

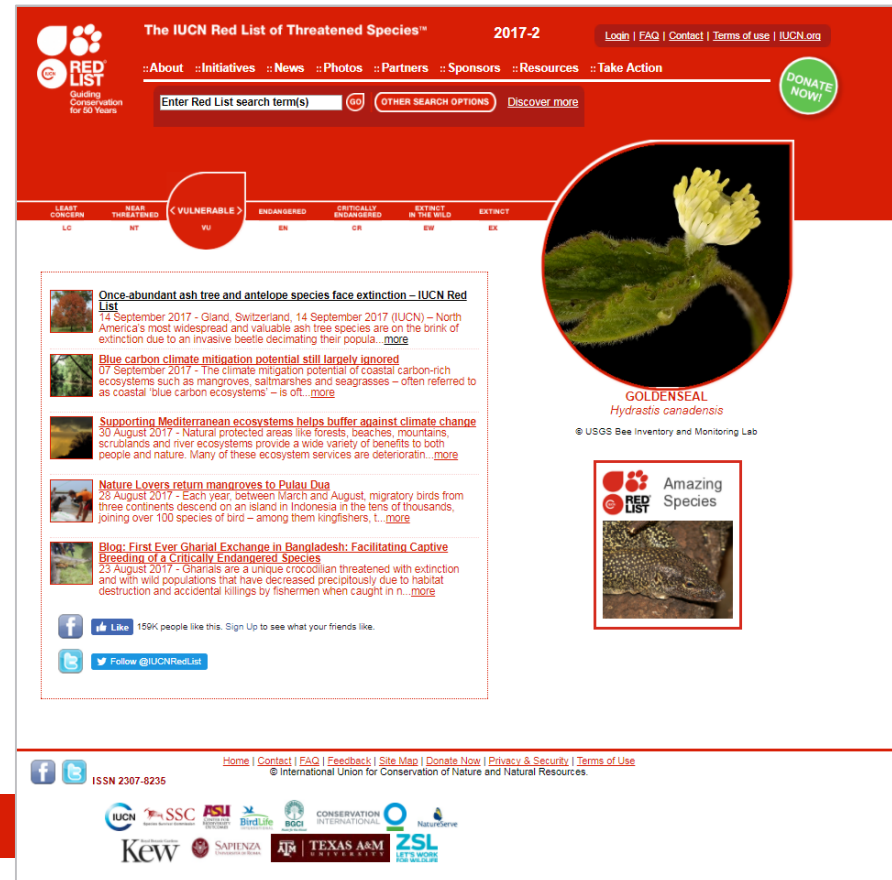
The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species

A brief introduction

What is the IUCN Red List?

World's most comprehensive information source for extinction risk of species.

- Not just a list, but a compilation of the conservation status of species at the global level
- Based on the best scientific information available
- Widely used to inform and influence biodiversity conservation



The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ 2017-2

Login | FAQ | Contact | Terms of use | IUCN.org

[About](#)
[Initiatives](#)
[News](#)
[Photos](#)
[Partners](#)
[Sponsors](#)
[Resources](#)
[Take Action](#)

Enter Red List search term(s) [OTHER SEARCH OPTIONS](#) [Discover more](#)

[LEAST CONCERN](#)
[NEAR THREATENED](#)
[VULNERABLE](#)
[ENDANGERED](#)
[CRITICALLY ENDANGERED](#)
[EXTINCT IN THE WILD](#)
[EXTINCT](#)

[LC](#)
[NT](#)
[VU](#)
[EN](#)
[CR](#)
[EW](#)
[EX](#)

Once-abundant ash tree and antelope species face extinction – IUCN Red List
 14 September 2017 - Gland, Switzerland, 14 September 2017 (IUCN) – North America's most widespread and valuable ash tree species are on the brink of extinction due to an invasive beetle decimating their populus. [more](#)

Blue carbon climate mitigation potential still largely ignored
 07 September 2017 - The climate mitigation potential of coastal carbon-rich ecosystems such as mangroves, saltmarshes and seagrasses – often referred to as coastal 'blue carbon ecosystems' – is off. [more](#)

Supporting Mediterranean ecosystems helps buffer against climate change
 30 August 2017 - Natural protected areas like forests, beaches, mountains, scrublands and river ecosystems provide a wide variety of benefits to both people and nature. Many of these ecosystem services are deteriorating. [more](#)

Nature Lovers return mangroves to Pulau Dua
 28 August 2017 - Each year, between March and August, migratory birds from three continents descend on an island in Indonesia in the tens of thousands, joining over 100 species of bird – among them kingfishers. [more](#)

Blog: First Ever Gharial Exchange in Bangladesh: Facilitating Captive Breeding of a Critically Endangered Species
 23 August 2017 - Gharials are a unique crocodilian threatened with extinction and with wild populations that have decreased precipitously due to habitat destruction and accidental killings by fishermen when caught in n. [more](#)

[f](#) Like 150K people like this. Sign up to see what your friends like.
 [t](#) Follow @IUCNRedList

GOLDENSEAL
Hydrastis canadensis
 © USGS Bee Inventory and Monitoring Lab

Amazing Species

[Home](#)
[Contact](#)
[FAQ](#)
[Feedback](#)
[Site Map](#)
[Donate Now](#)
[Privacy & Security](#)
[Terms of Use](#)

ISSN 2307-8235
 © International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

IUCN SSC ASU BirdLife IUCN CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL ZSL Kew SAPIENZA AQR TEXAS A&M MEXICAN

What is the IUCN Red List?

- More than just names and threat categories
- Includes information on threats (e.g. invasive species), ecological requirements, and conservation actions
- Species assessments are generated through the knowledge of thousands of the world's leading scientists through a peer review process.



IUCN Red List Objectives

- Establish a baseline from which to monitor the change in status of species
- Provide a global context for the establishment of conservation priorities at the local level
- Monitor, on a continuing basis, the status of a representative selection of species (as biodiversity indicators) that cover all the major ecosystems of the world



IUCN Red List assessment: an estimate of **extinction risk**

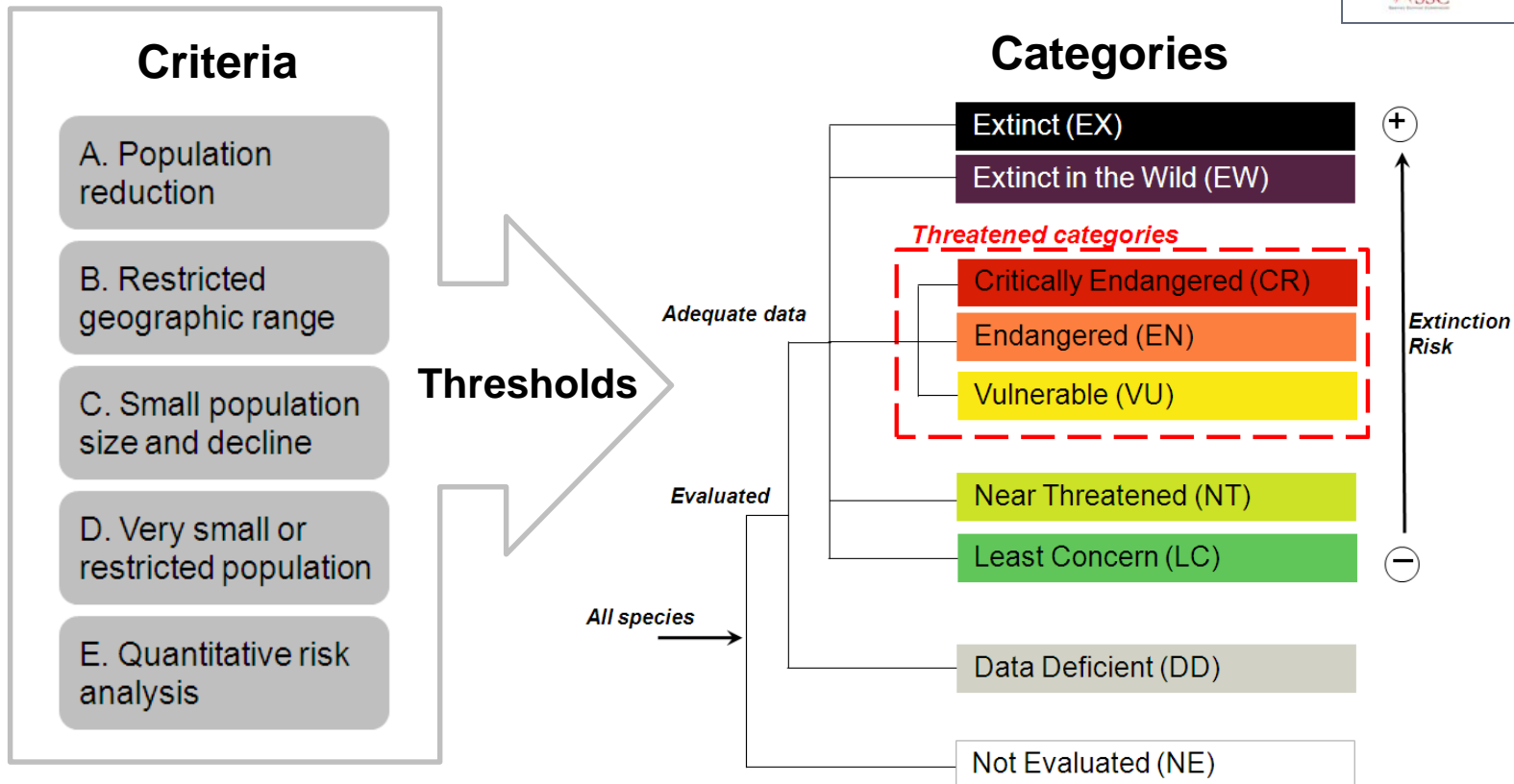
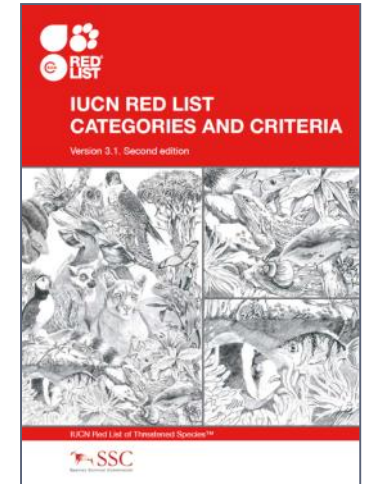
What is the likelihood of a species becoming extinct in the near future, given current knowledge about **population trends**, **range**, and recent, current or projected **threats**?

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



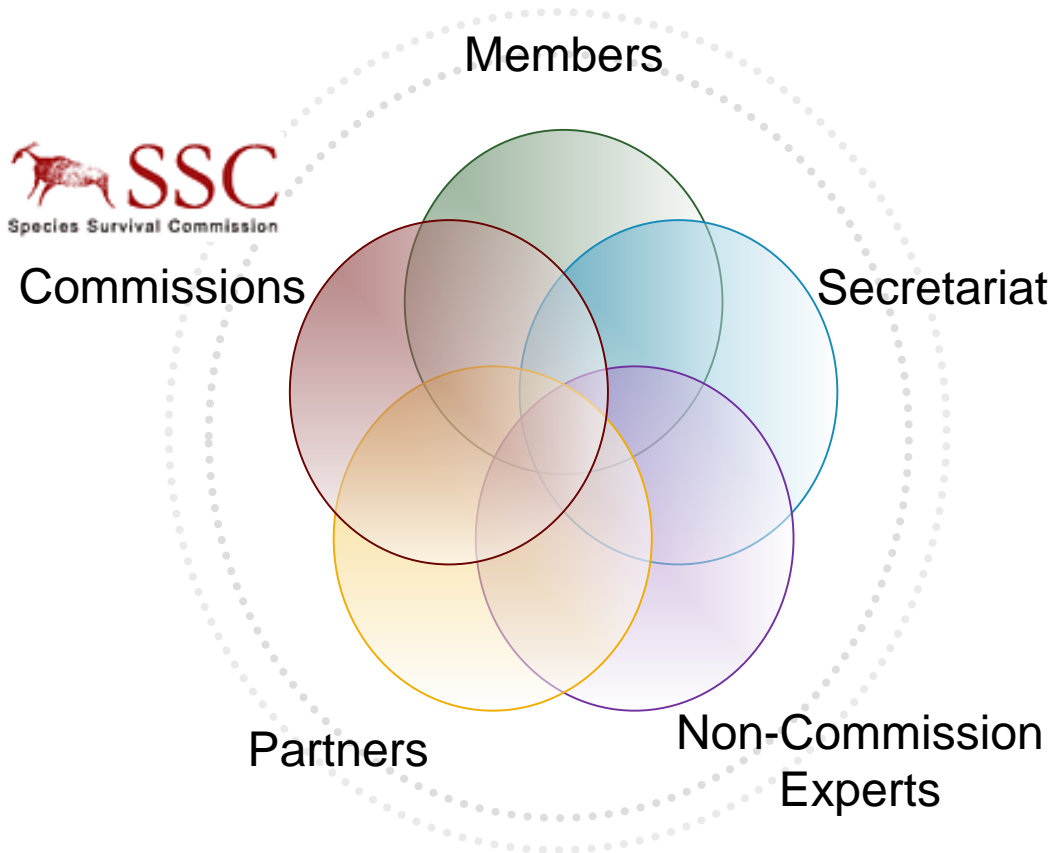
Illustration copyright Bob Diven

IUCN Red List Categories & Criteria



WHO IS INVOLVED?

IUCN



Created in 1948

>1,300 member organizations

- >80 States
- >100 Government agencies
- >800 NGOs

>1,000 staff (***including Regional Offices***)

>16,000 Commission members
(scientists and experts)

~5,000 representatives from partner
organizations

Many experts that are not
Commission members

In 185+
countries

Official observer to the UN
General Assembly



HOW IS IT COMPILED?

Assessment Process



Assessment Workshop

Naja atra (VU)
(Chinese Cobra)

Status: Published

Region(s): Global

Last Modified: 06 Oct 2014, 6:20 PM
UTC+1 by Craig Hillton-Taylor

Read Only Mode
New
Save
Attachments
References
Summary
Tools
Manage Credits

Documentation
Coded Habitats
Hab. Decline/ESH
Land Cover
Life History
Movement Patterns
Systems
Plant Specific

Documentation

Habitats and ecology information

B
I
U
 X_2
 X^2
 \equiv
 \equiv
[GO](#)
[GO](#)
I

Background ▾

This species inhabits plains, hills and low mountains. It can be found in agricultural fields, at road sides, near ponds. It is often diurnal. It feeds on frogs, snakes, birds, rats, lizards, loaches, eels, fish etc. It is oviparous, and lays 5-28 eggs from June to August. Ji et al. (2005) studied geographical variation in female reproductive traits and the trade-off between the size and number of eggs. They found that maternal size was a major determinant of the reproductive investment in all populations, with larger females producing not only more but also larger eggs.

⬆

All Fields View ▾

- Distribution
- Occurrence
- Population
- Habitats and Ecology**
- Use and Trade
- Threats
- Conservation
- Ecosystem Services
- Red List Assessment

Draft Assessment

Red List of Threatened Species™ 2014.3

Home | Help | Contact | Information | About Us

[Status](#) |
 [News](#) |
 [Photos](#) |
 [Partners](#) |
 [Sponsors](#) |
 [Resources](#)

DONATE NOW!

Reviewed?

☒

Date of Review:

2014-01-25

31

Status:

Passed

Reviewer(s)

Cox, N.A. & Bowles, P.

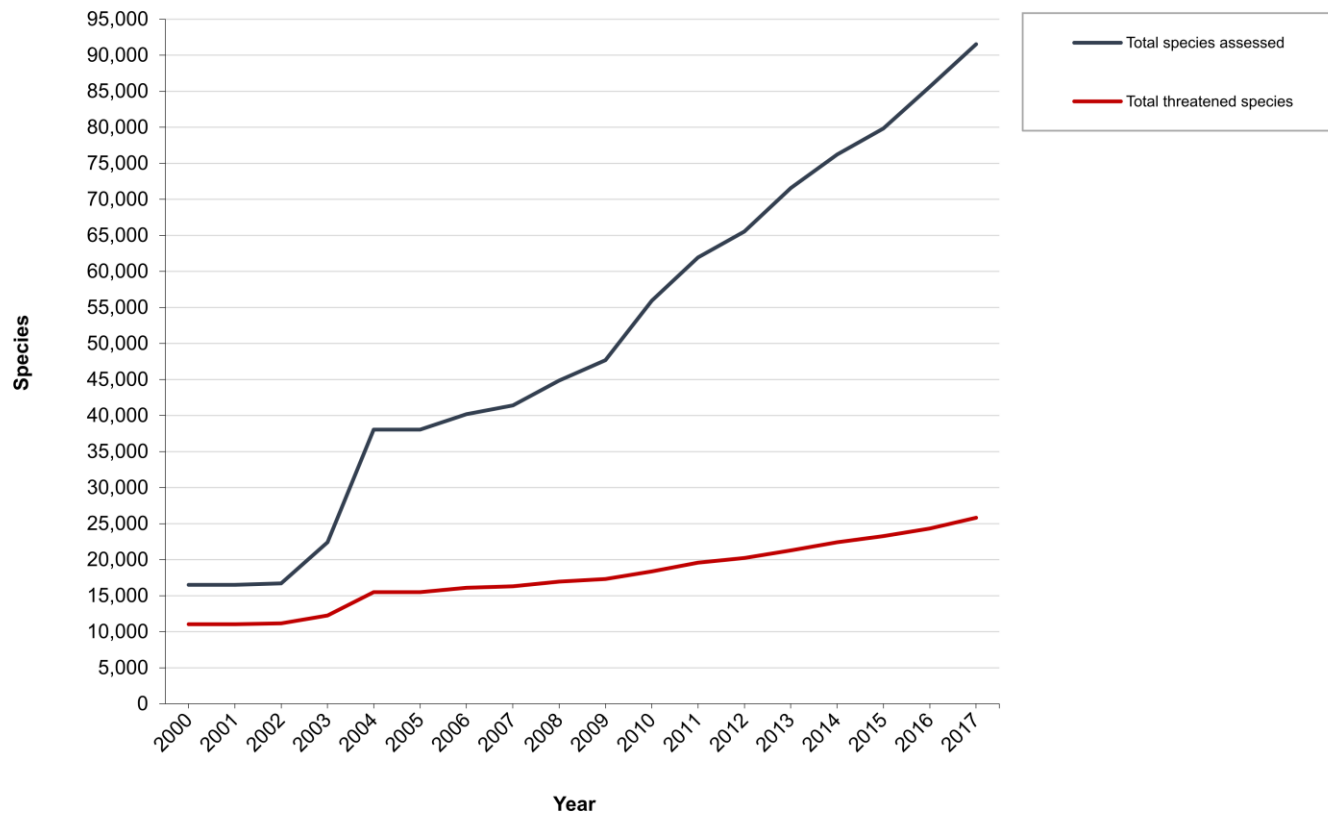
Final Assessment



*IUCN Red
List Unit*



WHAT THE RED LIST TELLS US



- Number of species on the Red List is increasing – NOT all threatened
- Increasing taxonomic coverage
- Increasingly, more complete taxonomic groups are being assessed
- Reassessments underway



Communicating the State of Biodiversity

935 species EX or EW

The IUCN Red List (ver. 2017-3)

25,821 threatened species

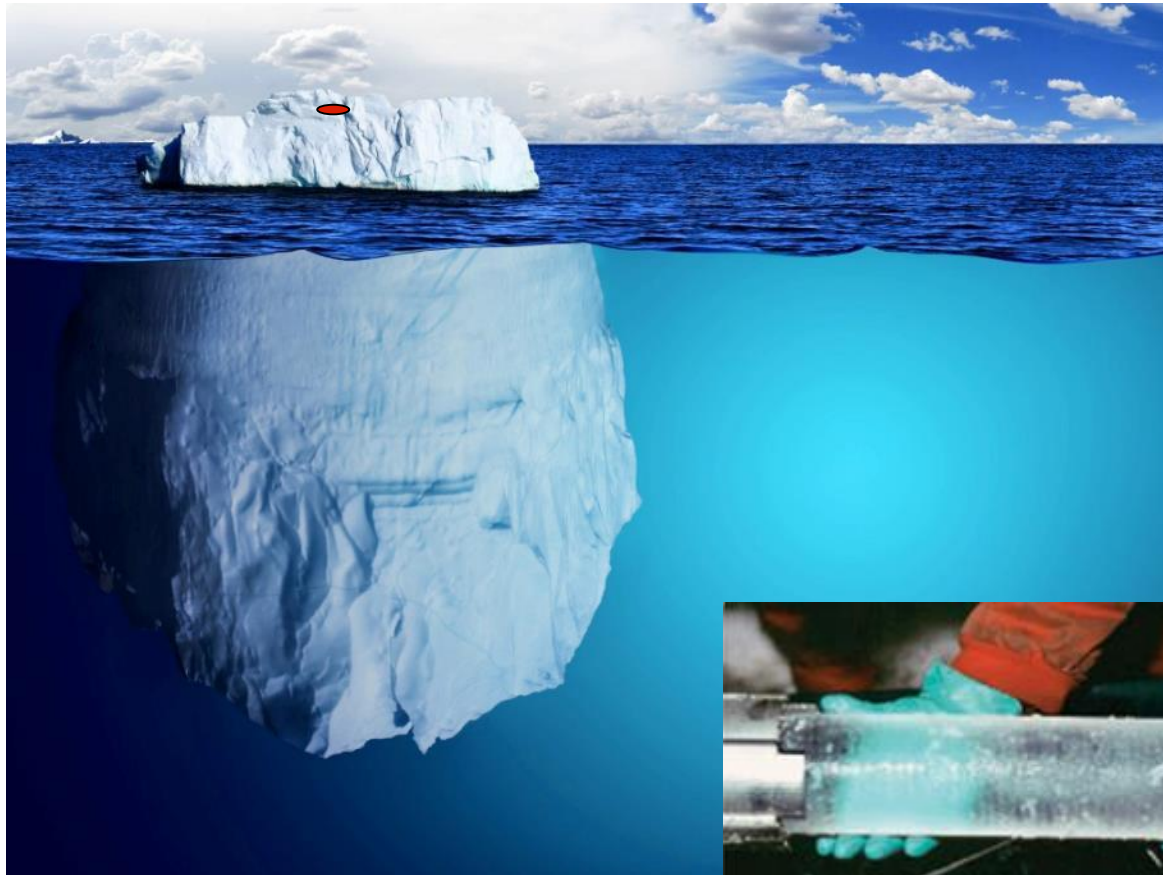
91,523 species assessed (around 5% of described species)

1.8 million
described
species

In the world:

10–100 million?

8–15 million
species



Our target is to make

The IUCN Red List a more complete

“Barometer of Life”

A broader taxonomic base to species assessments will enable better conservation and policy decisions.

A provisional target of 160,000 assessed species has been proposed and the estimated cost of this ambitious plan is USD 60,000,000.

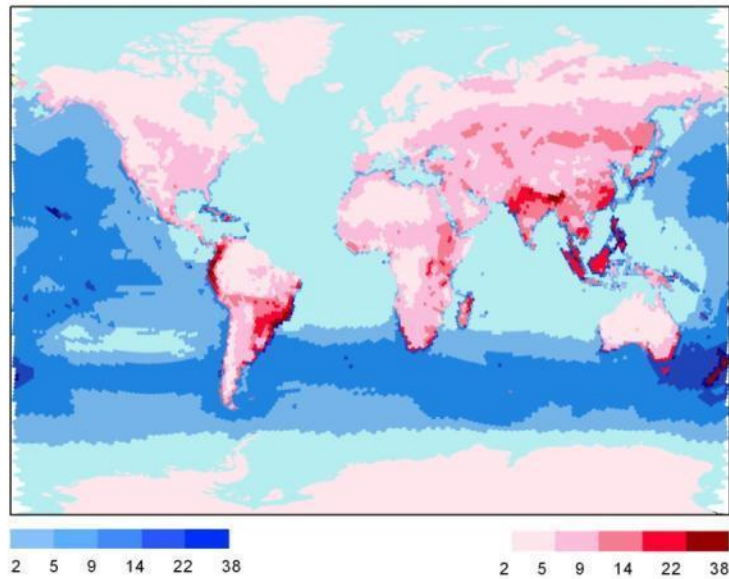
160,000
GOAL

**Over
91,500
so far**

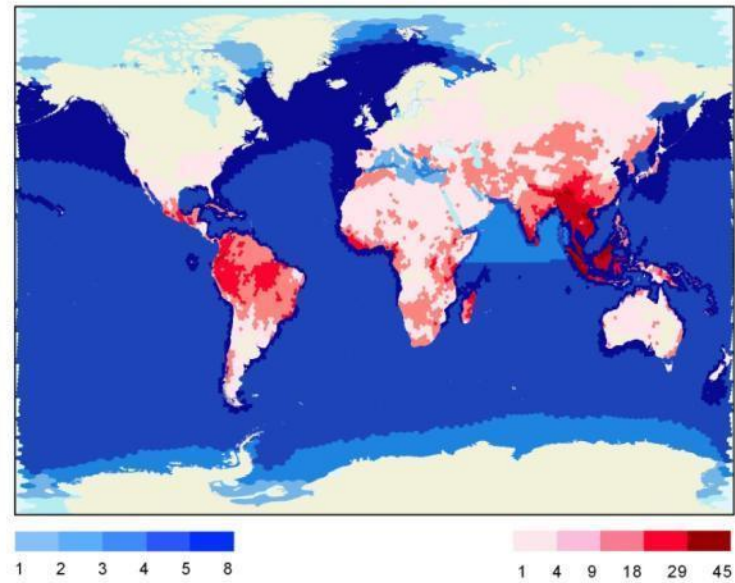
Assessment Goal – 160,000
Species Assessed 2012 – 63,837
Described Species – 1,889,587

African Elephant (*Loxodonta africana*)
Photography: © Robin Moore

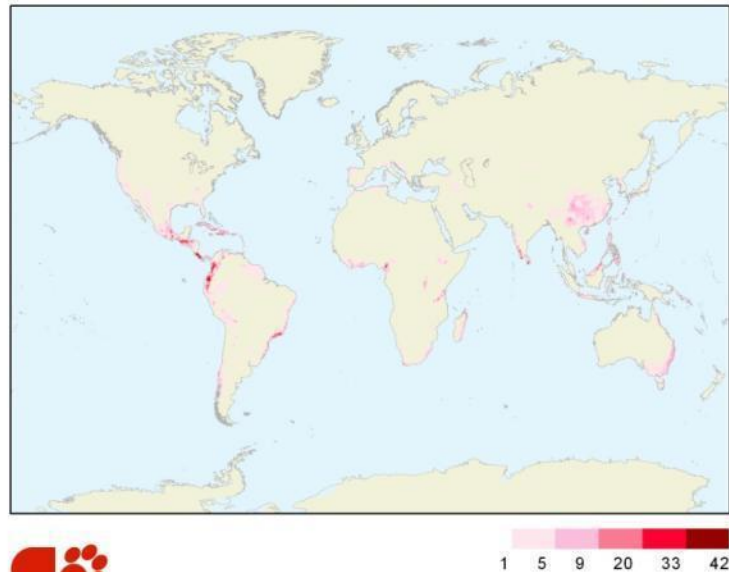
Threatened bird richness



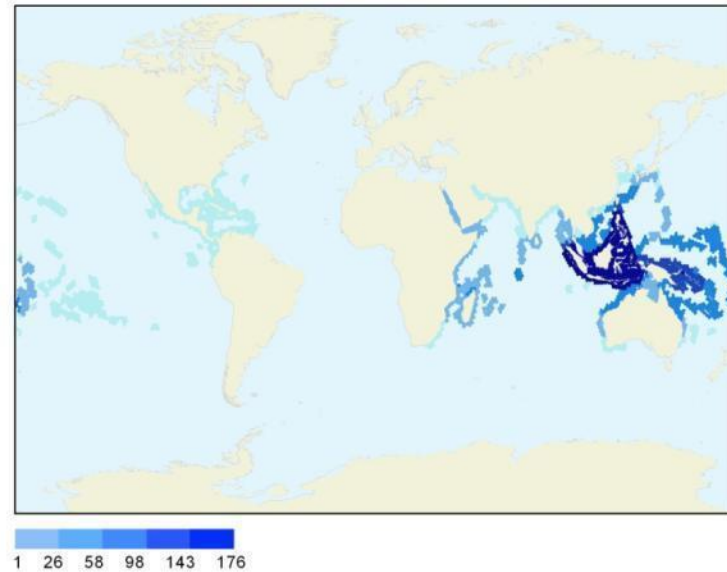
Threatened mammal richness



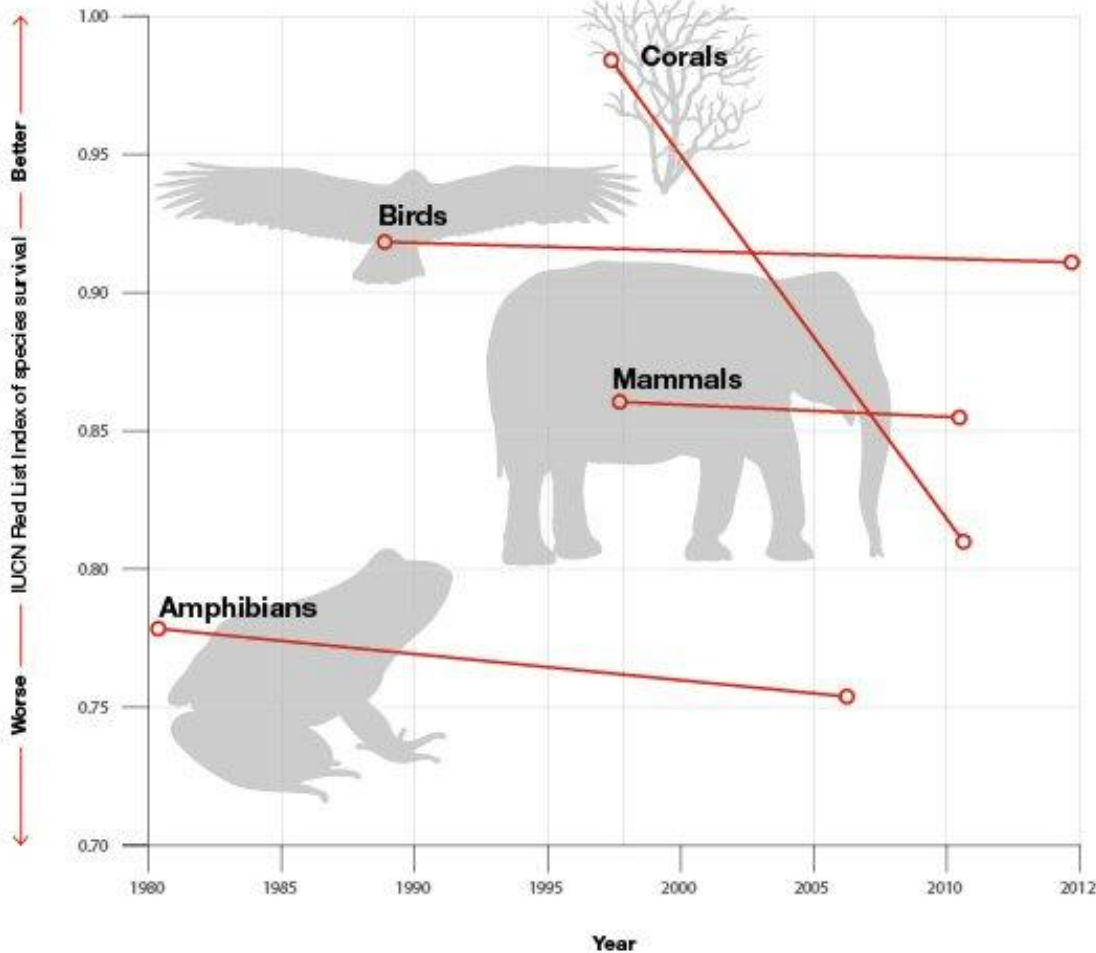
Threatened amphibian richness



Threatened coral richness



The IUCN Red List Index



- ❖ Shows trends over time in projected extinction risk of sets of species (RLI of spp. survival)
- ❖ Can be calculated for any set of species that have been assessed at least twice
- ❖ Based on proportion of species in each RL category and proportion moving between categories owing to genuine status changes i.e. category changes resulting from revised taxonomy, improved knowledge or modified criteria are excluded

