

Parus lugubris -- Temminck, 1820

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- PARIDAE

Common names: Sombre Tit;

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., 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 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 is not known, but the population is not believed to be decreasing sufficiently rapidly to approach the thresholds 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; Azerbaijan; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Croatia; Georgia; Greece; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Montenegro; Romania; Serbia; Slovenia; Turkey

Vagrant:

Italy

Population

The European population is estimated at 453,000-1,320,000 pairs, which equates to 905,000-2,650,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 23,000-65,000 pairs, which equates to 46,000-130,000 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 trend is unknown. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species inhabits dry maquis areas of scattered trees and bushes, including olive (*Olea*) groves, wild plum (*Prunus*) orchards and other fruit trees and vineyards. It also uses parkland areas of open oak (*Quercus*) forests including scrub oak, beech (*Fagus*), willows (*Salix*) and poplars (*Populus*) and conifers, particularly spruce (*Picea*) and cedars (*Cedrus*), especially in areas of rocky limestone hills. It breeds from March to early August and is monogamous. The nest is a cup of wool, plant material, bark strips, animal hair and feathers, placed in a hole in a tree, often in rotting wood in a fruit tree but also among rocks on banks and will use nestboxes. Normally lays five to seven eggs. The diet is principally insects although it does consume seeds as well. The species is resident (Gosler and Clement 2007).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land		suitable	resident
Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens		suitable	resident
Forest - Temperate		major	resident
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)		suitable	resident
Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation		major	resident
Altitude	max. 2300 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

In Armenia, the species is threatened by an increasing number of wild fires and the use of toxic agricultural chemicals (Aghasyan and Kalashyan 2010).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Natural system modifications	Increase in fire frequency/intensity	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
	Ecosystem conversion				
Pollution	Herbicides and pesticides	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
	Indirect ecosystem effects				

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

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

Conservation Actions Proposed

Although this species is not currently threatened monitoring should be implemented to detect population changes and research undertaken to inform future conservation measures.

Bibliography

Aghasyan, A. and Kalashyan, M. 2010. *The Red Book of animals of the Republic of Armenia*. Yerevan: Pub. House Zangak.

Gosler, A. and Clement, P. 2007. Sombre Tit (*Poecile lugubris*). 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/59858> on 17 March 2015).

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Parus lugubris

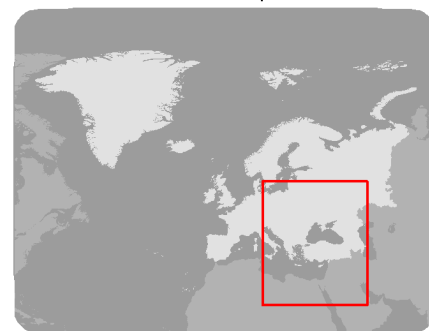
Range

■ Extant (resident)

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

NE DD LC > NT VU EN CR EW EX
LEAST CONCERN

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.