**Phoenicoparrus andinus**, Andean Flamingo

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>Phoenicopteriformes</td>
<td>Phoenicopteridae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxon Name:** Phoenicoparrus andinus Philippi, 1854

**Synonym(s):**
- Phoenicopterus andinus ssp. andinus Philippi, 1854 — Collar et al. (1994)
- Phoenicopterus andinus ssp. andinus Philippi, 1854 — Sibley and Monroe (1990, 1993)

**Common Name(s):**
- English: Andean Flamingo
- Spanish: Flamenco Andino, Parina Grande

**Taxonomic Source(s):**

**Identification Information:**
102-110 cm. Large flamingo. Pale pink body with brighter upperparts, deep vinaceous-pink lower neck, breast and wing-coverts. Large, black, triangular patch of primaries visible when perched. Pale yellow and black bill. Yellow legs. Immature greyish with bold streaks in the upperparts. **Similar spp.** Other flamingos differ in size, leg colour and tertial colour. **Voice** Nasal, raspy calls in colonies.

**Assessment Information**

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Vulnerable A2acd+4acd ver 3.1

**Year Published:** 2016

**Date Assessed:** October 1, 2016

**Justification:**
This species is listed as Vulnerable because it has undergone a rapid population decline over the past three generations, owing to exploitation and declines in habitat quality. Exploitation has now decreased and recent survey data suggest that the population is now stable; however, it remains much depleted compared with past numbers.

**Previously Published Red List Assessments**
2012 – Vulnerable (VU)
2008 – Vulnerable (VU)
2006 – Vulnerable (VU)
2004 – Vulnerable (VU)
2000 – Vulnerable (VU)
1996 – Vulnerable (VU)
1994 – Vulnerable (VU)
1988 – Threatened (T)

**Geographic Range**

**Range Description:**
*Phoenicoparrus andinus* occurs on the high Andean plateaus of **Peru, Chile, Bolivia** and **Argentina**, with a resident population of c.100 at Laguna Mar Chiquita, Córdoba, lowland Argentina (Michelutti 1994, Cobos et al. 1999). It breeds at c.10 localities, notably Laguna Colorada and other salt-lakes in southwestern Bolivia, Laguna de Salinas (Peru) and Salar de Atacama (Chile) (Rocha 1994, Flamingo Action Plan Questionnaire 1998, strong style="font-weight: normal;">O. Rocha in litt. 2000). Breeding has been recorded in Argentina (Laguna Brava), but may only occur during strong El Niño years (Bucher et al. 2000). Population assessments are difficult and vary greatly (Hurlbert 1978, 1981, Scott and Carbonell 1986, Flamingo Action Plan Questionnaire 1998), but 50,000-100,000 individuals (Rocha and Quiroga 1997) may have been realistic until the mid-1980s. The 34,000 estimated in 1997 (Rocha and Quiroga 1997), suggests that it declined rapidly during the preceding 10-15 years (Flamingo Action Plan Questionnaire 1998). Breeding success appears to be consistently low (Flamingo Action Plan Questionnaire 1998), and thus declines may continue for many years, because flamingos have a high longevity (20-50 years) (del Hoyo 1992); however, data from International Simultaneous Census and Simultaneous Census of Network Sites, including over 38,000 individuals recorded in 2010 (Marconi et al. 2011), suggest that the population may have been stable during 1997-2010.

**Country Occurrence:**
**Native:** Argentina; Bolivia, Plurinational States of; Chile; Peru

**Vagrant:** Brazil
Distribution Map

*Phoenicoparrus andinus*

Range
- Extant (breeding)
- Extant (non breeding)
- Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22697387A93611749.en
Population
The population estimate is derived from Rocha & Quiroga (1997), Flamingo Specialist Group & Grupo para la Conservación de Flamencos Altoandinos in litt. (2005) to Wetlands International (2006); the total may be slightly higher as 38,675 individuals were counted in the 2010 International Simultaneous Census (Marconi et al. 2011).

Trend Justification
From the mid-1980s to mid-1990s, the population declined from around 50,000-100,000 individuals to 34,000 (Rocha and Quiroga 1997), indicating a rapid decline. Exploitation has now decreased and results from census data suggest that the population remained stable at least between 1997 and 2010 (Marconi et al. 2011).

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)
It is largely restricted to high mountain alkaline and salt-lakes, at 2,300-4,500 m. It may be nomadic in search of temporally patchy food supplies (mainly diatoms [del Hoyo 1992]). It breeds colonially, laying only one egg (unless first egg predated), mainly in December-February (del Hoyo 1992, strong style="font-weight: normal;"; O. Rocha in litt. 2000).

Systems: Terrestrial, Freshwater

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)
The collecting of eggs to sell as food was intensive in the mid-20th century and the early 1980s, with thousands taken annually (Johnson 1965, Hurlbert 1981). Mining activities, unfavourable water-levels (owing to weather and manipulation), erosion of nest-sites and human disturbance may also affect productivity (Flamingo Action Plan Questionnaire 1998). Outside protected areas in Bolivia, there is a low level of hunting for food, oils and feathers, especially targeting immatures and juveniles (Rocha and Quiroga 1997, strong style="font-weight: normal;"; O. Rocha in litt. 2000).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)
Conservation Actions Underway

Conservation Actions Proposed
Continue surveying high Andean salt-lakes (J. C. Chebez in litt. 1999) to monitor known populations and locate additional ones. Protect more sites and raise the status of existing reserves (Rocha and Quiroga 1997, strong style="font-weight: normal;"; O. Rocha in litt. 2000). Guard unprotected nest-sites (Rocha and Quiroga 1997).
Credits

Assessor(s): BirdLife International
Reviewer(s): Butchart, S. & Symes, A.
Contributor(s): Chebez, J. & Rocha, O.
Facilitators(s) and Compiler(s): Benstead, P., Pilgrim, J., Symes, A., Taylor, J., Sharpe, C J

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22697387A93611749.en
Bibliography


Hurlbert, S. H. 1978. *Results of five flamingo censuses conducted between November 1975 and December 1977*. Department of Biology, San Diego State University, California, San Diego.


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)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Habitat</th>
<th>Season</th>
<th>Suitability</th>
<th>Major Importance?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5. Wetlands (inland) -&gt; 5.14. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Saline, Brackish or Alkaline Lakes</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Wetlands (inland) -&gt; 5.14. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Saline, Brackish or Alkaline Lakes</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Artificial/Aquatic &amp; Marine -&gt; 15.4. Artificial/Aquatic - Salt Exploitation Sites</td>
<td>Breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Artificial/Aquatic &amp; Marine -&gt; 15.4. Artificial/Aquatic - Salt Exploitation Sites</td>
<td>Non-breeding</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Threat</th>
<th>Timing</th>
<th>Scope</th>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>Impact Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11. Climate change &amp; severe weather -&gt; 11.2. Droughts</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Majority (50-90%)</td>
<td>Negligible declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.2. Ecosystem degradation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Climate change &amp; severe weather -&gt; 11.4. Storms &amp; flooding</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Majority (50-90%)</td>
<td>Negligible declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.2. Ecosystem degradation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Agriculture &amp; aquaculture -&gt; 2.1. Annual &amp; perennial non-timber crops -&gt; 2.1.3. Agro-industry farming</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Minority (50%)</td>
<td>Negligible declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.2. Ecosystem degradation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Energy production &amp; mining -&gt; 3.2. Mining &amp; quarrying</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Minority (50%)</td>
<td>Slow, significant declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.2. Ecosystem degradation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Biological resource use -&gt; 5.1. Hunting &amp; trapping terrestrial animals -&gt; 5.1.1. Intentional use (species is the target)</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Minority (50%)</td>
<td>Negligible declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.1. Species mortality 2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.3. Indirect species effects -&gt; 2.3.7. Reduced reproductive success</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Human intrusions &amp; disturbance -&gt; 6.1. Recreational activities</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Minority (50%)</td>
<td>Slow, significant declines</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses: 2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.2. Species disturbance 2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.3. Indirect species effects -&gt; 2.3.7. Reduced reproductive success</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. Natural system modifications -> 7.3. Other ecosystem modifications

| Stresses: | Ongoing | Minority (50%) | Negligible declines | - |

Conservation Actions in Place
(https://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 part of range
- Occur in at least one PA: Yes
- Invasive species control or prevention: No

In-Place Species Management

- Successfully reintroduced or introduced benuingly: 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: Yes

Conservation Actions Needed
(https://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Conservation Actions Needed

1. Land/water protection -> 1.1. Site/area protection
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management

Research Needed
(https://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

Research Needed

1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22697387A93611749.en
## 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): 743000
- Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Yes
- Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
- Number of Locations: 10
- Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown
- Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
- Lower elevation limit (m): 2300
- Upper elevation limit (m): 4500

### Population
- Continuing decline of mature individuals: No
- Extreme fluctuations: No
- Population severely fragmented: No
- No. of subpopulations: 10
- Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
- Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No
- All individuals in one subpopulation: No
- No. of individuals in largest subpopulation: 1-89

### Habitats and Ecology
- Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
- Generation Length (years): 15.5
- Movement patterns: Full Migrant
- Congregatory: Congregatory (and dispersive)
The IUCN Red List Partnership

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