

From raw data to Red List:

The Red List assessment process



WHAT IS A RED LIST ASSESSMENT?



IUCN Red List assessment: an estimate of extinction risk

What is the likelihood of a species becoming extinct in the near future, given current knowledge about **population trends**, **range**, and recent, current or projected **threats**?

It is not a list of species that are priorities for conservation action





Giraffe



Resources & Publications

Support us

Translate page

Back to search results

Jump to Giraffe: In detail



Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

ABSTRACT

Giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis has most recently been assessed for The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 2016. Giraffa camelopardalis is listed as Vulnerable under criteria A2acd.

Download **Text Overview** Amendment version

THE RED LIST ASSESSMENT 1

Muller, Z., Bercovitch, F., Brand, R., Brown, D., Brown, M., Bolger, D., Carter, K., Deacon, F., Doherty, J.B., Fennessy, J., Fenness...

NEAR THREATENED (VULNERABLE > LAST ASSESSED

09 July 2016

SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT

Global

Assessment in detail

POPULATION TREND

Decreasing

NUMBER OF MATURE INDIVIDUALS

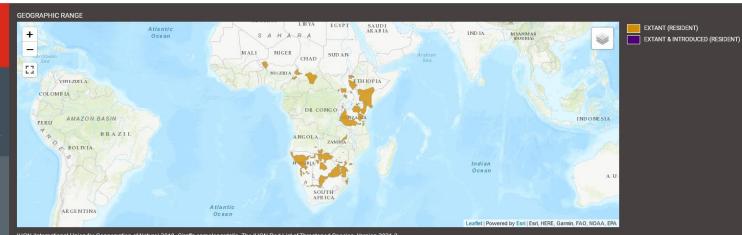
68,293

Population in detail

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Forest, Savanna, Shrubland

Habitat and ecology in detail



IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) 2018. Giraffa camelopardalis. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2021-3

Geographic range in detail





Support us

Translate page



Back to search results

Jump to Giraffe: In detail



Muller, Z., Bercovitch, F., Brand, R., Br

THRE	LEAST	DATA	NOT
	CONCERN	DEFICIENT	EVALUATED
	LC	DD	NE



68,293

Population in detail
HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Forest, Savanna,

Shrubland

Habitat and ecology in detail

Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

Taxonomic Notes.

The IUCN SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group (GOSG) currently recognizes a single species, *Giraffa camelopardalis*. Nine subspecies of Giraffes are currently recognized (Dagg 2014), although some authorities dispute this taxonomic classification (e.g., Groves and Grubb 2011). Several subpopulations of Giraffe, resident in northern Botswana, northwest Zimbabwe, northeastern Namibia and southwestern Zambia, are potentially either *G. c. angolensis*, or *G. c. giraffa* but the continued accumulation of information indicates that a future reassessment might be in order. Until an extensive reassessment of the taxonomic status of giraffes is completed, therefore, it is premature to alter the taxonomic *status quo*. This assessment is based upon an interim consensus that a single species of giraffes is resident on the African continent.

Justification

Giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis*) is assessed as Vulnerable under criterion A2 due to an observed, past (and ongoing) population decline of 36-40% over three generations (30 years, 1985-2015). The factors causing this decline (levels of exploitation and decline in area of occupancy and habitat quality) have not ceased and may not be reversible throughout the species' range. The best available estimates indicate a total population in 1985 of 151,702-163,452 Giraffes (106,191-114,416 mature individuals), and in 2015 a total population of 97,562 Giraffes (68,293 mature individuals). Historically the species has been overlooked in terms of research and conservation, but in the past five years, considerable progress has been made in compiling and producing a species-wide assessment of population size and distribution by the members of the IUCN SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group. Some Giraffe populations are stable or increasing, while others are declining, and each population is subject to pressure by threats specific to



EXTANT (RESIDENT)

EXTANT & INTRODUCED (RESIDENT)



Giraffe



Resources & Publications

Support us

Translate page

Back to search results

Jump to Giraffe: In detail



Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

ABSTRACT

Giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis has most recently been assessed for The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 2016. Giraffa camelopardalis is listed as Vulnerable under criteria A2acd.

Download ~

Text Overview

Amendment version

THE RED LIST ASSESSMENT 1

Muller, Z., Bercovitch, F., Brand, R., Brown, D., Brown, M., Bolger, D., Carter, K., Deacon, F., Doherty, J.B., Fennessy, J., Fenness...

NEAR THREATENED (VULNERABLE >

LAST ASSESSED

09 July 2016

SCOPE OF ASSESSMENT

Global

Assessment in detail

POPULATION TREND

Decreasing

NUMBER OF MATURE INDIVIDUALS

68,293

Population in detail

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

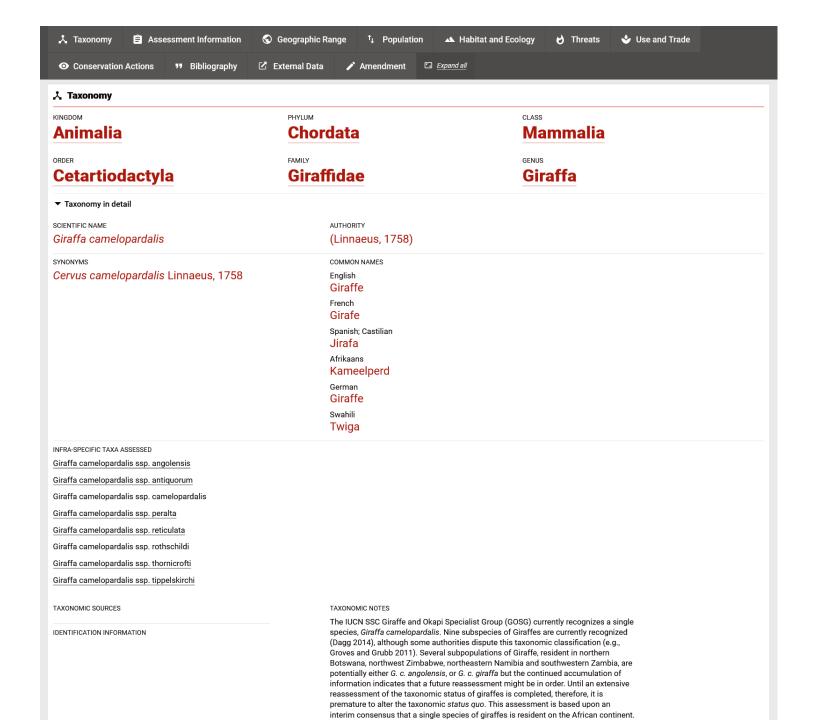
Forest, Savanna, Shrubland

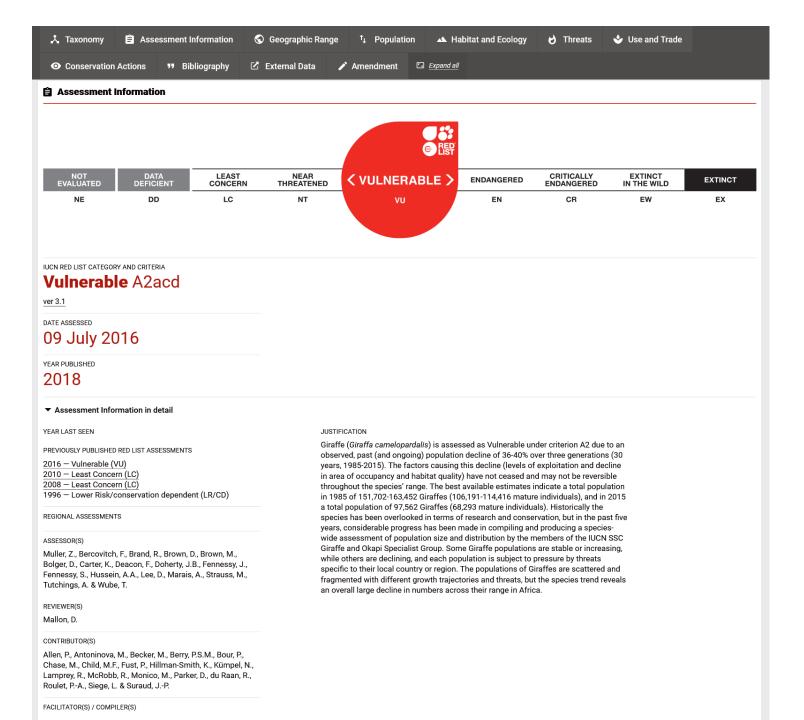
Habitat and ecology in detail

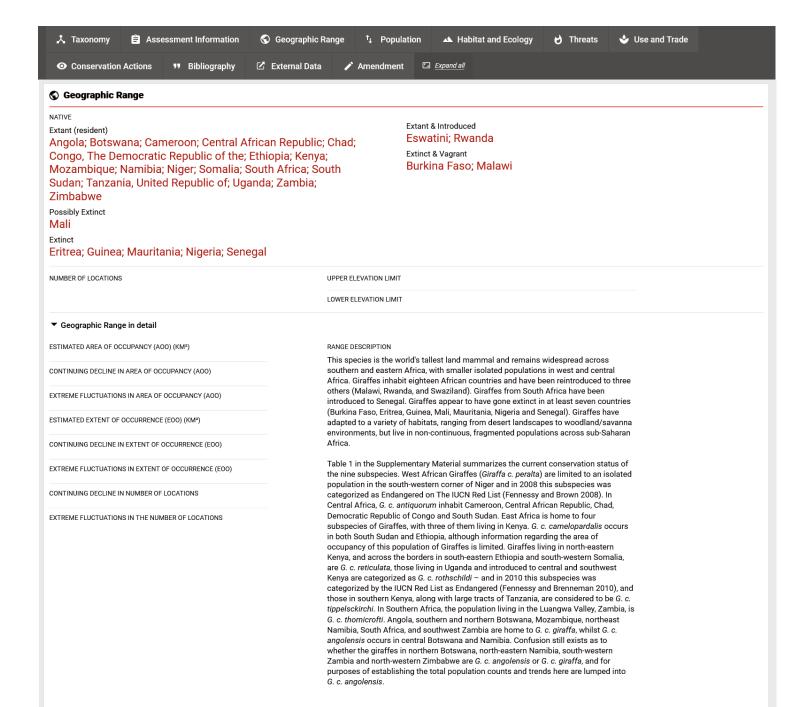


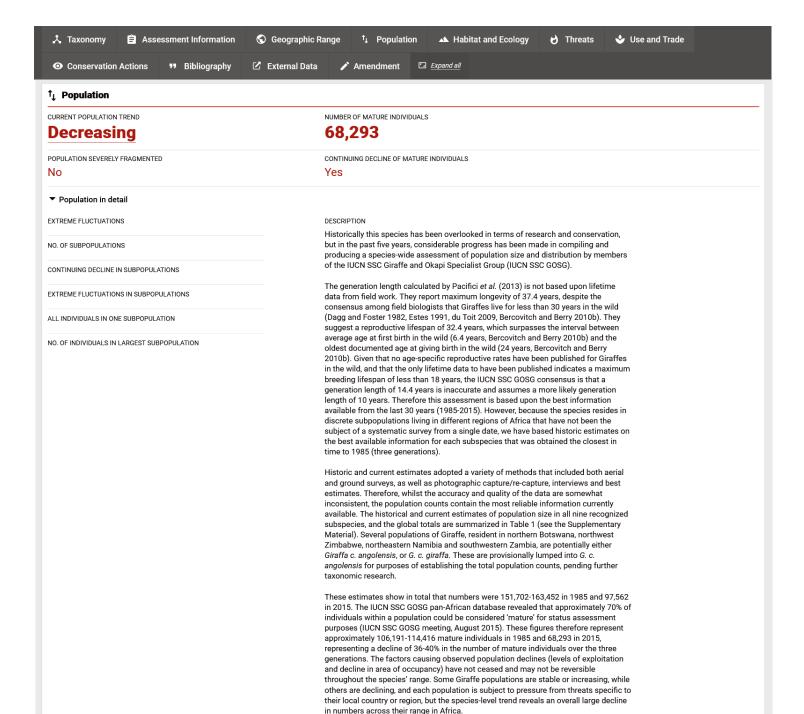
IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) 2018. Giraffa camelopardalis. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2021-3

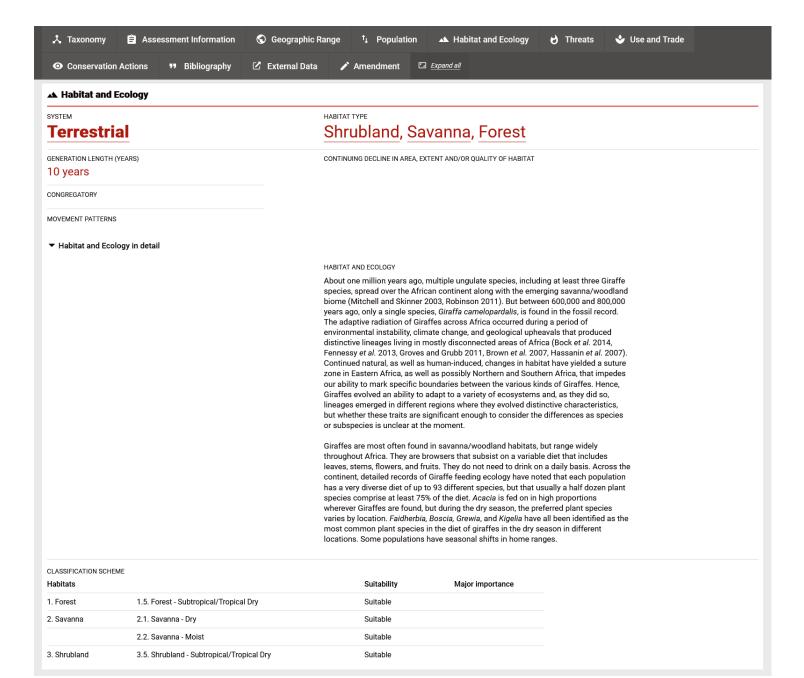
Geographic range in detail

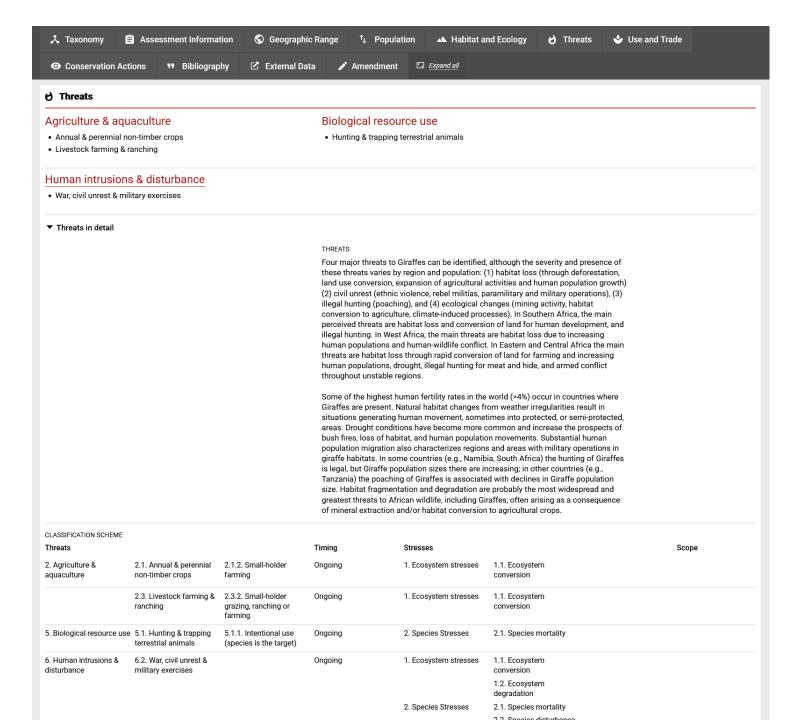


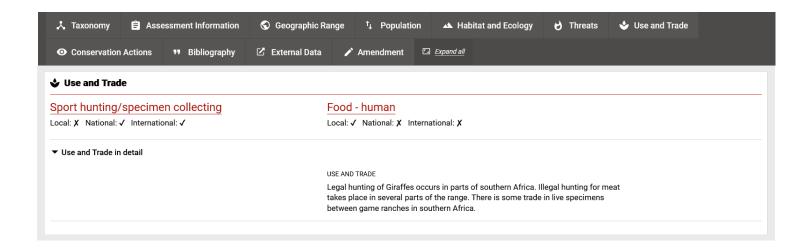


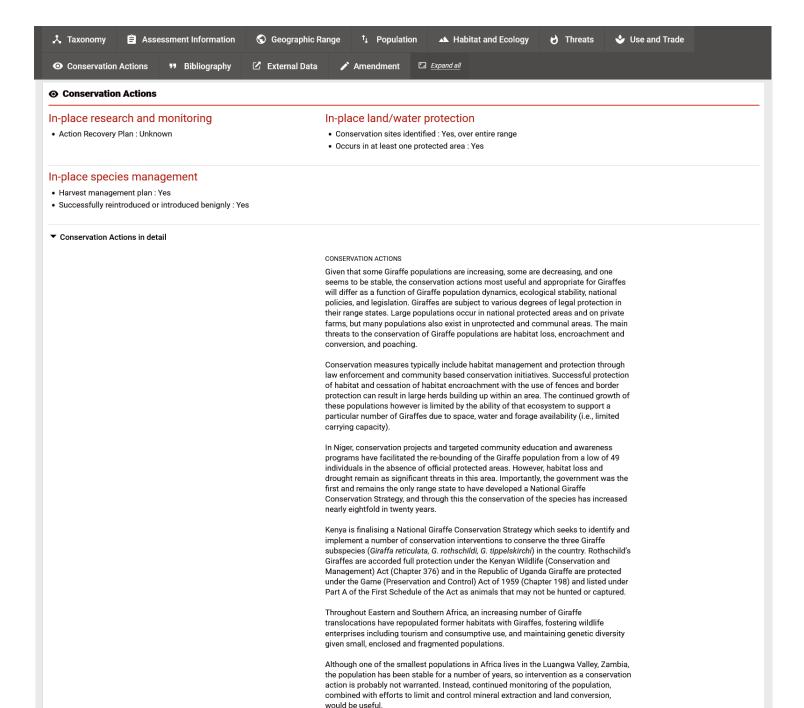














77 Bibliography

▼ Red List Bibliography

Bercovitch, F. and Berry, P.S.M. 2010a. Ecological determinants of herd size in the Thornicroft's giraffe of Zambia. *African Journal of Ecology* 48: 962-971.

Bercovitch, F., Careter, K., Fennessy, J. and Tutchings, A. In prep. Thornicroft's giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis thornicrofti* Lydekker 1911) conservation status report. IUCN/SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group.

Berkovitch, F.B. and Berry. P.S.M. 2010b. Reproductive life history of Thornicroft's giraffe in Zambia. *African Journal of Ecology* 48: 535-538.

Berry, P.S.M. and Bercovitch, F. 2016. Population census of Thornicroft's giraffe *Giraffa camelopardalis thornicrofti* in Zambia, 1973-2003. *Oryx* 50(4): 721-723. DOI: https://doi.org/10.1017/S003060531500126X.

Bock, F., Fennessy, J., Bidon, T., Tutchings, A., Marais, A., Deacon, F. and Janke, A. 2014. Mitochondrial sequences reveal a clear separation between Angolan and South African giraffe along a cryptic rift valley. *BMC Evolutionary Biology* 14: 219.

Bolger, D.T., Ogutu, J.O., Strauss, M., Lee, D.E., Fennessy, J. and Brown, D. In prep. Masai giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis tippelskirchi*) conservation status report. IUCN/SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group.

Brand, R. 2007. Evolutionary ecology of giraffes (*Giraffa camelopardalis* in Etosha National Park, Namibia. PhD thesis. Newcastle University, UK.

Brown, D.M., Brenneman, R.A., Georgiadis, N.J., Koepfli, K.-P., Pollinger, J. P., Mila, B., Louis Jr., E., Grether, G.F., Jakobs, D.K. and Wayne, R.K. 2007. Extensive population genetic structure in the giraffe. *BMC Biology* 5: 57. DOI: 10.1186/1741-7007-5-57.

Carter, K.D., Seddon, J.M., Frere, C.H., Carter, J.K. and Golidzen, A.W. 2013. Fissionfusion dynamics in wild giraffes, may be driven by kinship, spatial overlap and individual social preferences. *Animal Behaviour* 85: 385-394.

Dagg, A.I. 2014. *Giraffe: Biology, Behaviour, and Conservation.* Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK.

Dagg, A.I. and Foster, J.B. 1982. *The Giraffe: its anatomy, behavior and ecology. Second Edition.* R.E. Krieger Publishing Co., Malabar.

Deacon, F., Tutchings, A. and Bercovitch, F. In prep. South African giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis giraffa*) conservation status report. IUCN/SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group.

Doherty, J.B., Abdullahi, A., Fennessy, J., Marais, A. and Wobe, T. In prep. Reticulated giraffe (*Giraffa camelopardalis reticulata* de Winton 1899_ conservation status report. IUCN/SSC Giraffe and Okapi Specialist Group.

Du Toit, J. 2009. Giraffes and okapis. In: D.W. Macdonald (ed.), *The Encyclopedia of Mammals*, pp. 742-748. Oxford University Press, Oxford, UK.

East, R. (compiler). 1999. African Antelope Database 1998. IUCN, Gland, Switzerland and Cambridge, UK.

Estes, R. 1991. *The Behavior Guide to African Mammals*. University of California Press, Rerkely, CA

Fennessy, J. and Brenneman, R. 2010. *Giraffa cameloardalsi* ssp. *rothschildi. The IUCN Red list of Threatened Species* 2010: e.T174469A7077893. DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2010-2.RLTS.T174469A7077893.en.



Giraffe

Ad

dvance

About

ssment process

esources & Publica

Support us

Translate page

Text Overview

Back to search results

Jump to Giraffe: In detail



Giraffe

Giraffa camelopardalis

ABSTRACT

Geographic range in detail

Giraffe Giraffa camelopardalis has most recently been assessed for The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in 2016. Giraffa camelopardalis is listed as Vulnerable under criteria A2acd.

AVAILABLE FILES

Assessment (PDF)

Amazing Species (PDF)

Supplementary Information

Range data - Polygons (SHP)

Range map (JPG)

THE RED LIST ASSESSMENT 1

Muller, Z., Bercovitch, F., Brand, R., Brown, D., Brown, M., Bolger, D., Carter, K., Deacon, F., Doherty, J.B., Fennessy, J., Fenness...

NOT DEFICIENT CONCERN THREATENED

NE DD LC NT VU

E) ENDANGERED CRITICALLY EXTINCT EXTINCT
EN CR EW EX

POPULATION TREND

Decreasing

NUMBER OF MATURE INDIVIDUALS

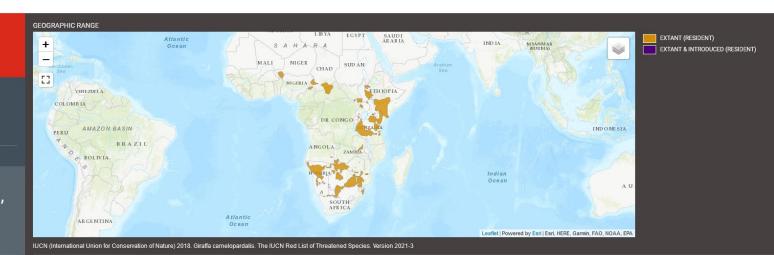
68,293

Population in detail

HABITAT AND ECOLOGY

Forest, Savanna, Shrubland

Habitat and ecology in detail





Components of a Red List assessment

1. Red List category and criteria

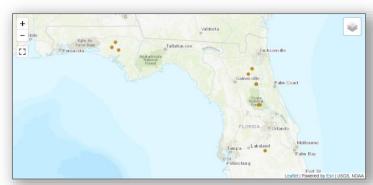


- Purple Skimmer Libellula jesseana
- Vulnerable B1ab(iv)

2. Documentation supporting the category and criteria

 Population size, trend and status; range; threats; conservation measures; etc.

3. Distribution map





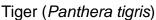
What can be assessed?

Oncorhynchus nerka BERING-ALASKAN MIXING

All described taxa:

- Species
- Subspecies
- Varieties (plants)
- Subpopulations
 - - Microorganisms..???
- Undescribed taxa, only if:
 - Clearly distinct species
 - Voucher references provided
 - Distribution information available
 - Conservation benefit to the assessment







Sumatran Tiger (*P. t.* sumatrae)



Malayan Tiger (*P. t.* jacksoni)



Amur Tiger (*P. t.* altaica)





Maui Chaff Flower (Achyranthes splendens var. splendens)



Microorganisms



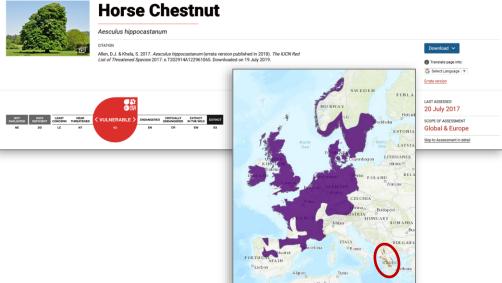
What can be assessed?

IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria apply to:

- Global level assessments
- Regional and national level only with the Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at Regional Levels
- Wild populations inside their natural range, and populations resulting from conservation introductions (also called "benign introductions")









RED LIST ASSESSMENT PROCESS



Who is involved in producing a Red List assessment?

Project Managers

 Coordinate assessment projects; finalize assessments; liaise between assessors/reviewers/IUCN RLU

Assessors

 Provide data; apply the Red List Categories and Criteria considering all relevant data

Contributors (optional)

 Provide data and contribute knowledge to the assessment, but do not apply the Red List C&C

Reviewers

 Review each assessment before publication to ensure data is comprehensive and accurate

IUCN Red List Unit

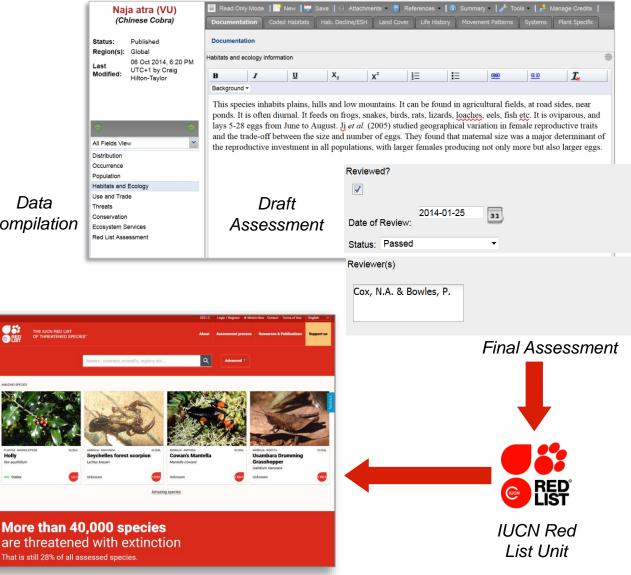
• Final assessment sign-off; manage Red List database/website; field petitions and enquiries



Assessment Process



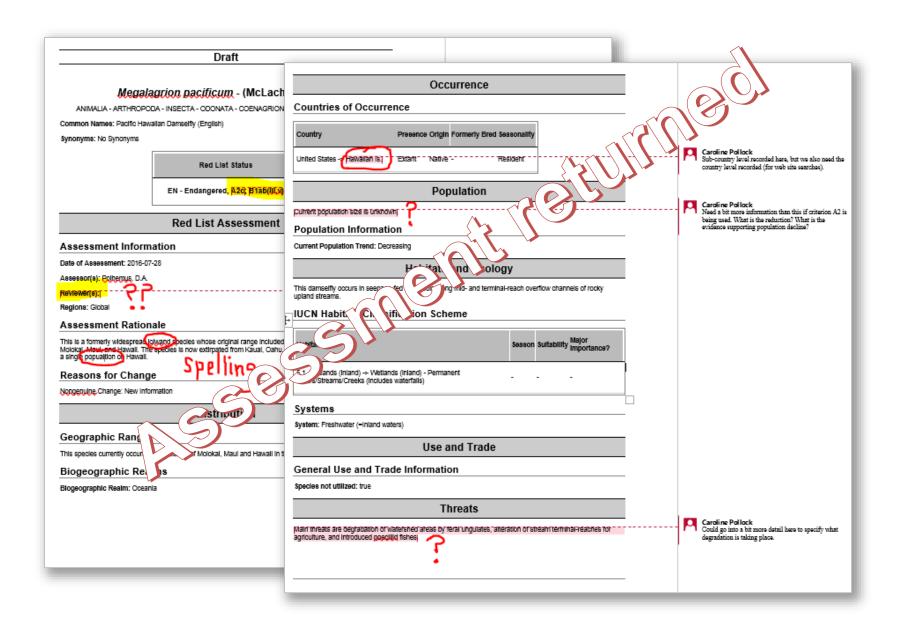
compilation



Assessment (workshop or individuals)



Red List Unit: Final Checks





Essential tools for Red List assessments

www.iucnredlist.org

