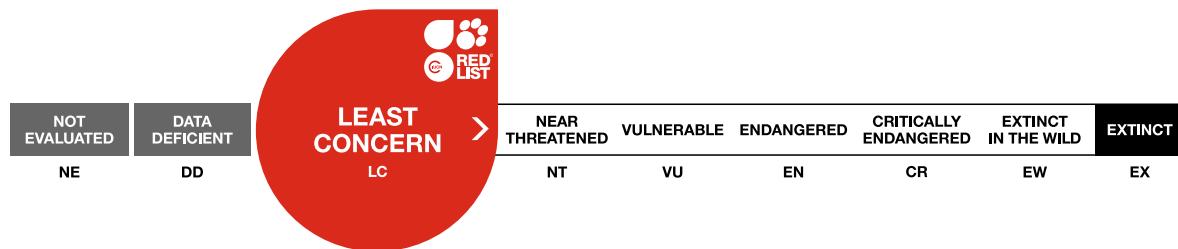




## ***Nucras ornata*, Ornate Sandveld Lizard**

**Assessment by: Alexander, G.J. & Tolley, K.A.**



*View on [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)*

**Citation:** Alexander, G.J. & Tolley, K.A. 2021. *Nucras ornata*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2021: e.T196993A46110786. <https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2021-2.RLTS.T196993A46110786.en>

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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia	Squamata	Lacertidae

**Scientific Name:** *Nucras ornata* (Gray, 1864)

**Synonym(s):**

- *Teira ornata* Gray, 1864

**Common Name(s):**

- English: Ornate Sandveld Lizard

**Taxonomic Source(s):**

Uetz, P., Freed, P. and Hošek, J. (eds). 2021. The Reptile Database. Available at: <http://www.reptile-database.org>. (Accessed: 1 June 2021).

**Taxonomic Notes:**

The taxonomy of the genus is unstable. However, a molecular phylogeny of the genus *Nucras* confirmed the species status of *N. ornata*, which is the sister species of *N. intertexta*, but is also closely related to *N. holubi* (Edwards *et al.* 2013). Records in northern Mozambique should be assigned *N. boulengeri*.

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2021

**Date Assessed:** October 24, 2019

**Justification:**

Listed as Least Concern on the basis that this is a widespread species in an area with extensive suitable habitat, and is not thought to be subject to any threats.

## Geographic Range

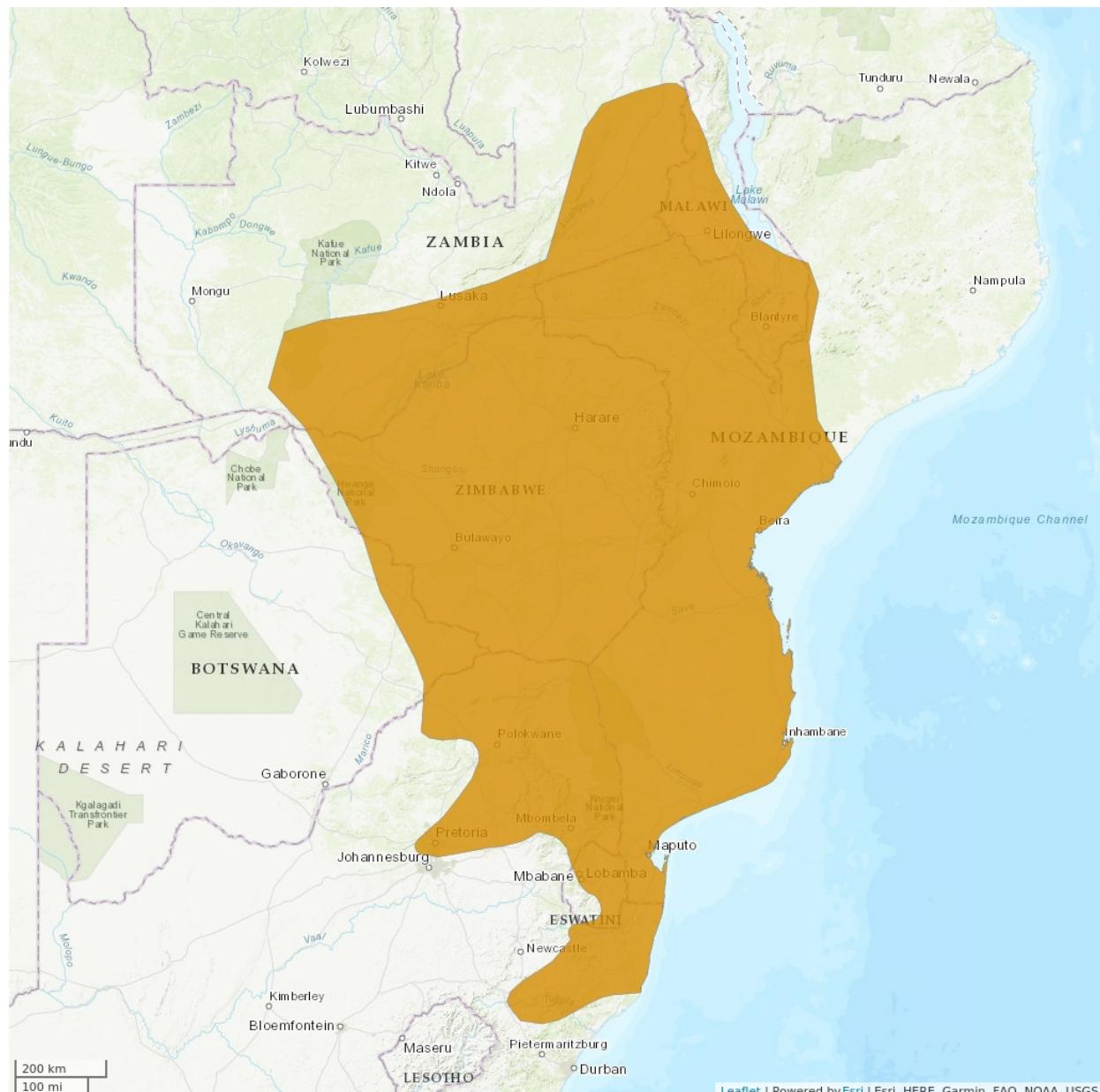
**Range Description:**

This species is widespread in southeastern Africa from southern Zambia to northeastern South Africa, west to central Zimbabwe and eastern Botswana (Branch 1998, Spawls *et al.* 2018).

**Country Occurrence:**

**Native, Extant (resident):** Botswana; Eswatini; Malawi; Mozambique; South Africa (Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal, Limpopo Province, Mpumalanga); Zambia; Zimbabwe

# Distribution Map

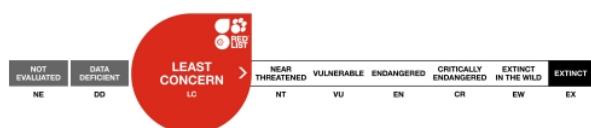


## Legend

■ EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

IUCN 2019



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.

## Population

The widespread range and abundance of this species mitigates against effects of local population declines.

**Current Population Trend:** Stable

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species occurs in grassland and mesic savanna (Bates *et al.* 2014).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is not known to be in use or traded.

## Threats

This species occurs across an area that is not heavily transformed with no known major threats.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species occurs in a number of formally protected areas, therefore there are no conservation measures recommended.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Alexander, G.J. & Tolley, K.A.

**Reviewer(s):** Cox, N.A.

**Contributor(s):** Howell, K., Msuya, C.A. & Ngalason, W.

**Facilitator(s) and** Taft, J.M. & Weeber, J.

**Compiler(s):**

## Bibliography

Branch, W.R. 1998. *Field Guide to Snakes and other Reptiles of Southern Africa. Third Edition.* Struik Publishers, Cape Town.

Edwards, S., Tolley, K.A., Vanhooydonck, B., Measey, G.J. and Herrel, A. 2013. Is dietary niche breadth linked to morphology and performance in Sandveld lizards *Nucras* (Sauria: Lacertidae)? *Biological Journal of the Linnean Society*.

IUCN. 2021. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2021-2. Available at: [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org). (Accessed: 04 September 2021).

Spawls, S., Howell, K.M., Drewes, R.C. and Ashe, J. 2002. *A Field Guide to the Reptiles of East Africa.* Academic Press, Elsevier Science, San Diego, San Francisco, New York, Boston, London.

## Citation

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## External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and 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?
2. Savanna -> 2.1. Savanna - Dry	Resident	Suitable	Yes
4. Grassland -> 4.5. Grassland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	Resident	Suitable	Yes

### Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Action in Place
In-place land/water protection
Occurs in at least one protected area: Yes

### Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 1643107
Population
Population severely fragmented: No

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