

Gallinago stenura -- (Bonaparte, 1830)

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

Common names: Pintail Snipe; Bécassine à queue pointue; Pin-tailed Snipe

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (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: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Not Applicable (NA)

This species has a very 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 fluctuating, 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.

The bird is not recorded from the EU27 region.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Russian Federation

Population

The European population is estimated at 2,000-5,000 pairs, which equates to 4,000-10,000 mature individuals. The species does not occur in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#)

Trend

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

Habitats and Ecology

This species is fully migratory and travels over land on a broad front between its breeding and wintering grounds (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). It breeds from late-May to August (Hayman et al. 1986) after which it migrates in small flocks of 5–10 individuals (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). The species also overwinters in small groups (Johnsgard 1981). It breeds in Arctic and boreal wetlands up to 2,300 m above sea-level on damp meadows along river valleys (Johnsgard 1981, Van Gils and Wiersma 1996), in grassy and mossy swamps (Flint et al. 1984), swampy taiga forest (Johnsgard 1981, Flint et al. 1984), sphagnum bogs (Johnsgard 1981) and shrub tundra with patches of dwarf birch (*Betula nana*) (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). In its wintering range the species inhabits a wider variety of wetland habitats including flooded paddy-fields, wet grasslands, seepage swamps and marshland (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996), often foraging on the muddy shorelines of swamps and along streams (Johnsgard 1981, Van Gils and Wiersma 1996). Its diet consists of molluscs, adult and larval insects, earthworms and occasionally crustaceans, seeds and other plant matter. The nest is a shallow depression usually well-concealed in dense cover (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Forest - Boreal		suitable	breeding
Grassland - Tundra		suitable	breeding
Shrubland - Boreal		suitable	breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands		major	breeding
Wetlands (inland) - Tundra Wetlands (incl. pools and temporary waters from snowmelt)		suitable	breeding
Altitude	max. 2500 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

The species is subject to hunting pressures throughout its range (Van Gils and Wiersma 1996).

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	Whole (>90%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Medium Impact
		Stresses			
Climate change & severe weather	Habitat shifting & alteration	Species mortality			
		Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Future	Whole (>90%)	Unknown	Unknown
Stresses					
Ecosystem degradation; Indirect ecosystem effects					

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

The species is not listed on priority lists of the Conventions.

Conservation Actions Proposed

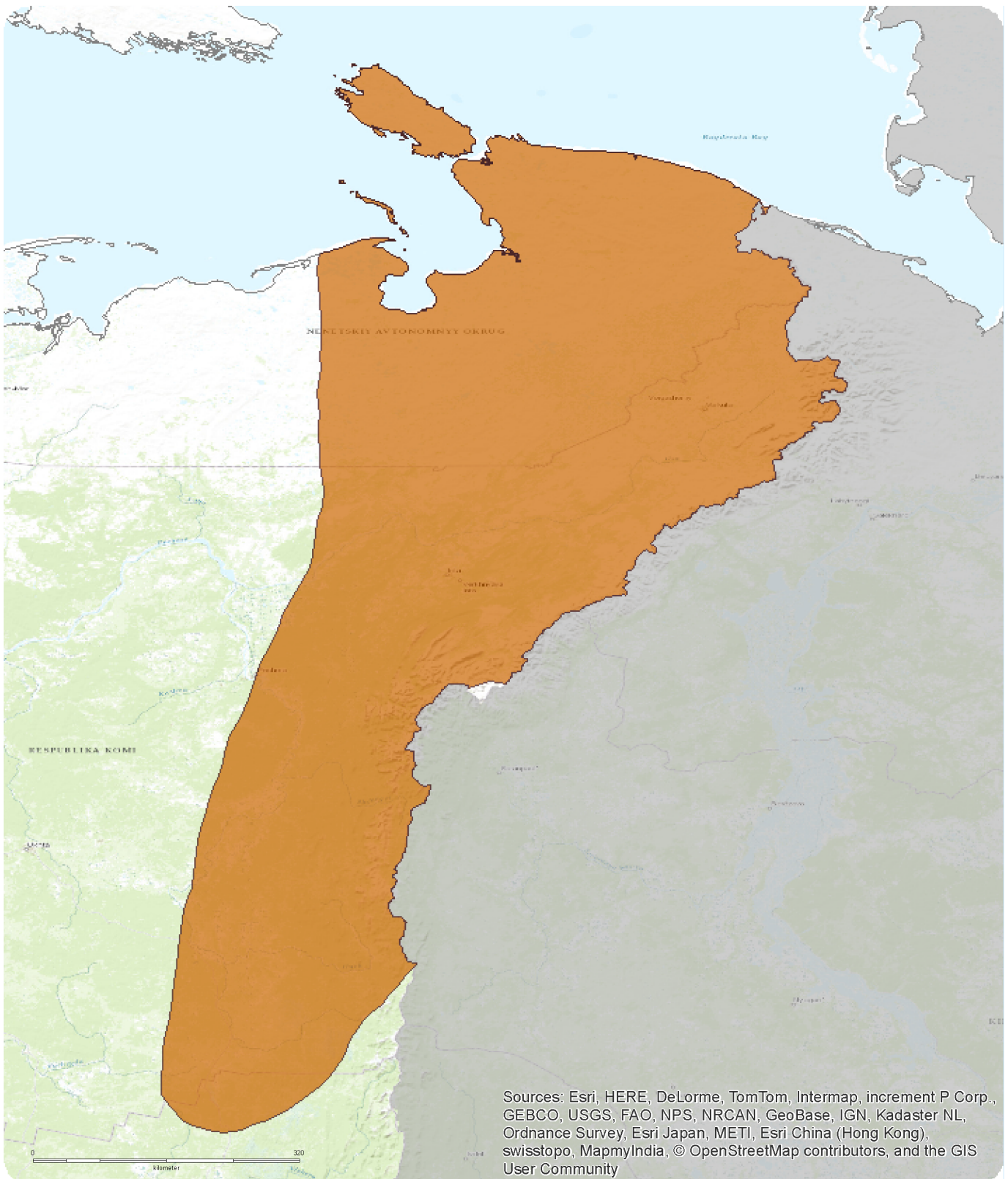
Hunting should be monitored and regulated to ensure it does not impact this species.

Bibliography

- Van Gils, J. & Wiersma, P. (1996). Pintail Snipe (*Gallinago stenura*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. & de Juana, E. (eds.) (2014). *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/53873> on 15 April 2015).
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- Hayman, P.; Marchant, J.; Prater, A. J. 1986. *Shorebirds*. Croom Helm, London.
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Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



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Range

■ Extant (breeding)

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



Map created 05/12/2015

