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Britain's birds – winners and losers

December 2017



The 20th annual BirdTrends report, just published by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), gives the latest information on the winners and losers in the British countryside.

The report highlights the rapid and continuing decline of the **Greenfinch**, which has declined by 59% in the UK in just ten years, and raised a high-level alert against longer-term trends for the first time.

The Greenfinch is a familiar garden bird which was not a conservation concern when the UK's list was last updated (in 2015), but could be moved straight to the 'Red list' (which indicates the species of greatest concern) when the list is next updated, should the decline continue at its current rate. The decline is caused by a widespread and severe outbreak of a disease called trichomonosis, which first affected bird populations in 2006.

[caption



id="attachment_544459" align="aligncenter" width="1000"] Chiffchaff, by Roger Riddington

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