

PURPLISH JAY

Cyanocorax cyanomelas

Vieillot, 1818



PIERRE DE CHABANNES

CLASSIFICATION

Class: Aves

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae

No recognized subspecies



NOT LISTED

VERY RARE



LEAST CONCERN

Identification: Adults can reach a total length of 37 cm for a weight of 210 g. Easily recognizable with its overall dark and dull purplish-brown coloration. Tail has a violet tinge, head and breast are darker brown.

Range: The species occurs in South America, in South-east Peru, north and east Bolivia, south-west Brazil and extreme north Argentina.

Habitat : Dry, deciduous, gallery and secondary forests, up to 2000 m.

Behavior: The species feeds mostly on fruits and insects. Forages in small flocks. Might be a social breeder but hardly any information on breeding available.

Status in the wild: The species remains locally common within its range and may have benefited from deforestation. Still potentially vulnerable to habitat loss.

In captivity: This species remains very rare in captivity and is displayed in less than 5 zoos around the world, including 2 in Europe and at least 1 in USA. Bred in a single zoo in Europe in 2004, since then, may have not been bred in captivity.