GLOBAL INVASIVE SPECIES DATABASE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: ***Rangifer tarandus***

Rangifer tarandus

System: Terrestrial

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Artiodactyla	Cervidae

Common name peary caribou (English), caribou (French), Norwegian reindeer (English), North American caribou (English), Eurasian reindeer (English), reno (Spanish)

Synonym

Similar species

Summary Introduced intentionally to the subantarctic islands of Kerguelen and South Georgia, populations of Rangifer tarandus (reindeer) have had a significant impact on native vegetation of the islands due to grazing and trampling.

view this species on IUCN Red List

Species Description
Rangifer tarandus is a social deer, and can form regional herds of 50,000 to 500,000 animals which band together during spring, although these herds are generally comprised of single-sex subgroups of 10 to 1,000 individuals (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008). *R. tarandus* is highly nomadic and may travel 5,000km in a year. Population densities are generally very sparse, about 0.5 animals per square kilometre, however during their migration; this may reach numbers of over 19,000 animals per square kilometre (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008).

Lifecycle Stages
Usually one or two *Rangifer tarandus* calves are born, which wean at about 6 months and reach maturity 2.5-3.5 years. Individuals can live up to 20 years (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008). From birth to one year of age, both sexes double their crown to tail length and achieve 80 - 90% of their final adult size. Also during this period, both sexes increase their weight seven-fold (Leader-Williams & Ricketts, 1982(a)). Conception can occur from around 1.5 years of age.

Habitat Description
Rnagifer tarandus are adapted to their cold environments by having a very thick coat and by having shirt tails. They can smell lichen and other foodstuffs under snow which is a special adaptation. Their major predators are bears and wolves (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008). *R. tarandus*'s primary habitat is Arctic and sub-Arctic tundra, open montane and woodland habitats, and is often on high mountain slopes and in alpine zones of 2,300 – 3,000 meters. *R. tarandus* typically feeds on lichens, mosses herbs, ferns, grasses, and shoots and leaves of deciduous shrubs and trees (especially *Salix* spp. (willow) and *Betula* spp. (birch) (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008).

Reproduction
In *Rangifer tarandus* rutting takes place around October. Young are born around May and June, with the gestation period being about 228 days (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008). During the reproduction period, males lose twice as much body tissue as females, as more energy is put into the development of antlers than in pregnancy and lactation (Leader-Williams & Ricketts, 1982(a)).

Nutrition
Rangifer tarandus feeds on lichens, mosses herbs, ferns, grasses, and shoots and leaves of deciduous shrubs and trees (especially *Salix* spp. (willow) and *Betula* spp. (birch) (Hentonen & Tikhonov, 2008).

Principal source:

Compiler: Comité français de l'UICN (IUCN French Committee) & IUCN SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG)

Review:

Pubblication date: 2010-10-04

ALIEN RANGE

[1] ARGENTINA
[1] FALKLAND ISLANDS (MALVINAS)
[1] SOUTH GEORGIA AND THE SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS
[1] CHILE
[3] FRENCH SOUTHERN TERRITORIES
[1] UNITED STATES

Red List assessed species 2: EN = 1; LC = 1;

Microtus abbreviatus **LC**
Sorex pribilofensis **EN**

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Summary: This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.
Klein, David R., 1987. Vegetation Recovery Patterns following Overgrazing by Reindeer on St. Matthew Island. Journal of Range Management, Vol. 40, No. 4 (Jul., 1987), pp. 336-338
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General information

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Summary: Cet article pr►sente la situation actuelle et les impacts des populations introduites de mammif►res dans les ►les subantarctiques fran►aises. Les moyens de contr►le en place ou planifi►s sont ►galement pr►sent►s.
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