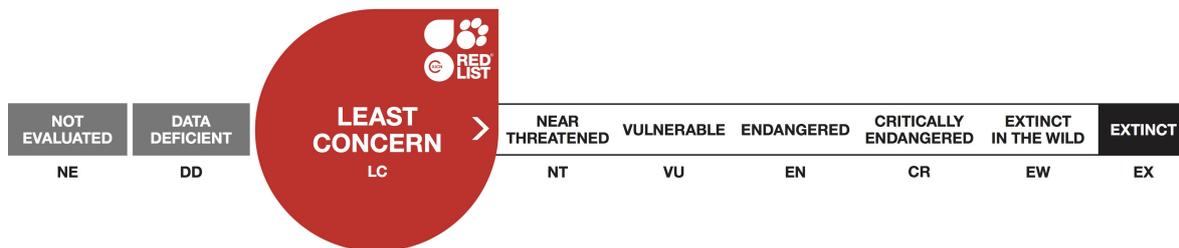


Vulpes pallida, Pale Fox

Assessment by: Sillero-Zubiri, C. & Wacher, T.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Canidae

Taxon Name: *Vulpes pallida* (Cretzschmar, 1826)

Common Name(s):

- English: Pale Fox, African Sand Fox, Pallid Fox
- French: Renard Pâlé
- Spanish: Zorro Pálido

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2012

Date Assessed: May 17, 2012

Justification:

The Pale Fox is listed as Least Concern, since although there is no detailed information on its abundance, the species is relatively widespread in the ecological band laying between the true desert of the Sahara and the sub-Saharan savannas. There are no known major range-wide threats at present that may result in a population decline that would warrant listing in a threatened category.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Data Deficient (DD)

2004 – Data Deficient (DD)

1996 – Data Deficient (DD)

1994 – Insufficiently Known (K)

1990 – Insufficiently Known (K)

Geographic Range

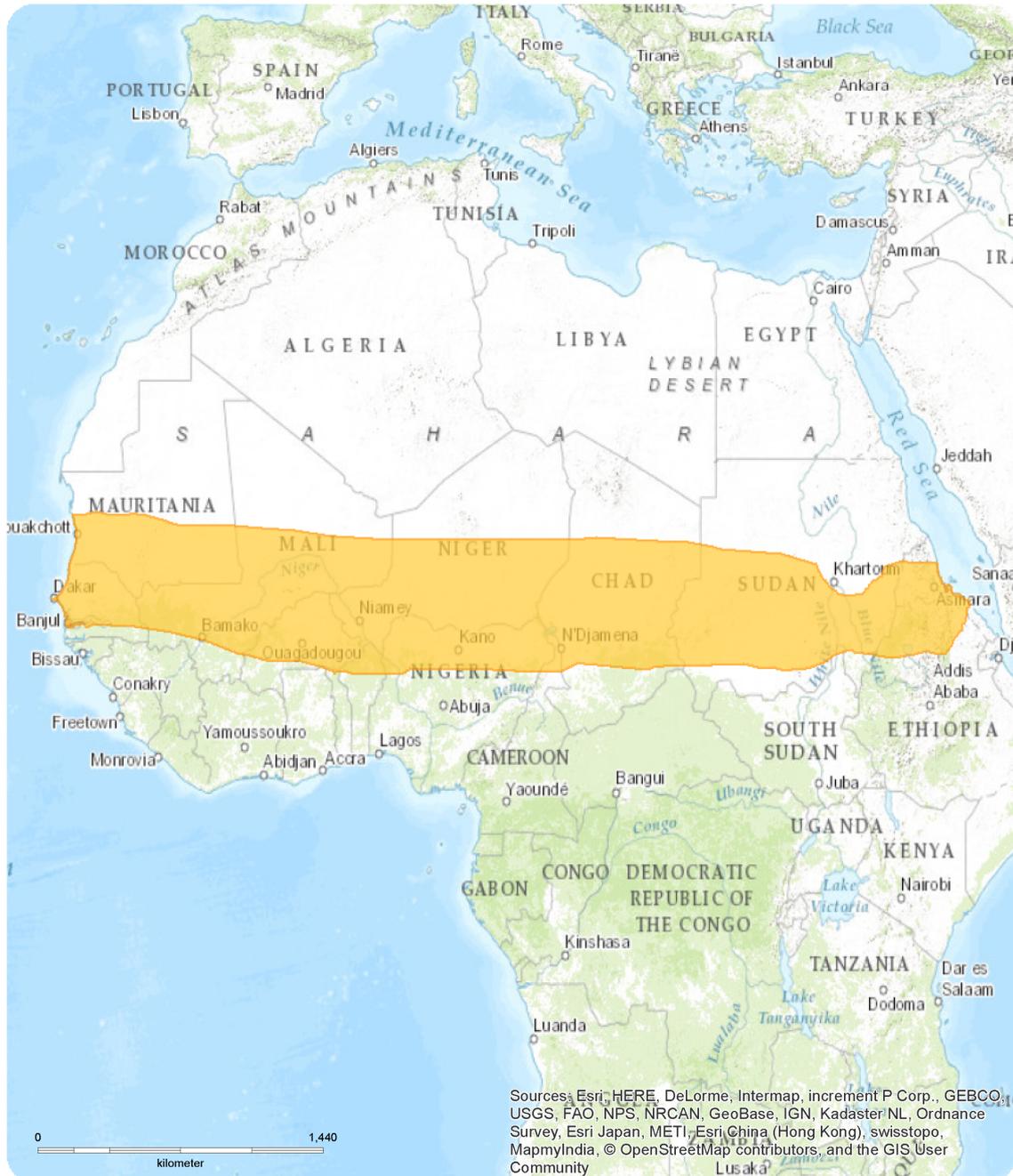
Range Description:

The Pale Fox is distributed in the semi-arid Sahel of Africa, bordering the Sahara to the north. The southern limit of its geographical range extends into northern Guinean savanna zones. It ranges from Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia through Nigeria, Cameroon and Chad to the Red Sea.

Country Occurrence:

Native: Benin; Burkina Faso; Cameroon; Chad; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gambia; Mali; Mauritania; Niger; Nigeria; Senegal; South Sudan; Sudan

Distribution Map



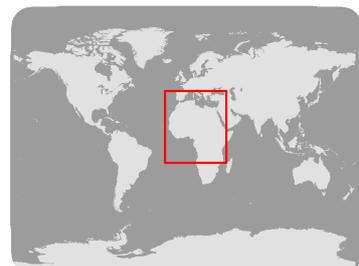
Vulpes pallida

Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:
IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)

NE DD LC > NT VU EN CR EW EX
LEAST CONCERN



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

The Pale Fox is widespread and present throughout its range. It is locally common, but in most parts it is seldom recorded.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

The species typically inhabits very dry sandy and stony marginal sub-Saharan desert and semi-desert areas, but its range extends to some extent southwards into moister Guinean savanna areas. Therefore, it has a very extensive distribution within an unstable and fluctuating ecological band lying between true desert and the Guinean savannas. It may also occur near human habitation and cultivated fields where food is more readily available than in natural habitats (Rosevear 1974).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

Trade is unlikely to pose a threat to this species. However, Pale Fox remains were found in a local market in southern Benin (Djagoun and Gaubert 2009). Cooked Pale Fox meat is used for treating asthma in Sudan.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

No major threats are known, although they may be persecuted locally since they are known to kill domestic fowl (Rosevear 1974). The species is a frequent victim of road kills on regularly used tracks between settlements in Sahel zone of Niger and Chad. Oil and gas drilling, and associated disturbance, might become a future localized threat.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is not listed on any CITES Appendices. It is locally common in the newly created Termit and Tin Toumma National Nature and Cultural Reserve of east Niger and in Ouadi Rimé-Ouadi Achim Faunal Reserve, Chad. It is likely to occur in several other protected areas throughout the species' range, but no reliable information is available at present. This is the least known of all the canids, and studies on its distribution, status and ecological requirements are needed.

Credits

Assessor(s): Sillero-Zubiri, C. & Wacher, T.

Reviewer(s): Hoffmann, M. & Murdoch, J.D.

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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
2. Savanna -> 2.2. Savanna - Moist	-	Marginal	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Marginal	-
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Marginal	-
8. Desert -> 8.1. Desert - Hot	-	Suitable	Yes
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.1. Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	-	Marginal	-

Use and Trade

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

End Use	Local	National	International
Food - human	Yes	Yes	No
Medicine - human & veterinary	Yes	Yes	No

Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.3. Agro-industry farming	Unknown	Unknown	Slow, significant declines	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.3. Livestock farming & ranching -> 2.3.1. Nomadic grazing	Ongoing	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
3. Energy production & mining -> 3.1. Oil & gas drilling	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
4. Transportation & service corridors -> 4.1. Roads & railroads	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

			2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance	
5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.3. Persecution/control	Unknown	Unknown	Negligible declines	Unknown
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
11. Climate change & severe weather -> 11.1. Habitat shifting & alteration	Future	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 3
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		

Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range
Occur in at least one PA: Yes
In-Place Species Management
Harvest management plan: No
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: Unknown
In-Place Education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

Conservation Actions Needed

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

Conservation Actions Needed
1. Land/water protection -> 1.1. Site/area protection
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management

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
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 4000000
Population
Number of mature individuals: 10000-99999
Continuing decline of mature individuals: No
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 3

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