

Hydrobates monteiroi -- (Bolton, A.L. Smith, E. Gomez-Diaz, V.L. Friesen, R. Medeiros, J. Bried, J.L. Roscales & R.W. Furness, 2008)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PROCELLARIIFORMES -- HYDROBATIDAE

Common names: Monteiro's Storm-petrel;

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

VU -- Vulnerable, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

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Assessor(s):	BirdLife International
Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
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Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

EU27 regional assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

This storm-petrel is endemic to the Azores (Portugal), where it has a very small population which is restricted to breeding on just two islets. It is therefore highly susceptible to stochastic events, and remains at risk of mammalian introductions and avian predators, and is listed as Vulnerable both in Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Portugal

Population

The European population is estimated at 250-300 pairs, which equates to 500-600 mature individuals. The entire population is found in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe and the EU27 the population size is estimated to be increasing. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species breeds on small islets and forages over the open ocean. Breeding occurs during the 'hot season'; females lay eggs between early May (perhaps late April) and early July, incubating a single egg until as late as early August, with the first chicks hatching in early June and the latest chicks fledging in early October. Nests are burrows excavated in the soil (Fjeldså and Kirwan 2014). Its diet is poorly known, but thought to consist of small fish and squid, and it generally feeds on prey of a higher trophic level than Band-rumped Storm-petrel (*Hydrobates castro*) (Bolton et al. 2008). The movements of this species are virtually unknown but it is thought to forage throughout the year in local seas around the Azores (Fjeldså and Kirwan 2014).

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Sea Cliffs and Rocky Offshore Islands	major	breeding
Marine Neritic - Macroalgal/Kelp	suitable	breeding
Marine Neritic - Macroalgal/Kelp	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Pelagic	major	breeding
Marine Neritic - Pelagic	major	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

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
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
Marine Oceanic - Epipelagic (m)	major	breeding
Marine Oceanic - Epipelagic (m)	major	non-breeding
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	major	breeding
Altitude	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

Threats include high predation rates by Long-eared Owls (*Asio otus*) that are resident in the Azores; up to 40 adults are killed in some seasons (Bolton et al. 2008). Both breeding islets are currently free of ground predators, but their close proximity to Graciosa and the large numbers of visitors to one islet in the summer means that the introduction of rodents is a continuing threat (Bolton et al. 2008). Both islets lie within 2 km of the main shipping route for large passenger ferries and container ships docking on Graciosa. A cargo ship containing livestock ran aground on one of the breeding islets in 2000, leading to concerns over pollution and rodents escaping ashore (Bolton et al. 2008).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Unspecified rats (<i>Rattus</i> spp.)	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Majority (50-90%)	Rapid Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality; Reduced reproductive success			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Unspecified species	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality			
Residential & commercial development	Tourism & recreation areas	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Majority (50-90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
		Species mortality; Reduced reproductive success			
Transportation & service corridors	Shipping lanes	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Majority (50-90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem degradation; Species mortality; Reduced reproductive success			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

Bern Convention Appendix II. Both breeding islets are designated under European legislation as Special Protection Areas and are assigned a full-time warden based on Graciosa (Bolton et al. 2008). Recent work to reduce interspecific competition for nest cavities with rabbits and other larger Procellariiform species through the installation of nest boxes has met with considerable success, leading to a large increase in annual productivity (Bolton et al. 2008). Nest boxes had higher productivity than natural nest sites, probably due to the greater degree of protection they provided from inclement weather and interspecific competition for nest space (Bried et al. 2009). Data from a MRR (mark-recapture-recovery) ringing study is being analysed, with preliminary results suggesting annual survival is high (F. Jiguet in litt. 2010).

Conservation Actions Proposed

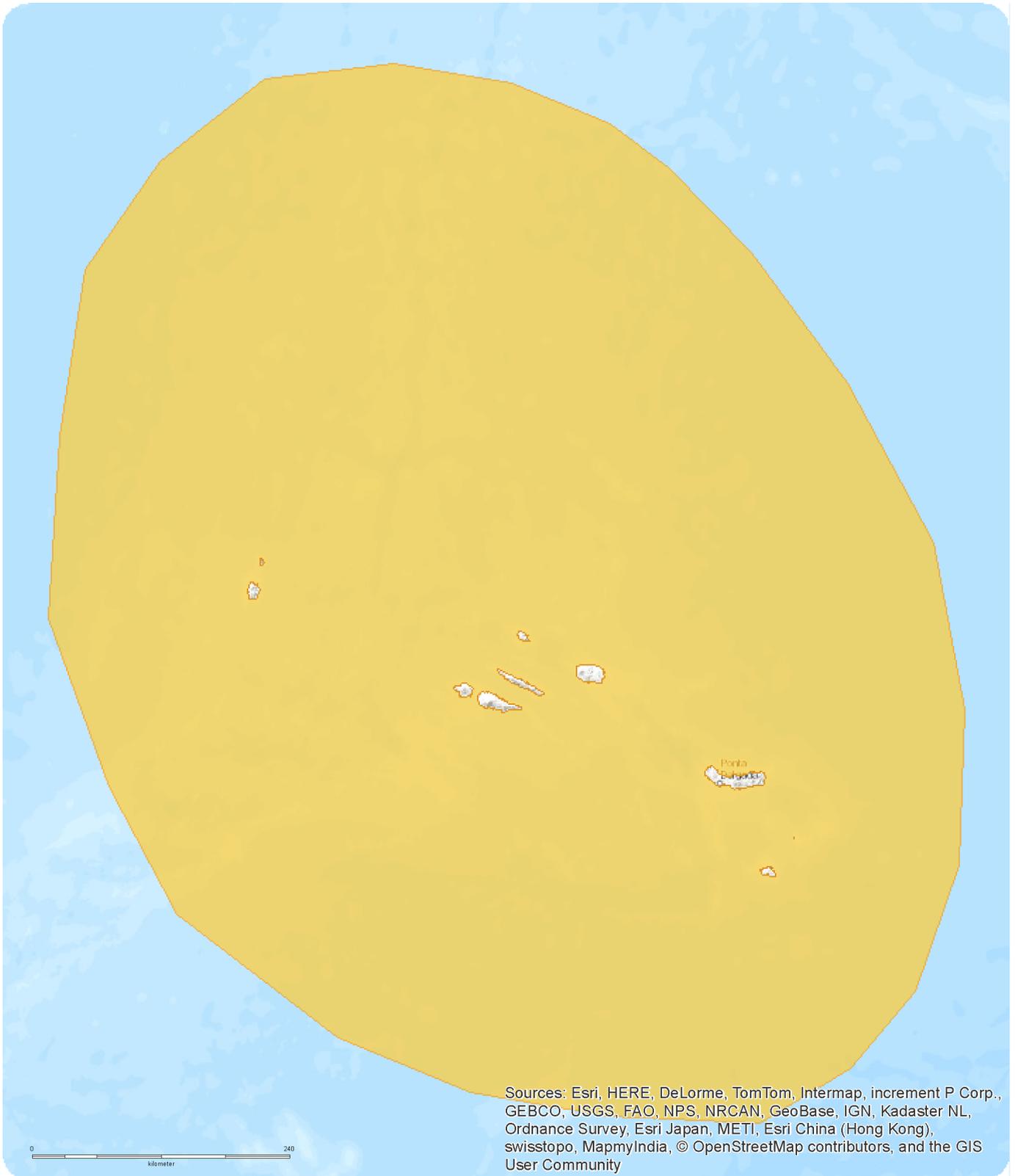
Obtain an up-to-date population census. Continue constructing artificial nest-sites. Consider re-introducing the species to other islets in the Azores, reducing the potential impact of rodents being introduced to one of the current breeding islets. Monitor the breeding islets for rodent introductions. Assess predation by other potential predators including gulls and reptiles (particularly Madeira Lizard (*Teira dugesii*)).

Bolton, M., Smith, A.L., Gómez-Dí-az, E., Friesen, V.L., Medeiros, R., Bried, J., Roscales, J.L. and Furness, R.W. 2008. Monteiro's Storm Petrel *Oceanodroma monteiroi*: a new species from the Azores. *Ibis* 150(4): 717-727.

Bried, J., Magalhães, M.C., Bolton, M., Neves, V.C., Bell, E., Pereira, J.C., Aguiar, L., Monteiro, L.R. and Santos, R.S. 2009. Seabird habitat restoration on Praia Islet, Azores Archipelago. *Ecological Restoration* 27(1): 27-36

Fjeldså, J. and Kirwan, G.M. 2014. Monteiro's Storm-petrel (*Hydrobates monteiroi*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. and de Juana, E. (eds.) 2014. *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/204307> on 16 January 2015).

European Regional Assessment



Hydrobates monteiroi

Range

■ Extant (resident)

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



Map created 05/12/2015

