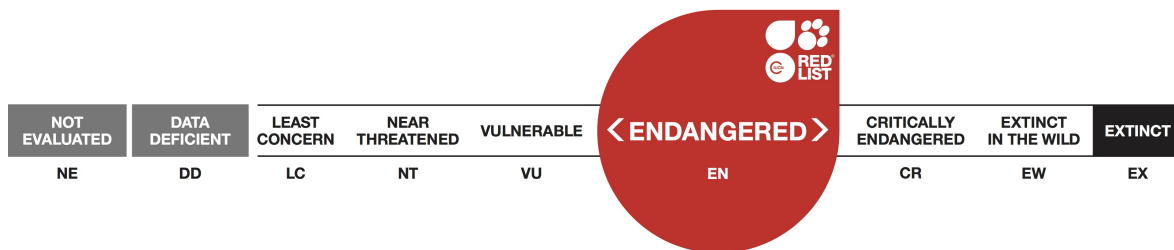


Eupleres major, Western Falanouc

Assessment by: Hawkins, F.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Eupleridae

Taxon Name: *Eupleres major* Lavauden, 1929

Synonym(s):

- *Eupleres goudotii* ssp. *major* Lavauden, 1929

Common Name(s):

- English: Western Falanouc

Taxonomic Notes:

Until recently the genus *Eupleres* was generally considered to hold only one species, *E. goudotii*. Goodman and Helgen (2010) provided convincing morphological evidence that there are two species, geographically separated. This treatment is followed here.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Endangered A2cde+3cde+4cde [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2016

Date Assessed: March 2, 2015

Justification:

Western Falanouc is listed as Endangered because it is likely that over the course of the last three generations (taken as 24 years), the population has dropped by more than 50% (and possibly much more) mainly because of widespread hunting, persecution, the effects of introduced carnivores, and ongoing habitat conversion and fragmentation. More recently, the rate of hunting has increased significantly, owing to breakdown of governance since the coup d'etat in 2009, leading to approximately doubled levels of hunting, and opportunistic rosewood cutting as well as pressure from feral cats and dogs throughout the species's range, suggesting that there will be a further population drop of at least 50% over the next three generations.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2000 – Endangered (EN) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2000.RLTS.T39547A10247211.en>

Geographic Range

Range Description:

Western Falanouc occurs only in Madagascar, from near Baly Bay National Park (Soalala) north through the Ankarafantsika and Analalava forests to the Sambirano, as far east as the foothills of Tsaratanana, Sahamalaza peninsula, and possibly to the lower parts of Montagne d'Ambre (Goodman and Helgen 2010). Its precise eastward limit of occurrence is unknown; its sister species Eastern Falanouc *E. goudotii*

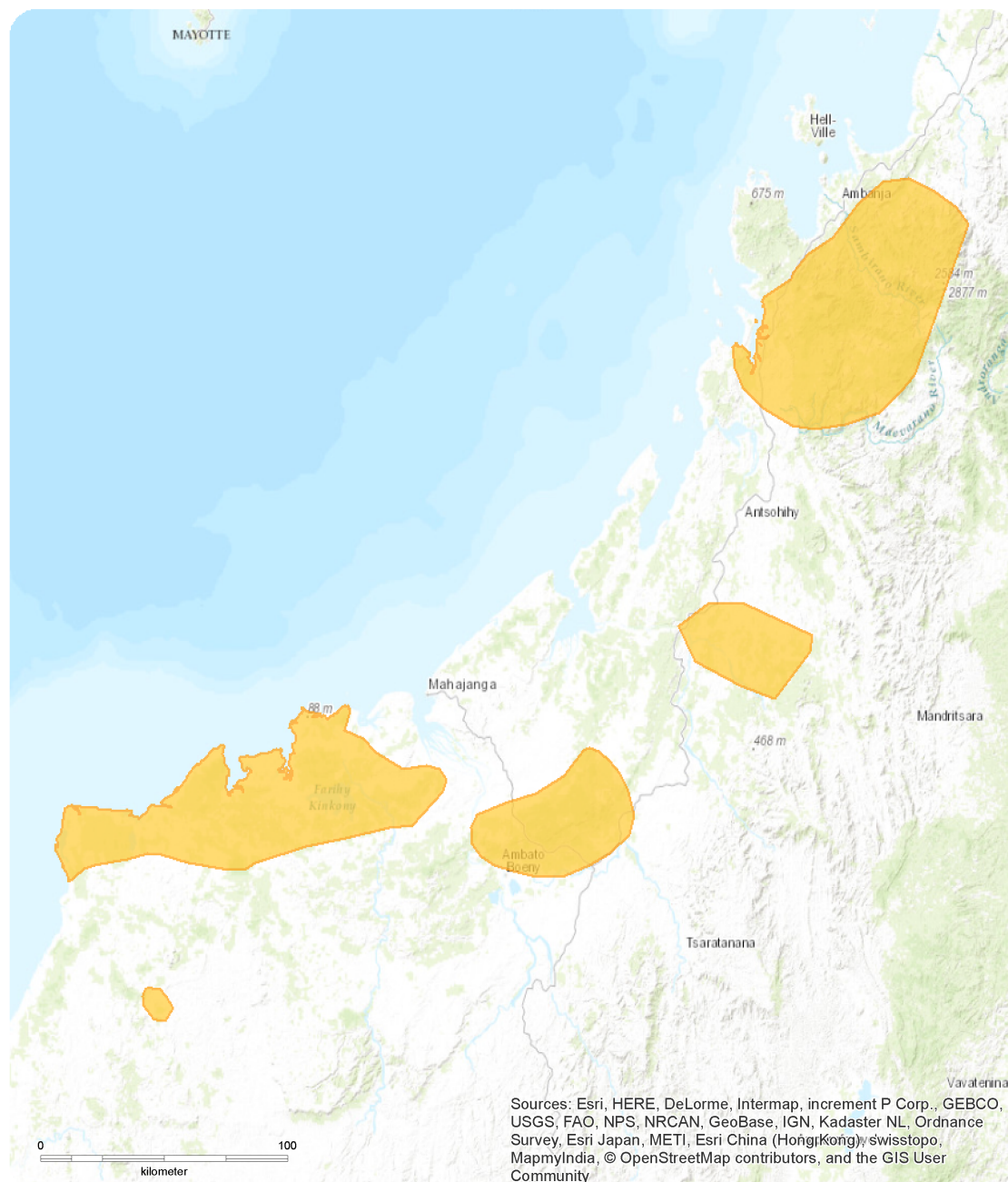
occurs in the eastern humid forests.

Country Occurrence:

Native: Madagascar

Distribution Map

Eupleres major

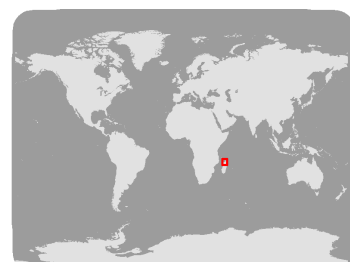


Range

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

The population level and trend of Western Falanouc is almost unknown. It is rarely seen anywhere in its range and thus presumably is scarce. General hunting and habitat trends allow a safe inference that it is declining. Hunting is presumed to have increased significantly in many parts of the species's range since 2009 owing to reductions in governance and increased social instability following a coup d'etat.

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Western Falanouc is known from recent records in dry deciduous forest, on the edges of wetlands near dry forest, and in flooded palm savanna not far from dry forests. It is largely nocturnal with some crepuscular activity.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

There is no direct information on the use of this species, but it is safe to assume that it is hunted for food, like its better-studied brethren in the eastern forests of Madagascar.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There is very little direct information concerning the threats to Western Falanouc. Evans *et al.* (2013) indicated that in the Mariarano forest, north-east of Mahajanga, the species was recorded in degraded habitats and is exposed to hunting, habitat destruction through charcoal production, logging and forest fires. Across the rest of its range the species is likely to be very vulnerable to these pressures as well as to hunting with dogs, and to be desired as food source by local people; so it is safe to assume that it is highly threatened. It occurs over a much smaller area of habitat than the Eastern Falanouc; much of its range is densely occupied by people. Areas of habitat are fragmented and often degraded; while the species is not restricted to primary forest, it does not occur far from such forest. Recent (post-2009) increases in illegal logging, slash-and-burn agriculture and artisanal mining in many of the areas in which this species occurs will have greatly increased exposure of the species to hunting and pressure from non-native carnivores such as feral dogs.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Western Falanouc occurs in at least one protected area (Ankarafantsika National Park) and adjacent to another (Baly Bay National Park). It may also occur in Manongarivo Special Reserve, Ankarana National Park and Montagne d'Ambre National Park.

Credits

Assessor(s): Hawkins, F.

Reviewer(s): Duckworth, J.W.

Contributor(s): Jenkins, R.K.B. & Jones, J.P.G.

Bibliography

Evans, B., Rakotondraparany, F., Cole, L., Graham, S., Long, P. and Gandola, R. 2013. The carnivores of Mariarano forest, Madagascar: first insights. *Small Carnivore Conservation* 49: 15–19.

Goodman, S.M. and Helgen, K.M. 2010. Species limits and distribution of the Malagasy carnivoran genus *Eupleres* (family Eupleridae). *Mammalia* 74: 177–185.

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Schreiber, A., Wirth, R., Riffel, M. and Van Rompaey, H. 1989. *Weasels, Civets, Mongooses and their Relatives. An Action Plan for the Conservation of Mustelids and Viverrids*. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland.

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>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.5. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Unknown	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.4. Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands	-	Unknown	-

Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.1. Intentional use (species is the target)	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Rapid declines	High impact: 8
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.5. Motivation Unknown/Unrecorded	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 7
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
8. Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases -> 8.1.1. Unspecified species	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Rapid declines	High impact: 8
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
8. Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases -> 8.1.2. Named species (Canis familiaris)	Ongoing	Whole (>90%)	Rapid declines	High impact: 8
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality 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 Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Yes

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
2. Land/water management -> 2.2. Invasive/problematic species control
4. Education & awareness -> 4.2. Training
4. Education & awareness -> 4.3. Awareness & communications
5. Law & policy -> 5.1. Legislation -> 5.1.2. National level
5. Law & policy -> 5.1. Legislation -> 5.1.3. Sub-national level
5. Law & policy -> 5.4. Compliance and enforcement -> 5.4.2. National level
5. Law & policy -> 5.4. Compliance and enforcement -> 5.4.3. Sub-national level

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
1. Research -> 1.6. Actions
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.2. Harvest level trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.4. Habitat trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): Unknown
Continuing decline in number of locations: Yes
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Yes

Population
Extreme fluctuations: No
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No
All individuals in one subpopulation: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 7.9

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