

Oenanthe cypriaca -- (Homeyer, 1884)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- MUSCICAPIDAE

Common names: Cyprus Wheatear;

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
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Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
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Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

At both European and EU27 scales, although this species may have a small range it is not believed to 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 appears to be stable, and hence the species does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable 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:

Cyprus; Turkey

Population

The European population is estimated at 40,000-100,000 pairs, which equates to 80,000-200,000 mature individuals. The entire population is found in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

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

Habitats and Ecology

This species inhabits a wide range of habitats, including mountain pine forest clearings, hills and mountains with rough open ground and scattered trees, broken rocky ground, open natural and farmed lowlands, woodland and plantations, gardens, industrial and suburban areas and house compounds. The breeding season is from April to July. The nest is a loose bulky cup of grass and roots, placed low down in a hole in an earth bank, stone or mud wall, terrace, roadside, tree, behind loose eucalypt bark or under a stone. It can also be set in a cave or an artificial site, such as a metal pipe, empty can, flowerpot, shed shelves or nestbox. Clutches are four to five eggs (Collar 2005). The diet is almost entirely insects, especially ants beetles and grasshoppers but will also take berries and has been recorded taking a lizard. The species is migratory, wintering mostly in Sudan and Ethiopia (Snow and Perrins 1998).

Habitats & Altitude

Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	suitable	breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	suitable	breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	suitable	breeding

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens		suitable	breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas		suitable	breeding
Caves and Subterranean Habitats (non-aquatic) - Caves		suitable	breeding
Forest - Temperate		suitable	breeding
Grassland - Temperate		suitable	breeding
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)		suitable	breeding
Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation		suitable	breeding
Altitude	max. 1800 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

The only known threat to this species in Cyprus is from bird-catchers using lime-sticks and mist-nets and also from shooting at migration times (Tucker and Heath 1994).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Biological resource use	Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals (intentional use - species is the target)	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Species mortality			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

CMS Appendix II. EU Birds Directive Annex I. There are currently no known conservation measures for this species.

Conservation Actions Proposed

The implementation and enforcement of existing laws against trapping is urgently required. Controls are needed on the use of lime-sticks and on the import, sale and use of mist-nets as well as on the trafficking and sale of birds as food in restaurants. In addition a wider, more systematic system of monitoring the situation and the species's population (Tucker and Heath 1994, Collar 2005).

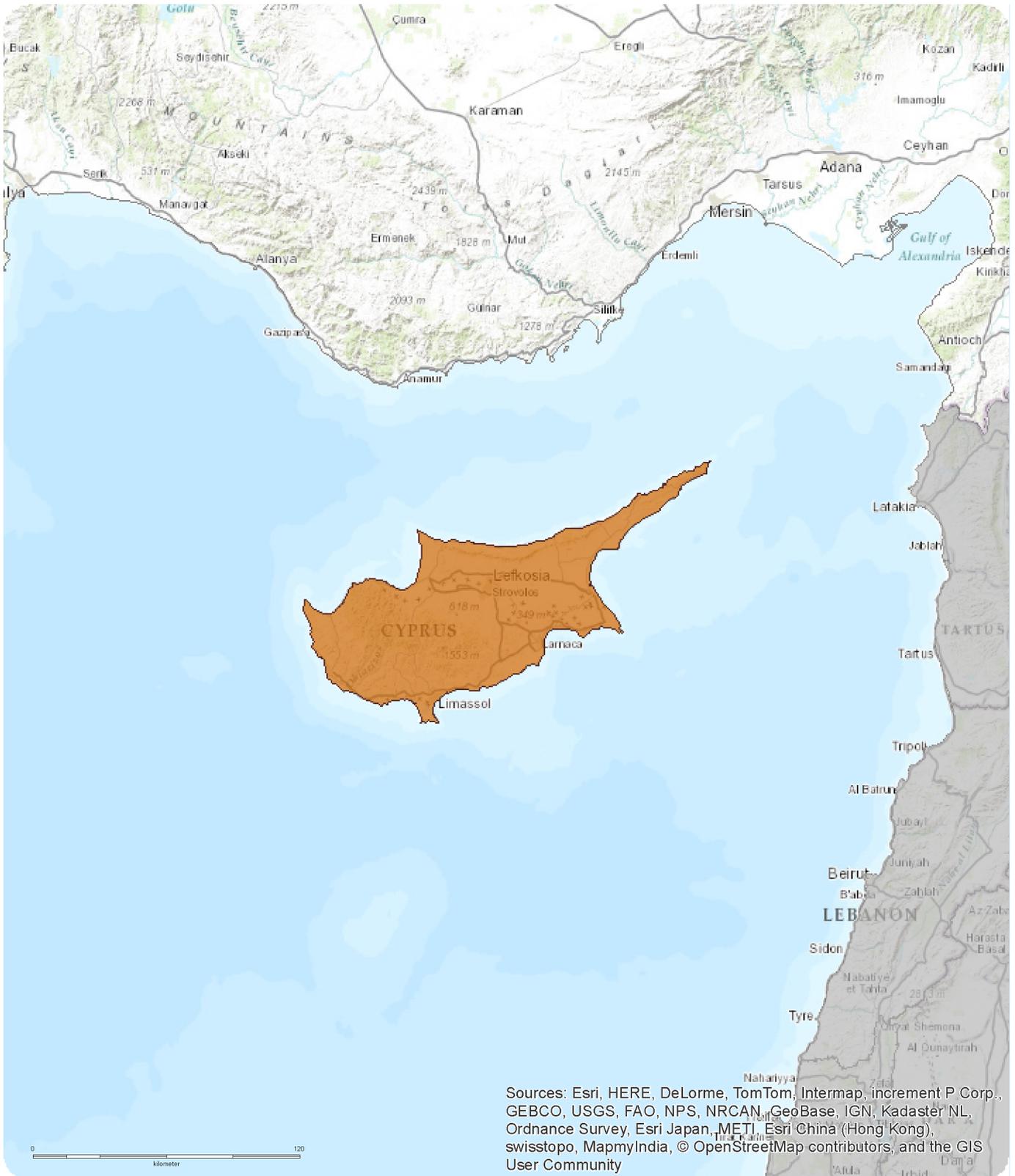
Bibliography

Collar, N. 2005. Cyprus Wheatear (*Oenanthe cypriaca*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. and de Juana, E. (eds.) 2014. *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/58544> on 30 March 2015).

Snow, D.W. and Perrins, C.M. 1998. *The Birds of the Western Palearctic vol. 2: Passerines*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Oenanthe cypriaca

Range

■ Extant (breeding)

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



Map created 05/12/2015

