



## **METADATA: Digital Distribution Maps on *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*<sup>™</sup>**

### **Version 6.3**

**1. Introduction:** This dataset contains distribution information on species assessed for *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*<sup>™</sup>. The maps are developed as part of a comprehensive assessment of global biodiversity in order to highlight taxa threatened with extinction, and thereby promote their conservation.

The *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species* assessment data are made freely available for non-commercial use to help inform conservation planning and other decision making processes (see [Use Constraints](#) below). For more information about the assessment process and the underlying data, please see the IUCN Red List website ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)).

Spatial data may be provided in shapefile or Esri geodatabase format. Point data may also be provided in CSV format including latitude and longitude. The attribute fields contained in each dataset provide information on distribution status, sources and other details about the maps (see [Data Attributes](#) below).

**2. Use Constraints:** These data and any derivatives may not be used for commercial or any revenue generating activities without prior written permission from IUCN. All forms of reposting, sub-licensing, reselling or other forms of redistribution of these data in their original format are also prohibited without prior written permission from IUCN. Please refer to the IUCN Red List [Terms and Conditions of Use](#).

**3. Credits:** Users MUST provide the appropriate credit(s) for this spatial data if it is used in any product produced in any media.

For individual species maps, credit information is provided in the *citation* field of the attribute data for that species. This information should be used in conjunction with the credit information for the spatial dataset as a whole using the following format:

<citation field information><year>. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version <Red List version>*. <https://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on <insert appropriate date>.

where <year> refers to the latest year in the *year* attribute data field for the species (see links in [Data Attributes](#) below for more information) and <Red List version> is the version of the dataset from which the data was taken.

For example, if the spatial data for the Reticulate Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytus reticulatus*) was used in a field guide, having been downloaded in January 2019, the credit for the map would be as follows:

NatureServe and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) 2007. *Crotaphytus reticulatus. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2018-2*. <https://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on 05 January 2019.

To provide credit to the dataset as a whole (or in general) or to substantial portions of the dataset the following citation should be used:

IUCN <Red List version year>. The *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. <Red List version>. <https://www.iucnredlist.org>. Downloaded on <insert appropriate date>.

where <Red List version year> is the year of the dataset version (e.g. 2018) and <Red List version> is the full version of the dataset (e.g. 2018-2).

**4. Data Attributes:** For more information about the polygon and point attributes and standards, see the mapping standards documentation under the **Spatial Data and Data Quality for IUCN Red List Spatial Data** heading on the IUCN Red List website [Resources & Publications](#) page.

NOTE: The system generated SHAPE\_Area attribute for polygons is not useful. As the data is in an unprojected Geographic Coordinate system ([see below](#)), the area is calculated from decimal degrees. To produce a meaningful area value, the polygons must be projected to a Projected Coordinate System with linear units such as metres.

#### **Spatial Reference Information**

**5. Projection:** Unprojected (Geographic Coordinate system)

**6. Projection Parameters:** Units: decimal degrees

**7. Datum:** WGS\_1984

#### **Contact Information**

**8. Contact Organization:** IUCN Red List Unit

**9. Contact Email Address:** [RedListGIS@iucn.org](mailto:RedListGIS@iucn.org)

#### **Metadata Reference Information**

**10. Metadata Updated:** December 2022 (version 6.3)

For further information and resources see the IUCN Red List [Resources & Publications](#) page.