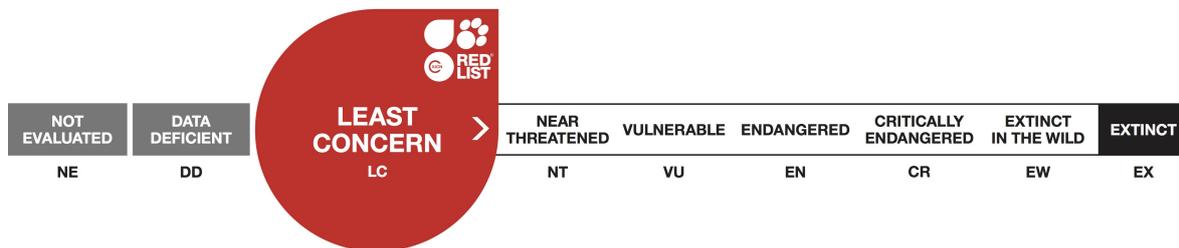


## *Helogale parvula*, Common Dwarf Mongoose

Assessment by: Sharpe, L., Kern, J. & Do Linh San, E.



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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Herpestidae

**Taxon Name:** *Helogale parvula* (Sundevall, 1847)

### Common Name(s):

- English: Common Dwarf Mongoose, Dwarf Mongoose
- French: Mangouste naine

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2015

**Date Assessed:** February 28, 2015

### Justification:

This species is listed as Least Concern because this species has a wide distribution, is common (sometimes attaining high densities) across its range, and is present in several protected areas with no major threats.

### Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41609A10506765.en>

1996 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

## Geographic Range

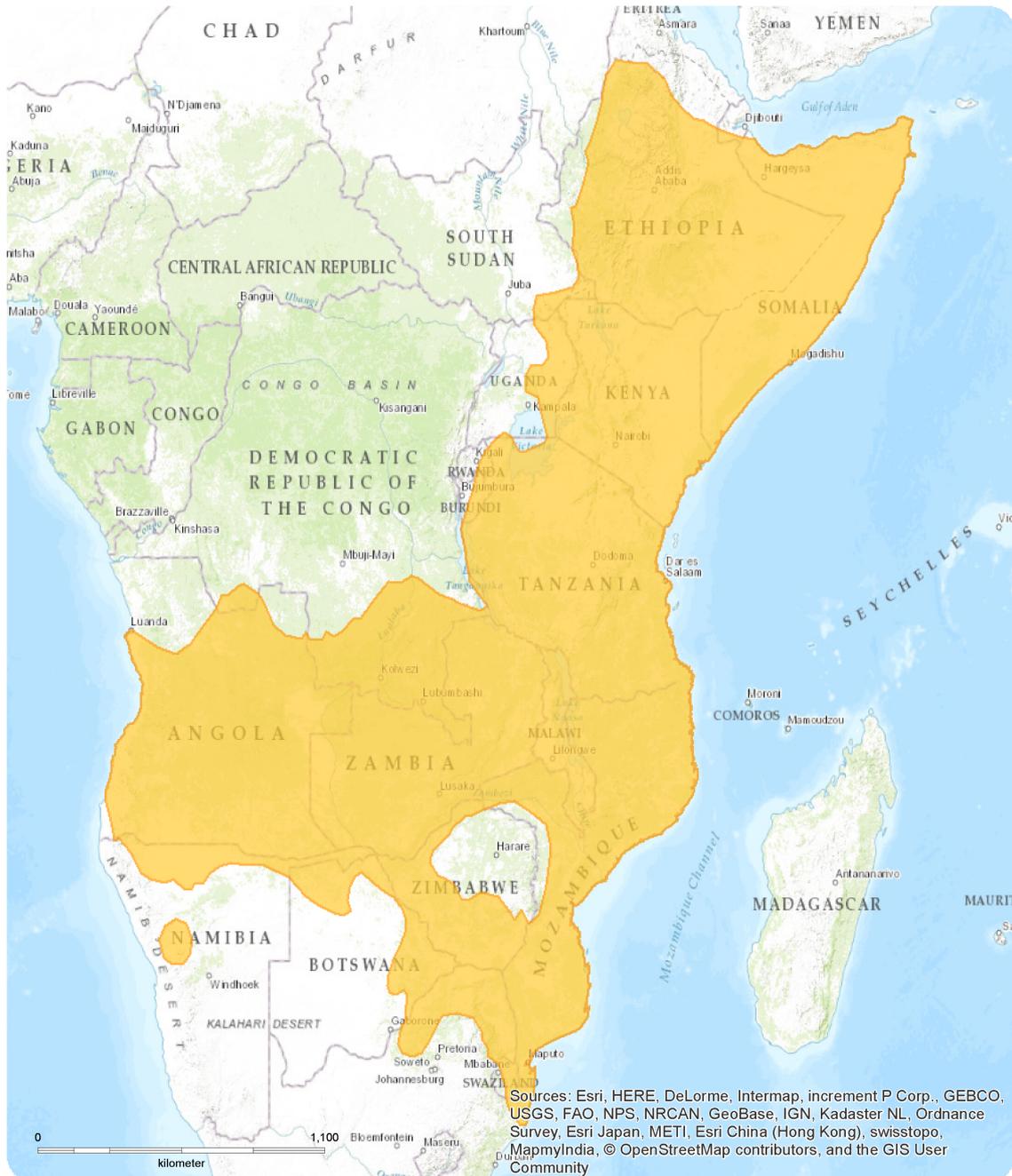
### Range Description:

This species is widely distributed from southern Somalia and Ethiopia south to northeast KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa and westwards to northern Namibia and southwest and central Angola and southeastern DR Congo (Creel 2013). It is usually found to elevations of around 2,000 m asl.

### Country Occurrence:

**Native:** Angola (Angola); Botswana; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Ethiopia; Kenya; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Somalia; South Africa; Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania, United Republic of; Uganda; Zambia

# Distribution Map

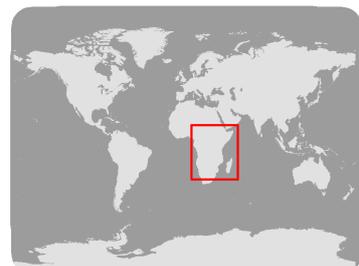


## *Helogale parvula*

### Range

■ Extant (resident)

Compiled by:  
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

It has been reported as the most abundant small carnivore in areas of open woodland or wooded savanna, with densities as high as 31 individuals/km<sup>2</sup> in Serengeti grasslands (Rood 1983) though more typically around five individuals/km<sup>2</sup> (Waser *et al.* 1995). Hoffmann *et al.* (2014) reported record densities of 42 individuals/km<sup>2</sup> at the start of the breeding season at Sorabi Rock Lodge Reserve (Limpopo Province, South Africa).

**Current Population Trend:** Stable

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It inhabits open woodlands, thickets and wooded savannas, particularly where there are termitaria, rock outcroppings or crevices, or hollow logs and trees for use as dens (Hiscocks and Perrin 1991, Creel 2013, Hoffmann *et al.* 2014). Waser *et al.* (1995) noted that the most important determinant of Common Dwarf Mongoose habitat preference is the density of suitable dens, but this might not necessarily be the case (Hoffmann *et al.* 2014). It is not found in highly arid areas. It feeds mainly on arthropods, although it will prey on small vertebrates (Creel 2013).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

This species is not used.

## Threats

There are no major threats to this species.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Dwarf Mongooses are present in several protected areas across their range, including Masai Mara National Reserve (Kenya), Tsavo East N. P. (Kenya), Serengeti N. P. (Tanzania), Hwange N. P. (Zimbabwe) and Kruger N. P. (South Africa). Since they attain high densities and have small territories (on average 0.25–0.35 km<sup>2</sup>; Rood 1983, Hoffmann *et al.* 2014), even small protected areas can harbour large populations (Creel 2013).

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Sharpe, L., Kern, J. & Do Linh San, E.

**Reviewer(s):** Duckworth, J.W. & Hoffmann, M.

**Contributor(s):** Hoffmann, M.

## Bibliography

Creel, S. 2013. *Helogale parvula* Dwarf Mongoose. In: J. Kingdon and M. Hoffmann (eds), *The Mammals of Africa. V. Carnivores, Pangolins, Equids and Rhinoceroses*, pp. 368-373. Bloomsbury, London, UK.

Hiscocks, K. and Perrin, M.R. 1991. Den selection and use by dwarf mongooses and banded mongooses in South Africa. *South African Journal of Wildlife Research* 21: 119-122.

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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>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	-	Suitable	Yes
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	Yes

## Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Yes

## Additional Data Fields

<b>Distribution</b>
Upper elevation limit (m): 2000
<b>Population</b>
Population severely fragmented: No
<b>Habitats and Ecology</b>
Generation Length (years): 4

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