Luscinia luscinia, Thrush Nightingale

Assessment by: BirdLife International


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Taxonomy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Chordata</td>
<td>Aves</td>
<td>Passeriformes</td>
<td>Muscicapidae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxon Name:** *Luscinia luscinia* (Linnaeus, 1758)

**Regional Assessments:**
- Europe

**Common Name(s):**
- English: Thrush Nightingale, Thrush-Nightingale
- French: Rossignol progné

**Taxonomic Source(s):**

**Assessment Information**

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern ver 3.1

**Year Published:** 2016

**Date Assessed:** October 1, 2016

**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 stable, and hence the species does not approach the thresholds for Vulnerable under the population trend criterion (>30% decline over ten years or three generations). The population size is extremely large, and hence does not 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**
- 2012 – Least Concern (LC)
- 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: Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahrain; Belarus; Botswana; Bulgaria; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Cyprus; Czech Republic; Denmark; Egypt; Eritrea; Estonia; Ethiopia; Finland; Germany; Greece; Hungary; Iran, Islamic Republic of; Iraq; Israel; Italy; Jordan; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Kuwait; Latvia; Lebanon; Lithuania; Malawi; Moldova; Montenegro; Mozambique; Namibia; Netherlands; Norway; Palestinian Territory, Occupied; Poland; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia (Serbia); Slovakia; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Sudan; Sweden; Syrian Arab Republic; Tanzania, United Republic of; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; Uzbekistan; Yemen; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Vagrant: Afghanistan; Belgium; France; Ireland; Kyrgyzstan; Libya; Malta; Nigeria; Oman; Spain; Switzerland; United Kingdom
Population
In Europe, the breeding population is estimated to number 3,780,000-6,360,000 pairs, which equates to 7,550,000-12,700,000 mature individuals (BirdLife International 2015). Europe forms c.60% of the global range, so a very preliminary estimate of the global population size is 12,600,000-21,200,000 mature individuals, although further validation of this estimate is needed.

Trend Justification
In Europe the overall trend from 1980-2013 was stable (EBCC 2015).
Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)
This species occupies lowland river valleys with deciduous and mixed woodland bordering waterbodies, beech (Fagus) and hornbeam (Carpinus) forest, small woodlots of young deciduous trees, dense thickets in forest edges, regenerating forest on clear-cut land, wet willow (Salix) thickets, alder (Alnus) carrs, lowland orchards, river gorges, urban scrub, parks and cemeteries. It requires deep soft humus with some leaf litter, tall, dense, patchy herbage, and thickets of brambles, bushes, shrubs and low trees typically along riverbanks, near standing water or in damp depressions. In African wintering range it uses damp rank vegetation, overgrown streamsides, thick hedges of Euphorbia and Lantana, woodland undergrowth and thickets at 500-1,500 m. Breeding occurs from mid-May to early July. The nest is a loose bulky cup of leaves and grass, lined with fine stems and hair, placed on ground in sheltered position among dead branches, roots or thick leaf litter. Clutches are four or five eggs. The diet is mainly invertebrates with some fruit. The species is migratory, wintering in Africa (Collar 2015).

Systems: Terrestrial, Freshwater

Threats
Population fluctuations appear to correlate with changes in habitat composition and climate amelioration. During the 1900s, numbers fell with the decline of slash-and-burn cultivation which produced its preferred young deciduous woodlands (Hagemeijer and Blair 1997).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)
Conservation Actions Underway
Bern Convention Appendix II. There are currently no known conservation measures for this species within Europe.

Conservation Actions Proposed
No conservation measures are currently needed for this species within Europe.

Credits
Assessor(s): BirdLife International
Reviewer(s): Butchart, S. & Symes, A.
Bibliography


Citation


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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information, please see the Red List website](http://www.iucnredlist.org).
Appendix

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Suitability</th>
<th>Major Importance?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Forest -&gt; 1.4. Forest - Temperate</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Forest -&gt; 1.7. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Mangrove Vegetation Above High Tide Level</td>
<td>Passage</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Shrubland -&gt; 3.4. Shrubland - Temperate</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Shrubland -&gt; 3.6. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Moist</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Grassland -&gt; 4.4. Grassland - Temperate</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Wetlands (inland) -&gt; 5.1. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Wetlands (inland) -&gt; 5.1. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.5. Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Artificial/Terrestrial -&gt; 14.5. Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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: Yes | |
| In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management | |
### Conservation Actions in Place

- 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 beningly: 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
- Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
- Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km²): 2050000
- 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
- Upper elevation limit (m): 2200

#### Population

- Number of mature individuals: 12000000-21999999
- 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

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22709691A87882842.en
**Habitats and Ecology**

Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Unknown

Generation Length (years): 4.2

Movement patterns: Full Migrant
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