

Prunella collaris -- (Scopoli, 1769)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- PRUNELLIDAE

Common names: Alpine Accentor;

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

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Assessor(s):	BirdLife International
Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
Compiler(s):	Ashpole, J., Burfield, I., Ieronymidou, C., Pople, R., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L.

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

At both European and EU27 scales this species has a very large range, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the range size criterion (Extent of Occurrence 10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). The population trend is not known, but the population is not believed to be decreasing sufficiently rapidly to approach the thresholds under the population trend criterion (30% decline over ten years or three generations).

For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern within both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Albania; Andorra; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Czech Republic; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Italy; Liechtenstein; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Malta; Moldova; Montenegro; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; Gibraltar (to UK)

Vagrant:

Belgium; Denmark; Finland; Luxembourg; Netherlands; Norway; Sweden; United Kingdom

Population

The European population is estimated at 77,900-149,000 pairs, which equates to 156,000-298,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 40,300-80,400 pairs, which equates to 80,600-161,000 mature individuals. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe and the EU27 the population size trend is unknown. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

During the breeding season this species is found principally in areas with low cliffs, scree, rocky mountain slopes and alpine meadows above tree-line and up to snow-line often close to snow patches. It breeds almost exclusively in mountain ranges; at 1,800–3,000 m in Switzerland, Caucasus and Pyrenees. Outside the breeding season, it usually occurs at lower elevations in rocky and scrubby habitats, often close to human habitation in villages and near livestock, including woodland edges, roadsides, gardens and farms. It breeds from May to August and is polygynandrous. The nest is a cup made from grass, moss and plant stems, lined with hair and feathers and sited in a rock crevice or beneath a rock or grass tussock on a cliff or shallower slope. It lays three to four eggs. It feeds mainly on insects as well as spiders, small snails, earthworms and some vegetable matter. The species is resident or an altitudinal migrant, on local scale but in some areas it migrates over a considerable distance (Hatchell and Christie 2013).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land		suitable	non-breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland		suitable	non-breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens		suitable	non-breeding
Grassland - Temperate		major	breeding
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)		major	breeding
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)		major	non-breeding
Shrubland - Temperate		suitable	non-breeding
Altitude	1800-3000 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

Populations vary greatly annually, most likely as a result of differences in weather conditions and snow cover. Locally, outside the breeding season, predation by cats and other predators is thought to be behind declines (Hatchell and Christie 2013). The species is also threatened by disturbance from recreational activities and development (Cichocki 2004).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
		Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
Climate change & severe weather	Temperature extremes	Past, Likely to Return	Whole (>90%)	Causing/Could cause fluctuations	Past Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality			
Human intrusions & disturbance	Recreational activities	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species disturbance			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Domestic Cat (<i>Felis catus</i>)	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Residential & commercial development	Tourism & recreation areas	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species disturbance			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

Bern Convention Appendix II. There are currently no known conservation measures for this species.

Conservation Actions Proposed

Local control of predators may be necessary in some areas. Important breeding areas should be protected from development and restrictions on access implemented.

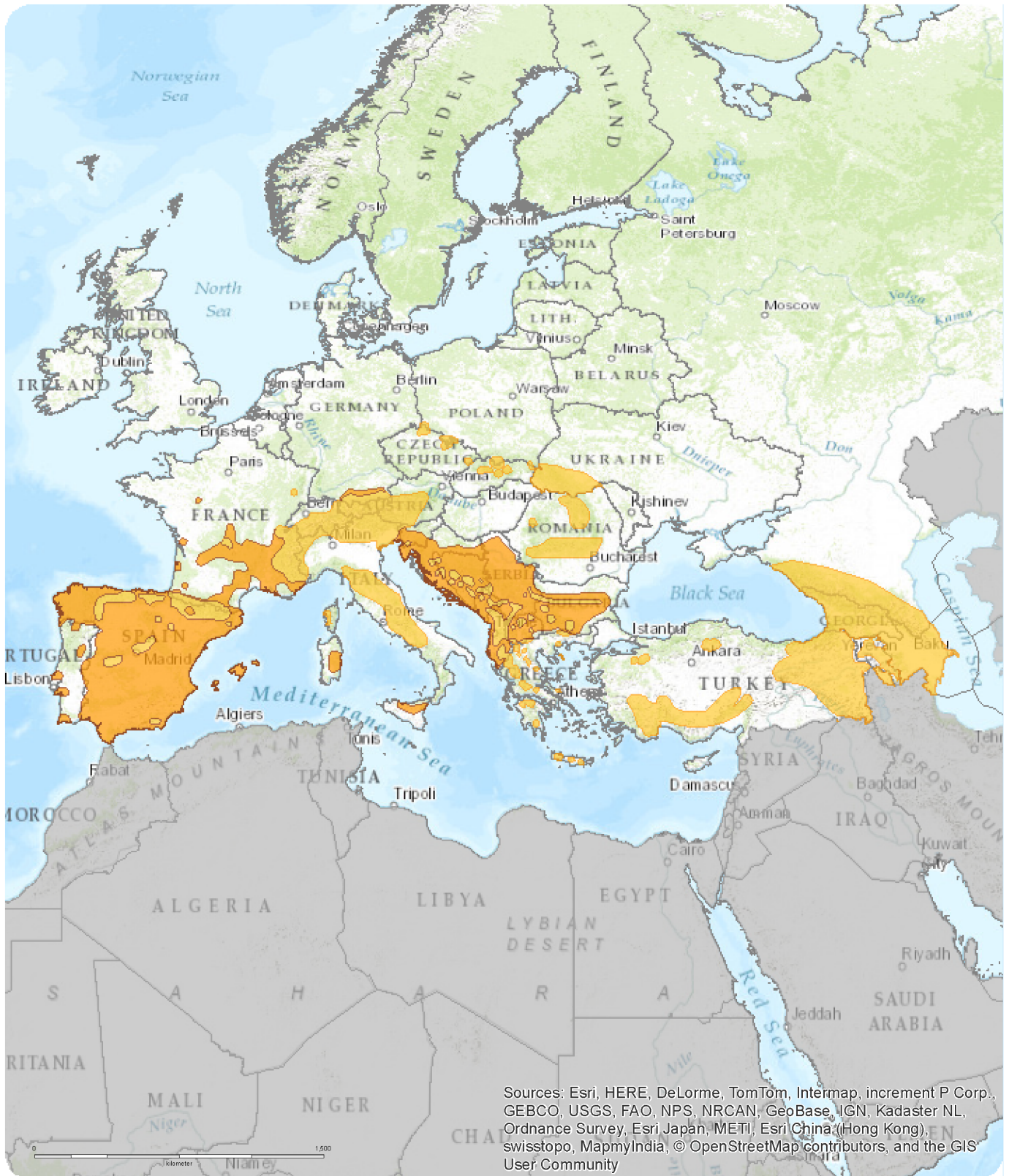
Bibliography

Cichocki, W. 2004. *Prunella collaris* (Scop., 1769) – płochacz halny. W: Gromadzki M. (red.) Ptaki (część II). Poradniki ochrony siedlisk i gatunków Natura 2000 – podręcznik metodyczny. Ministerstwo Środowiska, Warszawa. T. 8, s. 296–299.

Hatchwell, B. and Christie, D.A. 2013. Alpine Accentor (*Prunella collaris*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. and de Juana, E. (eds.) 2013. *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/58211> on 20 March 2015).

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Prunella collaris

Range

- Extant (non breeding)
- Extant (resident)

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

NE
DD

LC
LEAST CONCERN
NT
VU
EN
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Map created 05/12/2015



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