

# Genetta maculata, Large-spotted Genet

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## **Taxonomy**

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family	
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Carnivora	Viverridae	

**Taxon Name:** Genetta maculata (Gray, 1830)

### Common Name(s):

• English: Large-spotted Genet, Blotched Genet, Central African Large-spotted Genet, Panther

Genet, Rusty-spotted Genet

• French: Genette à taches rousses, Genette commune à grandes taches

#### **Taxonomic Notes:**

The name *rubiginosa* previously used for this species has been shown to be invalid (Schlawe 1981, Crawford-Cabral and Pacheco 1992). To complicate the matter further, a statement of ICZN (2007) ruled that the specific name *maculata* Gray, 1830 should not be conserved. *Genetta maculata* belongs to the 'large-spotted genet complex', that also comprises what are now considered to be two separate species, namely Pardine Genet (*G. pardina*) and Cape Genet (*G. tigrina*). *Genetta maculata* as here restricted still appears to be a 'superspecies' comprising several valid species. For details on the complicated taxonomic history of this taxon see Gaubert *et al.* (2003a,b), Wozencraft (2005) and Angelici and Gaubert (2013).

### **Assessment Information**

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2016

**Date Assessed:** December 29, 2015

#### Justification:

Listed as Least Concern as although it is possible that they may be undergoing some localised declines in a few areas, they have a wide distribution range, occur in a variety of habitats, and are present in many protected areas on the African continent.

#### **Previously Published Red List Assessments**

2008 - Least Concern (LC) - http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T41699A10523144.en

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

# **Geographic Range**

#### Range Description:

Widely distributed in sub-Saharan Africa, ranging from Nigeria to Eritrea and Somalia (to our knowledge there are no records from Djibouti) and southwards to central Namibia and KwaZulu-Natal province in South Africa (Angelici and Gaubert 2013). It is unclear whether animals from Togo and Benin correspond to Large-spotted Genets or Pardine Genets (*G. pardina*), or both. Although Harrington *et al.* (2002)

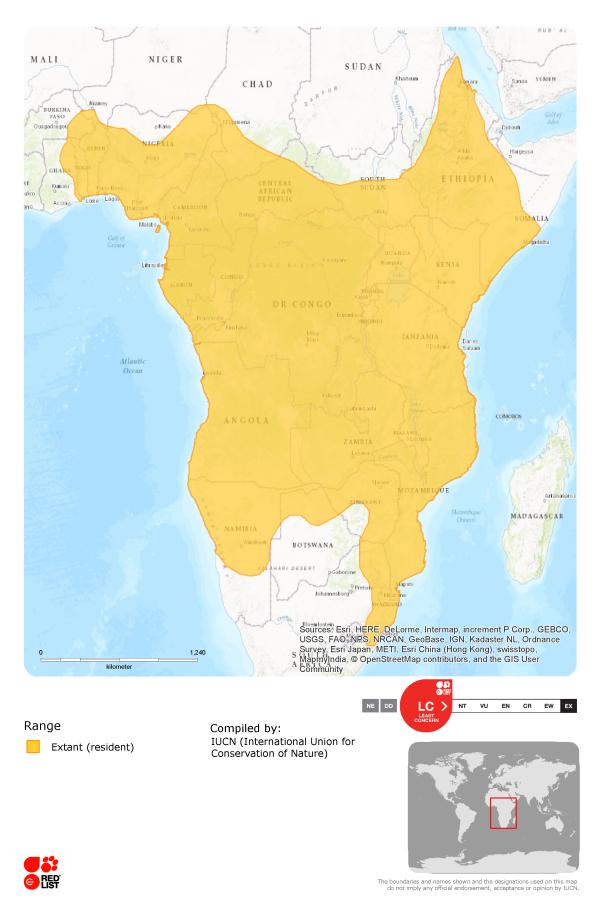
suggested that the species could be present on Bioko I., recent argumentation strongly indicates that this is not the case (Hoffmann *et al.* 2015). Occurs from nearly sea level to high elevations, up to 3,400 m a.s.l. in the Simien Mountains of Ethiopia (Yalden *et al.* 1996).

#### **Country Occurrence:**

**Native:** Angola (Angola); Botswana; Burundi; Cameroon; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo; Congo, The Democratic Republic of the; Equatorial Guinea (Equatorial Guinea (mainland)); Eritrea; Ethiopia; Gabon; Kenya; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Somalia; South Africa; Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania, United Republic of; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe

# **Distribution Map**

Genetta maculata



## **Population**

Relatively common, though its nocturnal and elusive habits mean that it may be infrequently recorded. In south-eastern Nigeria, sightings are not common, although it is rather common in bushmeat markets and frequently trapped by local hunters (Angelici *et al.* 1999a,b).

**Current Population Trend:** Unknown

# Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Present in a variety of habitats, including rainforest, swampy areas, riverine vegetation, open and closed woodlands, moist forests, savanna-forest mosaics, thickets and even grassy savanna, but avoiding extremely dry savanna and truly arid regions (Angelici and Gaubert 2013). Also occurs in cultivated areas, farmlands and suburban areas. The presence of this species in Nigeria was found to be positively correlated with 'derived savanna', 'oil palm plantations' and other altered habitats, but to be negatively correlated with various types of forests (Angelici and Luiselli 2005).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

### **Use and Trade**

Used as bushmeat.

### Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no major threats to the species. However, they are recorded in bushmeat markets, and since they do have a bad reputation as poultry thieves, farmers sometimes poison or trap them; they are also occasionally killed by domestic cats and dogs (Angelici and Gaubert 2013).

## **Conservation Actions** (see Appendix for additional information)

They are present in several protected areas across their range.

### **Credits**

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

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

**Contributor(s):** Dunham, A.

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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	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.9. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Montane		Suitable	-
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry		Marginal	-
2. Savanna -> 2.2. Savanna - Moist	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.6. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Moist	-	Suitable	-
3. Shrubland -> 3.7. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical High Altitude		Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations	-	Suitable	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens	-	Marginal	-
14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.5. Artificial/Terrestrial - Urban Areas	-	Marginal	-

## **Threats**

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
12. Other options -> 12.1. Other threat	Ongoing	-	-	-
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping Ongoing - Negligible of restrial animals -> 5.1.1. Intentional use (species is e target)		Negligible declines	-	
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.1. Species mortality		
5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.3. Persecution/control	Ongoing	-	-	-
	Stresses:	2. Species Stress	es -> 2.1. Species mor	tality

## **Conservation Actions in Place**

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

Conservation Actions in Place	
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management	

#### **Conservation Actions in Place**

Occur in at least one PA: Yes

# **Research Needed**

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

#### **Research Needed**

1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy

### **Additional Data Fields**

### Distribution

Lower elevation limit (m): 0

Upper elevation limit (m): 3400

#### **Population**

Population severely fragmented: No

### **Habitats and Ecology**

Generation Length (years): 4

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