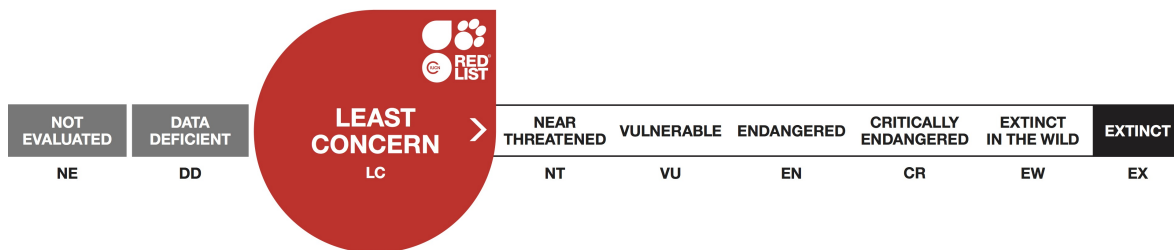


Herpestes ochraceus, Somali Slender Mongoose

Assessment by: Taylor, M.E. & Do Linh San, E.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Herpestidae

Taxon Name: *Herpestes ochraceus* (J.E. Gray, 1848)

Synonym(s):

- *Galerella ochracea* (Gray, 1849)

Common Name(s):

- English: Somali Slender Mongoose, Somalian Slender Mongoose
- French: Mangouste d'Egypte

Taxonomic Notes:

This species has been treated as conspecific with *H. sanguineus*, but is here regarded as distinct following Azzaroli and Simonetta (1966), Taylor and Goldman (1993), Wozencraft (2005), and Taylor (2013). Sometimes included in the genus *Galerella* (e.g., Wozencraft 1993, Wozencraft 2005, Veron *et al.* in press).

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2015

Date Assessed: March 31, 2015

Justification:

This species is listed as Least Concern because although this species is very poorly known, it has a relatively wide distribution range in the Horn region of Africa, where there are not believed to be any major threats to this species or to its habitat. Indeed, it is likely to be locally common.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41605A10505473.en>

2003 – Not Evaluated (NE)

Geographic Range

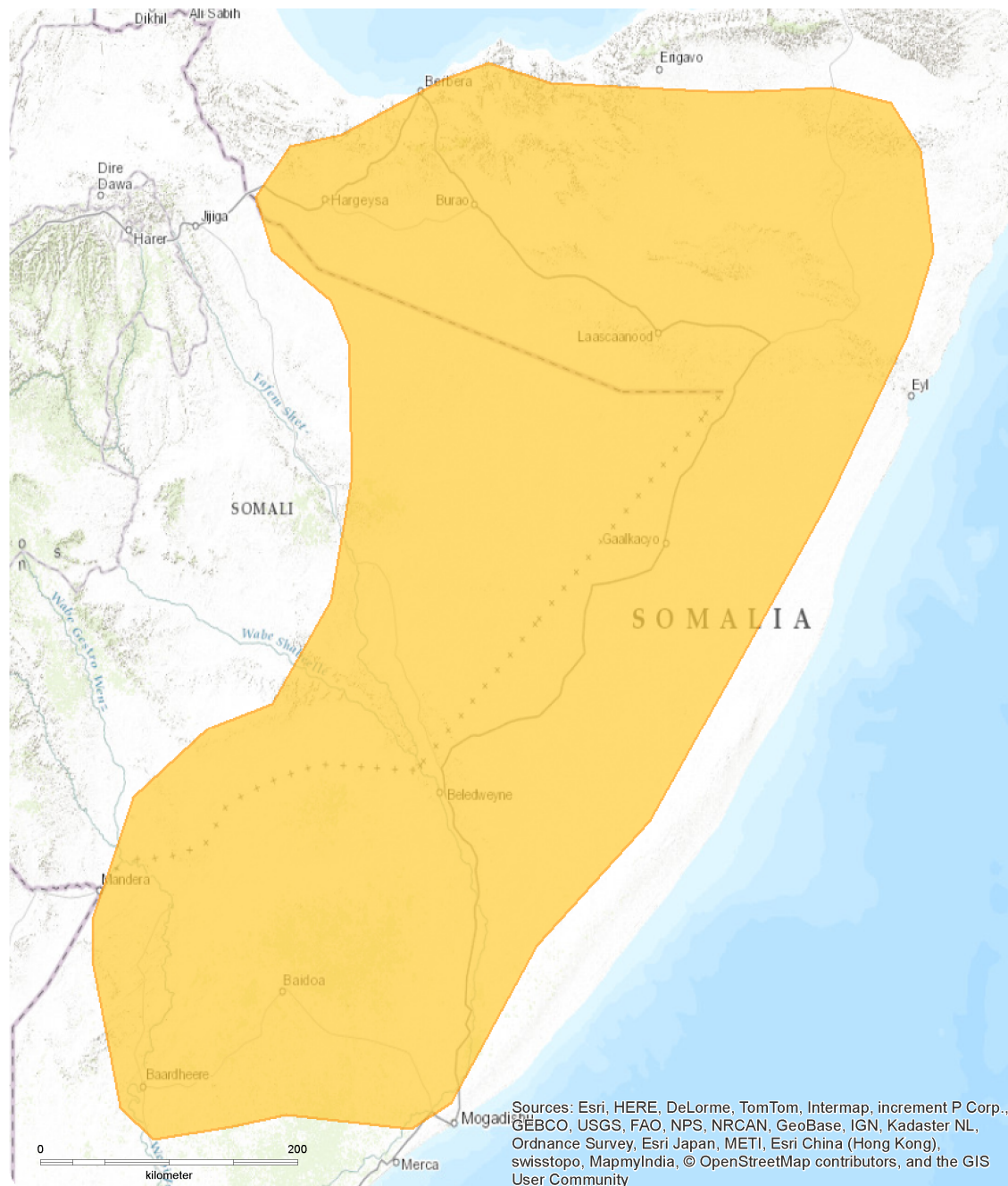
Range Description:

This species is confined to northeastern Africa, in Somalia, adjacent parts of Ethiopia and marginally in northeastern Kenya (Taylor 2013). It has been recorded at around 600 m asl in Ethiopia (Yalden *et al.* 1996).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Ethiopia; Kenya; Somalia

Distribution Map

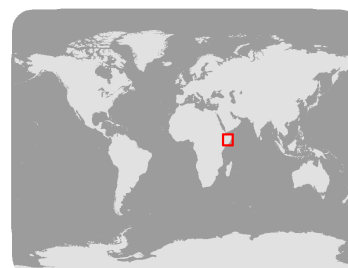


Herpestes ochraceus

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

There is little information available on this species because few specimens are available in museums, and there have been scant observations in the wild. There are 14 specimens of the Somali Slender Mongoose in the British Museum and five in the Natural History Museum of the University of Florence (as of 2013). It was previously assumed to be relatively common in arid regions, but there is absolutely no evidence to confirm this.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This is primarily an arid-adapted species, occurring in hilly areas in northern Somalia (Drake-Brockman 1910). There is a paucity of information on the behaviour and ecology of this species, although it is probably similar in many respects to the Common Slender Mongoose (*H. sanguineus*; Hoffmann and Taylor 2013).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

There is no use or trade information.

Threats

Although this species and its habitat requirements are poorly known, its range in the semi-arid regions of the Horn of Africa suggest that there are not likely to be any major threats to this mongoose.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

It is not known whether this species occurs in any protected areas. This is a very poorly known species, and is in need of further study.

Credits

Assessor(s): Taylor, M.E. & Do Linh San, E.

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

Contributor(s): Hoffmann, M.

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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?
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-
8. Desert -> 8.1. Desert - Hot	-	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: Unknown

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats

Additional Data Fields

Population
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 3

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