Report under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Regulation 9A

2019-2024

Conservation status assessment for the species:

S1083 - Stag beetle

(*Lucanus cervus*)

Wales

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Important note - Please read

- The information in this document represents the Wales Report under The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), Regulation 9A, for the period 2019-2024.
- It is based on supporting information provided by Natural Resources Wales, which is documented separately.
- The Habitats Regulations reporting 2019-2024 Approach Document provides details on how this supporting information contributed to the UK Report and the fields that were completed for each parameter.
- Maps showing the distribution and range of the species are included.
- Explanatory notes (where provided) are included at the end. These provide additional audit trail information to that included within the assessments. Further underpinning explanatory notes are available in the related country reports.
- Some of the reporting fields have been left blank because either: (i) there was insufficient information to complete the field; (ii) completion of the field was not obligatory; and/or (iii) the field was not relevant to this species (section 12 National Site Network coverage for Annex II species).

Further details on the approach to the Habitats Regulations Reporting 2019-2024 are available on the JNCC website.

Assessment Summary: Stag beetle

Distribution Map

Range Map

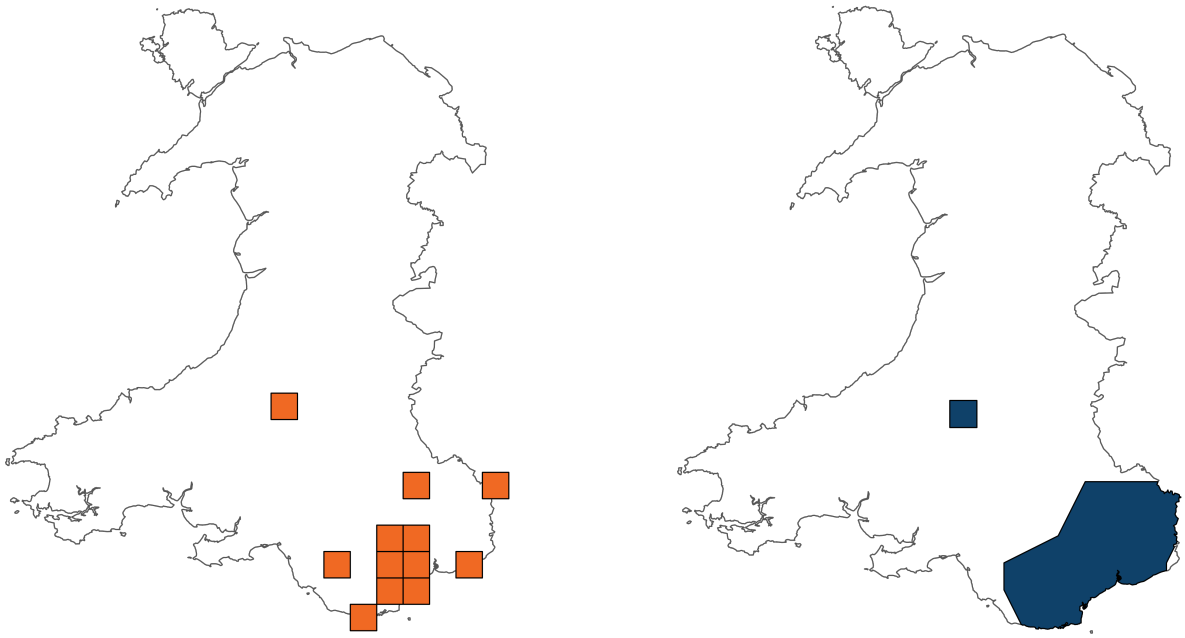

Figure 1: Wales distribution and range map for S1083 - Stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*). Coastline boundary derived from the Oil and Gas Authority's OGA and Lloyd's Register SNS Regional Geological Maps (Open Source). Open Government Licence v3 (OGL). Contains data © 2017 Oil and Gas Authority. The 10km grid square distribution map is based on available species records within the current reporting period.

Table 1: Table summarising the conservation status for S1083 - Stag beetle (*Lucanus cervus*). Overall conservation status for species is based on assessments of range, population, habitat for the species, and future prospects.

Overall Conservation Status (see section 11)

Unknown (XX)

Breakdown of Overall Conservation Status

Range (see section 5)	**Unknown (XX)**
Population (see section 6)	**Unknown (XX)**
Habitat for the species (see section 7)	**Unknown (XX)**
Future prospects (see section 10)	**Unknown (XX)**

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National Level

1. General information

1.1 Country	Wales
1.2 Species code	S1083
1.3 Species scientific name	*Lucanus cervus*
1.4 Alternative species scientific name	
1.5 Common name	Stag beetle
Annex(es)	II

2. Maps

2.1 Sensitive species	No
2.2 Year or period	2001-2024
2.3 Distribution map	Yes
2.4 Distribution map; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

2.5 Additional information

No additional information

3. Information related to Annex V Species

3.1 Is the species taken in the wild / exploited?

3.2 What measures have been taken?

a) Regulations regarding access to property
b) Temporary or local prohibition on the taking of specimens in the wild and exploitation
c) Regulation of the periods and/or methods of taking specimens
d) Application of hunting and fishing rules which take account of the conservation of such populations

e) Establishment of a system of licences for taking specimens or of quotas

f) Regulation of the purchase, sale, offering for sale, keeping for sale, or transport for sale of specimens

g) Breeding in captivity of animal species as well as artificial propagation of plant species

Other measures

Other measures description

3.3: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild for Mammals and Acipenseridae (Fish)

a) Unit

Table 2: Quantity taken from the wild during the reporting period (see 3.3a for units). For species with defined hunting seasons, Season 1 refers to 2018/2019 (autumn 2018 to spring 2019), and Season 6 to 2023/2024. For species without hunting seasons, data are reported by calendar year: Year 1 is 2019, and Year 6 is 2024.

	Season/ year 1	Season/ year 2	Season/ year 3	Season/ year 4	Season/ year 5	Season/ year 6
b) Minimum	-	-	-	-	-	-
c) Maximum	-	-	-	-	-	-
d) Unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-

3.4: Hunting bag or quantity taken in the wild; Method used

3.5: Additional information

No additional information

Biogeographical Level

4. Biogeographical and marine regions

4.1 Biogeographical or marine region where the species occurs	ATL

4.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

5. Range

5.1 Surface area (km²)	2,263.75
5.2 Short-term trend; Period	
5.3 Short-term trend; Direction	Unknown
5.4 Short-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Estimated minimum	
b) Estimated maximum	
c) Pre-defined range	
d) Unknown	Yes
e) Type of estimate	
f) Rate of decrease	
5.5 Short-term trend; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
5.6 Long-term trend; Period	2001-2024
5.7 Long-term trend; Direction	Unknown
5.8 Long-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Minimum	
b) Maximum	
c) Rate of decrease	

5.9 Long-term trend; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data

5.10 Favourable Reference Range (FRR)

a) Area (km²)	
b) Pre-defined increment	
c) Unknown	Yes
d) Method used	
e) Quality of information	

5.11 Change and reason for change in surface area of range

a) Change	Yes
b) Genuine change	Yes
c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data	No
d) Different method	No
e) No information	No
f) Other reason	No
g) Main reason	Genuine change

5.12 Additional information

No additional information

6. Population

6.1 Year or period	2001-2024

6.2 Population size (in reporting unit)

a) Unit	number of map 1x1 km grid cells
b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	15

6.3 Type of estimate	Best estimate
6.4 Quality of extrapolation to reporting unit	

6.5 Additional population size (using population unit other than reporting unit)

a) Unit	
b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	
e) Type of estimate	
6.6 Population size; Method used	Based mainly on extrapolation from a limited amount of data
6.7 Short-term trend; Period	2001-2024
6.8 Short-term trend; Direction	Unknown
6.9 Short-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Estimated minimum	
b) Estimated maximum	
c) Pre-defined range	
d) Unknown	
e) Type of estimate	
f) Rate of decrease	
6.10 Short-term trend; Method used	Insufficient or no data available
6.11 Long-term trend; Period	2001-2024
6.12 Long-term trend; Direction	Unknown
6.13 Long-term trend; Magnitude	
a) Minimum	

b) Maximum	
c) Confidence interval	
d) Rate of decrease	
6.14 Long-term trend; Method used	Insufficient or no data available

6.15 Favourable Reference Population (FRP)

ai) Population size	
aii) Unit	
b) Pre-defined increment	
c) Unknown	Yes
d) Method used	
e) Quality of information	

6.16 Change and reason for change in population size

a) Change	No
b) Genuine change	
c) Improved knowledge or more accurate data	
d) Different method	
e) No information	
f) Other reason	
g) Main reason	

6.17 Additional information

No additional information

6.18 Age structure, mortality and reproduction deviation	Unknown

7. Habitat for the species

7.1 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat (for long-term survival)

a) Is area of occupied habitat sufficient?	Unknown
b) Is quality of occupied habitat sufficient?	Unknown
c) If No or Unknown, is there a sufficiently large area of unoccupied habitat of suitable quality?	Unknown

7.2 Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat; Method used

a) Sufficiency of area of occupied habitat; Method used	Insufficient or no data available
b) Sufficiency of quality of occupied habitat; Method used	Insufficient or no data available

7.3 Short-term trend; Period	2001-2024
7.4 Short-term trend; Direction	Unknown
7.5 Short-term trend; Method used	Insufficient or no data available

7.6 Long-term trend; Period	
7.7 Long-term trend; Direction	
7.8 Long-term trend; Method used	

7.9 Additional information

No additional information

8. Main pressures

8.1 Characterisation of pressures

Table 3: Pressures affecting the species, including timing and importance/impact ranking. Pressures are defined as factors acting currently and/or during the reporting period (2019–2024). Rankings are: High (direct/immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Pressure	Timing	Ranking
PX04: No pressures or threats		

8.2 Sources of information

See section 14 References

8.3 Additional information

No additional information

9. Conservation measures

9.1: Status of measures

a) Are measures needed?	No
b) Indicate the status of measures	
9.2 Main purpose of the measures taken	
9.3 Location of the measures taken	
9.4 Response to measures	

9.5 List of main conservation measures

Table 4: Key conservation measures addressing current pressures and/or anticipated threats during the next two reporting periods (2025–2036). Measures are ranked by importance/impact: High (direct/immediate influence and/or large spatial extent) and Medium (moderate direct/immediate influence, mainly indirect and/or regional extent).

Conservation measure	Ranking
No conservation measures	

9.6 Additional information

No additional information

10. Future prospects

10.1a Future trends of parameters

ai) Range	Unknown
bi) Population	Unknown
ci) Habitat for the species	Unknown

10.1b Future prospects of parameters

aii) Range	Unknown
bii) Population	Unknown
cii) Habitat for the species	Unknown

10.2 Additional information

No additional information

11. Conclusions

11.1 Range	Unknown (XX)
11.2 Population	Unknown (XX)
11.3 Habitat for the species	Unknown (XX)
11.4 Future prospects	Unknown (XX)
11.5 Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Unknown (XX)
11.6 Overall trend in Conservation Status	

11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

11.7 Change and reason for change in conservation status trend

This field is not reported as the period 2019-2024 marks the first instance in which conservation status has been assessed at the national level, meaning no comparisons to previous reports can be drawn.

11.8 Additional information

No additional information

12. UK National Site Network (pSCIs, SCIs, SACs) coverage for Annex II species

12.1 Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network

a) Unit	number of map 1x1 km grid cells
b) Minimum	
c) Maximum	
d) Best single value	0
12.2 Type of estimate	Best estimate
12.3 Population size inside the network; Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
12.4 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Direction	Stable
12.5 Short-term trend of population size within the network; Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate
12.6 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Direction	Stable
12.7 Short-term trend of habitat for the species inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network; Method used	Complete survey or a statistically robust estimate

12.8 Additional information

No additional information

13. Complementary information

13.1 Justification of percentage thresholds for trends

No justification information

13.2 Trans-boundary assessment

No trans-boundary assessment information

13.2 Other relevant information

No other relevant information

14. References

Biogeographical and marine regions

4.2 Sources of information

(92/43/EEC) Supporting documentation for the Third Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17 on the implementation of the Directive from January 2007 to December 2012 Conservation status assessment for Species: S1083 – Stag Beetle (Lucanus cervus).

(92/43/EEC) Supporting documentation for the Third Report by the United Kingdom under Article 17 on the implementation of the Directive from January 2013 to December 2018 Conservation status assessment for Species: S1083 – Stag Beetle (Lucanus cervus).

Aderyn website – records up to 2024.

Anon. 2002. Welsh invasion starts in Cardiff. Urbio(1): 4.

Bower, L. 2018. The State of Britain's Stag Beetles 2018. Report for the People's Trust for Endangered Species.

Clark, J.T. 1966. The distribution of Lucanus cervus (L.) (Col., Lucanidae) in Britain. Entomologist's Monthly Magazine102: 199-204.

Donisthorpe, H. 1941. The distribution of Lucanus cervus L. (Col., Lucanidae) in Britain. Entomologist's Monthly Magazine77: 198-199.

Fowles, A.P. 2013. European Community Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Hall, D.G. 1969. Lucanus cervus (L.) (Col., Lucanidae) in Britain. Entomologist's Monthly Magazine105: 183-184.

Howe, M.A. 2019. European Community Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora

Lane, S.A. & Mann, D.J. 2016. A review of the status of the beetles of Great Britain: the stag beetles, dor beetles, dung beetles, chafers and their allies - Lucanidae, Geotrupidae, Trogidae and Scarabaeidae. Species Status No.31. Natural England, Peterborough.

Smith, M. 2003. National stag beetle survey 2002. People's Trust for Endangered Species.

Tomlin, J.R.L.B. 1915. The Coleoptera of Glamorgan. Transactions of the Cardiff Naturalists' Society47: 13-33.

Whitehead, P.F. 2013. NRW surveys of saproxylic invertebrate fauna at 1) Pwl-Mawr and 2) Livox Wood SSSI Graig Wood SSSI and Troy Park Wood Penallt Monmouthshire July-August 2013. Unpublished draft report for Natural Resources Wales.

Main pressures

8.2 Sources of information

No sources of information

15. Explanatory Notes

Field label	Note
5.11: Change and reason for change in surface area of range	Since the last reporting round, the Stag Beetle has reported from 13 localities in 13 hectads (Aderyn website) although most require verification. Most records are from Gwent and Glamorgan, with several in and around Cardiff and in Monmouth. There is an outlier record from Talley in Carmarthenshire.
6.2: Population size	The Stag Beetle has been recorded from 15 monads in 13 hectads since 2019, although most records require verification. Most records are from Gwent and Glamorgan, with several in and around Cardiff and in Monmouth. There is an outlier record from Talley in Carmarthenshire.
6.11: Long-term trend; Period	The sporadic nature of records for Stag Beetle, with most contemporary records requiring verification, precludes any long-term trend analysis.
6.16: Change and reason for change in population size	Since the last reporting round, the Stag Beetle has been recorded from 15 monads in 13 hectads since 2019, although most records require verification. Most records are from Gwent and Glamorgan, with several in and around Cardiff and in Monmouth. There is an outlier record from Talley in Carmarthenshire.
7.1: Sufficiency of area and quality of occupied habitat	Fowles (2013) states that “There has been no attempt to estimate the abundance or quality of breeding habitat. The beetle is apparently confined to an area less than 4 sq km but potentially could occur throughout Cardiff, or South Wales, or southern Britain. Hence it is not appropriate to speculate on trends or potential”. Whilst it has been recorded from 15 monads in 13 hectads since 2019, most records require verification. As its Welsh status remains unclear, it is not possible to assess habitat availability. However, it is unlikely that habitat availability is the major factor in the beetle's scarcity in Wales which is more likely to be related to (micro)climate.

8.1: Characterisation of pressures	Fowles (2013) reported that “It seems unlikely that the abundance of mature park and garden trees in this area will change in the foreseeable future and it's impossible to speculate on the abundance of subterranean decaying tree roots in the suburban environment”. More recent records from Penallt in the Wye Valley are from a well-wooded landscape with mature trees in the near vicinity, and it is unlikely that subterranean decaying tree roots are at a premium. The quality of habitat at the 14+ post-2019 localities is unknown.
10.1: Future trends and prospects of parameters	The Stag Beetle is on the very edge of its UK range in south-east and south Wales and populations have been very small or apparently absent over the last 100 years. Habitat availability is unlikely to be a limiting factor as there should be sufficient submerged decaying tree roots within the south-east Wales landscape. Either Stag Beetle will remain rare in Wales or it may respond positively to climate change and warmer summers, particularly if there is a marked range change in southern England.
11.1: Range	Conclusion on Range reached because:(i) the short-term trend direction in Range surface area is unknown; and (ii) the Favourable Reference Range is unknown.
11.2: Population	onclusion on Population reached because:(i) the short-term trend direction in Population size is unknown; (ii) the Favourable Reference Population is unknown and iii) reproduction, mortality and age structure does not have data available.
11.3: Habitat for the species	Conclusion on Habitat for the species reached because: (i) it is unknown whether the area of occupied habitat is sufficiently large for long-term survival (ii) it is unknown whether the quality of occupied habitat is suitable for the long-term survival of the species; and iii) it is unknown whether there is a sufficiently large area of occupied and unoccupied habitat of suitable quality for long term survival (iv) the short-term trend in area of habitat is unknown.
11.4: Future prospects	Conclusion on Future prospects reached because: (i) the Future prospects for Range are unknown; (ii) the Future

	prospects for Population are unknown; and (iii) the Future prospects for Habitat for the species are unknown.
11.5: Overall assessment of Conservation Status	Overall assessment of Conservation Status is Unknown because two or more of the conclusions are Unknown.
12.1: Population size inside the pSCIs, SCIs and SACs network	There are no populations of Stag Beetle inside the SAC network in Wales
6.15: Favourable Reference Population (FRP)	The UK-level FRV for population was developed by JNCC using an audit trail based on the year the FRV was first established and any changes made in subsequent reporting rounds. The audit may draw from any combination of the 2007, 2013, or 2019 Habitats Directive reports and reflects the full rationale used for the 2019 Article 17 reporting. Following expert review, a Wales-level FRV was derived based on population trend and abundance data specific to Wales, rather than adopting the UK-level value. The revised FRV has been set as for Wales this should be “Unknown”. There is no known resident population, records are singletons and some are dubious.
5.10: Favourable Reference Range (FRR)	The UK-level FRV for range was developed by JNCC using an audit trail based on the year the FRV was first established and any changes made in subsequent reporting rounds. The audit may draw from any combination of the 2007, 2013, or 2019 Habitats Directive reports and reflects the full rationale used for the 2019 Article 17 reporting. Following expert review, a Wales-level FRV was derived based on distribution and trend evidence specific to Wales, rather than adopting the UK-level value. The revised FRV has been set as for Wales this should be “unknown”. There is no known resident population, records are singletons and some are dubious.