

Carduelis citrinella -- (Pallas, 1764)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- FRINGILLIDAE

Common names: Alpine Citril Finch; Citril 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: 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). 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 within both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Andorra; Austria; Czech Republic; France; Germany; Italy; Liechtenstein; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Montenegro; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Switzerland

Vagrant:

Belgium; Poland; Portugal

Population

The European population is estimated at 250,000-283,000 pairs, which equates to 500,000-565,000 mature individuals. The population in the EU27 is estimated at 243,000-261,000 pairs, which equates to 487,000-523,000 mature individuals. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

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

Habitats and Ecology

This species is generally found in montane and submontane woods of spruce (*Picea*), larch (*Larix*) and pine (*Pinus*), usually along the edges and in clearings. It also inhabits scattered clumps of conifers in otherwise open areas, as well as alpine meadows, ski-runs, roadside edges, and around alpine huts and gardens in towns. In the non-breeding season it is found in similar habitats in sheltered valleys at lower levels. Breeding begins at the end of March to mid-April and continues until August. The nest is a cup of dry grass, plant fibres, lichens, animal hair, feathers and occasionally wool or paper and usually placed up to 30 m above the ground against the trunk of a tall tree or at the tip of strong horizontal branches. Clutches are three to five eggs (Clement and de Juana 2013). It feeds on small to medium sized seeds and sometimes green material from a wide range of plants and some insects (Snow and Perrins 1998). The species is a partial short-distance migrant and an altitudinal migrant (Clement and de Juana 2013).

Habitats & Altitude			
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Forest - Temperate		major	resident
Grassland - Temperate		suitable	resident
Shrubland - Temperate		suitable	resident
Altitude	1500-2500 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	700 m

Threats

This species is threatened by the future effects of climate change (Maggini *et al.* 2014).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
		Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
Climate change & severe weather	Habitat shifting & alteration	Future	Whole (>90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

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

Conservation Actions Proposed

No conservation measures are currently needed for this species.

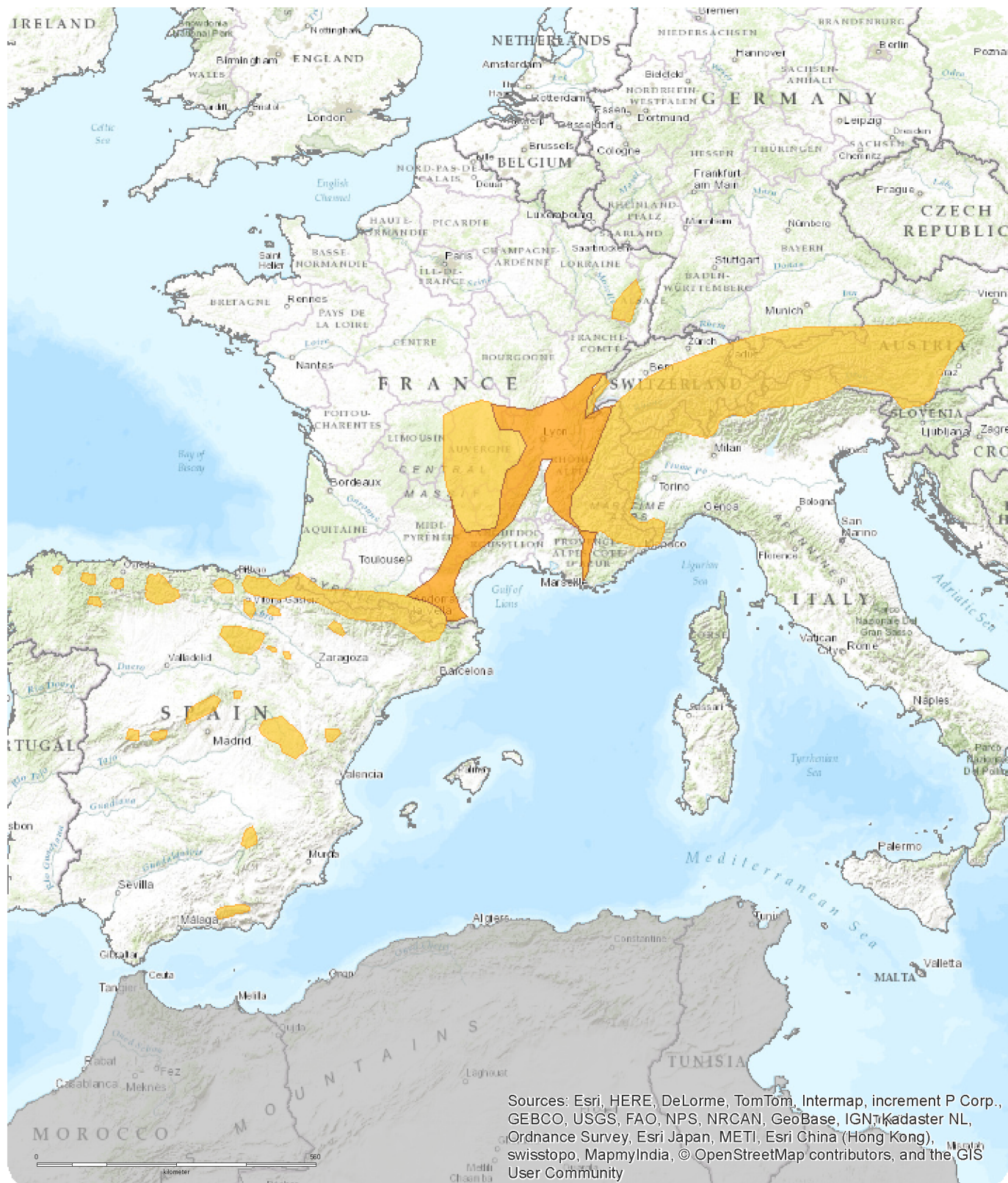
Bibliography

Clement, P. and de Juana, E. 2013. Citril Finch (*Carduelis citrinella*). 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/61360> on 24 March 2015).

Snow, D.W. and Perrins, C.M. 1998. *The Birds of the Western Palearctic vol. 2: Passerines*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



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Range

- 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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