

Genetta cristata, Crested Genet

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Viverridae

Taxon Name: *Genetta cristata* Hayman in Sanborn, 1940

Common Name(s):

- English: Crested Genet, Crested Servaline Genet
- French: Genette servaline à crête

Taxonomic Notes:

Genetta cristata was originally described as a subspecies of the Servaline Genet *G. servalina*, but it is here considered a distinct species following Rosevear (1974), Crawford-Cabral (1980), Van Rompaey and Colyn (1998) and the studies of Gaubert *et al.* (2004, 2005, 2006). See Wozencraft (2005) and Van Rompaey and Colyn (2013) for further discussion.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Vulnerable C1 [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2015

Date Assessed: February 28, 2015

Justification:

Crested Genet is listed as Vulnerable based on a total population containing *ca.* 7,000 mature individuals (roughly estimated based on a range area of *ca.* 100,000 km², an average population density highly unlikely to exceed one individual/10 km², and a proportion of mature individuals of 67%) and the likelihood that the species underwent a population decline of at least 10% over the last 12 years (assuming a generation length of four years) because of habitat loss coupled with the impacts of hunting in its range.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Vulnerable (VU) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T8998A12948550.en>

1996 – Endangered (EN)

1994 – Endangered (E)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

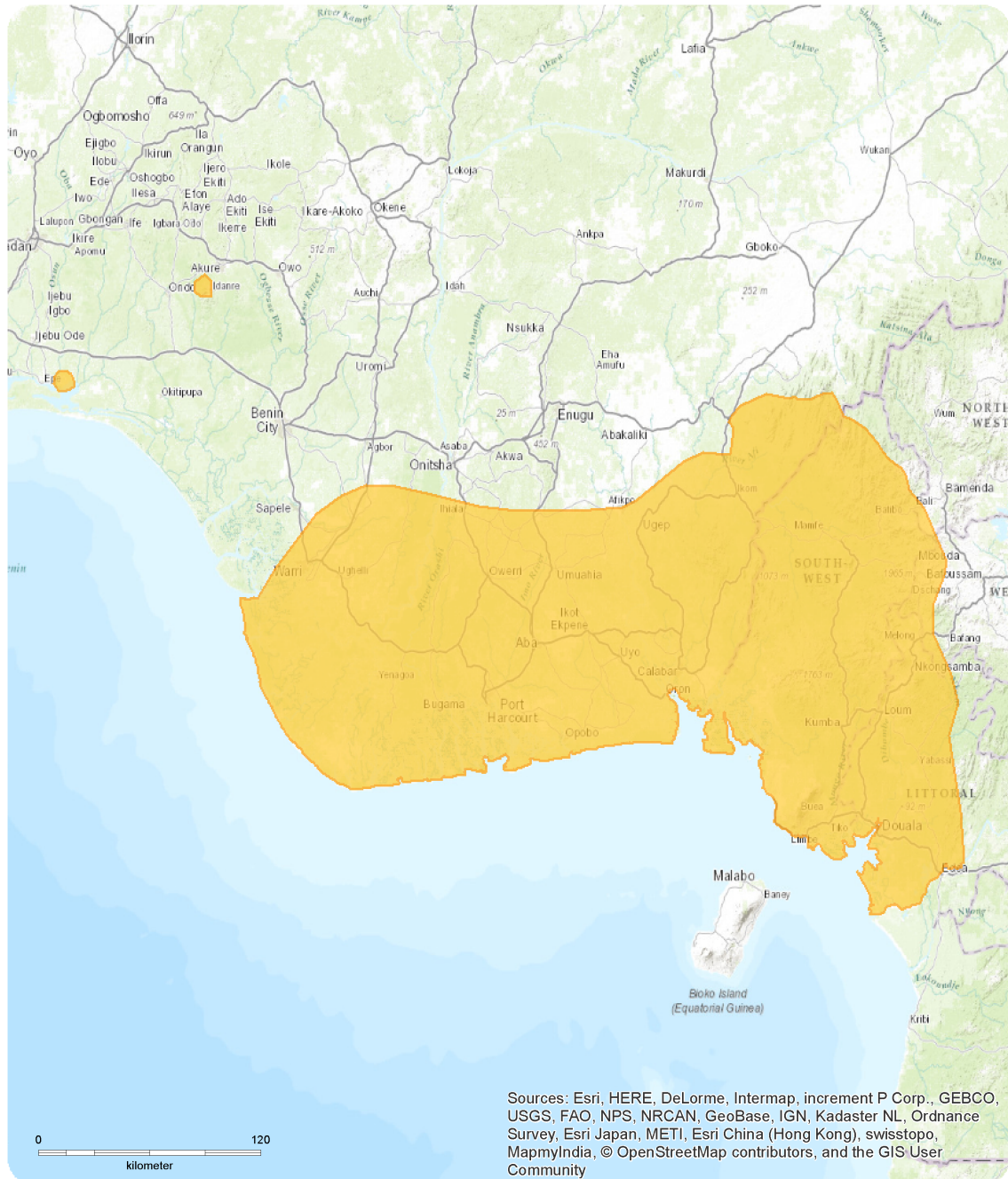
Crested Genet has mostly been recorded in Nigeria and Cameroon. It has been recorded as ranging from the Niger River eastwards to the Sanaga River, but there are also records of the species from west of the Niger Delta (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013). The region between the Niger Delta and the Cross River is heavily populated and a mosaic of forest patches and cultivated land, but recent records do exist: for

example, one was bought at the roadside near Azumini (Angelici and Luiselli 2005). Gaubert *et al.* (2006) give records that show this species ranging more than 500 km south of the Sanaga River to southern Cameroon, Gabon and Republic of Congo, as well as 180 km west of the known range in Nigeria between Oni and Epe (but these are not mapped). The species ranges from sea level to more than 1,000 m a.s.l.

Country Occurrence:

Native: Cameroon; Nigeria

Distribution Map

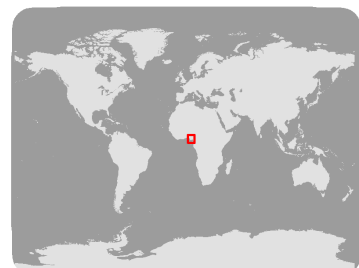


Genetta cristata

Range
■ Extant (resident)

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

NE DD LC NT < VU > EN CR EW EX
VULNERABLE



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



Population

In the Niger Delta area the Crested Genet seems to be common where it occurs, but there is no information on its abundance east of the Cross River (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013).

Current Population Trend: Decreasing

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species inhabits scrub, low tangled vegetation, and bare ground below trees in tall deciduous forest. Occasionally, it is also present in secondary and montane forest (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013). In Nigeria, Angelici and Luiselli (2005) found that the presence of this species was statistically correlated with the presence of primary dry forest and bush–mango plantations inside the forest, and to a lesser extent secondary dry forest, and primary flooded forest but negatively influenced by the presence of suburban areas, pineapple plantations, bushlands, and oil-palm plantations.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

This species is hunted and used as bushmeat.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

Habitat loss is probably a major threat to this species, since the Cross River State forests are rapidly being converted into farms or wastelands and the Niger Delta is exploited as an oil-production area. The species is also believed to suffer from high hunting pressure (Van Rompaey and Colyn 2013).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

It is not known whether this species occurs in any protected areas, but it may occur in the Cross River National Park There is no protected area in the Niger Delta.

Credits

Assessor(s): Gaubert, P., Angelici, F.M. & Do Linh San, E.

Reviewer(s): Duckworth, J.W. & 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?
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.8. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Swamp	-	Marginal	-
1. Forest -> 1.9. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane	-	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
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.4. Scale Unknown/Unrecorded	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 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%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation 2. Species Stresses -> 2.2. Species disturbance		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.1. Intentional use (species is the target)	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6
	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: Unknown

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
3. Species management -> 3.1. Species management -> 3.1.1. Harvest management

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
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): 1000
Population
Number of mature individuals: 7000
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Yes
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: No
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: Unknown
All individuals in one subpopulation: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 4

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