European Environment Agency European Topic Centre on Biological Diversity



Circaetus gallicus

Annex I Yes International action plan No

Short-toed Snake-eagle, *Circaetus gallicus*, is a species of day-flying bird of prey found in grassland, heathland and shrub and woodland and forest ecosystems.

Circaetus gallicus has a breeding population size of 14700-16600 pairs and a breeding range size of 1220000 square kilometres in the EU27. The breeding population trend in the EU27 is Stable in the short term and Increasing in the long term.

The EU population status of *Circaetus gallicus* was assessed as Secure, because the species does not meet any of the IUCN Red List criteria for threatened or Near Threatened, or the criteria for Depleted or Declining (the EU27 population or range has not declined by 20% or more since 1980).

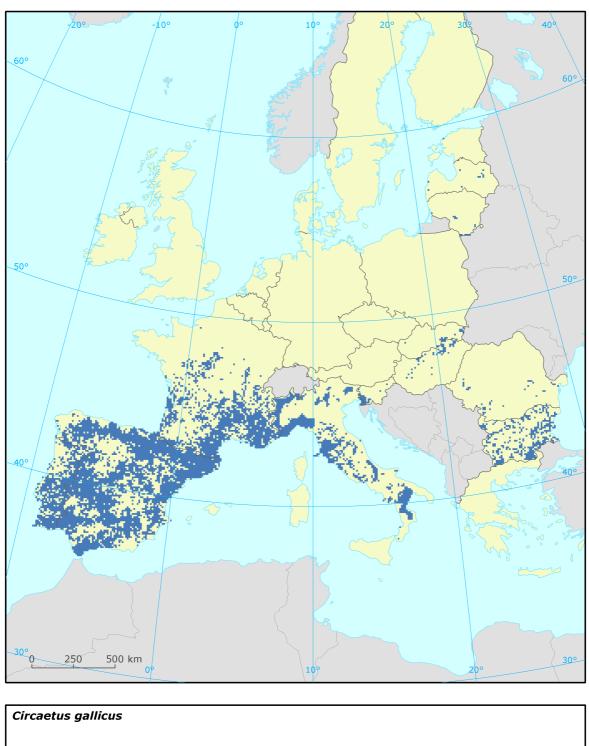
Circaetus gallicus

Report under the Article 12 of the Birds Directive

Assessment of status at the European level

Breeding population size	Breeding population trend Ran		_ Range _	Breeding range trend		Winter	Winter population trend		Population
	Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	population size	Short term	Long term	status
14700 - 16600 p	0	+	1220000						Secure

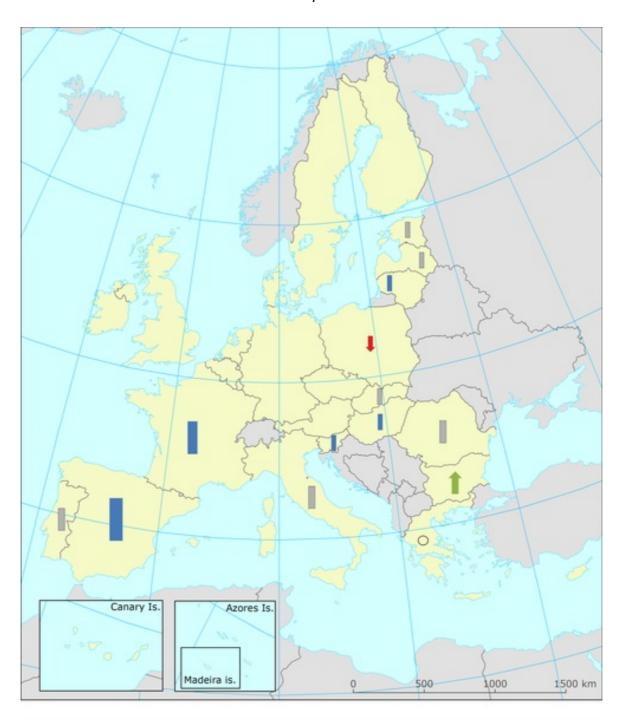
See the endnotes for more informationⁱ

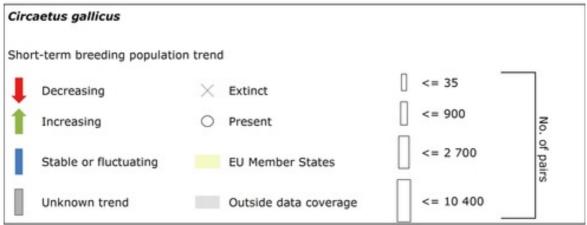


Trends at the Member State level

MS/Ter. % in		Breeding	Breeding population trend		Range _	Breeding range trend		Winter population	Winter population trend	
WIS/TEI.	EU27	population size	Short term	Long term	area	Short term	Long term	size	Short term	Long term
BG	5.5	300 - 350 p	+	+	104700	+	+			
EE		0 - 1 p	X	X	100	X	X			
ES	50.2	10230 - 10550 p	0	0	479421	0	0			
FR	21.0	2400 - 2900 p	0	+	259100	0	+			
GR										
HU	0.9	24 - 51 p	F	-	5026	0	-			
IT	11.8	350 - 560 p	X	+	146800	+	+			
LT	0.2	1 - 5 p	0	0	1800	0	0			
LV	0.2	0 - 5 p	X	-	2174	X	+			
PL		2 - 10 p	-	-		х	х			
PT	8.8	800 - 1000 p	X	+	90700	0	+			
RO	0.6	300 - 600 p	X	X	131500	X	X			
SI	0.5	9 - 20 p	0	0	2854	0	0			
SK	0.3	5 - 15 p	X	_	2300	X	_			

See the endnotes for more informationⁱⁱ





Short-term winter population trend was not reported for this species.

Main pressures and threats reported by Member States

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the 20 most important pressures and threats using an agreed hierarchical list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal (http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/activities/Reporting/Article_12/reference_portal). Pressures are activities which are currently having an impact on the species and threats are activities expected to have an impact in the near future. The table below only contains information from Member States, where a species triggers SPA classification. Pressures and threats were ranked in three classes 'high, medium and low importance', the table below only shows pressures and threats classed as 'high', for some species there were less than ten pressures and threats reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' pressures and threats

Code	Activity	Frequency
A04	Grazing by livestock	20
B02	Forest and plantation management & use	20
A02	Modification of cultivation practices	5
A03	Mowing or cutting grasslands	5
B01	Afforestation	5
B03	Forest exploitation	5
B07	Other forestry activities	5
C03	Production of renewable energy (abiotic)	5
D02	Utility and service lines/pipelines	5
F05	Illegal taking of marine fauna	5

Proportion of population covered by the Natura 2000 network

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report the size of a species population occurring within the Natura 2000 network. The percentage of species population covered by the network was estimated by comparing the population size within the network and the total population size.

Percentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
BG	breeding	YES	32.93
EE	breeding	NO	
ES	breeding	YES	6.48
FR	breeding	YES	18.15
HU	breeding	YES	77.81

MS/territory	season	SPA trigger	% coverage
IT	breeding	YES	39.12
LT	breeding	NO	
LV	breeding	YES	118.32
PL	breeding	YES	44.72
PT	breeding	YES	15.81
RO	breeding	YES	37.57
SI	breeding	YES	83.67
SK	breeding	YES	25.82

See the endnotes for more informationiii

Most frequently reported conservation measures

For the bird species triggering SPA classification Member States were asked to report up to 20 conservation measures being implemented for this species using an agreed list which can be found on the Article 12 Reference Portal. Member States were further requested to highlight up to five most important ('highly important') measures; the table below only shows measures classed as 'high', for many species there were less than ten measures reported as highly important.

Ten most frequently reported 'highly important' conservation measures

Code	Measure	Frequency
6.3	Legal protection of habitats and species	27
6.1	Establish protected areas/sites	23
2.1	Maintaining grasslands and other open habitats	13
3.2	Adapt forest management	10
2.2	Adapting crop production	3
3.0	Other forestry-related measures	3
3.1	Restoring/improving forest habitats	3
4.2	Restoring/improving the hydrological regime	3
4.3	Managing water abstraction	3
7.1	Regulation/ Management of hunting and taking	3

This information is derived from the Member State national reports submitted to the European Commission under Article 12 of the Birds Directive in 2013 and covering the period 2008-2012. More detailed information, including the MS reports, is available at: http://bd.eionet.europa.eu/article12/summary?period=1&subject=A080.

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¹ Assessment of status at the European level: The EU assessments of birds population status was made by the European Red List of Birds Consortium (under contract with the European Commission)

The EU27 population trends were assessed using these categories: '+' Increasing, '0' Stable, 'F' Fluctuating, '-' Decreasing, 'xu' Uncertain and 'x' Unknown. The breeding population size is estimated in majority of the cases as 'p' number of pairs. Alternative population units used are: 'males' number of males, 'i' number of individuals, 'cmales' number of calling males and 'bfem' number of breeding females. The winter population size is estimated as number of individuals.

ⁱⁱSpecies trends at the Member State level: The percentage of the EU27 species population occurring in the Member States (% in EU27) is calculated based on the population size reported by the Member States.

iiiPercentage of coverage by Natura 2000 sites: In some cases the population size within the Natura 2000 network has been estimated using a different methodology to the estimate of overall population size and this can lead to percentage covers greater than 100%. In such case the value has been given as 100% and highlighted with an asterisk (*). The value 'x' indicates that the Member State has not reported the species population and/or the coverage by Natura 2000. No information is available for Greece and for non-Annex I species in the Czech Republic.