

Hippolais opaca -- Cabanis, 1850

ANIMALIA -- CHORDATA -- AVES -- PASSERIFORMES -- SYLVIIDAE

Common names: Western Olivaceous Warbler;

European Red List Assessment

European Red List Status

LC -- Least Concern, (IUCN version 3.1)

Assessment Information

Year published:	2015
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Assessment Rationale

European regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

EU27 regional assessment: Least Concern (LC)

At both European and EU27 scales 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). Despite the fact that the population trend appears to be decreasing, the decline is not believed to be sufficiently rapid to 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:

Spain

Population

The European population is estimated at 5,200 pairs, which equates to 10,400 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 is estimated to be decreasing by less than 25% in 12 years (three generations). For details of national estimates, see [Supplementary PDF](#).

Habitats and Ecology

This species favours trees and tall bushes in many different habitats: dense gardens, parks, riverine forest, dense tall bushes or trees at lakesides, orchards and plantations, maquis, and similar. It requires open areas or patchy, broken-up woods with glades and much undergrowth but does not enter closed forest. Breeding occurs from late April to June and it lays three to four eggs. The nest is a strong cup of plant stems and soft twigs placed in the fork of a branch, often at one to four metres above ground. It feeds mainly on insects and spider but will also take fruit in the late summer. The species is migratory, wintering in west Africa (Svensson and Christie 2013).

Habitats & Altitude		
Habitat (level 1 - level 2)	Importance	Occurrence
Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	suitable	breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	suitable	breeding
Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	suitable	breeding
Forest - Temperate	suitable	breeding
Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	suitable	breeding
Altitude	max. 2000 m	Occasional altitudinal limits

The species is mainly threatened by habitat loss and degradation. It suffers from: the elimination of gallery forests, inadequate reforestation and intensive commercial forestry; the intensification of agriculture with changes in crop species, irrigation and crop species; modification and destruction of water courses; industrial and urban development; and finally fires (Madroño *et al.* 2004).

Threats & Impacts					
Threat (level 1)	Threat (level 2)	Impact and Stresses			
		Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry farming	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Agro-industry plantations	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Agriculture & aquaculture	Shifting agriculture	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Biological resource use	Logging & wood harvesting (unintentional effects: (large scale) [harvest])	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Natural system modifications	Abstraction of surface water (agricultural use)	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Residential & commercial development	Commercial & industrial areas	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			
Residential & commercial development	Housing & urban areas	Ongoing	Minority (<50%)	Slow, Significant Declines	Low Impact
		Stresses			
		Ecosystem conversion; Ecosystem degradation			

Conservation

Conservation Actions Underway

CMS Appendix II. Bern Convention Appendix II. There are currently no known conservation measures for this specifically for this species, however it is likely to benefit from protected areas (Madroño *et al.* 2004).

Conservation Actions Proposed

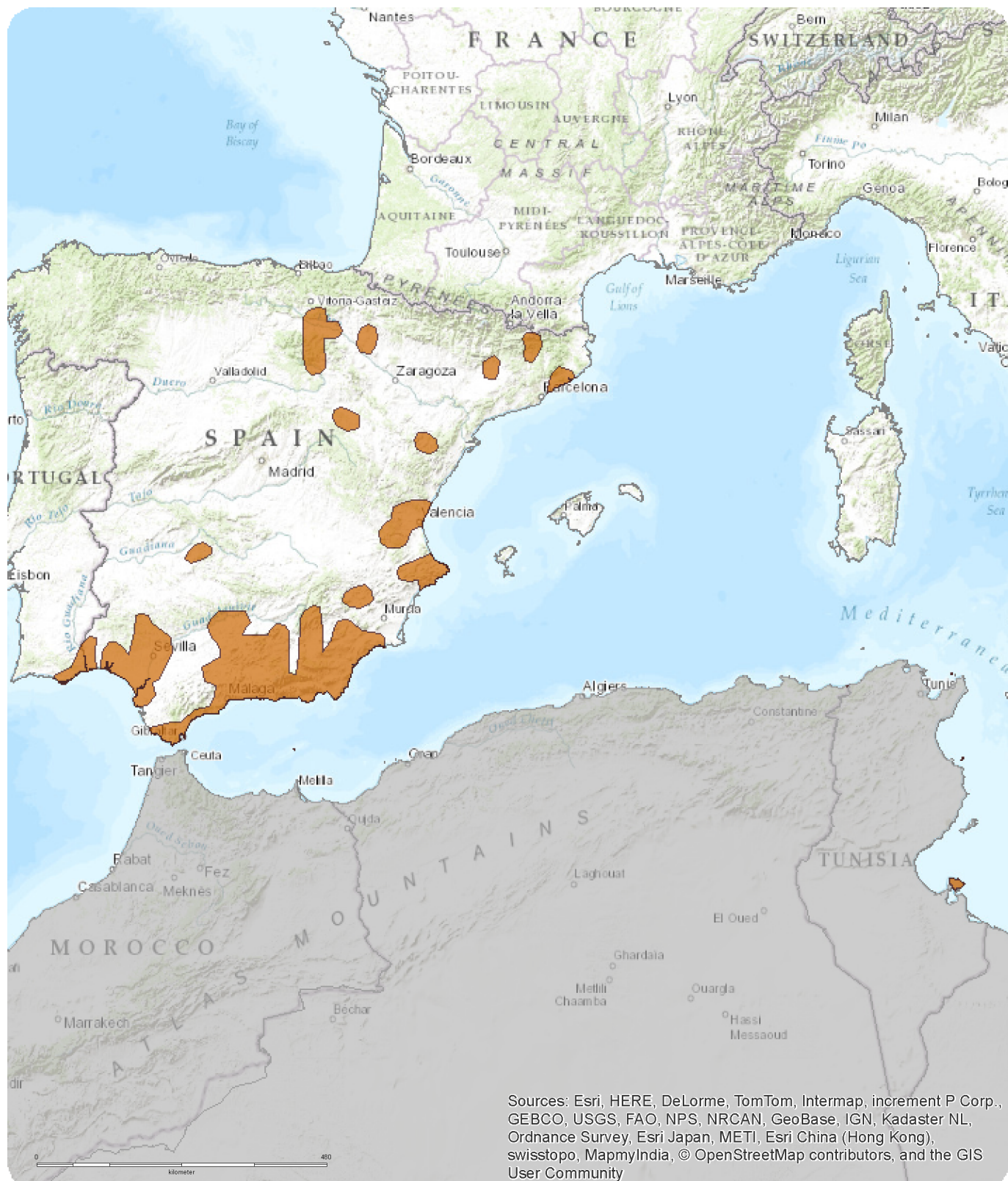
Conservation and habitat protection are needed in order to maintain an adequate network of favorable sites. The generic protection tarajales (*Tamarix*) near water bodies would be advisable, given their importance to this and other species. Further research should be undertaken on habitat selection in order to assist in identifying priority sites for protection and to guide management practices. A detailed survey of the population and the severity of threats is also needed (Madroño *et al.* 2004).

Bibliography

Madroño, A., González, C. & Atienza, J.C., eds. (2004) Libro Rojo de las aves de España [Red Book of the birds of Spain]. Madrid, Spain: Dirección General para la Biodiversidad and SEO/BirdLife

Svensson, L. & Christie, D.A. (2013). Isabelline Warbler (*Hippolais opaca*). In: del Hoyo, J., Elliott, A., Sargatal, J., Christie, D.A. & de Juana, E. (eds.) (2013). Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/58831> on 26 March 2015).

European Regional Assessment



Hippolais opaca

Range

Extant (breeding)

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

NE
DD
LC
NT
VU
EN
CR
EW
EX

LC > LEAST CONCERN

Map created 05/12/2015



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