

Calidris ferruginea -- (Pontoppidan 1763)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- CHARADRIIFORMES -- SCOLOPACIDAE

Common names: Curlew Sandpiper; Bécasseau cocorli

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status
VU -- Vulnerable, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
Date assessed:	2015-03-31
Assessor(s):	BirdLife International
Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
Compiler(s):	Ashpole, J., Burfield, I., Ieronymidou, C., Pople, R., Van den Bossche, W., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L.

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

EU27 regional assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

This species does not breed in the region and is assessed on the basis of its small wintering population in Spain and Portugal. The population size within the region meets the threshold for classification as Vulnerable under the small population criterion, with an increasing population trend. Since the population trend of the wintering population in west Africa is decreasing, there is not considered to be significant potential for rescue from outside the region and the final category is unchanged.

The species is therefore classified as Vulnerable (D1) in both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Albania; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Ireland, Rep. of; Italy; Latvia; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Malta; Moldova; Montenegro; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia; Slovakia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; United Kingdom

Vagrant:

Iceland; Luxembourg; Svalbard and Jan Mayen (to NO); Gibraltar (to UK)

Population

The species only occurs in winter in Europe and the EU27. The minimum European population in winter is estimated at 1,000-1,800 individuals, which equates to 690-1,200 mature individuals. The entire population occurs in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe and the EU27 the population size is estimated to be increasing. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species is a full migrant, moving long distances by well-travelled routes (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996, Snow and Perrins 1998). On migration, the species crosses Europe in July, reaching Africa from mid-July to September. The return migration to the breeding grounds begins late-April to May, with arrival in the Arctic beginning in early June, and breeding stretching from June to July. Many 1st-year birds remain on the wintering grounds, and non-breeding adults remain just south of the breeding grounds in central Siberia during the summer (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). The species is gregarious outside of the breeding season, occurring in small parties or larger flocks of up to several hundreds on the coast, but usually in smaller numbers inland (although gatherings of hundreds can occur locally on passage) (Urban et al. 1986). It forages

both diurnally and nocturnally (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). This species breeds on slightly elevated areas in the lowlands of the high Arctic (Johnsgard 1981, Van Gils and Wiersma 1996) especially on southward-facing slopes (Johnsgard 1981), as well as along the coast and islands of the Arctic Ocean (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). It shows a preference for open tundra with marshy, boggy depressions and pools (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996, Snow and Perrins 1998) from melting permafrost and snow (Snow and Perrins 1998). On the breeding grounds the diet of this species consists mainly of insects, such as the adults, pupae and larvae of Diptera (e.g. midges, crane flies (Johnsgard 1981)) and beetles, as well as bugs and leeches (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). In the winter its diet consists of polychaete worms, molluscs, crustaceans (such as amphipods, brine shrimps and copepods), and occasionally insects and seeds. The nest is a cup positioned on the margins of marshes or pools, on the slopes of hummock tundra, or on dry patches in Polygonum tundra (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996).

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Aquatic - Irrigated Land (includes irrigation channels)	suitable	non-breeding
Artificial/Aquatic - Salt Exploitation Sites	suitable	non-breeding
Artificial/Aquatic - Seasonally Flooded Agricultural Land	suitable	non-breeding
Artificial/Aquatic - Water Storage Areas (over ha)	suitable	non-breeding
Grassland - Tundra	major	breeding
Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Coastal Brackish/Saline Lagoons/Marine Lakes	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Mud Flats and Salt Flats	major	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Rocky Shoreline	suitable	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Rocky Shoreline	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Sandy Shoreline and/or Beaches, Sand Bars, Spits, Etc	suitable	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Sandy Shoreline and/or Beaches, Sand Bars, Spits, Etc	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Shingle and/or Pebble Shoreline and/or Beaches	suitable	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Shingle and/or Pebble Shoreline and/or Beaches	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Intertidal - Tidepools	suitable	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Tidepools	suitable	non-breeding
Marine Neritic - Estuaries	suitable	non-breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Lakes (over ha)	suitable	non-breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Saline, Brackish or Alkaline Lakes	suitable	non-breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Lakes (over ha)	suitable	non-breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Tundra Wetlands (incl. pools and temporary waters from snowmelt)	major	breeding
Altitude	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

This species is susceptible to avian influenza (Melville and Shortridge 2006, Gaidet et al. 2007) and avian botulism (Blaker 1967, van Heerden 1974) so may be threatened by future outbreaks of these diseases. In Europe, only a tiny proportion of its global population overwinters in Iberia, making it particularly vulnerable to any threats.

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Climate change & severe weather	Habitat shifting & alteration	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Whole (>90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem degradation; Indirect ecosystem effects			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Avian Influenza Virus (H subtype)	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Minority (<50%)	Rapid Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Clostridium botulinum	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Minority (<50%)	Rapid Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

The species is listed on Annex II of the Bern Convention.

Conservation Actions Proposed

No conservation measures are thought to be currently needed for this species.

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Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Calidris ferruginea

Range

- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (non breeding)

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



Map created 05/14/2015

