



METADATA: Digital Distribution Maps on *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*[™]

Version 4

Identification Information

1. Introduction: This dataset contains distribution information on species assessed for *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*[™] (hereafter The IUCN Red List). The maps are developed as part of a comprehensive assessment of global biodiversity in order to highlight taxa threatened with extinction, and thereby promote their conservation.

The IUCN Red List assessment data are made freely available for non-commercial use to help inform conservation planning and other decision making processes (see Point 2 below). For more information about the assessment process and the underlying data, please see The IUCN Red List website (www.iucnredlist.org).

The data are held in shapefiles, the Esri native format, and contain the known range of each species. Ranges are depicted as polygons. DBF files accompanying each polygon contain taxonomic information, and information on distribution status, sources and other details about the maps (see Data Attributes section below).

2. Use Constraints: These data and any derivatives may not be used for commercial or any revenue generating activities without prior written permission from IUCN. All forms of reposting, sub-licensing, reselling or other forms of redistribution of these data in their original format are also prohibited without prior written permission from IUCN. Please refer to the Terms and Conditions of Use at: <http://www.iucnredlist.org/info/terms-of-use>.

3. Credits: Users MUST provide the appropriate credit(s) for this spatial data if it is used in any product produced in any media.

For individual species maps, credit information is provided in the Citation field of the attribute data which accompanies each shapefile. This information should be used in conjunction with the credit information for the spatial data set as a whole using the following format:

<citation field information>. <year>. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. Version <Red List version>. <http://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on <insert appropriate date>.

Note that <year> refers to the latest year in the YEAR attribute data field for the species. See table 15 below, and <Red List version> should be the latest version on the IUCN Red List website.

For example, if the spatial data for the Reticulate Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytus reticulatus*) was used in a field guide, the credit for the map would be as follows:

NatureServe and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature). 2007. *Crotaphytus reticulatus*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. Version 2014.1. <http://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 05 June 2014.

To provide credit to the dataset as a whole (or in general) or to substantial portions of the dataset the following citation should be used:

IUCN 2014. The *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2014.1*. <http://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on <insert appropriate date>.

Contact Information:

4. Contact Organization: IUCN Red List Unit

5. Contact Email Address: RedListGIS@iucn.org

Spatial Reference Information:

6. Projection: Unprojected (Geographic Coordinate system)

7. Projection Parameters: Units: decimal degrees

8. Datum: WGS_1984

9. Base Maps: Please see the IUCN Red List website resources page (<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/spatial-data>) for more information.

Data Attributes:

10. Number of fields in Attribute Table: 15 (16 for freshwater species)

11. Names of Attributes:

Field	ESRI Field Type	Description
ID_NO	Integer	Internal Record ID
BINOMIAL	String	Scientific name of the species
BASINID (for freshwater species only)	Integer	River Basin ID (Hydrosheds). (Note that this field is only included when species are mapped using the freshwater mapping protocol)
PRESENCE	ShortInt	Is/Was the species in this area, codes listed below
ORIGIN	ShortInt	Why/ How the species is in this area, codes listed below
SEASONAL	ShortInt	What is the seasonal presence of the species in the area, codes listed below
COMPILER	String	Name of the individual/s or institution/s responsible for generating the polygon, if not IUCN.
YEAR	ShortInt	Year in which the polygon was mapped, compiled, or modified
CITATION	String	Individual/s or institution/s responsible for providing the data
SOURCE	String	Source of distribution range given.
DIST_COMM	String	Distribution comments that refer directly to the polygon.
ISLAND	String	Name of the island the polygon is on
SUBSPECIES	String	Epithet
SUBPOP	String	Epithet
TAX_COMM	String	Taxonomic comments that refer directly to the polygon. Includes

		notes on polygons pertaining to subspecies or subpopulations.
LEGEND	String	Code containing the combinations of the presence, origin and seasonality fields determining how the map will be displayed on The IUCN Red List website.

12. Coded Domain Values for Presence, Origin and Seasonality:

i. Presence

Code	Presence
1	Extant
2	Probably Extant (discontinued)
3	Possibly Extant
4	Possibly Extinct
5	Extinct (post 1500)
6	Presence Uncertain

Extant – The species is known or thought very likely to occur presently in the area, which encompasses localities with current or recent (last 20-30 years) records where suitable habitat at appropriate altitudes remains. Extant ranges are included in the calculation of the extent of occurrence (EOO) and in maps of the historical distribution¹ of the species.

Probably Extant – *This code value has been discontinued for reasons of ambiguity. It may exist in the spatial data but will gradually be phased out.*

Possibly Extant – There is no record of the species in the area, but the species may possibly occur, based on the distribution of potentially suitable habitat at appropriate altitudes, although the area is beyond where the species is Extant (i.e., beyond the limits of known or likely records), and the degree of probability of the species occurring is lower (e.g., because the area is beyond a geographic barrier, or because the area represents a considerable extension beyond areas of known or probable occurrence). Identifying Possibly Extant areas is useful to flag up areas where the taxon should be searched for. Possibly Extant ranges are not included in the calculation of EOO or in maps of the current and / or historical distribution of the taxon.

Possibly Extinct – The species was formerly known or thought very likely to occur in the area (post 1500 AD), but it is most likely now extirpated from the area because habitat loss and/or other threats are thought likely to have extirpated the species, and there have been no confirmed recent records despite searches. Possibly Extinct ranges are not included in the calculation of EOO, but are included in maps of the historical distribution of the taxon.

Extinct – The species was formerly known or thought very likely to occur in the area (post 1500 AD), but it has been confirmed that the species no longer occurs because exhaustive searches have failed to produce recent records, and the intensity and timing of threats could plausibly have extirpated the taxon. Extinct ranges are not included in the calculation of EOO, but are included in maps of the historical distribution of the taxon.

Presence Uncertain – A record exists of the species' presence in the area, but this record requires verification or is rendered questionable owing to uncertainty over the identity or authenticity of the record, or the accuracy of the location. Presence uncertain records are not included in the calculation of EOO or in maps of the historical distribution of the taxon.

¹See note 5.

Notes:

1. These codes are mutually exclusive, e.g. a polygon coded as “Extant” cannot also be coded as “Extinct”.
2. In accordance with the Red List Categories and Criteria, Extant polygons can include inferred or projected sites of present occurrence (see the *Guidelines for Using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria* for further guidance).
3. When there is uncertainty as to whether or not a species still occurs in an area in which it was formerly known to occur (usually because there have been no recent surveys), it is necessary for assessors to judge whether it is more appropriate to assign a coding of Extant or Possibly Extinct (based on available knowledge of remaining habitat, intensity of threats, adequacy of searches, and other evidence).
4. EOO calculations should be based on polygons coded as Extant only.
5. Maps of the historical range of a species can be produced by combining polygons coded as Extant, Probably Extant, Possibly Extinct, and Extinct.
6. The old Presence code 2 (Probably Extant) is now discontinued.

ii. Origin

Code	Origin
1	Native
2	Reintroduced
3	Introduced
4	Vagrant
5	Origin Uncertain

Native – The species is/was native to the area

Reintroduced - The species is/was reintroduced through either direct or indirect human activity.

Introduced – The species is/was introduced outside of its historical distribution range through either direct or indirect human activity.

Vagrant – The species is/was recorded once or sporadically, but it is known not to be native to the area.

Origin Uncertain -The species’ provenance in an area is not known (it may be native, reintroduced or introduced)

Notes:

1. These codes are mutually exclusive; a polygon coded as “Native” cannot also be coded as “Introduced”.

iii. Seasonality

Code	Seasonality
1	Resident
2	Breeding Season
3	Non-breeding Season
4	Passage
5	Seasonal Occurrence Uncertain

Resident – the species is/was known or thought very likely to be resident throughout the year

Breeding Season – The species is/was known or thought very likely to occur regularly during the breeding season and to breed.

Non-breeding Season – The species is/was known or thought very likely to occur regularly during the non-breeding season. In the Eurasian and North American contexts, this encompasses 'winter'.

Passage – The species is/was known or thought very likely to occur regularly during a relatively short period(s) of the year on migration between breeding and non-breeding ranges.

Seasonal Occurrence Uncertain – The species is/was present, but it is not known if it is present during part or all of the year.

Metadata Reference Information:

13. Metadata Date: Nov 2009 (Version 1)

14. Most recent Update: June 2014 (version 4)