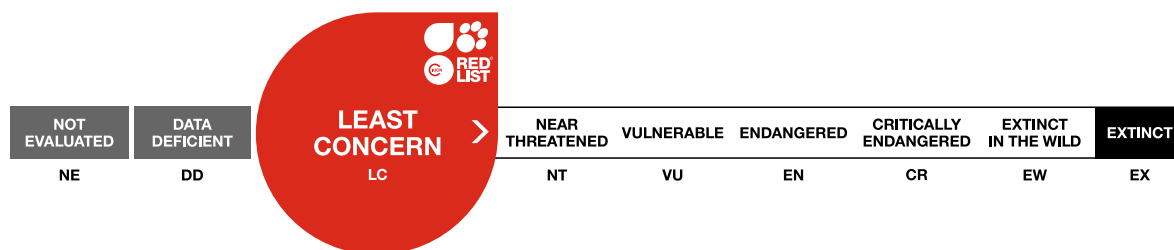


Nucras ornata, Ornate Sandveld Lizard

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



View on 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

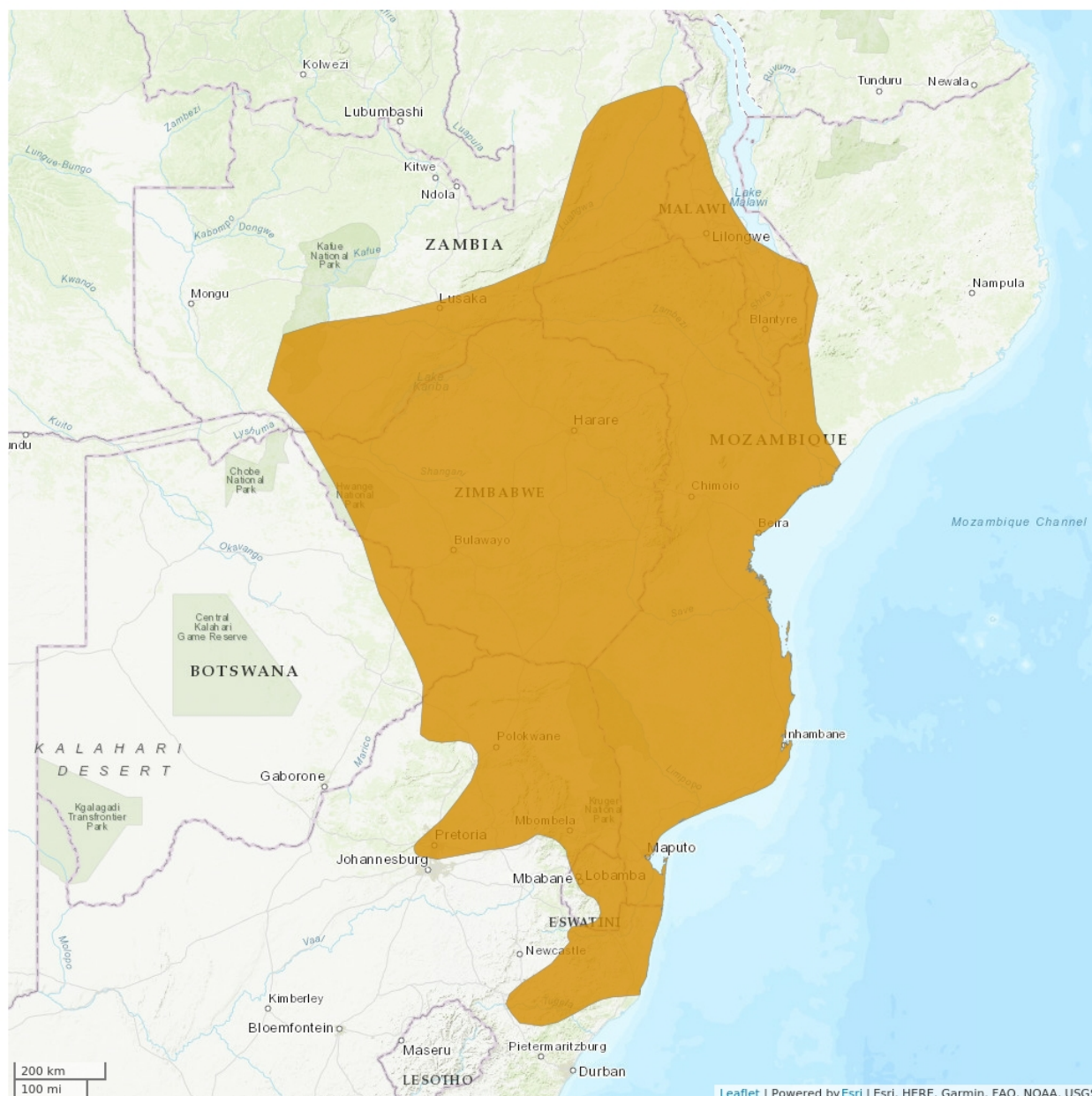
Range Description:

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

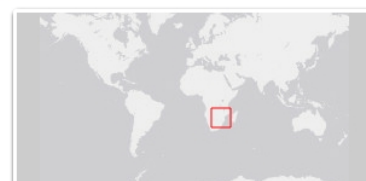
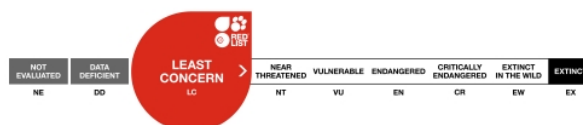


Legend

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 Compiler(s):	Taft, J.M. & Weeber, J.

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. (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 ²): 1643107
Population
Population severely fragmented: No

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