

Amazona ventralis, Hispaniolan Amazon

Assessment by: BirdLife International



View on www.iucnredlist.org

Citation: BirdLife International. 2020. *Amazona ventralis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* 2020: e.T22686215A179267983. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-3.RLTS.T22686215A179267983.en>

Copyright: © 2020 International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

Reproduction of this publication for educational or other non-commercial purposes is authorized without prior written permission from the copyright holder provided the source is fully acknowledged.

Reproduction of this publication for resale, reposting or other commercial purposes is prohibited without prior written permission from the copyright holder. For further details see [Terms of Use](#).

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the [IUCN Global Species Programme](#), the [IUCN Species Survival Commission \(SSC\)](#) and [The IUCN Red List Partnership](#). The IUCN Red List Partners are: [Arizona State University](#); [BirdLife International](#); [Botanic Gardens Conservation International](#); [Conservation International](#); [NatureServe](#); [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew](#); [Sapienza University of Rome](#); [Texas A&M University](#); and [Zoological Society of London](#).

If you see any errors or have any questions or suggestions on what is shown in this document, please provide us with [feedback](#) so that we can correct or extend the information provided.

Taxonomy

| Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family |
|----------|----------|-------|----------------|-------------|
| Animalia | Chordata | Aves | Psittaciformes | Psittacidae |

Scientific Name: *Amazona ventralis* (Müller, 1776)

Common Name(s):

- English: Hispaniolan Amazon, Hispaniolan Parrot
- Spanish; Castilian: Amazona de la Española, Cotorra, Loro de Hispaniola

Taxonomic Source(s):

del Hoyo, J., Collar, N.J., Christie, D.A., Elliott, A. and Fishpool, L.D.C. 2014. *HBW and BirdLife International Illustrated Checklist of the Birds of the World. Volume 1: Non-passerines*. Lynx Edicions BirdLife International, Barcelona, Spain and Cambridge, UK.

Identification Information:

28-31 cm. Bright green parrot with white forehead, blue flight feathers, maroon belly-patch and red in tail. **Similar spp.** Only *Amazona* parrot on Hispaniola. Introduced in Puerto Rico where more common than Puerto Rican Amazon *A. vittata*. **Voice** Noisy. Wide variety of squawks and screeches. Bugling flight call.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Vulnerable A2cd [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2020

Date Assessed: August 27, 2020

Justification:

This species is considered Vulnerable because anecdotal evidence suggests that there has been a rapid population reduction. The size of the population and the exact extent of the decline are unclear, and clarification may lead to the species being reclassified into a different threat category.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2016 – Vulnerable (VU)

<https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T22686215A93103000.en>

2013 – Vulnerable (VU)

<https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2013-2.RLTS.T22686215A48124705.en>

2012 – Vulnerable (VU)

2008 – Vulnerable (VU)

2004 – Vulnerable (VU)

2000 – Vulnerable (VU)

1994 – Unknown (LR/NT)

1988 – Near Threatened (NT)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

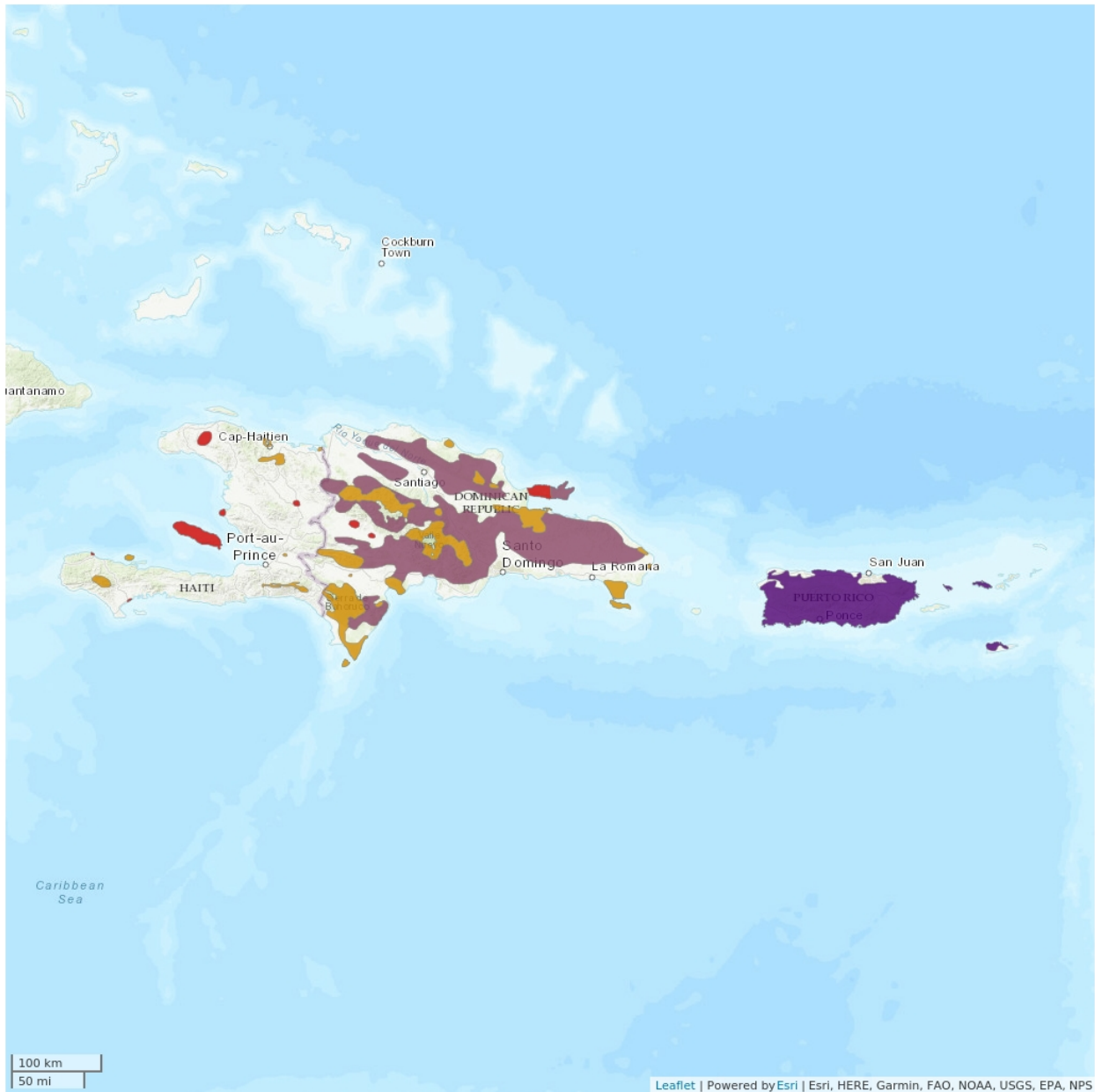
Amazona ventralis is endemic to Hispaniola (**Haiti** and the **Dominican Republic**) and the associated islands of Grande Cayemite, Gonâve, Beata and Saona (AOU 1998). Introduced populations are established in Puerto Rico (to U.S.A.), and St Croix and St Thomas in the Virgin Islands (to U.S.A.) (AOU 1998). It was common on Hispaniola, but declined significantly during the 20th century. By the 1930s, it was mainly restricted to the interior mountains, where it remains locally fairly common in suitable habitat, particularly within several major forest reserves (Juniper and Parr 1998, Raffaele *et al.* 1998). Elsewhere, it is now uncommon, rare or absent. It is however, becoming increasingly frequent in urban refuges, such as Santo Domingo (Luna *et al.* 2018). The introduced population in Puerto Rico numbers several hundred and is apparently increasing (Juniper and Parr 1998).

Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): Dominican Republic; Haiti

Extant & Introduced (resident): Puerto Rico; Virgin Islands, British; Virgin Islands, U.S.

Distribution Map

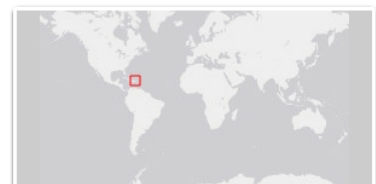


Legend

- EXTANT (RESIDENT)
- POSSIBLY EXTANT (RESIDENT)
- EXTANT & INTRODUCED (RESIDENT)
- EXTINCT

Compiled by:

BirdLife International and Handbook of the Birds of the World (2016) 2010



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

The population size is preliminarily estimated to fall into the band 10,000-19,999 individuals. This equates to 6,667-13,333 mature individuals, rounded here to 6,000-15,000 mature individuals.

Trend Justification

There are no new data on population trends, but the species is suspected to have been declining rapidly, as a result of hunting, habitat loss and trapping. Populations may however, be exhibiting tentative increases in urban refuges, such as Santo Domingo (Luna *et al.* 2018), and partially offsetting population declines throughout the species's natural habitat; further research is required to quantify such trends.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It inhabits a variety of wooded habitats, from arid palm-savannah to pine and montane humid forest, up to and slightly above 1,500 m (Juniper and Parr 1998). It frequently forages in cultivated lands (AOU 1998), such as banana plantations and maize fields (Collar 1997) and is becoming increasingly frequent in urban refuges, such as Santo Domingo (Luna *et al.* 2018). Breeding is known from February to May, but prospecting pairs have been seen in mid-April, suggesting that the season may extend further into the year (Collar 1997, Juniper and Parr 1998, G. M. Kirwan *in litt.* 1998). Nests are situated in tree-cavities, and sometimes dead tree-stumps (Collar 1997, Juniper and Parr 1998, G. M. Kirwan *in litt.* 1998).

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

Agricultural conversion and charcoal production have destroyed most suitable habitat and forest loss within the species's range is currently estimated at ~10% across three generations (Tracewski *et al.* 2016). It is also persecuted as a crop-pest, hunted for food and trapped for the local and formerly at least, international cage-bird trade (Juniper and Parr 1998). Trapping of adults and robbing nests for chicks to supply the local pet trade is a particular concern because in some areas most families own a parrot, and these only live a few years before they have to be replaced (G. Woolmer *in litt.* 2005, T. White *in litt.* 2012, S. Marsden *in litt.* 2017). Moreover, nest-robbing activities frequently result in destruction of the nest cavity or nest tree, further exacerbating loss of nesting habitat to other causes (T. White *in litt.* 2012).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Conservation Actions Underway

CITES Appendix II. An education strategy with community participation has been launched to protect the species (Vásquez *et al.* 1995). In 1997-1998, 49 captive-reared birds were released and radio-tracked in Parque del Este, Dominican Republic (Vilella *et al.* 1999); of the released individuals, first-year survival rates were ~30-35% in 1997 and ~29% in 1998 (Collazo *et al.* 2003). The Loma Charco Azul Biological Reserve, created in 2009, holds populations of the species. Also, recent public education and outreach work, including some enforcement actions, have taken place in several communities surrounding the Parque Nacional Jaragua, near the border with Haiti. In January 2012 there was also a release of 10 captive-reared parrots which had been confiscated as young chicks from nest poachers. These chicks

were reared and rehabilitated at the Parque Zoológico Nacional, and successfully released on the grounds of the zoological park (T. White *in litt.* 2012). **Conservation Actions Proposed**

Assess the current size of the population. Establish a comprehensive monitoring programme. Determine the extent of remaining habitat. Determine the impact of the various threats. Enforce the laws and regulations protecting this species and its habitat (Snyder *et al.* 2000). Encourage better bird-keeping practices to reduce the demand on wild birds and develop a captive breeding programme. Educate public regarding negative impact of native pet trade in the Dominican Republic (T. White *in litt.* 2012).

Credits

Assessor(s): BirdLife International

Reviewer(s): Hermes, C.

Contributor(s): Benstead, P., Isherwood, I., Khwaja, N., Kirwan, G.M., Mahood, S., Marsden, S., Sharpe, C.J., Wege, D., White, T. & Woolmer, G.

Facilitator(s) and Compiler(s): Everest, J.

Partner(s) and Institution(s): BirdLife International

Authority/Authorities: IUCN SSC Bird Red List Authority (BirdLife International)

Bibliography

AOU. 1998. *Check-list of North American birds*. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C.

Bird, J.P., Martin, R., Akçakaya, H.R., Gilroy, J., Burfield, I.J., Garnett, S.G., Symes, A., Taylor, J., Şekerciöğlü, Ç.H. and Butchart, S.H.M. 2020. Generation lengths of the world's birds and their implications for extinction risk. *Conservation Biology* 34(5): 1252-1261.

Collar, N. J. 1997. Psittacidae (Parrots). In: del Hoyo, J.; Elliott, A.; Sargatal, J. (ed.), *Handbook of the birds of the world*, pp. 280-477. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona, Spain.

Collar, N.J. and Butchart, S.H.M. 2013. Conservation breeding and avian diversity: chances and challenges. *International Zoo Yearbook* 48(1): 7-28.

Collazo, J. A.; White, T.H.; Vilella, F.J.; Guerrero, S. A. 2003. Survival of captive-reared Hispaniolan Parrots released in Parque Nacional del Este, Dominican Republic. *Condor* 105: 198-207.

IUCN. 2020. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2020-3. Available at: www.iucnredlist.org. (Accessed: 10 December 2020).

Juniper, T.; Parr, M. 1998. *Parrots: a guide to the parrots of the world*. Pica Press, Robertsbridge, UK.

Luna, Á.; Romero-Vidal, P.; Hiraldo, F.; Tella, J. L. 2018. Cities may save some threatened species but not their ecological functions. *PeerJ* 6: e4908.

Raffaele, H., Wiley, J., Garrido, O., Keith, A., and Raffaele, J. 1998. *Birds of the West Indies*. Christopher Helm, London.

Snyder, N.; McGowan, P.; Gilardi, J.; Grajal, A. 2000. *Parrots: status survey and conservation action plan 2000-2004*. International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

Tracewski, L., Butchart, S.H.M., Di Marco, M., Ficetola, G.F., Rondinini, C., Symes, A., Wheatley, H., Beresford, A.E. and Buchanan, G.M. 2016. Toward quantification of the impact of 21st-century deforestation on the extinction risk of terrestrial vertebrates. *Conservation Biology*.

Vásquez, R. E.; Lara, T.; Lorenzo, R. 1995. Estrategia educativa con la participación comunitaria para la protección de la cotorra y el perico en República Dominicana. *Pitirre* 8(3): 12.

Vilella, F. J.; White, T. H.; Collazo, J. A.; Guerrero, S. 1999. Habitat use, movements and activity patterns of captive-reared Hispaniolan Parrots released in Parque Nacional de Este, Dominican Republic. *Pitirre* 12: 54.

Citation

BirdLife International. 2020. *Amazona ventralis*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2020*: e.T22686215A179267983. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-3.RLTS.T22686215A179267983.en>

Disclaimer

To make use of this information, please check the [Terms of Use](#).

External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and 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 -> 1.5. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Dry | Resident | Suitable | No |
| 1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland | Resident | Suitable | No |
| 1. Forest -> 1.9. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane | Resident | Suitable | No |
| 2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry | Resident | Suitable | No |
| 14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations | Non-breeding season | Suitable | No |
| 14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.5. Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas | Resident | Marginal | - |

Use and Trade

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

| End Use | Local | National | International |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------|---------------|
| Food - human | Yes | Yes | No |
| Pets/display animals, horticulture | No | No | Yes |

Threats

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

| Threat | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact Score |
|---|-----------|---|----------------------------|--------------|
| 2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.2. Small-holder farming | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Rapid declines | - |
| | Stresses: | 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation | | |
| 5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.1. Intentional use (species is the target) | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Slow, significant declines | - |
| | Stresses: | 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality | | |
| 5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.3. Persecution/control | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Slow, significant declines | - |
| | Stresses: | 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality | | |
| 5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest] | Ongoing | Majority (50-90%) | Rapid declines | - |

Conservation Actions in Place

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

| |
|---|
| Conservation Action in Place |
| In-place research and monitoring |
| Action Recovery Plan: Yes |
| Systematic monitoring scheme: No |
| In-place land/water protection |
| Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range |
| Occurs in at least one protected area: Yes |
| Invasive species control or prevention: No |
| In-place species management |
| Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No |
| Subject to ex-situ conservation: Yes |
| In-place education |
| Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No |
| Included in international legislation: No |
| Subject to any international management / trade controls: Yes |

Conservation Actions Needed

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

| |
|--|
| Conservation Action Needed |
| 3. Species management -> 3.4. Ex-situ conservation -> 3.4.1. Captive breeding/artificial propagation |
| 4. Education & awareness -> 4.2. Training |
| 4. Education & awareness -> 4.3. Awareness & communications |
| 5. Law & policy -> 5.4. Compliance and enforcement -> 5.4.2. National level |

Research Needed

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

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

Research Needed

1. Research -> 1.5. Threats

Additional Data Fields

| |
|---|
| Distribution |
| Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Yes |
| Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No |
| Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 99000 |
| Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Yes |
| Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No |
| Number of Locations: 11-100 |
| Continuing decline in number of locations: Unknown |
| Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No |
| Lower elevation limit (m): 0 |
| Upper elevation limit (m): 1,500 |
| Population |
| Number of mature individuals: 6,000-15,000 |
| Continuing decline of mature individuals: Unknown |
| Extreme fluctuations: No |
| Population severely fragmented: No |
| No. of subpopulations: 2-100 |
| Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown |
| Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No |
| All individuals in one subpopulation: No |
| No. of individuals in largest subpopulation: 1001-10000 |
| Habitats and Ecology |
| Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes |
| Generation Length (years): 9.97 |
| Movement patterns: Not a Migrant |

The IUCN Red List Partnership



The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the [IUCN Global Species Programme](#), the [IUCN Species Survival Commission \(SSC\)](#) and [The IUCN Red List Partnership](#).

The IUCN Red List Partners are: [Arizona State University](#); [BirdLife International](#); [Botanic Gardens Conservation International](#); [Conservation International](#); [NatureServe](#); [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew](#); [Sapienza University of Rome](#); [Texas A&M University](#); and [Zoological Society of London](#).