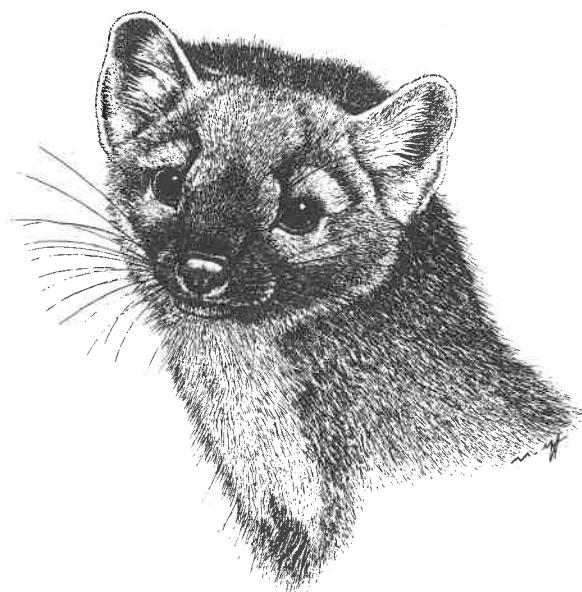


Martes martes (LINNAEUS, 1758)



U. Iff

Similar in appearance to the beech marten *Martes foina*. Distinguished by larger ears and smaller patch of cream-yellow fur on throat, the latter being white and extending farther ventrally in *M. foina*. Anatomical differences include concave third premolar (convex in *M. foina*) and smaller baculum in *M. martes*.

Distribution

World: Palaearctic. Europe, westernmost Siberia, Caucasus, Asia Minor, northern Iraq and Iran.

Europe: throughout mainland Europe, including Fennoscandia. Absent from parts of the Low Countries, most of Iberia and Greece. Formerly widespread in Britain, now confined to the north. Patchily distributed in Ireland. Occurs in the Balearic Islands, Corsica, Sardinia and Sicily.

Geographic variation

Animals from eastern part of range said to be smaller. Some poorly differentiated subspecies.

Habitat

Broad-leaved and coniferous forest, and scrub. Avoidance of non-forest habitats, especially by breeding adults. Appears to reach higher densities in forests with incomplete canopy cover, which have more vigorous field and understorey layers; these tend to support higher density of prey for pine martens. Occurs in scrub habitats in western Ireland and the Balearics, that elsewhere

Pine marten

AL	Kunadhja gusheverdhe; Zardafi	LT	Miškinė kiaunė
BG	Златка	LU	Bëschmarder
CZ	Kuna lesní	LV	Meža cauna
DE	Baummarker	MK	Куна златка
DK	Skovmår	MT	-
EE	Metsnugis	NL	Boommarter
ES	Marta	NO	Mår
FI	Nääätä	PL	Kuna leśna
FO	Márur	PT	Marta
FR	Martre des pins	RO	Jderul-de-copac
GR	Δεντροκούναβο	RU	Лесная куница
HR	Kuna zlatica	SE	Mård
HU	Nyuszt	SI	Kuna zlatica
IR	Cat crainn	SK	Kuna lesná
IS	Skógarmörður	TR	Ağaç sansarı
IT	Martora	YU	Куна златица

would be occupied by *M. foina*. Also in areas with small woodlands.

Population status

Remains widespread and abundant, especially in the more northern and eastern parts of its range. However, trapping, incidental poisoning, forest destruction and fragmentation may have led to a long-term decline in much of Europe, though historical data are lacking. Harvests in Russia now 80% lower than earlier this century. Has declined in The Netherlands. Persecution in the last century resulted in extinction in most of Britain. Population in Scotland currently recovering, those in England and Wales may be virtually extinct.

International legal & conservation status

Bern Convention, Appendix III.

EU Habitats & Species Directive, Annex V.

Other information

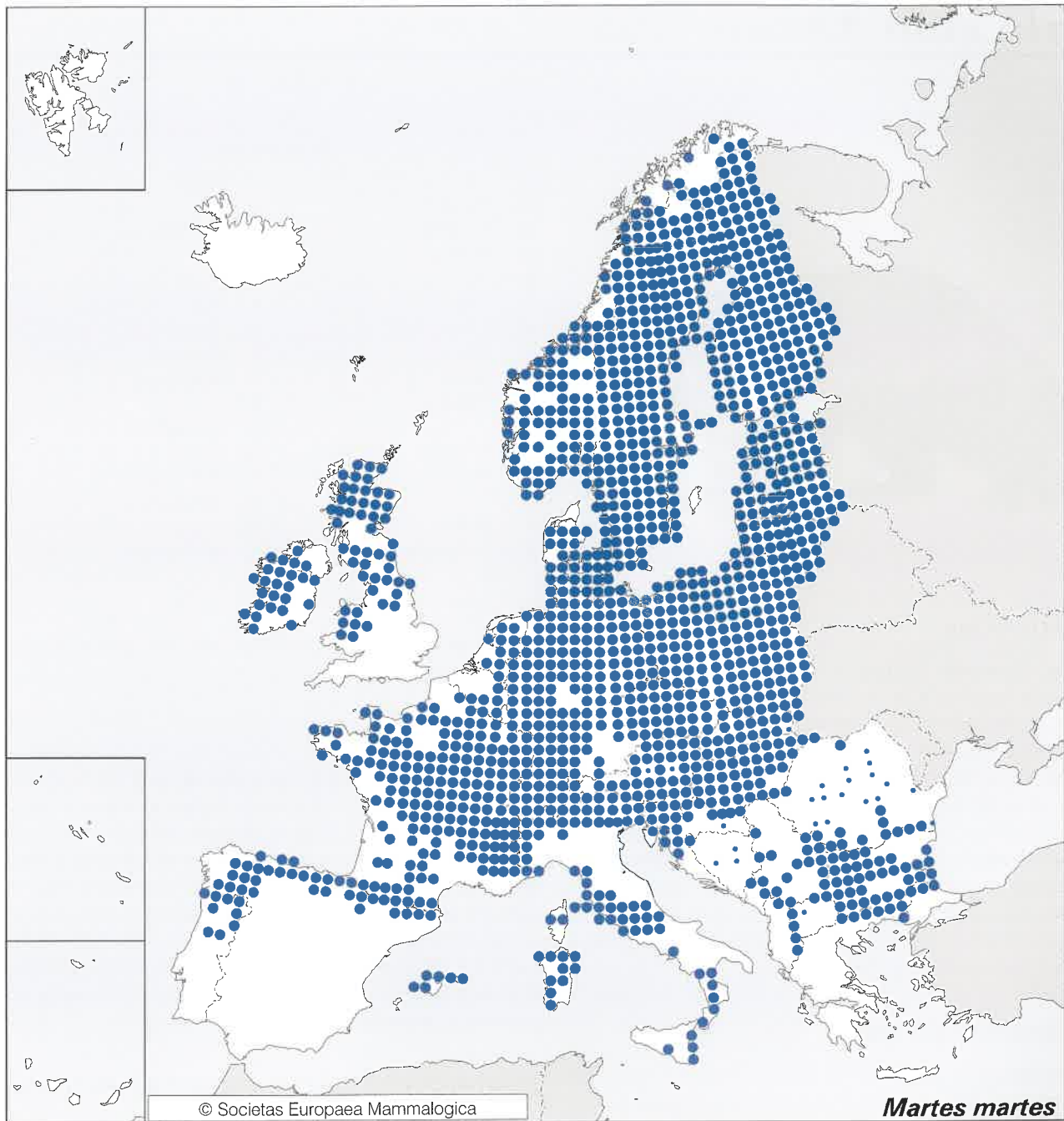
Hunted or trapped for fur in some parts of its range. In countries where protected still subject to persecution, often incidental to control of other carnivores.

Literature

Ebersbach & Stubbe (1996)

Grakov (1993)

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