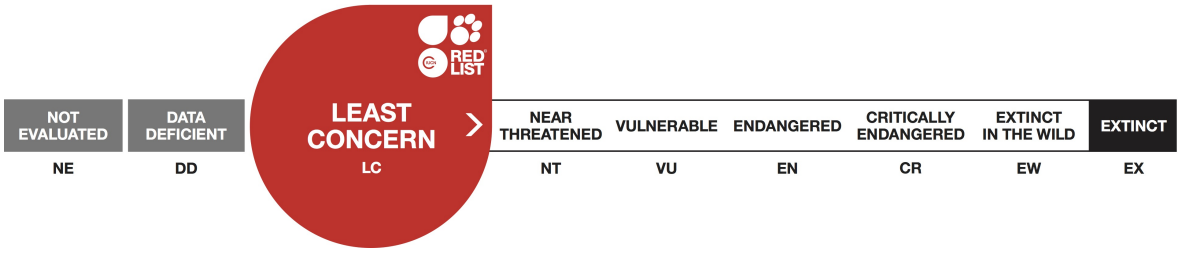
The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™
ISSN 2307-8235 (online)
IUCN 2008: T22736562A118864048
Scope: Global
Language: English

Buteo rufinus, Long-legged Buzzard

Amended version

Assessment by: BirdLife International



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Aves	Accipitriformes	Accipitridae

Taxon Name: *Buteo rufinus* (Cretzschmar, 1827)

Regional Assessments:

- Europe

Common Name(s):

- English: Long-legged Buzzard

Taxonomic Source(s):

Porter, R. F.; Kirwan, G. M. 2010. Studies of Socotran birds VI. The taxonomic status of the Socotra Buzzard. *Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club* 130(2): 116-131.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2017

Date Assessed: October 1, 2016

Justification:

This species has an extremely large range, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the range size criterion (extent of occurrence <20,000 km^2 combined with a declining or fluctuating range size, habitat extent/quality, or population size and a small number of locations or severe fragmentation). The population trend appears to be fluctuating, and hence the species does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion (>30% decline over ten years or three generations). The population size has not been quantified, but it is not believed to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population size criterion (<10,000 mature individuals with a continuing decline estimated to be >10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2017 – Least Concern (LC)
http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2017-1.RLTS.T22736562A111890204.en

2016 – Least Concern (LC)
http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22736562A95137586.en

2015 – Least Concern (LC)

2013 – Least Concern (LC)
http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2013-2.RLTS.T22736562A40704428.en

2012 – Least Concern (LC)

2011 – Least Concern (LC)

2008 – Not Recognized (NR)

2004 – Not Recognized (NR)

2000 – Not Recognized (NR)

1994 – Not Recognized (NR)

1988 – Not Recognized (NR)

Geographic Range

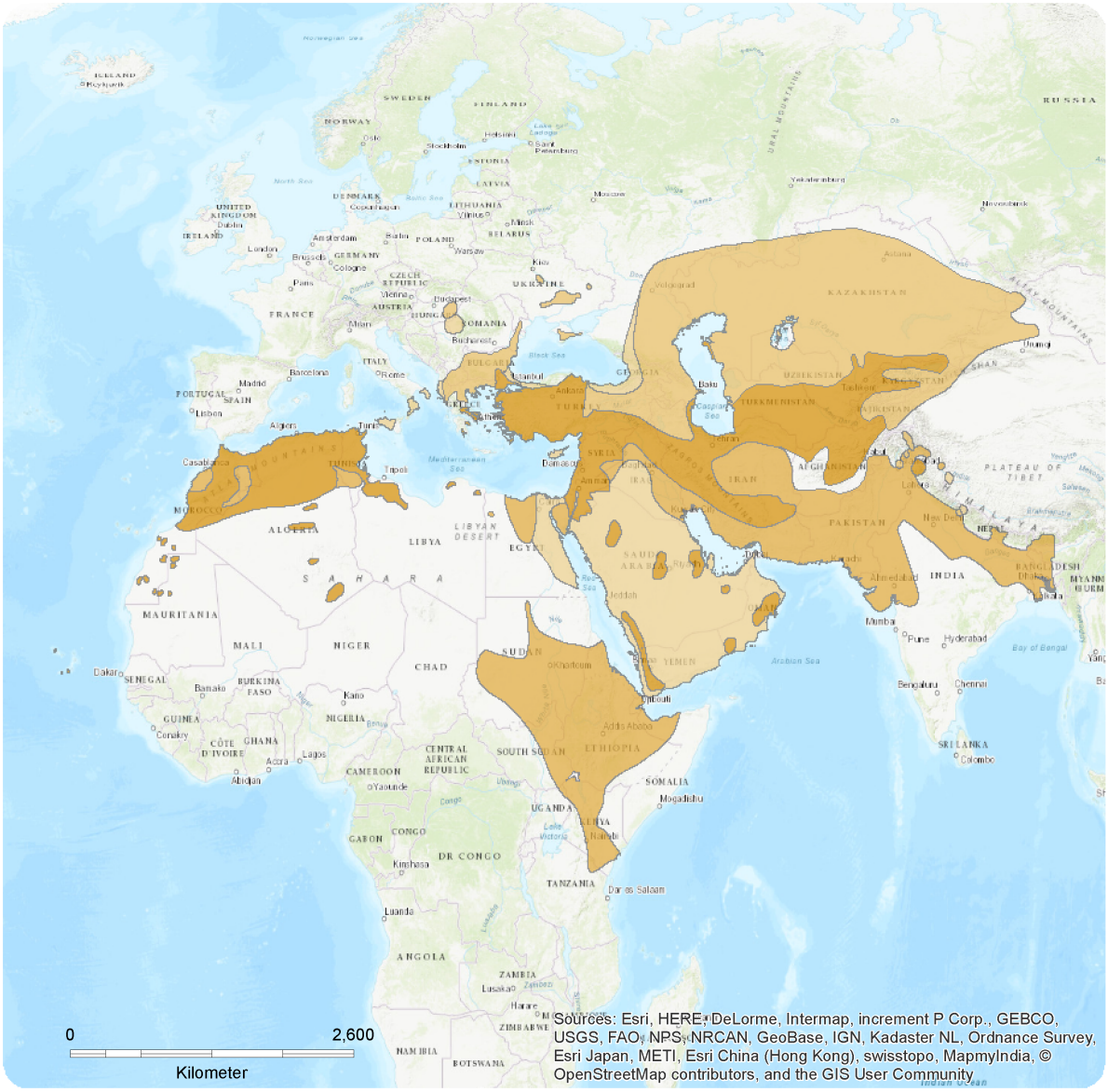
Country Occurrence:

Native: Afghanistan; Albania; Armenia; Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Cape Verde; Central African Republic; Chad; China; Croatia; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Djibouti; Egypt; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Georgia; Germany; Greece; Hungary; India; Iran, Islamic Republic of; Iraq; Israel; Italy; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Kuwait; Kyrgyzstan; Lebanon; Libya; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Mali; Mauritania; Moldova; Mongolia; Morocco; Myanmar; Nepal; Niger; Nigeria; Oman; Pakistan; Palestinian Territory, Occupied; Poland; Romania; Russian Federation (Central Asian Russia, European Russia); Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Serbia; Slovakia; Slovenia; South Sudan; Spain; Sri Lanka; Sudan; Syrian Arab Republic; Tajikistan; Tunisia; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; Uzbekistan; Western Sahara; Yemen

Vagrant: Belarus; Belgium; Botswana; Denmark; Finland; France; Gambia; Ghana; Malawi; Malta; Netherlands; Norway; Portugal; Somalia; Sweden; Switzerland; Tanzania, United Republic of; Togo

Distribution Map

Buteo rufinus



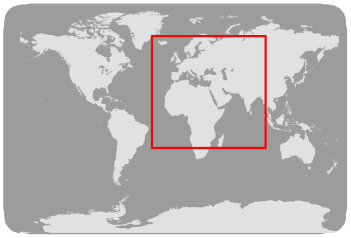
Range

- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (non breeding)
- Extant (passage)
- Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

BirdLife International and Handbook of the Birds of the World (2017)

NE DD LC LEAST CONCERN NT VU EN CR EW EX



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

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Population

The European population is estimated at 11,800-19,200 pairs, which equates to 23,700-38,400 mature individuals (BirdLife International 2015). Europe forms approximately 17% of the global range, so a very preliminary estimate of the global population size is 139,000-226,000 mature individuals, although further validation of this estimate is needed. It is placed in the band 100,000 to 499,999 mature individuals.

Trend Justification

The population is suspected to fluctuate in response to vole populations (Ferguson-Lees and Christie 2001). The European trend is currently estimated to be increasing (BirdLife International 2015) however accounting for fluctuations the global population trend for this species is estimated to be stable.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Behaviour North African birds are resident, but birds breeding in Eurasia migrate south to North Africa and southern Asia, leaving their breeding grounds in August and September and returning in March and April (del Hoyo *et al.* 1994). It is generally observed singly, in pairs or in small family groups, but is more gregarious on migration when larger flocks can form (Ferguson-Lees and Christie 2001). **Habitat** It is a species of open areas, particularly steppe and semi-desert, and has been recorded up to 3,500 m (del Hoyo *et al.* 1994). **Diet** It feeds mainly on small mammals (del Hoyo *et al.* 1994). **Breeding site** The nest is made on cliff ledges and crags (del Hoyo *et al.* 1994). **Management information** Birds require sufficient outcrops, trees or disused nests on which to build their own nests (del Hoyo *et al.* 1994).

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

The population in Israel declined as a result of pesticide poisoning in the 1950s, but has since recovered (Ferguson-Lees and Christie 2001), however afforestation remains a threat (Friedemann *et al*. 2011). It is very highly vulnerable to the impacts of potential wind energy developments (Strix 2012). The species is also threatened by habitat destruction through agricultural intensification which may also reduce prey species. An increase in orchards and vineyards has reduced suitable habitat in Bulgaria (Demerdzhiev *et al*. 2014). Electrocution has also caused fatalities (Mebs and Schmidt 2006). In Saudi Arabia, stone quarrying has reduced populations (Global Raptor Information Network 2015). In China, rubbish and waste materials used in nest construction were identified as potential causes of nest failures (Wu *et al*. 2008). In its Sahelian range, the species is vulnerable to habitat degradation through wood harvesting, overgrazing, burning and exposure to pesticides (Thiollay 2007).

Credits

Assessor(s): BirdLife International

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Demerdzhiev, D., Dobrev, V. and Popgeorgiev, G. 2014. Effects of Habitat Change on Territory Occupancy, Breeding Density and Breeding Success of Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus* Cretzschmar, 1927) in Besaparski Ridove Special Protection Area (Natura 2000), Southern Bulgaria. *Acta Zoologica Bulgarica* Supplement 5: 191-200.

Ferguson-Lees, J. and Christie, D.A. 2001. *Raptors of the world*. Christopher Helm, London.

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Thiollay, J.-M. 2007. Raptor population decline in West Africa. *Ostrich* 78(2): 405-413.

Wu, Y-Q., Ma, M., Xu. F., Ragyov, D., Shergalin, J., Liu, N-A. and Dixon, A. 2008. Breeding biology and diet of the Long-legged Buzzard (*Buteo rufinus*) in the eastern Junggar Basin of northwestern China. *Journal of Raptor Research* 42(4): 273-280.

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External Resources

For Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	Breeding	Suitable	No
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	Non-breeding	Suitable	No
3. Shrubland -> 3.8. Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	Breeding	Suitable	No
3. Shrubland -> 3.8. Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	Non-breeding	Suitable	No
4. Grassland -> 4.4. Grassland - Temperate	Breeding	Suitable	No
4. Grassland -> 4.4. Grassland - Temperate	Non-breeding	Suitable	No
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	Breeding	Suitable	No
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	Non-breeding	Suitable	No
0. Root -> 6. Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	Breeding	Suitable	No
0. Root -> 6. Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	Non-breeding	Suitable	No
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.1. Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	Breeding	Suitable	No
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.1. Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	Non-breeding	Suitable	No

Threats

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.3. Agro-industry farming	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Negligible declines	Medium impact: 6
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.3. Indirect species effects -> 2.3.8. Other		
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.2. Wood & pulp plantations -> 2.2.2. Agro-industry plantations	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion		
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.3. Livestock farming & ranching -> 2.3.2. Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		

3. Energy production & mining -> 3.2. Mining & quarrying	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.3. Indirect species effects -> 2.3.7. Reduced reproductive success		
3. Energy production & mining -> 3.3. Renewable energy	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
4. Transportation & service corridors -> 4.2. Utility & service lines	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
7. Natural system modifications -> 7.1. Fire & fire suppression -> 7.1.1. Increase in fire frequency/intensity	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
9. Pollution -> 9.3. Agricultural & forestry effluents -> 9.3.3. Herbicides and pesticides	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
9. Pollution -> 9.4. Garbage & solid waste	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.3. Indirect species effects -> 2.3.7. Reduced reproductive success		

Conservation Actions in Place

(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Education
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km²): 31500000
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No

Distribution
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 3900
Population
Number of mature individuals: 100000-499999
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: No
Population severely fragmented: No
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No
All individuals in one subpopulation: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Generation Length (years): 9.8
Movement patterns: Full Migrant
Congregatory: Congregatory (and dispersive)

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Amended

Amended reason: Non breeding EOO updated.

The IUCN Red List Partnership

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The IUCN Red List Partners are: Arizona State University; BirdLife International; Botanic Gardens Conservation International; Conservation International; NatureServe; Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; Sapienza University of Rome; Texas A&M University; and Zoological Society of London.