Cyanopica cyanus -- (Pallas, 1776)

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- CORVIDAE

Common names: Azure-winged Magpie;

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 the range size has not been quantified, but it is not believed to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population size criterion (10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). The population size is extremely large, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population size criterion (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 within both Europe and the EU27.

Occurrence

Countries/Territories of Occurrence

Native:

Portugal; Spain

Population

The European population is estimated at 2,670,000-4,460,000 pairs, which equates to 5,330,000-8,920,000 mature individuals. The entire population is found 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

In Europe this species frequents open woodland and evergreen stands of both cork oak (Quercus suber) and holm oak (Quercus rotundifolia), as well as pine-oak stands. At the edge of its distribution it also breeds in deciduous open woods of Pyrenean oak (Quercus pyrenaica) and in Mediterranean almond (Prunus dulcis) and olive (Olea europaea) groves (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997).

It nests in loose colonies (Madge and Burn 1993) and egg-laying occurs from May to June. The nest is a mass of twigs and rootlets, often domed by naturally amassed twigs. The deep cup is lined with soft plant material, particularly animal fur and it is placed inside the outer foliage of a long branch and rarely more than two metres above the ground, sometimes at ground level itself. It is omnivorous and takes a wide variety of food items, especially insects and their larvae, and quite a number of fruits and nuts (Madge 2009). The species does not undertake migration but shows complex post-breeding dispersal movements (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997).

Habitats & Altitude

Habitat (level 1 - level 2)		Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land		suitable	resident
Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens		suitable	resident
Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas		suitable	resident
Forest - Temperate		major	resident
Altitude	max. 700 m	Occasional altitudinal limits	

Threats

This species suffers from the destruction of extensive stands of holm oaks (Madge 2009) as well as variable and inappropriate management in this habitat (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997). Competition with increasing numbers of Pica pica may have caused local decreases (Madge 2009).

Threats & Impacts

Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Wood & pulp plantations (scale unknown/ unrecorded)	**Timing**	**Scope**	**Severity**	**Impact**
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Negligible declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases	Black-billed Magpie (Pica pica)	**Timing**	**Scope**	**Severity**	**Impact**
		Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Unknown	Unknown
		Stresses			
		Competition			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

Bern Convention Appendix II. There are currently no known specific conservation measures for this species.

Conservation Actions Proposed

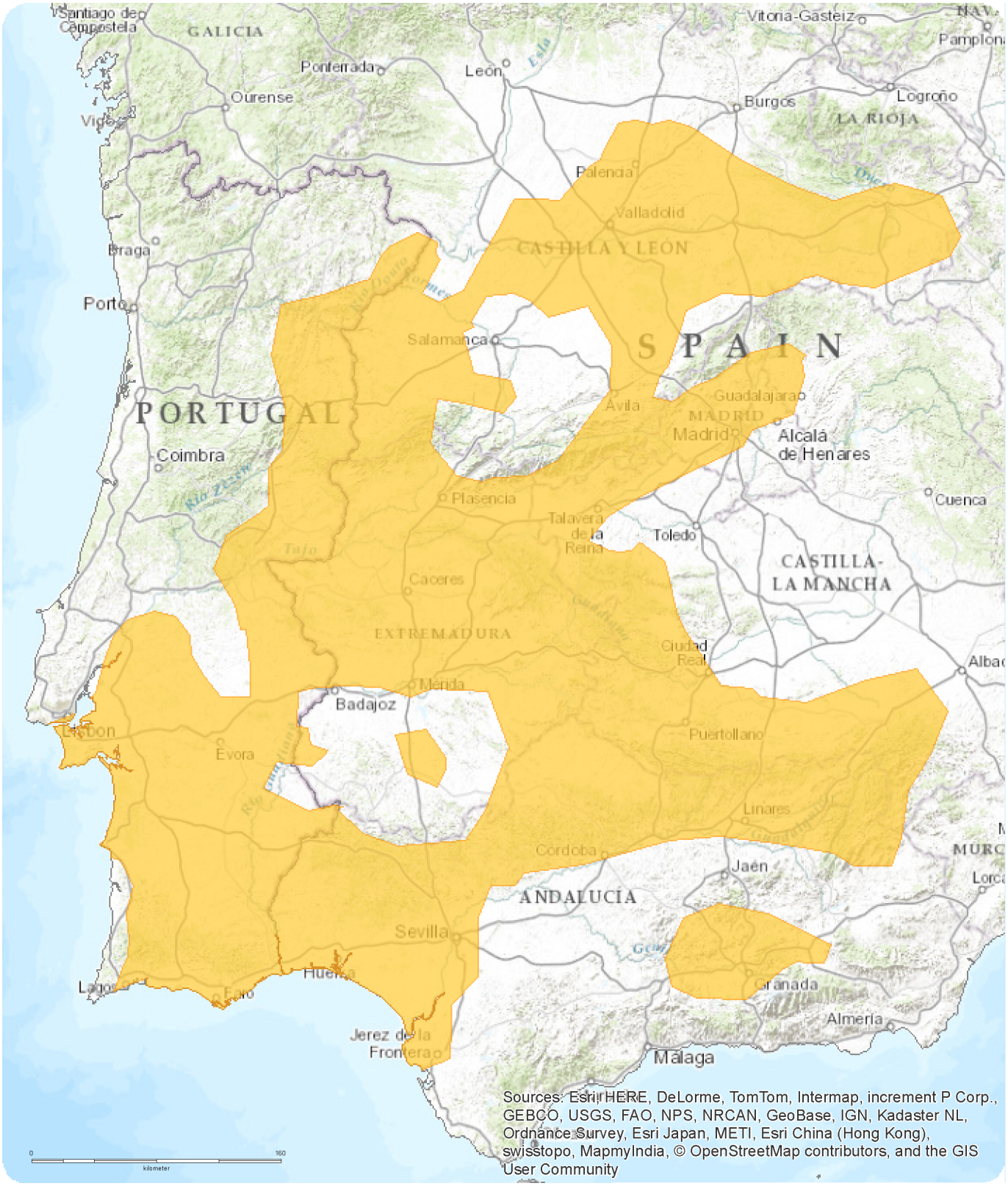
No conservation measures are currently needed for this species.

Bibliography

Hagemeijer, W.J.M. and Blair, M.J. 1997. *The EBCC Atlas of European Breeding Birds: Their Distribution and Abundance.* T & A D Poyser, London.

Madge, S. 2009. Asian Azure-winged Magpie (*Cyanopica cyanus*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. and de Juana, E. (eds.). 2014. *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive.* Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from http://www.hbw.com/node/60742 on 9 March 2015).

Map (see overleaf)



Cyanopica cyanus

NE | DD | LC LEAST CONCERN | NT | VU | EN | CR | EW | EX

Range

Extant (resident)

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

Map created 05/12/2015

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