Corvus splendens

**Eicat category:** MO (Moderate)

**Justification for EICAT assessment:**
The House Crow has been attributed to the decline of bird species in Mombasa due to nest raiding. The Spotted Morning Thrush (Cichladusa guttata) and the Black-backed Puffback (Dryoscopus cubla) were once frequent in the gardens on Mombasa Island, but declined drastically as the population of House Crows increased. The Spotted Morning Thrush and Black-backed Puffback have declined, although no specific instances of predation have been reported and the decline of the African Palm-swift (Cypsiurus parvus) from an area south of Mombasa has been attributed to this cause. House Crows were observed eating the eggs of terns on Kharku Island. Surveys indicated that 5 pairs of Swift Tern (Sterna bergii), 600 pairs of Lesser Crested Tern (Sterna bengalensis), 2,500 pairs of White-cheeked Tern (Sterna repressa) and 250-300 pairs of Bridled Tern (Sterna anaethetus) were frequenting the island, but these species have not bred during 2006-2010 (Ryall, 1992; Erftemeije and Seys, 1995; Behrouzi-Rad, 2010).

**Countries of most severe impact:**
Islamic Republic of Iran; Kenya

**Description of impact:**
The House Crow has been attributed to the decline of the African Palm-swift and other native bird species in Mombasa, Kenya and tern species in Iran due to nest raiding. It preys on eggs and chicks and compete with native bird species.

**Assessor:**
Tom Allmert; Thomas Evans

**Contributors/Reviewers:**
EICAT authority

**Recommended citation:**

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