

Selected Features: Basking shark, Black guillemot

Change Pressure 'sensitivity' Selection , Selected Assocations: High, Medium, Low

ack guillemot, Basking shark
eature Name: Black guillemot (Click here to view feature references)

Pressure Name
Feature
Sensitivity Evidence Base Option Black guillemot are more likely to be adversely affected by loss of habitat if structures/devices are placed within areas that they would otherwise use for foraging Furness, R.W. & Wade, H. (2012); this species is exclusively coastal, usually feeds inshore, close to breeding sites, often associating with kelp beds (Forrestre et al. 2007). Tolerance is assessed as medium with medium recovery for areas key to species life cycle. The collision risk with tidal turbines is uncertain - some evidence to assess this through temporal separation of foraging and when tidal turbines are operating due to tidal flow/slack water may limit risk (Furness, R. Wade, H., 2012). Tolerance to collision with above surface structures is high. Black guillemot dives and swims underwater searching for fish and have been found to collide with ships in low numbers in Greenland (M and Johansen, 2011) and will fly away from approaching boats (Ronconi and Clair, 2002). Tolerance is assessed as medium with medium recovery for areas key to species life cycle. <u>View</u> Activities <u>View</u> Activities Medium* mobile species by collision Introduction or spread of non-indigenous species & translocations Highly sensitive - Black guillemot have a particularly low tolerance to mink predation (Nordstrom et al., 2003). This is probably the biggest threat to black guillemot populations in terms of what we know at the moment, (Nordstrom et al., 2003). Currently it is mainly an issue on the west coast at present and asterisk denotes this. Declines in the south west may be linked to mink predation. Note that mink populations are low/absent in northern Scotland and Northern lises but there is a potential for spread from the west coast to north and Orkney. Mink control in Western Isles may assist this species. <u>View</u> Activities High* Specus
translocations
(competition)
Nitrogen & phosphorus
enrichment
Physical change (to
another seabed type)
another seabed (to land or
Medium* Black guillemot is an inshore species and forages in sheltered inlets and bays where nitrogen and phosphorous enrichment could cause changes. Effects through community changes such as plankton blooms (decreasing visbility for foraging), and increased growth of filamentous algae (Birdlife International, 2013). Tolerance is assessed as high with medium recoverability.

Where pressure occurs they would be sensitive but only localised effects through prey impacts in areas important for foraging and where pressure causes loss of breeding areas (cliffs and storm beaches). Tolerance is assessed as high with recovery as medium. (Birdlife International, 2013). <u>View</u> Activities <u>View</u> Activities <u>View</u> Activities another seabed type) Physical loss (to land freshwater habitat) ack guillemnt breed in areas along the coast that may be at risk from the permanent loss of habitat to land or freshwater. Tolerance is assessed as low, with a recovery of medium. The importance of kelp habitats to black guillemot is frequently emphasized in the literature, and predominantly relates to kelp on rock habitats. Norwegian Ministry of the Environment (2008) and BirdLife International (2013). Where important foraging areas overlap with kelp communities on sublittoral sediment (habitat sediment (habitat sediment have been identified as more adaptable than other seabirds. Therefore a tolerance of high is given with recovery medium due to indirect impacts on prey tems, particularly where key areas of kelp on sublittoral sediment have been identified as <u>Activities</u>. Activities Physical removal (extraction of substratum) Low* more adaptable than other seabirds. I herefore a tolerance of high is given with recovery medium due to indirect impacts on prey items, particularly where key areas of kelp on sublittoral sediment have been identified as important. Seaweed harvesting, particularly of kelp may potentially affect black guillemots. Being a predominantly inshore feeding seabird kelp forests form an important feeding habitat for black guillemots (Forester, 2007); Bridlife international, 2013). Removal of kelp at a large scale or around breeding sites or key feeding areas could result in declines in numbers of black guillemots. Ascophhyllum nodosum is the main seaweed currently harvested commercially in Scotland (western Isles and in Shetland). There is interest in harvesting Laminaria sp for blofuels, but apart from the small-scale use of kelps in Shetland, kelps are not currently harvested in Scotland. The fuciod Fucus serratus (saw wrack) is taken in very small quantities and used in spas (Angus, 2011). There is a localitative in spas (Angus, 2011). There is not expectated in the special process of the special process of the special process of the special process. The special process of the special process of the special process. The special process of the special process. The special process of the special p Removal of non-target species (lethal) View Activities bycatch/entanglement in anti-predator nets around fish farms (Dkill, 2002). A tolerance of medium is assigned to reflect potential entanglement in aquaculture nets, particularly in areas that are key for foraging, Recovery is assessed as medium.

Some of auk species sensitive to noise e.g. marbled murrielt (inshore species) is very sensitive to noise (US Navy Report, 2011). Black guillemots is probably of a similar sensitivity. Seismic proposals inshore would be an inside the colonies (Mehum, 1993). Ronconi and Clair (2002) looked at the effect of disturbance of birds (black guillemots by boats. Black guillemots may be vulnerable to disturbance because they typically forage within a few hundred metres of their colonies (Mehum, 1993). Ronconi and Clair concluded that size (particularly smaller boats), speed and approach distances of boats were important factors predicting flush probability. They recommended defining set-back distances from foraging black guillemots. The disturbance is more to do with visual disturbance, although non-concluded that size, speed and approach distance of boats were important factors predicting flush probability. Miles and the proposal Visual disturbance (behaviour) Medium* Water clarity changes Low Water flow (tidal current) changes - local <u>View</u> <u>Activities</u> Wave exposure changes - local

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