**European Red List Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Red List Status</th>
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</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)**

At both European and EU27 scales 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 within both Europe and the EU27.

**Occurrence**

**Countries/Territories of Occurrence**

**Native:**  
Albania; Andorra; 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; Liechtenstein; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Moldova; Montenegro; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey; Ukraine; United Kingdom

**Population**

The European population is estimated at 6,050,000-11,400,000 pairs, which equates to 12,100,000-22,700,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 2,790,000-5,450,000 pairs, which equates to 5,580,000-10,900,000 mature individuals. 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 forest and woodland, generally requiring well-grown trees with many cracks and crevices in the bark for foraging, roosting and nesting. It tends to favour older stands of spruce (Picea), but habitat preferences are complex and apparently affected by presence or absence of Certhia brachydactyla. In the western Palearctic breeding occurs from late March to June. The species is monogamous and both sexes build the nest from conifer needles, bark fibres, grass, moss, lichen, wood chips and the like and the lining, which is added by the female alone, includes feathers, hair, wool, lichen, spider webs, eggs and cocoons. It is placed up to 16 m above ground behind a flap of loose bark or in a crevice on a tree trunk, in a building or stone wall and occasionally hidden among or behind vegetation. Clutches are typically five or six eggs. The diet is mostly insects, spiders (Araneae) but also takes some seeds, particularly pine and spruce, in the winter (Harrap 2008).
In Europe, populations may be exhibiting declines owing to habitat fragmentation and the loss of older-growth woodland (Harrap 2008) through modern forestry management practices (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997). The species is susceptible to the effects of severe winters, especially extended periods of glazed frost or freezing rain. In the north and east of its range populations fluctuate in an irregular pattern, which may be linked to variations in the crop of spruce seeds (Harrap 2008). The species may also suffer from the effects of future climate change (Felton et al. 2014).

### Threats & Impacts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat (level 1)</th>
<th>Threat (level 2)</th>
<th>Impact and Stresses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture &amp; aquaculture</td>
<td>Agro-industry plantations</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change &amp; severe weather</td>
<td>Habitat shifting &amp; alteration</td>
<td>Future</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate change &amp; severe weather</td>
<td>Temperature extremes</td>
<td>Past, Likely to Return</td>
</tr>
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### Conservation

**Conservation Actions Underway**

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

**Conservation Actions Proposed**

This species would benefit from the promotion and expansion of forest managed under low-intensity practices, particularly the preservation of older woodland growth.

### Bibliography


Certhia familiaris

Range

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 official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.