

Sylvia nana -- (Ehrenberg, 1833)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- SYLVIIDAE

Common names: Desert Warbler; Asian Desert Warbler; Fauvette naine

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

RE -- Regionally Extinct, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
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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: Regionally Extinct (RE)

EU27 regional assessment: Not Applicable (NA)

This species was formerly estimated to number 1,000-5,000 pairs within the region, all in European Russia, but it apparently disappeared from the region during the 1990s or early 2000s. It is therefore classified as Regionally Extinct.

The bird was not recorded from the EU27 region.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Azerbaijan

Vagrant:

Bulgaria; Cyprus; Denmark; Finland; Germany; Italy; Malta; Netherlands; Portugal; Russian Federation; Spain; Sweden; Turkey; United Kingdom

Population

The European population is considered to be extinct. The species does not occur in the EU27.

Trend

The species became regionally extinct in Europe in the 1990s or early 2000s.

Habitats and Ecology

This species inhabits steppe-desert and semi-desert areas covered with *Artemisia*, low scrub and grasses and is usually found in sandy terrain but less frequently on stony soils. Egg-laying occurs in the nominate race from late April and clutches are usually four to six eggs (Aymí and Gargallo 2006). The nest is a strong, thick-walled cup made of twigs, grass stems, leaves, plant down and cobwebs, lined with finer grasses and fibres and usually down. It is built in low scrub up to 110 cm above the ground (Snow and Perrins 1998). The diet is thought to be mostly small insects with some seeds and berries taken as well. In Europe the species was a long distance migrant (Aymí and Gargallo 2006).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Grassland - Temperate		suitable	breeding
Altitude	max. 2200 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

The species is affected by habitat loss driven by overgrazing and agricultural intensification (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry farming	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Rapid Declines	High Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation					
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry grazing, ranching or farming	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Rapid Declines	High Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation					

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

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

Conservation Actions Proposed

The restoration of suitable habitat is needed for this species. Traditional low-intensity farming and grazing methods should be restored and promoted.

Bibliography

- Aymí, R. and Gargallo, G. 2006. Desert Warbler (*Sylvia nana*). 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/58960> on 27 March 2015).
- Hagemeijer, W.J.M. and Blair, M.J. 1997. *The EBCC Atlas of European Breeding Birds: Their Distribution and Abundance*. T & A D Poyser, London.
- Snow, D.W. and Perrins, C.M. 1998. *The Birds of the Western Palearctic vol. 2: Passerines*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.