

**Name:****Bullfinch***Pyrrhula pyrrhula***UK status:**[UK BAP Priority](#). Rapid recent decline. BoCC Red List.**London status:**

Uncommon breeding resident; has declined throughout and may now be extinct in inner boroughs.

**Protected status:**

- W&CA S.1(1-3); general protection from intentional killing, injury and catching, possession, and nest destruction.
- 'Species of principal importance for the conservation of biological diversity in England' (CRoW Act, 2000)

**Relevant London HAPs:**

Woodland; Farmland; Hedgerows Statement

**Citation:**

The bullfinch is still a widespread bird in the UK, but breeding pair numbers have declined steeply in the last two decades. The principal reasons would appear to be nesting habitat destruction in farmland (particularly hedgerow removal and mismanagement), and a related reduction in food availability both in summer and during the winter. The national trend has also taken widespread effect in London, where over the last two decades observers have reported declines and eventual disappearances from many regularly watched sites in both inner and outer boroughs. Managing authorities; many.



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**Conservation priorities:**

- Population monitoring
  - Farmland biodiversity conservation practices (sympathetic hedgerow management, headland creation etc.)
- [Both address UK SAP target **T2**]

**References:**

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