**Mungos gambianus**, Gambian Mongoose

Assessment by: Sillero-Zubiri, C. & 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:** *Mungos gambianus* (Ogilby, 1835)

**Common Name(s):**
- English: Gambian Mongoose
- French: Mangue de Gambie

**Assessment Information**

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

**Year Published:** 2016

**Date Assessed:** February 28, 2015

**Justification:**
Listed as Least Concern because the species is apparently widespread, locally common, there are no major threats, and it is present in several protected areas.

**Previously Published Red List Assessments**

1996 – Data Deficient (DD)

1994 – Insufficiently Known (K)

**Geographic Range**

**Range Description:**
Endemic to West Africa, occurring from Gambia and Senegal west and south through Guinea-Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Nigeria (Van Rompaey and Sillero-Zubiri 2013). The species is also present in Benin (Djagoun and Gaubert 2009), but there are no records from Liberia, southern Mali and southern Burkina Faso. A record from Cameroon (Jeannin 1936) likely results from confusion with Banded Mongoose (*M. mungo*) (Van Rompaey and Sillero-Zubiri 2013). The Niger R. presumably forms the eastern limit.

**Country Occurrence:**
Native: Benin; Côte d'Ivoire; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Nigeria; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Togo
Population

This species has been considered the most abundant carnivore in the Guinea savanna (Booth 1960). In Senegal, the day-time frequency of observations along roads was 0.08 individual/100 km (Sillero-Zubiri and Marino 1997).

**Current Population Trend:** Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

An inhabitant of Guinea woodland (Van Rompaey and Sillero-Zubiri 2013). In Gambia, this species is associated with denser coastal woodland (Grubb et al. 1998) and dry parts of dense, partly swampy riverine forest (T. Wacher in Van Rompaey and Sillero-Zubiri 2013). Predominantly feeds on invertebrates. Like the much better-studied Banded Mongoose (*M. mungo*), it is diurnal and lives in bands of 3–10 individuals, although groups of over 30 (Bourlière et al. 1974) and even 40 individuals has been reported (Sillero-Zubiri and Bassignani 2001).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

Use and Trade

Used as bushmeat.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no known major threats, although they are often recorded sold as bushmeat, as for example in Guinea (Ziegler et al. 2002) and Benin (Djagoun and Gaubert 2009).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is present in several protected areas, such as Niokola-Koba N. P. (Senegal; Sillero-Zubiri and Marino 1997), National Park of Upper Niger (Guinea; Ziegler et al. 2002), Mount Nimba Biosphere Reserve (Guinea; Colyn et al. 2000), Comoé N. P. (Côte d'Ivoire; Fischer et al. 2002) and Mole N. P. (Ghana; Burton et al. 2011).

Credits

**Assessor(s):** Sillero-Zubiri, C. & Do Linh San, E.

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

**Contributor(s):** Hoffmann, M. & Pacifici, M.
Bibliography


Citation


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External Resources

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## Appendix

### Habitats

[Habitat classification scheme](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>Marginal</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Savanna -&gt; 2.1. Savanna - Dry</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Savanna -&gt; 2.2. Savanna - Moist</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Suitable</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Threats

[Habitat classification scheme](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>Unknown</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Stresses: 2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality

### Conservation Actions in Place

[Habitat classification scheme](http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes)

**In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management**

Occur in at least one PA: Yes

### Additional Data Fields

**Population**

Population severely fragmented: No

**Habitats and Ecology**

Generation Length (years): 4
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