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ZAVOD ZA ZAŠTITU  
PRIRODE SRBIJE  
INSTITUTE FOR NATURE  
CONSERVATION OF SERBIA



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DRUŠTVO ZA ZAŠTITU I  
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BIRD PROTECTION AND STUDY  
SOCIETY OF SERBIA



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## PLANINSKA UŠATA ŠEVA

EN VU

*Eremophila alpestris* (Linnaeus, 1758)

Horned Lark

### Taksonomija / Taxonomy

Red: Passeriformes  
Porodica: Alaudidae  
Rod: *Eremophila*

### Sinonimi / Synonyms

*Alauda alpestris* Linnaeus, 1758; *Alauda penicillata* Gould, 1838  
*Chionophilos alpestris* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
*Otocorys alpestris* (Linnaeus, 1758)  
*Otocorys penicillata* (Gould, 1838)  
*Phileremos alpestris* (Linnaeus, 1758)

### Status u međunarodnim dokumentima

#### International threat category

IUCN Red List: LC  
BLI European Red List: LC  
Bird Directive: -  
Bern Convention: Appendix II  
CITES: -  
CMS: -

### Nacionalna kategorija ugroženosti

Status gnezdeće populacije: EN C1

**OBRAZLOŽENJE:** Puzović i sar. (2015) populaciju procenjuju na 340–470 parova (680–940 odraslih jedinki – ranjiva vrsta po kriterijumu D1), a kratkoročni (2000–2013) i dugoročni (1980–2013) trend ocenjeni su kao umereno opadanje (30–49%). Populacija je u poslednje tri generacije (14 godina) redukovana za oko 30%, što je procenjeno na osnovu praćenja brojnosti i smanjenja površine i kvaliteta zauzetih staništa i rasprostranjenosti (ranjiva vrsta po kriterijumu A2ac). Sličan trend očekuje se i u naredne tri generacije (ranjiva vrsta po kriterijumima A3c+4ac). Populacija kontinuirano opada u pogledu granica rasprostranjenosti, zauzete površine i kvaliteta staništa, broja odraslih jedinki i broja gnezdećih lokacija, dok su rasprostranjenost i zauzete površine relativno mali (EEO procenjen na 30.787 km<sup>2</sup>, AOO procenjen na 1.496 km<sup>2</sup>) i snažno fragmentisani – ranjiva prema kriterijumu B2ac(i, ii, iii, iv, v). Procenjuje se da je populacija koja je <2.500 odraslih jedinki opala za više od 20% u poslednje dve generacije (9 godina) – ugrožena po kriterijumu C1. Broj odraslih jedinki ni u jednoj subpopulaciji nije veći od 1.000 – ranjiva vrsta po kriterijumu C2a(i). Populacija u Srbiji nije izolovana, a u većini zemalja u okruženju trend je nepoznat (osim u Bugarskoj gde populacija opada i u Hrvatskoj gde fluktuiru), pa postoji bojazan da će imigracija u budućnosti opasti, zbog čega konačni status nije snižen na kategoriju VU.

Status negnezdeće populacije: VU D1

**OBRAZLOŽENJE:** Populacija koja migrira i zadržava se tokom zime procenjuje se na manje od 1.000 odraslih jedinki (ranjiva vrsta po

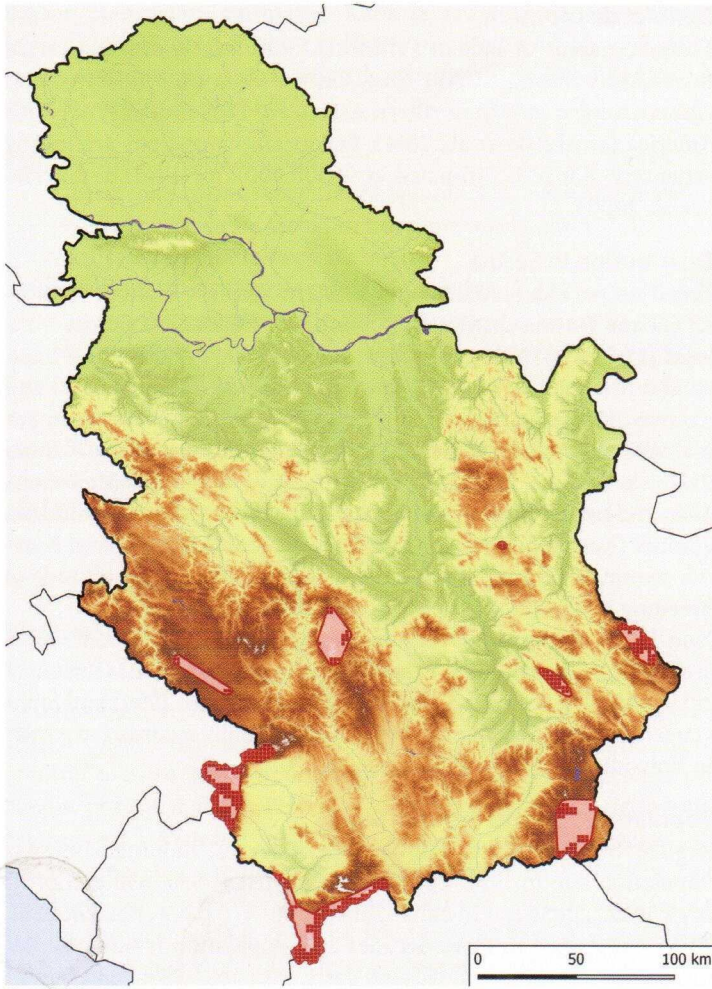


Planinska ušata ševa *Eremophila alpestris* (foto: Mirko Šarac)  
Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris* (photo: Mirko Šarac)

### National threat category

Breeding population status: EN C1

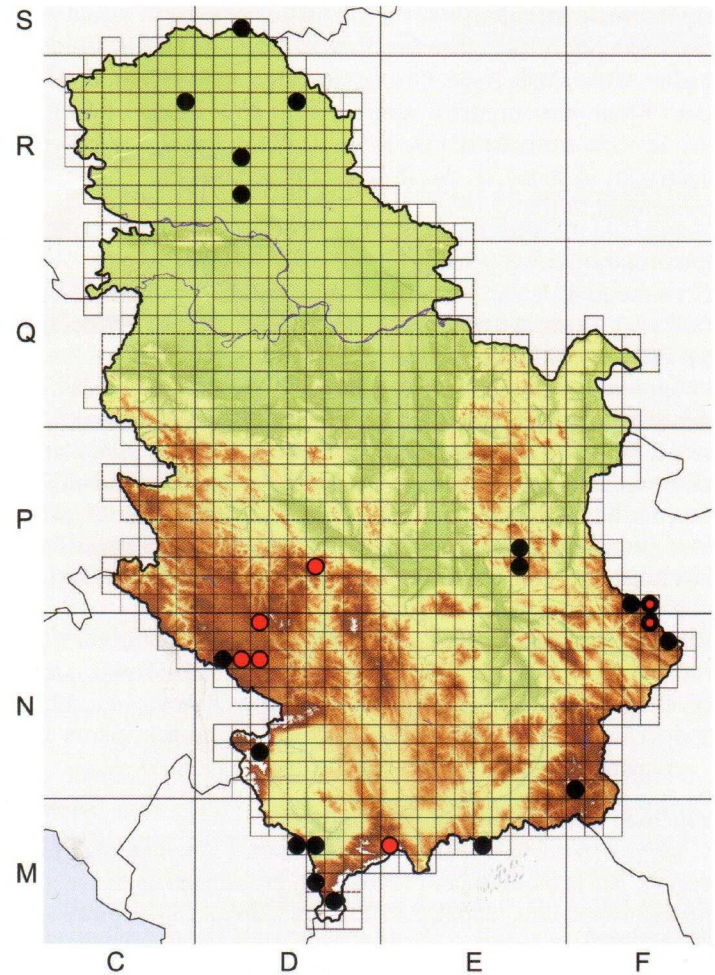
**JUSTIFICATION:** Puzović et al. (2015) estimated the population at 340–470 breeding pairs (680–940 mature individuals – Vulnerable species by D1 criterion), while short-term (2000–2013) and long-term (1980–2013) trend were estimated as moderately decreasing (30–49%). Population was reduced by about 30% over the last three generations (14 years) as estimated by direct observation of the population size and declines in the size and quality of area of occupancy and extent of occurrence due to climate change and less grazing in mountainous areas (Vulnerable under criterion A2ac). A similar trend is projected for the next three generations (Vulnerable under criteria A3c + 4ac). Population has been declining continuously in terms of extent of occurrence, area of occupancy and quality of habitat, number of mature individuals and number of breeding locations, while range and area of occupancy are relatively small (EEO estimated at 2,365 km<sup>2</sup>, AOO estimated at 1,496 km<sup>2</sup>) and severely fragmented – Endangered under Blab criterion (i, ii, iii, iv, v) and Vulnerable under B2ac (i, ii, iii, iv, v). According to estimates, population of over 2,500 mature individuals has declined by more than 20% over the last two generations (9 years) – Endangered under criterion C1. Number of mature individuals in any subpopulation is not higher than 1,000 – Vulnerable under criterion C2a (i). Population in Serbia is not isolated, and the trend is unknown in most neighbouring countries (except in Bulgaria where population is declining and in Croatia where it is fluctuating), so it is suspected that immigration will decline in the future, which is why the final status has not been downlisted to VU category.



**Slika 116:** Rasprostranjenost (svetlocrveni poligoni) i zauzete površine (tamnocrveni kvadrati) planinske ušate ševe *Eremophila alpestris* u toku poslednje generacije.

**Figure 116:** Range (light red polygons) and area of occupancy (dark red squares) of Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris* during the last generation.

kriterijumu D1). Nema naznaka da je u poslednje tri generacije negnezdeća populacija opadala (iako su kvalitet i površina staništa smanjeni), zbog čega ne zadovoljava kriterijume A i C. Trend u budućnosti nemoguće je predvideti. Rasprostranjenost i zauzete površine relativno su veliki, iako ograničeni na ogoljena planinska područja, a nisu uočene ekstremne fluktuacije u broju odraslih jedinki, zauzetih lokacija, odnosno u granicama rasprostranjenosti i u zauzetim površinama. Globalna populacija opada, dok je evropska stabilna, pa se ne može isključiti mogućnost da će negnezdeća populacija u Srbiji u budućnosti opasti, zbog čega konačni status nije snižen na kategoriju NT.



**Slika 117:** Nalazi planinske ušate ševe *Eremophila alpestris* u Bazi podataka: ● – nalaz u toku poslednje tri generacije, ● – nalaz pre tri generacije, ● – nalazi pre i u toku poslednje tri generacije

**Figure 117:** Records of Horned Lark *Eremophila alpestris* in the Database:

- – recorded during the last three generations
- – recorded more than three generations ago,
- – recorded both before and during the last three generations

**Non-breeding population status:** VU D1

**JUSTIFICATION:** Migrating and wintering population was estimated at fewer than 1,000 mature individuals (Vulnerable under D1 criterion). There is no indication of declines in the non-breeding population over the last three generations (although the quality and area of habitats have declined), which does not meet criteria A and C. It is not possible to project future trend. Extent and area of occupancy are relatively large, though limited to bare mountain areas, and there are no extreme fluctuations in the number of mature individuals and occupied locations, extent of occurrence and area of occupancy. Global population is declining, while the European is stable, so the possibility of future decline in the non-breeding population in Serbia cannot be excluded, which is why the final status has not been downlisted to NT category.



### Opšte rasprostranjenje

Planinska područja Balkanskog poluostrva, Skandinavije, severozapadne Afrike, Male Azije, Bliskog istoka, centralne Azije (do Himalaja i Kine), zona tundre u severnoj Aziji do Dalekog istoka i veći deo Severne Amerike (Drovetski et al., 2014). Populacije iz Evrope uglavnom su stanišne. Areal zahvata 91.300.000 km<sup>2</sup> (BirdLife International, 2017t).

### Rasprostranjenost u Srbiji

**U vreme gnežđenja:** Šumadija i zapadna Srbija – Zlatiborska (r), Raška (r) i Rasinska oblast (r); Južna i istočna Srbija – Zaječarska (r), Niška (r), Nišavska (r), Pirotska (r) i Pčinjska oblast (r); Kosovo i Metohija – Pečka (r), Prizrenska (r), Kosovsko-mitrovačka (r) i Kosovska oblast (r). Gnezdi se na deset izdvojenih planinskih masiva u Srbiji, od kojih su najznačajniji Stara planina, Suva planina, Vlasinske planine, Kopaonik, Prokletije i Šar-planina. Poslednje tri decenije bila je prisutna u manjem broju i na Rtnju, Goču (Ljukten), Studenoj planini (Kavgalija), Pešteru, Ozrenu iznad Sjenice, Paštriku i Koritniku. Donja visinska granica rasprostranjenosti je na 1.200 m n.v. (Puzović i sar., 2015).

**Van vremena gnežđenja:** Povremeno i na drugim planinskim područjima unutar oblasti u kojima se gnezdi: Golija – Jankov kamen (Vučković, 2015/2016), Devica kod Sokobanje (Puzović i Ilić, 1999) i Stolovi kod Kraljeva (Radaković, 2004). U prošlosti je tokom zime povremeno beležena i u Vojvodini (Šćiban i sar., 2015).

### Veličina i trend populacije u Srbiji

U Srbiji je redovna i malobrojna gnezdarica nekoliko planinskih masiva, čija je populacija za 1990–2002. procenjena na 550–650 parova (Puzović i sar., 2003). Za 2008–2013. populacija je procenjena na 340–470 parova (Puzović i sar., 2015). U odnosu na stanje od pre tri decenije, populacija je u opadanju i procenjena je samo na 110–160 parova. Verovatno je iščezla na mnogim planinskim vrhovima i visoravnima gde je nalažena na gnežđenju tokom 1980-ih i 1990-ih (Goč, Studena planina, Željina, Ozren, Čemernik, Vardenik i Rtanj).

### Bionomija

Planinska ili obalska ševa sa karakterističnim „ušima” na vrhu glave. Gnezda gradi na zemlji, obično ispod malih stena i busenova na kamenitim planinskim pašnjacima i rudinama. Hrani se insektima i drugim beskičmenjacima, semenjem zeljastih biljaka i njihovim izdancima. Hranu sakuplja na zemlji ili u letu. Nakon perioda reprodukcije grupiše se u mala jata (10–20 jedinki), ali jata mogu biti i brojnija, posebno na visokim planinama. Gnezdi se pojedinačno ili u malim grupama. Ima dva legla: u aprilu–maju i junu–julu. Ženka sama gradi gnezdo i leži na jajima. Oba roditelja brinu o mladuncima. Uglavnom provode zimski period na planinama gde se gnezde, ali postoje vertikalna pomeranja ka pobrđu ili ka okolnim nižim planinama, što zavisi od jačine zime.

### Staništa u Srbiji

**KATEGORIJE STANIŠTA:** Pašnjaci (2.3), prirodne travne zajednice (3.2.1), ogoljeni kamenjari i litice (3.3.2) i zemljište sa oskudnom vegetacijom (3.3.3). Isključivo planinski i visokoplaninski pašnjaci, goleti i rudine sa raskinutom vegetacijom, najčešće izložene površine na grebenima, bilima, zaravnjenim vrhovima ili

### General distribution

Mountain areas of Balkan Peninsula, Scandinavia, north-western Africa, Asia Minor, Middle East, Central Asia (to Himalayas), China), tundra zone in northern Asia to Far East and most of North America (Drovetski et al., 2014). European populations are mostly sedentary. Range is estimated at 91,300,000 km<sup>2</sup> (BirdLife International, 2017t).

### Distribution in Serbia

**Breeding period:** Šumadija and Western Serbia – Zlatibor (r), Raška (r) and Rasina districts (r); Southern and Eastern Serbia – Zaječar (r), Niš (r), Nišava (r), Pirot (r) and Pčinja districts (r); Kosovo and Metohija – Peć (r), Prizren (r), Kosovska Mitrovica (r) and Kosovo districts (r). Breeds at 10 separated mountain masses in Serbia, while the most important ones are Stara Planina, Suva Planina, Vlasinske Planine, Kopaonik, Prokletije and Šar-planina Mountains. Also present in small numbers at Rtanj, Goč (Ljukten), Studena Planina (Kavgalija), Pešter, Ozren above Sjenica, Paštrik and Vardenik mountains during the last three decades. The lowest altitude breeding is at 1,200 m a.s.l. (Puzović et al., 2015).

**Non-breeding period:** Occasionally appears in other mountainous areas within the breeding range: Golija – Jankov kamen (Vučković, 2015/2016), Devica near Sokobanja (Puzović & Ilić, 1999) and Stolovi near Kraljevo (Radaković, 2004). Occasionally recorded in winter in Vojvodina in the past (Šćiban et al., 2015).

### Population size and trend in Serbia

Regular but scarce breeding species of several mountain masses. Population size in 1990–2002 was estimated at 550–650 pairs (Puzović et al., 2003) and in 2008–2013 at 340–470 pairs (Puzović et al., 2015). Compared to three decades ago, population is now declining and estimated at just 110–160 pairs. Probably disappeared from many mountain tops and plateaus where it was recorded breeding in 1980s and 1990s (Goč, Studena Planina, Željina, Ozren, Čemernik, Vardenik and Rtanj).

### Bionomy

Mountain or coastline lark with characteristic “ear tufts” on top of the head. Nest on ground, usually under small rocks and tussocks on rocky mountain pastures and bare ground. Diet includes insects and other invertebrates, seeds and shoots of herbaceous plants. Food collected on ground or in flight. After the breeding period it forms small (10–20 individuals) or more numerous flocks, particularly on high mountains. Nests solitary or in small groups. Two broods per year: one in April–May and another in June–July. Female builds and incubate eggs alone. Both parents take care of the young. Males spend winter at mountains where breeds, but there are some seasonal movements toward the foothills or surrounding lower mountains depending on the severity of winter.

### Habitats in Serbia

**HABITAT CATEGORIES:** Pastures (2.3), natural grasslands (3.2) and bare rock (3.3.2), sparsely vegetated areas (3.3.3). Exclusively montane and high-mountain pastures, bare and sparsely vegetated areas with broken vegetation, mostly exposed areas on ridges, level plateaus or less steep mountain slopes. Prefers proximity



blažim planinskim padinama. Rado se zadržava uz snežne hrpe, uz osuljine, sipare i druge erodirane površine na pašnjacima, sa podlokanim busenovima zeljastih biljaka i sitno izlomljenim nestabilizovanim kamenjem.

#### Faktori ugrožavanja u Srbiji

- Obrastanje planinskih i visokoplaninskih pašnjaka i goleti grmljem, drvećem i visokom travnom vegetacijom (7.3), usled zamiranja tradicionalnog stočarstva
- Pošumljavanje goleti na vrhovima planina (2.2.1)
- Gradnja rekreativno-turističke infrastrukture vezane za ski-centre (npr. Kopaonik: Neveske stolice; Šar-planina: Piribeg; Stara planina: Babin zub) (1.3), kao i gradnja releja i pristupne infrastrukture (npr. Besna Kobila; Kopaonik: Gobelja) (1.1)
- Uznemiravanje intenziviranjem planinskog turizma, trasiranjem planinarskih staza (6.1)
- Klimatske promene dovode do pomeranja visinskih zona vegetacije (11.1)

#### Mere zaštite

**Pasivna zaštita:** Strogo zaštićena vrsta.

**Aktivna zaštita:** Više od 60% populacije središnje Srbije nalazi se unutar dva zaštićena područja (PP „Stara planina” i SRP „Suva planina”), osim toga, manji broj parova unutar zaštićenih područja postoji u PIO „Peštersko polje” i PIO „Ozren-Jadovnik”. Na Kosovu i Metohiji veći deo populacije nalazi se unutar NP „Šar-planina” (sa predloženim proširenjem) i na području predložene NP „Prokletije”. Na Kopaoniku sva poznata staništa nalaze se van granica NP, osim na lokalitetu Kukavica. Znatan deo područja sa nalazima ove vrste je unutar mreže IBA, ekološke mreže i mreže *Emerald*. U zimskom periodu mesta koncentracije jedinki često su van zaštićenih područja.

#### Specifične mere koje treba preduzeti

- Očuvanje povoljnih gnezdećih staništa kroz proširivanje zaštićenih područja i mreže IBA (1.1, 1.2)
- Sprečavanje promena namene prostora, gradnje objekata i infrastrukture za telekomunikacije i ski-centre na vrhovima planina (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 5.2, 5.4.2)
- Ograničavanje aktivnosti na planinarskim stazama u zoni značajnih gnezdilišta tokom nereproduktivnog perioda ili strogo korišćenje markiranih staza (2.1, 5.2, 5.4.2)
- Zabrana pošumljavanja planinskih pašnjaka i goleti na lokacijama gde se vrsta gnezdi (2.1, 5.2)
- Podsticanje tradicionalnog stočarstva (2.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3)
- Uklanjanje drveća i grmlja sa pašnjaka i goleti na nekadašnjim mestima gnežđenja (2.1, 2.3)

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snow heaps, near loose and broken ground and other eroded areas on pastures, with undercut tussocks of herbaceous plants and finely crushed destabilized rocks.

#### Threats in Serbia

- Overgrowth of montane and high-mountain pastures and bare ground with bushes, trees and tall grass vegetation (7.3) due to disappearance of traditional forms of livestock herding
- Afforestation of bare ground on mountain tops (2.2.1)
- Construction of tourist and recreational infrastructure connected with ski-centres (e.g. Kopaonik: Neveske stolice; Šar-planina: Piribeg; Stara Planina: Babin Zub) (1.3), as well as construction of relays and road infrastructure (e.g. Besna Kobila; Kopaonik: Gobelja) (1.1)
- Disturbance by intensification of mountain tourism, including marking of new hiking trails (6.1)
- Climate change leading to altitudinal shifts in vegetation belts (11.1)

#### Conservation measures

**Legal protection:** Strictly protected species.

**Conservation actions:** More than 60% of population of central Serbia is found within two protected areas (PP “Stara planina” and SRP “Suva planina”), while smaller numbers of pairs also exist within the protected areas of PIO “Peštersko polje” and PIO “Ozren-Jadovnik”. Most of the population at Kosovo and Metohija is found within NP “Šar-planina” (which is proposed for enlargement) and the proposed NP “Prokletije”. All known habitats at Kopaonik are found outside the boundaries of NP, except for the locality Kukavica. Much of the area where this species was recorded is included in IBA, ecological and Emerald networks. . During the winter period, sites with the highest concentration of individuals are often found outside of protected areas.

#### Proposed conservation measures

- Conservation of suitable breeding habitats through enlargement of protected areas and IBA networks (1.1, 1.2)
- Prevention of changes in land use, construction of ski-tourism and telecommunications infrastructure and objects at the mountain tops (1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 5.2, 5.4.2)
- Limiting the activities at hiking trails at breeding sites to the non-reproductive period or strict use of marked trails (2.1, 5.2, 5.4.2)
- Ban on afforestation of mountain pastures and bare ground at breeding sites (2.1, 5.2)
- Supporting traditional livestock husbandry (2.1, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3)
- Logging of trees and removal of bushes from pastures and bare ground at former breeding sites (2.1, 2.3)

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