

***Sylvia conspicillata* -- Temminck, 1820**

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- SYLVIIDAE

Common names: Spectacled Warbler; Fauvette à lunettes

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
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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 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 within both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Cyprus; France; Italy; Malta; Portugal; Spain; Canary Is. (to ES); Switzerland; Turkey; Gibraltar (to UK)

Vagrant:

Croatia; Germany; Greece; Netherlands; United Kingdom

Population

The European population is estimated at 166,000-450,000 pairs, which equates to 332,000-901,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 165,000-449,000 pairs, which equates to 331,000-899,000 mature individuals. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe and the EU27 the population size trend is unknown. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species is often found in very low scrubland in mostly dry warm Mediterranean areas and it favours the lowest and sparser scrubby areas characteristic of less developed garrigue, saltflats and semi-desert. It inhabits the first stages of post-wildfire succession, and can recolonize habitat one year after a fire. On Atlantic islands, race *orbitalis* occupies wider range of habitats, from scrub to cultivated or semi-cultivated areas. It breeds from February to June across most of its range; however race *orbitalis* breeds in most months except for June and July. The male sometimes builds “cock nests” but both sexes build the breeding nest, which is a deep cup loosely built from grasses, stems and leaves and lined with soft plant down, thin roots and some hair. It is sited in low scrub or bush, usually from ground level to c.60 cm. Clutches are three to five eggs. The diet is mostly small arthropods and insect larvae and eggs but also takes berries and occasionally nectar, mostly outside the breeding season. The species is resident and migratory; race *orbitalis* is mostly sedentary, most south-west European populations are migratory and those from Malta, southern Sicily, Cyprus and parts of Levant and southeast Spain are partially migratory (Aymí and Gargallo 2006).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land		suitable	breeding
Marine Intertidal - Salt Marshes (Emergent Grasses)		suitable	breeding
Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation		major	breeding
Altitude	max. 2500 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

Local declines are thought to be due to urbanization, the conversion of steppes into irrigated lands, and afforestation. Those populations that are resident are also sensitive to severe cold winter weather (Aymí and Gargallo 2006).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry plantations	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation					
Climate change & severe weather	Temperature extremes	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Past, Likely to Return	Minority (<50%)	Causing/Could cause fluctuations	Past Impact
		Stresses			
Species mortality					
Natural system modifications	Other ecosystem modifications	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation					
Residential & commercial development	Housing & urban areas	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
		Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
Ecosystem conversion					

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

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

Conservation Actions Proposed

This species would likely benefit from the protection of key areas and restoration of habitat in areas where it is declining.

Bibliography

Aymí, R. and Gargallo, G. 2006. Spectacled Warbler (*Sylvia conspicillata*). 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/58966> on 28 March 2015).

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Sylvia conspicillata

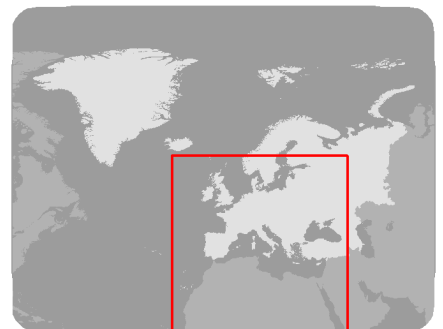
Range

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



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