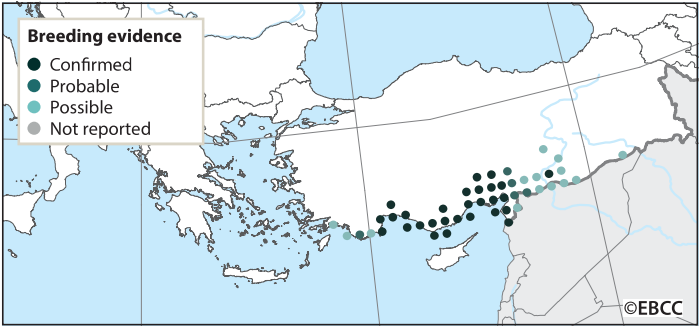


*Pycnonotus xanthopygos*

White-spectacled Bulbul



The White-spectacled Bulbul is a southeasterly species of the EBBA2 area, reaching the N limit of its range in Turkey. Its main range lies in the Arabian Peninsula and is connected with Turkey by a narrow strip along the E coast of the Mediterranean Sea. The species is monotypic and sedentary but can show some movements in the non-breeding season. It is closely related to the Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus*, but there is no evidence confirming old notes about the possibility of hybridisation between the two species [HBW].

A detailed study on the distribution of the White-spectacled Bulbul in Turkey from 2001 to 2003 showed that the species is mainly distributed in the coastal Mediterranean region from Patara/Oclemiş near Kaş in the W to Türkoğlu in Kahramanmaraş province in the E (Aslan & Erdoğan 2007). The highest nest was recorded at 740 m asl, the highest observation at 1260 m. The greatest breeding densities at the time were found in the Antalya lowlands, Çukurova and the coastal band of Hatay. In S central and SE Anatolia densities were lower, which may partly explain the fact that breeding was not confirmed in the SE.

The typical habitat of the White-spectacled Bulbul consists of open areas with fruiting trees and bushes, including gardens, palm groves, orchards and natural scrub (Aslan & Erdoğan 2007). Soft pulp (pericarp) of fruits is one of the main components of this bulbul's diet throughout the year, as well as arthropods and sometimes leaves and flowers [HBW].

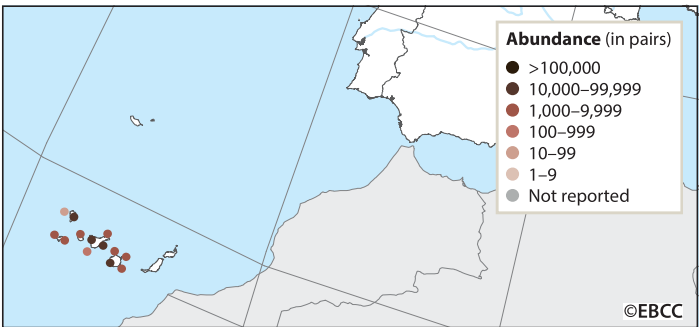
The current distribution indicates that the range has slightly expanded, as noted earlier, probably related to the construction of new hotels with densely vegetated, irrigated gardens (Aslan & Erdoğan 2007). The population, estimated at 6,000–18,000 pairs in 2013, has increased in line with the expansion [ERL].

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Illustration: David Khaydarov

*Phylloscopus canariensis*

Canary Islands Chiffchaff



Until the beginning of the 21st century, the Canary Islands Chiffchaff was considered a subspecies of the Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* (*P. c. canariensis*; Martín & Lorenzo 2001). However, splitting this taxon from the Common Chiffchaff had already been proposed earlier based on the significant differences found in genetic, morphological and acoustic traits (Helbig *et al.* 1996). Recent phylogenetic results indicate that the Canary Islands Chiffchaff is more closely related to the Mountain Chiffchaff *P. sindianus*, a species with a Caucasian distribution, than to the Common Chiffchaff or the Iberian Chiffchaff *P. ibericus* (Tietze *et al.* 2015). Two subspecies are recognised: the nominate and extant *canariensis*, occurring on the central and W islands; and the extinct subspecies *exsul*, which inhabited Lanzarote and probably Fuerteventura too (Martín & Lorenzo 2001).

Together with the Berthelot's Pipit *Anthus berthelotii*, the Canary Islands Chiffchaff is probably the most common bird species breeding in the Canarian Archipelago, reaching high densities on the islands where it occurs (Martín & Lorenzo 2001, Carrascal *et al.* 2008a). The species is present in all 10-km squares of the central and W islands [AtES], and the total population is estimated at 20,000–100,000 breeding pairs [ERL]. The species occurs in almost all habitats on these islands, from the coast to high mountains, including agricultural and urban areas. The highest densities are reached in ravines covered by *Euphorbia* shrubs, thermophilous woods and Morella-Erica heath forests (Carrascal *et al.* 2008a). The species is only absent in sparsely vegetated areas, such as recent lava flows (Martín & Lorenzo 2001). Dispersal events among islands have not been reported.

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Illustration: Jaime de la Torre Naharro