Numenius tenuirostris occurs in Europe as an extremely rare passage migrant (and very occasionally as a winter visitor). The species is very poorly known, and its breeding area remains unknown. The number of verified records declined further during 1990–2000, in particular after 1995. The last flock recorded was of 19 birds wintering in Italy (1995–1996), while the last two verified records (United Kingdom 1998 and Greece 1999) were of single birds. Given its mostly passage occurrence, the European status of this globally threatened species is Not Evaluated.

Numenius arquata is a widespread breeder across much of northern Europe (occurring more patchily farther south), which probably holds >75% of its global breeding population. Its European breeding population is large (>220,000 pairs), but underwent a moderate decline between 1970–1990 (based mainly on wintering data). Although some smaller populations were stable or increased during 1990–2000, key populations in the United Kingdom, Finland and Russia all declined, and the species underwent a moderate decline (>10%) overall. Consequently, it is evaluated as Declining.