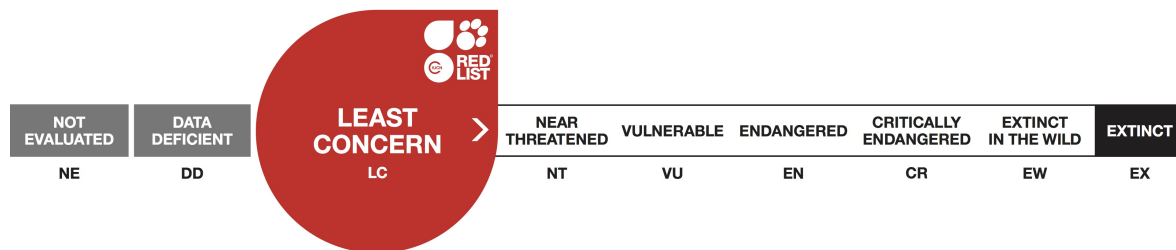


Mungos mungo, Banded Mongoose

Assessment by: Gilchrist, J.S. & Do Linh San, E.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Herpestidae

Taxon Name: *Mungos mungo* (Gmelin, 1788)

Synonym(s):

- *Viverra mungo* Gmelin, 1788

Common Name(s):

- English: Banded Mongoose
- French: Mangue rayée

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 has no major threats, has a wide distribution range, is generally common in suitable habitat, occurs in several protected areas, and adapts well to human habitation.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC) – <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41621A10517053.en>

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

Geographic Range

Range Description:

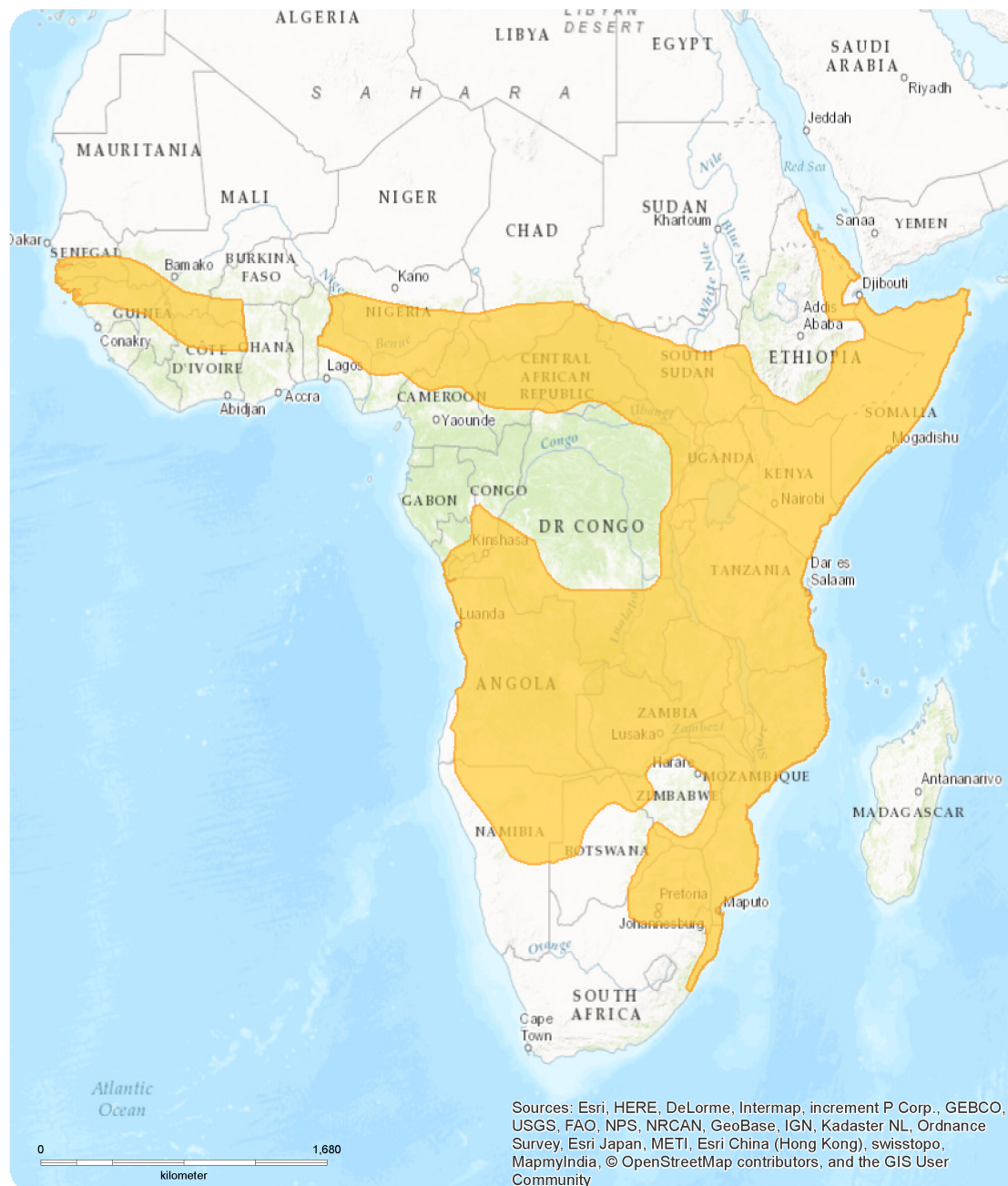
Distributed widely in sub-Saharan Africa from Senegal and Gambia to Ethiopia, Eritrea and Somalia, and south to about 31° in South Africa. Although fairly widespread in southern Africa, the species appears to be rare in West Africa, and its presence in several countries in the region requires confirmation, including Benin and Niger (present according to Skinner and Chimimba 2005); and Ghana, Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Togo (no records; Grubb *et al.* 1998). The relative scarcity of *M. mungo* in west Africa may be due to niche overlap with its congener, Gambian Mongoose (*M. gambianus*), endemic to west Africa and reported to occupy similar habitat and have a similar diet (Cant and Gilchrist 2013, van Rompaey and Sillero-Zubiri 2013). Its presence in Djibouti (north-east Africa) is also unconfirmed. Despite report of introduction to Zanzibar (Pakenham 1984), neither Stuart and Stuart (1998) nor Goldman and Winther-Hansen (2003) recorded this species during camera-trapping surveys, suggesting that it is either rare or absent. Recorded to 1,600 m a.s.l. in Ethiopia (Yalden *et al.* 1996).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Angola (Angola); Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Côte d'Ivoire; Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gabon; Gambia; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Kenya; Malawi; Mali; Mozambique; Namibia; Nigeria; Rwanda; Senegal; Somalia; South Africa; Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania, United Republic of; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe

Distribution Map

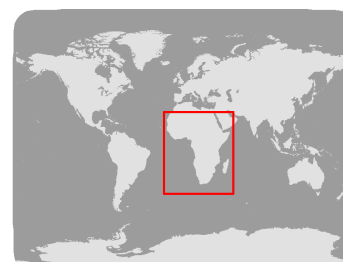
Mungos mungo



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

Recorded densities vary widely between habitats and locations. Maddock (1988) estimated population density in KwaZulu-Natal (South Africa) at 2.4 individuals/km². On the Serengeti plains (Tanzania), density estimated as 2.2 individuals/km² (Waser *et al.* 1995). By contrast, a population in Queen Elizabeth N. P. (Uganda) lives at higher densities, averaging 18 individuals/km² (Cant and Gilchrist 2013).

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Occurs in a wide range of habitats, but primarily found in savanna and woodland, usually close to water, and absent from desert, semi-desert and montane regions (Cant and Gilchrist 2013). Often found in habitats containing termitaria, which are used as den sites. Also observed in towns and villages. Diet consists mainly of insects, with other invertebrates, vertebrates (including reptiles, amphibians, the eggs and young of birds, small mammals), and wild fruits also consumed (Gilchrist *et al.* 2009, Maddock *et al.* in press). Flexible and known to forage on human garbage (Gilchrist and Otali 2002, Otali and Gilchrist 2004). Highly social but territorial species, living in groups of 4–29 individuals with low reproductive skew (most females breed) (Gilchrist *et al.* 2009), making populations less vulnerable to stochastic effects than other social mongoose species (Meerkat *Suricata suricatta* and Common Dwarf Mongoose *Helogale parvula*). Home range size varies from 0.61 to 2.01 km² in Uganda (Gilchrist and Otali 2002), and is larger in more arid areas (Hiscocks and Perrin 1991). Diurnal with daily foraging distance range from 2 to 10 km (Neal 1970, Rood 1975, 1986). Dispersal occurs via voluntary fission and eviction (Cant *et al.* 2013). Within groups, relatedness is high within (but not between) females and males (Cant *et al.* 2013). In Queen Elizabeth N. P. (Uganda) Banded Mongooses breed up to four times a year, while only one to two litter(s) per year have been recorded in drier regions (Cant and Gilchrist 2013). Mean age of first conception is 321 days and mean litter size per female at birth (all females) is estimated at 3.32 (Gilchrist *et al.* 2004), with a gestation period of 90 days (Cant 2000). Within groups, parturition is usually synchronous (Hodge *et al.* 2011). Group demography impacts female reproductive success via abortion, eviction and infanticide with younger females bearing the costs (Gilchrist 2006a, Cant *et al.* 2013). Fecundity and reproductive success are correlated with female age and size (Gilchrist 2006b, Nichols *et al.* 2012). Survival rate is low in pups (0.299) and high in adults (0.857) (Otali and Gilchrist 2004). Maximum life-span is 13 years in males and 11 years in females (Cant and Gilchrist 2013). Carrier of *Leptospira interrogans*, a pathogen capable of infecting humans (Jobbins *et al.* 2013).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade

Acknowledged to be consumed as bushmeat (Jobbins *et al.* 2013).

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no major threats to the species, although its meat is consumed locally (Jobbins *et al.* 2013).

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Banded Mongooses are present in numerous protected areas across their wide range on the African continent.

Credits

Assessor(s): Gilchrist, J.S. & Do Linh San, E.
Reviewer(s): Duckworth, J.W. & Hoffmann, M.
Contributor(s): Hoffmann, M. & Pacifici, M.

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External Resources

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Appendix

Habitats

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

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.5. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	Yes
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Marginal	-
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	-	Suitable	Yes
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Marginal	-
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	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	Unknown	No decline	Unknown
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

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Upper elevation limit (m): 1600
Population
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 4.3

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