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THE GLOBAL **AMPHIBIAN ASSESSMENT GUIDE**

Assessing the conservation status of the world's amphibians

A contribution from the Amphibian Specialist Group (ASG) of the Species Survival Commission (SSC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

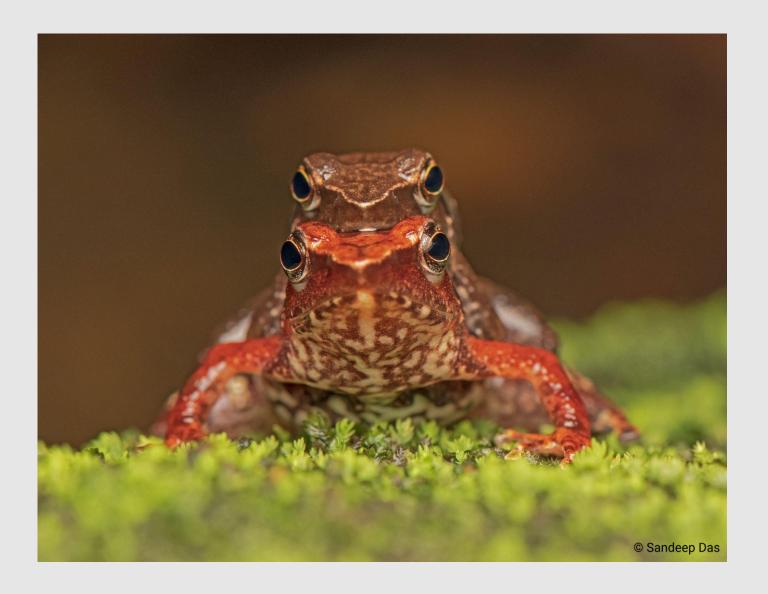
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Citation: IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group. 2024. *The Global Amphibian Assessment Guide:* Assessing the conservation status of the world's amphibians.

Design: Kelsey Neam

Front cover: © Andrew Snyder



CONTENTS

- O1 INTRODUCTION TO THE GLOBAL AMPHIBIAN ASSESSMENT
- O2 ASSESSING AN AMPHIBIAN SPECIES ON THE IUCN RED LIST
- SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR AN AMPHIBIAN ASSESSMENT
- 04 COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS
- 05 EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE GAA
- 06 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



01

INTRODUCTION TO THE GLOBAL AMPHIBIAN ASSESSMENT

The IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Amphibian Red List Authority (ARLA) manages the assessment of amphibians on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. The ARLA is part of the IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group (ASG).

The Global Amphibian Assessment (GAA) is an example of international collaboration and a joint commitment to understanding the conservation status of amphibians worldwide. The GAA convenes world-leading experts to conduct regular extinction risk assessments of all described amphibian species using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria.

GAA initiatives provide a snapshot of the global conservation status of amphibians as well as the opportunity to monitor trends over time, for example by calculating the Red List Index. GAA data are used at the global and national levels to inform conservation priorities, planning, funding, and collaborations to recover threatened amphibians.

TIMELINE of the GAAs



GAA2

8.011 species

Second comprehensive assessment

Coordinated by the central team of the ARLA. Funded primarily by Re:wild and Synchronicity Earth.



GAA4

Est. 10,000 species

Coordinated by the ARLA with increasing involvement of global, regional and national partners.

Funded by partnerships at global, regional and country levels.

2001-2004

GAA1

2012-2022

5,743 species

First comprehensive assessment of all amphibians

Coordinated and funded centrally by the IUCN/SSC-CI/CABS Biodiversity Assessment Unit.



GAA3

2024-2028

2029-2033

Est. 9,200 species

Coordinated by the ARLA alongside greater involvement of global, regional and national partners.

Funded by partnerships at global, regional and country levels.



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GAA3 and GAA4 STRATEGY

The ARLA has developed a new strategy for implementing the GAA:

- **Five-year initiatives**: to ensure assessments on the IUCN Red List remain current and can better inform conservation, the GAA3 will run from 2024 to 2028, followed by GAA4 from 2029 to 2033.
- Focused and comprehensive cycles: threatened species will be assessed each GAA cycle (5 years), while non-threatened species will be assessed at least once every second GAA cycle (10 years).
- **New species**: newly described species ideally should be assessed within two years of their description.
- **Partnerships**: the ARLA will continue its central coordination role, while placing an emphasis on building new partnerships with either a global, regional, and national focus to share the ownership and responsibility of GAAs.
- National red lists: GAA initiatives will seek to increase collaboration with national red listing processes whenever possible.
- **IUCN Green Status of Species**: by 2033, the aim is to include Green Status assessments for at least 12% of described amphibian species on the IUCN Red List.





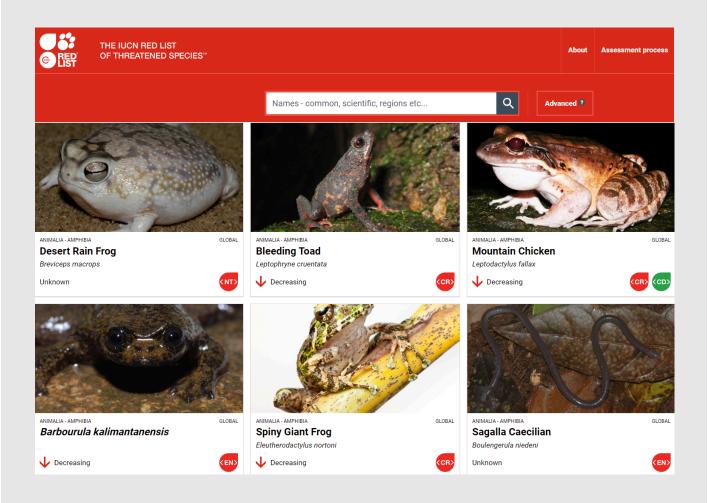
ASSESSING AN AMPHIBIAN SPECIES ON THE IUCN RED LIST



Assessing the current status of amphibian species is a critical first step in developing effective conservation strategies to ensure their long-term survival and monitor the success of these strategies. This document assists the planning and implementation of a GAA project by providing:

- The key steps of conducting a IUCN Red List assessment for the GAA
- A guide to gathering the data relevant to assessing or reassessing a species

This guide should be used alongside the detailed IUCN Red List Guidelines listed in the Additional Resources on page 19.



GETTING STARTED

Before you begin any IUCN Red List assessments, we recommend following these four steps:



STEP 1: Define the project scope

Are you planning to assess amphibians for an entire country or region, a specific taxonomic group, or another subset of species?

STEP 2: Review species list

The ARLA will provide you with a species list, based on <u>Amphibian Species of the World</u>, that will correspond to your project scope. Please verify that the list is accurate.

STEP 3: Develop a work plan

In collaboration with the ARLA, develop a work plan for your red list project. At a minimum, the work plan should delineate the project scope, the list of species that you plan to assess, the roles of each person or group (including the ARLA) in each stage of the assessment process (see Figures below), and a timeline with deadlines. Additional work plan items may include: project budget, workshops, Green Status assessments, communication of results, etc.

STEP 4: Red List training

Comprehensive knowledge on the application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria is necessary to ensure that assessments are conducted according to standard. The best way to become familiar with the Red List Categories and Criteria is to complete Red List training. There are two training options, depending on your level of involvement in the assessment:

Red List Assessor Training Workshops are most appropriate if there are many interested participants and/or there is a desire to develop broader capacity. These workshops typically take place over 3-5 days, and can be virtual or in-person depending on needs, capacity, and budget. We recommend working with the ARLA to organize a workshop in your region.

The <u>online training course</u> on ConservationTraining.org can provide additional training on the IUCN Red List assessment process and how to compile a rigorous assessment. It is a free, multiple-module, self-paced course that is estimated to take about 10 hours in total.

What is the Red List assessment process? PRE-ASSESSMENT: Compile literature, field observations, and other data on species occurrence, population, threats, etc. and create draft range map ASSESSMENT: Consult experts, compile further data, validate data, and apply IUCN Categories and Criteria (C&C) FINALIZATION: Ensure **PUBLICATION:** supporting information. Assessment published including a map, is in a future update of complete, consistent, and The IUCN Red List correctly formatted, and the C&C are justified SUBMISSION: Final consistency & **REVIEW:** Technical quality check by the review the application Red List Unit of C&C (coordinated by the ARLA)

Who is involved in producing a Red List assessment?

	01 Pre- assessment	02 Assessment	03 Finalizing + Consistency	04 Review	05 Publication
Project manager					
Design project scope and coordinate project; liaise with assessors, contributors, compilers					
Assessor					
Provide data; apply the Red List Categories & Criteria; finalize + perform consistency check					
Data Contributor	 				
Provide data and contribute knowledge; do not apply the Red List Categories & Criteria	 				
Compiler/Facilitator					
Compile relevant information for the assessment (Compiler); Lead assessment workshop (Facilitator); may also do finalizing					
Reviewer	i — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —				
Review assessment; ensure correct application of Red List Categories & Criteria					
Red List Unit	 				
Final assessment sign-off; manage Red List database and website; field petitions					



* Darker cells indicate required participation while lighter cells indicate optional participation

CONDUCTING ASSESSMENTS

You are now ready to start assessing species. We recommend following these steps for high-quality Red List assessments:



STEP 5: Compile data for assessment

Compile all available data on distribution, population status, habitats and ecology, use/trade, threats, and conservation actions.

- This information can come from: published or gray literature, unpublished reports, museum collections, and consultation with experts. Experts can also share their unpublished data.
- Refer to the Classification Schemes to select the most appropriate options for Habitats, Threats, Use and Trade, and Conservation and Research Actions Needed.
- Not all information on a species is relevant to a Red List assessment. The following points are designed to guide you in compiling data relevant to the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria:

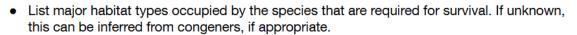
Distribution

- Summarize the global distribution. Note any range expansions / contractions since the last assessment. List any new sites or extirpations.
- Record the elevational range of the species.
- Indicate whether it is likely to occur more widely, including where and why (e.g. poorly surveyed area)
- Record the number of threat-defined locations. If there are no threats, then there are no locations.
- Report the extent of occurrence & area of occupancy.
 Provide lower and upper bounds, if relevant.
- If records from the published assessment have been reallocated to another species, specify the species to which the records were reassigned and the basis for the reallocation (e.g. molecular studies).

Population

- Describe the total population size. Using a range of values is acceptable. When quantitative data are unavailable, describe the relative abundance (e.g. rare, abundant, common). If this differs from the historical abundance, explain why.
- Summarize survey data: site name, year of surveys, time of year, records per survey effort.
- If there are no recent records, then note when it was last observed. Explain the absence of records (e.g. lack of surveys, surveys did not record it, etc.)
- Note the pop. trend: decreasing, stable, increasing
- Document whether the population is severely fragmented, experiencing extreme fluctuations, or if there is continuing decline.

Habitat + Ecology





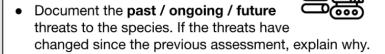
- Record if the species tolerates disturbance, and if so, what types or levels of disturbance it can withstand.
- Breeding ecology (i.e., direct development, larval development requiring water, clutch size, time of year, etc.). If unknown, this can be inferred from congeners, if appropriate.
- Indicate the species' generation length, if known.

Use + Trade



- Is this species used or traded by humans?
- If yes, then record:
 - o end use (e.g., food, medicine, pets)
 - whether the use and/or trade is sustainable or causing population declines
 - whether the use and/or trade is occurring at the local, national, and/or international level(s)
- If the species is not used or traded, or if it is unknown, then document this.

Threats



- Be specific as possible, i.e. instead of "deforestation" report the cause of forest loss (e.g. small-scale agriculture, mining, commercial logging, etc.).
- Document how the threat impacts the species, and any species traits that make it particularly susceptible.
- Record the extent (ie. which parts of the range that are affected) and severity of each threat.
- Avoid an exhaustive list of threats. Document only the threats that are affecting (or expect to affect) the species.

Conservation Action



Conservation Actions In-Place:

- Record any protected or conserved areas in which the species is confirmed. Evaluate whether these are effectively managed for conservation.
- Explain how the threats to the species are being addressed, if at all.
- Describe any species-specific conservation actions planned or in place, and whether the species is protected by national or international law.

Conservation Actions Needed:

Recommended actions (implementable over the next five years) to support the conservation of the species

Research Needed:

 Recommendations for improving knowledge, especially as it relates to the information needed for this assessment and the species' conservation

References + Citations



- Provide in-text citations for any information you add to an assessment.
- If the information is published, the reference must be attached to the assessment. Perform a search for the publication in SIS before creating a new reference.
- If the information is unpublished, it can be cited as a personal communication or observation in the following format: (K.D. Neam pers. comm. April 2024).

Taxonomic Notes

Provide a summary of any recent or ongoing taxonomic debates about the species validity, and any taxonomic changes that have recently taken place or are expected to happen in the near future.



STEP 6: Create a distribution map

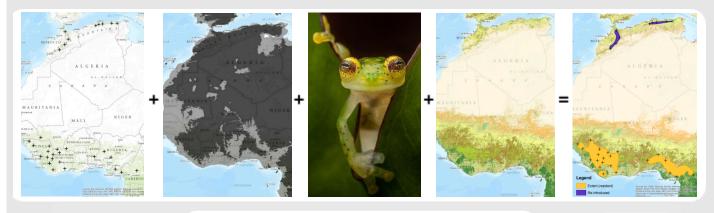
All Red List assessments must include a distribution map.

The map should represent the best possible depiction of the historical, present, and projected distribution of a species. The distribution must be shown as polygons, which can be based on known and inferred species' occurrence, elevation limits, habitat suitability, and other expert knowledge. Complete all required attributes per polygon (see <u>Mapping Standards</u> - Table 1).

PRO TIP

For **first-time assessments**, begin with a new shapefile. A pre-filled template with the required attributes is available at https://www.iucnredlist.org/resources/spatialtoolsanddata

For **reassessments**, begin with the published range map. These are available for download at https://www.iucnredlist.org/resources/spatial-data-download



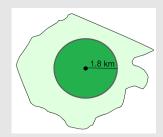
Plot point data

Create polygon(s) around points, using information on elevation, habitat preferences, land cover, etc. Smooth polygon(s) to and clip to the coastline. Complete attribute table, including presence, origin and seasonality codes.

Final distribution map

If there are fewer than three occurrence points for a species, use any available habitat and ecological information to create a polygon. When habitat or ecology data are unavailable, create a 10 km^2 circle (radius = $\sim 1.8 \text{ km}$) around the data point(s) as a buffer.





For information on using species distribution models, ecological niche models, bioclimatic models, and habitat suitability models, reference Sections 4.10.7 and 12.1.12 of the Red List Guidelines.

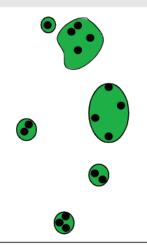
EOO and AOO

Producing the distribution map allows you to measure two different parameters relevant to the Red List Criteria: **extent of occurrence (EOO)** and **area of occupancy (AOO)**. Note that neither the EOO or AOO measure 'range' size; rather, they measure *characteristics* of a species' range that influence its extinction risk.

Known, inferred or projected sites of occurrence

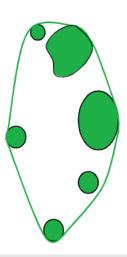


Range polygons around points

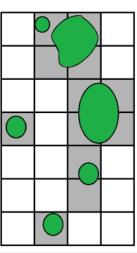


Extent of occurrence

(EOO) is the area within the shortest continuous imaginary boundary drawn around all known and/or inferred sites presently occupied by the species. It is measured by a minimum convex polygon.



Area of occupancy (AOO) is calculated by overlaying a 2x2 km grid on top of known occurrences, and measuring the area of the occupied grid cells. This measurement excludes unoccupied areas (e.g. unsuitable habitat).



PRO TIP

Shapefiles submitted for review and publication must have:

- All required data attributes
- Geographic coordinate system: WGS 1984
- File name format: Genus_species (e.g. Salamandra_salamandra)



For more information about the standards for Red List spatial data, see Mapping Standards and Data Quality for IUCN Red List Spatial Data.

Mapping Software Tools & Resources

A range of mapping tools and resources are available to help assessors create distribution maps in a format appropriate for publication in an IUCN Red List assessment.



sRedList is an open access web-based platform, which allows users to create distribution maps using occurrence data, calculate area of occupancy (AOO), map trends in area of habitat or forest cover, or assess severe fragmentation.



R may be a suitable program for some advanced users, as it requires knowledge of R coding language. There are several R packages that can perform a number of spatial analyses relevant to red listing:

red: Functions include mapping species ranges, species distribution modeling using climate and land cover, calculating EOO and AOO, and calculating the Red List Index. The package allows the calculation of confidence limits for all measures.

redlistr: Features include methods to calculate range size metrics, rates of change of distributions or populations, and distribution or population at another time from these rates.



QGIS offers free and open source GIS desktop software. Training resources are well-developed and free. Resources specific for IUCN Red List usage are currently under development.



IUCN Red List Toolbox for ArcMap (589 MB)



EOO Calculator (50 KB)



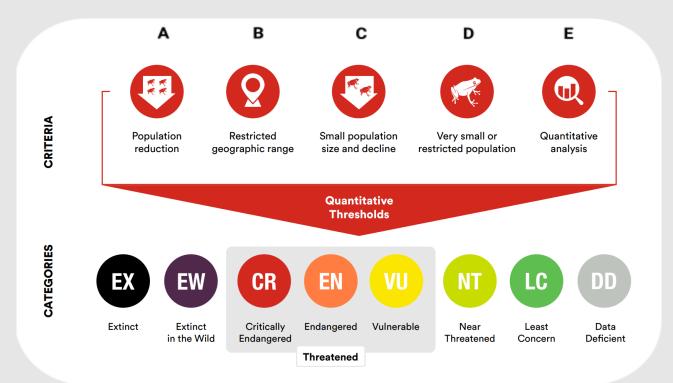


ESRI products are among the most popular GIS software, however ArcGIS licenses can be quite expensive. IUCN has developed several ArcGIS toolboxes to support the creation of distribution maps, calculation of EOO, etc.



STEP 7: Assign a Red List category

Using the information collated under **STEP 5** and **STEP 6**, evaluate the information against all five IUCN criteria to assign a Red List Category for your species. Each criterion includes several sub-criteria and contains quantitative thresholds used to define whether a species is CR, EN or VU. A summary sheet on the IUCN Categories and Criteria is provided on Page 14.





The **assessment rationale** justifies the Red List Category and Criteria. It uses information from elsewhere in the assessment to provide a clear summary of why the species is listed in a particular Red List Category, with justification for any criteria used.

Provide actual estimates or a range of values for data related to the Red List thresholds (e.g., EOO, AOO, number of locations, population size, etc.) instead of restating the criteria thresholds. For example, use "EOO is 15,200 km²" rather than "EOO is less than 20,000 km²".

PRO TIP

Meeting any of the five criteria qualifies a species for listing in a threatened category. If more than one criterion is met, then document each of the criteria that are met.

If more than one threatened category is triggered by different criteria, then the listing should be based on the criteria met at the highest level of threat.

SUMMARY OF THE IUCN CATEGORY AND CRITERIA

A. Population size reduction. Population reduction (measured over the longer of 10 years or 3 generations) based on any of A1 to A4				
	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable	
A1	≥ 90%	≥ 70%	≥ 50%	
A2, A3 & A4	≥ 80%	≥ 50%	≥ 30%	
A1 Population reduction observed, estimated, inferred, o the past where the causes of the reduction are clearly understood AND have ceased.		(b) an in	bservation [except A3] dex of abundance riate to the taxon	
A2 Population reduction observed, estimated, inferred, or suspected in the past where the causes of reduction may not have ceased OR may not be understood OR may not be reversible.		based on (AOO),	e in area of occupancy extent of occurrence nd/or habitat quality	
A3 Population reduction projected, inferred or suspected to future (up to a maximum of 100 years) [(a) cannot be used in	be met in the /		or potential levels of	
A4 An observed, estimated, inferred, projected or suspec reduction where the time period must include both the par (up to a max. of 100 years in future), and where the causes on not have ceased OR may not be understood OR may not be	st and the future of reduction may	hybridiz	of introduced taxa, ration, pathogens, nts, competitors or rs.	

Tiot have ceased on may not be understood on may not be reversible.		parasites.		
B. Geographic range in the form of either B1 (extent of occurrence) AND/OR B2 (area of occupancy)				
	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable	
B1. Extent of occurrence (EOO)	< 100 km²	< 5,000 km²	< 20,000 km²	
B2. Area of occupancy (AOO)	< 10 km²	< 500 km²	< 2,000 km²	
AND at least 2 of the following 3 conditions:				
(a) Severely fragmented OR Number of locations	= 1	≤ 5	≤ 10	
(b) Continuing decline observed, estimated, inferred or projected in any of: (i) extent of occurrence; (ii) area of occupancy; (iii) area, extent and/or quality of habitat; (iv) number of locations or subpopulations; (v) number of mature individuals				
(c) Extreme fluctuations in any of: (i) extent of occurrence; (ii) area of occupancy; (iii) number of locations or subpopulations; (iv) number of mature individuals				

C. Small population size and decline					
		Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable	
Nun	nber of mature individuals	< 250	< 2,500	< 10,000	
AN	AND at least one of C1 or C2				
	An observed, estimated or projected continuing decline of at least (up to a max. of 100 years in future):	25% in 3 years or 1 generation (whichever is longer)	20% in 5 years or 2 generations (whichever is longer)	10% in 10 years or 3 generations (whichever is longer)	
	An observed, estimated, projected or inferred continuing decline AND at least 1 of the following 3 conditions:				
(a)	(i) Number of mature individuals in each subpopulation	≤ 50	≤ 250	≤ 1,000	
	(ii) % of mature individuals in one subpopulation =	90-100%	95–100%	100%	
(b)	(b) Extreme fluctuations in the number of mature individuals				

D. Very small or restricted population			
	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable
D. Number of mature individuals	< 50	< 250	D1. < 1,000
D2. Only applies to the VU category Restricted area of occupancy or number of locations with a plausible future threat that could drive the taxon to CR or EX in a very short time.	-	-	D2. typically: AOO < 20 km² or number of locations ≤ 5

E. Quantitative Analysis			
	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable
Indicating the probability of extinction in the wild to be:	≥ 50% in 10 years or 3 generations, whichever is longer (100 years max.)	≥ 20% in 20 years or 5 generations, whichever is longer (100 years max.)	≥ 10% in 100 years

STEP 8: Select a reason for change

When a species undergoes a reassessment, it may retain its previous Red List Category or move into a different one. If there is a change in category, it is necessary to record the primary reason for the change. The change can be for either a non-genuine or genuine reason:



Non-genuine Change

- **New information** has become available since the last assessment.
- **Taxonomic revision** resulting in the species no longer being the same concept as before.
- Incorrect data in a previous assessment.
- Misinterpretation of IUCN criteria in a previous assessment

Genuine Change

- Deterioration: The main threats have continued unabated, have increased, or new threats have emerged.
- Improvement: The main threats are no longer present, or conservation measures have successfully improved the status of the species.



A species may be moved to the appropriate category without delay.



See section 2.2.1 of the Red List Guidelines for further details.



A species may move from a category of **LOWER threat** to a **HIGHER** one without delay.

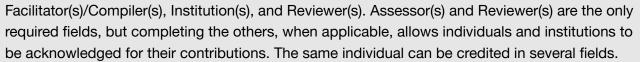
A species may move from a category of HIGHER threat to a LOWER one when the criteria of the higher category have not been met for FIVE years or more. The 5-year period starts when data indicate the species no longer meets the criteria for the current category; not necessarily the date of the last assessment.

PRO TIP

Recording the reason for the category change allows us to quickly identify species that are genuinely improving or deteriorating in status. Genuine category changes influence the slope of the Red List Index which shows trends in the overall extinction risk of groups of species.

STEP 9: Complete assessment credits

It is important to give credit to all involved in Red List assessments. For each assessment, it is possible to list Assessor(s), Contributor(s),





Before starting a GAA project for a region, it is important to develop a standardized approach to listing assessment credits and consult with the ARLA to ensure that appropriate recognition is given to all involved in the assessment process.

The following are the assessment credit guidelines for the GAA:

Assessors use all currently available data, along with the IUCN Category and Criteria, to assess the species properly and ensure that the assessment has the appropriate supporting information. Assessors are authors of the assessment and their names appear in the assessment citation.



In the GAA2, the Assessor was often "IUCN SSC Amphibian Specialist Group". The GAA no longer follows this convention, and ASG should be removed from the assessment credits. Instead, the individuals involved in the current assessment, as outlined in the guidance above, should be included.

Contributors provide data, but are not directly involved in deciding the IUCN Categories and Criteria. If an individual disagrees with the final category in an assessment, they can choose to have their name in the Contributor field instead of the Assessor field.



Individuals who were Assessors in a past assessment, but not the current assessment, will be transferred to Contributors to acknowledge their contribution to the previous assessment. Individuals listed as Contributors for past assessments can remain Contributors for current assessments.

Facilitators/Compilers are involved in the data collation part of the assessment process. For example, they may lead a group of experts in an assessment workshop (Facilitators) or update assessments with information from published literature that is not their own (Compilers).



Individuals should only be listed as Facilitators/Compilers if they have contributed to the **current** assessment. If an individual makes **significant** contributions to an assessment (e.g. from data compilation through to finalization), they may also be considered for inclusion as an Assessor.

Institutions should only be included in the assessment credits they have committed to supporting a region for the duration of a GAA cycle. This usually involves signing an MOU with the ARLA to be an Institutional partner of the GAA for a region.

Reviewers ensure that all required supporting information is included and that it upholds the IUCN Category and Criteria. Each assessment is sent to at least one independent Reviewer. The Reviewer will be assigned by the ARLA and is usually an ARLA team member.



SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR AMPHIBIAN ASSESSMENTS



- Relevant information: This document is a guide for compiling data relevant to parameters of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria, i.e. not every piece of available information about a species needs to be included in the assessment.
- Data sources: The information required to assess a species typically comes from several sources, including gray literature, peer-reviewed articles, museum collections, and consultation with experts. If they are willing, data contributors can provide unpublished data for use in the assessment.
- Data quality: The IUCN Red List accepts data that are observed, estimated, projected, inferred, and suspected. You may need to make estimates, inferences, or projections from the data to calculate values for the quantitative parameters.
- Data uncertainty: Uncertainty in the data should not be confused with a lack of data. You can describe uncertainty in the data by using plausible lower and upper bounds and a best estimate. If the data are so uncertain that both CR and LC are plausible categories, the taxon can be listed as Data Deficient.
- **Data timing**: Remember to include information about the past and to project into the future. IUCN Red List Criteria are based on past, current, and future trends.
- **IUCN classification schemes**: Use these to select the most appropriate terms and data entry options for Habitats, Threats, and Conservation and Research Actions Needed.
- **Reassessments**: Avoid deleting information from previous assessments. Instead, document whether there are errors in the data, how they have been corrected or reassigned and by whom, or whether there is simply better information of the species.
- **Unknown fields**: Where there is no information available or a parameter has not been calculated, leave the corresponding field blank or select "unknown" in the drop down.
- **Avoid plagiarism!** Appropriately cite all information, including personal communications from experts in the following format: (K.D. Neam pers. comm. April 2024).
- Clear formatting: When copy-pasting text from a publication, word processor, or email into SIS, always first paste the text into a plain text editor (e.g. Notepad for Windows; TextEdit for Mac) to remove hidden formatting.



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS



observed

estimated (past) / projected (future)

What if there is no precise, quantitative data for my species?

Remember that different data qualities are acceptable in Red List assessments.

Observed: directly based on well-documented observations. *E.g. Population size based on a census of all known mature individuals.*

Estimated: based on calculations that may involve assumptions and/or interpolations. *E.g. Population size calculated from a sample of density estimates.*

Projected: same as "estimated", but the variable of interest is extrapolated in time towards the future, or in space.

Inferred: based on variables that are indirectly related to the variable of interest, but in the same general type of units. *E.g. Population reduction derived from trends in trade statistics.*

ircumstantial evidence. In

Suspected: based on variables in different types of units, or circumstantial evidence. In general, this can be based on any factor related to population abundance or distribution. *E.g. Population reduction based on land-cover changes.*

Refer to Section 3 of the Red List Guidelines for further information on Data Quality.

How do I assess the threat of climate change to amphibians?

A species' vulnerability to climate change likely depends on a combination of biological traits, generation length, microhabitat use and behavior, and its degree of exposure to climate change effects. Provide referenced information on the climatic changes, and describe the effects of these changes on the species' extinction risk in the past, present, and/or future. The future effects of climate change should be linked to the species' generation length.

When should a species be declared Extinct?

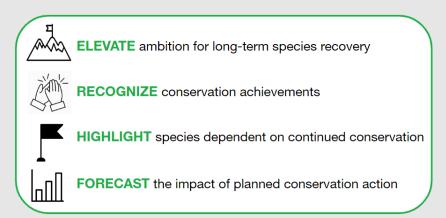
Listing a species as Extinct requires that *exhaustive* surveys have been undertaken in all known or likely habitat throughout a species' historical range, at appropriate times, and over a time-frame appropriate to its life cycle. The methods outlined in Section 11.3 of the Red List Guidelines are intended to quantify how "exhaustive" surveys for a species have been in order to determine the correct listing. The 'Possibly Extinct' or 'Possibly Extinct in the Wild' tag can be used for Critically Endangered species that are likely to be extinct, but for which there is a small chance there may be an extant population.

05

EXPANDING THE SCOPE OF THE GAA

As of 2021, the <u>IUCN Green Status of Species</u> (GSS) became a new, optional part of the Red List. The GSS brings new metrics to assess how close (or far) a species is to being fully recovered. It provides a standardized framework for understanding the past and potential future importance of conservation action in species' recovery.



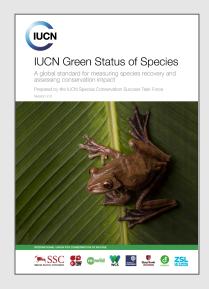


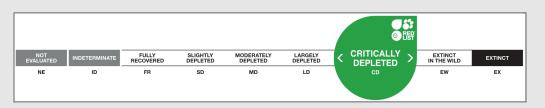
The Green Status
complements the Red List
to provide a fuller picture
of a species' conservation
status including both its
extinction risk and
recovery progress.

Species can be assessed under the GSS process regardless of their Red List Category, and regardless of whether they have been subject to conservation measures. After completing GSS assessments at the global level, they can also be carried out at the national and programme levels.

By 2033, our goal is to include GSS assessments for at least 12% of described amphibian species on the IUCN Red List.

Assessing species for the GSS requires additional training. A free, self-paced GSS training course has been launched on http://conservationtraining.org, covering all of the key information needed to undertake a Green Status assessment.





The IUCN Red List is used to identify Key Biodiversity Areas

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBAs) are sites of global importance for the persistence of biodiversity. They ensure that conservation efforts are focused in the places that matter most.



KBAs are used by governments in spatial and conservation planning to minimize biodiversity loss and negative impacts. The KBA dataset enables site based protection efforts - such as new protected areas - to be focused on the most important places for wildlife.



Alliance for Zero Extinction (AZE) sites are the subset of KBAs that hold the last remaining population of one or more Endangered or Critically Endangered species.

If habitats within these sites are destroyed, the highly threatened species within them are likely to become globally extinct.



RO TIP

IUCN range maps provide the foundational data necessary for identifying and designating Key Biodiversity Areas. Therefore, accurate and precise maps will ensure that conservation efforts are directed towards the most critical regions for biodiversity.



If you are interested in identifying and/or updating KBAs for amphibians in your country, please contact the Amphibian RLA (RLA@amphibians.org) for information on how to get involved.

06 ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Assessment Resources

<u>IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria</u> - A primer document on the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria system for classifying species at high risk of global extinction.

<u>Guidelines for Using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria</u> - Guidance on how to apply the IUCN criteria, including explanations and definitions of key terms used in the criteria. Please download the most recent version of the guidelines before preparing an assessment.

Red List Criteria Summary Sheet - A quick-reference sheet presenting all of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria in one page. Available in multiple languages.

<u>Supporting Information Guidelines</u> - Guidance on the required and recommended supporting information for Red List assessments. It also provides guidance on the writing style and format that should be used for all IUCN Red List assessments.

<u>Classification Schemes</u> - A set of standard terms developed to ensure global uniformity when describing the habitat, threats, conservation actions, and whether or not the taxon is utilized.

<u>IUCN Red List webinars</u> - Helpful webinars on various topics from the IUCN Red List Criteria and mapping species' distributions to using the IUCN Species Information Service (SIS) to compile and manage Red List assessments.

<u>Translations of IUCN Red List guidance documents</u> - All of the IUCN Red List guidelines publications are available in English, French and Spanish.

Workshop Planning Guide - A resource for organizing an effective Red List assessment workshop.

Mapping Resources

<u>Spatial Data Download</u> - All published distribution maps are available for download from the IUCN Red List. Alternatively, you can download the spatial data for a specific country, region, or biogeographic realm by using the advanced search filters on <u>www.iucnredlist.org</u>.

<u>Mapping Standards and Data Quality for IUCN Red List Spatial Data</u> - A guidance document outlining the required mapping standards for the IUCN Red List.

<u>Spatial Tools and Data</u> - A range of GIS tools and data layers to help assessors create distribution maps in a format appropriate for publication in an IUCN Red List assessment. This is also where you can download the shapefile template for new species assessments.

<u>Presence, Seasonality, Origin codes</u> - A summary sheet for Presence, Origin and Seasonal distribution codes required for every polygon in a species' distribution map.