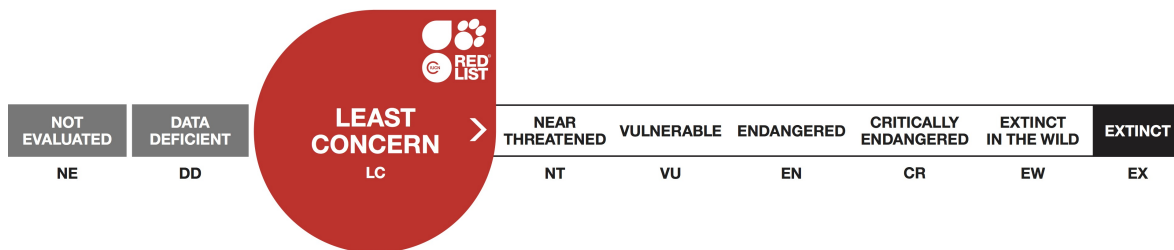


Oenanthe leucura, Black Wheatear

Assessment by: BirdLife International



View on www.iucnredlist.org

Citation: BirdLife International. 2018. *Oenanthe leucura*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018: e.T22710259A132085979. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2018-2.RLTS.T22710259A132085979.en>

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Aves	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae

Taxon Name: *Oenanthe leucura* (Gmelin, 1789)

Regional Assessments:

- Europe

Common Name(s):

- English: Black Wheatear
- French: Traquet rieur

Taxonomic Source(s):

Cramp, S. and Simmons, K.E.L. (eds). 1977-1994. *Handbook of the birds of Europe, the Middle East and Africa. The birds of the western Palearctic*. Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2018

Date Assessed: August 9, 2018

Justification:

This species has an extremely large range, and hence does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the range size criterion (extent of occurrence <20,000 km² combined with a declining or fluctuating range size, habitat extent/quality, or population size and a small number of locations or severe fragmentation). The population trend appears to be decreasing, however the species is not thought to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion (>30% decline over ten years or three generations). The population size may be moderately small to large, but it is not believed to approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population size criterion (<10,000 mature individuals with a continuing decline estimated to be >10% in ten years or three generations, or with a specified population structure). For these reasons the species is evaluated as Least Concern.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2017 – Least Concern (LC)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2017-3.RLTS.T22710259A118643297.en>

2016 – Least Concern (LC)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22710259A89594920.en>

2012 – Least Concern (LC)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2012-1.RLTS.T22710259A39766106.en>

2009 – Least Concern (LC)

2008 – Least Concern (LC)

2004 – Least Concern (LC)

2000 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

1994 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

1988 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

Geographic Range

Country Occurrence:

Native: Algeria; Libya; Morocco; Portugal; Spain; Tunisia; Western Sahara

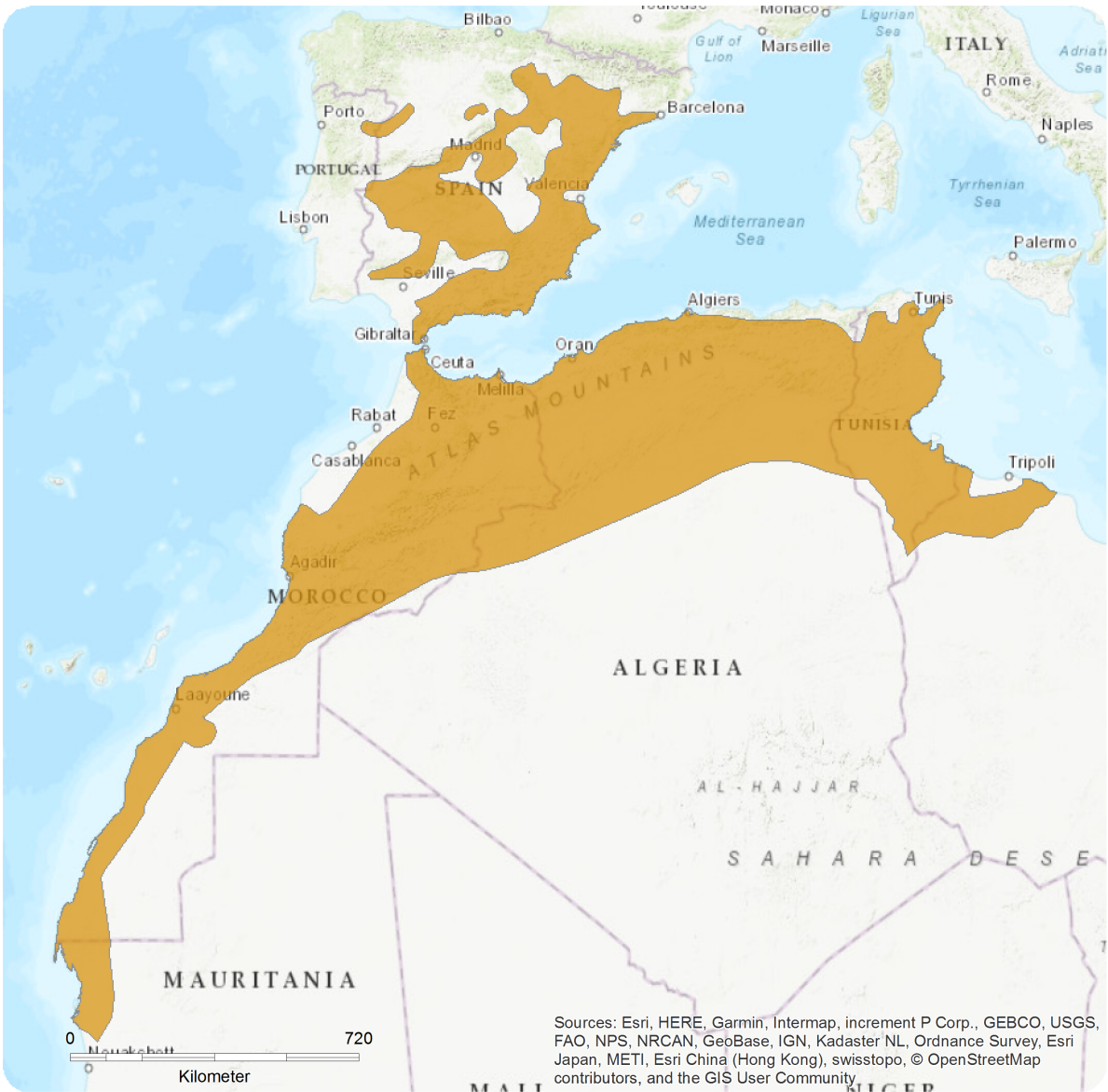
Possibly extinct: France

Regionally extinct: Gibraltar

Vagrant: Bulgaria; Greece; Israel; Italy; Liechtenstein; Malta; Mauritania; Montenegro; Norway; Serbia

Distribution Map

Oenanthe leucura

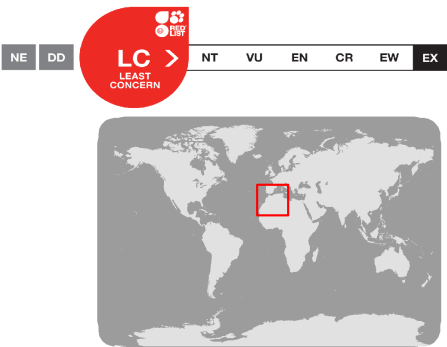


Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

BirdLife International and Handbook of the Birds of the World (2018)



Population

In Europe, the breeding population is estimated to number 6,500-6,900 pairs, which equates to 13,100-13,900 mature individuals (BirdLife International 2015). Europe forms c.20% of the global range, so a very preliminary estimate of the global population size is 65,500-69,500 mature individuals, although further validation of this estimate is needed.

Trend Justification

In Europe the population size is estimated to be decreasing by 30-49% in 12.3 years (three generations) (BirdLife International 2015). The rest of the global population is suspected to be stable in the absence of evidence for any declines or substantial threats.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species inhabits steep rocky arid landscapes with rock walls, scattered boulders, bare ground and sparse scrub, avoiding flat terrain. It inhabits gorges, ravines, steep-sided wadis, hillsides, scree, scarp, outcrops, sea cliffs, ancient hilltop settlements, ruins and old deserted houses, in wooded, semi-wooded, semi-desert and bare areas. It breeds from January to June in north-west Africa. In Spain nest-building begins mid-February and in the Pyrenees from mid-April. The nest is a bulky cup of grass and rootlets, lined with hair and feathers and sited under a rock or tussock, or up in hole in rock, wadi bank or wall. Clutches are three to five eggs. It feeds on invertebrates, small lizards and plant matter. The species is largely or strictly sedentary, but movements are variable and may be complex (Collar 2016).

Systems: Terrestrial, Marine

Threats

Declines in Iberia have been attributed to severe winters and afforestation as well as the disappearance of derelict buildings and man-made caves (Collar 2016). Nests in man-made structures are safer from predators, which may also be a threat (Tucker and Heath 1994).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Conservation Actions Underway

CMS Appendix II. Bern Convention Appendix II. EU Birds Directive Annex I. There are currently no known conservation measures for this species within its European range.

Conservation Actions Proposed

Suitable habitat such as arid stony plateaus, canyons and gullies should be protected from afforestation. In addition in Europe abandoned buildings and man-made caves should be preserved (Tucker and Heath 1994).

Credits

Assessor(s): BirdLife International

Reviewer(s): Wheatley, H.

Contributor(s): Smart, M.

**Facilitators(s) and
Compiler(s):** Butchart, S., Ekstrom, J., Symes, A.

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Tucker, G.M.; Heath, M.F. 1994. *Birds in Europe: Their Conservation Status*. BirdLife International, Cambridge, U.K.

Citation

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	Resident	Suitable	No
3. Shrubland -> 3.8. Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	Resident	Suitable	No
0. Root -> 6. Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	Resident	Suitable	Yes
13. Marine Coastal/Supratidal -> 13.1. Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Sea Cliffs and Rocky Offshore Islands	Resident	Suitable	No

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range
Occur in at least one PA: Yes
Invasive species control or prevention: No
In-Place Species Management
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-Place Education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: Yes
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown

Distribution
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 3970000
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
Population
Number of mature individuals: 60000-69999
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations: No
Population severely fragmented: No
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No
All individuals in one subpopulation: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown
Generation Length (years): 4.1
Movement patterns: Not a Migrant

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