

Larus glaucoides -- Meyer, 1822

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- CHARADRIIFORMES -- LARIDAE

Common names: Iceland Gull;

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
Date assessed:	2015-03-31
Assessor(s):	BirdLife International
Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
Compiler(s):	Ashpole, J., Burfield, I., Ieronymidou, C., Pople, R., Tarzia, M., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L.

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Not Evaluated (NE)

This species has a very large range, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the range size criterion (Extent of Occurrence 10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). The population trend appears to be stable, and hence the species does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion (30% decline over ten years or three generations). For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern in Europe.

The species is Not Evaluated (NE) for the EU27 region as winter (non-breeding season) data were not available.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Denmark; Faroe Islands (to DK); Greenland (to DK); Iceland; Ireland, Rep. of; Netherlands; United Kingdom

Vagrant:

Austria; Belgium; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Italy; Latvia; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Norway; Svalbard and Jan Mayen (to NO); Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Gibraltar (to UK)

Population

The European population is estimated at 50,000-100,000 pairs, which equates to 100,000-200,000 mature individuals. The species does not occur in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#)

Trend

In Europe the population size is estimated to be stable. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

The species breeds in the Arctic regions including Greenland (to Denmark), and outside the breeding season can be found wintering in Iceland, Ireland, the U.K., the north coast of Norway, the southern tip of Scandinavia and the northern tip of Germany (Burger and Gochfeld 1996). Its habitat includes rocky coasts and fjords of low Arctic, breeding on steep cliffs, offshore stacks, sometimes undisturbed low islands. In winter it also occurs in harbours and occasionally rubbish dumps, and normally shuns fresh water (Burger and Gochfeld 1996).

Habitats & Altitude

Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas	marginal	non-breeding

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Sea Cliffs and Rocky Offshore Islands	major	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Rocky Shoreline	major	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Rocky Shoreline	major	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Tidepools	major	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Tidepools	major	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Macroalgal/Kelp	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Macroalgal/Kelp	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Pelagic	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Pelagic	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Seagrass (Submerged)	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Seagrass (Submerged)	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Loose Rock/pebble/gravel	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Loose Rock/pebble/gravel	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Rock and Rocky Reefs	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Rock and Rocky Reefs	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Sandy	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Sandy	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Sandy-Mud	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Subtidal Sandy-Mud	suitable	non-breeding
Altitude		Occasional altitudinal limits

Threats

The species is extensively hunted by local people in Greenland, and increased non-native predators could also pose a hazard during the breeding season (Burger and Gochfeld 1996).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Biological resource use	Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals (intentional use - species is the target)	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
Species mortality					
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Unspecified species	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
Species mortality					

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

The species is covered under the African Eurasian Waterbird Agreement. There are two marine Important Bird Areas identified for this species (Greenland). Within the EU, there are two Special Protection Areas (Spain and Portugal).

Conservation Actions Proposed

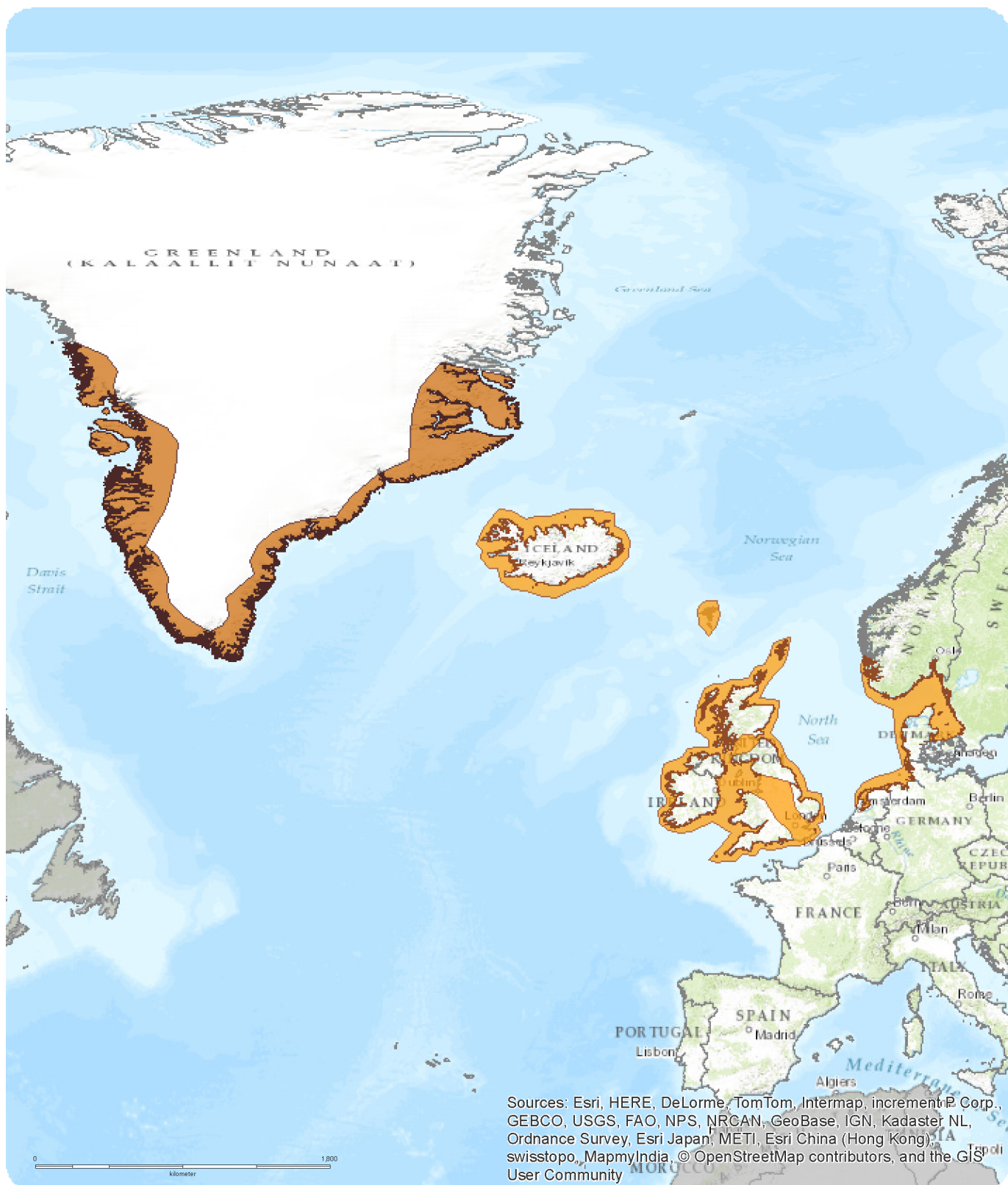
Identification of important sites for this species and subsequent designation as protected areas. Eradication of invasive predators from breeding sites. Continued monitoring of numbers caught for consumption.

Bibliography

Burger, J. & Gochfeld, M. (1996). Iceland Gull (*Larus glaucooides*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. & de Juana, E. (eds.) (2014). Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona.

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Larus glaucooides

Range

- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (non breeding)

Citation:
BirdLife International (2015)
European Red List of Birds



Map created 05/12/2015

