

Columba bollii -- Godman, 1872

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- COLUMBIFORMES -- COLUMBIDAE

Common names: Dark-tailed Laurel-pigeon; Bolle's Laurel Pigeon; Bolle's Pigeon

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Year published: | 2015 |
| Date assessed: | 2015-03-31 |
| Assessor(s): | BirdLife International |
| Reviewer(s): | Symes, A. |
| Compiler(s): | Ashpole, J., Burfield, I., Ieronymidou, C., Pople, R., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L. |

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

At both European and EU27 scales, although this species may have a small range it is not believed to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the range size criterion (Extent of Occurrence 10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). The population trend is not known, but the population is not believed to be decreasing sufficiently rapidly to approach the thresholds under the population trend criterion (30% decline over ten years or three generations).

For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern within both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Spain; Canary Is. (to ES)

Population

The European population is estimated at 2,500-10,000 mature individuals, which equates to 2,500-10,000 mature individuals. The entire population is found in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Trend

In Europe and the EU27 the population size trend is unknown. For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

The species typically inhabits areas of closed-canopy laurel forest (containing Lauraceae, Ericaceae and Rosaceae species, with *Laurus azorica* and *Ocotea foetens* particularly dominant) preferring ravines and passes (Tucker and Heath 1994, Baptista et al. 2013). It also uses heath vegetation consisting of *Myrica faya* and *Erica arborea*. It is sometimes found in open, degraded habitats including cultivated areas (Tucker and Heath 1994). It is typically present in the uplands.

It breeds between January and September with a peak in February-May. It lays one egg and may have two to three broods. The nest is made of sticks and is typically placed in the most abundant tree species: *E. arborea*, *L. azorica*, *Ilex canariensis* and *M. faya*. It feeds mainly on fruit but also takes grain, buds, leaves, shoots and invertebrates. It will feed on cabbages and other crops when berries are limited. The species is sedentary but moves to lower altitudes in late summer for feeding (Baptista et al. 2013).

| Habitats & Altitude | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Habitat (level 1 - level 2) | Importance | Occurrence |
| Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land | suitable | non-breeding |

| Habitats & Altitude | | | |
|---|------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| Habitat (level 1 - level 2) | | Importance | Occurrence |
| Caves and Subterranean Habitats (non-aquatic) - Caves | | suitable | resident |
| Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland | | major | resident |
| Altitude | 600-1500 m | Occasional altitudinal limits | |

Threats

Historical declines resulted from intensive exploitation of laurel forests. The extent of forest loss has slowed, although fragmentation has continued in some areas as forests are exploited for poles and tool handles. A small amount of illegal hunting occurs at drinking sites. As it is a tree-nesting species, predation by introduced mammals including rats is of less significance than for *C. junoniae* but it remains a potential threat, the impact of which has not been fully assessed (Hernández et al. 1999). Grazing pressure from sheep is leading to habitat degradation on La Gomera and at El Hierro. Forest fires also pose a moderate threat to its habitat (BirdLife International 2010). Recreational activities cause some disturbance in the breeding season. The species is potentially threatened by outbreaks of Newcastle Disease and Tuberculosis (BirdLife International 2010).

| Threats & Impacts | | | | | |
|--|--|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Threat (level 1) | Threat (level 2) | Impact and Stresses | | | |
| Agriculture & aquaculture | Livestock farming & ranching (scale unknown/unrecorded) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Minority (<50%) | Negligible declines | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Ecosystem degradation | | | |
| Biological resource use | Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals (intentional use - species is the target) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Minority (<50%) | Negligible declines | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Species mortality | | | |
| Biological resource use | Logging & wood harvesting (unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Minority (<50%) | Negligible declines | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Ecosystem degradation | | | |
| Human intrusions & disturbance | Recreational activities | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Negligible declines | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Species disturbance | | | |
| Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases | Black Rat (<i>Rattus rattus</i>) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Negligible declines | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Reduced reproductive success | | | |
| Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases | Mycobacterium avium | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Future | Majority (50-90%) | Causing/Could cause fluctuations | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Species mortality | | | |
| Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases | Newcastle Disease Virus (NDV) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Future | Majority (50-90%) | Causing/Could cause fluctuations | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Species mortality | | | |
| Natural system modifications | Fire & fire suppression (trend unknown/unrecorded) | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact |
| | | Ongoing | Minority (<50%) | Causing/Could cause fluctuations | Low Impact |
| | | Stresses | | | |
| | | Ecosystem degradation | | | |

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

EU birds Directive Annex I. Bern Convention Appendix II. A European action plan was published in 1996 and reviewed in 2010. The majority of areas inhabited by this species are now protected under regional or national law (BirdLife International 2010). Hunting has only been a residual threat since hunting-free zones (coinciding with reserves) were implemented. The restoration of pine forest and thermophile forest is still pending full implementation. As part of a LIFE project (2005-2008), work has been carried out to eradicate exotic plant species, plant native species, raise public awareness and increase knowledge of the survival of different native species present in thermophilous forests. Tenerife has undertaken a major effort in eradicating Monterey pine and replanting with native species. Also in Tenerife, Canarian pine tree plantations are partly cleared (thinned) which makes them more suitable for the species. Some islands have rat control plans in place (BirdLife International 2010).

Conservation Actions Proposed

Continue to monitor the population and potential threats. Protect remaining areas of laurel forest. Establish an invasive species control plan. Implement awareness-raising campaigns.

Bibliography

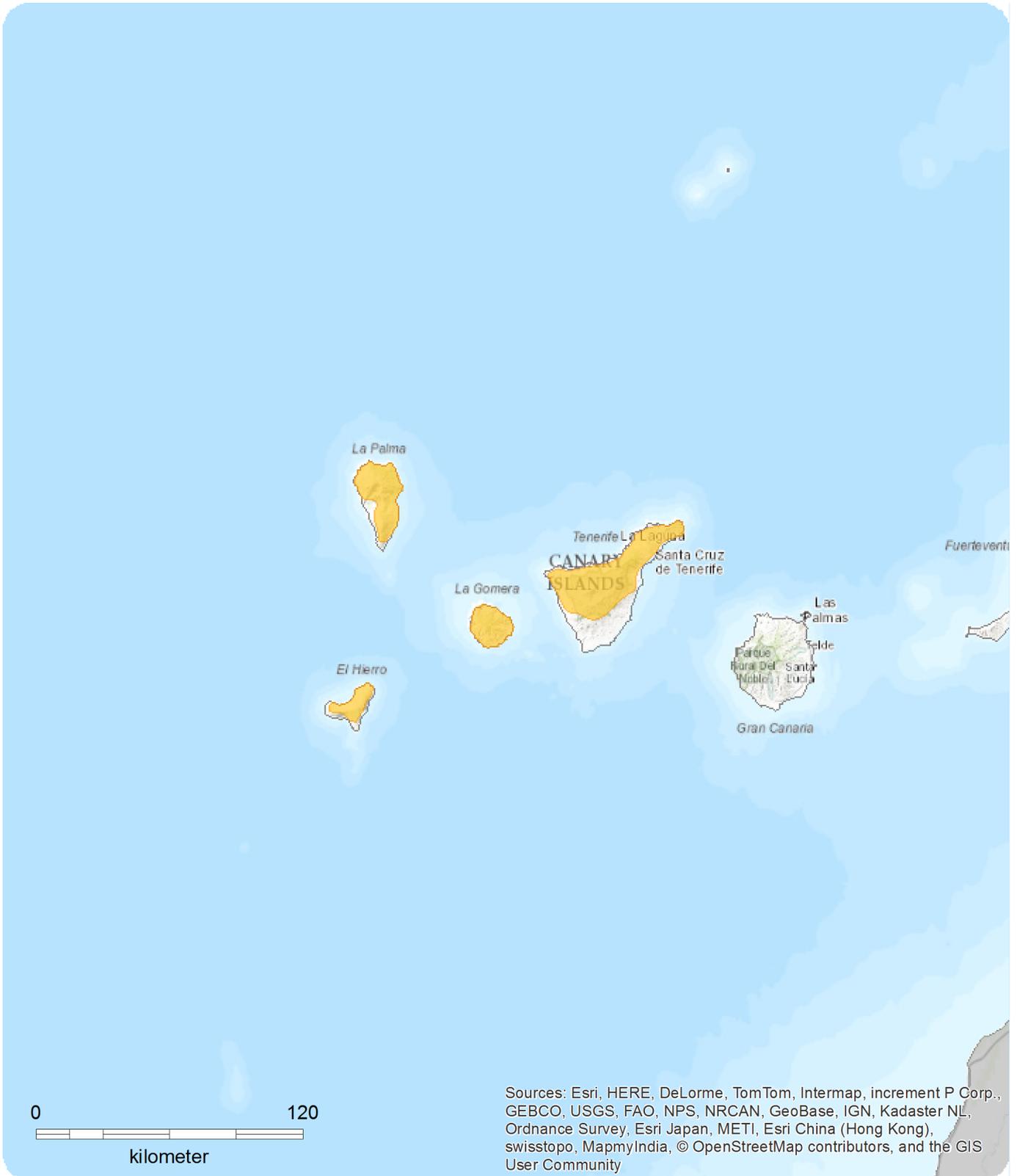
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Map (see overleaf)

European Regional Assessment



Columba bollii

Range

■ Extant (resident)

Citation:
BirdLife International (2015)
European Red List of Birds



Map created 05/13/2015



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.