

Petronia brachydactyla -- (Bonaparte, 1851)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- PASSERIDAE

Common names: Pale Rock Sparrow; Moineau soulcie pâle; Pale Rockfinch; Pale Rock-Finch

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: 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 increasing, 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 considered vagrant in the EU27 and is assessed as Not Applicable (NA) for this region.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Armenia; Azerbaijan; Georgia; Turkey

Vagrant:

Cyprus; Russian Federation

Population

The European population is estimated at 6,000-18,300 pairs, which equates to 11,900-36,500 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 increasing. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species breeds in arid regions with sparse bushy vegetation, often in sparsely grassed hilly and mountainous areas, and rocky ravines. In the north of its range, breeding occurs in July. It nests in loose colonies and the nest is an open, bulky, untidy hemisphere of thorny twigs, plant stems and grass, lined with plant down and animal hair. It is set in a bush or sometimes in a crevice in a rock or a hole in a building. Clutches are three to six eggs. This diet is mostly plant matter, mainly seeds, including cultivated cereals and the green parts of plants but is also known to take insects in the breeding season. The species is migratory, wintering mainly in western Saudi Arabia and north-east Africa (Summers-Smith 2013).

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Grassland - Temperate	major	breeding
Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	suitable	breeding
Altitude	max. 3000 m	Occasional altitudinal limits

Threats

The size of the European population could render it susceptible to the risks affecting small populations; however it is adjacent to a much larger non-European population (Birdlife International 2004).

Threats & Impacts

Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses
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Conservation**Conservation Actions Underway**

There are currently no known conservation measures for this species.

Conservation Actions Proposed

No conservation measures are currently needed for this species.

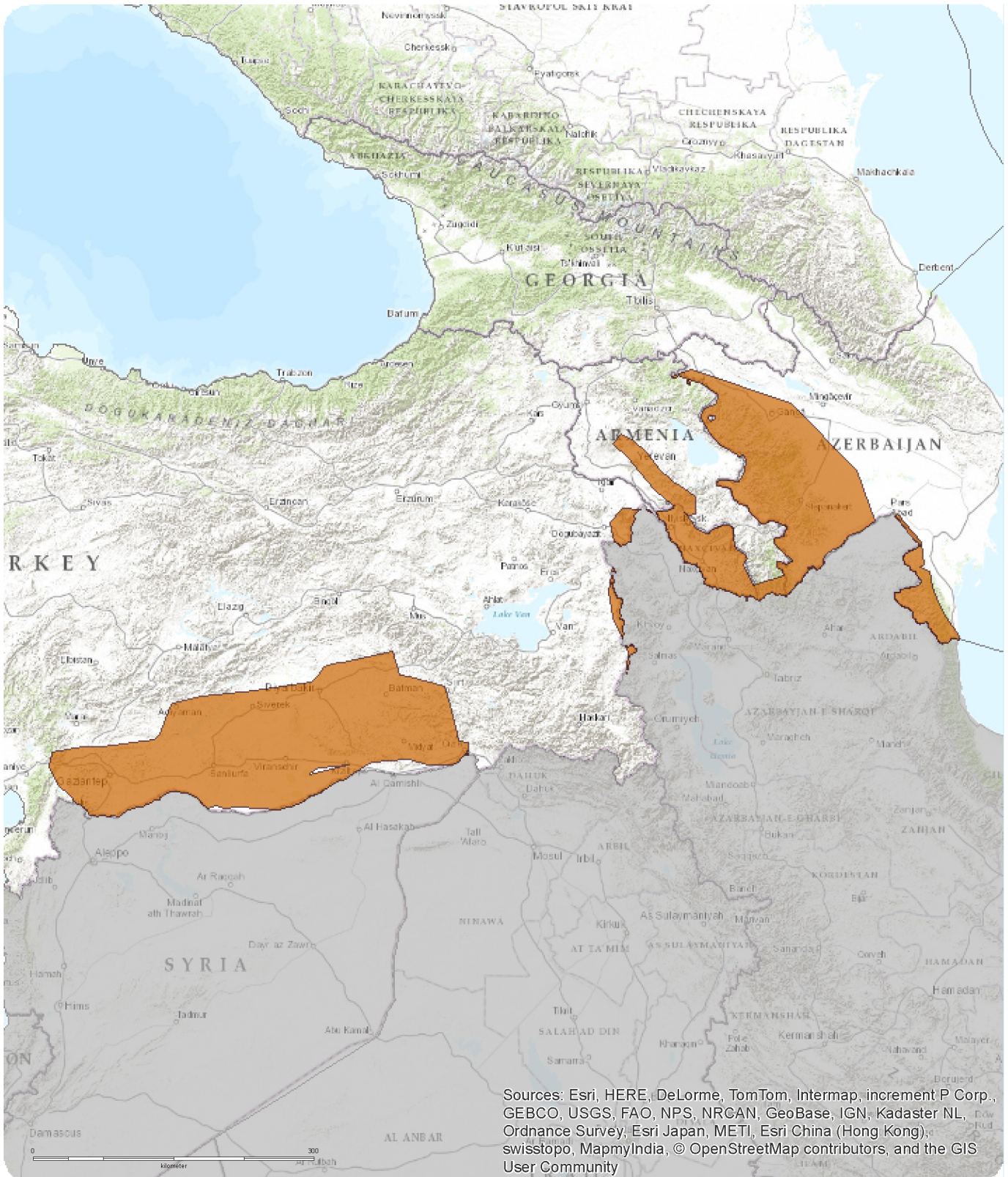
Bibliography

BirdLife International 2004. *Birds in Europe: population estimates, trends and conservation status*. BirdLife International, Cambridge, U.K.

Summers-Smith, D. and de Juana, E. 2013. Pale Rock-sparrow (*Carpospiza brachydactyla*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. and de Juana, E. (eds.) 2013. *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/60950> on 31 March 2015).

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Petronia brachydactyla

Range

■ Extant (breeding)

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



Map created 05/12/2015

