Crossarchus ansorgei, Ansorge's Cusimanse

Assessment by: Angelici, F.M. & Do Linh San, E.

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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>Mammalia</td>
<td>Carnivora</td>
<td>Herpestidae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Taxon Name:** *Crossarchus ansorgei* Thomas, 1910

**Common Name(s):**
- English: Ansorge's Cusimanse, Angolan Cusimanse
- French: Mangue d'Ansorge

**Assessment Information**

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern ver 3.1

**Year Published:** 2015

**Date Assessed:** April 20, 2015

**Justification:**
There is little information on the population status, distribution limits and threat levels of this species. Bushmeat hunting and logging possibly had impacts on its population over the past 12 years (assuming a generation length of four years), but would be unlikely to have led to a decline of more than 10–15%. Despite the fact that relevant search effort has been limited, and may in part explain the low number of records, this species seems to be naturally rare (occurring at about a quarter the abundance of sympatric Alexander's Cusimanse *C. alexandri*) and to be living at low density. However, with an estimated range area of $ca \ 600,000 \ km^2$, the total population would contain more than 10,000 mature individuals even with extremely low densities. Therefore, the species is listed as Least Concern. Further survey work could better evaluate the impact of hunting, as well as determine population trends and local population densities. Studies on this species’ distribution range might reveal that it is in fact much larger than currently known, with an expansion in Angola.

**Previously Published Red List Assessments**
1996 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

**Geographic Range**

**Range Description:**
It is found only in Angola and DR Congo. In Angola, it is known only from a single specimen collected in 1908 north of the Cuanza River (Crawford-Cabral 1989). In DR Congo, it is present in the rainforest southeast of the Congo/Lualaba Rivers (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013).

**Country Occurrence:**
*Native:* Angola (Angola); Congo, The Democratic Republic of the
Distribution Map

Crossarchus ansorgei

Range

- Extant (resident)

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International Union for the Conservation of Nature

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2015-4.2LTS.T41594A45205422.en
Population
Up until 1984, this species was known only from two specimens, the type and the specimen from Baringa. However, it has since been found to be quite common in some regions (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013). During bushmeat surveys conducted in the eastern Congo basin, this species accounted for only 10% of carnivores compared with 42% for Alexander’s Cusimanse (Colyn et al. 1987).

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)
This is an inhabitant of deciduous equatorial forest; not known to visit cultivated or inhabited land (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade
This species is used as bushmeat (Colyn et al. 1987).

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)
The level of threat to this species is not fully clear, but threats include habitat loss and bushmeat hunting.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)
It has been recorded from Salonga N. P. in DR Congo. There is a paucity of information available for this species, making it a priority for research, particularly to determine its current population status, the extent of its range, as well as threats to it. In particular, a survey for the disjunct population in Angola is urgently needed where it is known only from the holotype (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013).

Credits
Assessor(s): Angelici, F.M. & Do Linh San, E.
Reviewer(s): Duckworth, J.W. & Hoffmann, M.
Contributor(s): Hoffmann, M.
Bibliography


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>1. Forest -&gt; 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland</td>
<td>-</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>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>Unknown</td>
<td>Causing/could cause fluctuations</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses:</td>
<td>2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.1. Species mortality</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Biological resource use -&gt; 5.3. Logging &amp; wood harvesting -&gt; 5.3.5. Motivation Unknown/Unrecorded</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Minority (50%)</td>
<td>Causing/could cause fluctuations</td>
<td>Low impact: 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stresses:</td>
<td>1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -&gt; 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -&gt; 2.2. Species disturbance</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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Conservation Actions in Place
(http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occur in at least one PA: Yes</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conservation Actions Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Land/water protection -&gt; 1.1. Site/area protection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Land/water management -&gt; 2.1. Site/area management</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Research -&gt; 1.2. Population size, distribution &amp; trends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Research -&gt; 1.3. Life history &amp; ecology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1. Research -&gt; 1.5. Threats</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Additional Data Fields

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population severely fragmented: No</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Habitate and Ecology</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Generation Length (years): 4</td>
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</table>
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