Vanellus leucurus -- (Lichtenstein, 1823)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- CHARADRIIFORMES -- CHARADRIIDAE

Common names: White-tailed Lapwing; Vanneau à queue blanche; White-tailed Plover

European Red List Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>European Red List Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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., Van den Bossche, W., Wheatley, H. & Wright, L. |

Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)
EU27 regional assessment: Not Applicable (NA)

This species has a very large range, and hence does not 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 appears to be increasing, and hence the species does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion (30% decline over ten years or three generations). For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern in Europe.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:
Armenia; Azerbaijan; Russian Federation; Turkey

Vagrant:
Austria; Bulgaria; Cyprus; Denmark; Finland; France; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Italy; Malta; Netherlands; Poland; Romania; Spain; Sweden; United Kingdom

Population

The European population is estimated at 560-5,100 pairs, which equates to 1,100-10,200 mature individuals. The species does not occur in the EU27. For details of national estimates, see Supplementary PDF.

Trend

In Europe the population size is estimated to be increasing. For details of national estimates, see Supplementary PDF.

Habitats and Ecology

This species is fully migratory (Wiersma 1996). Migratory populations breed in Russia between mid-April to May and depart on a broad front for winter quarters in north-east Africa, the Middle East, Pakistan and northern India (Hayman et al. 1986) between mid-July and September (Wiersma 1996), although individuals occasionally winter in Russia, returning to breeding grounds during March and April (Hayman, et al. 1986). This species often breeds in loose colonies of between 4 and 24 pairs (Hayman et al. 1986, Wiersma 1996). Outside of the breeding season this species occurs singly, in pairs or small groups (Urban et al. 1986), with small migratory flocks of between 1-6 individuals and wintering flocks of 6-25 individuals (del Hoyo, et al. 1996). This species is diurnal (Wiersma 1996). The species shows a preference for habitats in the vicinity of shallow standing or slow-flowing water with suitable smooth beds permitting unhampered walking and wading (Cramp and Simmons 1983, Wiersma 1996). In Russia this species breeds in damp, vegetated areas near salt or fresh water, and on small vegetated islets or swampy shores of brackish lakes (Cramp and Simmons 1983, Wiersma 1996). During the winter this species prefers rivers, drainage ditches, ponds, coastal lagoons, marshes (Cramp and Simmons 1983, Urban, et al. 1986) and flooded or recently dried out grassland (Cramp and Simmons 1983). It also occurs on salt-shrub terrain with low, sparse vegetation, on shallow
seepage pools by canals and reservoirs, and on irrigated rice fields (Cramp and Simmons 1983). During this season the species also occurs on dry ground near water such as river banks and lake shores (Urban et al. 1986, Wiersma 1996), but avoids dry, open country (Urban et al. 1986). The species is omnivorous, its diet consisting mainly of insects (especially beetles, grasshoppers, caterpillars, fly larvae (Wiersma 1996) and locusts (Johnsgard 1981)), but also worms, molluscs and crustaceans (including freshwater shrimps). The nests of this species are shallow scrapes in the open, usually near water (Wiersma 1996). Few observations of nesting sites are available, but one was found on an irrigated but uncultivated field covered with grass, another was observed on a dry ridge near a marsh (Johnsgard 1981).

### Habitats & Altitude

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat (level 1 - level 2)</th>
<th>Importance</th>
<th>Occurrence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Aquatic - Canals and Drainage Channels, Ditches</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Aquatic - Ponds (below ha)</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Aquatic - Wastewater Treatment Areas</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artificial/Aquatic - Wastewater Treatment Areas</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Coastal Brackish/Saline Lagoons/Marine Lakes</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Coastal Freshwater Lakes</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under ha)</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under ha)</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)</td>
<td>suitable</td>
<td>non-breeding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altitude</td>
<td></td>
<td>Occasional altitudinal limits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Threats

The size of the European population could render it susceptible to the risks affecting small populations; however it is adjacent to a much larger non-European population (Birdlife International 2004). **Conservation**

### Conservation Actions Underway

The species is not listed on priority lists of the Conventions.

### Conservation Actions Proposed

No conservation measures are thought to be currently needed for this species.

### Bibliography


Vanellus leucurus

Range

- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (resident)

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