

Parus cinctus -- Boddaert, 1783

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

Common names: Siberian Tit; Gray-headed Chickadee

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
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Reviewer(s):	Symes, A.
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Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Vulnerable (VU)

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 <20,000 km² combined with a declining or fluctuating range size, habitat extent/quality, or population size and a small number of locations or severe fragmentation). The population size is extremely large, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population size criterion (<10,000 mature individuals with a continuing decline estimated to be >10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). Despite the fact that the population trend appears to be decreasing, the decline is not believed to be sufficiently rapid to 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.

In the EU27 the species is undergoing rapid declines, and it is therefore classified as Vulnerable. Since the wider European population is also decreasing, there is not considered to be significant potential for rescue from outside the EU27 and the final category is unchanged.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Finland; Norway; Russian Federation; Sweden

Population

The European population is estimated at 1,170,000-1,950,000 pairs, which equates to 2,340,000-3,890,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 70,000-144,000 pairs, which equates to 140,000-288,000 mature individuals. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe the population size is estimated to be decreasing by less than 25% in 13.2 years (three generations). In the EU27 the population size is estimated to be decreasing by 30-49% over the same period. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species is restricted to northern boreal areas where it occurs as far north as the northern forest limit (Hagemeyer and Blair 1997). It is found in areas of lowland conifer forest, which is mostly of old-growth spruce (*Picea*) but also larch (*Larix*) and pine (*Pinus*), especially in areas with dead or decaying trees. The species breeds from May to July and is monogamous. The nest is a platform of decaying wood, moss, grass stems and animal hair or fur, in a hole in a rotting tree trunk or stump; however it will use nestboxes as well. Clutches can be from four to eleven eggs. The diet is made up mainly of small invertebrates, but it will also consume seeds and scraps from bird tables or refuse scraps. The species is sedentary, remaining within territories all year; juveniles are more nomadic (Gosler and Clement 2007).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Forest - Boreal		major	resident
Forest - Temperate		suitable	resident
Shrubland - Boreal		suitable	resident
Altitude		Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

The species declined in Finland and probably Sweden too due to large-scale clearfelling during World War II and has suffered from fragmentation its habitat. Modern forestry practices remove dead and dying trees and the species suffers poor nesting success in heavily managed forests (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997). Climatic changes may also negatively affect its habitat. In severe winters it is often entirely reliant on food provided at human settlements (Gosler and Clement 2007).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry plantations	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Medium Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation					
Biological resource use	Logging & wood harvesting (unintentional effects: (large scale) [harvest])	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Past, Unlikely to Return	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Past Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion					
Climate change & severe weather	Habitat shifting & alteration	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
Ecosystem degradation; Indirect ecosystem effects					
Climate change & severe weather	Temperature extremes	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Causing/Could cause fluctuations	Medium Impact
		Stresses			
Species mortality					

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

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

Conservation Actions Proposed

Forest management practices should be encouraged to leave dead and dying trees. Restoration of suitable forest would also minimize fragmentation.

Bibliography

Gosler, A. and Clement, P. 2007. Siberian Tit (*Poecile cinctus*). 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/59867> on 17 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.

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Parus cinctus

Range

■ Extant (resident)

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



Map created 05/12/2015

