Fringilla coelebs -- Linnaeus, 1758

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- FRINGILLIDAE

Common names: Eurasian Chaffinch; Chaffinch; Common Chaffinch; Pinson des arbres

European Red List Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Red List Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L. |

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)  
EU27 regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

In Europe this species has an extremely 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 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 in Europe.

Within the EU27 this species has an extremely 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 appears to be increasing, 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 in the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:
Albania; Andorra; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Belarus; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Faroe Islands (to DK); Estonia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Iceland; Ireland, Rep. of; Italy; Latvia; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Malta; Moldova; Montenegro; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Portugal; Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Canary Is. (to ES); Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; United Kingdom; Gibraltar (to UK)

Population

The European population is estimated at 185,000,000-269,000,000 pairs, which equates to 371,000,000-537,000,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 81,300,000-125,000,000 pairs, which equates to 163,000,000-250,000,000 mature individuals. For details of national estimates, see Supplementary PDF.

Trend

In Europe the population size is estimated to be stable. In the EU27 the population size is estimated to be increasing. For details of national estimates, see Supplementary PDF.

Habitats and Ecology

This species inhabits lowland and lower montane deciduous, mixed and conifer woods with a slight preference for beech (Fagus), hornbeam (Carpinus), mature oak (Quercus), spruce (Picea) and pine (Pinus). It also uses forest edges and glades, copses, heaths, edges of tundra and agricultural areas, hedgerows, orchards, parks and gardens. In the Canary Islands it is found in laurel (Lauraceae) forest and areas of dense vegetation (Clement 2010). Egg-laying occurs mainly from late-April to mid-July but clutches can be found
from mid-March to mid-July (Snow and Perrins 1998). The nest is placed up to 35 m above ground on a branch, against a trunk or in the fork of a tree or bush. It is a deep cup made of plant fibres, grass, fine roots, lichens, moss, bark strips, animal hair and feathers. Clutches are four to five eggs. The diet is varied and is mostly small invertebrates and their larvae, seeds and buds. The species is resident, partially migratory and migratory, with populations in the north and northeast moving south and southwest between mid-September and the end of November (Clement 2010).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitats &amp; Altitude</th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Occurrence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>suitable</td>
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<td>Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland</td>
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<td>suitable</td>
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</tr>
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<td>suitable</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas</td>
<td>suitable</td>
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<td>suitable</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest - Boreal</td>
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<td>breeding</td>
</tr>
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<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest - Temperate</td>
<td>major</td>
<td>breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>major</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrubland - Boreal</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>breeding</td>
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<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td>max. 2500 m</td>
<td>Occasional altitudinal limits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Particularly in northern areas populations may fluctuate in response to weather conditions, with cold conditions resulting in temporary declines (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997). The species is trapped in some parts of its range. In the Canary Islands the race palmae is threatened by forest fires, wood harvesting and predation by introduced mammals, while race ombriosa is threatened by forest fires, wood harvesting and drought (Madroño and González 2004).

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<tr>
<th>Threat &amp; Impacts</th>
<th>Impact and Stresses</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Impact</th>
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<td>Temperature extremes</td>
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Threats & Impacts

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Threats
## Conservation Actions Underway

*Fringilla coelebs ombriosa* is listed on Annex I of the EU Birds Directive. In the Canary Islands, both *palmae* and *ombriosa* have had much of their habitat protected as Natural and Special Protected Areas and the species has benefited from protection measures for other species (Madroño and González 2004).

## Conservation Actions Proposed

Across its range this species is not threatened, however the races *palmae* and *ombriosa* in the Canary Islands are threatened. It has been recommended that a management plan be produced for these races, in addition to research on reproductive success, impacts of introduced predators and habitat selection. Regular monitoring should also be carried out (Madroño and González 2004).

### Bibliography


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**Map (see overleaf)**
Fringilla coelebs

Range

- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (non breeding)
- Extant (resident)

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

Map created 05/12/2015

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.