

# *Ixobrychus minutus*

## LITTLE BITTERN

**SPEC 3** (1994: 3) **Status** (Depleted)

**Criteria** Large historical decline

**European IUCN Red List Category** —

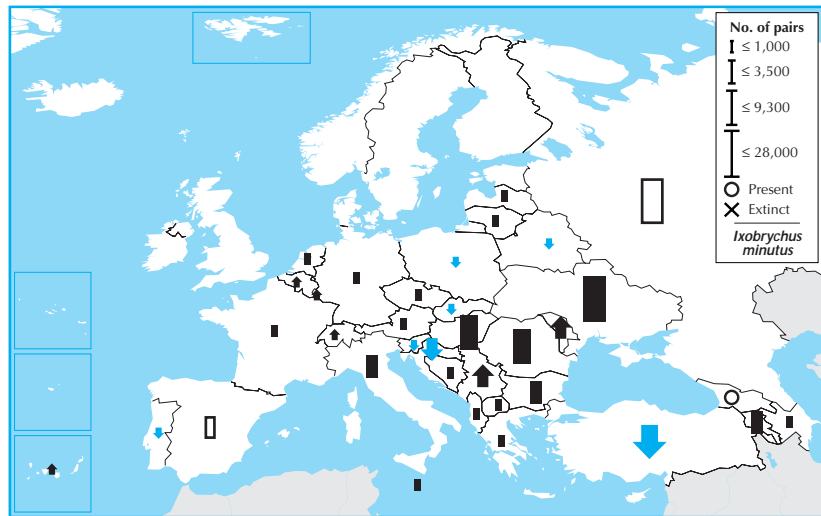
**Criteria** —

**Global IUCN Red List Category** —

**Criteria** —



*Ixobrychus minutus* is a widespread summer visitor to much of central and southern Europe, which accounts for less than a quarter of its global breeding range. Its European breeding population is relatively small (<120,000 pairs), and underwent a large decline between 1970–1990. Although the species was stable overall during 1990–2000, with stable or increasing trends across much of its European range (Turkey being a notable exception), its population has clearly not yet recovered to the level that preceded its decline. Consequently, it is provisionally evaluated as Depleted.



Country	Breeding pop. size (pairs)	Year(s)	Trend	Mag.%	References
Albania	40 – 370	96-02	0	0–19	6
Armenia	1,000 – 2,500	98-02	(0)	(0–19)	
Austria	150 – 300	98-02	(0)	(0–19)	
Azerbaijan	(250 – 2,500)	96-00	(0)	(0–19)	
Belarus	300 – 600	97-00	–	10–19	
Belgium	<b>22 – 31</b>	95-02	+ <b>0–19</b>		1
Bosnia & HG	(8 – 10)	90-00	(0)	(0–19)	
Bulgaria	<b>900 – 1,500</b>	95-02	0	0–19	
Croatia	(800 – 2,000)	02	(–)	(0–19)	54,26
Czech Rep.	<b>60 – 80</b>	00	<b>0</b>	<b>0–19</b>	
France	250 – 300	98-01	(0)	(0–19)	6
Georgia	Present	03	?	–	
Germany	<b>90 – 120</b>	95-99	<b>0</b>	<b>0–19</b>	
Greece	500 – 2,000	01	0	0–19	
Hungary	<b>4,000 – 6,000</b>	95-02	0	0–19	
Italy	1,300 – 2,300	03	0	0–19	6
Latvia	(5 – 20)	90-00	(0)	(0–19)	22,17
Lithuania	(1 – 10)	99-01	(F)	(>80)	20
Luxembourg	<b>2 – 4</b>	02	+ <b>100</b>		
Macedonia	200 – 300	99-00	0	0–19	
Malta	<b>1 – 2</b>	97-00	<b>0</b>	<b>0–19</b>	3
Moldova	1,800 – 2,300	90-00	+	20–29	
Netherlands	<b>10 – 30</b>	98-00	<b>0</b>	<b>0–19</b>	1
Poland	700 – 700	95-00	(–)	(20–29)	9
Portugal	(150 – 500)	02	(–)	(–)	
Romania	(8,500 – 10,000)	98-02	(0)	(0–19)	
Russia	(15,000 – 50,000)	90-00	?	–	8,51,52,73,75
Serbia & MN	3,000 – 4,000	00-02	+	10–19	1,29,78,100,101, 155,144,227
Slovakia	200 – 400	80-99	–	30–49	
Slovenia	30 – 60	96-00	–	20–29	
Spain	(1,900 – 2,300)	92	?	–	13,12,10
Canary Is.	<b>1 – 2</b>	97-03	+ <b>N</b>	<b>28,25</b>	
Switzerland	<b>80 – 120</b>	93-96	+	10–29	
Turkey	6,000 – 9,000	01	(–)	(0–19)	
Ukraine	13,200 – 22,300	90-00	0	0–19	
<b>Total (approx.)</b>	<b>60,000 – 120,000</b>			<b>Overall trend Stable</b>	
<b>Breeding range</b>	<b>&gt;3,000,000 km<sup>2</sup></b>			<b>Gen. length. &lt;3.3 % Global pop. 5–24</b>	

2000 population

48

44

8

1990 population

64

33

3

Data quality (%) – *Ixobrychus minutus*

□ unknown □ poor □ medium ■ good

1990–2000 trend

35

26

39

1970–1990 trend

72

25

3