accordance with EUROBATS Publication n°5

No

5.15. Capacity building of bat workers and surveyors to support the undertaking of bat surveillance projects

Doesn't exist

Resolution 6.6. Guidelines for the prevention, detection and control of lethal fungal infections in bats

5.17. Surveillance for the presence of fungal infections

No

Resolution 6.13. Bats as indicators for biodiversity

5.19. Does your country support a development of national, regional and pan-European biodiversity indicators for appropriate target audiences, using bat data

No

5.20. Bat data is incorporated within high profile national multi-taxa indicators

No

5.22. Cooperation platforms that facilitate the required data exchange

Don't exist

Resolution 7.5. Wind turbines and bat populations

5.2. Raising awareness on the impact of turbines on bats and the existence of some unsuitable habitats or sites for construction

No

5.3. Pre-construction impact assessments, if possible, undertaken by suitably experienced bat experts

Yes

Please, give details

> Aliaksei Shpak

5.4. National guidelines were developed following Eurobats Pub. No. 6

No

National guidelines are implemented

No

5.5. Investigations and research for mitigating bat mortality have been undertaken

No

5.7. Post-construction monitoring, if possible, is undertaken by suitably experienced bat experts

If yes, give details

No

5.8. Raw data from environmental impact assessment and post-construction monitoring is available for independent scientific analysis

No

5.9. Blade feathering, higher cut-in wind speeds and shutting down turbines are used to reduce or avoid bat mortality

No

Resolution 7.9. Impact of roads and other traffic infrastructures on bats

5.23. Bats are taken into account during the planning, construction and operation of roads and other infrastructure projects

No

5.24 Pre-construction strategic and environmental impacts assessment procedures are mandatory

Required occasionally

5.25. Post-construction monitoring

Required occasionally

5.26. Raw data from environmental impact assessment and post-construction monitoring is available for independent scientific analysis

No

5.27. Research into the impact of new and, where appropriate, existing roads and other infrastructure on bats and into the effectiveness of mitigation measures

No

5.28. National guidelines are developed

No

Resolution 7.10. Bat Rescue and Rehabilitation

5.29. Animal rescue and rehabilitation systems are effective in the country

No

5.30. Collaboration between bat rehabilitators and scientists

Exists

Provide examples of collaboration

> Bat Rehabilitation Center "Kazhanapolis" operates in the collaboration with National Academy of Sciences.

5.31. Bat rehabilitators contribute their data to a national database

Yes

Please provide information about this database

> Database is creating.

Resolution 7.11. Bats and building insulation

5.32. Are there conflicts between insulation regulations and bat conservation?

No

5.34. Impacts on bats are included in the environmental assessment of insulation programs

No

Resolution 7.12. Priority species for autecological studies

Rhinolophus blasii Peters, 1866

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Eptesicus isabellinus (Temminck, 1840)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Myotis escaleraei Cabrera, 1904

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Nyctalus azoreum (Thomas, 1901)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Nyctalus lasiopterus (Schreber, 1780)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 Yes

Studies on:

	Winter roosts	Summer roosts	Swarming sites	Migration	Spatial and habitat use	Foraging behaviour	Diet
Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Please add below or attach a list of references

> Dombrovski V., Fenchuk V., Dietz M. Nyctalus lasiopterus in the far north? Population size and habitat use of a very special bat in the Pripiat floodplains (Belarus) <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Nyctalus-lasiopterus-in-the-far-north-Population-size-and-habitat-use-of-a-very-special-bat-in-the-Pripiat-floodplains-Belarus>

Pipistrellus hanaki Hulva & Benda, 2004

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Pipistrellus maderensis (Dobson, 1878)

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Plecotus kolombatovici Dulic, 1980

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Plecotus sardus Mucedda, Kiefer, Pidinchedda & Veith, 2002

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

Plecotus teneriffae Barrett-Hamilton, 1907

Some studies have been conducted (are ongoing) for this species in the country
 No

6. Recent and ongoing programmes (including research and policy initiatives) relating to conservation and management of bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 2.3. Transboundary programme: species proposals

6.1. Inclusion of *Myotis dasycneme* and *Pipistrellus nathusii* in transboundary cooperation

Yes

Resolution 2.4. Transboundary programme: habitat proposals

6.2. National research on underground sites has been undertaken since the last reporting

No

6.3. National research on bats in forests

Yes

Resolution 5.2. Bat rabies in Europe

6.5. National bat rabies surveillance network

No

6.6. Vaccination against rabies is compulsory

Yes

Resolution 6.5. Guidelines on ethics for research and field work practices

6.9. National Code of Practice that addresses the context and legitimacy of acquisition, due diligence, long-term care, documentation, relevance and institutional aims

Doesn't exist

Resolution 6.8. Monitoring of daily and seasonal movements of bats

Please select a species for which a research in daily/seasonal movements has been conducted from the list

***Nyctalus lasiopterus* (Schreber, 1780)**

New data on daily movements was obtained

Yes

Please attach a list of references

> Dombrovski V., Fenchuk V., Dietz M. *Nyctalus lasiopterus* in the far north? Population size and habitat use of a very special bat in the Pripiat floodplains (Belarus) <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Nyctalus-lasiopterus-in-the-far-north-Population-size-and-habitat-use-of-a-very-special-bat-in-the-Pripiat-floodplains-Belarus>

New data on seasonal movements was obtained

Yes

Please attach a list of references

> Dombrovski V., Fenchuk V., Dietz M. *Nyctalus lasiopterus* in the far north? Population size and habitat use of a very special bat in the Pripiat floodplains (Belarus) <https://www.researchgate.net/project/Nyctalus-lasiopterus-in-the-far-north-Population-size-and-habitat-use-of-a-very-special-bat-in-the-Pripiat-floodplains-Belarus>

***Pipistrellus kuhlii* (Kuhl, 1817)**

New data on daily movements was obtained

No

New data on seasonal movements was obtained

Yes

Please attach a list of references

> 1. Shpak A. Range expansion of Kuhl's pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus kuhlii*) into Belarus // Proceedings of the Theriological School. 2016. № 14, P. 99-102.

2. Shpak A. Hibernating bat species of Belarus: results of the work of the Minsk bat-contact centre // Proceedings of the Theriological School. 2018. Vol.16, P. 133-139.

Vespertilio murinus Linnaeus, 1758

New data on daily movements was obtained

No

New data on seasonal movements was obtained

Yes

Please attach a list of references

> Shpak A. Hibernation of Parti-Coloured Bat, *Vespertilio murinus* (Chiroptera, Vespertilionidae), in Belarus // Vestnik zoologii. 2017. № 51(1), C. 83-86.

7. Consideration being given to the potential effects of pesticides on bats, and their food sources and efforts to replace timber treatment chemicals which are highly toxic to bats

Click "expand" to see the questions!

Resolution 4.5. Guidelines for the use of remedial timber treatment

7.1. Small projects to provide basic data to allow an assessment of the potential impact of industry on bat populations

No

7.2. Raising awareness of product users is taking place

No

7.3. Legislation on products which have any adverse effects on bats

Doesn't exist

Resolution 6.15. Impact on bat populations of the use of antiparasitic drugs for livestock

7.4. Efficient non-chemical methods to control livestock parasites and use of products of least toxicity to non-target species implemented

No

7.5. Research on the use of antiparasitic drugs

No

7.6. Recommendations in Annex I to the Resolution 6.15 are adopted

No

8. Further important activities to share with other Parties and Range States

Give details or provide links

> Since the previous MP meeting, the following bat research projects are conducted in Belarus:

- researches on *N. lasiopterus* on the territory of Belarusian Palesse, supported by the Frankfurt Zoological Society and EUROBATS;
- researches on species composition and genetic structure of *Pipistrellus* and *Myotis* species complexes;
- bat researches within the framework of the project « Polesia - Europe's largest wilderness area», supported by Frankfurt Zoological Society and partners;
- joint Armenian-Belarusian project «Phylogeographic analysis of bat populations of Belarus and Armenia»;

Confirmation

Confirmation of information verification and approval for submission

Please confirm:

In addition a scanned copy of an official letter from the relevant state institution, approving the report for submission, can be attached.

I declare that the information provided in the Report on the implementation of EUROBATS has been verified and the report has been approved for submission by the appropriate state institution in the country.

Date of submission

Fill as follows: dd.mm.yyyy

> 06.07.2018