

## List of birds of the European Union – August 2018

- There is only one list, based on the taxonomy and nomenclature of the Handbook of the Birds of the World (HBW) and BirdLife International *Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World*, Volume 1 (del Hoyo & Collar 2014) and Volume 2 (del Hoyo & Collar 2016).
- The list has been divided into four main tabs, as follows:
  - ‘Category A (regular native)’ species;
  - ‘Category A (vagrant)’ species;
  - ‘Category B (pre-1950)’ species;
  - ‘Category C (introduced)’ species.
- Each species is listed only once, in the tab of the ‘highest’ (order as above) category it qualifies for (introduced species that have also occurred in the EU as vagrants, for example, are listed in the ‘Category A (vagrant)’ tab)<sup>1</sup>.
- Species covered by Article 1 of the Birds Directive comprise all those listed in Categories A (both ‘regular native’ and ‘vagrant’) and B, plus *Meleagris gallopavo* (referred to in Annex II of the Directive). The list is also relevant in the context of implementation of Directive 2004/35/EC on environmental liability with regard to the prevention and remedying of environmental damage and Directive 2008/99/EC on the protection of the environment through criminal law. These directives refer to birds listed in Annex I to, plus regularly occurring migratory species referred to in Article 4(2) of, the Birds Directive. The latter are listed as ‘migratory’ in column R of the ‘Category A (regular native)’ tab. The listing of a species as ‘migratory’ does not automatically imply an obligation to classify SPAs for it. The identification and delimitation of SPAs must be based exclusively on scientific (ornithological) criteria.
- The ‘Codes’ tab explains the abbreviations used for the IUCN Red List categories and EU occurrence codes (similar to the 1999 bird list) provided in the other four tabs.
- The order in which species are presented follows the sequence of the *HBW–BirdLife Checklist*.
- The global IUCN Red List categories provided for each species reflect their status as of December 2016.
- Differences in taxonomy and nomenclature compared to the 1999 EU list are highlighted by providing the scientific name of each species as it was treated in 1999 (by both Voous and Sibley & Monroe).
- The reasons for changes between the 1999 and 2015 lists and the 2015 and 2018 lists (e.g. taxonomic revision, recorded in the EU for first time since 1999, etc.) are noted in separate columns<sup>2</sup>.
- Synonyms used in the Birds Directive have been provided wherever the scientific names listed differ from those used in the *HBW–BirdLife Checklist*.
- Each regular native species has been coded according to its listing in Annexes I, II and/or III of the Birds Directive (this also applies to species listed in Category C ‘introduced’). This includes a small number of species that are not listed explicitly in the Annexes, but which

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<sup>1</sup> One exception is *Alopochen aegyptiaca*, which has been retained in the ‘Category C (introduced)’ tab (as in 2015), despite evidence for pre-1950 vagrancy, as its current status as an (invasive) introduced species in the EU is considered more relevant.

<sup>2</sup> Where a change in 2015 has been superseded by another in 2018, the original note has been retained, for information, but italicised and enclosed in square brackets.

have since been split taxonomically from species that are listed, and are hence considered to be covered by the same provisions.

- Each regular (native and introduced) species has been coded according to listings on Appendices I and/or II of CMS, Appendices I, II or III of CITES and Annexes of Council Regulation (EC) No. 338/97.
- The taxonomic and nomenclatural treatment of each species by three other widely used global checklists is also presented for comparison: the IOC World Bird List v.7.2 (Gill & Donsker 2017); the Clements Checklist v.2016 (Clements *et al.* 2016), and; the Howard & Moore checklist 4th Edition (Dickinson & Remsen 2013, Dickinson & Christidis 2014).

Specific issues on the four main tabs:

#### **‘Category A (regular native)’ species**

- *Definition: those species recorded in an apparently wild state since 1950, which occur regularly and naturally within the EU.*
- The EU 27 Red List categories (column E) provided for species reflect their regional Red List status as assessed for the 2015 *European Red List of Birds*<sup>3</sup>.
- The migratory status of species (column R) reflects their migratory status at the EU level, classifying each species as ‘migratory’ or ‘non-migratory’, following the official CMS definition (whereby migratory species are defined as those with ‘a significant proportion of whose members cyclically and predictably cross one or more national jurisdictional boundaries’).
- For each species listed as migratory at the EU level, a justification is provided (column S), explaining the rationale. In most cases this reflects their independent listings on Appendices I or II of CMS, Annex 2 of the African Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), Annex 1 of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning the Conservation of Migratory Birds of Prey in Africa and Eurasia (Raptors MoU) and/or Annex 3 of the Action Plan for Migratory Landbirds in the African-Eurasian Region (AEMLAP)<sup>4</sup>. Columns T to W provide details of the listings on these CMS instruments.
- In a few cases (c. 20), the justification in column S explains that the species are migratory seabirds that occur regularly and predictably in the EU when breeding or non-breeding. *Garrulus glandarius* is also listed as ‘migratory’ to be consistent with the document *Key Concepts of Article 7(4) of the Birds Directive*<sup>5</sup>, which identifies a prenuptial migration period for this species in ten Member States.

#### **‘Category A (vagrant)’ species**

- *Definition: those species recorded in an apparently wild state since 1950, but which do not occur regularly or predictably within the EU.*
- Vagrant species are covered by Article 1 of the Birds Directive, although in practice duties under the Directive are limited, such that Member States are not expected to take special conservation measures for vagrants (like site designation and habitat conservation). However, some vagrant species may over time occur more regularly and even colonise the EU, so their general protection under the Birds Directive is important.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/species/redlist/birds/summary.htm>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.cms.int/en/document/african-eurasian-migratory-landbirds-action-plan-aemlap-2>. A small number of species whose taxonomic treatment differs in the EU Bird List from the Action Plan have been listed as “[AEMLAP]” pending confirmation of their coverage by the latter.

<sup>5</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/key\\_concepts\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/conservation/wildbirds/hunting/key_concepts_en.htm)

### **‘Category B (pre-1950)’ species**

- *Definition: those species recorded in an apparently wild state only before 1950, some of which are now globally extinct.*
- Column E distinguishes between those species that are (or were) native to the EU and those that are only (historical) vagrants, using the same definition for vagrants as above.

### **‘Category C (introduced)’ species**

- *Definition: those released or escaped species which have established a self-supporting breeding population.*
- To identify introduced species with an established breeding population in the EU, national lists were checked for non-native species included in Category C (subcategory C1 or C4, where this specified)<sup>6</sup>.

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<sup>6</sup> One exception is *Meleagris gallopavo*, which has been retained in the ‘Category C (introduced)’ tab (as in 2015), despite not being included in Category C (only Category E) in the national list of any Member State, as the species was referred to in Annex II of the Directive.