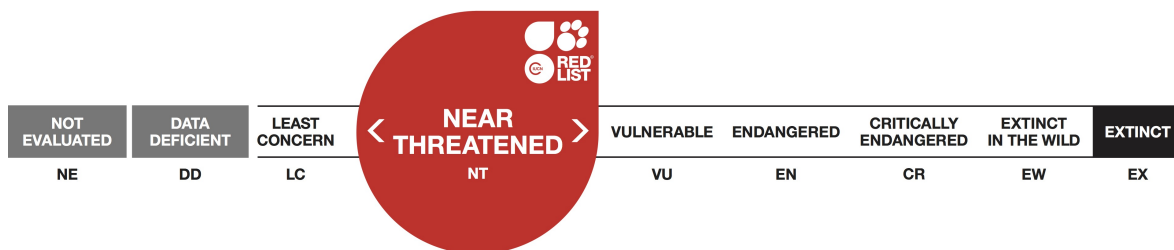


Timon lepidus, Ocellated Lizard

Assessment by: Juan M. Pleguezuelos, Paulo Sá-Sousa, Valentin Pérez-Mellado, Rafael Marquez, Marc Cheylan, Claudia Corti, Iñigo Martínez-Solano



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia	Squamata	Lacertidae

Taxon Name: *Timon lepidus* (Daudin, 1802)

Synonym(s):

- *Lacerta lepidus*

Common Name(s):

- English: Ocellated Lizard
- French: Lezard ocelle
- Spanish: Lagarto Ocelado, Lagarto Ocelado

Taxonomic Notes:

This species was described as *Lacerta*, but it is now placed in the genus *Timon* (Mayer and Bischoff 1996; Fu 1998, 2000; Harris *et al.* 1998; Harris and Carretero 2003), though Montori and Llorente (2005) and Sindaco and Jeremčenko (2008) retain it in *Lacerta*. It consists of a number of distinct genetic lineages of uncertain taxonomic status. Paulo (2001) suggested that the subspecies *Timon l. nevadensis* is a distinct species, but other lines of evidence are more indicative of subspecific status (Mateo *et al.*, 1996; Mateo and López-Jurado 1994).

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Near Threatened [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2009

Date Assessed: December 14, 2008

Justification:

Listed as Near Threatened because this species is probably in significant decline (but probably at a rate of less than 30% over ten years), probably mainly because of widespread habitat loss through much of its range, thus making the species close to qualifying for Vulnerable.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2006 – Near Threatened (NT)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

This species is widely found in Portugal and Spain; it is found as isolated populations in southern, south-central and western France (north to Oleron Island), and in extreme northwestern Italy. It also occurs on some Atlantic islands along the Spanish and Portuguese coasts. It is present on a few Mediterranean islands. It ranges from sea level up to 2,500m asl. The subspecies *T.l. oteroi* is endemic to Salvora Island

in northwestern Spain.

Country Occurrence:

Native: France; Italy; Portugal; Spain

Distribution Map

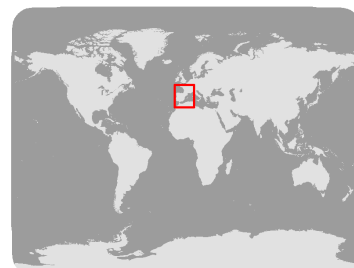


Timon lepidus

Range

- Extant (resident)
- Extinct

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IUCN (International Union for
Conservation of Nature)



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



Population

Although it has been recorded at densities of up to 50 individuals per hectare, populations appear to be strongly declining in many parts of its range. Some insular populations as well as Italian ones are close to extinction. The subspecies *T.l. oteroi* numbers fewer than 10,000 individuals.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is found in open and dry areas of woodland, scrubland, olive groves, vineyards, meadows, arable areas and sandy or rocky sites. It is generally present in areas that have refuges such as bushes, stone walls, rabbit burrows and other holes. The females lay clutches of five to twenty two eggs.

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

It is generally declining because of ongoing habitat loss, pesticide pollution and poisoning. Predators might also be eating this species more, due to the decline of rabbits. Also reduced livestock grazing might be reducing open areas suitable for this species. Current attempts to revive the former tradition of eating this species would also be very detrimental.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Further studies are needed in order to understand the recent population declines of this species better. It is listed on Annex III of the Bern Convention and is present in a number of protected areas, though it has nearly disappeared from a number of these.

Credits

Assessor(s): Juan M. Pleguezuelos, Paulo Sá-Sousa, Valentin Pérez-Mellado, Rafael Marquez, Marc Cheylan, Claudia Corti, Iñigo Martínez-Solano

Reviewer(s): Cox, N. and Temple, H.J. (Global Reptile Assessment)

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External Resources

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Appendix

Habitats

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

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate	-	Marginal	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.4. Shrubland - Temperate	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.8. Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	-	Suitable	-
4. Grassland -> 4.4. Grassland - Temperate	-	Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.1. Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	-	Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.2. Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	-	Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	-	Marginal	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	-	Suitable	-

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 -> 2.1.3. Agro-industry farming	Ongoing	-	-	-
	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)	Future	-	-	-
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
7. Natural system modifications -> 7.3. Other ecosystem modifications	Ongoing	-	-	-
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
8. Invasive & other problematic species & genes -> 8.2. Problematic native species	Ongoing	-	-	-
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
9. Pollution -> 9.3. Agricultural & forestry effluents -> 9.3.4. Type Unknown/Unrecorded	Ongoing	-	-	-
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		

Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range
In-Place Species Management
Harvest management plan: Yes

Conservation Actions Needed

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

Conservation Actions Needed
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.1. Harvest management

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
1. Research -> 1.6. Actions
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 2500
Population
Population severely fragmented: No

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