

# SAND CAT IN ABU DHABI EMIRATE FACT SHEET



## SAND CAT:

The Sand cat is a small cat with a body length of 40 - 57 cm and a weight range of 1.4 - 3.4 kg.



These cats are strictly nocturnal hunters and obtain their water from prey like jerboas, lizards, rabbits, insects, birds and snakes.



The soles of their feet are covered with a thick layer of dark wiry hair that gives them a stealthy movement and protects the soles of their feet from hot sand.



## DISTRIBUTION:

Sand cats are shy and secretive animals that live in sandy deserts.

In Abu Dhabi Emirate, they occur in some of the EAD managed protected areas in Al Dhafra Region.



## FUTURE ACTIONS:

EAD will continue to study this species using camera traps.

## STATUS:

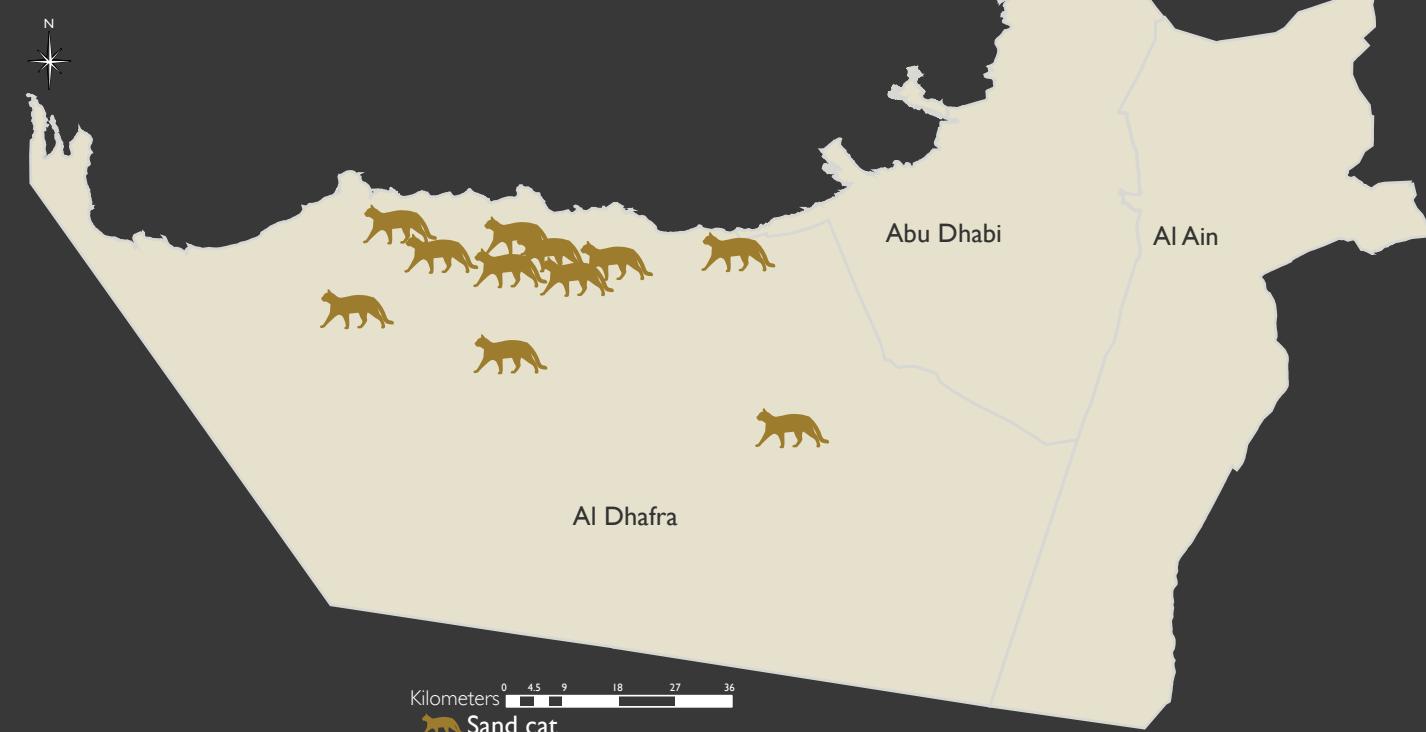
Sand cats are classified as Least Concern on the IUCN Red List, while it is considered endangered in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

As of 2019 we have recorded less individuals in the wild.



## CONSERVATION:

The Sand cat is a top predator and its presence indicates a healthy ecosystem and is therefore a good indicator species.



Kingdom :Animalia  
Phylum :Chordata  
Class :Mammalia  
Order :Carnivora  
Family :Felidae  
Genus :Felis  
Species :margarita