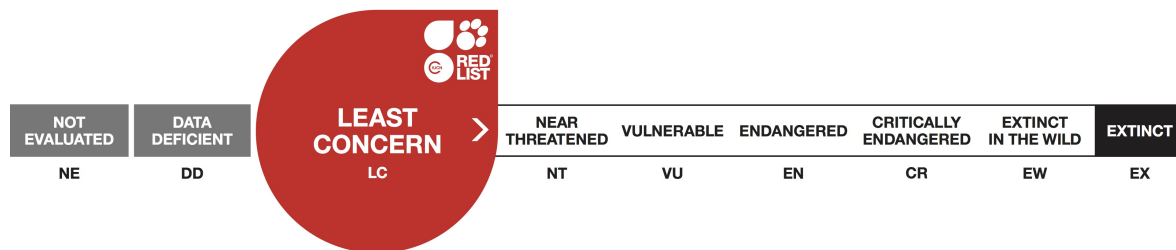


Nandinia binotata, African Palm Civet

Assessment by: Gaubert, P., Bahaa-el-din, L., Ray, J. & Do Linh San, E.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Nandiniidae

Taxon Name: *Nandinia binotata* (Gray, 1830)

Synonym(s):

- *Viverra binotata* Gray, 1830

Common Name(s):

- English: African Palm Civet, Tree Civet, Two-spotted Palm Civet
- French: Nandinie

Taxonomic Notes:

Treated here as the only member of the family Nandiniidae, following Pocock (1929), Wozencraft (2005) and Gaubert *et al.* (2005). For further discussion see Gaubert (2013).

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2015

Date Assessed: February 28, 2015

Justification:

It is listed as Least Concern because this species has a wide distribution range, is present in a variety of habitats, is common across its range, and is present in numerous protected areas. However, it is probably undergoing some localised declines because of habitat loss, hunting and pest control.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41589A10486575.en>

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

Geographic Range

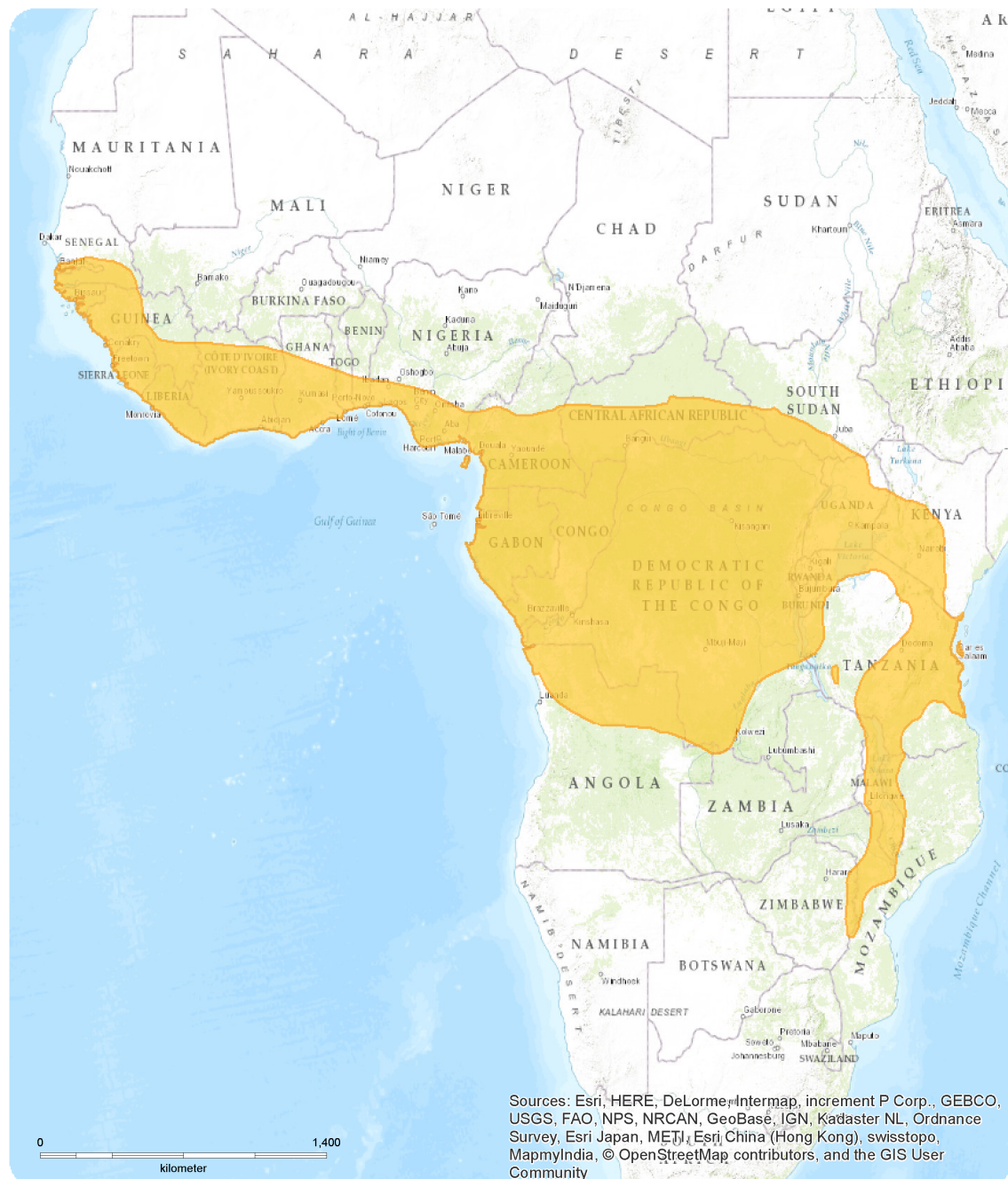
Range Description:

This species is widely distributed from Gambia to southwest South Sudan, southern Uganda and western Kenya, and from northern Angola, and northwestern Zambia to DR Congo and western Tanzania. It is then discontinuously distributed in eastern and southern Africa in montane and lowland forests of Tanzania, Malawi, parts of Zimbabwe, and Mozambique, south to about 20°S (Van Rompaey and Ray 2013). It is also present on Bioko Island (Eisentraut 1973), although historically rare (Harrington *et al.* 2002) and Zanzibar (Perkin 2004, 2005). It occurs from sea level up to 2,500 m asl on the Mbeya range in Tanzania (D. De Luca *in* Van Rompaey and Ray 2013).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Angola (Angola); Benin; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Congo; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Côte d'Ivoire; Equatorial Guinea (Bioko - Possibly Extinct, Equatorial Guinea (mainland)); Gabon; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Liberia; Malawi; Mozambique; Nigeria; Rwanda; Senegal; Sierra Leone; South Sudan; Tanzania, United Republic of; Togo; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Distribution Map

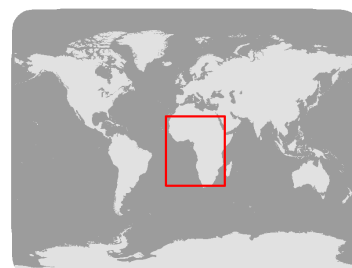


Nandinia binotata

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

This species is widespread and locally abundant, and probably the most common African forest small carnivore (Van Rompaey and Ray 2013). This might be related to its frugivorous habits, thus reducing dietary interspecific competition with other sympatric small carnivores and allowing for high densities. In Gabon minimum average density was estimated at *ca* 5 individuals/km² (Charles-Dominique 1978).

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It occurs in deciduous forests, lowland rainforests and mountain, gallery and riverine forests, savanna woodlands, and logged and second-growth forests. In a set of recent surveys carried out in Gabon, this species was found country-wide in rainforest, forest–savanna mosaics and dense woodland (Bahaa-el-din *et al.* 2013). It is known to visit cultivated fields bordering forest edge (Van Rompaey and Ray 2013). It is predominantly frugivorous, although it forages opportunistically for vertebrates and insects (Van Rompaey and Ray 2013).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

It is commonly used as bushmeat and for traditional medicine. In Gabon, African Palm Civets' skin is specifically used to remove curses (L. Bahaa-el-din pers. obs. 2013). In some regions, the fur is sought after to make ceremonial dresses (Malbrant and Maclatchy 1949) and to make wrist-bracelets, hats, and to cover the bow (Carpaneto and Germe 1989).

Threats

There are no major threats, although it may be undergoing some localised declines because of habitat loss. It is also commonly trapped or hunted for bushmeat and for traditional medicine. African Palm Civets were the most common carnivore recorded in two markets in Equatorial Guinea (Juste *et al.* 1995) as well as in Guinea (Colyn *et al.* 2004). In Gabon, it was the second most numerous species in village off-takes and the most numerous species in bushmeat markets, where it was three times more common than any other carnivore species (Bahaa-el-din *et al.* 2013). There, African Palm Civets are killed in retaliation for poultry depredation near villages and for traditional medicine (L. Bahaa-el-din pers. obs.). None of this off-take is believed to be threatening at the population level.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

It is present in many protected areas across the range.

Credits

Assessor(s): Gaubert, P., Bahaa-el-din, L., Ray, J. & Do Linh San, E.

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

Contributor(s): Hoffmann, M.

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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 -> 1.5. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.9. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane	-	Suitable	-
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.6. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Moist	-	Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.6. Artificial/Terrestrial - Subtropical/Tropical Heavily Degraded Former Forest	-	Suitable	-

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

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats

Additional Data Fields

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

Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 4

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