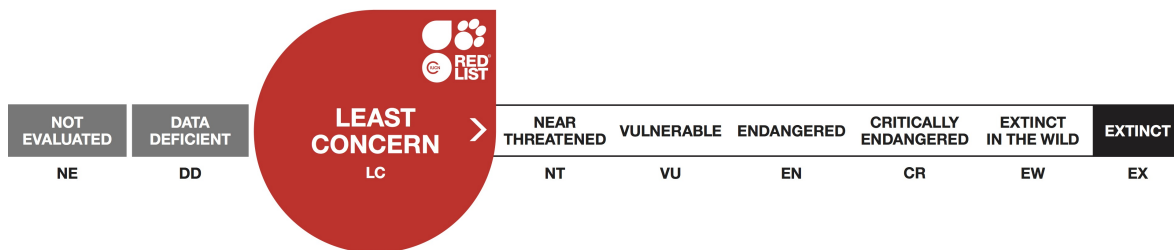


Poecilogale albinucha, African Striped Weasel

Assessment by: Stuart, C., Stuart, M. & Do Linh San, E.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Mustelidae

Taxon Name: *Poecilogale albinucha* (Gray, 1864)

Common Name(s):

- English: African Striped Weasel
- French: Poecilogale à nuque blanche

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2015

Date Assessed: February 28, 2015

Justification:

This species is listed as Least Concern because although this species occurs at relatively low densities across its wide distribution range, it has been found to have a wide habitat tolerance, to face no known major threats, and to be present in several protected areas.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41662A10530450.en>

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

Geographic Range

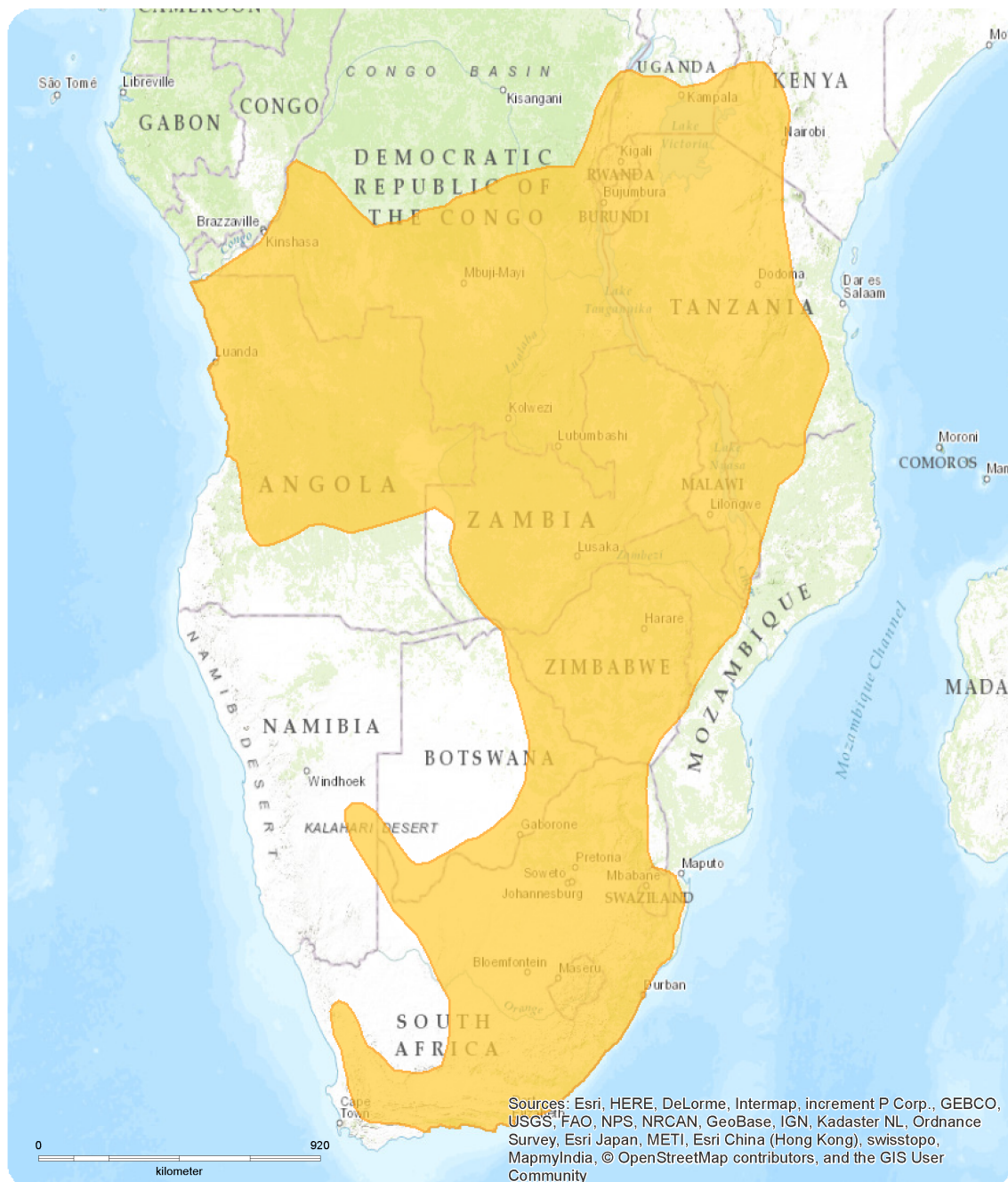
Range Description:

This species ranges from southwestern Uganda and Kenya to the Western Cape in South Africa (Stuart and Stuart 1998, 2013). Because of its secretive nature it has probably been overlooked in many areas, especially in light of records from sites that were previously considered unsuitable (Stuart and Stuart 2013). It has been recorded from nearly sea level to 2,300 m asl in Malawi (Medland and Dudley 1995).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Angola (Angola); Botswana; Burundi; Congo; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Kenya; Lesotho; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Rwanda; South Africa; Swaziland; Tanzania, United Republic of; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Distribution Map

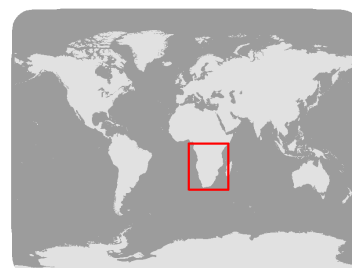


Poecilogle albinucha

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

It is rare to uncommon, with highest densities reached in moist higher rainfall grasslands (Stuart and Stuart 2013).

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It is mainly found in savanna associations, although this species probably has a wide habitat tolerance and has been recorded from lowland rainforest, semi-desert grassland, fynbos and pine plantations (Larivière and Jennings 2009, Stuart and Stuart 2013). Road kills have been collected from areas of pastures and cultivated fields.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

Cunningham and Zondi (1991) regarded this species as one of the most-used animals in traditional medicine, and in parts of its range the skins are commonly used by traditional healers and sangomas as a good luck charm.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no major threats to the species but it is hunted for use in traditional medicines.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is present in several protected areas across its range, including Masai Mara N. R., Serengeti N. P., North Luangwa N. P., Hwange N. P., Kruger N. P. and the southwestern part of the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park (Stuart and Stuart 1990).

Credits

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

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

Contributor(s): Hoffmann, M.

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Stuart, C. and Stuart, T. 2013. *Poecilogale albinucha* African Striped Weasel. In: J. Kingdon and M. Hoffmann (eds), *The Mammals of Africa. Volume V: Carnivores, Pangolins, Equids and Rhinoceroses*, Bloomsbury Publishing, London, UK.

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Citation

Stuart, C., Stuart, M. & Do Linh San, E. 2015. *Poecilogale albinucha*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2015*: e.T41662A45215258. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2015-4.RLTS.T41662A45215258.en>

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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 -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Suitable	-
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.8. Shrubland - Mediterranean-type Shrubby Vegetation	-	Suitable	-
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-
4. Grassland -> 4.7. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical High Altitude	-	Marginal	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.1. Artificial/Terrestrial - Arable Land	-	Marginal	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.2. Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland	-	Marginal	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	-	Marginal	-

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	Minority (50%)	Negligible declines	Low impact: 4
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		

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

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

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 2300
Population
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 3

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