The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™

The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™
is the world's most comprehensive information source on the global conservation status of animal, fungi and plant species. By evaluating the extinction risk of thousands of species, it is a powerful tool to inform and catalyse action for biodiversity conservation. It also influences the policy changes that are critical to protecting the natural resources and processes that humans rely on.

Dr. Jane Smart – Director
IUCN Global Species Programme

We live within the limits set by nature. Unprecedented levels of biodiversity loss undermine some of society's most important goals. The IUCN Red List is the starting point for conservation action. With the collaborative efforts of governments, business and civil society, we could turn back the tide of species loss to ensure a sustainable future for all.

ENDANGERED
EN
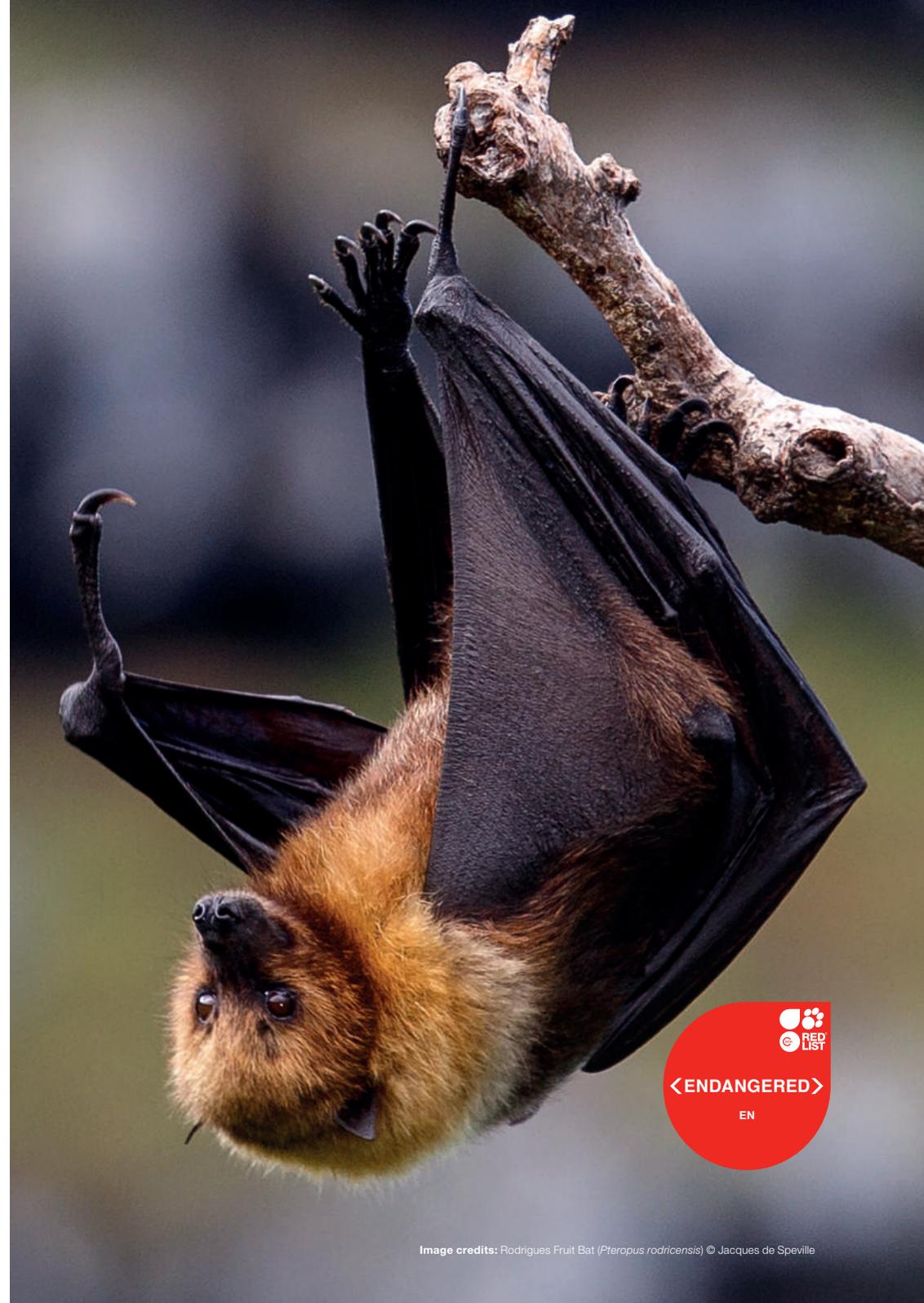
Geographic range: ■ **Extant (resident)**

Human action threatens species

Species:	**Agarwood (*Aquilaria malaccensis*)**
Use:	**Fragrance in perfume and incense**
Primary threat:	**Overharvesting**
Population trend:	**Decreasing**
Population status:	**Critically Endangered**

CRITICALLY ENDANGERED CR

Image credits:
Top: Agarwood (*Aquilaria malaccensis*) © Vinayaraj [CC BY-SA 4.0]
Bottom: Agarwood (*Aquilaria malaccensis*) © BG BGCI

Reliable data is key to effective conservation

The IUCN Red List is a powerful tool used to:

## Assess the state of the world's species using nine categories

Critically Endangered (CR), Endangered (EN) and Vulnerable (VU) species are considered to be threatened with extinction. The IUCN Red List is a critical indicator of the health of the world's biodiversity–a Barometer of Life–telling us what we need to know to save wild species.

Guide decision making to plan biodiversity conservation and inform policy

Used to monitor the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 15–Life on Land, The IUCN Red List Index (RLI) tracks progress towards reducing biodiversity loss. The RLI indicates several species groups face a severe threat of extinction and we risk not achieving SDG Goal 15.

Used by governments, consultants and multi-national organisations, to plan and implement projects that reduce their environmental footprints. The data also informs key environmental planning tools such as IBAT.

The IUCN Red List Index of species survival over time

Key: Extremes ······ ⟵ Most likely value
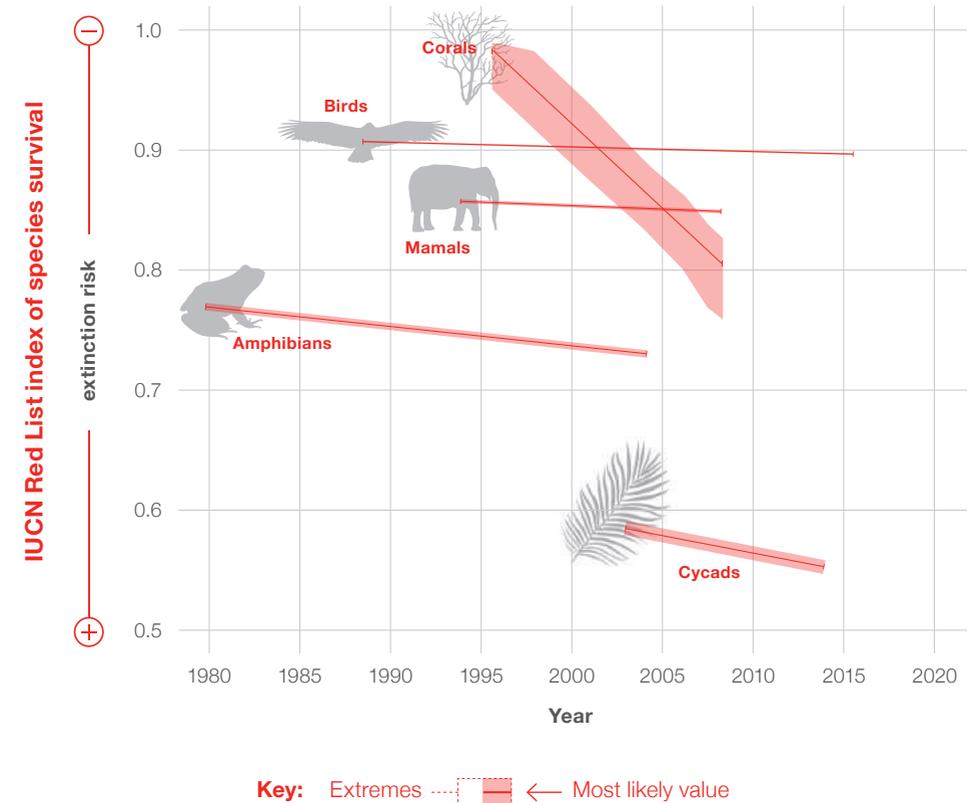
Prioritising Conservation Action

The IUCN Red List assessment of all 103 known lemur species in Madagascar in 2012 led directly to a conservation strategy attracting a USD 7.65 million investment, which is protecting many lemur species through IUCN SOS–Save Our Species.

Image Credit: Greater Bamboo Lemur (*Prolemur simus*) - Critically Endangered © Russ Mittermeier

Guide and measure effective conservation action to reduce biodiversity loss

A study found 80% of species-specific funding is for animals and plants listed as threatened on The IUCN Red List.

Regional assessments of biodiversity and its interlinkage with ecosystem services use The IUCN Red List to report on threatened species for Asia-Pacific, Africa, Americas and Europe-Central Asia under the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services.

Responding to this, IUCN species conservation actions executed through IUCN SOS - Save Our Species and the Integrated Tiger Habitat Conservation Programme (ITHCP), support more than 200 civil society organisations and government bodies in over 70 countries, currently protecting more than 300 threatened species from extinction.

Mitigating Environmental Impact

The World Economic Forum Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index uses The IUCN Red List data when measuring the sustainable development of tourism.

The data are used to examine the natural resources of countries and to calculate factors such as environmental sustainability.

Image Credit: Amboseli National Park, Kenya. Photo by © Harshil Gudka on Unsplash

The IUCN—Toyota Partnership

TOYOTA

When tackling threats to the global environment, it is important to act early and boldly with concrete steps that will make a difference in people's lives. We did it in 1997 with Prius, and more recently with the hydrogen fuel cell Mirai. But protecting the environment is not just about CO_2 and emissions: biodiversity is equally important to human lives. By entering this partnership with IUCN, Toyota are very proud to take an additional step toward the challenge of establishing a future society in harmony with nature.

Didier Leroy
Executive Vice President of Toyota Motor Corporation

The IUCN—Toyota Partnership is driven by the Toyota Environmental Challenge 2050, which aims to reduce the negative impacts associated with automobiles to zero, whilst simultaneously making positive impacts on society. Through supporting the global assessment of over 28,000 species, Toyota is proud to contribute to the knowledge that can help establish the foundation for a future society in harmony with nature.
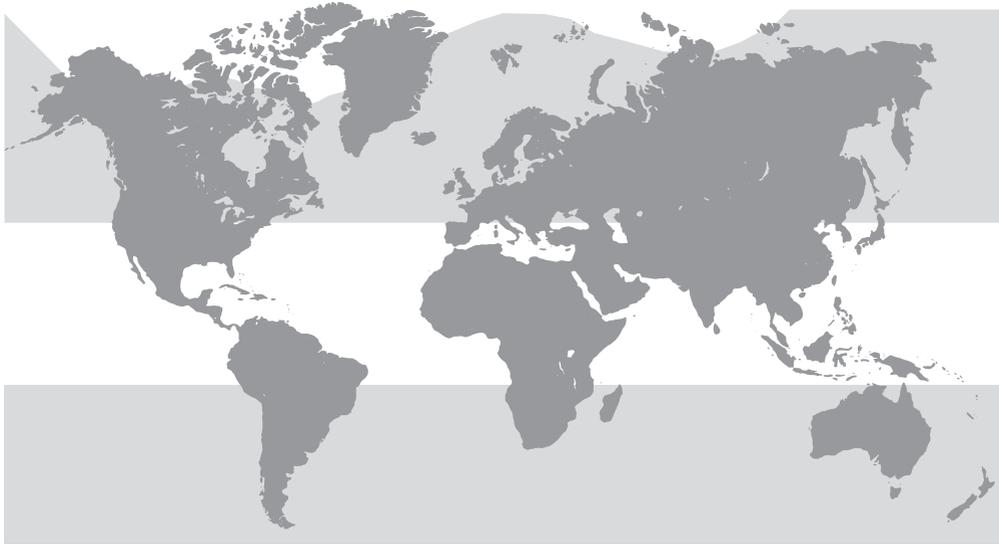
Geographic range:

▨ **Extant (resident)**

Conservation action works

Species:	**Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*)**
Primary threat:	**Overexploitation for blubber, oil and meat**
Conservation action:	**International bans on commercial whaling, doubling the population of the species since the 1970s**
Status change:	**(Was) Endangered ⟶ (Now) Vulnerable**

❮ VULNERABLE ❯

VU

Donate:

The IUCN Red List depends on donations and long-term partnerships to continue its important work assessing and reassessing the conservation status of the world's species.

Contact

Find out how you can work with us to create a more complete Barometer of Life:

iucnredlist.org/support/donate
redlist@iucn.org

Produced under the IUCN–Toyota Partnership

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The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced by the Red List Partnership, currently: Arizona State University, BirdLife International, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Conservation International, International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), NatureServe, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Sapienza University of Rome, IUCN Species Survival Commission, Texas A&M University, and Zoological Society of London.