| | |
|---|---|
| **Species** | **Izu Tit (*Sittiparus owstoni*)** |
| **Geographic Range** | Found primarily on three southern Izu Islands, Japan, namely Miyake, Mikura and Hachijo, but has also recently colonised Shikine. |
| **Current Category & Criteria** | Endangered B1ab(ii,iii,v)+2ab(ii,iii,v) |
| **Proposed Category & Criteria** | Least Concern |
| **Rationale for proposed change** | The species' Area of Occupancy and Extent of Occurrence both meet the thresholds for Threatened under Criteria B1 and B2. However, census data from Miyake-jima (the largest subpopulation) suggest that the population has likely been stable over the past 10 years. Additionally, Global Forest Watch (2025) data indicate that forest cover loss has been minimal (<1% over ten years). There are no other threats that are likely to be driving declines. As such, the species is not experiencing continuing declines in habitat, AOO, or the number of mature individuals, and it cannot be listed as Threatened or Near Threatened under Criteria B1 and B2.<br><br>The population is small, estimated at 4,700-6,000 mature individuals. However, as the population is stable, it does not meet or approach the thresholds for listing as threatened under Criterion C.<br><br>As the species does not meet or approach the thresholds under any other Criteria, it is reassessed as Least Concern. |
| **Type of proposed change** | Correction (new information, knowledge of criteria) |
| **Timing of genuine change** | n/a |
| **Drivers of genuine change** | n/a |
| **General request** | The BirdLife Red List Team has updated the information held in SIS (IUCN Red List database) on the key parameters relevant to this species (Annex 1) and then applied the IUCN Red List Criteria and guidelines to reassess its status (Annex 2). If you have any information that may affect the value of the key parameters in Annex 1, and thus potentially affect the reassessment, please contribute them directly via the Forum or by email (redlistteam@birdlife.org) by 25 January 2026. |
| **Specific questions** | - **Do you have any evidence that the population is declining or that the species has been extirpated from any sites?**<br>- **Do you have any information on the persistence of the small population on Shikine?**<br>- **Do you have information about the population trend on Mikura or Hachijo?** |

**Annex 1: Species data (values of key parameters)** *These terms have specific definitions as described by IUCN - please refer to the glossary and definitions page.

| **Population size** | **Estimate** | **Minimum** | **Maximum** | **Derivation** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Number of mature individuals | 4,700-6,000 | 4,700 | 6,000 | Estimated* |
| Justification | The population has been estimated at 4,425-5,286 (Fujita *et al*. 2011); because these surveys were done during the breeding season, these values are thought to refer to mature individuals (rounded here to 4,400-5,300). Estimates for the three islands were 1,953-2,285 individuals on Miyake, 1,077-1,453 individuals on Mikura, and 1,394-1,548 individuals on Hachijo (Fujita *et al*. 2011). A population of *Sittiparus* colonised Shikine in 2007, phenotypically resembles this species, and genetically clustered with birds from Miyake (Fujita *et al*. 2014) and was considered to belong to it by Chikara (2019). Shikine is only 3.9 km$^2$ in size, and its population size is not thought likely to number more than a few hundred individuals. Accordingly, the total population size of this species is estimated at 4,700-6,000 mature individuals. | | | |

| Population trend | Direction/Yes/No | Minimum % | Maximum % | Derivation |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Current population trend | Stable | | | Estimated* |
| Justification | Annual surveys (spanning 2014-2022) have been undertaken by the Miyake-jima Nature Centre across five sites on Miyake-jima (Naito *et al*. 2015-2023). This species was consistently recorded at two of these five sites, and counts have remained stable across all surveys. The population trends on Mikura-jima and Hachijo-jima are unknown, but considering Miyake-jima holds the largest subpopulation and rates of forest cover loss over the entire range has been <1% over the past ten years (Global Forest Watch 2025), the overall population trend is estimated to be stable. | | | |
| Generation length* (years) | 2.4 | Generation length from BirdLife International (2025). | | |
| 3 generations/10 years (years) | 10 | | | |
| Past 3 generations/10 years | n/a | | | n/a |
| Future 3 generations/10 years | n/a | | | n/a |
| Past + future 3 generations/10 years | n/a | | | n/a |
| Justification | n/a | | | |
| Continuing decline in mature individuals | No | | | Estimated* |
| Justification | Estimated from annual census data which indicate that the largest subpopulation has been stable over a 9-year period. | | | |
| Continuing decline over 3 years/1 gen | n/a | | | n/a |
| Continuing decline over 5 years/2 gens | n/a | | | n/a |
| Continuing decline over 10 years/3 gens | n/a | | | n/a |
| Justification | n/a | | | |

| Subpopulation structure | Number of subpopulations | No. mature individuals in largest subpopulation | % individuals in largest subpopulation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Values | 4 | 1,950-2,300 | 1-89% |
| Justification | This species occurs on four islands and these are assumed to function as separate subpopulations. The largest subpopulation, on Miyake-jima, is estimated to number 1,953-2,285 mature individuals (rounded here to 1,950-2,300). | | |
| Trend | Unknown | Derivation: | n/a |
| Justification | n/a | | |

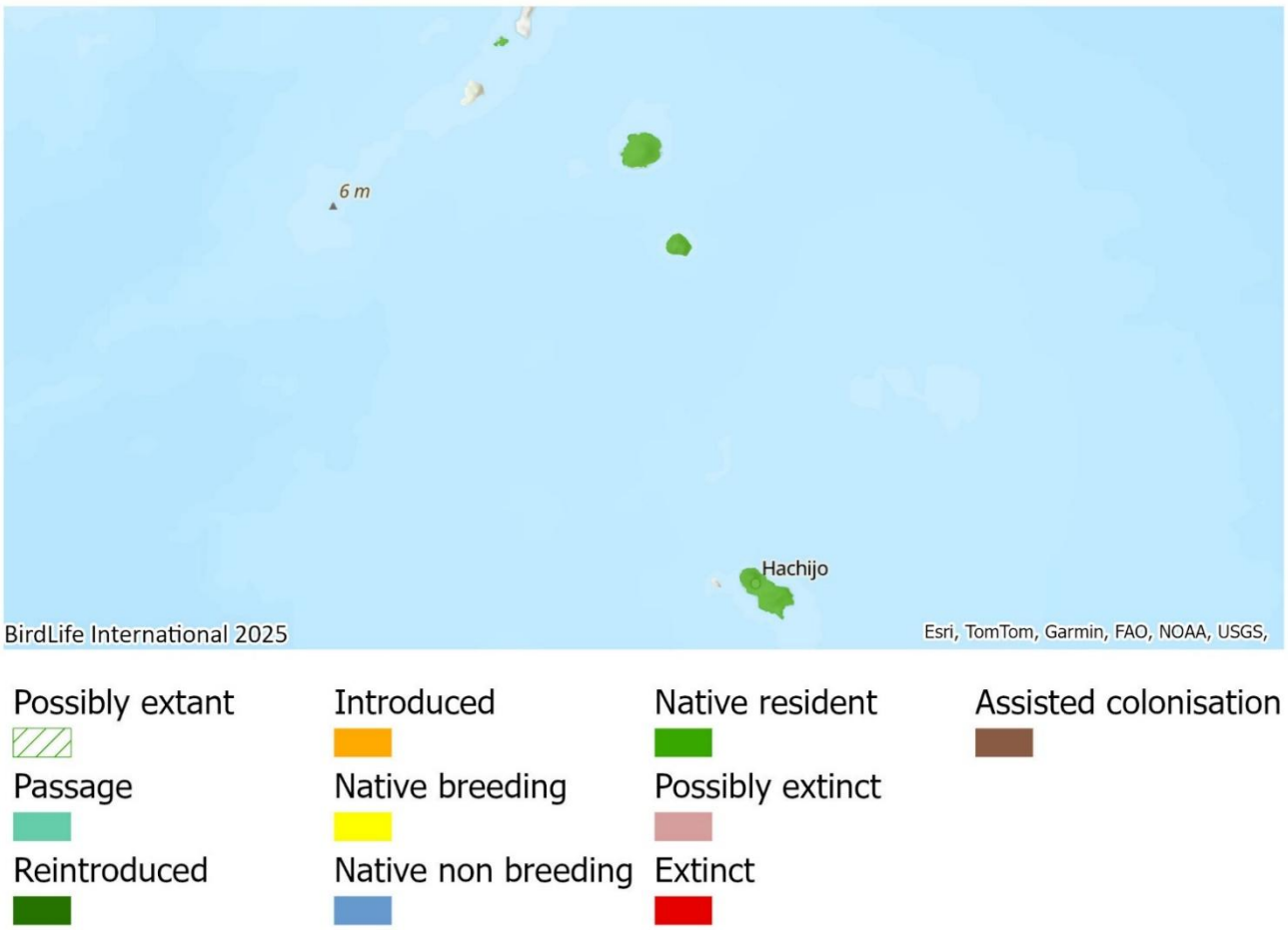
| Geographic range | Value | Continuing decline? | Derivation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Extent of Occurrence EOO* (km²) | 2,329 | No | Inferred* |
| Area of Occupancy AOO* (km²) | 260 | No | Inferred* |
| Justification | The EOO is calculated from a Minimum Convex Polygon as the minimum of the breeding/resident and non-breeding ranges. The AOO is calculated by overlaying a 2 x 2 km grid over the area of suitable habitat within the mapped range.<br><br>The EOO is inferred to be stable, because there has been a recent colonisation event. The AOO is inferred to be stable from remote sensing data and annual census data that indicate that area of habitat and the population size are both stable. | | |
| Locations* | n/a | Unknown | n/a |
| Justification | There are no plausible current threats that can be used to determine the number of Locations. | | |
| Area/extent/quality of habitat | | No | Inferred* |
| Justification | Inferred from remote sensing data which shows rates of forest cover loss over the past ten years have been less than 1%. | | |

| Severe fragmentation and extreme fluctuations | Yes/No | Parameter if yes | Justification |
|---|---|---|---|
| Severely fragmented* | No | | n/a |
| Extreme fluctuations* | No | n/a | n/a |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Restricted AOO/number of locations with a plausible future threat that could drive the taxon to CR or EX in a very short time | No | | n/a |

| **Annex 2: Application of IUCN Red List Criteria.** *These terms have specific definitions as described by IUCN - please refer to the glossary and definitions page. | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Categories and Criteria thresholds** | **Critically Endangered** | **Endangered** | **Vulnerable** | **Met or approached by species?** | **Threshold level reached** |
| **Criterion A: Rate of population decline over 3 generations/10 years (whichever is longer)** | | | | | |
| A1 | ≥ 90% | ≥ 70% | ≥ 50% | No | |
| A2 | ≥ 80% | ≥ 50% | ≥ 30% | No | |
| A3 | ≥ 80% | ≥ 50% | ≥ 30% | No | |
| A4 | ≥ 80% | ≥ 50% | ≥ 30% | No | |
| **Criterion B: Geographic range** | | | | | |
| B1: Extent of Occurrence EOO* (km²) | < 100 | < 5,000 | < 20,000 | Met | EN |
| B2: Area of Occupancy AOO* (km²) | < 10 | < 500 | < 2000 | Met | EN |
| ***And at least two of (a), (b) and (c):*** | | | | | |
| (a): Severely fragmented*/Number of locations* | =1 | ≤ 5 | ≤ 10 | No | |
| (b): Continuing decline observed/estimated/inferred/projected in | (i) EOO, (ii) AOO, (iii) Habitat area/extent/quality, (iv) Locations/subpopulations, (v) mature individuals | | | No | |
| (c): Extreme fluctuations* in | (i) EOO, (ii) AOO, (iii) Locations/subpopulations, (iv) mature individuals | | | No | |
| **Criterion C: Small population size and decline (population size must be ESTIMATED – it cannot be inferred or suspected [see IUCN Standards and Petitions Committee 2024])** | | | | | |
| Number of mature individuals | < 250 | < 2,500 | < 10,000 | Met | |
| ***And at least one of C1 or C2:*** | | | | | |
| C1: An observed/estimated/projected continuing decline of at least: | 25% in 3 years or 1 generation | 20% in 5 years or 2 generations | 10% in 10 years or 3 generations | No | |
| C2: An observed, estimated, projected or inferred continuing decline | | | | No | |
| Plus at least 1 of 3: | | | | | |
| a(i): Mature individuals per subpopulation | ≤ 50 | ≤ 250 | ≤ 1,000 | No | |
| a(ii): % mature individuals in largest subpopulation | 90-100% | 95-100% | 100% | No | |
| b: Extreme fluctuations* in number of mature individuals | | | | No | |
| **Criterion D: Very small or restricted population (population size must be ESTIMATED - it cannot be inferred or suspected [see IUCN Standards and Petitions Committee 2024])** | | | | | |
| Number of mature individuals | < 50 | < 250 | D1. < 1,000 | No | |
| Restricted AOO/number of locations with a plausible future threat that could drive the taxon to CR or EX in a very short time | - | - | D2. Typically: AOO < 20 km² or ≤ 5 locations | No | |
| **Criterion E: Quantitative Analysis** | | | | | |
| Indicated probability of extinction in the wild (in 100 years max) | ≥ 50% in longer of 10 years/3 generations | ≥20% in longer of 20 years/5 generations | ≥ 10% in 100 years | n/a | |
| | | | | | |
| **Proposed Red List Category** | This species is proposed to be assessed as **Least Concern**. | | | | |

**Species Range Map**

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