



# THE STATUS AND DISTRIBUTION OF REPTILES IN THE WESTERN GHATS, INDIA

Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP)

C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu and S. Molur (Compilers)

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# Contents

Acknowledgements.....	v
Executive Summary.....	vii
<b>1. Chapter 1. Background.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1 The Western Ghats and peninsular India.....	1
1.2 Studies on reptilian diversity of Western Ghats and peninsular India.....	1
1.3 Reptilian diversity and endemism in Western Ghats and peninsular India.....	2
1.4. Threats to terrestrial biodiversity.....	3
1.5. Species threatened status.....	4
1.6 Conservation status.....	4
1.7 Objectives of the assessment.....	4
1.8 Assessment methodology.....	5
1.8.1 Data collation and quality control.....	5
1.8.2 Species mapping.....	5
1.8.3 Assessment of species threatened status.....	5
1.8.4 Nomenclature.....	6
1.8.5 Review workshop.....	6
1.8.6 Post-workshop follow-up.....	6
<b>2. Chapter 2. Results.....</b>	<b>9</b>
2.1 Conservation status.....	9
2.2 Threats to reptilian fauna.....	12
2.3 Conservation actions and recommendations.....	13
2.4 Spatial distribution of Western Ghats endemic reptiles.....	14
2.4.1 Species richness.....	14
2.4.2 Distribution of endemic species.....	15
2.4.3 Distribution of threatened species.....	16
2.4.4 Distribution of Data Deficient species.....	17
<b>3. Western Ghats Endemic Reptile Species Point Localities.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>4. Species Accounts - Western Ghats (Endemics).....</b>	<b>49</b>
Agamidae.....	49
Boidae.....	51
Colubridae.....	52
Elapidae.....	57
Gekkonidae.....	57
Gerrhopilidae.....	66
Natricidae.....	67
Scincidae.....	68
Typhlopidae.....	74
Uropeltidae.....	74
Viperidae.....	85
Xenodermatidae.....	87
<b>5. Species Accounts - Western Ghats (Non-endemics).....</b>	<b>89</b>
Agamidae.....	89
Boidae.....	92
Chameleonidae.....	93
Colubridae.....	93
Elapidae.....	105
Eublepharidae.....	109
Gekkonidae.....	110
Lacertidae.....	121
Natricidae.....	123

Psammophiidae.....	125
Pseudoxyrhophiidae.....	126
Pythonidae.....	127
Scincidae.....	127
Typhlopidae.....	135
Uropeltidae.....	136
Varanidae.....	137
Viperidae.....	138
<b>References.....</b>	<b>141</b>

**Data CD**

Please find on the inside rear cover of this report a data CD containing:

- (i) Executive Summary
- (ii) Western Ghats Assessment Report PDF
- (iii) Species Summaries
- (iv) Species Maps and Point Localities
- (v) Species List

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# Executive Summary

## Aim

The reptile assessment is a review of the conservation status of the reptiles belonging to Western Ghats and peninsular India. This report summarises results for the Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) workshop for assessing reptiles of peninsular India in general and Western Ghats in particular and provides an overview of the conservation status of the species following IUCN Red Listing guidelines. This report endeavors to identify the species threatened with extinction at the global level for Western Ghats endemics and at the regional level for non-endemics of the Western Ghats such that action plans can be formulated and implemented for the conservation of such species.

## Scope

The reptiles that were described and are endemic to Western Ghats and peninsular India since the early 1800s were taken into consideration as this was the scope of the CAMP workshop funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund (CEPF). The other parts of India in general and reptile endemic areas in particular like Andaman and Nicobar Islands and the North-east were not considered during the present assessment. The Testudines were not considered during the present assessment as they have already been assessed by the Turtle and Tortoise Specialist Group. The assessment region was hence divided into the Western Ghats and peninsular India including the Eastern Ghats, with information collected and compiled on species from Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Puducherry and Tamil Nadu. A few globally widespread species that occur in peninsular India and Western Ghats were also taken into consideration.

## Status Assessment

The status of all endemic species was assessed following the global IUCN Red List Criteria ver. 3.1 (IUCN 2001), which are the world's most widely accepted system for measuring relative extinction risk. Regional assessments followed the Guidelines for Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at Regional Levels (IUCN 2003). Assessments were carried out at an assessment workshop where about 40 herpetologists from the Western Ghats and from peninsular India were active participants in the assessment and data review process.

The methodology for this assessment is based on the collation and analysis of existing information, requiring experts to be trained in biodiversity assessment methods including application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria and species mapping using GIS software. This provides an important tool for input to the conservation and development planning processes. The full dataset, including all species distribution files (GIS shapefiles), is freely available on the DVD accompanying this report, through the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ (www.iucnredlist.org), the Threatened Taxa Monitoring System site (www.southasiantaxa.

org), and the Western Ghats Portal (<http://thewesternghats.indiabiodiversity.org>).

## Results

Of the 227 Indian reptiles assessed during this project, 107 species (47.13%) are endemic to Western Ghats, of these, 18 (16.82%) are assessed as threatened, eight (7.47%) are assessed as Near Threatened species and 38 (35.51%) are assessed as Data Deficient. An additional 50 species are endemic to peninsular India of which five species (10.00%) are threatened with extinction, one species (2.00%) is assessed as Near Threatened and 12 species (24%) are assessed as Data Deficient.

Of the 157 species of reptiles endemic to both Western Ghats and peninsular India, 14.64% species of reptiles are threatened with extinction, while about 5.73% were assessed as Near Threatened. Two species of reptiles namely the Jeypore Ground Gecko *Geckoella jeyporensis* and the Legless Skink *Barkudia insularis*, endemic to the Eastern Ghats are assessed as Critically Endangered.

Among the 50 species endemic to peninsular India, 12 species are such that occur only in the eastern part of the peninsular India and two species, *Hemidactylus gujaratensis*, known only from Junagadh, Gujarat and *Hemidactylus porbandarensis* known only from the new port area of Porbandar, Gujarat are known from the western part of the peninsular India.

Reptiles belonging to the region where assessment was carried out are threatened due to habitat fragmentation and loss, expansion of agriculture, conversion of forest tracts into plantations and human settlements, mining and rock quarrying, tourism-related infrastructure developments and pet trade.

## Conservation recommendations

Further research is needed into the taxonomy, population status, true distribution extent, ecology, habitat requirements and foraging niche, threats to the habitat and the species and the impact of such threats to the species. Conservation education programs, amendment of the existing legislation and implementation of conservation action plans and improving the existing protected area network are needed for better conservation of the habitat and the species.



# Chapter 1. Background

## 1.1 The Western Ghats and peninsular India

The Western Ghats biogeographic region in southern India runs along the west coast extending from 08°19'08"-21°16'24"N to 72°56'24"-78°19'40"E with a north to south distance of 1,600 km, a minimum width of 48 km and maximum width of 210 km, covering a total area of 180,000 km<sup>2</sup> (CEPF 2007). The Western Ghats mountain range traverses the states of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu interrupted only once by a 30-km break called the Palghat Gap in northern Kerala.

The Western Ghats comprises the major portion of the Western Ghats and Sri Lanka Hotspot. It is rich in biodiversity and has a high proportion of endemic species. The Western Ghats is home to some of the world's most unique fauna, flora and fungi. Compared to the other hotspots, it has the highest human population per unit area (more than 300 humans/km<sup>2</sup>), making it that much more challenging to conserve (Molur 2009). Less than fifteen percent of the Western Ghats is protected in 20 national parks and 68 sanctuaries.

In addition to rich biodiversity, the Western Ghats is home to diverse social, religious and linguistic groups. The high cultural diversity of rituals, customs, and lifestyles has led to the establishment of several religious institutions that strongly influence public opinion and the political decision-making process. Conservation challenges lie in engaging these heterogeneous social groups and involving them in community efforts aimed at biodiversity conservation and consolidation of fragmented habitats in the hotspot.

The forests of the Western Ghats have been selectively logged and highly fragmented throughout their entire range. Of the 182,500 km<sup>2</sup> of primary vegetation that was estimated to have existed here, only some 12,450 km<sup>2</sup> (6.8%) remain today (Myers et al. 2000). Forests and grasslands have been converted to agricultural land for monoculture plantations and infrastructural projects. Much of the remaining forest cover consists of timber plantations or disturbed secondary growth. Approximately, 20 percent of the original forest cover remains in a more or less pristine state. Remaining forest patches are subject to intense hunting pressure and the extraction of fuelwood and non-timber forest products resulting in loss of biodiversity and forest cover (Davidar et al. 2007). Uncontrolled tourism and forest fires are additional concerns.

The peninsula of India is compact natural unit of geomorphological and bio-geographical evolution. It consists of a block of plateau with a general slope towards the east. The plateau part of the peninsula is the largest and covers an area of 13,77,363 km<sup>2</sup> and slopes eastwards and northwards. The valleys of Godavari and Krishna rivers are flanked by steep-sided hills. The topography is characteristically hilly

interspersed with plains. The plateau is bound on the east and west by the Ghats that meet at the plateau's southern tip, while the northern extremity of the plateau is the Satpura mountain range. The general climate is drier than the coasts and in certain places is arid. The vegetation of the Deccan peninsula is dominated by the species belonging to the genera as *Shorea*, *Terminalia*, *Anogeissus*, *Chloroxylon*, *Acacia*, *Albizzia*, *Hardwickia* etc. The large peninsular area is broadly divided into Deccan Plateau South, Deccan Plateau North, Eastern Highlands, Chhota Nagpur and the Central Highlands and these broad divisions can further be divided into five subdivisions namely; Tamil Nadu Plains, Eastern Ghats (south), Karnataka plateau and Eastern Ghats (central); Telangana and Maharashtra plateau; Eastern Ghats (north) and Chhattisgarh-Dandakaranya; Chhota Nagpur Plateau and Garjhat hills; Satpura–Maikal hills and Vindhya–Bagelkhand hills.

Among flora the peninsular region has a high degree of endemism making it the second richest endemic centre after the Himalaya. The peninsular region is a part of Indian plate of Gondwana land and most of the endemic plants of this region are palaeoendemics. A large concentration of endemic species is found in the tropical moist deciduous and tropical semievergreen patches of Western Ghats and to a much lesser degree in Eastern Ghats (Nayar 1996). The region can be divided into three zones, namely, the Deccan Plateau, Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats. The vegetation type of peninsular India varies from tropical evergreen forest, tropical semievergreen forests, sholas, moist deciduous forests, dry deciduous forests, scrub jungles and dry savannah forests (Jalal and Jayanthi 2012). With respect to the faunal elements the number of endemics is much lower in comparison to the Western Ghats due to topographical and climatic peculiarities (Chandra and Sharma 2012).

The peninsular Indian region is under threat due to habitat fragmentation and loss due to conversion of forest areas into human settlements, expansion of agriculture lands, inundation of prime areas due to construction of dams and hydroelectric projects, clear felling of forest tracts for developmental activities; mining and stone quarrying.

## 1.2 Studies on reptilian diversity of Western Ghats and peninsular India

The Western Ghats Mountain range of south-western India is one of the last remaining stretches of the bio-diverse tropical wet evergreen rainforests in peninsular India and is home to a unique endemic radiation of biota, which makes it a global biodiversity hotspot (Myers et al. 2000). This mountain range extending 1600 kilometers north-west to southeast along the west coast of India, from 8°–21° N, is geologically heterogeneous and is separated thrice by intervening low-altitude "gaps", viz.: the Sencottah gap (8°–9° N), the Palghat

gap (10°–11° N) and the Goa gap (14°–15° N). These three segments are rather natural entities that are characterized by differing geoclimatic factors including annual rainfall, average mountain height, relief features and dominant forest types. Consequently, the faunal composition greatly varies between the segments. Reptiles are no exception. As early as the time of T.C. Jerdon, R.H. Beddome, H.S. Ferguson, F. Wall and A.F. Hutton, all the way to the more modern workers such as Inger et al. (1984), Das and Whitaker (1990), Malhotra and Davis (1991), Zachariah (1997), Ishwar et al. (2001), Hutton and David (2009), Chandramouli and Ganesh (2010), Bhupathy and Nixon (2011), Bhupathy et al. (2012), the southern Western Ghats had been given prominence when it comes to reptile studies. Likewise, several herpetological surveys have been conducted in the northern Western Ghats (Daniel and Shull 1963; Nande and Deshmuk 2007; Mirza and Pal 2008) and new species of reptiles were also described (Giri 2008; Giri and Bauer 2008).

In recent years a significant number of additional species have been reported (e.g., *Calotes nemoricola*, *Kaestlea beddomii*, *Dasia subcaeruleum*, *Melanophidium nynaundense*, *Dendrelaphis chairecacos*, *Calliophis bibroni*) and furthermore, others have been reconfirmed when their earlier records have either remained implicit or doubtful (e.g., *Dendrelaphis grandoculis*, *D. ashoki* and *Oligodon affinis*) (see Naniwadekar and Deepak 2008; Ganesh and Gowrishankar 2009; Gowrishankar and Ganesh 2009; Chandramouli and Ganesh 2012; Harikrishnan et al. 2012; Ganesh et al. 2012a). These additions apart, noteworthy new observations on the natural history of some little known species have also been reported (e.g., *Cnemaspis heteropholis*, *Hemidactylus prashadi*, *Rhabdops olivaceus*; see Giri and Bauer 2006; Naniwadekar and Deepak 2010; Ganesh et al. 2011, 2012b, 2013).

Peninsular India, especially the Eastern Ghats are unique in that they exhibit the presence of Malayan floral and faunal elements (Hora 1949; Menon 1951). The Eastern Ghats though being unique is less studied compared to the Western Ghats (Abdulali 1949; Srinivasulu and Das 2008). The first faunal surveys of the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh were by Salim Ali in the 1930s. Some important surveys and studies (Kinnear 1913; McCann 1945; Sharma, 1969, 1971, 1976; Subba Rao 1970, 1982; Subba Rao and Rajabai 1972a, b, 1974; Pillai and Murthy 1983; Bhushan 1986; Daniel et al. 1986; Murthy 1986; Mahony 2009; Daniels and Ishwar 1993, 1994; Sanyal et al. 1993; Sarkar et al. 1993; Nagulu et al., 1998; Rao and Rao 1998; Balachandran and Pittie 2000; Bauer and Das 2000; Chettri and Bhupathy 2010; Das and Bauer 2000; Rao et al., 2005; Srinivasulu et al. 2005, 2006; Javed et al., 2007; Murthy and Murthy 2010; Srinivasulu and Das 2008; Sreekar et al. 2010; Seetharamaraju et al. 2011a,b; Reddy et al. 2013a,b) have been conducted, documenting the herpetofaunal elements found in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh and these have also contributed to some rediscoveries (Srinivasulu et al. 2006, 2009; Srinivasulu and Das 2007; Seetharamaraju et al. 2009). Some of the major studies undertaken in other areas of the eastern part of the peninsula include those of Dutta et al. (2009), Seetharamaraju et al. (2009), Srinivasulu et al. (2009), Javed et al. (2010a,b,c), Agarwal et al. (2012), Dutta-

Roy et al. (2013), Seetharamaraju and Srinivasulu (2013).

Studies on reptilian fauna of elsewhere in peninsular India include Deshpande et al. (2012); Giri et al. (2009); Walmiki et al. (2012), (2013a,b); Joshi (2011); Khaire and Khaire (1985); Ghadage (2013); Kumbhar et al. (2012), (2013); Wadatkar and Chikale (2010), Mirza et al. (2010a,b,2011); Vyas (1998, 2000, 2004a,b, 2007); Chandra and Gajbe (2005); Mirza and Sanap (2010); Vyas (2010); Ingle (2010); Vyas and Desai (2010); Captain et al. (2005); Gaikwad et al. (2009); Grandison and Soman (1963); Gower et al. (2008); Mirza and Pal (2010); Mirza and Upadhye (2010); Chandra and Gupta (2005); Gajbe and Gupta (2005); and Selvan et al. (2012).

### 1.3 Reptilian diversity and endemism in Western Ghats and peninsular India

A total of 227 species of reptiles belonging to 20 families have been recorded from the assessment region of which 107 species (47.13%) are endemic to Western Ghats and 50 species (22.02%) are endemic to peninsular India (Table 1.1, Fig. 1.1).

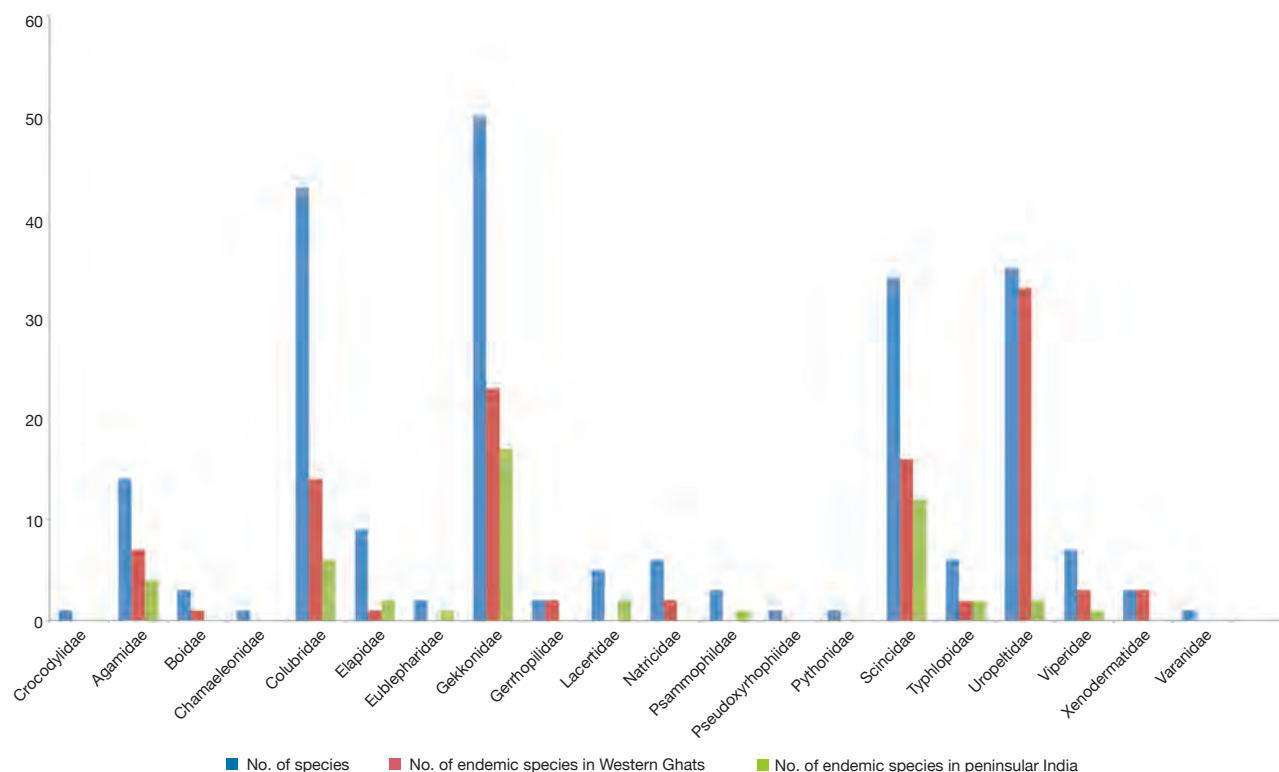
The reptilian diversity of Western Ghats and peninsular India are represented by Crocodylia (Crocodiles), Testudines (Terrapins & Tortoises) and Squamates including Sauria (Lizards) and Ophidia (Snakes). For the current assessment testudines were not considered. Among these orders the highest diversity is seen among Sauria including the families Gekkonidae (50 species), followed by Scincidae (34 species) and Agamidae (14 species). The families Lacertidae (5 species), Eublepharidae (2 species), Chamaeleonidae (1 species) and Varanidae (1 species) also contribute to the species diversity among Sauria. The order Ophidia is represented by the families Boidae, Colubridae, Elapidae, Gerrhopilidae, Natricidae, Psammophiidae, Pseudoxyrhophiidae, Pythonidae, Typhlopidae, Uropeltidae, Viperidae and Xenodermatidae of these the families with highest diversity are Colubridae (43 species), followed by Uropeltidae (35 species). The families Elapidae (9 species), Viperidae (7 species), Natricidae (6 species), Typhlopidae (6 species), Boidae (3 species), Psammophiidae (3 species), Xenodermatidae (3 species), Gerrhopilidae (2 species), Pseudoxyrhophiidae (1 species) and Pythonidae (1 species) contribute to the diversity of Ophidia. Only one species of Crocodylia is found in the study region.

The families Gerrhopilidae and Xenodermatidae are endemic to the Western Ghats. All but two species belonging to the family Uropeltidae are endemic to Western Ghats and exhibit a percent endemism of 94.28 per cent. The other families that exhibit high percent endemism to Western Ghats include Agamidae (50%), Scincidae (47%), Gekkonidae (46.72%), Viperidae (42.85%), Boidae (33.33%), Natricidae (33.33%), Colubridae (32.55%), Typhlopidae (33.33%) and Elapidae (11.11%). With respect to peninsular India, is endemism was observed in family Eublepharidae (50%), followed by Lacertidae (40%), Scincidae (35.29%), Gekkonidae (34%), Psammophiidae (33.33%), Typhlopidae (33.33%), Agamidae (28.57%), Elapidae (22.22%), Viperidae (14.28%), Colubridae (13.95%), and Uropeltidae (5.71%) (Table 1.1).

**Table 1.1. Diversity and endemism in the reptilian families with respect to Western Ghats**

Family	No. of species	No. of endemic species		Percent endemism	
		In Western Ghats	In Peninsular India	In Western Ghats	In Peninsular India
Crocodylidae	1	0	0	00.00	00.00
Agamidae	14	7	4	50.00	28.57
Boidae	3	1	0	33.33	00.00
Chamaeleonidae	1	0	0	00.00	00.00
Colubridae	43	14	6	32.55	13.95
Elapidae	9	1	2	11.11	22.22
Eublepharidae	2	0	1	00.00	50.00
Gekkonidae	50	23	17	46.00	34.00
Gerrhopilidae	2	2	0	100.0	00.00
Lacertidae	5	0	2	00.00	40.00
Natricidae	6	2	0	33.33	00.00
Psammophiidae	3	0	1	00.00	33.33
Pseudoxyrhophiidae	1	0	0	00.00	00.00
Pythonidae	1	0	0	00.00	00.00
Scincidae	34	16	12	47.05	35.29
Typhlopidae	6	2	2	33.33	33.33
Uropeltidae	35	33	2	94.28	5.71
Viperidae	7	3	1	42.85	14.28
Xenodermatidae	3	3	0	100.0	00.00
Varanidae	1	0	0	00.00	00.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>227</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>47.13</b>	<b>22.02</b>

**Fig. 1.1. Depicting number of species assessed in each family**



#### 1.4 Threats to terrestrial biodiversity

The primary threats to terrestrial biodiversity include habitat loss and degradation, unsustainable harvesting of species, climate change, invasive species, and pollution (CBD 2010). The unsustainable harvesting of species through hunting and for activities such as wildlife trade also poses a major threat to terrestrial biodiversity.

According to a recent study conducted by the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), incorporating both field-based analysis of vegetation communities as well as satellite image interpretation, there are four major forest types in the Western Ghats: evergreen, semi-evergreen, moist deciduous, and dry deciduous. Together the forests cover approximately 20 percent of the total area of the Western Ghats. Among the four broad vegetation types, moist deciduous forests occupy the largest

area followed by semi-evergreen, dry deciduous and evergreen forests. The highest levels of endemism are found in the evergreen forests. The Wayanad evergreen forests of Kerala represent a transition zone from the moist *Cullenia*-dominated forests in the southern Western Ghats to the northern drier dipterocarp forests (Rodgers and Panwar 1988). The habitat types of the southern Western Ghats tropical evergreen forests also include the wet montane evergreen forests and shola-grassland complexes in the higher elevations (1,900-2,200 meters). The montane evergreen forests are diverse, multi-storied and rich in epiphytes, with a low canopy at 15 to 20 m (Puri et al. 1989; Ganesh et al. 1996). Semi-evergreen forests occur primarily in the states of Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka in the Western Ghats, within an elevation range of about 300-900 m (IIRS 2002). The moist deciduous forest type occupies the largest area within the Western Ghats. It occurs within an elevation range of 500-900 m in areas with mean annual rainfall of 2,500-3,500 mm. The dry deciduous forests occur on the leeward side of the Western Ghats Mountain Range within an elevational range of 300-900 meters in areas of 900-2,000 mm mean annual rainfall. They extend across the southern Indian states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

Protected areas in the Western Ghats are embedded in a human-dominated landscape and hence are subject to intense land-use conflicts. Illegal timber felling, presence of exotic and invasive species, fuelwood and fodder removal and human-wildlife conflicts were found to occur in 97 percent of the protected areas. In general, threats at a local level such as hunting, fuelwood and fodder collection and livestock grazing appear to be more common than threats at a landscape level such as mining, railways and pipelines. Livestock grazing, MFP/NTFP collection, tourism, fire, and illegal encroachments occur in more than 90 percent of protected areas and are indicative of the impacts of growing human populations both within and outside protected areas (CEPF 2007).

### 1.5 Species threatened status

In keeping with the principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity, assessing the status of species, which is one of the widely used indicators for the status of biodiversity, provides the means to monitor biodiversity trends and losses, and helps in setting priorities for species conservation. There are several methods of determining species status and the most commonly used tool is the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (IUCN 2001), which allows consistency in approach across different taxonomic groups. It helps in determining the relative risk of extinction and provides the basis for understanding if a species is Extinct, threatened (Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable), Near Threatened, Least Concern, or lacking sufficient basic data for assessment (Data Deficient). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ publishes the results of the global assessments for each species ([www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)). The IUCN Red List also provides basic information on species taxonomy, distributions, habitat and ecology, threats, population trends, use and trade, livelihood values, ecosystem services provided, and research and conservation priorities.

A complementary strategy, involving a sampled approach,

has been developed to increase coverage of species groups which have to date been under-represented on the IUCN Red List, and for which global, comprehensive assessments may be difficult or even unachievable due to lack of a solid knowledge base, time and financial constraints. Assessments using the sampled methodology have been undertaken for the dragonflies and damselflies, reptiles, and bony fishes, and are currently underway for a number of other taxa.

Reptiles have been considered by some to be of minor importance and their disappearance has been suggested to not make much difference one way or the other (Zim and Smith 1953). A total of 9,831 species of reptiles have been discovered and studied so far (Uetz 2014), and new molecular evidence continues to unearth numerous cryptic species that had not previously been detected by morphological analyses (e.g., Adalsteinsson et al. 2009; Nagy et al. 2012; Oliver et al. 2009). Yet as a group, reptiles are currently poorly-represented on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, with only 35% of described species evaluated (Böhm et al. 2013).

### 1.6 Conservation status

The conservation status of plants and animals is one of the most widely used indicators for assessing the condition of ecosystems and their biodiversity. It also provides an important tool in priority-setting exercises for species conservation. At the global level the best source of information on the conservation status of plants and animals is the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species (IUCN 2004). The Red List provides taxonomic, conservation status, and distribution information on taxa that have been evaluated. This system is designed to determine the relative risk of extinction, with the main purpose of cataloguing and highlighting those taxa that are facing a higher risk of global extinction (i.e., those listed as Critically Endangered, Endangered and Vulnerable).

In this study, all the reptile species have been evaluated for their global conservation status according to the IUCN system, and the results of this assessment are in the report.

### 1.7 Objectives of the assessment

This assessment of the reptiles in the Western Ghats (and peninsular India) has two main objectives:

- To assist in regional conservation planning by assessing the status and distribution of all species occurring within the region; and
- To develop a network of regional experts to support future assessments and the updating of the information on these species.

The assessment provides two direct outputs:

- A report on the status of the reptilian diversity of the Western Ghats and those in peninsular India, including a Red List assessment of all the species; identification of the main threats for each species; and a spatial representation of the centres of species richness and threats; a database that provides a baseline for monitoring the status of reptiles belonging to the region of assessment.
- The data presented in this report provides a

snapshot based on available knowledge at the time of writing. The database will continue to be updated and made freely and widely available. IUCN will ensure wide dissemination of this data to relevant decision makers, NGOs, and scientists to inform the implementation of conservation actions on the ground.

## 1.8 Assessment methodology

All the reptiles that were described that inhabit India, from the early 1800s onwards were considered for the present assessment with the exception of testudines. The assessments relied heavily on Boulenger (1890) and Smith (1935, 1943) for the taxonomy of the species and information on the distribution, population, ecology and threats were gleaned from various other published sources ranging from historic to current.

### 1.8.1 Data collation and quality control

Information was sourced and collated for all known species. Experts from across India and beyond (as necessary) were identified by the Zoo Outreach Organization (ZOO) and the South Asian Reptile Network (SARN) through consultation with the relevant IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC) Specialist Groups and the IUCN's Global Reptile Assessment team. These experts were trained in use of the project database, the Species Information Service (SIS), application of the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (IUCN 2001), and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) for digitally mapping species distributions.

Following the training workshop, selected experts were contracted to collate species lists for the region, and input within the SIS, all available information on each species. The required datafields within SIS are summarized in Table 1.2; some are free text fields allowing the assessors to add general information, such as for species distributions, habitat preferences and ecology; whereas other fields are based on classification schemes using pre-defined lists to record against. Standard classification schemes allow for consistency in

analysis across other groups or geographic regions. For more information on the classification schemes employed, visit the IUCN Red List website <http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>.

Spatial distribution data were sourced for the production of species distribution maps (see Section 2.4). All species were then assessed at the global scale, using the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (Version 3.1; IUCN 2001) (see Section 2.5). Species information and conservation assessments were then reviewed at a second workshop, where each species assessment was evaluated by at least two independent experts to ensure that: i) the information presented was both complete and correct; and ii) the Red List Categories and Criteria had been applied correctly.

### 1.8.2 Species mapping

Species distributions were, mapped to individual locality record using GIS software. Point localities (the latitude and longitude where the species has been recorded), and other published data were used in most cases to map the species distributions.

### 1.8.3 Assessment of species threatened status

The risk of extinction for each species was assessed according to the IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria (Version 3.1; IUCN 2001). As such, the categories of threat reflect the risk that a species will go extinct within a specified time period. A species assessed as "Critically Endangered" is considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild. A species assessed as "Endangered" is considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild. A species assessed as "Vulnerable" is considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild. All taxa assessed as Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable are described as "threatened". To distinguish between the three threatened categories, there are five criteria with quantitative thresholds (Table 1.3), reflecting biological indicators of populations threatened with extinction.

**Table 1.2. Data fields within the Species Information Service (SIS) as required to compile a species assessment. Text = text field; CS = Classification Scheme**

		Fields			
Taxonomy	Higher taxonomy	Synonyms	Common names		
Geographic range	General information (text)	Countries of Occurrence (CS)	Biogeographic realm (CS)		
Population	General information (text)	Population trend (CS)			
Habitat and ecology	General information (text)	Habitats (CS)	System (CS)	Movement patterns (CS)	
Use and trade	General information (text)	Utilisation (CS)	Harvest trends (CS)		
Threats	General information (text)	Threats (CS)			
Conservation measures	General information (text)	Conservation measures (CS)			
Red List assessment	Red List Category and criteria (CS)	Red List assessment rationale (text)	Assessor & Evaluator names	Assessment date	
Bibliography	References				

For an explanation of the full range of categories, and the criteria that must be met for a species to qualify under each category, please refer to the following documentation: The IUCN Red List Categories and Criteria: Version 3.1, which can be downloaded from <http://www.iucnredlist.org/technicaldocuments/categories-and-criteria>. Species summaries and distribution maps are presented for all species assessed on the accompanying DVD. An example output is given in Appendix 1.

#### **1.8.4 Nomenclature**

Taxonomic schemes are constantly changing as results from on-going studies, in particular the results churned out since the introduction of molecular techniques, are made available. Taxonomy is also a rather controversial field, and in many cases it is difficult to find a universally agreed upon taxonomic hierarchy. In this case, the taxonomy followed is the one that has been adopted by the IUCN Red List which, wherever possible, employs existing published works.

#### **1.8.5 Review workshop**

Herpetologists active in this field were invited to attend a five-day (28 February to 4 March 2011) Conservation Assessment and Management Plan (CAMP) workshop at Karl Kubel Institute, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. Working groups

namely: Lizards including Gekkonidae, Scincidae, Lacertidae working group; all species of snakes other than Uropeltidae and Typhlopidae working group and Agamidae, Uropeltidae and Typhlopidae working group were created to review the taxonomic sets of species. Preliminary species summary reports, distribution maps and global assessments were distributed to all the participants before the workshop to allow them to review the data presented and prepare any changes the wanted made to the data. New information was added to the species summaries and maps, and corrections to existing data were made. Following the review workshop, the data were edited, and outstanding questions were resolved through communications with the various IUCN species specialist groups and IUCN staff. The resulting finalized IUCN Red List assessments are a product of scientific consensus concerning species status and are backed by relevant literature and data sources.

#### **1.8.6 Post-workshop follow-up**

Following the review workshop, the data were edited, and outstanding questions were resolved through communications with the identified experts. The resulting assessments therefore provide the best available scientific consensus concerning the status of these species, and are fully supported in the database with relevant literature and references.



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**Table 1.3 Summary of the five criteria (A-E) used to determine the category of threat for a species.**

Use any of the criteria A–E	Critically Endangered	Endangered	Vulnerable
<b>A. Population reduction</b>			
Declines measured over the longer of 10 years or 3 generations			
A1	≥ 90%	≥ 70%	≥ 50%
A2, A3 and A4	≥ 80%	≥ 50%	≥ 30%
A1. Population reduction observed, estimated, inferred, or suspected in the past where the causes of the reduction are clearly reversible AND understood AND have ceased, based on and specifying any of the following: a) direct observation; b) an index of abundance appropriate to the taxon; c) a decline in area of occupancy (AOO), extent of occurrence (EOO) and/or habitat quality; d) actual or potential levels of exploitation; e) effects of introduced taxa, hybridization, pathogens, pollutants, competitors or parasites.			
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 (a) to (e) under A1.			
A3. Population reduction projected or suspected to be met in the future (up to a maximum of 100 years) based on (b) to (e) under A1.			
A4. An observed, estimated, inferred, projected or suspected population reduction (up to a maximum of 100 years) where the time period must include both the past and the future, and where the causes of reduction may not have ceased OR may not be understood OR may not be reversible, based on (a) to (e) under A1.			
<b>B. Geographic range in the form of either B1 (extent of occurrence) and/or B2 (area of occupancy)</b>			
B1. Extent of occurrence (EOO)	< 100km <sup>2</sup>	< 5,000km <sup>2</sup>	< 5,000km <sup>2</sup>
B2. Area of occupancy (AOO)	< 10km <sup>2</sup>	< 500km <sup>2</sup>	< 2,000km <sup>2</sup>
AND at least 2 of the following:			
a) Severely fragmented, OR Number of locations	= 1	≤ 5	≤ 10
b) Continuing decline in any of: <b>(i)</b> extent of occurrence; <b>(ii)</b> area of occupancy; <b>(iii)</b> area, extent and/or quality of habitat; <b>(iv)</b> number of locations or subpopulations; <b>(v)</b> number of mature individuals.			
c) Extreme fluctuations in any of: <b>(i)</b> extent of occurrence; <b>(ii)</b> area of occupancy; <b>(iii)</b> number of locations or subpopulations; <b>(iv)</b> number of mature individuals.			
<b>C. Small population size and decline</b>			
Number of mature individuals	< 250	< 2,500	< 10,000
AND either C1 or C2			
C1. An estimated continuing decline of at least: (up to max. of 100 years in future)	25% in 3 years or 1 generation	20% in 5 years or 2 generations	10% in 10 years or 3 generations
C2. A continuing decline AND a) and/or b)			
a i). Number of mature individuals in each subpopulation	< 50	< 250	< 1,000
a ii) % individuals in one subpopulation	90-100%	95-100%	100%
b) Extreme fluctuations in the number of mature individuals			
<b>D. Very small or restricted population</b>			
EITHER			
Number of mature individuals	< 50	< 250	< 1,000 (D1)
AND/OR			
Restricted area of occupancy			Typically < 20km <sup>2</sup> or number locations ≤ 5 (D2)
<b>E. Quantitative analysis</b>			
Indicating the probability of extinction in the wild to be:	≥ 50% in 10 years or 3 generations (100 years max.)	≥ 20% in 20 years or 5 generations (100 years max.)	≥ 10% in 100 years



# Chapter 2. Results

## 2.1 Conservation Status

The analysis of the conservation status of the reptiles assessed is depicted in Table 2.1. More number of endemic species are included under the threat categories compared to non-endemic species.

Of the species endemic to Western Ghats, 16% are assessed as threatened (Endangered or Vulnerable) and 8% are assessed as Near Threatened (Fig. 2.1). All nine species (8%) assessed as Endangered are endemic to the Western Ghats (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.1; Table 2.2). These species are assessed as Endangered due to ongoing threats like conversion of forest tract to human habitation, logging, illegal mining activities and conversion of forest tracts to agriculture lands and commercial plantations, extensive use of pesticides in plantations and tourism-related infrastructure development.

Nine species (8%) endemic to Western Ghats are assessed as Vulnerable (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.1; Table 2.3). Altitude specific and habitat specialist species like the *Kaestlea laterimaculata* are assessed as Vulnerable as their habitat is under threat due to conversion of forest tracts into commercial plantations, fuel-wood and fodder collection, livestock grazing and expansion of human settlements. *Hemidactylus albofasciatus* known only from the rocky habitats of Sindhudurg and Ratnagiri districts of Maharashtra is under threat due to rock quarrying and collection for construction purposes, mining and livestock grazing. *Hemidactylus sataransensis*, *Cnemaspis jerdonii*, *Cnemaspis indraneildasi*, *Cnemaspis indica*, *Oligodon brevicauda*, *Uropeltis phipsonii* and *Melanophidium bilineatum* are threatened due to conversion of forest tracts to agriculture, commercial plantations, human dwellings, tourism-related infrastructure development and heavy vehicular traffic in sensitive areas.

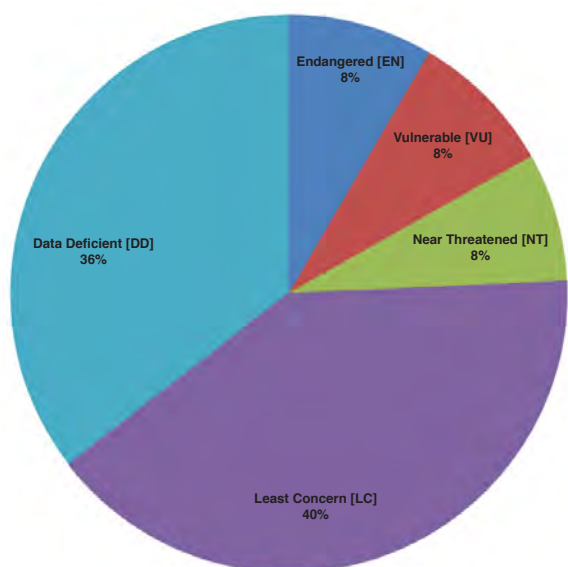


Fig. 2.1 Threatened status of reptile species endemic to Western Ghats

Eight species (8%) endemic to Western Ghats are assessed as Near Threatened meaning that they are close to qualifying for a threatened category (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.1; Table 2.4). The species are included under this category due to threats like conversion of forest tracts to plantations and agriculture, tourism-related infrastructure development, excessive use of pesticides in the plantations, pet trade, trade for skin and heavy vehicular traffic.

Of the species endemic to peninsular India, 10% are assessed as threatened (Critically Endangered or Vulnerable) and 2% as Near Threatened (Table 2.2; Fig. 2.2).

Of the five species endemic to peninsular India assessed as threatened, two species namely *Geckoella jeyporensis* and *Barkudia insularis* are included under the Critically Endangered category (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.2). These species are assessed as Critically Endangered due to their restricted distribution, no recent collections despite extensive surveys and severe threats to the habitat by means of extensive deforestation owing to fuel-wood collection, practice of slash and burn agriculture, clear felling of forest tracts, conversion of forested tracts to commercial plantations, grazing and mining activities.

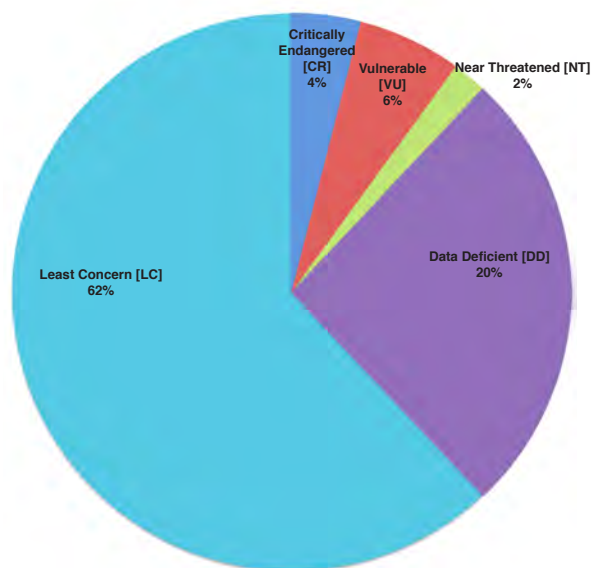


Fig. 2.2. Threatened status of reptile species endemic to peninsular India

Three species endemic to peninsular India are assessed as Vulnerable (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.2). The site where *Lygosoma ashvamedhi* was known to inhabit is reported to be lost and the habitat of the surrounding area is under threat due to quarrying activities for cement factories. *Hemidactylus gujaratensis* is assessed as Vulnerable as it is known only from a highly disturbed temple complex (criteria D2). *Cnemaspis otai* is possibly threatened due to tourism-related infrastructure development and as its extent of occurrence is approximately

Table 2.1 Number of reptilian species endemic to Western Ghats and peninsular India under each IUCN Red List category

Global Red List Category	No. of reptilian species Endemic to		
	Western Ghats	Peninsular India	Total
Extinct (EX)	0	0	0
Extinct in the wild (EW)	0	0	0
Critically Endangered (CR)	0	2	2
Endangered (EN)	9	0	9
Vulnerable (VU)	9	3	12
Near Threatened (NT)	8	1	9
Least Concern (LC)	43	31	74
Data Deficient (DD)	39	12	51
<b>Total species</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>157</b>

50km<sup>2</sup> (criteria D2).

*Eutropis nagarjuni* endemic to peninsular India is assessed as Near Threatened (Table 2.5; Fig. 2.2) as this species is known from very few sighting records and its habitat is under threat due to tourism-related infrastructure development, stone quarrying and grazing.

The results show that of the total endemic species, 14% (23 species) are threatened, while another 6% of species are Near Threatened (Table 2.1, Fig. 2.3). An additional 51 endemic species (32.48%) are Data Deficient (Table 2.1, Fig. 2.3), many of which are likely to be threatened. This data shows that studies are needed towards a better understanding of threats to species in the Western Ghats assessment region and for more focus on action for their conservation.

Analysis of the conservation status of all species assessed shows that 136 species (59.91%) are assessed as Least Concern. Of these 43 species are endemic to Western Ghats, 31 species are endemic to peninsular India. Of the remaining 62 species,

32 species are endemic to South Asia and the rest 30 species are widely distributed.

Thirty-nine species endemic to Western Ghats (35.51%) are assessed as Data Deficient, meaning that their risk of extinction could not be evaluated (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.1; Table 2.3). Majority of the species assessed as Data Deficient are those whose taxonomy is under flux or their records need taxonomic clarification or are known only from the type descriptions and have not been sighted since. Among the Western Ghats endemics, 14 species belonging to family Uropeltidae are assessed as Data Deficient as they are known from historic records only from the type locality and not sighted since the original description. Similarly, both *Gerrhopilus beddomii* and *Gerrhopilus tindalli* are known only from the original descriptions and have not been sighted since. The genus *Cnemaspis* has undergone recent taxonomic changes (Manamendra-Arachi et al. 2007) hence the species boundaries and the taxonomic validation of the *Cnemaspis* species need critical re-evaluation.

Among the peninsular India endemics 12 species (26%) are assessed as Data Deficient (Table 2.1; Fig. 2.2; Table 2.5). The type locality of *Cnemaspis boiei* is not correctly known and this species is known by only four specimens. No information exists about *Hemidactylus porbandarensis* and there exists a taxonomic uncertainty about this species. There exists a taxonomic uncertainty about *Hemidactylus subtriedrus* in relation to *Hemidactylus triedrus* warranting a thorough taxonomic revision. *Lygosoma vosmaeri* and *Sepsophis punctatus* although known from recent records, no other information about their population, ecology, natural history and threats are known. The taxonomic status of *Coluber bholanathi* is to be resolved and though *Coluber gracilis* is known from Rajasthan and Maharashtra no information exists about this species and its habitat is rapidly declining. *Calliophis beddomi* and *Oligodon travancoricus* are assessed as Data Deficient as sufficient information does not exist about the extent of occurrence, natural history and threats. The Indian endemic *Boiga wallachi* is assessed as Data Deficient as there exists no information about this restricted range species post 2004 tsunami.

A list of all the species with their IUCN Red List categories are given separately in the Appendix.

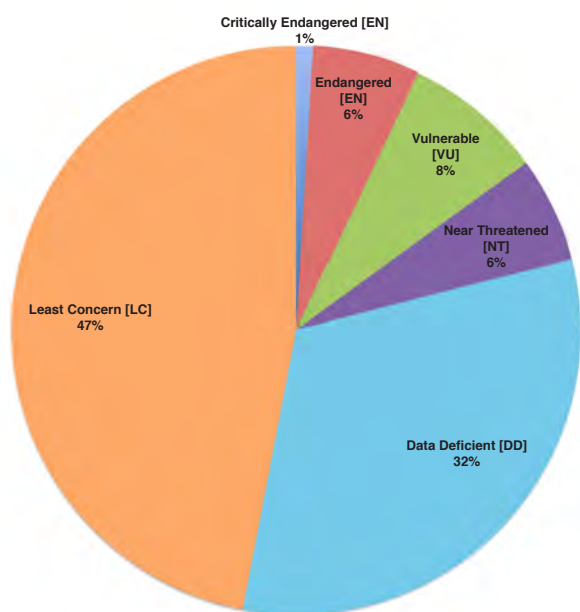


Fig. 2.3 Conservation status of endemic reptiles of Western Ghats and Peninsular India

**Table 2.2. List of threatened species of reptiles endemic to Western Ghats**

Species	IUCN Status
<i>Abaetulla perroteti</i>	EN
<i>Cnemaspis goaensis</i>	EN
<i>Cnemaspis indica</i>	VU
<i>Cnemaspis indraneildasi</i>	VU
<i>Cnemaspis jerdonii</i>	VU
<i>Cnemaspis mynadensis</i>	EN
<i>Dasia subcaerulea</i>	EN
<i>Eurylepis poonaensis</i>	EN
<i>Eutropis clivicola</i>	EN
<i>Hemidactylus albofasciatus</i>	VU
<i>Hemidactylus sataraensis</i>	VU
<i>Kaestlea laterimaculata</i>	VU
<i>Melanophidium bilineatum</i>	VU
<i>Oligodon brevicauda</i>	VU
<i>Otocryptis beddomii</i>	EN
<i>Platyplectrurus madurensis</i>	EN
<i>Rhinophis travancoricus</i>	EN
<i>Uropeltis phipsonii</i>	VU

**Table 2.4. List of threatened species of reptiles endemic to peninsular India**

Species	IUCN Status
<i>Barkudia insularis</i>	CR
<i>Cnemaspis otai</i>	VU
<i>Geckoella jeyaporensis</i>	CR
<i>Hemidactylus gujaratensis</i>	VU
<i>Lygosoma ashwamedhi</i>	VU

**Table 2.5. List of Near Threatened and Data Deficient species of reptiles endemic to peninsular India**

Species	IUCN Status
<i>Boiga wallachi</i>	DD
<i>Calliophis beddomei</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis boie</i>	DD
<i>Coluber bholanathi</i>	DD
<i>Coluber gracilis</i>	DD
<i>Eutropis innotata</i>	DD
<i>Eutropis nagarjuni</i>	NT
<i>Hemidactylus porbandarensis</i>	DD
<i>Hemidactylus subtriadrius</i>	DD
<i>Lygosoma pruthi</i>	DD
<i>Lygosoma vosmaeri</i>	DD
<i>Psammophis longifrons</i>	DD
<i>Sepsophis punctatus</i>	DD

**Table 2.3. List of Near Threatened and Data Deficient species of reptiles endemic to Western Ghats**

Species	IUCN Status
<i>Abaetulla dispar</i>	NT
<i>Boiga dightoni</i>	DD
<i>Boiga nuchalis</i>	DD
<i>Calotes aurantolabium</i>	DD
<i>Chalcides pentadactylus</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis australis</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis beddomei</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis heteropholis</i>	NT
<i>Cnemaspis kolhapurensis</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis littoralis</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis monticola</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis nilagirica</i>	DD
<i>Cnemaspis ornatus</i>	NT
<i>Cnemaspis sisparensis</i>	NT
<i>Dendrelaphis chairecacos</i>	DD
<i>Eryx whitakeri</i>	NT
<i>Eutropis gansi</i>	DD
<i>Gerrhopilus beddomii</i>	DD
<i>Gerrhopilus tindalli</i>	DD
<i>Hemidactylus anamallensis</i>	NT
<i>Kaestlea palnica</i>	DD
<i>Lygosoma goaensis</i>	DD
<i>Oligodon nikhili</i>	DD
<i>Oligodon travancoricus</i>	DD
<i>Pectrurus aureus</i>	DD
<i>Peltopelor macrolepis</i>	NT
<i>Platyplectrurus trilineatus</i>	DD
<i>Plectrurus canarius</i>	DD
<i>Plectrurus guentheri</i>	DD
<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i>	DD
<i>Ristella guentheri</i>	DD
<i>Ristella rurkii</i>	DD
<i>Ristella travancorica</i>	DD
<i>Trimeresurus strigatus</i>	DD
<i>Typhlops exciguus</i>	DD
<i>Typhlops thurstoni</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis beddomii</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis bicatenata</i>	NT
<i>Uropeltis broughami</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis dindigalensis</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis macrorhynchus</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis maculatus</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis mybendrae</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis nitidus</i>	DD
<i>Uropeltis petersi</i>	DD
<i>Xylophis stenorhynchus</i>	DD

## 2.2 Threats to reptilian fauna

Residential and commercial development, energy production and mining, transportation, human intrusion, invasive species, climate change, agriculture and aquaculture, biological resource use, natural system modifications and pollution are the major threats to the species endemic to the Western Ghats and peninsular India and also to species distributed in South Asia and elsewhere.

An analysis of the threats identified for each species assessed (Figure 5) identifies agriculture & aquaculture and residential & commercial development as the major threats to half (50.2%) of all the reptilian species assessed, and all of the threatened species.

Agriculture & aquaculture is the greatest ongoing threat to the species impacting 33% species (64% threatened species). The threat of agro-industry farming involving the conversion of forest lands into commercial plantations such as tea, coffee and cardamom plantations is impacting nearly 11% of the species (36% of the threatened species). Specific habitat modifications such as conversion of *Myristica* swamps to areca nut and other plantations are fast denuding important habitats for endemic species such as *Otocyrtis beddomii* which has been recorded around *Myristica* swamp area (Jose et al. 2007). The King cobra *Ophiophagus hannah* (VU) is severely impacted by logging and ever increasing expansion of agriculture lands into prime forest habitats leading to increased man-animal conflict.

Residential and commercial development and tourism-related developmental activities are threatening 34% of all the species and 60% of the threatened species (Fig. 2.4). There is an increasing trend in tourism in the Western Ghats. According to a recent study (Anon 2011) there are 23 tourist spots in the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu, 41 in Kerala, 37 in Karnataka, 22 in Maharashtra and 25 in Goa. Many areas that have undergone tourism-related development have suffered negative environmental impacts as deforestation for development, increased pressure on resources such as water and an increase of untreated waste have all impacted natural habitats. The physical flow of high numbers of tourists in sensitive areas has also led to the trampling and disturbance of rare and threatened species and their habitats. *Hemidactylus sataranaensis* (VU) a species of open, sparsely vegetated plateaus of moist montane forest type has been reported from Thosreghar - an open plateau where windmills have been setup which in turn has become a major tourist attraction impacting the habitat of this habitat specific species. *Hemidactylus gujaratensis* (VU) is known from a single religious site in Gujarat where there is a large influx of pilgrims causing large scale anthropogenic disturbances to the habitat. *Dasia subcaerulea* (EN) is known from only two specimens from Bodinayakanur in Tamil Nadu. The habitat here has undergone drastic changes and the forest area has been converted to a human settlement and there has been tourism-related residential areas and development impacting the habitat of the species. Wayanad is a major tourist destination in Kerala and the habitat is impacted due to tourism and related developmental activities, expansion of

human settlements, expansion of agriculture and conversion of forest land to plantations threatening endemic species such as *Cnemaspis nynadensis* (EN). Similarly, *Cnemaspis goaensis* (EN) a humid forest dweller is being impacted due to destruction of its habitat due to construction of roads and encroachment for human habitation.

Biological resource use (hunting, harvesting and logging) is identified as a major threat to the biodiversity in the region as it is the third greatest threat for the reptilians (Fig. 2.4) affecting 22.03% species (28% threatened reptiles). *Eutropis clivicola* (EN) and *Geckoella jeyporensis* (CR) are threatened due to habitat loss due to logging, conversion of forest tracts into commercial plantations and fuel wood collection. *Ophiophagus hannah* (VU) is impacted due to hunting, a result of man-animal conflict arisen due to deforestation for expansion of agriculture in prime forest habitats, it is particularly at risk from the harvesting of individuals for skin, food, pets, and especially traditional Chinese medicine. *Kaestlea laterimaculata* (VU) an endemic mid-elevation forest dweller is highly impacted due to expansion of human settlements, conversion of forest tracts into commercial tea plantations, rampant livestock grazing and collection of fuel wood.

Mining has become a widespread threat (12% of all reptiles and 16% of the threatened species) to both in the Western Ghats and peninsular India. *Hemidactylus albofasciatus* (VU) known only from the Malvan plateau region has preference to rocky habitat. It is being threatened due to rock cutting and stone quarrying for construction purposes. Here mining is also a compounded problem. The site from where *Lygosoma ashwamedhi* (VU) was historically known is presumed lost due to construction of a dam at the site and the type locality and the surrounding areas where this species is presumed to be distributed has been impacted due to tourism-related development and quarrying for cement factories. The Critically Endangered *Geckoella jeyporensis* is severely impacted by deforestation and fragmentation of habitat due to bauxite mining activity. *Eutropis clivicola* (EN) is threatened due to illegal mining for precious stones.

*Otocyrtis beddomii*, *Geckoella jeyporensis* and *Kaestlea laterimaculata* are threatened by frequent forest fires that are a part of forest management policies that are in turn causing a decline in the quality and extent of habitat space for these species.

The most common sources of pollution in the assessment region are sedimentation due to agriculture, urban runoff and sewage, industrial effluents, mining, heavy industries such as iron ore, paper and textile mills, and washing and bathing. Runoff and sedimentation has significantly increased due to deforestation in the last three decades and unsustainable land use practices coupled with heavy monsoons (especially in the western region of the Ghats). *Platyplectrurus madurensis* (EN) and *Cnemaspis indraneildasii* (VU) are impacted due to conversion of forest tracts into commercial plantations and excessive use of pesticides and herbicides in these plantations thereby resulting in decline in extent and quality of habitat.

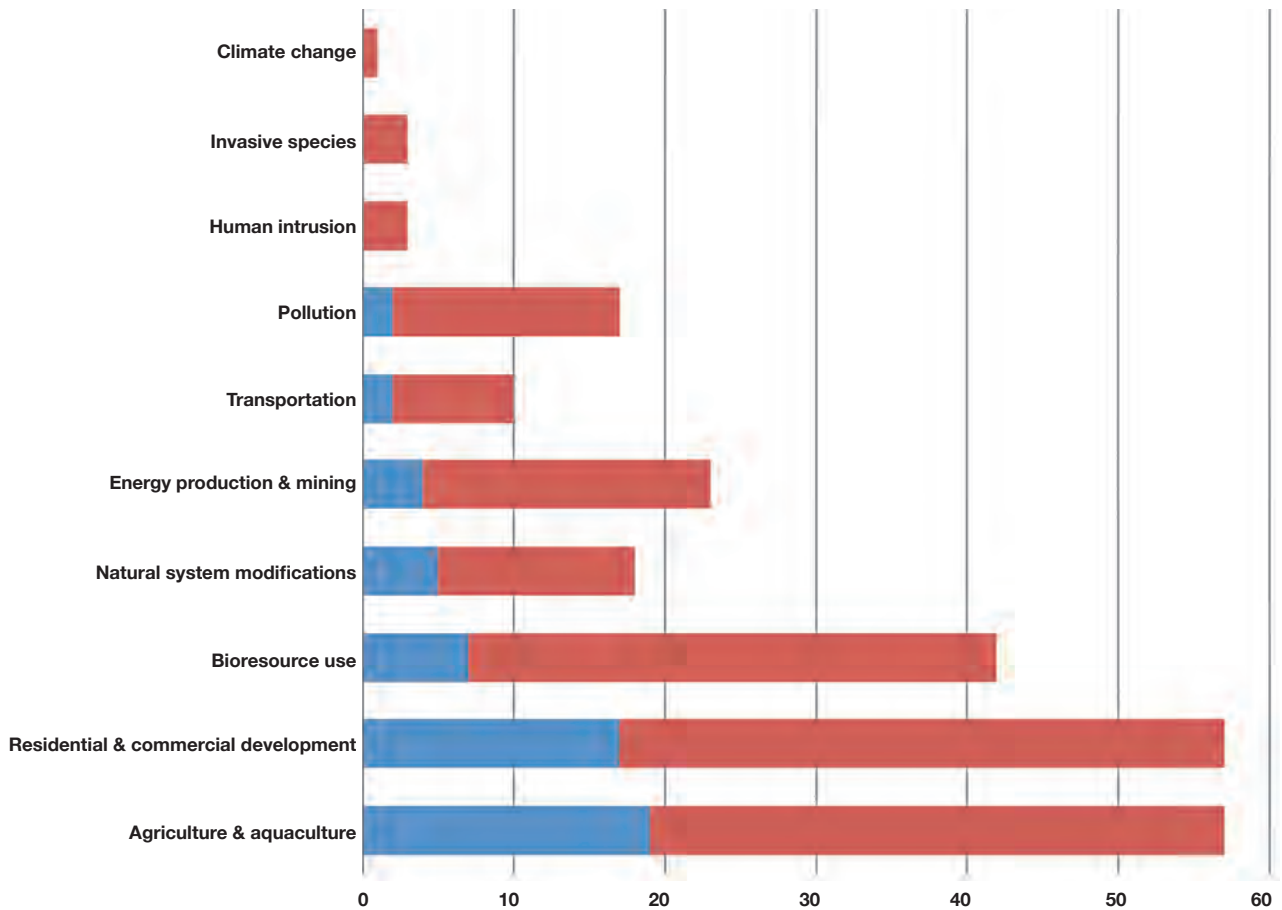


Fig. 2.4 Effect of threats on the threatened and the non-threatened reptile species

### 2.3 Conservation actions and recommendations

In spite of high endemism and threat levels, the reptilian fauna of both Western Ghats and peninsular India are still poorly known. We still lack an understanding regarding the life history traits, population and ecology of most, if not all, of the reptiles of the region. This lack of knowledge has greatly impeded our ability to conserve these species and their habitats.

Majority of the species do not have any species-specific or habitat conservation measures. Effective management of the area where the species occur is needed for their conservation. Research into the ecology, biology, population trends, habitat requirements of reptiles is required to understand the species and formulate conservation action plans for conservation of the species and its habitat.

Of the species endemic to both Western Ghats and the peninsular India region almost about 31.84% species are assessed as Data Deficient. No data other than their original descriptions exists about these species. Many of these species are such that there exists taxonomic uncertainties about them and further material would resolve such taxonomically difficult species. More research is the need of the hour and concerted efforts to locate and study such species and their taxonomy is essential to re-evaluate their status and accord them protection.

Reptilian species that are accorded protection by including them under various Schedules of the Wildlife Protection Act include *Crocodylus palustris*, *Elachistodon westermanni*, *Varanus bengalensis* included under Schedule I part II. *Naja naja*, *Ophiophagus hannah*, *Daboia russelii*, *Xenochrophis piscator*, *Ptyas mucosa*, *Atractium schistosum* are included under the Schedule II part II of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act. All the other snakes belonging to families Boidae, Colubridae, Elapidae, Hydrophiidae, Typhlopidae, Uropeltidae, Viperidae and Xenopeltidae are included under Schedule V of the Indian Wildlife Protection Act. Although these species are accorded protection, human apathy, superstitious beliefs, man-animal conflict due to human encroachment of forest lands for expansion of agriculture and human settlements, hunting for subsistence and for maintenance as objects of making money, hunting for food, for skin, pet trade, and for traditional medicine is taking a toll on the populations of majority of the reptilian species. Education and awareness about reptiles and the ecosystem services provided by them is absolutely essential to better conserve the species and their habitats.

## 2.4 Spatial distribution of Western Ghats endemic reptiles

### 2.4.1 Species richness

The species richness of reptiles in Western Ghats is represented by 193 species (Table 2.6). Of this diversity, 108 species are endemic to Western Ghats. The species richness is more concentrated in the lower latitudes (Fig. 2.5), and is highest in the hills south of Palghat Gap in southern Western Ghats, followed by the central Western Ghats with species richness

concentrating Nilgiri Hills and its surrounds in Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka states, and Shivamoga district, Karnataka. The northern Western Ghats showed relatively less species richness.

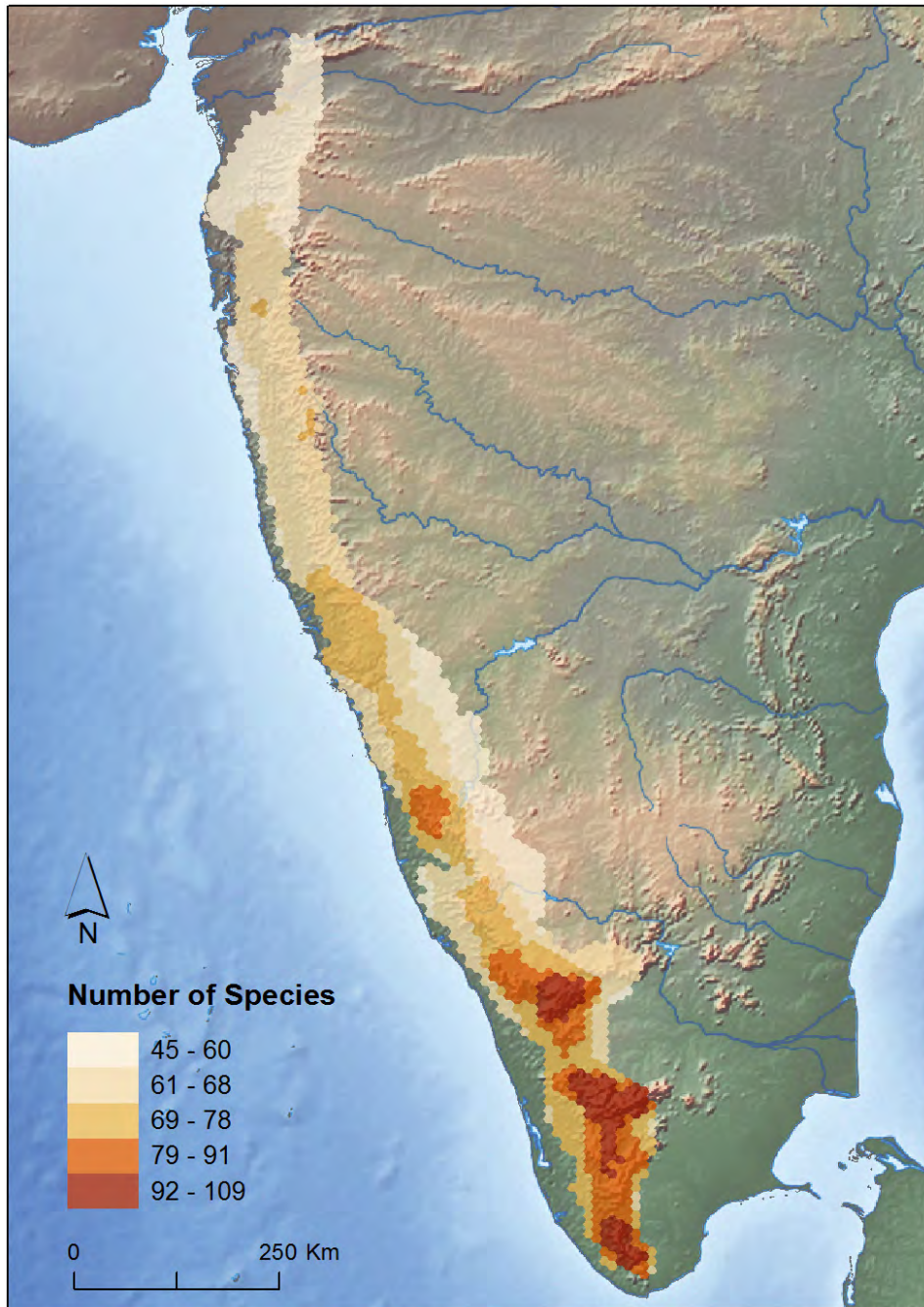


Fig. 2.5 Species richness of reptiles in Western Ghats



### 2.4.2 Distribution of endemic species

A map showing the distribution of endemic species of reptiles in Western Ghats (Fig. 2.6) reveals a similar pattern showing endemic hot spot areas in the lower latitudes. The highest endemism are concentrated around the Anaimalai Hills, the Agasthyamalai Hills and the Nilgiri Hills. The areas surrounding

these three hills ranges and the Shivamoga district, Karnataka are home to fairly good numbers of endemic species of reptiles. The species richness of endemic species in northern Western Ghats is relatively poor, and no Western Ghats endemic species is reported north of Pune, Maharashtra.

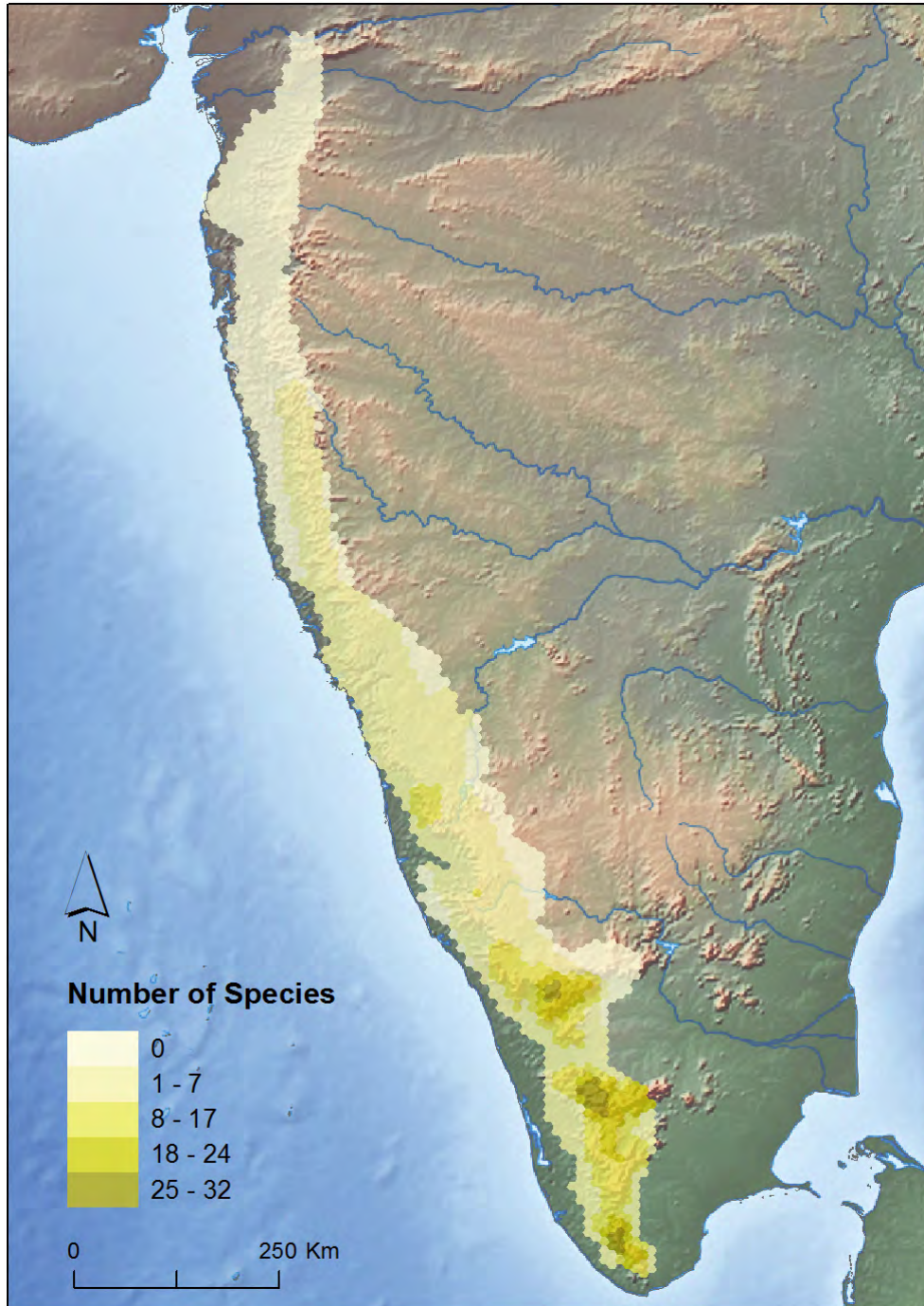


Fig. 2.6 Distribution of endemic species of reptiles in Western Ghats

### 2.4.3 Distribution of threatened species

The distribution of threatened species of reptiles in Western Ghats (Fig. 2.7) reveals a similar pattern showing maximum concentration of threatened species occurring in the lower latitudes, throughout the hill ranges south of Palghat Gap and

among the hill ranges immediately above the Palghat Gap. The habitat in these hill ranges are threatened due to commercial plantations, tourism related activities and mining. The same trend, albeit of lesser degree, is also seen in the central Western Ghats and northern Western Ghats regions.

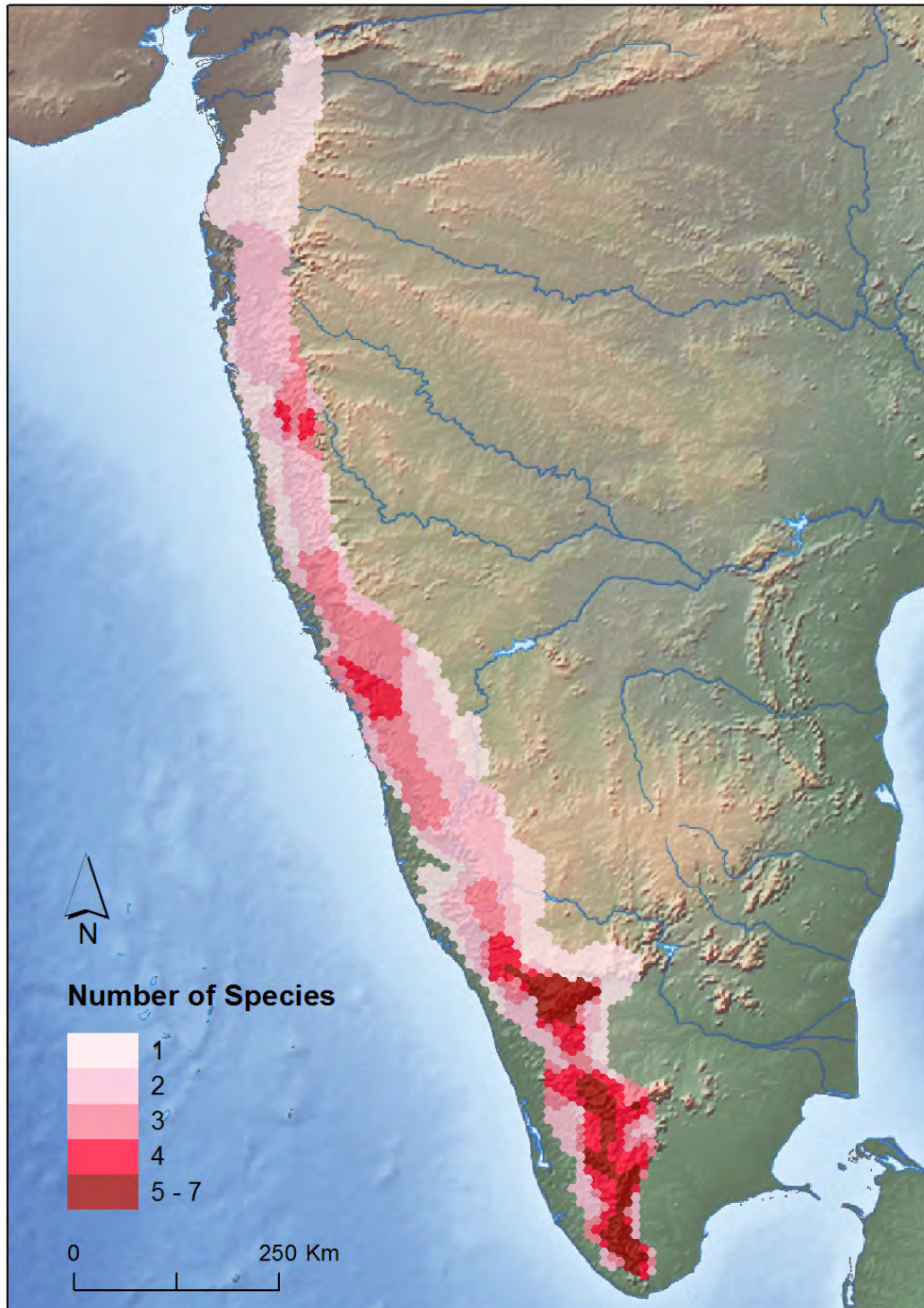


Fig. 2.7 Distribution of threatened species of reptiles in Western Ghats

#### 2.4.4 Distribution of Data Deficient species

Most Data Deficient species occur in areas south of Palghat Gap (Fig. 2.8) with greatest concentration being in the Agasthyamalai hills and the Anaimalai hills, followed by the Nilgiri hills. In most of the other parts of the Western Ghats

the number of DD species are less due to lesser species richness and wider distribution of species in those areas and therefore better knowledge of distribution and threats. Most DD species are due to taxonomic reasons.

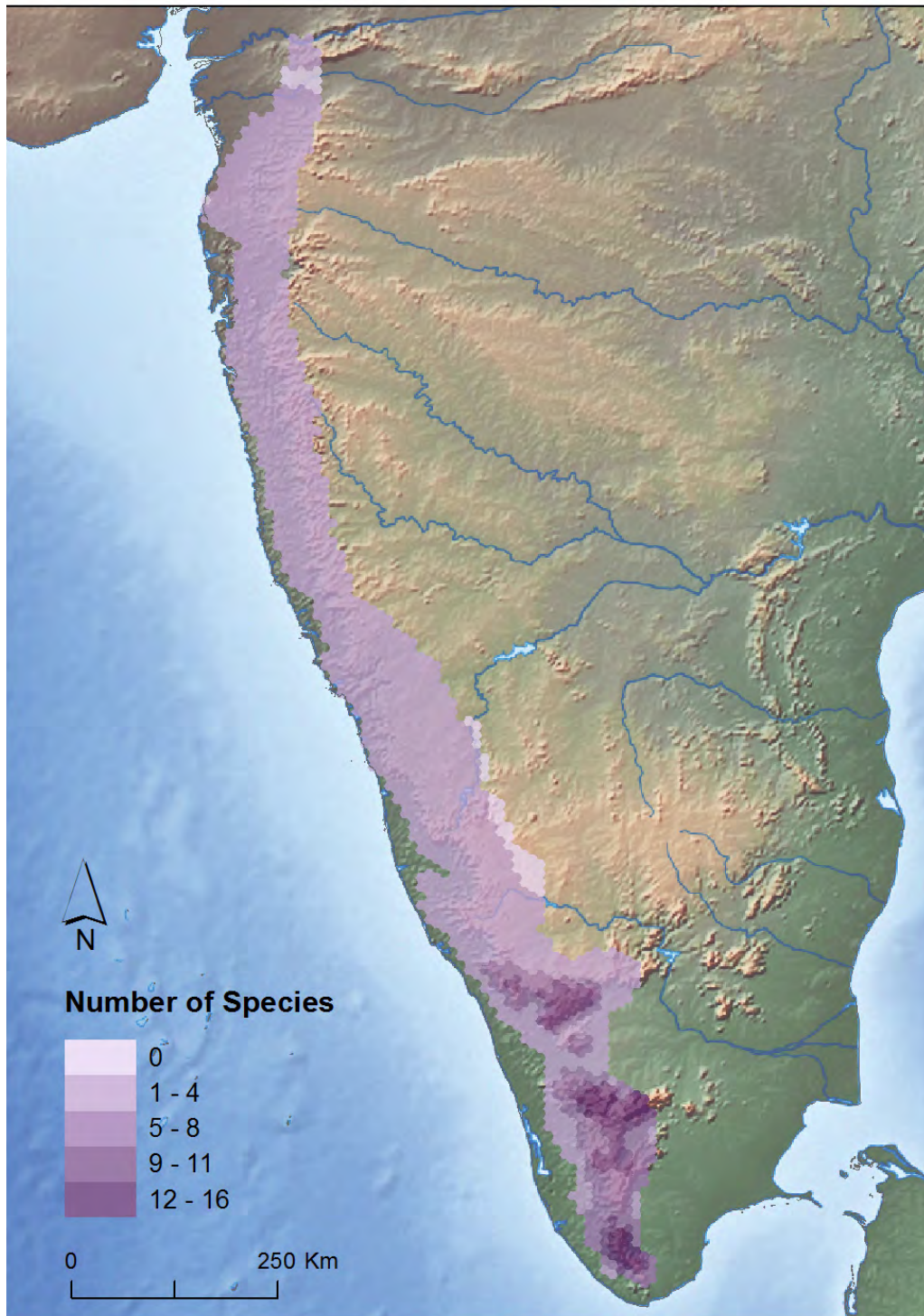


Fig. 2.8 Data Deficient species occur in areas south of Palghat Gap

Table 2.6. Reptiles (excluding Testudines) of Western Ghats, India

S.No.	Family	Scientific Name	Endemic/Non-endemic	IUCN Red List Status
1.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes aurantolabium</i>	E	DD
2.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes calotes</i>	NE	LC*
3.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes ellioti</i>	E	LC
4.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes grandisquamis</i>	E	LC
5.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes nemoricola</i>	E	LC
6.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes rouxii</i>	NE	LC
7.	Agamidae	<i>Calotes versicolor</i>	NE	LC
8.	Agamidae	<i>Draco dussumieri</i>	NE	LC
9.	Agamidae	<i>Otocryptis beddomii</i>	E	EN
10.	Agamidae	<i>Psammophilus blanfordanus</i>	NE	LC
11.	Agamidae	<i>Psammophilus dorsalis</i>	NE	LC
12.	Agamidae	<i>Salea anamallayana</i>	E	LC
13.	Agamidae	<i>Salea horsfieldii</i>	E	LC
14.	Agamidae	<i>Sitana ponticeriana</i>	NE	LC
15.	Boidae	<i>Eryx johnii</i>	NE	NT*
16.	Boidae	<i>Eryx whitakeri</i>	E	NT*
17.	Boidae	<i>Gongylophis conicus</i>	NE	NT*
18.	Chamaeleonidae	<i>Chamaeleo zeylanicus</i>	NE	LC
19.	Colubridae	<i>Ahaetulla dispar</i>	E	NT
20.	Colubridae	<i>Ahaetulla nasuta</i>	NE	LC*
21.	Colubridae	<i>Ahaetulla perroteti</i>	E	EN
22.	Colubridae	<i>Ahaetulla pulverulenta</i>	NE	LC
23.	Colubridae	<i>Argyrogena fasciolata</i>	NE	LC*
24.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga beddomei</i>	NE	DD
25.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga ceylonensis</i>	NE	LC*
26.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga dightoni</i>	E	DD
27.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga forsteni</i>	NE	LC
28.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga nuchalis</i>	E	DD*
29.	Colubridae	<i>Boiga trigonata</i>	NE	LC
30.	Colubridae	<i>Chrysopelea ornata</i>	NE	LC*
31.	Colubridae	<i>Coelognathus belena</i>	NE	LC*
32.	Colubridae	<i>Coluber gracilis</i>	NE	DD
33.	Colubridae	<i>Coronella brachyura</i>	NE	LC
34.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis ashoki</i>	E	LC
35.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis caudolineolatus</i>	NE	DD*
36.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis chairecacos</i>	E	DD
37.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis girii</i>	E	LC
38.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis grandoculis</i>	E	LC
39.	Colubridae	<i>Dendrelaphis tristis</i>	NE	LC*
40.	Colubridae	<i>Dryocalamus gracilis</i>	NE	DD
41.	Colubridae	<i>Dryocalamus nympha</i>	NE	LC*
42.	Colubridae	<i>Elachistodon westermanni</i>	NE	LC
43.	Colubridae	<i>Liopeltis calamaria</i>	NE	LC*
44.	Colubridae	<i>Lycodon aulicus</i>	NE	LC*
45.	Colubridae	<i>Lycodon flavomaculatus</i>	E	LC
46.	Colubridae	<i>Lycodon striatus</i>	NE	LC*

S.No.	Family	Scientific Name	Endemic/Non-endemic	IUCN Red List Status
47.	Colubridae	<i>Lycodon travancoricus</i>	NE	LC
48.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon affinis</i>	E	LC
49.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon arnensis</i>	NE	LC*
50.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon brevicauda</i>	E	VU
51.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon nikhili</i>	E	DD
52.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon taeniolatus</i>	NE	LC
53.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon travancoricus</i>	NE	DD
54.	Colubridae	<i>Oligodon venustus</i>	E	LC
55.	Colubridae	<i>Ptyas mucosa</i>	NE	LC*
56.	Colubridae	<i>Rhabdops olivaceus</i>	E	LC
57.	Colubridae	<i>Sibynophis subpunctatus</i>	NE	LC*
58.	Crocodylidae	<i>Crocodylus palustris</i>	NE	LC
59.	Elapidae	<i>Bungarus caeruleus</i>	NE	LC*
60.	Elapidae	<i>Calliophis beddomei</i>	NE	DD
61.	Elapidae	<i>Calliophis bibroni</i>	E	LC
62.	Elapidae	<i>Calliophis melanurus</i>	NE	LC*
63.	Elapidae	<i>Calliophis nigrescens</i>	NE	LC
64.	Elapidae	<i>Naja naja</i>	NE	LC*
65.	Elapidae	<i>Ophiophagus Hannah</i>	NE	VU
66.	Eublepharidae	<i>Eublepharis fuscus</i>	NE	LC
67.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis australis</i>	E	DD
68.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis beddomei</i>	E	DD
69.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis goaensis</i>	E	EN
70.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis gracilis</i>	E	LC
71.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis heteropholis</i>	E	NT
72.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis indica</i>	E	VU
73.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis indraneildasii</i>	E	VU
74.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis jerdonii</i>	E	VU
75.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis kolhapurensis</i>	E	DD
76.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis littoralis</i>	E	DD
77.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis monticola</i>	E	DD
78.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis mysoriensis</i>	NE	LC
79.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis nairi</i>	E	LC
80.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis nilagirica</i>	E	DD
81.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis ornate</i>	E	NT
82.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis otai</i>	NE	VU
83.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis sisparensis</i>	E	NT
84.	Gekkonidae	<i>Cnemaspis nynadensis</i>	E	EN
85.	Gekkonidae	<i>Geckoella albofasciatus</i>	E	LC
86.	Gekkonidae	<i>Geckoella collegalensis</i>	NE	LC
87.	Gekkonidae	<i>Geckoella deccanensis</i>	E	LC
88.	Gekkonidae	<i>Gebyra mutilate</i>	NE	LC
89.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus aaronbaueri</i>	E	LC
90.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus albofasciatus</i>	E	VU
91.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus anamallensis</i>	E	NT
92.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus brooki</i>	NE	LC*
93.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus flaviviridis</i>	NE	LC*

S.No.	Family	Scientific Name	Endemic/Non-endemic	IUCN Red List Status
94.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>	NE	LC
95.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus gracilis</i>	NE	LC
96.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus graniticolus</i>	NE	LC
97.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus leschenaultii</i>	NE	LC*
98.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus maculatus</i>	NE	LC
99.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus prashadi</i>	E	LC
100.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus reticulatus</i>	NE	LC
101.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus satarauensis</i>	E	VU
102.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus triedrus</i>	NE	LC
103.	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemiphyllodactylus aurantiacus</i>	NE	LC
104.	Gerrhopilidae	<i>Gerrhopilus beddomii</i>	E	DD
105.	Gerrhopilidae	<i>Gerrhopilus tindalli</i>	E	DD
106.	Lacertidae	<i>Ophisops beddomei</i>	NE	LC
107.	Lacertidae	<i>Ophisops jerdonii</i>	NE	LC
108.	Lacertidae	<i>Ophisops leschenaultia</i>	NE	LC*
109.	Lacertidae	<i>Ophisops microlepis</i>	NE	LC
110.	Natricidae	<i>Amphiesma beddomei</i>	E	LC
111.	Natricidae	<i>Amphiesma monticola</i>	E	LC
112.	Natricidae	<i>Amphiesma stolatum</i>	NE	LC
113.	Natricidae	<i>Atretium schistosum</i>	NE	LC
114.	Natricidae	<i>Macropisthodon plumbicolor</i>	NE	LC*
115.	Natricidae	<i>Xenochrophis piscator</i>	NE	LC*
116.	Psammophiidae	<i>Psammophis condanarus</i>	NE	LC
117.	Psammophiidae	<i>Psammophis leithii</i>	NE	LC*
118.	Psammophiidae	<i>Psammophis longifrons</i>	NE	DD
119.	Pythonidae	<i>Python molurus</i>	NE	NT*
120.	Scincidae	<i>Chalcides pentadactylus</i>	E	DD
121.	Scincidae	<i>Dasia subcaerulea</i>	E	EN
122.	Scincidae	<i>Eurylepis poonaensis</i>	E	EN
123.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis allapallensis</i>	NE	LC
124.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis beddomii</i>	NE	LC
125.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis carinata</i>	NE	LC
126.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis clivicola</i>	E	EN
127.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis gansi</i>	E	DD
128.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis macularia</i>	NE	LC*
129.	Scincidae	<i>Eutropis trivittata</i>	NE	LC
130.	Scincidae	<i>Kaestlea beddomei</i>	E	LC
131.	Scincidae	<i>Kaestlea bilineata</i>	E	LC
132.	Scincidae	<i>Kaestlea laterimaculata</i>	E	VU
133.	Scincidae	<i>Kaestlea palnica</i>	E	DD
134.	Scincidae	<i>Kaestlea travancorica</i>	E	LC
135.	Scincidae	<i>Lygosoma albopunctata</i>	NE	LC
136.	Scincidae	<i>Lygosoma goaensis</i>	E	DD
137.	Scincidae	<i>Lygosoma guentheri</i>	NE	LC
138.	Scincidae	<i>Lygosoma lineata</i>	NE	LC
139.	Scincidae	<i>Lygosoma punctata</i>	NE	LC*
140.	Scincidae	<i>Ristella beddomii</i>	E	LC

S.No.	Family	Scientific Name	Endemic/Non-endemic	IUCN Red List Status
141.	Scincidae	<i>Ristella guentheri</i>	E	DD
142.	Scincidae	<i>Ristella rurkii</i>	E	DD
143.	Scincidae	<i>Ristella travancorica</i>	E	DD
144.	Scincidae	<i>Spbenomorphus dussumieri</i>	NE	LC
145.	Typhlopidae	<i>Grypotyphlops acutus</i>	NE	LC
146.	Typhlopidae	<i>Ramphotyphlops braminus</i>	NE	LC*
147.	Typhlopidae	<i>Typhlops exiguus</i>	E	DD
148.	Typhlopidae	<i>Typhlops porrectus</i>	NE	LC
149.	Typhlopidae	<i>Typhlops thurstoni</i>	E	DD
150.	Uropeltidae	<i>Brachyophidium rhodogaster</i>	E	LC
151.	Uropeltidae	<i>Melanophidium bilineatum</i>	E	VU
152.	Uropeltidae	<i>Melanophidium punctatum</i>	E	LC
153.	Uropeltidae	<i>Melanophidium wynandense</i>	E	LC
154.	Uropeltidae	<i>Platyplectrurus madurensis</i>	E	EN
155.	Uropeltidae	<i>Platyplectrurus trilineatus</i>	E	DD
156.	Uropeltidae	<i>Plectrurus aureus</i>	E	DD
157.	Uropeltidae	<i>Plectrurus canaricus</i>	E	DD
158.	Uropeltidae	<i>Plectrurus guentheri</i>	E	DD
159.	Uropeltidae	<i>Plectrurus perroteti</i>	E	LC
160.	Uropeltidae	<i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i>	E	DD
161.	Uropeltidae	<i>Rhinophis sanguineus</i>	E	LC
162.	Uropeltidae	<i>Rhinophis travancoricus</i>	E	EN
163.	Uropeltidae	<i>Teretrurus sanguineus</i>	E	LC
164.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis arcticeps</i>	E	LC
165.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis beddomii</i>	E	DD
166.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis bicatenata</i>	E	NT
167.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis broughami</i>	E	DD
168.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis ceylanicus</i>	NE	LC
169.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis dindigalensis</i>	E	DD
170.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis ellioti</i>	NE	LC
171.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis liura</i>	E	DD
172.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis macrolepis</i>	E	LC
173.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis macrorhynchus</i>	E	DD
174.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis maculatus</i>	E	DD
175.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis mybendrae</i>	E	DD
176.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis nitidus</i>	E	DD
177.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis ocellatus</i>	E	LC
178.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis petersi</i>	E	DD
179.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis phipsonii</i>	E	VU
180.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis pulneyensis</i>	E	LC
181.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis rubrolineatus</i>	E	LC
182.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis rubromaculatus</i>	E	LC
183.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis smithi</i>	E	NT
184.	Uropeltidae	<i>Uropeltis woodmasoni</i>	E	LC
185.	Varanidae	<i>Varanus bengalensis</i>	NE	LC
186.	Viperidae	<i>Daboia russelii</i>	NE	LC*
187.	Viperidae	<i>Echis carinatus</i>	NE	LC*

S.No.	Family	Scientific Name	Endemic/Non-endemic	IUCN Red List Status
188.	Viperidae	<i>Hypnale hypnale</i>	NE	LC*
189.	Viperidae	<i>Peltopelor macrolepis</i>	E	NT
190.	Viperidae	<i>Trimeresurus gramineus</i>	NE	LC
191.	Viperidae	<i>Trimeresurus malabaricus</i>	E	LC
192.	Viperidae	<i>Trimeresurus strigatus</i>	E	DD
193.	Xenodermatidae	<i>Xylophis captaini</i>	E	LC
194.	Xenodermatidae	<i>Xylophis perroteti</i>	E	LC
195.	Xenodermatidae	<i>Xylophis stenorhynchus</i>	E	DD

\* Regional Status



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# Western Ghats Endemic Reptile Species

## Point Localities

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b>Agamidae</b>			
<b><i>Calotes aurantolabium</i></b>			
Kakachi, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.390	77.410	Bombay Natural History Society collection, Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., Marc 2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Krishnan, 2008
Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.624	77.136	S.P. Vijaykumar, in litt. 28.02.2011
<b><i>Calotes eliotii</i></b>			
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	<a href="http://indiabiodiversity.org/checklist/show/71">http://indiabiodiversity.org/checklist/show/71</a>
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Ishwar et al. 2003; Sharma 2002; Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Anchal, Kollam district, Kerala	8.850	77.000	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.450	76.450	P.O. Nameer et al. in litt March 2011
Dhoni forest, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.860	76.620	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.02.2011
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Iravangalar Dam, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.610	77.300	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.02.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Krishnan 2008
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Makut, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.450	75.630	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Matheran, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.981	73.265	Manthey 2008
Mudumalai National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.580	76.550	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2013
Murugalli Estate, Annamalai hills, Coimbatore district Tamil Nadu	10.300	76.850	Venugopal 2007
Muthukulam-Siruvani Reserve Forest, Coimbatore district, Tami Nadu	10.981	76.687	Easa & Ramachandran 2004
Netterikal, Kalakkad forest, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.510	77.450	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	Easa 1998; Bombay Natural History Society collection, Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., March, 2011
Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary, Idukki district, Kerala	10.529	76.348	Easa & Ramachandran 2004
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2014
Rajapalayam, Virudhnagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.447	77.510	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2012
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.220	76.480	Easa & Ramachandran 2004
Sironcha, Gadchiroli district, Maharashtra	18.830	79.960	Bombay Natural History Society collection, Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., March 2011
Siruvani Foothills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.958	76.680	Kannan & Venkataraman 1998
Sivagiri Ghats, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	9.350	77.381	Sharma 2002
Talakaveri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.380	75.490	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Sharma 2002
Thomra, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.200	75.760	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Upper Manalar, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.840	77.350	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.02.2011
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2015
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Easa & Ramachandran 2004
Yercaud, Salem district, Tamil Nadu	11.770	78.210	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
<b><i>Calotes grandisquamis</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 28.02.2011
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Ishwar et al. 2003
Brahmagiri Hills, Karnataka-Kerala border between Kodagu district of Karnataka & Wayanad district of Kerala	11.950	75.950	Smith 1935
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.01.2011
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijaykumar et al. 2001
Iravangalar Estate, High Wavy Mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.610	77.300	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Krishnan 2008; R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Kotagiri, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.420	76.860	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Nelliampathi, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.310	76.410	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/neelakandan/3590586449/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/neelakandan/3590586449/</a>
Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.532	77.209	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Pachchakanal, Devikolam district, Kerala	10.150	77.050	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.01.2011
Periya Kavu estate, Srivilliputhur Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.250	77.210	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.01.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011; Smith 1935
Silambu Estate, High Wavy Mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.780	77.390	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Siruvani Foothills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.958	76.680	Kannan & Venkataraman 1998
Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.580	77.630	Bhupathy & Kannan 2002
Talakaveri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.380	75.490	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.01.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Upper Manalar, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.840	77.350	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.01.2011
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	<a href="http://www.flickr.com/photos/naseer_ommer/2638261452/">http://www.flickr.com/photos/naseer_ommer/2638261452/</a>
<b><i>Calotes nemoricola</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Ishwar et al. 2003
Avalanche, Coonoor, Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.322	76.611	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Bonnaccord, Agsthyamalai Hills, Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.647	77.167	S.P. Vijaykumar, P. Mrugank, Saunak Pal & K. Shanker, in litt. 28.02.2011
Conoor Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.340	76.790	Smith 1935
Coonoor, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.348	76.793	Bombay Natural History Society collection, Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., March 2011
Dhoni forest, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.860	76.620	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Krishnan 2008
Kudremukh National Park, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka	13.240	75.240	Naniwadekar & Deepak 2008
Madras Snake Park, Guindy, Chennai district, Tamil Nadu	12.780	80.230	Bombay Natural History Society collection, Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., March 2011
Talakaveri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.380	75.490	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 28.02.2011
<b><i>Otocryptis beddomii</i></b>			
Anchal Forest range, Kollam district, Kerala	8.880	76.990	Joyce et al. 2007
Balmore, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.457	77.393	Daniels 1991
Bonnaccord, Agsthyamalai Hills, Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.647	77.167	S.P. Vijaykumar, P. Mrugank, Saunak Pal & K. Shanker, in litt. 28.02.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Johnsingh 2001
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	Jose et al. 2007
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984; Chandramouli 2009
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	Joyce et al. 2007
Sivagiri Ghats, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	9.350	77.381	Smith 1935
<b><i>Salea anamallayana</i></b>			
Bear Shola, Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.240	77.470	California Academy of Sciences Herpetology Collection (Collected by J.C. Daniel in 1966)
Bodimettu, Idukki district, Kerala	10.010	77.260	Specimens collected by J.C. Daniel in 1968
Eravikulam National Park, Idukki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	Deepak & Vasudevan 2008
Gundar valley, Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.210	77.460	Specimens collected by J.C. Daniel in 1966; Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Kurunji Mala Sanctuary, Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.210	77.170	V.S. Sreehari, pers. comm., 1.03.2011
Mariyan Shola, Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.140	77.330	Smith 1935; Sharma 2002

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	Specimens collected by J.C. Daniel in 1968; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Upper Manalar, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.840	77.350	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.02.2011
<b><i>Salea horsfieldii</i></b>			
7 miles north of Pykara (stop no. 209), Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.465	76.585	California Academy of Sciences Herpetology Collection (collected by D. Cavagnaro in 1962)
Bangitapal to Sispara, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.236	76.482	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Sharma 2002; Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Ooty (earlier Ootacamund), The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.412	76.695	Ganesh & Asokan 2010; Specimens collected by J.C. Daniel in 1967; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
<b>Boidae</b>			
<b><i>Eryx whitakeri</i></b>			
Alibaug, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.650	72.860	Das 1991
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	Nirmal Kulkarni, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Castle Rock, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.390	74.330	Nirmal Kulkarni, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.263	74.606	Nirmal Kulkarni, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Hasanur, Erode district, Tamil Nadu	11.673	77.129	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 28.02.2011
Hermitage Guest House, Nersa, Belagavi district, Karnataka	15.580	74.430	<a href="http://www.thehermitageguesthouse.com/list_snakes.htm">www.thehermitageguesthouse.com\list_snakes.htm</a>
Kannur, Kannur district, Kerala	11.869	75.356	Das 1991
Lonavala, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.740	73.400	S. Thakur, pers. comm. March 2011
Mangalore, Mangalore district, Karnataka	12.860	74.840	Das 1991
Panjim Sea Beach, near Ponda, Southern Goa district, Goa	15.490	73.820	Das 1991
Paud village, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.517	73.600	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011
Pilerne, North Goa, Goa	15.510	73.800	<a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Juvenile_Whitaker's_Boa_in_Pilerne,_Goa_(2).JPG">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Juvenile_Whitaker's_Boa_in_Pilerne,_Goa_(2).JPG</a>
Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.467	73.783	S. Thakur, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Porvorim, South Goa, Goa	15.490	73.810	N. Sawant, in litt. 14.01.2011
Puttur, Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka	12.744	75.194	Gowrishankar, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Sathyamangalam, Erode district, Tamil Nadu	11.564	77.272	Gowrishankar, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Someshwar, Udupi district, Karnataka	13.490	75.065	Gowrishankar, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Suliya, Dakshina Kannada district, Karnataka	12.557	75.376	Gowrishankar, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Talegaon, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.730	73.670	S. Thakur, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
Udupi, Udupi district, Karnataka	13.348	74.741	Gowrishankar, pers. comm. 28.02.2011
<b>Colubridae</b>			
<b><i>Ahaetulla dispar</i></b>			
Akkamalai, Anaimalai hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.345	77.069	CAMP Workshop 1997
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	California Academy of Sciences Herpetology Collection (collected by Beddome, R.H.)
Coorg (Madikeri), Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.450	75.680	CAMP Workshop 1997
Eravikulam National Park, Idukki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	Whitaker & Captain 2004
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Kodaikanal (at Gundar Valley), Palni Hills, Dundigal district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.490	BNHS Collection (collected by Daniel, J.C. 10th May 1966)
Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.532	77.209	CAMP Workshop 1997
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	CAMP Workshop 1997
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1943
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	CAMP Workshop 1997
Periya Kavu estate, Srivilliputhur Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.250	77.210	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., 27.02.2011
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997
Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.220	76.480	CAMP Workshop 1997
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	CAMP Workshop 1997
<b><i>Ahaetulla perroteti</i></b>			
Bangitapal, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.236	76.482	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., 27.02.2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	California Academy of Sciences Herpetology Collection (collected by Beddome, R.H.)
Sispara in Silent Valley National Park, Palghat district, Kerala	11.210	76.480	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., 27.02.2011
Western Catchment, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.320	76.430	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
<b><i>Boiga dightoni</i></b>			
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijaykumar et al. 2001
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	California Academy of Sciences Herpetology Collection (collected by Beddome, R.H.)
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Boulenger 1894
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984
<b><i>Boiga nuchalis</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Gowrishankar, pers. comm., March 2011
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
<b><i>Dendrelaphis ashoki</i></b>			
Agastyamala Hills, Thiruvanthapuram district, Kerala	8.600	77.260	Ferguson 1895
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011; Ganesh & Chandramouli 2006
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Boulenger 1894
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Harikrishna et al. 2007

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Kannur, Kannur district, Kerala	11.869	75.356	Wall 1905
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	N. Sawant, in litt. 14.01.2011
Sathyamangalam, Erode district, Tamil Nadu	11.564	77.272	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm. March 2011
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Siruvani Foothills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.958	76.680	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm. March 2011
<b><i>Dendrelaphis chairecacos</i></b>			
Gersoppa, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.240	74.640	S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm. March 2011
Kottayam, Kottayam district, Kerala	9.580	76.520	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
Punnakad (=Bonacaud), Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	10.921	76.148	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
<b><i>Dendrelaphis girii</i></b>			
Castle Rock, Uttara Kannada district, Karnataka	15.397	74.332	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
near Keri village, Goa	15.456	74.005	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
Khandige estate, Sirumalai hills, Tamil Nadu	10.181	77.965	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.962	73.997	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
Bhimashankar, Pune district, Maharashtra	19.072	73.535	Rooijen & Vogel 2009
<b><i>Dendrelaphis grandoculis</i></b>			
Agastyamala Hills, Thiruvanthapuram district, Kerala	8.600	77.260	S.P. Vijaykumar, P. Mrugank, Saunak Pal & K. Shanker, in litt. 28.02.2011
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Conoor Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.340	76.790	Boulenger 1890
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Kudremukh National Park, Chikmagalur district, Kanataka	13.240	75.240	Rohit & V. Deepak, pers. comm. March 2011
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Ferguson 1895
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
Rosemala, Shendurni Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.615	77.105	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm. March 2011
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	K. Vasudevan, pers. comm. March 2011
<b><i>Lycodon flavomaculatus</i></b>			
Amaravati, Amaravati district, Maharashtra	20.533	78.450	Nande & Deshmukh 2007
Ambikapur, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh	23.190	83.200	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011
Barshi city, 70km from Solapur, Maharashtra	18.233	75.683	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011
Bhavnagar, Bhavnagar district, Gujarat	21.770	72.140	R. Vyas, pers. comm., March 2011
Buldhana, Buldhana district, Maharashtra	19.990	76.510	Smith 1943
Deolali, Nashik district, Maharashtra	19.940	73.850	Smith 1943
Dharwar, Dharwar district, Karnataka	15.450	74.999	Wall 1907
Kahna Tiger Reserve, Mandla and Balaghat districts, Madhya Pradesh	22.298	80.589	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011
Kirkee, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.380	73.760	Wall 1907
Mulshi, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.490	73.510	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Nashik, Nashik district, Maharashtra	20.001	73.709	Wall 1907

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Padra, Vadodra district, Gujarat	22.237	73.090	R. Vyas, pers. comm., March 2011
Pimpri, Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.610	73.180	Khaire & Khaire 1985
Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.467	73.783	Wall 1907
Sangli, Sangli district, Maharashtra	16.850	74.560	Wall 1907
Surat, Surat district, Gujarat	21.154	72.805	R. Vyas, pers. comm., March 2011
Talegaon, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.730	73.670	Whitaker & Captain 2004
<b><i>Oligodon affinis</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Arippa, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.961	77.555	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Ashambu Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Thiruvanthapuram district, Kerala	8.610	77.230	Ferguson 1895
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
Talakaveri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.380	75.490	S.P. Vijaykumar, pers. comm., March, 2011
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Wall 1999; <a href="http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Oligodon_affinis.jpg">http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Oligodon_affinis.jpg</a>
<b><i>Oligodon brevicauda</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Boulenger 1894
Sengaltheri, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.750	77.240	V. Deepak & K. Vasudevan, pers. comm., March, 2011
Western Catchment, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.320	76.430	Boulenger 1894
<b><i>Oligodon nikhili</i></b>			
Tiger Shola, near Shenbaganur, Kodaikanal, Palni Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.480	Whitaker & Dattatri 1982
<b><i>Oligodon travancoricus</i></b>			
Ashambu Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Thiruvanthapuram district, Kerala	8.610	77.230	Ferguson 1895
Eravikulam National Park, Idduki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Kakachi, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.390	77.410	K. Vasudevan, pers. comm., March 2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Cherian et al. 2000
Kannikatti, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.450	77.400	K. Vasudevan, pers. comm., March 2011
Meghamalai Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.620	77.400	Hutton 1949
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	<a href="http://www.parambikulam.org/reptiles.htm">http://www.parambikulam.org/reptiles.htm</a>
Periya Kavu estate, Srivilliputhur Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.250	77.210	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.580	77.630	Ganesh et al. 2009

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Oligodon venustus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	V. Deepak & N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Meghamalai Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.620	77.400	S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Ooty (earlier Ootacamund), The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.412	76.695	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.580	77.630	V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Upper Bhawani, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.260	76.544	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
<b><i>Rhabdops olivaceus</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh et al. 2006; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	I. Agrawal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Castle Rock, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.390	74.330	I. Agrawal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Chorla Ghats, 65 km northeast of Panaji, Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa	15.640	74.110	<a href="http://goawildwatch.blogspot.com/2008_07_01_archive.html">http://goawildwatch.blogspot.com/2008_07_01_archive.html</a>
Sahyadri Tiger reserve, Koyna, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.922	73.656	S. Thakur, pers. com., 1 March 2011
Thrissur, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.534	76.217	S.R. Ganesh, pers. com., 1 March 2011
Kottegehara, Chikamagaluru district, Karnataka	13.320	75.310	Soman 1962
Koyna Dam, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.390	73.350	Soman 1962
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	I. Agrawal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Liddesdale, The Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.400	76.688	Wall 1912
Mananthavady, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.800	76.010	Smith 1943
Vellanimala, Pattikad, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.580	76.330	Radhakrishnan 1997
<b>Elapidae</b>			
<b><i>Calliophis bibroni</i></b>			
Anaimalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.366	77.125	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Chakankode (Cathancode), Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.650	77.150	Deepak 2010; Gowrishankar & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm. March 2011
Cherupuzha, Kannur district, Kerala	12.266	75.361	Deepak 2010; Gowrishankar & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Coorg (Madikeri), Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.450	75.680	Smith 1943
Kanave, Madalmane, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.360	74.450	Gowrishanker, in litt. 12.02.2011
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Kannur, Kannur district, Kerala	11.869	75.356	Deepak 2010; Gowrishankar & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm. March 2011
Mandal mane, Chikmagaur district, Karnataka	12.924	77.506	Deepak (2010.), Gowrishankar, Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Mudumalai National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.500	76.500	Wall's specimen; Deepak et al., pers. comm., March 2011



Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Rockwood Estate, The Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.526	76.401	Deepak 2010; Gowrishankar & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm. March 2011
Shenkottai, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.970	77.240	Ferguson 1899
Thirthahalli, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.680	75.230	Gowrishankar, in litt. 12.02.2011
Thottada, Kannur district, Kerala	11.843	75.421	Deepak 2010 Gowrishankar & S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Wall's specimen; V. Deepak et al. pers. comm., March 2011
<b>Gekkonidae</b>			
<b><i>Cnemaspis australis</i></b>			
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Manamendra-Arachchi et al. 2007
<b><i>Cnemaspis beddomei</i></b>			
Devicolom (=Devikulam), Idukki district, Kerala	10.060	77.070	Smith 1935
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011.
Cardamom hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.867	77.149	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Sheubagathopu, Srinithiputhur range, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.512	77.532	R. Aengals, pers. comm March 2011
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Johsingh 2001
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	Collected by Ross & Cavagnaro in 1962
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Smith 1935
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Smith 1935
<b><i>Cnemaspis goensis</i></b>			
Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, South Goa district, Goa	15.000	74.096	Varad B. Giri, pers. comm., March 2011
Mathighatta, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.650	74.630	S. Sondhi, in litt. 15.01.2011. & 17.01.2011
Poinguinim, South Goa, Goa	14.970	74.090	Sharma 1976
<b><i>Cnemaspis gracilis</i></b>			
Mettupalayam (near Bhawani River) in Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	11.290	76.930	Sharma 2002
Nilgiri foot Hills, Tamil Nadu	11.410	76.500	Sharma 2002
Palakkad Hills, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.783	76.650	Smith 1935; Das & Bauer 2000
Shevaroy Hills, Salem district, Tamil Nadu	11.840	78.220	Sharma 2002
Sirumalai Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.220	77.980	S.R. Ganesh & J.R. Asokan 2010
Sivagiri Ghats, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	9.350	77.381	Sharma 2002
Yelagiri Hills, Vellore district, Tamil Nadu	12.570	78.630	Sharma 2002
<b><i>Cnemaspis heteropholis</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011; Ganesh et al. 2012
Gund, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.167	74.667	Smith 1935
Pushpagiri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.660	75.680	Biswas 2006
<b><i>Cnemaspis indica</i></b>			
Avalanche, Coonoor, Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.322	76.611	Das & Bauer 2000
Doddabetta, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.390	76.730	Gunther 1864
Madikere, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.420	75.740	Gunther 1864
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	Bhupathy & Nixon 2002

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Das & Bauer 2000
Siruvani Foothills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.958	76.680	Kannan & Venkataraman 1998
Sispara in Silent Valley National Park, Palghat district, Kerala	11.210	76.480	Saunak Pal, in litt. 28.02.2011
Western Catchment, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.320	76.430	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
<b><i>Cnemaspis indraneildasii</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh et al. 2006; R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	Biswas & Ishwar 2006
Gund, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.167	74.667	Smith 1935
Jog, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.183	74.800	Smith 1935
Mahabaleshwar, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.920	73.650	Smith 1935
<b><i>Cnemaspis jerdonii</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1935
Jodipalam, Benne, Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.600	76.340	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Biswas & Ishwar 2006
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1935
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1935
Sivagiri Ghats, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	9.350	77.381	Smith 1935
<b><i>Cnemaspis kolhapurensis</i></b>			
Kolhapur Hills, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.790	74.230	Giri et al. 2009
<b><i>Cnemaspis littoralis</i></b>			
Nellakota, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.550	76.440	Smith 1935
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	Sharma 2002
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1935
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984
<b><i>Cnemaspis monticola</i></b>			
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Manamendra-Arachchi et al. 2007
<b><i>Cnemaspis nairi</i></b>			
Cardamom Hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	9.867	77.150	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.624	77.136	Saunak Pal, pers. comm., March 2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984
Silambu Estate, High Wavy Mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.780	77.390	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Sithantu Kavu, Srivilliputtur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary, Virudunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.575	77.558	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
<b><i>Cnemaspis nilagirica</i></b>			
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Manamendra-Arachchi et al. 2007
<b><i>Cnemaspis ornata</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1935
Ayyanar Koil, Virudunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.460	77.480	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Cherian et al. 2000

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Kozhikode, Kozhikode district, Kerala	11.250	75.790	Smith 1935
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	Smith 1935
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984
Tamparavarani river, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.400	77.200	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Smith 1935; Das & Bauer 2000
Travancore hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.720	77.170	Smith 1935
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Smith 1935
<b><i>Cnemaspis sisparensis</i></b>			
Amarambalam Reserve Forest, Malppuram district, Kerala	11.140	76.110	Smith 1935
Anaikatti Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	11.083	76.783	Mukherjee et al. 2005
Kavalai, Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.370	76.740	Smith 1935
Mettupalyam, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	11.300	76.950	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	S.R. Ganesh, pers. comm., March 2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Das & Bauer 2000
Sholakal at foot of Sispara Ghat, Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.259	76.502	Smith 1935
<b><i>Cnemaspis wynadensis</i></b>			
Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.220	76.480	Smith 1935
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Smith 1935
<b><i>Geckoella albofasciatus</i></b>			
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	Bauer & Giri 2004; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Banda in Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.811	73.861	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary & Mollem National Park, South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	Bauer & Giri 2004; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Castle Rock, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.390	74.330	Bauer & Giri 2004; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Chorla Ghats, 65 km northeast of Panaji, Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa	15.640	74.110	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.263	74.606	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Karwar, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.800	74.133	Bauer & Giri 2004
Kudremukh National Park, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka	13.240	75.240	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mollem National Park (Core Area of Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary), South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	Bauer & Giri 2004; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary, Udupi district, Karnataka	13.767	74.838	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Nagvalli, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.040	74.710	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Sharavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.208	74.874	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Sirsi, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.610	74.820	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Vengurla, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.880	73.616	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Geckoella deccanensis</i></b>			
Amba Ghat, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.983	73.783	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Belapur, Thane district, Maharashtra	19.042	73.027	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary and Mollem National Park, South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	S. Sondhi in litt. 15.01.2011 and 17.01.2011
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	Bauer & Giri 2004
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	S. Sondhi in litt. 15.01.2011 and 17.01.2011
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	A. Zambre in litt. 12.02.2011
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Chandoli National Park, Sangli district, Maharashtra	17.160	73.680	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, South Goa district, Goa	15.000	74.096	N. Sawant, in litt. 18.02.2011
Dapoli, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	17.750	73.220	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Belapur, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.022	73.038	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Near Belagavi, (=Belgaum) City, Beagavi district, Karnataka	15.848	74.497	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Saputana, Dangs district, Gujrat	20.670	73.350	R. Vyas, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Kaas, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.677	73.972	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Karnala Bird Sanctuary, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	18.883	73.150	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Karnala Bird Sanctuary, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	18.883	73.150	Bauer & Giri 2004
Karnala Bird Sanctuary, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	18.883	73.150	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Khandala, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.060	74.010	Bauer & Giri 2004
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	Bauer & Giri 2004
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mahabaleshwar, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.920	73.650	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Malshej Ghat, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.330	73.790	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Matheran, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.981	73.265	Bauer & Giri 2004, N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Matheran, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.981	73.265	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	N. Sawant, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mollem National Park (Core Area of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary), South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	N. Sawant, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mollem National Park (Core Area of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary), South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	S. Sondhi in litt. 15.01.2011 and 17.01.2011
Nashik, Nashik district, Maharashtra	20.001	73.709	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Netravali National Park, Southern Goa, Goa	15.152	74.251	N. Sawant, in litt. 18.02.2011
Panchgani, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.920	73.790	Bauer & Giri 2004
Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.415	72.934	Bauer & Giri 2004
Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.415	72.934	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.399	73.963	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Rajamachi Fort, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.820	73.400	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.217	72.850	Mirza & Pal 2008
Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.217	72.850	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Sinhagad, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.360	73.750	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Tamhini Ghat, Mulshi, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.430	73.430	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Tungareashwar, Thane district, Maharashtra	19.560	72.990	Bauer & Giri 2004
Tungareashwar, Thane district, Maharashtra	19.560	72.990	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Vihar Lake, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.267	72.950	Bauer & Giri 2004
<b><i>Hemidactylus aaronbaueri</i></b>			
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Ghatghar, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.360	73.760	Giri 2008
Gorakghad fort, Thane district, Maharashtra	19.183	73.530	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Harishchandragad fort, Ahmadnagar district, Maharashtra	19.398	73.766	S. Thakur, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Nane Ghat, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.730	73.750	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Peth Fort, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.990	73.710	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Sudhagad fort, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.840	73.320	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
<b><i>Hemidactylus albofasciatus</i></b>			
Dabhil, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	17.650	73.467	Gaikwad et al. 2009
Dhbil-Ambere, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	16.780	73.340	Gaikwad et al. 2009
Dorle, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	16.970	73.320	Gaikwad et al. 2009
Gavakhadi, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	16.810	73.320	Gaikwad et al. 2009
Kunakeshwar, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	16.330	73.390	Gaikwad et al. 2009
Malvan, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	16.080	73.470	Gaikwad et al. 2009
<b><i>Hemidactylus anamallensis</i></b>			
Agasthyamala hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.617	77.250	Sharma 2002
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Sharma 2002
Eravikulam National Park, Idukki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	A.D. Roy, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Johnsingh 2001; S. Sondhi, in litt. 15.01.2011 & 17.01.2011
Kottai Malai, on the border of Periyar Tiger Reserve & Cardamom Hills, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.500	77.400	Chandramouli & Ganesh 2011
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	S.R. Ganesh & I. Agarwal, pers., comm. 2 March 2011
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Sharma 2002
Periya Kavu estate, Srivilliputhur Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.250	77.210	N.S. Achyutan, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Poomparai, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.250	77.400	BNHS collection
Vaithiri, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.531	76.052	Sounak Pal, in litt. 28.02.2011
<b><i>Hemidactylus prashadi</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Sreekar, R. pers. comm., May 2010
Amboli Ghat, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; Giri & Bauer 2006; S. Sondhi, in litt. 15.01.2011. & 17.01.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	Biswas & Ishwar 2006; Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Banda in Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.811	73.861	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
Belagavi (=Belgaum), Belagavi district, Karnataka	15.820	74.490	Giri & Bauer 2006
Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary, Belagavi, (=Belgaum) district, Karnataka	15.589	74.292	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary, North Goa district, Goa	15.431	74.077	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, South Goa district, Goa	15.000	74.096	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.263	74.606	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Dorle, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra	16.970	73.320	Giri & Bauer 2006
Ganeshgudi town, close to Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.283	74.530	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. 2 March 2011
Gersoppa, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.240	74.640	Giri & Bauer 2006
Gund, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.167	74.667	Smith 1935
Jog, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.183	74.800	Sharma 2002
Karwar, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.800	74.133	Giri & Bauer 2006
Keri village, North Goa, Goa	15.600	74.070	Giri & Bauer 2006
Kudremukh National Park, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka	13.240	75.240	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mathighatta, Karwar district, Karnataka	13.550	76.010	S. Sondhi, in litt. 15.01.2011 & 17.01.2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N. Kulkarni, pers. comm.,
Mollem National Park (Core Area of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary), South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	Sharma 2002; I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., March 2011
Nagvalli, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.040	74.710	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Narendra Hill near Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.900	73.817	Giri & Bauer 2006
Nayavada, Mollem, North Goa, Goa	15.383	74.167	Giri & Bauer 2006
Netravali National Park, Southern Goa, Goa	15.152	74.251	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011; N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.399	73.963	Sounak Pal, pers. comm., 2 March 2011
Sharavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.208	74.874	A.D. Roy, pers. comm. 2 March 2011
Shiroli, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.740	74.260	Giri & Bauer 2006
Sindhudurg, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.950	73.983	A. Zambre, in litt. 12.02.2011; N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Sitanadi Inspection Bungalow, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.920	75.551	A.D. Roy, pers. comm. March 2011
<b><i>Hemidactylus satarraensis</i></b>			
Chalakewadi, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.670	73.890	Giri, V.B. & A.M. Bauer 2008
Thosheghar, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.600	73.850	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 15.02.2011
<b><i>Gerrhopilus beddomii</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Boulenger 1890
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Gerrhopilus tindalli</i></b>			
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	Smith 1943
Pilloor, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.267	76.817	Smith 1943
<b>Natricidae</b>			
<b><i>Amphiesma beddomei</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh & Chandramouli 2006
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	I. Agrawal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Ashambu Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Thiruvanthapuram district, Kerala	8.610	77.230	Ferguson 1895
Banda in Sawantwadi, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.811	73.861	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Bonacaud, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.757	77.189	S.P. Vijaykumar, Sounak Pal & P. Mrugank, pers. comm., February 2011
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Karwar, Karwar district, Karnataka	14.800	74.133	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., March 2011
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	Whitaker & Captain 2004; I. Agrawal, in litt. 18.02.2011
Mahabaleshwar, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.920	73.650	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	N. Sawant, in litt. 14.01.2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Beddome 1863
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997
Sharavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.208	74.874	<a href="http://www.princeton.edu/~vivekt/trips/Sharavathi99.html">http://www.princeton.edu/~vivekt/trips/Sharavathi99.html</a>
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	<a href="http://jumbledmumblings.blogspot.com/2009/02/shendurney-bird-census-february-2009.html">http://jumbledmumblings.blogspot.com/2009/02/shendurney-bird-census-february-2009.html</a>
Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.220	76.480	<a href="http://silentvalley.gov.in/article_whitaker.html">http://silentvalley.gov.in/article_whitaker.html</a>
Vallakadavu, Peiyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki district, Kerala	9.510	77.150	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011
Vanjikadavu, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.350	76.350	Das & Whitaker 1990
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Wall 1919
<b><i>Amphiesma monticola</i></b>			
Agasthyamala hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.617	77.250	Smith 1943; Whitaker & Captain 2004
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Anaimalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.366	77.125	Shruti Sengupta & V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	S. Thakur & N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Castle Rock, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.390	74.330	S. Thakur, pers. comm.
Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.261	74.613	S. Thakur & N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm.
Kemphole stream, Hassan & Kodagu districts, Karnataka	12.831	75.594	Gowrishankar, pers. comm., March 2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.622	74.210	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., March 2011
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Rosemala, Shendurni Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.915	77.252	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Talewadi, Belagavi, (=Belgaum) district, Karnataka	15.670	74.180	Smith1943; Whitaker & Captain 2004
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	S.P. Vijayakumar, pers. comm., March 2011
<b>Scincidae</b>			
<b><i>Chalcides pentadactylus</i></b>			
Kadal Undi, Beypur, Kozhikode district, Kerala	11.180	75.820	Smith 1935
<b>Scincidae</b>			
<b><i>Dasia subcaerulea</i></b>			
Bodinayakanur, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.017	77.350	Smith 1935
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	Smith 1949
Thambiraparani & Sarvalar rivers (on the banks of) in Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu	8.650	77.375	Karthikeyan 1991
<b><i>Eurylepis poonaensis</i></b>			
Chatushringi Hill, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.533	73.817	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011 (Coll. by Vivek Gour-Broome in 2006-07)
Jejuri, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.270	74.160	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011 (Coll. by Vivek Gour-Broome in 2006-07)
Katraj Ghat, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.417	73.850	Sharma 2002; S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011 (Coll. by Vivek Gour-Broome in 2006-07)
Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.467	73.783	Sharma 2002
Saswad, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.343	74.026	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011 (Coll. by Vivek Gour-Broome in 2006-07)
<b><i>Eutropis clivicola</i></b>			
Athirapally, Vazhachal, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.303	76.593	A.D. Roy & S. Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	A.D. Roy, pers. comm., March 2011
Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary, Idukki district, Kerala	10.536	76.395	Joseph & Easa 1997
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al. 1984; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011
<b><i>Eutropis gansi</i></b>			
2 km of Muthalar road cross off Sengaltheri-Thalayani road (towards Moolakasam) Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.520	77.500	Das 1991
<b><i>Kaestlea beddomei</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh & Gowri Shankar 2009
Conoor Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.340	76.790	Eremchenko & Das 2004
Game Hut, Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.504	76.514	A.D. Roy, pers. comm., March 2011
Mannarkad, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.990	76.450	BNHS collection



Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Kaestlea bilineata</i></b>			
Conoor Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.340	76.790	Ouboter 1986
Kotagiri, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.420	76.860	Ouboter 1986
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 14.02.2011; S.R. Chandramouli, in litt. 12.02.2011 Bhupathy & Nixon 2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Outober 1986
Upper Bhawani, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.260	76.544	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
<b><i>Kaestlea laterimaculatum</i></b>			
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Noon et al. 2006
Mankulam, Idukki district, Kerala	17.900	73.800	M. Madala, in litt. 18.02.2011
Sivagiri Ghats, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	9.350	77.381	Eremchenko & Das 2004
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Eremchenko & Das 2004
Vellimalai, High Wavy Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	11.800	78.719	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
<b><i>Kaestlea palnica</i></b>			
Coimbatore, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	11.014	76.972	Eremchenko & Das 2004
Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.235	77.486	Eremchenko & Das 2004
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Eremchenko & Das 2004
<b><i>Kaestlea travancorica</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Ganesh & Gowrishankar 2009
Eravikulam National Park, Idduki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	A.D. Roy, pers. comm., March 2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.235	77.486	Roux 1928
Mariyan Shola, Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.140	77.330	Roux 1928
Maryyand, Thiruvallur district, Tamil Nadu	10.140	77.330	Roux 1928
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Roux 1928
Pambarum shola, Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.050	Roux 1928; A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudhunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.580	77.630	Ganesh & Gowrishankar 2009
Thandikudi, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.640	Roux 1928
Vadiyoor Shola, Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.090	77.080	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
Vanjikadavu, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.350	76.350	Roux 1928; Das & Whitaker 1990
Vellimalai, High Wavy Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	11.800	78.710	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
<b><i>Lygosoma goaensis</i></b>			
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	V. Giri, pers. com., March 2011; A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, South Goa district, Goa	15.000	74.096	Sharma 2002
N. E. of forest rest house, Mollem, North Goa, Goa	15.370	74.160	Sharma 1976
<b><i>Ristella beddomei</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh et al. 2006
Beltangadi, near Kudremukh Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.980	75.300	Roy, A.D., in litt. 26.02.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	Smith, M.A. 1935
Ponnampet, Coorg district, Karnataka	12.140	75.930	Roy, A.D., in litt. 26.02.2011
Sharavati Wildlife Sanctuary, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	14.208	74.874	Smith, M.A. 1935
Sholayar, Vazhachal district, Kerala	10.308	76.744	Sounak Pal, in litt. 28.02.2011
Thenmala, Kollam district, Kerala,	8.950	77.067	Smith, M.A. 1935
Vazhachal, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.304	76.593	Sounak Pal, in litt. 28.02.2011
<b><i>Ristella guentheri</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1935
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	Chandramouli & Ganesh 2010
Malabar coast (Kannur district, Kerala)	11.910	75.404	Smith 1935
Mananthavady, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.800	76.010	N.S. Achyuthan, in litt. 27.02.2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Chandramouli & Ganesh 2010
Rockwood, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	9.000	77.167	A.D. Roy, in litt. 26.02.2011
Sirumalai Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.220	77.980	Smith 1935
Tenmalai Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	9.310	77.440	Smith 1935
<b><i>Ristella rurkii</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1935
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1935
Travancore hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.720	77.170	Smith 1935
<b><i>Ristella travancorica</i></b>			
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Smith 1935
Upper Manalar, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.840	77.350	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
<b><i>Sphenomorphus dussumieri</i></b>			
Anaimalai Tiger Reserve, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.366	77.125	V. Deepak, pers. comm., March 2011
Athirapally, Vazhachal, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.303	76.593	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.532	77.209	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Pamba (in Gudrekal Range, Ranni Forest Division), Pattanamthitta district, Kerala	9.410	77.060	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	V. Deepak, pers. comm. March 2011
Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.624	77.136	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Chandramouli & Ganesh 2010
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Inger et al.1984
Ranni Forest Division, Pattanamthitta district, Kerala	9.360	76.850	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Rockwood, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	9.000	77.167	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
Thattekad, Ernakulam district, Kerala	10.100	76.700	A.D. Roy, in litt. 24.02.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Vazhachal, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.304	76.593	Sounak Pal, pers. comm. March 2011
<b>Typhlopidae</b>			
<b><i>Typhlops exiguus</i></b>			
Belagavi (=Belgaum), Belagavi district, Karnataka	15.820	74.490	Boulenger 1893
<b><i>Typhlops thurstoni</i></b>			
Nilambur, western foothills of Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1943
Thrissur, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.530	76.210	Smith 1943
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Smith 1943
<b>Uropeltidae</b>			
<b><i>Brachopidium rhodogaster</i></b>			
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Mandjolai, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.560	77.410	Cadle et al. 1990
Shembaganur, near Kodaikanal, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.230	77.500	Smith 1943
Kakachi, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.390	77.410	R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
<b><i>Melanopidium bilineatum</i></b>			
Indira Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary & National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.300	77.000	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Peria, West of Mananthavady, Kannur district, Kerala	11.830	75.860	Smith 1943
Tirrhoot Peaks, West of Mananthavady, Kannur district, Kerala	11.850	75.920	Smith 1943
<b><i>Melanopidium punctatum</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	Ganesh et al. 2006; R. Sreekar, in litt. 27.02.2011
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Near Sangod, South Goa, Goa	15.370	74.180	N. Sawant, in litt. 14.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Madathara, Kollam district, Kerala	8.850	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	<a href="http://goawildwatch.blogspot.com/2008_07_01_archive.html">http://goawildwatch.blogspot.com/2008_07_01_archive.html</a>
Muthukkuzhi Vayal, Upper Kodayar, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.500	77.380	Smith 1943
Pasuparai Estate, Peermade, Idukki district, Kerala	9.560	77.001	Rajendran 1985
Sindhudurg, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.950	73.983	A. Zambre, in litt. 12.02.2011
Srikundra Estate, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.350	76.980	Rajendran 1985
Talewadi, Belagavi, (=Belgaum) district, Karnataka	15.670	74.180	Smith 1943
Tirthahalli, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.680	75.230	Ganesh & Chandramouli 2006
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	Bossuyt et al. 2004
<b><i>Melanopidium wynaudense</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	R. Sreekar, pers. comm., 11.01.11
Coorg (Madikeri), Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.450	75.680	Smith 1943
Mananthavady, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.800	76.010	Smith 1943

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Platyplectrurus madurensis</i></b>			
Cardamom Hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	9.867	77.150	Ferguson 1902
Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.235	77.486	Smith 1943
Nyamkad, Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	9.880	76.960	Rajendran 1985
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Smith 1943
Shembaganur, near Kodaikanal, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.230	77.500	Wall 1923
<b><i>Platyplectrurus trilineatus</i></b>			
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1943
Pollachi (near), Indira Gandhi National Park, Anamalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.380	76.930	Beddome 1886
Shembaganur, near Kodaikanal, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.230	77.500	Rajendran 1985
<b><i>Plectrurus aureus</i></b>			
Chambra Mountains, near Kalpetta, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.610	76.100	Beddome 1880
Kudremukh Hill (on top of), Chikmagalur district, Karnataka	13.220	75.240	Beddome 1880
<b><i>Plectrurus canaricus</i></b>			
Kudremukh National Park, Chikmagalur district, Kanataka	13.240	75.240	Beddome 1870; Smith 1943
<b><i>Plectrurus guentheri</i></b>			
Nonsuch Estate, Conoor, The Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.390	76.790	Rajendran 1985
Sispara in Silent Valley National Park, Palghat district, Kerala	11.210	76.480	Beddome 1880
<b><i>Plectrurus perroteti</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Botanical Garden, Ootacamund, Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.720	Rajendran 1985
Glenmorgan Headworks, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.410	76.690	Rajendran 1985
Kundapur, Mysuru district, Karnataka	12.300	76.640	Rajendran 1985
Nonsuch Estate, Conoor, The Nilgiris district, Tamil Nadu	11.390	76.790	Rajendran 1985
Sispara in Silent Valley National Park, Palghat district, Kerala	11.210	76.480	Smith 1943
Western Catchment, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.320	76.430	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
<b><i>Rhinophis fergusonianus</i></b>			
Cardamom Hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	9.867	77.150	Smith 1943
<b><i>Rhinophis sanguineus</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Cherambady in Wayanad Hills, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.620	75.960	Smith 1943
Kalasa, Chikkamagalur district, Karnataka	13.230	75.250	Smith 1943
Koppa, Chikmagalur district, Karnataka	12.710	76.933	Smith 1943
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1943
Salem, Salem district, Tamil Nadu	11.653	78.158	I. Agarwal, in litt. 18.02.2011

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Smith 1943
Thiruvananthapuram Hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.700	77.020	Smith 1943
<b><i>Rhinophis travancoricus</i></b>			
Changanaserry, Kottayam district, Kerala	9.440	76.540	Smith 1943
Muathupuzha, Ernakulam district, Kerala	10.550	76.130	Rajendran 1985
New Ambadi Rubber Estate, Pechiparai Dam, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.490	77.340	Rajendran 1985
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Smith 1943
Vembayam, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.630	76.930	Smith 1943
<b><i>Teretrurus sanguineus</i></b>			
Kakachi, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.390	77.410	Rajendran 1985
Manimuthar, near Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.640	77.420	Smith 1943
Nalumukku, near Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.560	77.400	Smith 1943
Nyamkad, Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	9.880	76.960	Smith 1943
Oothu, near Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.260	77.260	Smith 1943
Pollachi (near), Indira Gandhi National Park, Anamalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.380	76.930	Smith 1943
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis arcticeps</i></b>			
Alleppey, Alappuzha district, Kerala	9.490	76.330	Smith 1943
Cumbum Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.660	77.351	Smith 1943
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Madurai Hills, Madurai district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.490	Smith 1943
Peermade, Ashambu Hills, Idukki district, Kerala	9.580	76.980	Smith 1943
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis beddomii</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis bicatenata</i></b>			
Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.070	73.530	Gower et al. 2008
Fangul Gawhan, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.249	73.699	Gower et al. 2008
<b><i>Uropeltis broughami</i></b>			
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1943
Sirumalai Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.220	77.980	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis dindigalensis</i></b>			
Iravangalar Dam, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.610	77.300	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Sirumalai Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.220	77.980	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis liura</i></b>			
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	Smith 1943; S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Mandjolai, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.560	77.410	Cadle et al. 1990
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Smith 1943

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Uropeltis macrolepis</i></b>			
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	BNHS Collection; Varad Giri, in litt. March 2011
Dangs (the), Dangs district, Gujarat	20.754	73.677	Sharma 2000
Near Sangod, South Goa, Goa	15.370	74.180	N. Sawant, in litt. 14.01.2011
Igatpuri, Nashik district, Maharashtra	19.690	73.550	Smith 1943
Khandala, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.060	74.010	Smith 1943
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	A. Captain, pers. comm., August 2010
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Lonavala, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.780	73.420	Smith 1943; BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Mahabaleshwar, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.920	73.650	Chari 1955
Matheran, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.981	73.265	Smith 1943
Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.415	72.934	A. Captain, pers. comm., August 2010
Powai, Salsette Island, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.110	72.900	Chari 1954
Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai district, Maharashtra	19.217	72.850	Mirza & Pal 2008
Saputara, The Dangs district, Gujarat	20.570	73.750	Vyas & Jhala 1988
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
<b><i>Uropeltis macrorhynchus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis maculatus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Travancore hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.720	77.170	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis myhendrae</i></b>			
Bonacaud, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.757	77.189	Rajendran 1985
Mahendra Mountain, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.380	77.490	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis nitidus</i></b>			
Nelliampathi Hills (near) on Western side of Anaimalai Hills, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.540	76.740	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis ocellatus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Sharma 2003
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Nelliampathi, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.310	76.410	BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Nilambur, Malappuram district, Kerala	11.260	76.200	BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Sharma 2003
Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, Betul, Hoshangabad & Chhinwara districts, Madhya Pradesh	22.470	78.410	Chandra & Gajbe 2003
Paralai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.370	77.040	BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997
Volkinkeri, Tamil Nadu			BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
<b><i>Uropeltis petersi</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Sharma 2003

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
<b><i>Uropeltis phipsonii</i></b>			
Poona (mentioned as Deccan), Poona district, Maharashtra	18.467	73.783	Smith 1943
Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra	18.467	73.783	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011
Thane, Poona district, Maharashtra	19.180	72.850	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis pulneyensis</i></b>			
Alagar Koil Hills, Madurai district, Tamil Nadu	10.070	78.210	Rajendran 1985
Kavangi, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.120	77.240	BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Kodaikanal, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.235	77.486	Ganesh & Asokan 2010
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	Rajendran 1985
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Sharma 2003
Palode, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.710	77.020	Sharma 2003
Poomparai, Palni hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.250	77.400	BNHS Collection, Varad Giri, in litt. 2011
Sevenmalai, Ernakulam district, Kerala	10.550	76.130	Rajendran 1985
<b><i>Uropeltis rubrolineatus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Marthandam, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.303	77.223	Rajendran 1985
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis rubromaculatus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943; Ishwar et al. 2001
Koppa, Chikamagalur district, Karnataka	12.710	76.933	Wall 1923
Meghamalai Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.620	77.400	Hutton & David 2008
Munnar, Idukki district, Kerala	10.080	77.060	Rajendran 1985
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1943
<b><i>Uropeltis smithi</i></b>			
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	Sharma 2003
<b><i>Uropeltis woodmasoni</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1943
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Rajendran 1985
Tirunelveli Hills (Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Smith 1943
Travancore hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.720	77.170	Wall 1923
<b>Viperidae</b>			
<b><i>Peltopelor macrolepis</i></b>			
Chalakkudi river (near), Indira Gandhi National Park, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.290	76.660	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Eravikulam National Park, Idukki district, Kerala	10.220	77.030	P.O. Nameer, pers. comm., March 2011
High Wavy mountains, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	9.700	77.533	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Mankulam, Idukki district, Kerala	17.900	73.800	M. Madala, in litt. 18.02.2011
Nelliampathi, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.310	76.410	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	Smith 1943
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1943
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Pollachi (near), Indira Gandhi National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.380	76.930	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
Shevaroy Hills, Salem district, Tamil Nadu	11.840	78.220	Smith 1943
Singampatti Estate, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.400	Whitaker 1973
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	Vijayakumar et al. 2001
<b><i>Trimeresurus malabaricus</i></b>			
Agumbe, Shivamogge district, Karnataka	13.510	75.090	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Amboli, Sindhudurg district, Maharashtra	15.960	74.000	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011; S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Vijaykumar et al. 2001
Anchal, Kollam district, Kerala	8.850	77.000	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Anshi National Park, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.070	74.390	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary & Mollem National Park, South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	Sawant et al. 2010
Castle Rock, Karwar district, Karnataka	15.390	74.330	A. Captain & S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011
Chimmony Wildlife Sanctuary, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.450	76.450	M. Madala, in litt. 18.02.2011
Coorg (Madikeri), Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.450	75.680	Rao 1917
Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary, South Goa district, Goa	15.000	74.096	Sawant et al. 2010
Ghodbandar Road, Thana district, Maharashtra	19.300	72.910	Whitaker 1969
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Satara district, Maharashtra	17.400	73.750	S. Thakur, pers. comm., March 2011
Kulathupuzha, Kollam district, Kerala	8.900	77.050	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Madikere, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.420	75.740	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Mananthavady, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.800	76.010	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Mannavam Shola, Eravikulam National Park, Idukki district, Kerala	10.190	76.990	P.O. Nameer, pers. comm., March 2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.622	74.211	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., March 2011
Mhadei National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Sattari Taluk, North Goa district, Goa	15.683	74.100	Sawant et al. 2010
Mollem National Park (Core Area of Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary), South Goa district, Goa	15.380	74.170	N. Kulkarni, pers. comm., March 2011
Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.532	77.209	J. Joyce, pers. comm., March 2011
Naraikadu Forest Area, Near Kalakkad Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.430	77.500	Johsingh 2001
Netravali National Park, Southern Goa, Goa	15.152	74.251	Sawant et al. 2010
Parambikulam National Park & Tiger Reserve, Palakkad district, Kerala	10.380	76.830	K.G. M. Pillai pers. comm., March 2011
Pattikad, Thrissur district, Kerala	10.560	76.320	C. Srinivasulu, pers. comm., March 2011
Peechi-Vazhani Wildlife Sanctuary, Idukki district, Kerala	10.534	76.347	J. Joyce, pers. comm., March 2011
Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigad district, Maharashtra	18.415	72.934	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Periya Kavu estate, Srivilliputhur Wildlife Sanctuary, Virudunagar district, Tamil Nadu	9.250	77.210	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011



Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Periyar Tiger Reserve, Idukki & Pathanamthitta districts, Kerala	9.430	77.210	Zacharias 1997
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolhapur district, Maharashtra	16.399	73.963	Jathar et al. 2004
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Siruvani Foothills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.958	76.680	Kannan & Venkataraman 1998
Talakaveri, Kodagu district, Karnataka	12.380	75.490	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Top Slip, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.470	76.847	S.R. Ganesh, in litt. 10.01.2011
Vallakadavu, Peiryar Tiger Reserve, Idukki district, Kerala	9.510	77.150	A. Zambre, in litt. 15.02.2011
Vellimalai, High Wavy Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	11.800	78.719	G. Srinivasun, in litt. 14.02.2011
<b><i>Trimeresurus strigatus</i></b>			
Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.290	76.990	Smith 1943
Bangitapal, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.236	76.482	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Conoor Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.340	76.790	Smith 1943
Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.610	77.381	Ishwar et al. 2001
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	Kannan & Bhupathy 1996
Ooty (earlier Ootacamund), The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.412	76.695	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Palni Hills, Theni district, Tamil Nadu	10.200	77.500	Smith 1943
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala	8.800	77.250	J. Joyce, in litt. 23.02.2011
Shevaroy Hills, Salem district, Tamil Nadu	11.840	78.220	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad district, Kerala	11.220	76.480	Whitaker & Captain 2004
Snowdown, Ooty, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.421	76.705	Smith 1943
Thirunelveli Hills, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu	8.570	77.410	Smith 1943
Upper Bhawani, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.260	76.544	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
<b>Xenodermatidae</b>			
<b><i>Xylophis captaini</i></b>			
Aarukani, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	8.300	77.130	Gower & Winkler 2007
Ambadi estate, Vannathiparai, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu	10.826	78.297	Ganesh 2010
Azhukkamoozhi, near Kattakada, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.500	77.080	Gower & Winkler 2007
Chathankodu, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.660	77.150	Gower & Winkler 2007
Chengalam, Kottayam district, Kerala	9.620	76.710	Gower & Winkler 2007
Cheranikara, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.650	76.950	Gower & Winkler 2007
Kanam, Kottayam district, Kerala	9.540	76.700	Gower & Winkler 2007
Mennookonom, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.630	77.030	Gower & Winkler 2007
Mylam, Pathanamthitta district, Kerala	9.040	76.800	Gower & Winkler 2007
Palode, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.710	77.020	Gower & Winkler 2007

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Sources
Pathanapuram, Kollam district, Kerala	9.080	76.850	Gower & Winkler 2007
Peralamattayam, Idukki district, Kerala	9.960	76.690	Gower & Winkler 2007
Ponmudi, Ponmudi hills, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.760	77.130	Chandramouli & Ganesh 2011
Potugani Junction, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.470	77.220	Gower & Winkler 2007
Punalur, Kollam district, Kerala	8.990	76.950	Gower & Winkler 2007
Vanchuvam, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala	8.650	77.020	Gower & Winkler 2007
<b><i>Xylophis perroteti</i></b>			
Kotagiri, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.420	76.860	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.430	76.530	Z.A. Mirza, in litt. 14.02.2011.
Nilgiri Hills, The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.441	76.512	David & Dubois 2005
Ooty (earlier Ootacamund), The Nilgiri district, Tamil Nadu	11.412	76.695	N.S. Achyuthan, pers. comm., March 2011
Shembaganur, near Kodaikanal, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu	10.230	77.500	Gower & Winkler 2007
Wayanad, Wayanad district, Kerala	11.630	75.990	Gower & Winkler 2007
<b><i>Xylophis stenorhynchus</i></b>			
Valparai, Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu	10.320	76.940	Gower & Winkler 2007



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# Species Accounts - Western Ghats (Endemics)

## AGAMIDAE

### *Calotes aurantolabium* Krishnan, 2008 Orange-lipped Forest Lizard

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Calotes aurantolabium* was described by Krishnan in 2008 based on two female specimens collected from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Agasthyamalai Hills, Western Ghats, Tamil Nadu, India. *Calotes andamanensis* reported from mainland India is based on misidentified specimens of *Calotes aurantolabium* collected from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from the Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Agasthyamalai Hills, although, it might occur more widely within the Agasthyamalai range. The two localities where it has been collected are approximately 2-4 km apart. The extent of occurrence based on the altitudinal range and available suitable habitat is estimated to be 30-50 sq km.

**Population** There is no information on population size and trends; however, this species is rare as there have been intensive surveys in the area and it has been found only on two occasions.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is known from the rainforests and shola forests occurring at an altitude of 1,000-1,400 m. The only known two specimens are females that have been collected while laying eggs in nests on the forest floor. As both the females have been collected in the months of April and June 1997 it is assumed that the breeding season of the species is spread between these months.

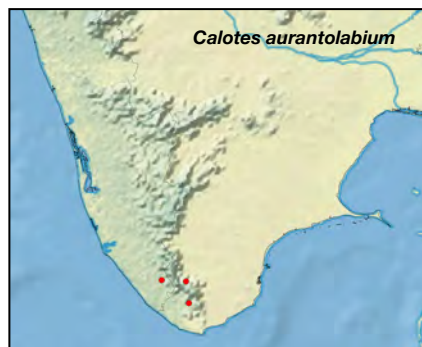
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species. There is agriculture outside the reserves but within the inferred extent of occurrence of this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Both the localities from where this species has been recorded are within the protected areas of Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger

Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala. Research is needed to establish its distribution and population status.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Prabhu



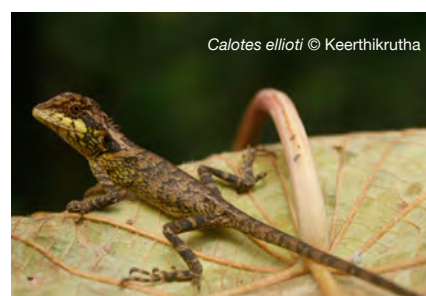
### *Calotes ellioti* Günther, 1864 Elliot's Forest Lizard

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** The specific distinction of this species was questioned and was placed within the synonymy of its closely related congener, *Calotes rouxii* Dumeril & Bibron 1837. But no subsequent authors have followed this arrangement, and instead recognize *Calotes ellioti* as a distinct species.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and inhabits the Western Ghats, where it is found in the Anaimalai, Thirunellveli and Sivagiri hills and the Malabar coast and a single isolated record from Mahabaleshwar, in Maharashtra. The extent of occurrence of this species is greater than 45,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations from sea level to 1,100 m.

**Population** Surveys conducted in the Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve



*Calotes ellioti* © Keerthikrutha

and 14 rainforest fragments in the Anaimalai Hills have shown that this species is the most dominant agamid in fragmented forests. This species is a habitat generalist and appears to be unaffected by forest fragmentation.

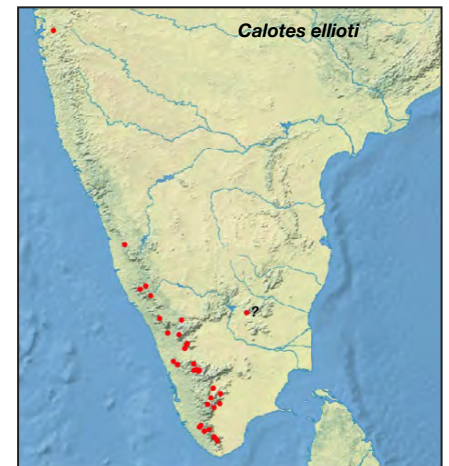
**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in dry and moist deciduous, and wet evergreen forests, as well as in altered habitats such as tea, coffee, and cardamom plantations.

**Major Threats** The area in which this species is distributed has, and continues to, undergo habitat loss and degradation. However, as this species adapts well to fragmented forests this cannot be considered a threat to the species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in many protected areas and reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh, M. Prabhu & M. Madala



### *Calotes grandisquamis* Günther, 1875 Large-scaled Forest Lizard

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calotes grandisquamis* was described based on a specimen collected from the foot of Canoot Ghat near Mananathavady, in Brahmagherry hills, Kerala, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is distributed in the Anaimalai hills,

Brahmagiri hills, Kodagu, Wayanad, Ponumudi, Siruvani, Nilgiri hills, Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Wildlife Sanctuary, Tirunelveli hills. It occurs at elevations from 100 to 1,600 m.

**Population** It is an uncommon species, but can be found in altered habitats.

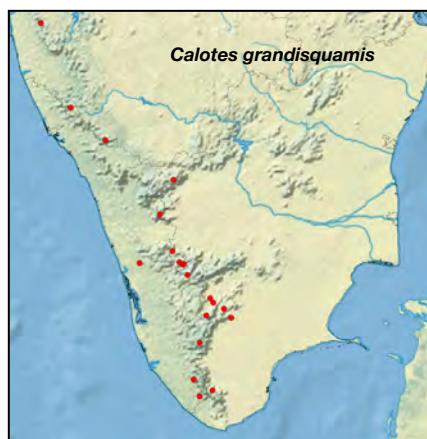
**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from evergreen and dry deciduous forests, and plantations like tea, coffee and cardamom.

**Major Threats** There are no major threats to this species. It also occurs in altered habitats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from many sites within protected areas as well as reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh, M. Prabhu & R. Sreekar



**Calotes nemoricola** Jerdon, 1853  
Nilgiri Forest Lizard

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calotes nemoricola* was described based on specimens collected from Coonoor Ghat, Nilgiri hills.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats. It has been reported from the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh, but this is considered erroneous. This species occurs at elevations between 400 and 1,200 m.

**Population** It is an uncommon species, but it can be found in altered habitats.

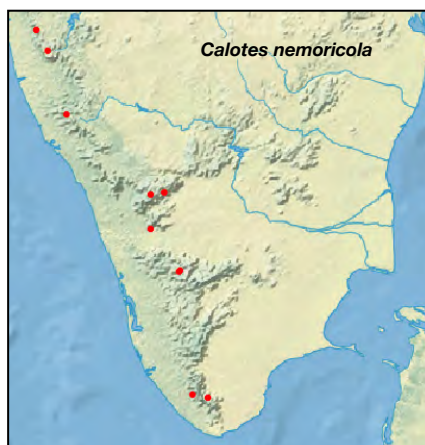
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is a diurnal, semi-arboreal insectivore that prefers moist evergreen forested tracts in higher elevations and scrubland habitats.

**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species. There have been a few sightings in plantations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in several protected areas and reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh, M. Prabhu & M. Madala



**Otocryptis beddomii** Boulenger, 1885  
Western Ghats Kangaroo Lizard  
Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Otocryptis beddomii* was described based on specimens collected from Sivagiri Ghats in Cardamom Hills in southern Kerala.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India. It has been reported from Sivagiri Ghats in the Cardamom hills, Kerala, Ponmudi, Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala, Anchal Forest Range, Kulathapuzha, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kollam district, Kerala, and Kalakkad Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu. This species occurs at elevations between 150 and 1,100 m. It has an estimated extent of occurrence between known sites of 2,500 km<sup>2</sup>; its area of occupancy, assuming that it occurs over a 50 km<sup>2</sup> area at each known locality, is taken to be 700 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** It appears to be common in some lowland forests bordering Myristica swamps. In Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary and Kulathapuzha the population density is reported to be 4.25 individuals per hectare. It occurs in high abundance in the mid-elevation rainforests between 300 and 600 m.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is a small sized terrestrial lizard commonly encountered among leaf-litter and forest floor vegetation. In Shendurney

the maximum number of sightings of juveniles was in October.

**Major Threats** This species has been recorded around Myristica swamps in southern Kerala where the habitat is under threat due to conversion into agriculture lands and betelnut gardens. At present, clearing the forest edges for firelines disturbs the microhabitat of this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in three protected areas, which comprises most of its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & S.P. Vijayakumar



**Salea anamallayana**  
(Beddome, 1878)  
Anaimalai Spiny Lizard

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Salea anamallayana* was described as *Lophosalea anamallayana* based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the high altitudes of the Anaimalai and High Wavy Hills with a distribution range less than 500 km<sup>2</sup> at elevations between 1,700 and 2,300 m.

**Population** This species is common throughout its distribution. In the montane shola forests and tea plantations of Anaimalai Hills, the density of *Salea anamallayana* was observed to be 50 individuals/ha.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moist montane forests, found on bushes, hedges and in gardens. It is observed in good numbers from tea plantations in and around Eravikulam National Park compared to mid-elevation evergreen forests and eucalyptus plantation.

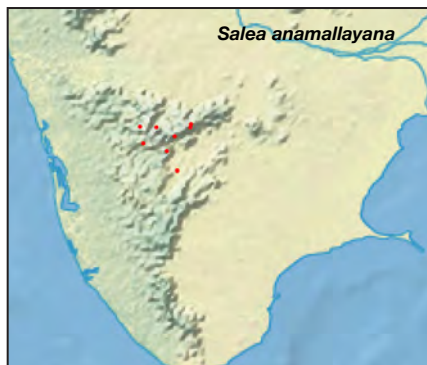
**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species. Given

its occurrence in high densities in tea plantations, it does not seem to be affected by habitat conversion.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in Indira Gandhi National Park, Eravikulam National Park and Kurunji Mala Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh



**Salea horsfieldii Gray, 1845**  
**Horsfield's Spiny Lizard**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Salea horsfieldii* was described based on specimens from India.

**Geographic Range** This species inhabits the high altitudes of the Nilgiri and Palni Hills. The report from Kudremukh hills is considered dubious. Likewise, an erroneous Sri Lankan locality Nuwara Eliya has also been reported for this Indian endemic. This species occurs at elevations between 1,600 and 2,500 m.

**Population** This species has been reported to be very common in open forests and tea plantations.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moist montane forests, found on bushes, hedges and in gardens. This species has narrow tolerance to habitat alterations and it has not been reported from disturbed habitats.

**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. *Salea horsfieldii* is present in Mukurthi National Park.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh, S.R. Ganesh & U. Manthey



**Eryx whitakeri Das, 1991**  
**Whitaker's Sand Boa**

**Near Threatened**

**Taxonomy** *Eryx whitakeri* was described based on a holotype from Mangalore in Karnataka and paratypes from a few localities in Kerala, Karnataka and Goa. It has often been confused as a hybrid between *Eryx johnii* and *Eryx conicus*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known from south of Poona, Maharashtra, to Sathyamangalam, Tamil Nadu. It is found from sea level to 950 m.

**Population** This is an uncommon species known from a few localities. This

species' population has been reported to be declining in some areas, and it is thought that illegal collectors have to put increasing efforts into collecting animals for trade.

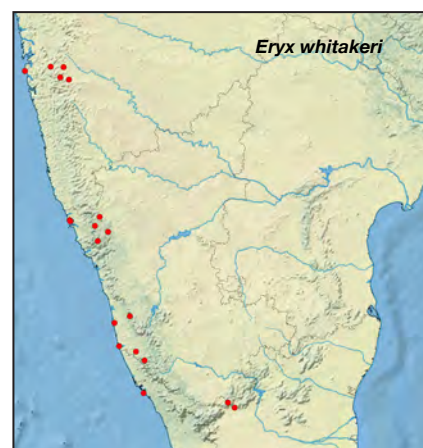
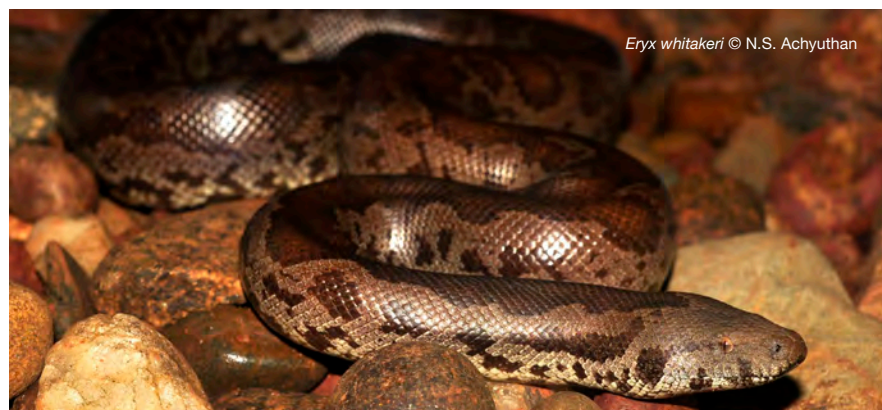
**Habitat & Ecology** It has been collected from coastal habitats of Goa to semi-evergreen hill forest in the Western Ghats. It is nocturnal and has been observed to climb well. It feeds on mice and Brook's gecko in captivity. Up to 12 live young are born from June to August.

**Major Threats** Illegal collection from wild for display purposes might pose a direct threat to this species. This species might also be threatened due to rampant collection for medicinal properties and traditional beliefs.

**Use & Trade** It is collected for medicinal purposes, pets, display animals (snake parks and snake charmers) and through superstition that the species will lead a person to a treasure.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It has been recorded from three protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends, and threats. There is an urgent need to check illegal poaching of this species due to prevalent superstitions.

**Assessors** A. Das, C. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, & B. Srinivasulu.



**BOIDAE**

***Ahaetulla dispar* (Günther, 1864)**  
Günther's Vine Snake

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy:** *Ahaetulla dispar* was described as *Tragops dispar* based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills, Western Ghats.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the wet, cool montane tracts of India's Western Ghats and has been reported from Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu to Cardamom Hills, Kerala. A report from Coorg in Karnataka requires confirmation; this is provisionally considered valid and is included in this assessment. It has been recorded from 609 to 1,981 m.

**Population** This species is common where it occurs.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in fringes of semi evergreen hill forest and shola patches. It is diurnal and usually encountered on grass clumps, on shrubs and on trees. It feeds on lizards, frogs and other snakes. It is ovoviviparous, with a brood size of 4-11 young.

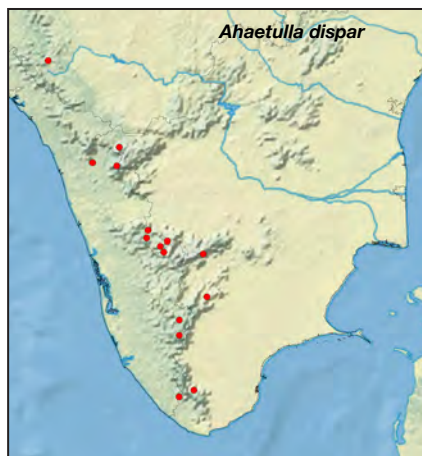
**Major Threats** This species is considered to occur in three locations (one above the Palghat Gap and two below), where the sets of threat (both directly to the species and to its habitats) differ. Outside of protected areas, in the southern part of its range, this species is threatened by habitat conversion through expansion of agriculture (cardamom and pepper). Animals are killed on sight by local people.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in many protected areas, including Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu; Periyar Tiger Reserve and Eravikulam National Park in

Kerala. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, N.S. Achyuthan & P. Mohapatra.



***Ahaetulla perroteti***  
(Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)  
Perrotet's Vine Snake

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Ahaetulla perroteti* was described as *Psammophis perroteti* based on specimens collected from India. No specific type locality has been assigned so far.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Nilgiri Hills of the Western Ghats, India. It has been reported from grassland patches in shola forests between 2,000 to 2,800 m. There are doubtful records from outside of the Nilgiri Hills.

**Population** This species is common within its restricted range.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in grasslands in shola patches. The breeding season of this ovoviviparous snake is between July to September. It is not known from modified habitats.

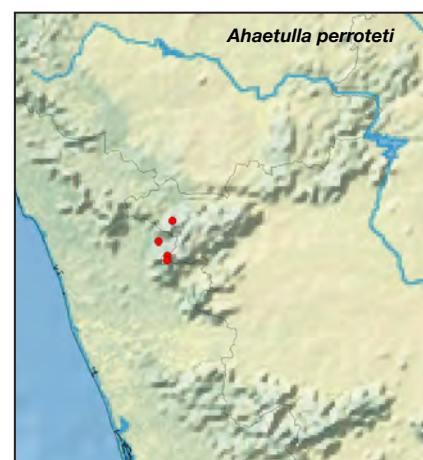
**Major Threats** Grasslands in the Nilgiris have been converted over the last 100 years to pine, eucalyptus, tea and

wattle plantations. There is a decline in the quality of its remaining habitat due to anthropogenic disturbance.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. *Ahaetulla perroteti* is a rare colubrid endemic to the Western Ghats. It occurs in Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. Further survey work is needed to understand its ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak & N.S. Achyuthan.



***Boiga dightoni* (Boulenger, 1894)**  
Travancore Cat Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Boiga dightoni* was described as *Dipsas dightoni* based on a specimen collected by Mr. S. Dighton from Peermade, Idukki District, Kerala.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India. It has been recorded from apparently disjunct localities in Peermade, Ponnudi and Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala. A record from Indira Gandhi National Park, south of the Palghat Gap in Tamil Nadu requires verification. If these records represent the full extent of the snake's distribution, it will have an extent of occurrence of around 4,545 km<sup>2</sup>. This species occurs at elevations of 800 to 1,100 m.

**Population** Not much is known about the population status of this species. It was originally known from just three specimens from Peermade, Kerala. One individual has since been reported from each of Ponnudi, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala and Anaimalai Hills, Tamil Nadu.



*Ahaetulla nasuta* © Sanjay Sondhi

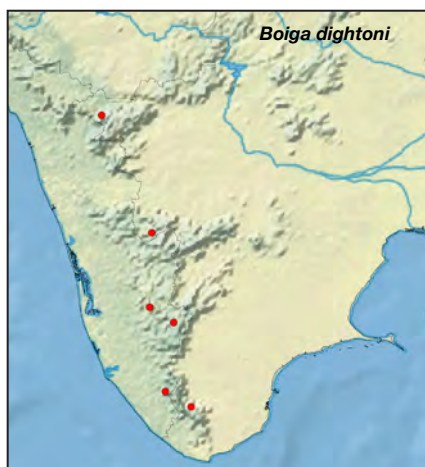
**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from semi-evergreen hill forest in the Western Ghats. It has been reported from wet and cool forested tracts. It has been collected from secondary growth. Nothing else is known about its habitats and ecology.

**Major Threats** Threats for this species are not known. It has been recorded from secondary forest.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is one of the rare endemic colubrids of India occurring in the semi evergreen forests of Western Ghats. In its range it is reported from Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, Tamil Nadu, Indira Gandhi National Park, Tamil Nadu, Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu and Periyar Tiger Reserve in Kerala. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, P. Mohapatra & S.P. Vijayakumar.



**Boiga nuchalis** (Günther, 1875)  
Collared Cat Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** The type locality of this species is the west coast of India. The relationship of the group around *Boiga ceylonensis* / *B. beddomei* / *B. nuchalis* / *B. andamanensis* needs to be reassessed to better understand the status of species within this complex.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India. It has been reported from the Western Ghats at Top Slip, Anamalai Tiger Reserve, Ponmudi, and

Agumbe. An additional record from Sathyamangalam, Tamil Nadu needs to be verified. Records from Behrampur, Odisha, Assam and Nepal are considered to be erroneous. It has been recorded at elevations of 500 to 1,200 m.

**Population** This snake is common in some places.

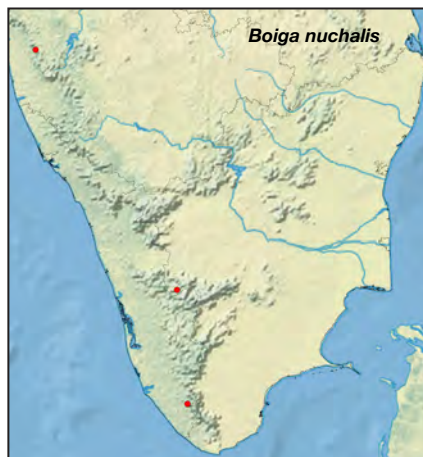
**Habitat & Ecology** It has been recorded from evergreen, semi-evergreen forests and areca plantations. It is a nocturnal species.

**Major Threats** There are no specific threats known, to this species. It inhabits secondary forest and plantations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in Indira Gandhi National Park, Tamil Nadu. Research is needed into the taxonomy, population trends and biology of this species.

**Assessors** N.S. Achyuthan, P. Mohapatra, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Dendrelaphis ashoki**  
Vogel & van Rooijen, 2011  
Ashok's Bronzeback Tree Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This taxon was earlier included under *Dendrelaphis pictus*. The populations referred to as *D. pictus* from Western Ghats are now recognized as *Dendrelaphis ashoki* Vogel and Rooijen, 2011 following a revision of this species complex in India.

**Geographic Range** The known distribution of *Dendrelaphis ashoki* is restricted to the Western Ghats (India), where it has been recorded from Agumbe, Shimoga District, Karnataka, Kannur, Kerala, Agasthyamala, Anamalai Tiger

Reserve, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu and Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa. It has been recorded from 10 to 1650 m.

**Population** There is no information available on the population of this species. It is known only from a few specimens.

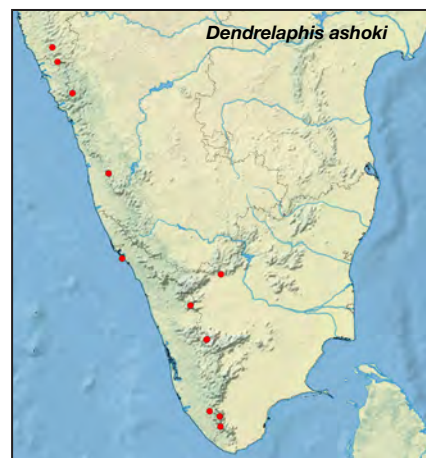
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moist forest, forest edges, tea and areca nut plantations. It can be found in small bushes.

**Major Threats** Threats for this species are not known.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known conservation measures in place for this species. This species has been recently reported from Indira Gandhi National Park and Kalakkad-Mundhunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu and Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa. Further research into its abundance, habitat status and the suitability of future conservation measures may be required. Population monitoring is also recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & V. Deepak.



**Dendrelaphis chairecacos**  
(Boie, 1827)  
Southern Bronzeback Tree Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Dendrelaphis chairecacos* was described as *Dendrophis chairecacos* based on drawing by Dr. Patrick Russell. This species has been recently resurrected from the synonymy of *D. tristis* and a neotype has been designated from Kottayam, Kerala.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats of India. It has been reported from southern

India from Kottayam and Punakkanad in Kerala and recently from Gersoppa in Karnataka. It ranges from sea level to about 400 m.

**Population** There is no information available on the population of this species. It is known only from a few specimens.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is found on the western slopes of the Western Ghats in evergreen forests. It has not been recorded from any modified habitats, but it is not clear whether this reflects the species' genuine ecological requirements or an artefact of the small number of known records.

**Major Threats** The threats to this species are not known. The localities where this species has been recorded, however, are not under any protection.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not known from any protected areas. There is a need for research into the distribution, threats and ecology of this species.

**Assessors** V. Deepak, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & B. Srinivasulu.



### **Dendrelaphis giri**

Vogel & Van Rooijen, 2011  
Giri's Bronzeback Tree Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Dendrelaphis giri* was described based on the holotype from Castle Rock, Karnataka and five paratypes from Goa, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra, India. This species had previously been confused with *D. bifrenalis*, a species now understood to be endemic to Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** The known distribution of this species is restricted to the Western Ghats (India), where it

has been recorded from Castle Rock, Belgaum District, Karnataka, South Goa, Sirumalai Hills, Tamil Nadu, Amboli, Sindhudurg District, and Bhimashankar, Pune District, Maharashtra. Several of these localities are highly disjunct from one another; the combined area of the apparent centres of distribution is around 17,000 km<sup>2</sup>, but this recently-described species may well be more widespread within the Western Ghats than these records suggest. It has been recorded from 33 to 943 m.

**Population** There is no information available on the population of this recently described species. It is known only from a few specimens.

**Habitat & Ecology** This arboreal species inhabits forest and forest edges, and may also occur in secondary habitats and plantations. There is no detailed ecological information on this species.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known conservation measures in place for this species. This species is not known to occur in any protected area. Further research into its distribution, abundance and natural history is recommended, and may be required to determine whether any conservation measures are likely to be necessary.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### **Dendrelaphis grandoculis**

(Boulenger, 1890)  
Southern Bronzeback

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Dendrelaphis grandoculis* was described as *Dendrophis grandoculis* based on specimens collected from

Thirunelveli Hills and Coonoor Ghats, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India from Agumbe in Karnataka to Peermedu in Kerala and Agasthiyamalai in Kerala. It is found at elevations of 650 to 1,200 m.

**Population** The species appears to be rarer in some areas than others, but no information is available on its population status.

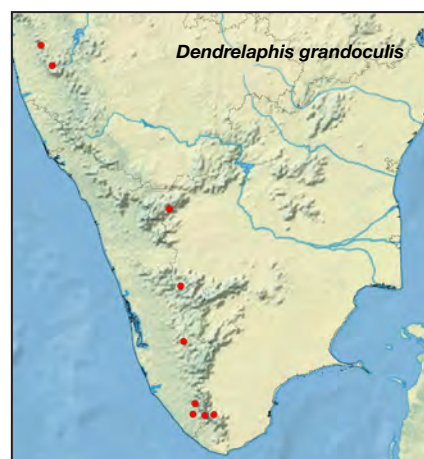
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moist forest, forest edges, tea and areca nut plantations. It can be found in small bushes.

**Major Threats** Habitat loss and degradation are taking place within the area where this species is found, due to conversion of forests to agriculture and plantations, tourism and infrastructure development. It has however been recorded from some modified habitats such as tea plantations, and the extent to which it is sensitive to disturbance is therefore somewhat unclear.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species has been recently reported from Kalakkad-Mundhunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu. Further research into this snake's abundance, population trends, habitat status and tolerance of habitat modification is required.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### **Lycodon flavomaculatus** Wall, 1907 Yellow-spotted Wolf Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lycodon flavomaculatus* was described by Wall in 1907 based on specimens collected from Khirkee,



Poona District, Maharashtra.

**Geographic Range** *Lycodon flavomaculatus* is endemic to Western and India. Earlier records from central India require verification. It is found at elevations of 50 to 800 m asl.

**Population** Little is known about the population of *Lycodon flavomaculatus*. It is reported to be common in and around Poona, where it has been reported from open forested tracts.

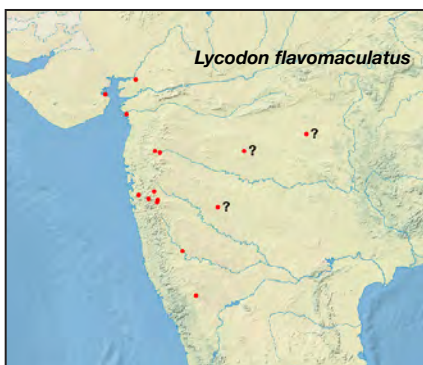
**Habitat and Ecology** This snake is found at the edges of moist deciduous and evergreen forest within grasslands, and mainly feeds on small geckos and earthworms. It can be found close to human habitations.

**Major Threats** This snake is threatened by the conversion of grasslands to industrial areas.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known conservation measures in place for this species. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Thakur & R. Vyas



***Oligodon affinis* Günther, 1862**  
Western Kukri Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon affinis* was described based on specimens collected from Anaimalai hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India, south of the Goa Gap (Wynaad to Travancore). Presently it is known from Wyanad, Wyanad District; Ashambu hills, Ponmudi hills and Arippa (near Thiruvananthapuram), Thiruvananthapuram District; Kulathapuzha, Kollam District in Kerala, Anaimalai hills, Top Slip and Valparai, Coimbatore District in Tamil Nadu and

Talakaveri, Kodagu District, Karnataka. Found at elevations of 150 to 1,100 m.

**Population** This species is considered to be rare.

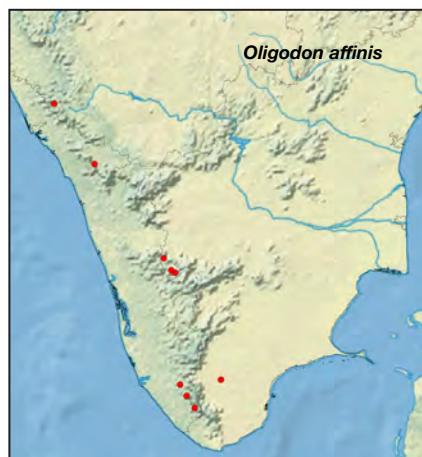
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits tropical lowland moist forests. It has also been recorded from teak plantations.

**Major Threats** Habitat loss and degradation due to expanding agriculture, urbanization and mining is a problem in the Western Ghats and this is likely to be causing localized declines in this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species occurs in Indira Gandhi National Park and Brahmagiri Wildlife Sanctuary. Further research into the population and habitat status of this species should be carried out.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Thakur & V. Deepak.



***Oligodon brevicauda* Günther, 1862**  
Short-tailed Kukri Snake

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon brevicauda* was described based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills, Western Ghats in Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats (India) and is known only from the Nilgiri Hills and Anaimalai Hills in Tamil Nadu, from Peermade Hills in Kerala, and recently from Sengaltheri, Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu. It is mostly reported based on four specimens collected historically from these areas, with a single recent sighting from Sengaltheri. It is found at elevations of 350 to 1,250 m.

**Population** Little is known about the

population of this species. It is known recently from only a single record, and is considered one of the rarest colubrid snakes in India.

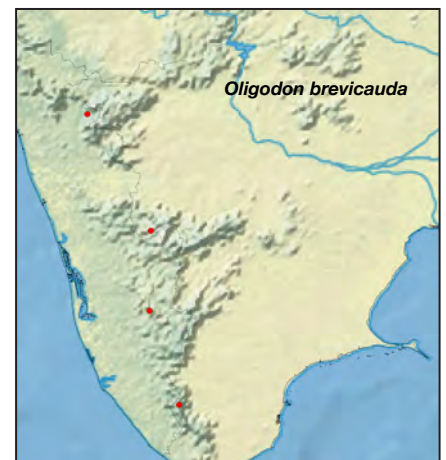
**Habitat & Ecology** This species was reportedly collected from the semi-evergreen to evergreen hill forest in the Western Ghats. It is not been recorded from any modified habitats. Nothing else is known about its habitats and ecology.

**Major Threats** Habitat fragmentation is occurring in the region where the species is found, resulting from conversion of forest to tea, coffee and rubber plantations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. *Oligodon brevicauda* is one of the rarest endemic colubrids in India. It has been recorded from the Sengaltheri, Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak & S. Thakur.



***Oligodon nikhili***  
Whitaker & Dattatri, 1982  
Nikhil's Kukri Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon nikhili* was described based on a single specimen collected in Western Ghats from Tiger Shola, near Shembaganur, Kodaikanal in Palni Hills, Dindigul district, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known only from the type locality: Tiger Shola, Kodaikanal, Palni Hills, Dindigul District, Tamil Nadu. There have been no dedicated surveys looking for this species

since its description, and it is therefore unclear whether it is more widespread.

**Population** This species is known only from the holotype.

**Habitat & Ecology** The holotype was collected from roadside in a relatively undisturbed shola forest at an elevation of 1,500 m. It is not known if the species can persist in modified habitats.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is one of the rarest endemic colubrid of India, known only from the holotype collected in Tiger Shola near Kodaikanal in Palani Hills, Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Thakur & P. Mohapatra.

**Editors' Note** A second specimen (roadkill) has been reported in October 2011 about 170 km away from the type locality in Palode Reserve Forest in Kerala (Arun Kanagavel, pers comm.).



**Oligodon travancoricus**

Beddome, 1877  
Travancore Kukri Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon travancoricus* Beddome, 1877, misspelled as *Oligodon travancorica*, was described as *Oligodon travancoricum* basing on specimens collected from south Travancore mountains. It agrees very closely with sympatric congener, *Oligodon venustus* with which it was synonymized. However, basing on differences in the hemipenis structure both the taxa are considered distinct.

**Geographic Range** *Oligodon travancoricus* is endemic to Western Ghats known from south of Palghat Gap. Earlier records of this species from Nallamala Hills, Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh is based on misidentified *O. taeniolatus*. It ranges between 1200 and 2,960 m asl.

**Population** *Oligodon travancoricus* is known from very few localities, but at these sites has been reported to be common.

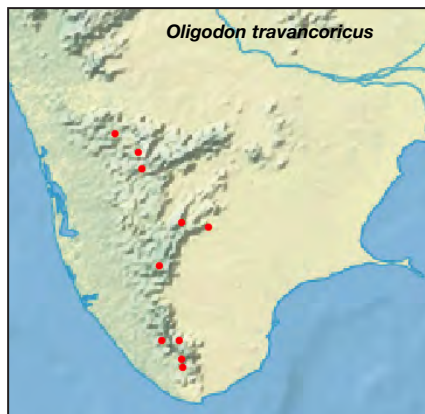
**Habitat and Ecology** This snake has been observed to be active during the day and evenings. It inhabits areas within evergreen forests and spice plantations on mid-elevation hills, and is found in thick leaf-litter and under fallen logs and rocks on the forest floor. Recent records include one from a human dwelling and three records from forest paths.

**Major Threats** Any threats to this species are not known. Although it has been recorded from plantations and once from a human dwelling, it is unclear whether it can adapt to habitat degradation.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Oligodon travancoricus* is known from four sites that are in protected area network in the Western Ghats of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Research is needed into the distribution, ecological requirements and threats to this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & V. Deepak.



**Oligodon venustus (Jerdon, 1853)**  
Jerdon's Kukri Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon venustus* was described as *Xenodon venustum* based on

specimen collected from north Kanara, Karnataka. The type is considered to be lost.

**Geographic Range** This species is distributed in the Western Ghats (India) south of the Goa Gap. Historical records exist from Wayanad, Nilgiris and Palani Hills, and recent ones from Upper Bhavani, Ooty and Mukurthi. Its occurrence in north Canara, the type locality, needs to be verified. It has been recorded at 1,200 to 2,400 m.

**Population** This species is not uncommon in Wayanad, between 1,500 to 2,000 m.

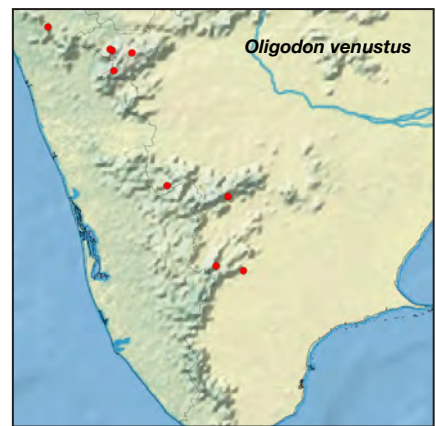
**Habitat & Ecology** This snake is active in the evening, being found in gardens and in the vicinity of human dwellings. It feeds on lizards, birds and small rodents. It has been recorded in grassland close to a tea plantation. There is a record from the edge of a pine and wattle plantations. It prefers areas with rocky crevices.

**Major Threats** This species occurs in plantations and there appear to be no major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been recorded from Mukurthi National Park. Research is needed into population trends and the biology of this species.

**Assessors** N.S. Achyuthan, V. Deepak, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Rhabdops olivaceus**  
(Beddome, 1863)  
Olive Forest Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Rhabdops olivaceus* was described as *Ablabes olivaceus* based on specimens collected from Mananthavady, Wayanad district, Kerala.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats (India) and is known from south of Koyna Dam, Satara District, Maharashtra to Thrissur, Kerala. Within this wide area (an estimated extent of occurrence of approximately 57,000 km<sup>2</sup>), its distribution appears to be sporadic. It occurs between 600 and 2,300 m.

**Population** This species is reported to be uncommon. Recent studies in Goa and Maharashtra have reported short-term declines linked to changes in habitat quality. Recent records are lacking from historical localities, and this may be linked to longer-term responses to habitat degradation.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi-evergreen hill forest in

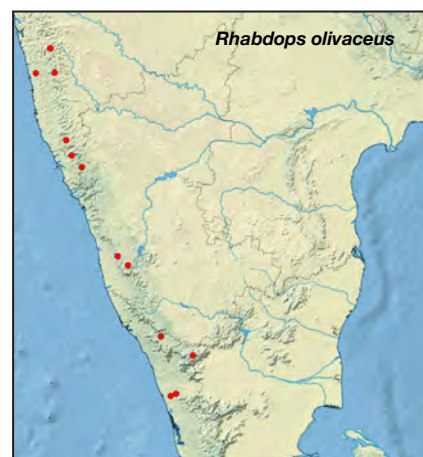
the Western Ghats. It is a nocturnal and probably semi-aquatic snake found in slow-moving water, and has been noted to feed on fish, slugs, earthworms and other soft-bodied invertebrates.

**Major Threats** This species is threatened by domestic and agricultural water pollution, and by siltation resulting from mining activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It has been reported from two protected areas: Sahyadri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra and Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, A. Das, N.S. Achyuthan & N.U. Kulkarni.



***Calliophis bibroni* (Jan, 1858)**  
**Bibron's Coral Snake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calliophis bibroni* was described as *Elaps bibroni* based on specimens collected from unknown locality in India.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to Western Ghats, India. A range-extension of this species from central Western Ghats was reported. Recent new locality records from the Anamalai Hills and the Agastiyar hills (also Agasthyamala hills) have considerably extended the previously known range of this species. Its distribution has been described as severely fragmented, but the species is likely to occur in more than 10 locations due to its relatively wide geographical and elevational range. It is found between 1 and 1,220 m.

**Population** A rare species. No information on its population exists.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been collected in wet forests and plantations. There are only 18 specimens of this species. It feeds on Uropeltid snakes.

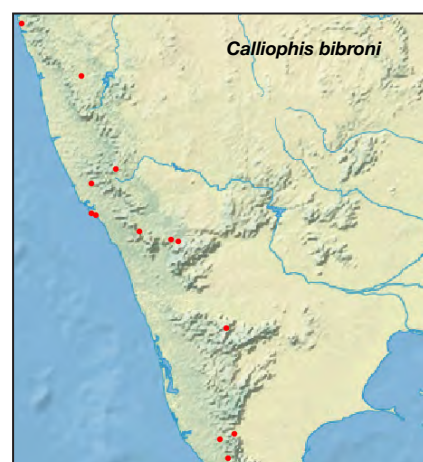
**Major Threats** It is threatened by deforestation, agricultural and urban expansion.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It has been recorded from some protected areas including Anamalai and Mudumalai Tiger Reserves (Tamil Nadu), Bandipur Tiger Reserve (Karnataka) and Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala). Conservation measures, such as the establishment and management of protected areas, should be carried out to reduce the rate of habitat

loss occurring within this species' range. Further research and monitoring of the population, habitat status, and threats to this species should be carried out.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, G. Shankar & B. Srinivasulu.



## ELAPIDAE

***Cnemaspis australis***  
**Manamendra-Arachchi, Batuwita & Pethiyagoda, 2007**  
**Southern Day Gecko**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis australis* was described based on type specimen from Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu, India. The holotype is a syntype of *C. tropidogaster*, a taxon now understood to be endemic to Sri Lanka. Following recent clarification of the species concept for *C. tropidogaster*,

research is needed to establish its relationship to Indian taxa and to verify the validity of *C. australis*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to southern India, known only from the type locality. Species boundaries need to be critically re-evaluated in the light of recent taxonomic changes. The range and area of the species are unknown, as it is only known from the type locality.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species except that it is known only by the

holotype.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology. The type locality details do not clearly indicate whether the species has been collected from the plains or the hilly regions of Tirunelveli.

**Major Threats** The threats to the species are not known.

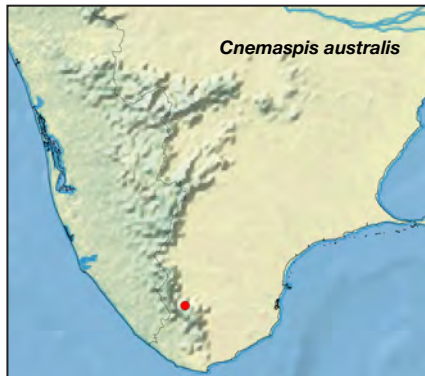
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

## GEKKONIDAE

Taxonomic validation of this species is recommended. Establishing its presence, distribution and population status is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis beddomei**  
(Theobald, 1876)  
Beddome's Day Gecko

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** Beddome described *Cnemaspis beddomei* in 1870 as *Gymnodactylus marmoratus* from Travancore. However, this name was preoccupied by *Gymnodactylus marmoratus* Dumeril and Bibron, 1836. Theobald later renamed it as *Gymnodactylus beddomei* in 1876. Species boundaries within the genus *Cnemaspis* need to be critically re-evaluated.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India. It has been recorded from six sites in Tamil Nadu including one protected area and three sites in Kerala including one protected area. Although the species is recorded from nine localities, given the taxonomic uncertainty in the genus a thorough evaluation of specimens from these localities is needed to establish the species' distribution range.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status, except that it has been collected and reported from some sites north and south of Palghat Gap.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is a diurnal species and is found under rocks in wet evergreen and moist deciduous forests. Its diet is composed mainly of insects. Several inactive individuals were found at night on walls of estate buildings in High Wavys, Theni, Cardamom Hills, Tamil Nadu. Nothing else is known about habitat and ecology of this species. It has been collected from 8 miles (13 km) northeast of Munnar in Idukki district of Kerala (=Eravikulam National

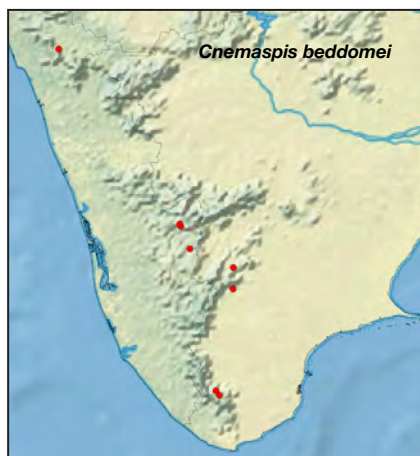
Park) from under moist rotting logs in forested tracts (specimen collected by Ross, E.S. and Cavagnaro, D. in 1962 and deposited in Herpetological Collections of California Academy of Sciences).

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species; however, it is presumed that the habitat where it was reported might have undergone changes due to anthropogenic activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary. Research is needed to understand the species' exposure and sensitivity to threats, its population status, its taxonomy and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis goensis** Sharma, 1976  
Goan Day Gecko

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis goensis* was described from Ponguinim, South Goa, Goa.

**Geographic Range** It is known from the forests of Ponguinim and Cotigao in Goa and Mattigattha, Uttara Kannada in Karnataka. The estimated extent of occurrence between the known localities is less than 1,000 km<sup>2</sup>. However, this is



probably an underestimate, partly due to the spatial configuration of the three known localities. This species occurs at elevations between 50 and 100 m.

**Population** This species has been reported from the vicinity of Cotigao village where it is locally abundant. It is very common in forests and near habitation.

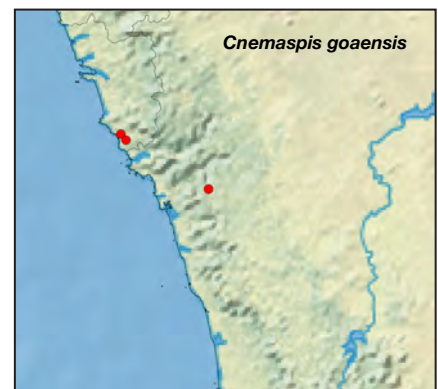
**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about its ecology except that it seems to be a humid forest dweller and its population is locally abundant. It is found commonly under rotting logs and stones, bark of trees, and on walls of habitation.

**Major Threats** Little is known about the threats to this species. However, the sites from where it is reported are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including infrastructure development like housing and roads.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from one protected area, Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary in South Goa.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis gracilis**  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Graceful Day Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis gracilis* was described based on specimens collected from Palghat Hills in Madras Presidency (presently Palakkad Hills, Kerala, India). *C. gracilis* was synonymized with *C. kandiana* previously, or sometimes as its subspecies. However, it differs from *C. kandiana* in its scalation pattern, in having the subdigital lamellae being smaller and the postmentals being usually in contact. Despite the fact that diagnostic

differences between *C. gracilis* and its congeners have been identified, there remain taxonomic problems in the *C. kandiana* complex as a whole.

**Geographic Range** It is known from the hilly regions of Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri foothills, Shevaroy Hills, Sirumalai, Sivagiri, Yelagiri, and near Bhavani River in Ooty) and Kerala (Palakkad Hills). The record from Shevaroy Hills, Eastern Ghats, in Tamil Nadu needs confirmation.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

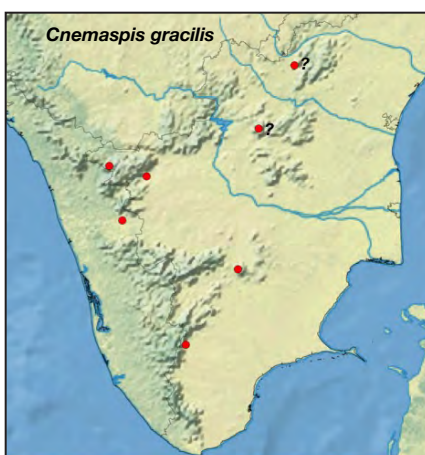
**Habitat & Ecology** It has been recorded in deciduous forests in Shevaroy Hills and evergreen forests of Western Ghats.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to tourism related infrastructure development activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Resolution of species boundaries within the *C. kandiana* complex to which this species belongs requires further investigation. Further surveys are needed to establish its existence and distribution, and also initiate actions to conserve this endemic species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis heteropholis***

Bauer, 2002

Different-scaled Day Gecko

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis heteropholis* was described from Gund, Uttara Kannada,

Karnataka.

**Geographic Range** Apart from its type locality, it is found in Agumbe and Pushpagiri in Karnataka. This species occurs at elevations between 480 and 560 m.

**Population** Breeding populations observed and documented in Agumbe, Shimoga District, Karnataka.

**Habitat & Ecology** Found in rocky areas, near streams and culverts. Breeding observed in Agumbe area of Shimoga District, Karnataka state. Juveniles, much brightly coloured than adults and observed under rocks near streams and rivulets and associated cave formations in forest areas. The type was found in “bamboo-teak jungle”. It seems to be a humid forest dweller. In Agumbe it was observed resting on a mesh fence. It forages in rock formations, on mud walls with cool shade and hollow tree buttresses. It is reported to show both diurnal and nocturnal modes.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about specific threats to this species. In Agumbe, some area of the forest has been converted for Areca nut plantations. Collection of non-timber forest produce and firewood has been observed.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Further surveys are needed to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis indica*** Gray, 1846

Nilgiri Dwarf Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis indica* was described as *Goniodactylus indicus* based on specimens collected from Madras

Presidency, now mostly in Tamil Nadu, India. The populations north and south of Palghat Gap should be re-evaluated. However, for the purposes of this assessment the known distributions are considered to represent *C. indica*. The record from Nadukani (~300 m) in Thrissur District, Kerala needs validation as it was based on a juvenile specimen from outside the known elevation range of the species.

**Geographic Range** It is known from five sites in Tamil Nadu, one site in Karnataka and three sites in Kerala in southern Western Ghats. It is known largely from high altitudes (1,000-2,200 m).

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, though it appears fairly widespread and common.

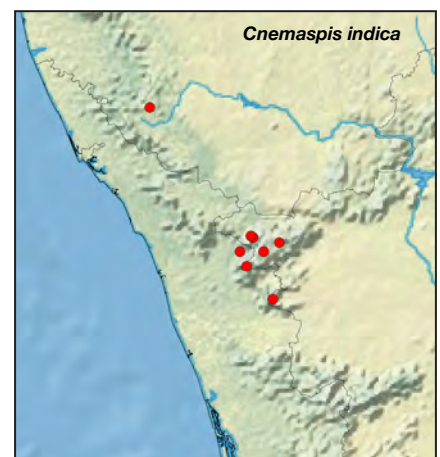
**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens of have been found in wet evergreen forests of Western Ghats. It was sighted in Sispara among rocks in the grassland of high elevation shola-grassland complex.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to tourism related infrastructure development activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from the existing protected area network as well as reserve forests. This species could be more widespread than current records indicate, hence there is a need to establish its distribution. A record from Nadukani, south of Palghat Gap in Kerala needs taxonomic re-evaluation.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### ***Cnemaspis indraneildasii***

Bauer, 2002

Gund Day Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis indraneildasii* was described from Gund, North Kanara, Karnataka. The forms belonging to *Cnemaspis kandiana* (Kelaart, 1852) (in part) from northern Western Ghats are now included under *Cnemaspis indraneildasii* Bauer, 2002. Species boundaries in the *C. kandiana* complex generally need to be critically re-evaluated.

**Geographic Range** It is known from four sites in Karnataka, one site in Tamil Nadu, two sites in Kerala and one site in Maharashtra. The southern localities, namely, Nilgiri Hills, Periyar and Nadukani, need confirmation. It occurs at elevations of 500 to 1,000 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about its population. It is reported to be common in some areas such as Anshi National Park in Karnataka.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is known from both disturbed and undisturbed tracts of forests in the Western Ghats, India. From Anshi National Park this day gecko has been reported to nest communally near stream beds in rocky areas; eggs are white to off-white in colour, translucent and longer than wide.

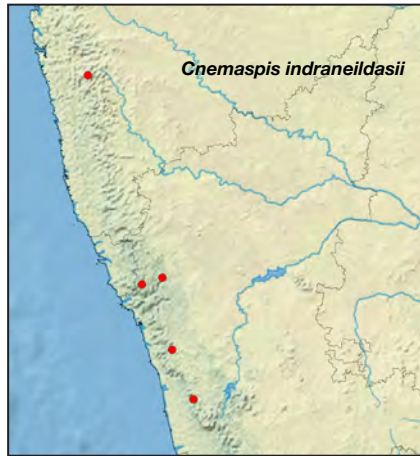
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to tourism related infrastructure development activities and agriculture and these probably impact the species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from the existing protected area network (Anshi National Park) as well as reserve forests. This species could be more continuously distributed than current records indicate hence there is a need to establish its distribution. The populations purportedly reported south

of Palghat Gap and the Nilgiris need taxonomic re-evaluation.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu



### ***Cnemaspis jerdonii* (Theobald, 1868)** Jerdon's Day Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis jerdonii* was described with no type locality. The taxon *scalpensis*, which was described from Sri Lanka and long considered a subspecies of *Cnemaspis jerdonii*, has been elevated to species level. As with the other members of the genus *Cnemaspis*, populations north and south of the Palghat Gap need taxonomic revalidation. Species boundaries in the *C. kandiana* complex generally need to be critically re-evaluated.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats where it has been recorded only from Tamil Nadu. Until recently, it was known only from historical records in the hilly forested areas of Tamil Nadu (Anaimalai, Nilgiri, Palni and Sivagiri hills). It has recently been reported from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and Benne, Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. It has an estimated maximum extent of occurrence, based on these records, of around 20,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 200 and 1,900 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about population of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology. The known localities are from wet and humid forested areas of the Western Ghats.

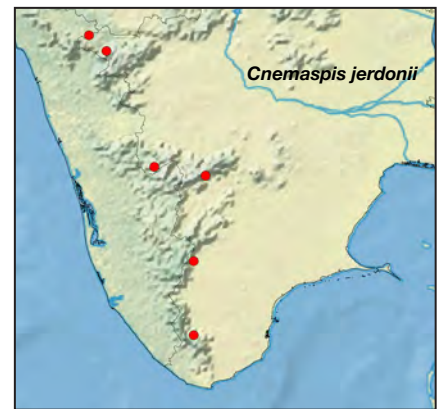
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic

activities, with much of the forest converted to plantations. The lizard's ability to tolerate this disturbance is unclear in the absence of information on its ecological requirements.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. It is likely that this species might occur in other areas, hence, there is a need to establish its distribution and to obtain information on the species' ecology. There is a need to establish whether populations north and south of the Palghat Gap are conspecific.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### ***Cnemaspis kolhapurensis*** Giri, Bauer & Gaikwad, 2009 Kolhapur Day Gecko

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis kolhapurensis* was described based on specimens collected from Kolhapur hills near Kolhapur town in Maharashtra, India.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type locality. It occurs in elevations between 720 and 750 m.

**Population** This recently described species is known from a single location and has been reported as uncommon in the area of its occurrence. Nothing else is known about its population.

**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens have been found in dry deciduous forests in Kolhapur hills in dry leaf-litter on the ground. It is a diurnal species. Nothing else is known about its habitat and ecology.

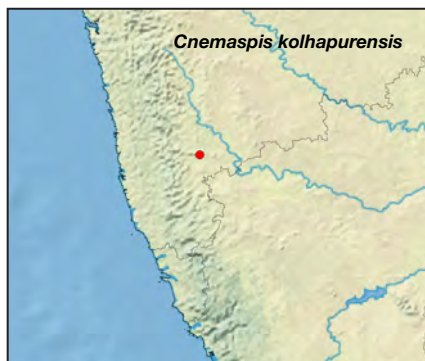
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.



**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not known from any protected areas, and clearly there is a need for improved habitat protection at the site where this species is known to occur. Further survey work is needed to determine whether or not this species is present elsewhere, and threats to its survival.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis littoralis* (Jerdon, 1854)**  
Coastal Day Gecko

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis littoralis* was described from the Malabar coast. The type was found in a warehouse and might have been imported to Malabar by human agency.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to Western Ghats, India. It is known from one site in Karnataka, five sites in Kerala and one site in Tamil Nadu. Given the uncertainty in the type locality and the widespread reports, the scattered records from a variety of habitat types and altitudes suggest that all known specimens and records (old reports and the new reports of this species from Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kumarakom in Kottayam District and Thattekad in Ernakulam District in Kerala) need to be re-evaluated. It occurs at elevations between 500 and 1,190 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from wet and humid evergreen forests to dry and moist deciduous forests. It has been observed in dry or moist leaf-litter and also on trees in dry teak forests of Nellakota. It is a diurnal species and nothing is known about its breeding biology.

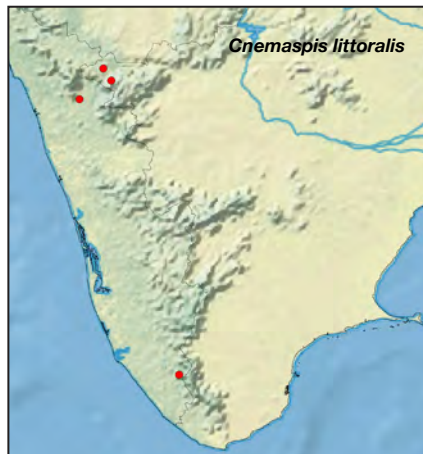
**Major Threats** Nothing is known

about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. A thorough re-evaluation of the species to establish its distribution is needed urgently.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis monticola***  
Manamendra-Arachchi, Batuwita & Pethiyagoda, 2007  
Waynaad Day Gecko

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis monticola* was first described based on type specimen from Wynaad, Kerala, India. The holotype and paratypes are syntypes of *C. tropidogaster*, a taxon now understood to be endemic to Sri Lanka. Following recent clarification of the species concept for *C. tropidogaster*, research is needed to establish its relationship to Indian taxa and to verify the validity of *C. monticola*. The three known specimens are all females and thus the diagnostically important condition of preloacal/femoral pores cannot be evaluated.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type locality. Species boundaries need to be critically re-evaluated in the light of recent taxonomic changes. It has been found at 749 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species.

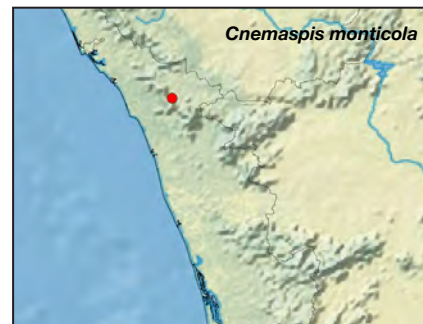
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation

measures in place for this species. Taxonomic validation of this species is recommended. Establishing its presence, distribution and population status is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis nairi***  
Inger Marx & Koshy, 1984  
Ponmudi Day Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis nairi* was described based on specimens collected from Ponmudi near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and was until recently known only from the type locality Ponmudi, near Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. There are recent sightings of this species in Cardamom Hills, Thiruvananthapuram District, Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Thiruvananthapuram District in Kerala, and Silambu Estate, Highway Mountains, Theni District and Sithanthu Kavu, Srivilliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary, Virudunagar District in Tamil Nadu. It occurs at elevations between 600 and 1,400 m.

**Population** This species is reported as uncommon in the type locality. Nothing else is known about its population.

**Habitat & Ecology** The type series has been collected in dry deciduous forests near Ponmudi, Thiruvanthapuram District, Kerala in dry leaf-litter on the ground, in tree holes in wet evergreen forests, and walls of buildings and rocks. It is a diurnal species.

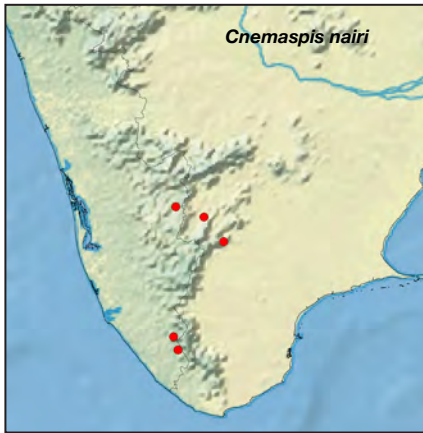
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including construction of houses and related infrastructure developments, but it is not certain if

these impact the species or not.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from two protected areas namely Peppara Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala and Sriviliputhur Grizzled Giant Squirrel Sanctuary, Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to determine whether or not this species is present elsewhere and whether construction or any other pressures on its forest habitat represent threats to its survival.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis nilagirica**  
Manamendra-Arachchi, Batuwita & Pethiyagoda, 2007  
Nilgiri Day Gecko

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis nilagirica* was described based on a female specimen from Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu, India. The holotype was formerly a syntype of *C. tropidogaster*, presently understood to be endemic to Sri Lanka. Following recent clarification of the species concept for *C. tropidogaster*, research is needed to establish its relationship to Indian taxa and to verify the validity of *C. nilagirica*.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type specimen from Nilgiri Hills. Species boundaries need to be critically re-evaluated in the light of recent taxonomic changes. The range and area of the species are unknown. It occurs at an elevation of 2,150 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species, however, the habitat characteristic of the Nilgiri Hills has

changed over the last century due to tourism related development activities.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the threats to this species. However, the type locality being close to a developing township, decline in habitat quality might have occurred.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Its occurrence, distribution and population status needs to be studied.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis ornata** (Beddome, 1870)  
Ornate Day Gecko

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis ornata* was based on specimens collected from Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu. One or more superficially similar undescribed species of *Cnemaspis* may potentially have been misidentified as *C. ornata*. Owing to this possibility the populations on both sides of Palghat Gap require taxonomic re-evaluation.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to southern Western Ghats of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It occurs at elevations between 50 and 1,400 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status, but due to pressures on its forest habitat the population is presumed to be declining.

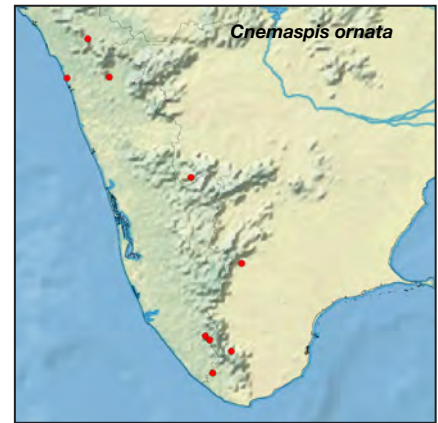
**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens have been found in reasonably well-preserved closed forests at high altitudes and a specimen was collected from underneath a rock in "dry jungles". It is a diurnal species and nothing is known about its reproductive biology.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in the quality of habitat due to activities related to infrastructure developments and tourism.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu. This species could be more continuously distributed within its range, hence, there is a need to establish its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis sisparensis**  
(Theobald, 1876)  
Sispara Day Gecko

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** The taxon *Cnemaspis anaikattiensis* from Anaikatti Hills, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu is presently synonymized with *Cnemaspis sisparensis*. The synonymization requires verification. The populations south and north of Palghat Gap require taxonomic re-evaluation.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from four sites in the Western Ghats, namely, Sholakal at Sispara Ghat southwest of Mukurthi National Park, Nilgiris, Anaikatti Hills, Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu; Kavalai, Chalakudi, Thrissur District, Palakkad, Kerala and Amarambalam Reserve Forest, Malappuram in Kerala. It occurs at elevations between 400 and 1,578 m.

**Population** The population status of this species is unknown.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is known from tropical evergreen forests to mixed dry deciduous forests. It is a fast moving diurnal species being mostly active during dawn and dusk. It has been reported to inhabit rocky streambeds in forested tracts. It is solitary in nature.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species.



However, the hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to tourism related development activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from Mukurthi National Park, Tamil Nadu, and Amarambalam Reserve Forest, a proposed wildlife sanctuary in Kerala. In other areas there is a need for improved habitat protection. Further survey work is needed to determine its complete distribution. The record of this species from south of Palghat Gap requires verification.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Cnemaspis wynadensis**

(Beddome, 1870)  
Wynad Day Gecko

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis wynadensis* was described based on specimens collected from Wayanad.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from two sites, namely from Wayanad and Silent Valley National Park, Palakkad District, Kerala. The extent of occurrence is less than 5,000 km<sup>2</sup>. There is a report from Sasthanada, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala, which may be a species closely related to *C. wynadensis*. Other reports in the southern Western Ghats include Parambikulam, Kavalai, Cochin and Thrissur need evaluation. It occurs at elevations between 1,800 and 2,500 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in tropical evergreen forests.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats. However, the hill ranges from where the species is

known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to expansion of agriculture, human habitation and tourism related activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from Silent Valley National Park, Kerala. There is clearly a need for improved habitat protection at the type locality, Wayanad, Kerala. Further survey work is needed to establish its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Geckoella albofasciatus**

(Boulenger, 1885)  
Boulenger's Indian Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species has often been confused with *G. deccanensis* and has only recently been resurrected from its synonymy. Species of *Geckoella* are sometimes allocated to the genus *Cyrtodactylus*. Molecular phylogenetic data reveal that *Geckoella* is embedded within *Cyrtodactylus*, but formal taxonomic action is pending.

**Geographic Range** This Indian gecko is endemic to the Western Ghats of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka and is restricted in distribution between 13°N and 16°N latitude. The old record from Hospet is questionable given that all the other localities are in the Western Ghats and this locality is far inland and well outside the distribution predicted by niche modeling for the species. It occurs at elevations between 40 and 1,400 m. It has an extent of occurrence of 16-18,000 km<sup>2</sup> and an area of occupancy estimated at 120-180 km<sup>2</sup> based on known sites, assuming that it occurs over a 20-30 km<sup>2</sup> area around each known locality.

**Population** It is not uncommon in most localities.

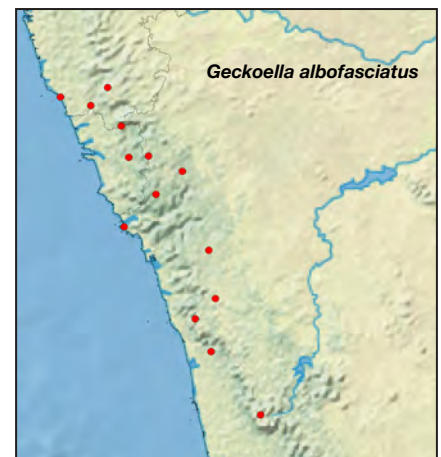
**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens have been found from tropical deciduous and semi-evergreen forest patches. A single specimen was found in high elevation grassland habitat. It is a nocturnal gecko, mostly observed on forest floor or tree bark.

**Major Threats** Although no significant threats have been so far reported for this species, decline in habitat quality due to expansion of commercial farming, mining and human settlements can be considered potential future threats.

**Use & Trade** Because of its striking pattern, this species is in the pet trade. However most demand is probably met by captive bred geckos and hence it may not be a significant threat for the species.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It is known to occur in protected areas including Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve, Sharavathi Valley, Bhagwan Mahaveer, Kudremukh and Mollem National parks, and Mookambika Wildlife Sanctuary. There is a need for survey work to determine its range and also studies on its population status, biology and ecology.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Geckoella deccanensis**

(Günther, 1864)  
Deccan Ground Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Geckoella deccanensis* was described based on specimens collected from the Deccan. This species has often been confused with *G. albofasciatus* and the latter has only recently been resurrected from its synonymy. Species of *Geckoella*

are sometimes allocated to the genus *Cyrtodactylus*. Molecular phylogenetic data reveal that *Geckoella* is embedded within *Cyrtodactylus*, but formal taxonomic action is pending.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the northern Western Ghats in Gujarat, Maharashtra and northern Karnataka (Belgaum), India and is restricted in distribution between 17.60°N and 19.60°N latitude. It occurs at elevations between 50 and 1,000 m over an area of 40-50,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** Until 2000, this gecko had been known from a very few localities. Literature reports of this species consist only of site records, and no data on population trends are available. It is common in most parts of its range.

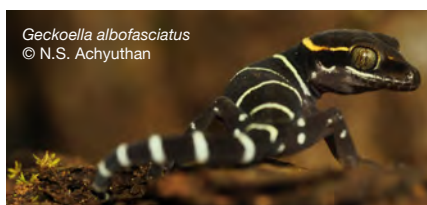
**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens have been found from tropical deciduous and semi evergreen forest patches. It is a nocturnal gecko, mostly observed on the forest floor or tree bark. In Karnataka it is recorded in altered dry deciduous forests near Belgaum City.

**Major Threats** Although no major threats have been so far reported, decline in habitat quality due to conversion of forested tracts for agriculture, pesticide use, and tourist-related development can be considered potential future threats. The species is in the pet trade, but mostly from captive bred animals, so this is not seen as a threat.

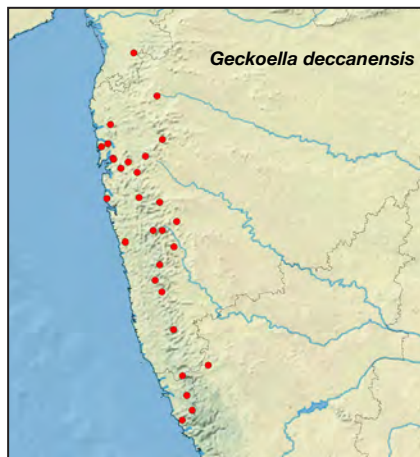
**Use & Trade** Pet trade.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known to occur in protected areas including Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Koyna Wildlife Sanctuary, Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary and Karnala Wildlife Sanctuary. The species may also be occurring in other forest that are not protected, hence there is need for survey work in the southern part of its range (Belgaum) to determine its limit and also studies on its population status, biology and ecology.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



*Geckoella albofasciatus*  
© N.S. Achyuthan



***Hemidactylus aaronbaueri***

Giri, 2008  
Bauer's Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus aaronbaueri* was described based on specimens collected from Ghatghar, Junnar Taluk, Pune District, Maharashtra, India. Specimens from within the range of *H. aaronbaueri* have previously been referred to as *H. giganteus*.

**Geographic Range** It is known from Ghatghar, Nane Ghat, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary in Pune District, and Peth Fort in Raigad District, Gorakhgad Fort in Thane District and Sudhagad in Raigad District, and Harishchandragad in Ahmednagar District. It occurs at elevations between 250 and 1,000 m.

**Population** This gecko is common in suitable microhabitats in most localities.

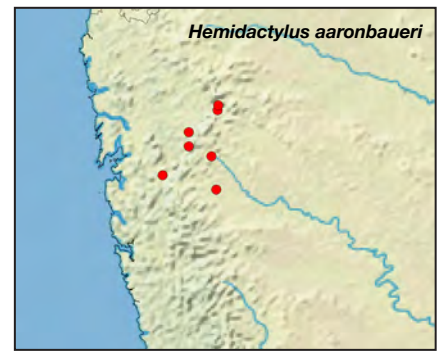
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is rupicolous and has been found on rocky outcrops 1 to 7 m above ground in forested tracts. Nocturnal and were observed actively moving on rock faces, in caves and rocky outcrops. Juveniles and adults are syntopic. The populations are highly clumped, numerous individuals are often found in close proximity to one another.

**Major Threats** There are no threats recorded.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is recorded from Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary in Maharashtra. Studies on distribution and ecology are recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus albofasciatus***

Grandison & Soman, 1963  
White-striped Viper Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus albofasciatus* was described based on specimens collected from Dorle, Rajapur taluk, Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra, India. This species was included in the genus *Teratolepis*, presumably based on the presence of enlarged scales on the tail and narrow digital lamellae. However, a recent molecular phylogenetic analysis reveals that *Teratolepis* is embedded within the tropical Asian clade of *Hemidactylus*.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from Maharashtra and has been recorded from Dorle, Dhabil-Ambere and Gavakhadi, in Ratnagiri District and from Kunakeshwar and Malvan in Sindhudurg District. It has an extent of occurrence of less than 5,000 km<sup>2</sup>, and is known from five localities, although it is thought likely to be somewhat more widespread along the coast north and south of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg. It occurs at elevations between 20 to 80 m.

**Population** These geckos are locally common in some places of the Malvan Plateau, in the coastal area of Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg districts in Maharashtra.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species is found on open, rocky crests of hills bearing few patches of scrub surrounded by semi-evergreen forested tracts.

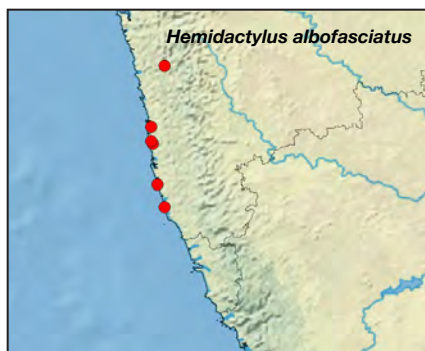
**Major Threats** The major threats to this gecko's habitat are quarrying and the collection of rocks for construction purposes, and livestock grazing. Mining is also a potential threat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It is not known from any protected areas; due to its relatively restricted range and exposure to several major threats, site protection is urgently

needed. Studies are required to clarify the distribution, ecological requirements, and population status of this gecko, and to monitor habitat trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus anamallensis***  
(Günther, 1875)  
Anamalai Hill Gecko

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus anamallensis* was described as *Gecko anamallensis* based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills, southern India, it was then placed under the genus *Hoplodactylus*. This species was then placed in a distinct genus *Dravidogecko* based on differences in the digital sensors, and in the preanal pore arrangement. However, based on studies, the taxon *Dravidogecko* has been synonymised with *Hemidactylus*. According to recent studies, *H. anamallensis* is basal to all remaining *Hemidactylus*, a finding which may warrant revalidation of *Dravidogecko* for this species.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, where it occurs both north and south of Palghat Gap. It has been recorded from Agastyamalai, Kottaimalai, Anaimalai Hills, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Munnar, Palani Hills, and from one location in Wyanad, north of the Palghat Gap. It has been found at elevations between 800 and 2,094 m. It has an estimated extent of occurrence of 12,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** This gecko is locally abundant within its range, but nothing is known about population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from evergreen forests in the hilly regions of the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It is found under rocks, on walls of tourist facilities and other buildings in forest and plantations, and under tree bark. Nothing else is known about the ecology of this species.

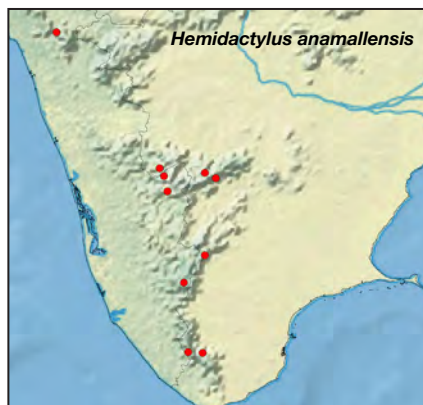
**Major Threats** It is expected that

habitat fragmentation due to conversion of forests into commercial plantations may negatively impact this lizard's population. Habitats where this lizard has been reported might have suffered degradation due to anthropogenic activities, including use of pesticides in commercial plantations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It is now known from multiple protected areas from the hilly regions of Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. It has been recorded in Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu, and Eravikulam National Park in Kerala. Further surveys are needed to establish its distribution, and also initiate actions to conserve this endemic species through awareness campaigns among the stakeholders. Research is needed to verify that the population north of the Palghat Gap is conspecific with remaining populations of *H. anamallensis*.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus prashadi***  
Smith, 1935  
Bombay Leaf-toed Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus prashadi* was described based on specimens collected from Jog in North Kanara district (presently in Shimoga District) of Karnataka, India.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats of Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa, India. Although it was first collected in 1928, and described in 1935, until the early 1990s records of this species were restricted to sites near the type locality, Jog Falls. Between 1990 and 2003, the gecko was reported

from two more sites in Maharashtra. It is now known to be widely distributed, with records from many localities in Karnataka, Maharashtra and Goa, and with an approximate distributional extent of 50,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 15 and 1,500 m.

**Population** This species is reported to be common at a number of sites within its range. Known localities are widely separated, but it is unknown whether this gecko occurs as a severely fragmented population.

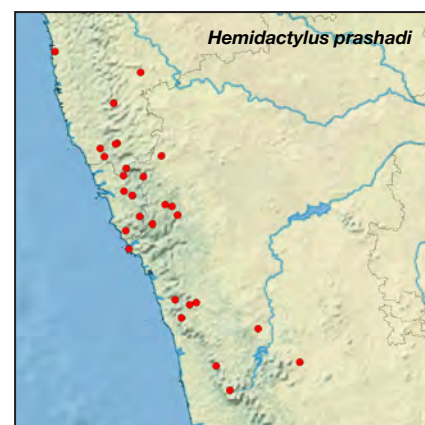
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi-evergreen forest patches. It is a nocturnal gecko and has been found to exhibit similar preferences for trees and for rocks. Juveniles have been observed from June to August. Occasionally, the species is also observed in human habitations in villages and coconut plantations.

**Major Threats** In certain localities from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including tourism related infrastructure development and stone quarrying.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It occurs in many protected areas throughout its range.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



*Hemidactylus prashadi*  
© Sanjay Sondhi

### ***Hemidactylus sataraisensis***

Giri & Bauer, 2008

Satara Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus sataraisensis* was described based on specimens collected from Chalakewadi, Satara District, Maharashtra.

**Geographic Range** It is known from only two localities in the Western Ghats, one in Chalakewadi, and from Thoseghar, Satara District, Maharashtra, with a combined area of occupancy of 10 km<sup>2</sup>. Due to their proximity and shared risk from tourism development these are considered a single location. The known sites are at 970 and 972 m.

**Population** These geckos are reasonably common during the monsoon.

No other population information is available.

**Habitat & Ecology** This is a species of open, sparsely vegetated plateaus where the predominant vegetation is moist montane forest and has been recently reported from open plateau at Thoseghar about 20 km south west of Satara. It occurs under rocks.

**Major Threats** Tourism is a potential threat. The impact of windmills, which have been set up on the plateau and represent a major tourist attraction, on the species are not understood.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place, and the gecko is not known from any protected areas. Surveys to determine this lizard's distribution and

monitoring of habitat and populations are needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### ***Gerrhopilus beddomii***

(Boulenger, 1890)

Beddome's Worm Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Gerrhopilus beddomii* was described as *Typhlops beddomei* from hills of southern India. *beddomei* is the correct spelling for the specific name of this taxon.

**Geographic Range** It is known from three sites south of Palghat Gap in the Western Ghats at altitudes of 600-950 m. There is also a doubtful record of its occurrence from Kimediy Hills, Odisha.

**Population** This species is known only from historical records, and has not been recorded since 1890.

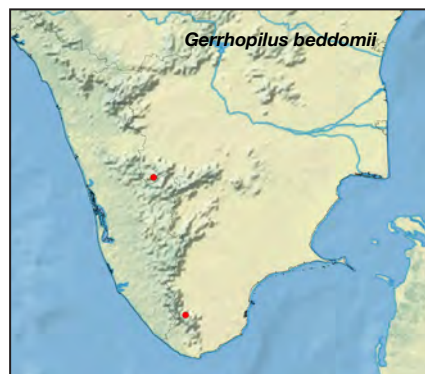
**Habitat & Ecology** The area where this species has been collected is wet evergreen forest. Nothing else is known about habitat and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is known only from three localities in the Western Ghats. Research is needed to rediscover this species, to establish its distribution, population status, ecological requirements and any threats.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu & S.R. Ganesh.



### ***Gerrhopilus tindalli* (Smith, 1943)**

Tindall's Worm Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Gerrhopilus tindalli* was described from Nilambur, Kerala.

Specimens from Nilambur were misidentified as *Typhlops thurstoni*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the southern Western Ghats, India. It is known from only Waynaad and Thrissur in Kerala.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species, which is known from only two historical records.

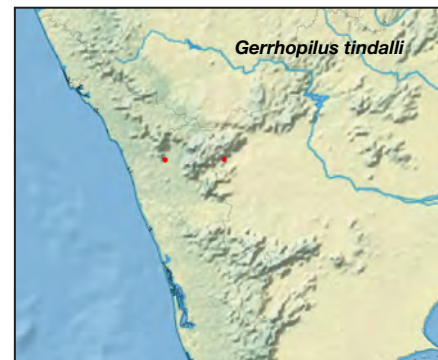
**Habitat & Ecology** The habitat where this species was collected is possibly deciduous forest. Nothing is known about the ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** As this species is known from two localities in southern Western Ghats, research is needed to establish its current distribution, ecological requirements and any threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & S.R. Ganesh.



*Gerrhopilus acutus* © N.S. Achyuthan

***Amphiesma beddomei***  
(Günther, 1875)  
Nilgiri Keelback

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Amphiesma beddomei* was described as *Spilotes vittatus* based on specimens collected from Nilgiri Hills, Western Ghats. Günther in 1864 moved it to the genus *Tropidonotus* and provided the replacement name *Tropidonotus beddomei* because *vittatus* was preoccupied in *Tropidonotus* by *Tropidonotus vittatus* Boie, 1827.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India, from south of Mahabaleshwar, Satara District, Maharashtra to Bonacaud Estate, Kerala. It is found at elevations between 60 and 1,000 m.

**Population** This species has been reported to be common from some areas where it occurs. It is reported to be common in Wayanad and Nilgiri Hills. It is common in Goa, Maharashtra and Anamalai Hills (Tamil Nadu).

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi evergreen to tropical hill forests and adjacent plantations. It is found on laterite plateaus. It is a diurnal and terrestrial snake observed near forest stream and other water bodies, and has been noted to feed on frogs and smaller toads.

**Major Threats** It is impacted in parts of its range by mining activities, and pesticide use. Some animals are killed on roads.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in a few protected areas, including Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Anamalai Tiger Reserve and Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Silent Valley National Park and Shendurny Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala, Anshi National Park and Sharavathi Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka, and Sahyadri Tiger Reserve, Maharashtra. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, J. Jose & N.U. Kulkarni.



***Amphiesma monticola***  
(Jerdon, 1853)  
Wynad Keelback

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Amphiesma monticola* was described as *Tropidonotus monticolus* based on specimens collected from Wayanad Hills, Western Ghats. The type of this species is lost.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from south of Talewadi, Belgaum District, Karnataka to Agasthyamalai Hills, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu. It is recorded from 500 to 1,300 m.

**Population** This species has been reported to be rare generally, and uncommon in Wayanad and Nilgiri Hills. In Agumbe, it appears to be a more common species. Nothing is known about its population status.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi evergreen forests in relatively undisturbed patches. It is a

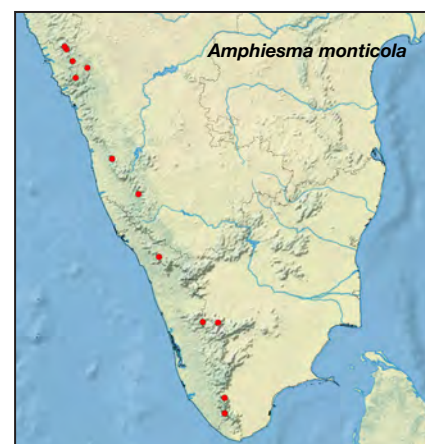
diurnal and terrestrial snake observed near forest streams and other water bodies, and has been noted to feed on frogs and smaller toads. Mating has been observed between four males and a single female.

**Major Threats** It is threatened by forest fragmentation resulting through conversion of land to agricultural and urban use.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in a few protected areas, including Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Kerala and Tamil Nadu, Periyar National Park in Kerala and Bhadra Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, & G. Shankar.



***Chalcides pentadactylus***  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Five-fingered Skink

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Chalcides pentadactylus* is known only from the type locality Kadal Undi, Beypur, in Kerala, India. As it has not been collected since its original description and the type specimen is lost, the continued presence of this species in India has been doubted, and it may represent an introduction to this coastal area. Recent surveys have not recorded this species. Due to the loss of the only known specimen the true identity and origin of this skink, and its correct generic assignment, must await the examination of fresh material.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type locality in Kerala State, at or within two metres of sea level (11°11' N 75°49' E).

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The only recorded specimen was collected on the sandy banks of a tidal river. No other details of its habitat and ecology are known.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. There is an urgent need to carry out further surveys in and near the type locality to collect new material and verify the taxonomic status of this species as well as its distribution, population status, natural history and exposure to threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Dasia subcaerulea* (Boulenger, 1891)**  
Boulenger's Dasia

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Dasia subcaerulea* was described as *Lygosoma subcaeruleum* based on a specimen collected from Bodanai-Kannur, Travancore (presently Bodinayakanur in Theni District of Tamil Nadu). Indian specimens collected were assigned to the Sri Lankan endemic *D. haliana*, and a number of additional records of this species have since been reported from India. Examined material of Indian "*D. haliana*" has recently been found to represent *D. subcaerulea* using the incorrect nomina *Dasia halianus* and *D. subcaeruleum*. In the absence of evidence to the contrary, all records of *D. haliana* from India are considered to belong instead to *D. subcaerulea*.

**Geographic Range** Until recently it was thought to be known from only two sites in the High Wavy Mountains and Bodinayakanur. Specimens recorded since 1984 have, however, been misidentified as *D. haliana*, which is known from records taken from two sites within Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary, both in the Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu, and from Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve. A recent record from Kudremukh needs to be verified. This species has an estimated extent of occurrence of 3,054 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 300 to 1,500 m.

**Population** This species is known from just two specimens collected in the High Wavy Mountains, and from "quite a number" of additional records elsewhere in Tamil Nadu. It appears not to have been recorded at all between 1949 and 1984. No information on population trends is available. Studies specifically looking for this species since 2007 have not rediscovered it in the High Wavy Mountains.

**Habitat & Ecology** The second known specimen was collected after a forest fire, indicating that the species might have occurred in forest tracts near Bodinayakannur. This site is presently characterized by tropical dry deciduous type of forest. Additional specimens have been found in reasonably well-preserved broad-leaved galley forests along the banks of rivers in Mundanthurai. It is a diurnal and arboreal species that

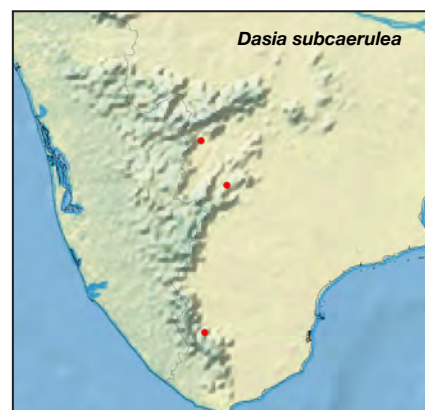
has been reported to show preference for undisturbed habitats, although one specimen from Mundanthurai was recorded in the forest department maintained dormitory.

**Major Threats** The quality of this lizard's apparent dry forest habitat has undergone drastic declines in extent and quality over the past 60 years, due to residential development, tourism and associated development. Bodinayakanur is now a human settlement. The second specimen reported was partly damaged due to a forest fire. The impacts on this species are unclear, however it has only been recorded from relatively well-preserved forest. Most of the species' known localities fall within protected areas, however declines in habitat quality have been recorded within one of these sites, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Wildlife Sanctuary, and so the extent to which protected areas benefit this species is uncertain.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It occurs in protected areas, and parts of Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve are reported to be well managed, although changes in habitat quality have been recorded within the reserve. Studies specifically looking for this species between 2007 to 2010 have not resulted in locating it in the High Wavys or in Bodinayakanur, however following recent taxonomic clarification further surveys should be conducted at known sites and in additional areas of Tamil Nadu. More information is needed on the natural history of this poorly known lizard, and its exposure and sensitivity to threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eurylepis poonaensis***  
(Sharma, 1970)  
Poona Skink

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Eurylepis poonaensis* was described as *Eumeces poonaensis* based on a specimen collected from Katraj Ghat, Poona (now Pune District), Maharashtra, India. It belongs to *Eurylepis taeniolatus* group. Further molecular work is needed to establish the relationship between this species and *E. taeniolatus*.

**Geographic Range** Until recently this species was known only from the type locality. Between 2006 and 2007, specimens were collected from Saswad, Chatursinghi and Katraj in Pune District, and from Jaijuri in Satara District increasing its known distributional extent to 1,324 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 600 and 800 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species.

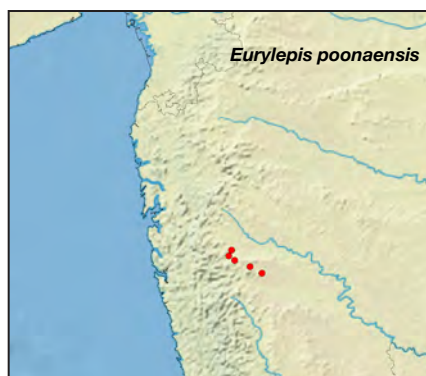
**Habitat & Ecology** This lizard occurs in grasslands and scrub jungles in the hill ranges.

**Major Threats** The hill ranges of Pune and Satara districts are under heavy pressure from rapid urbanization and tourism related development activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. As the majority of site records for this species are recent, it is likely that its distribution is still incompletely known, and thorough surveys are required to obtain additional records within Maharashtra. Research is recommended to clarify this lizard's taxonomy, natural history and responses to urbanization and tourism. Protection of grassland and scrub forest habitat within this rapidly developing area may be necessary.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis clivicola***  
Inger, Shaffer, Koshy & Bakde, 1984  
Inger's Mabuya

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Eutropis clivicola* was described based on three specimens collected from Ponmudi, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala. Following revision of the genus *Mabuya*, this taxon is presently included within *Eutropis* Fitzinger, 1843.

**Geographic Range** It is known from Ponmudi (Thiruvananthapuram District), Peechi (Thrissur District), Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary (Palghat District) and Athirapalli-Vazhachal (Thrissur District), all in Kerala. All known records were taken at elevations ranging from 260 to 350 m. The lizard has an estimated extent of occurrence of 1,897 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Members of this species have been collected on a road and on a bare patch of land in a secondary forest area, and on large rocks in open spaces in tea plantations. It occurs in lowland plantations and moist deciduous forests and has also been recorded from evergreen forests.

**Major Threats** The hill ranges from where the species is known, are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including logging, illegal mining for precious stones, conversion of forested tracts into commercial plantations and forest fires. Since the discovery of this species in 1984, the type locality Ponmudi has undergone numerous changes as it is a major tourist destination that includes laying new approach roads for the Ponmudi Hill resort and tourist centre, forest and undergrowth clearing for tourism related development activities, heavy vehicular traffic during peak tourist season.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. As *Eutropis clivicola* is known from a few



areas close to the type locality, further surveys are recommended to establish its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis gansi* Das, 1991**  
Gans' Mabuya

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Eutropis gansi* was described based on specimens collected from Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu, India. This species was assigned to the genus *Eutropis* following the revision of *Mabuya*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the southern Western Ghats in India, where it is so far known only from its type locality, two km from the junction between the Muthalar and Sengaltheri-Thalayani roads (towards Moolakasam), Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. The known site is 20 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species, which has not been recorded since its original description in 1991. The type series contains three specimens.

**Habitat & Ecology** Specimens were collected from leaf litter near the base of large trees in evergreen forest.

**Major Threats** The habitat where this species occurs is under threat due to anthropogenic activities including tourism related infrastructure development, conversion of forested tracts into plantations, grazing, collection of firewood and non-timber forest produce and use of pesticides and herbicides.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation

measures in place for this species. The lizard's presence in and around Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve needs to be verified by conducting thorough surveys to establish its distribution. Further studies with respect to the taxonomy are desirable.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Kaestlea beddomei***  
(Boulenger, 1887)  
Beddome's Ground Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Kaestlea beddomei* was described based on material from Travancore Hills. Members of this genus have been assigned to various genera and until recently were placed in the genus *Scincella*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats in India. Historical reports of this species come from between 8° and 11° latitude in Coonoor, in the Nilgiris in Tamil Nadu. Recently this species has been recorded from Agumbe rainforest, Shimoga District, Karnataka, which is approximately 300 km from its type locality. It has also been recorded from the Game Hut, Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary. The report from Agastyamalai Hills may be erroneous as there are no other records south of Palghat Gap. It occurs at elevations between 700 to 2,000 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status, though this species has been reported recently from two sites.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species prefers mid-elevation evergreen forest and is found in dense leaf litter close to perennial water sources.

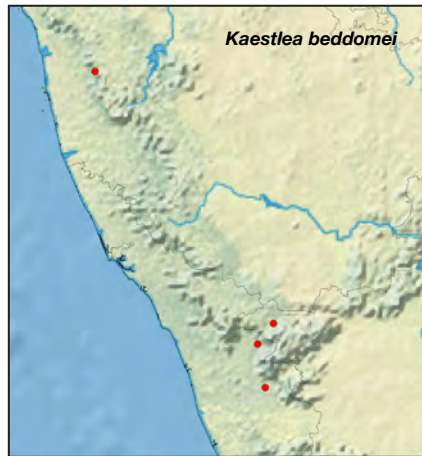
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species. Species belonging to this genus are habitat specialists found mainly from mid to high elevations, and so any anthropogenic pressures acting on its forest habitat are

likely to impact this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. Several site records are very recent, including one from Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, and further surveys are needed to understand this lizard's distribution both between and beyond the known localities.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Kaestlea bilineata***  
(Gray, 1846)  
Two-lined Ground Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Mococa bilineata* as it was originally described is based on material from the summit of Nilgiri Hills. Members of this genus have been assigned to various genera and until recently were placed in the genus *Scincella*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India. It is distributed in the southern parts of the Western Ghats. This species has been reported from Kotagiri, Coonoor, and Mukurthi in Nilgiri Hills, Nilgiri District in Tamil Nadu and has been recorded at elevations ranging from 1,700 to 2,600 m. The lizard has an estimated extent of occurrence of 4,010 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** This is a fairly common species. In grasslands it has been estimated to occur at densities of 1.5 per hectare, and at similar densities in wattle plantations.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species prefers high elevation evergreen shola forest and grassland, and is also found in tea and wattle plantations.

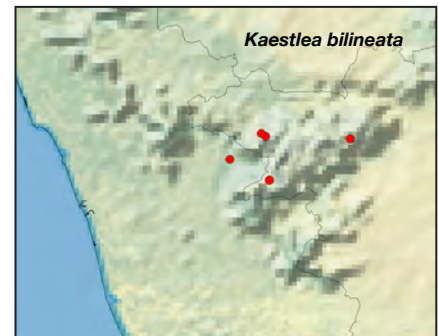
**Major Threats** Species belonging to this genus are habitat specialists found mainly from mid to high elevations, and

so any anthropogenic pressures acting on its grassland habitat are likely to impact this species. This lizard does, however, do well in plantations, with no evidence that it occurs at lower densities here than in natural habitats. In shola forests and grasslands the habitat of this species is under threat due to expansion of human settlements, tourism related development, grazing, fuelwood and fodder collection and frequent fires.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It has been reported from one protected area, Mukurthi National Park in Tamil Nadu. Further surveys are needed to understand its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Kaestlea laterimaculata***  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Side-spotted Ground Skink

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** Members of this genus have been assigned to various genera and until recently were placed in the genus *Scincella*.

**Geographic Range** It is restricted to the southern Western Ghats in India, where it has been recorded from Sivagiri Hills, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, and Vellimalai, in the states of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It has an estimated extent of occurrence of 9,197 km<sup>2</sup>, and has been recorded between 800 and 2,000 m.

**Population** This lizard is fairly common, however, it is known from only a small number of localities scattered over a wide area and the population is presumed to be severely fragmented.

**Habitat & Ecology** This skink is found among leaf litter and under rocks in high elevation shola forests.

**Major Threats** This skink is a habitat

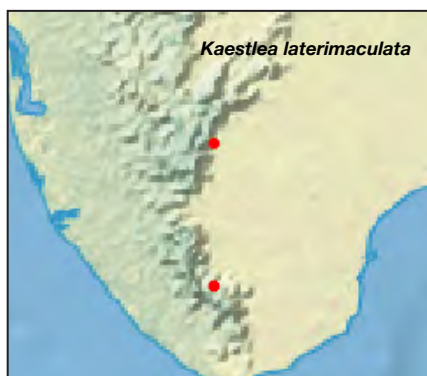


specialist found mainly from mid to high elevations, and so any anthropogenic pressures acting on its forest habitat are likely to impact this species. In certain areas the habitat of this species is under threat due to expansion of human settlements, conversion of forested tracts into commercial (tea) plantations, grazing, fuelwood and fodder collection and frequent fires.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It has been reported from one protected area, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tamil Nadu. Further surveys are needed to understand its distribution.

**Assessors** A.D. Roy, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Kaestlea palnica* (Boettger, 1892)**  
Palni Hills Ground Skink

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Kaestlea palnica* was described as *Lygosoma (Leiolopisma) travancoricum* var. *palnica* based on specimens collected from Kodaikanal, Palni Hills, Tamil Nadu. In 1935 it was accorded specific status. Members of this genus have been assigned to various genera and until recently were placed in the genus *Scincella*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats in India and is known from two sites within the Palni Hills, Tamil Nadu, including Kodaikanal. The Palni Hills have an area of 2,400 km<sup>2</sup>, and the lizard's extent of occurrence is therefore expected to be less than this if it is confined to this range. A reference to this species occurring in Coimbatore needs verification. It occurs at elevations between 2,000 and 2,500 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species, for which there are no confirmed records since its

original description.

**Habitat & Ecology** It has been found in high elevation evergreen forest.

**Major Threats** The sites from which this species has been recorded are well-known tourist destinations, and infrastructure development to support tourism has resulted in declines in shola forest at these localities. Although this species is very poorly known, other *Kaestlea* species are known to require forested or plantation habitats, and so this development is likely to threaten the persistence of the lizard at these sites.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Further surveys to understand distribution are recommended. Further research is needed to clarify this lizard's natural history and its exposure to threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Kaestlea travancorica* (Beddome, 1870)**  
Barbour's Ground Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Kaestlea travancorica* was described as *Mocoo travancorica* based on specimens collected from Travancore hills in Kerala. Members of this genus have been assigned to various genera and until recently were placed in the genus *Scincella*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to southern Western Ghats of Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is distributed in Ashambu Hills and Vanjikadavu in Kerala, Srivilliputhur hills, Annamalai hills, Palni hills, Kodaikanal, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, in Tamil Nadu, Eravikulam National Park, Vaguvarai Shola, and Pambadam Shola in Kerala. It occurs at elevations between

1,000 and 1,700 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the present day population status of this species. However it is seen to be one of the most locally abundant species of *Kaestlea* among most of the high elevations in southern Western Ghats.

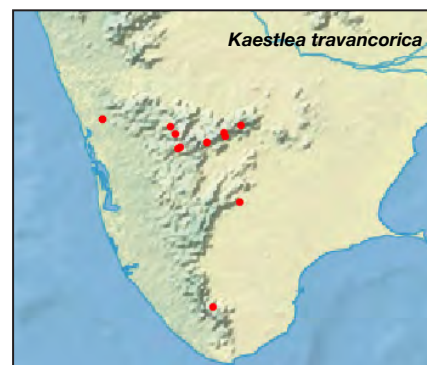
**Habitat & Ecology** Terrestrial, mostly among leaf litter, under rocks as well as in forest edges. It lives in mid to high elevation evergreen forests and montane rainforests.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species. However given the fact that species belonging to this genus are habitat specific, and are found largely in mid to high elevations anthropogenic pressures are likely to impact this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species occurs in Eravikulam National Park, Kerala. Further surveys to detect presence, distribution and understand the ecology of this species is recommended.

**Assessors** I. Das, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Lygosoma goaensis* (Sharma, 1976)**  
Goan Supple Skink

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Lygosoma goaensis* was described based on specimens collected from Goa. A recent record from a site in Maharashtra is considered to represent this species, however, taxonomic work is required to clarify this, as this record might instead represent an undescribed species.

**Geographic Range** Until recently, this species was known only from the type locality in Goa, India. Recently, it has been recorded from Amboli in Sindhudurg District, Maharashtra, also in India. It occurs at elevations between 80

and 750 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The recent record of this species from Amboli was of a specimen taken from among leaf litter, under a tile, in a relatively undisturbed patch of semi-evergreen forest.

**Major Threats** Tourism-related infrastructure development is ongoing at both known sites, and residential expansion is affecting forest habitat at Amboli. Although the known locality in Goa falls within a protected area, illegal logging and agricultural conversion occur in this area. Nothing is known about the impacts of these activities on the skink, as its habitat requirements and sensitivity to disturbance are unknown.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species' historical locality falls within Cotiago Wildlife Sanctuary in Goa. There is an urgent need for further surveys to ascertain this skink's presence in other localities and also to understand its habitat requirements, ecology and threats. There is need to understand the effects of habitat changes, if any, in the type locality and Amboli, and any other sites where this species is found to occur. Although the Amboli specimen is presently considered conspecific with the historical record, the taxonomic validity of this assignment requires confirmation.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Ristella beddomii** Boulenger, 1887  
Beddome's Cat Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ristella beddomii* was described based on specimens collected from India. However, the exact type locality within India is unknown.

**Geographic Range** This species is

endemic to India, where it is known from the Western Ghats of Kerala and Karnataka. It occurs at elevations between 400 and 1,300 m.

**Population** This species seems to be widespread throughout its distribution range and is one of the most abundant species of *Ristella*. No information on population trends is available.

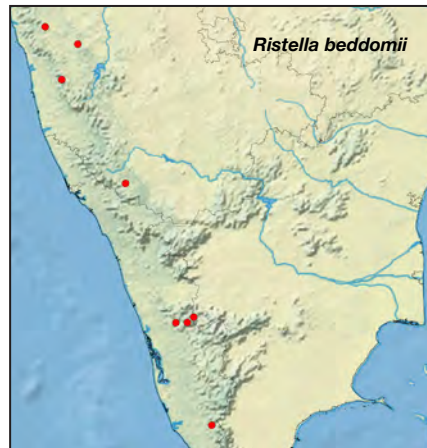
**Habitat and Ecology** Animals have been found in wet evergreen forests of the Western Ghats, where they are quite abundant among leaf litter and under rocks beside forest streams. Nothing else is known about the habitat preferences or ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats to the species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. However, studies are needed to understand its population trends, its distribution extent, habitat requirements, its ecology and biology.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Ristella guentheri** Boulenger, 1887  
Günther's Ristella

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Ristella guentheri* was described based on specimens collected from Sirimalai Hills, Madura district of British India. Records of this species from sites east of Palani (Sirimalai) may represent a different species from those from the western slopes of the Western Ghats.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and is known historically from three sites in the southern Western Ghats, India. Recently it has been reported from Rockwood contiguous

with Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala, and from the High Wavys and Ponmudi. It occurs at elevations between 1,000 and 1,800 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

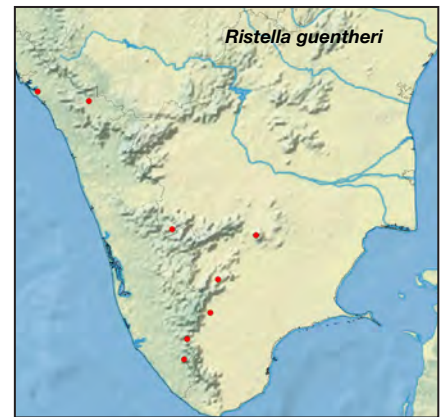
**Habitat and Ecology** Specimens have been found in moist deciduous and wet evergreen forests of the Western Ghats. Nothing else is known about the habitat preferences and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. Further surveys are needed to determine the distribution of this species, and establish its ecological requirements. Taxonomic validation of all known records of this species is needed to clarify their specific identity, as well as to establish whether records east and west of the Palani Hills are conspecific. It is known from Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Kerala.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Ristella rurkii** Gray, 1839  
Rurk's Ristella

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** The type locality of *Ristella rurkii* is not known. The holotype, which has now been lost, was labeled as being from "North India", but this is probably in error. Given the probably erroneous type locality and the lost type specimen, the validity of this species is uncertain.

**Geographic Range** *Ristella rurkii* is endemic to India and is distributed in the Anaimalai Hills, Palni Hills and Travancore Hills of the southern Western Ghats, in the states of Tamil Nadu and Kerala. This species is, however, known only from historical records and has not

been recorded since 1839.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, as no recent records exist.

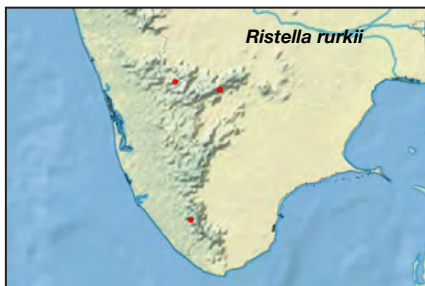
**Habitat and Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitat and ecology of this species. Forests in the Anaimalai Hills and Palni Hills are tropical moist forests at elevations above 1,000 m, and it is likely that the species occurs in this habitat type.

**Major Threats** Although no threats are known for this species, in the Palni hills, deforestation is observed due to tourism related activities mainly in the Kodaikanal region, and forest is also affected due to conversion of land for human settlements. Forests in Anaimalais are affected by hydroelectric projects and their associated canals. Forest at Agastyamalais is under threat due to hydroelectric projects, irrigations dams, rubber and tea plantations. But it is not known which, if any of these threats, impact this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Nothing is known about the population status of *Ristella rurkii*, as this species is known only from historic records. The habitat of this species is under threat due to construction of hydroelectric projects, tourism related activities and conversion of forest lands to rubber and tea plantations. Hence there is an urgent need for the management of the habitat of the species in the areas that it occurs.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu & C. Srinivasulu.



### *Ristella travancorica*

Beddome, 1870

Travancore Cat Skink

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Ristella travancorica* was described as *Ateuchosaurus travancoricus* based on specimens collected from the Western Ghats, India. It was then reallocated to *Ristella* in 1871.

**Geographic Range** This species is

endemic to Western Ghats. Until recently it was known only from Tirunelveli Hills (presently Agastyamalai Hills) in Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. It was recently recorded from Upper Manalar, close to High Wavys in Kerala. It occurs at elevations between 600 and 2,000 m.

**Population** This species is rare, and nothing is known of its population trends. Only two specimens are known from Upper Manalar.

**Habitat and Ecology** Specimens have been reported from high elevation shola forests, under rocks beside slow moving streams.

**Major Threats** The hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including conversion of forest tracts into commercial tea plantations and associated human habitation and tourism related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Further surveys are needed to establish the distribution of this species. As conversion of forested tracts into commercial plantations and establishment of human habitation is ongoing within the lizard's range, site protection is proposed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### *Sphenomorphus dussumieri*

(Duméril & Bibron, 1839)

Dussumier's Forest Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Sphenomorphus dussumieri* has been described as *Lygosoma dussumieri* in 1839 based on specimen collected from Malabar, India.

**Geographic Range** *Sphenomorphus dussumieri* is endemic to Western Ghats, India. Historically, this species has been

considered to range from Kanara to Trivandrum in India, however the validity of historical records north of Palghat Gap needs verification, as the species has not been recorded from this area in more recent surveys. This species has been recorded from a number of sites in Kerala: Thattekad Bird Sanctuary, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary, Athirapally-Vazhachal, Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary and Kulathapuzha, Kollam District. It occurs at elevations between 15 to 500 m asl.

**Population** This lizard is locally abundant within its range. It is very common in lowlands with wet evergreen vegetation to moist deciduous vegetation

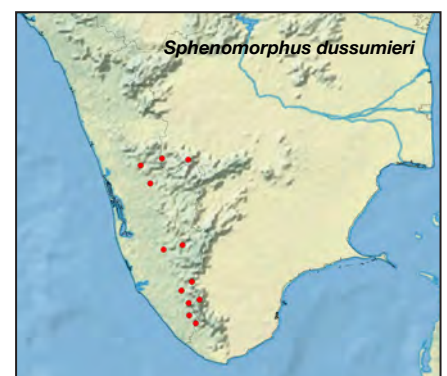
**Habitat and Ecology** This is a ground-dwelling species that inhabits both closed and open evergreen and moist deciduous forests, as well as plantation forests. It can also be found within human habitation and domestic gardens.

**Major Threats** The areas from where the species is known are facing a decline in the quality of forest habitat due to anthropogenic activities including pilgrimage, where numbers of pilgrims are sufficiently high in some areas that forest is cleared from pilgrimage routes, and tourism related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species has recently been observed in three protected areas in Kerala: Thattekad Bird Sanctuary, Neyyar Wildlife Sanctuary and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary. Further surveys are needed to clarify its current distribution trends, population ecology and biology.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



## TYPHLOPIDAE

### *Typhlops exiguus* Jan, 1864 Belgaum Worm Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Typhlops exiguus* was described with the type locality mentioned as “East Indies” = “Indes Orientales.”

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type locality Belgaum, Karnataka, India.

**Population** This species is known only from Belgaum, Karnataka. It has not been recorded since it was originally described, and there is no information regarding its present population status.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitat requirements and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is known only from the type locality in Belgaum, in India’s Western Ghats, and no recent sightings have been reported. Research is needed to rediscover this species in order to establish its current distribution, life history, ecology and the existence of any threats.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Typhlops thurstoni* Boettger, 1890 Thurston’s Worm Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Typhlops thurstoni* was first described in 1890 based on specimens collected from Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** *Typhlops thurstoni* is endemic to southern Western Ghats. It is known only from historic collections from three sites.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species.

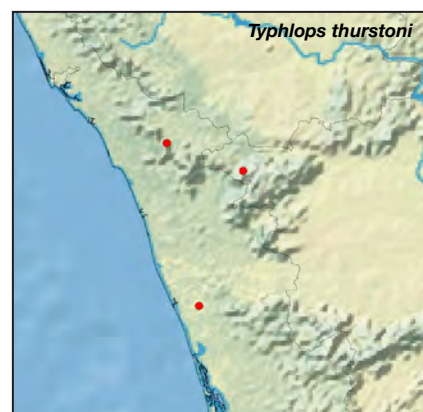
**Habitat & Ecology** The habitat where the species has been collected historically is covered with wet evergreen forests. Nothing is known about the ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about any threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** As *Typhlops thurstoni* is known from three localities in the southern Western Ghats, research is needed to rediscover it and establish its true distribution, population status, natural history and the existence of any threats.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Brachyophidium rhodogaster* Wall, 1921 Red-Bellied Shieldtail Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Brachyophidium rhodogaster* was earlier included under the genus *Terebrurus*.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from four sites including the type locality in Palni Hills, Tamil Nadu. This species occurs at elevations between 1,350 and 1,900 m.

**Population** The population status of this species is unknown. However, this species is reported to be common in some places.

**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens have been found in evergreen forests, tea plantations and sholas of Western Ghats. This species is fossorial, burrowing 1-2 m into the soil and emerging only during the rainy season. They are nocturnal in habit. They prefer hilly areas with high

elevation (usually greater than 1,500 m) and low temperature. They feed mostly on soft-bodied invertebrates. They are known to be ovoviviparous with a clutch size of 3-8 eggs however not much is known about their breeding biology.

**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species. However, road-kills have been reported.

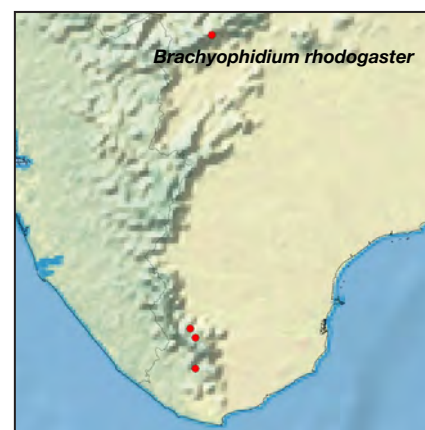
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is known from the Kalakkad Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and the adjacent hills in Kerala, India. As this species is known only from four sites, there is a need to establish the full extent of its distribution.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, M. Prabhu, R. Sreekar & M. Ramesh.



## UROPELTIDAE



### *Melanophidium bilineatum* Beddome, 1870 Two-lined Black Earth Snake

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Melanophidium bilineatum* was described based on specimens collected from Wayanad, Kerala.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from four sites in southern Western Ghats. It occurs at elevations

between 700 and 1,100 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species. Intensive surveys in Anaimalai and Agasthyamalai Hills suggest that this species is rare and recent surveys have not yielded sightings of this species despite focused efforts.

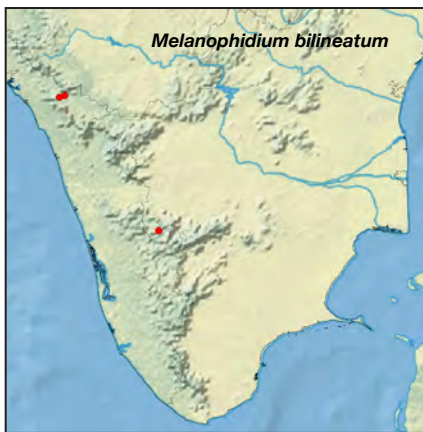
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in wet evergreen forests. It is likely to be nocturnal and fossorial.

**Major Threats** The habitat quality at the sites from where the species has been observed is declining due to tourism related developmental activities and also due to vehicular traffic.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from the Indira Gandhi National Park and Kalakad Mundunthgurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and the adjacent Wayanad hills in Kerala and also from Periya and Tirthioot peaks west of Mananthavady in Kerala, India. As this species is known only from four sites, research is needed to establish its distribution, and population size and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh.



### **Melanophidium punctatum**

Beddome, 1871

Beddome's Black Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Melanophidium punctatum* was described based on specimens collected from Muti-Kuli Vayal in Upper Kodayar, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known from several sites between

Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary and Upper Kodayar, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu. It occurs at elevations between 200 and 1,500 m.

**Population** There is no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. However, it is common in parts of its range.

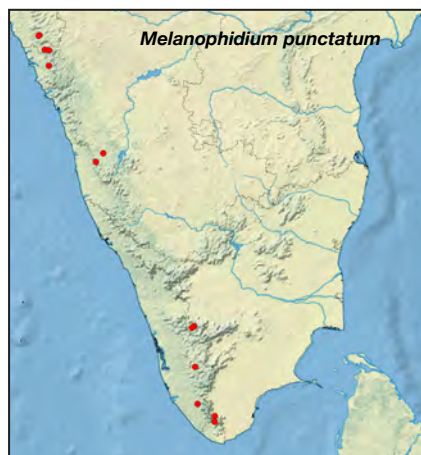
**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been encountered in leaf litter in hill forests and is known to feed on earthworms. It is also found in cattle dung piles on village fringes and areca nut plantations.

**Major Threats** In the northern portion of the range, the main threats are open cast mining and silt run off from the mines.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from several protected areas including the Indira Gandhi National Park and Kalakad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and the Mhadei National Park in Goa. Research is needed to establish distribution, and population size and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, N.U. Kulkarni, R. Sreekar & M. Prabhu.



### **Melanophidium wynaudente**

(Beddome, 1863)

Wayanad Shieldtail

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Melanophidium wynaudente* was described as *Plectrurus wynaudentis* based on specimens collected from near Mananthavaddy in Kerala.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from four sites, namely, Mananthavady in Wayanad district,

Kerala; Kudremukh National Park and Agumbe in Shimoga District, and Kodagu district in Karnataka. The species range was misreported to include Travancore, Anaimalai Hills, Telawadi, and the Goa Frontier, which happens to be the range for *Melanophidium punctatum*. It is found between 600 and 1,500 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. In Agumbe, this species is recorded to be very common during the rainy season.

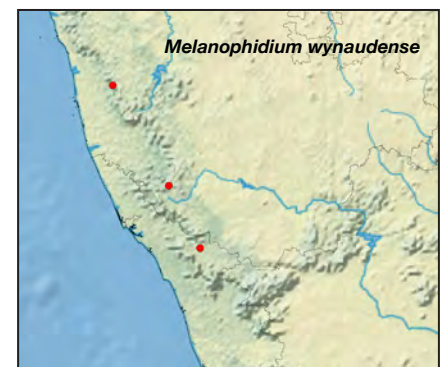
**Habitat & Ecology** This fossorial species inhabits moist soils, primarily in moist montane forests. It is also known to occur in human-disturbed agricultural environments, including plantations and paddy fields. It feeds on earthworms.

**Major Threats** The fossorial nature of this species implies that it is often able to tolerate the alteration of primary habitat to agricultural use, especially when agricultural practices maintain shade and soil moisture levels. However, it may be affected by the use of pesticides. Vehicular traffic may also have an impact on this species. The threats reported are very localized and minor.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Found in Kudremukh National Park. Research is needed to establish its distribution, population size and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, R. Sreekar & M. Prabhu.



### **Platyplectrurus madurensis**

Beddome, 1877

Travancore Hills Thorntail Snake

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Platyplectrurus madurensis* was described based on specimens

collected from Palni Hills in Tamil Nadu. Some authorities synonymized the taxon *rubanae* Deraniyagla 1954 with *Platyplectrurus madurensis*. However, recent studies treat the former species as distinct and assign it to the genus *Uropletis*. As the two taxa differ on scale counts, they cannot be treated as belonging to one species, thus retaining *Platyplectrurus madurensis* Beddome, 1877 as endemic to south India and *rubanae* Deraniyagla 1954 as endemic to southern Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** *Platyplectrurus madurensis* is endemic to the Western Ghats (India) with records from Palni Hills, Tamil Nadu and Cardamom Hills, Kerala at altitudes between 1,200 and 1,800 m above sea level. This species has been collected from Shembagnur and Nyamakad in the early 1970s and photographed in the wild recently.

The previous assessment of this species indicated that it also occurred in Sri Lanka. This occurrence has not been confirmed and it is based on a single specimen found in a collection of snakes sent by Rev. P. Abraham of St. Aloysius' College in Galle. This specimen was the basis for the description of subspecies *rubanae*. But the bottle contained specimens from both Sri Lanka and from Madras in India, hence there is some confusion as to whether or not there is a confirmed specimen of this species from Sri Lanka (there may be Sri Lankan specimens at the Natural History Museum in London). Most experts, however, believe that the species does not occur in India and that belief forms the basis of the information presented in this assessment.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is fossorial and inhabits forests and gardens. Sightings from gardens and tea plantations are from historically forested areas. It is ovoviviparous, producing four to five young in June and July.

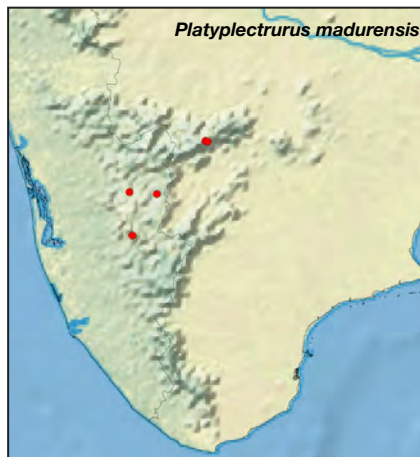
**Major Threats** Extensive deforestation and habitat loss have occurred in the areas of the historical records, likely indicating a decline in the quantity and quality of suitable habitat. Pesticide use in commercial plantations and tourism-related development activities may also negatively impact this species. The Palni Hills is a tourism spot where considerable infrastructure development has taken place and at Cardamom Hills, new commercial crop plantations have been

established.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species does not occur in any protected area. Further research is needed on the distribution, population size and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Platyplectrurus trilineatus*

(Beddome, 1867)

Lined Thorntail Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Platyplectrurus trilineatus* was described as *Plectrurus trilineatus* based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills in Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from the Anaimalai Hills and Palni Hills. Inclusion of Madras Hills, Travancore in its distribution range could be erroneous. The type specimen was collected at 1,220 m. This species is known from only three records: the type description and two pairs of individuals collected from Shembaganur in the Palni hills between 1969 and 1972.

**Population** Nothing is known about population size and trends of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Judging by historical records, this species may occur in evergreen and/or montane forests. It is a burrowing species that inhabits moist soils and litter.

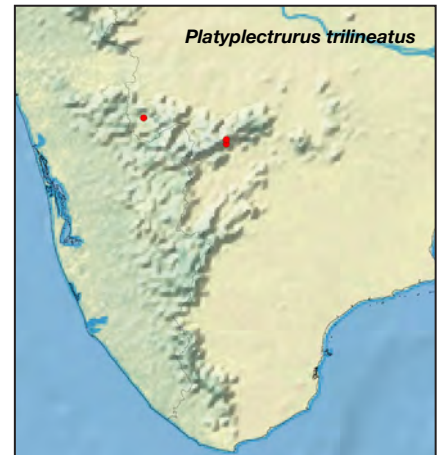
**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats, however, the forest that historically occurred at the species' known localities has undergone declines in both quality and quantity due to conversion of forested tracts into commercial

plantations of coffee and tea.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is not known to occur in protected areas. Further research is required into the distribution, population size and trends and threats for this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Plectrurus aureus* Beddome, 1880

Kerala Burrowing Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Plectrurus aureus* is known only from the type locality in Kerala, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from the type locality Chembra peak near Kalpetta, Kerala, and its vicinity. The elevation range of the hills where it was collected range between 800 and 1,500 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

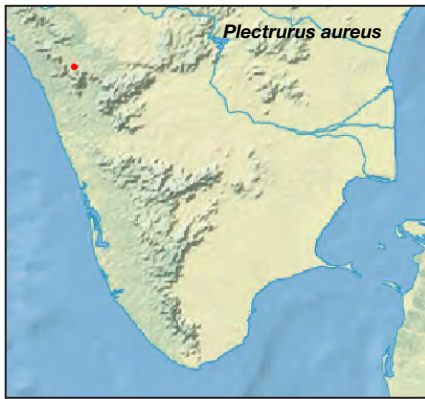
**Habitat & Ecology** Occurs in evergreen forest.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from specimens collected in the late 19th century. There is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution, and threats affecting it.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Plectrurus guentheri***  
**Beddome, 1863**  
**Günther's Burrowing Snake**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Plectrurus guentheri* was described based on specimens from Walaghat, near Sisapara Ghat, Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from two localities, Walaghat (=Sisapara Ghat), western face of the Nilgiri Hills and Coonoor in Nilgiri Hills. Recorded at an elevation of about 1,060 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The habitat where this species was collected is a wet montane shola forest. Nothing is known about the habitat and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from specimens collected in the late 19th century. There is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh.

**Geographic Range** It is known from the Nilgiri Hills in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, Kundapur, Mysore in Karnataka, and Meghamalai and Anaimalai Hills in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. This species occurs at elevations from 1,300 to 2,600 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the current population status of this species. This species is reported as being common in Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu. Collections made by Rajendran between 1971 and 1972 in the Nilgiris of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka confirmed that the species was common in this area.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is found in shola grasslands and plantations. It is a burrowing viviparous snake. Gravid females have been reported between June and August. Reports show this species to be occurring in high elevations where temperature does not exceed 20°C.

**Major Threats** Although nothing is known about the general threats to this species, the habitat from where this species is known is facing decline due to conversion of forested tracts into tea, coffee and cardamom plantations, and also due to tourism related developmental activities. As this species has been recorded from modified habitats including plantations, it is, however, unclear whether these can be considered major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is known from the protected area network including the Mukurthi National Park, Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary, and Indira Gandhi National Park in Tamil Nadu, India. There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.

***Plectrurus canaricus***  
**(Beddome, 1870)**  
**Karnataka Burrowing Snake**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Plectrurus canaricus* was described as *Silybura canarica* based on a specimen collected from Kudremukh, Karnataka.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from the type locality on top of Kudremukh Hill, Chikkamagalur district, Karnataka. The elevation range of this site is between 1,000 and 1,800 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

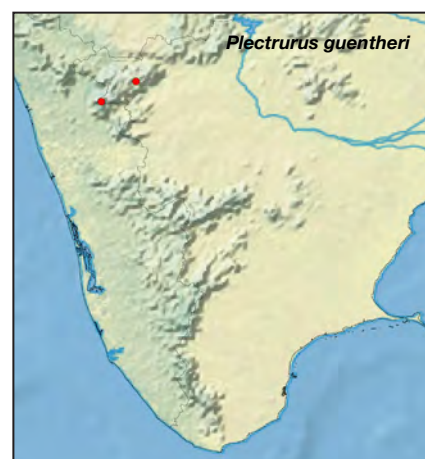
**Habitat & Ecology** The area where the species was collected is wet montane forest. Nothing is known about the habitat and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species but the type locality is within Kudremukh National park. It is known only from specimens collected in the late 19th century. There is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution.

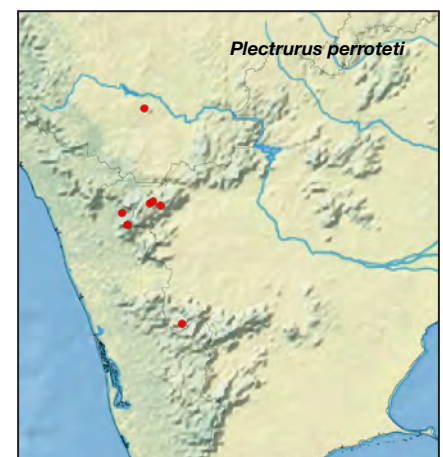
**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Plectrurus perroteti***  
**Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854**  
**Nilgiri Burrowing Snake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Plectrurus perroteti* was described based on specimens collected from the Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu. The specific epithet is misspelt as *perrotetii*.



### *Rhinophis fergusonianus*

Boulenger, 1896

Cardamom Hills Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Rhinophis fergusonianus* was described based on specimens collected from Cardamom hills, Kerala, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and is only known from the type specimen collected in the Cardamom Hills near Trivandrum in Kerala.

**Population** There are no data on population size and trends for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** There is no information on habitats and ecology for this species.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Rhinophis sanguineus*

Beddome, 1863

Salty Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Rhinophis sanguineus* was described based on specimens collected from Cherambady in Wayanad hills, Kerala, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from seven localities, between Agumbe and Agasthyamalai Hills. A recent report from Kolli Hills, Tamil Nadu needs taxonomic verification. This species occurs at elevations between 560 and 1,600 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about

the population status of this species. In the past, it was reported to be common in the Wayanad Hills, Kerala, India.

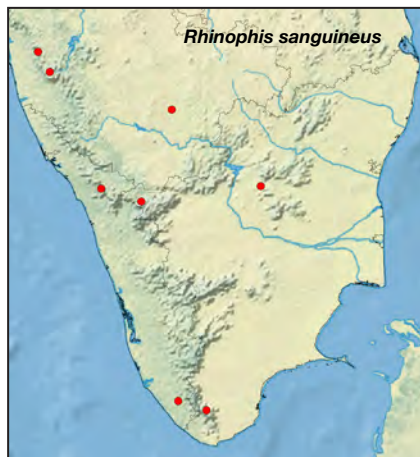
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in evergreen forest. It is a burrowing snake that feeds on earthworms. It is viviparous and gravid females have been reported between June and August.

**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. The species is known to occur in a number of protected areas including the Mukurthi National Park and the Kalakad-Mundhunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, India.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar & S.R. Ganesh.



### *Rhinophis travancoricus*

Boulenger, 1893

Travancore Earth Snake

Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Rhinophis travancoricus* was described based on specimens from Vembayam in Thiruvananthapuram district, Kerala, India. The common name Tamil Nadu Earth Snake is a misnomer, as this species has been reported from Kerala and the specific epithet 'travancoricus' refers to 'Travancore' as the region where the type locality is present. However, the erstwhile kingdom of Travancore included most of southern Kerala, the Kanyakumari district and some parts of the present day southwestern Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from three historic localities

(one each in Kottayam, Idduki, and Thiruvananthapuram districts) in Kerala, and two recent localities (Muathupuzha in Kerala, and Ambadi-Vannaparai in Tamil Nadu). It has been recorded at elevations between 0 and 1,200 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

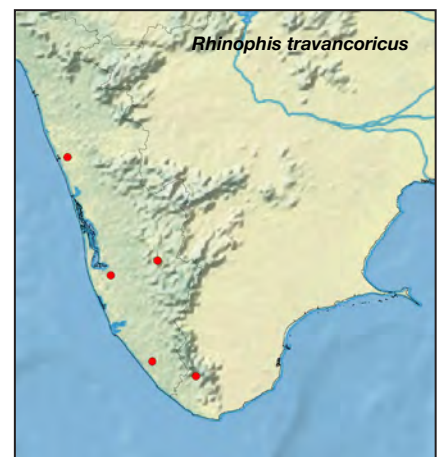
**Habitat & Ecology** This snake burrows in forested tracts and rubber plantations, in regions experiencing fairly warm climate with summer temperatures well above 20°C.

**Major Threats** The current distribution of this species is largely under cultivation. A study identified two new subpopulations in yam and rubber plantations and indicates that the species is restricted to soft soils left untouched by planters. Unlike other hardy uropeltids these were not encountered in hard soils. The current distribution of this species is largely under cultivation. It has also been reported from yam and rubber plantations and indicates that the species is restricted to soft soils.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is currently not known from any protected area, but further surveys are needed in protected areas nearby where it has been recorded (Peppara, Neyyar, Shendurney, Periyar, Idukki and Thatekkad). It is a unique example of range-restricted species with a wide altitudinal range. It is a species of soft soil and conversion of habitats for commercial plantations appears to have negatively affected this species.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar & S.R. Ganesh.





### **Teretrurus sanguineus**

(Beddome, 1867)

Purple-red Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Teretrurus sanguineus* was described as *Plectrurus sanguineus* based on specimens collected near Pollachi (as Ponachi) in Anaimalai hills, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India, including a recent locality from Anaimalai Hills. It occurs at elevations between 800 and 2,000 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. This species was found to be common in plantations. Recent field studies found the species to be locally common in forests and teak plantations, and also highlighted mortality on roads inside a protected area.

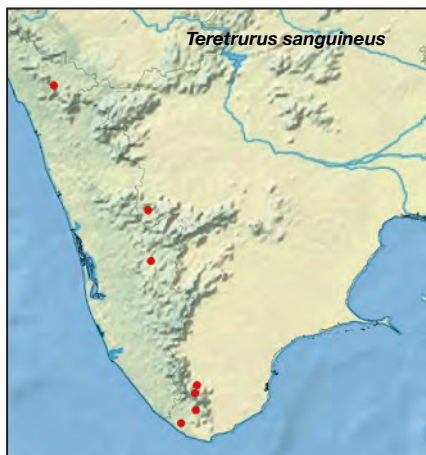
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is known to occur in wet evergreen forests and montane shola forests and is known to commonly occur in tea, cardamom and teak plantations, rural gardens and has also been collected from termite infested rotten tree-trunks containing wet soil.

**Major Threats** There are no known major threats to this species, however, vehicular traffic may pose a localized threat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known from both prime forested areas and plantations and has also been reported from Indira Gandhi National Park, Tamil Nadu.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & S.P. Vijayakumar.



### **Uropeltis arcticeps** (Günther, 1875)

Madura Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species is known from two disjunct areas, and could be two disjunct subspecies (formerly known as, *Uropeltis arcticeps* and *Uropeltis madurensis*).

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and it occurs in the Western Ghats south of Palghat gap, from sea level at Alleppey (doubtful) to about 1,500 m above sea level at Agasthyamalai Hills and to Cumbum Hills in Madurai district, Tamil. The nominate subspecies *U. a. arcticeps* is known only from Agasthyamalai Hills. The subspecies *U. a. madurensis* is known from High Wavys, Cumbum Hills, Peermade and Alleppey.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. This species is common in upper reaches in High Wavys.

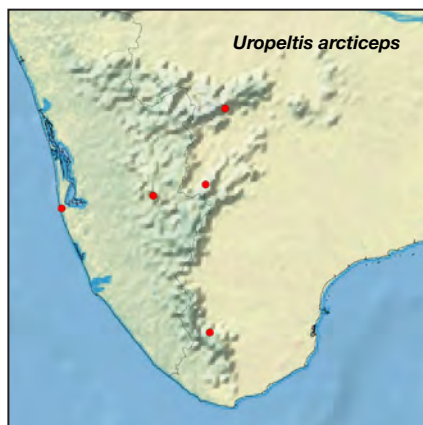
**Habitat and Ecology** This species is reported to be found in tropical evergreen forests. It has also been reported in tea gardens, coffee and cardamom plantations.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats. However, recent observations have found frequent occurrence of road-kills in tea, cardamom and coffee plantations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species occurs in Kalakad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve. Further research is required to ascertain the taxonomic status of the two subspecies.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, S.P. Vijayakumar & M. Prabhu.



### **Uropeltis beddomii** (Günther, 1862)

Beddome's Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis beddomii* was described based on specimens collected in the Anaimalai hills, Tamil Nadu, India. Sometimes the specific epithet is misspelt as “*beddomei*”.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the type locality in the Anaimalai Hills in Tamil Nadu. There are no recent sighting records of this species.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

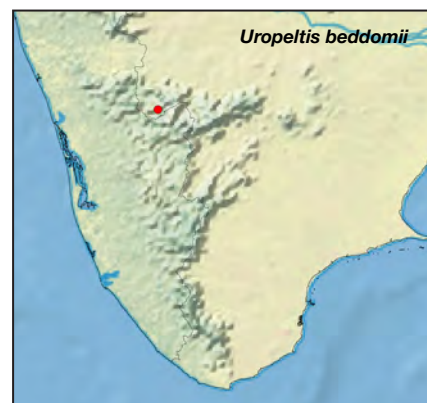
**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from a single location in the Anaimalai hills, Tamil Nadu that may or may not presently be in the protected area network. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution, and also initiate actions to conserve this rare and endemic species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh & S.P. Vijayakumar.



### **Uropeltis bicatenata** (Günther, 1864)

Bicatenate Uropeltis

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis bicatenata* was described as *Silybura bicatenata* based on specimen collected in Deccan, India. This species has been considered a junior synonym of *Uropeltis ceylanica* Cuvier, 1829 (nomen nudum), implicitly or explicitly.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the northern Western Ghats, India and is known from only two localities in Bhimashankar and Fangul Gawhan, Pune district, Maharashtra. Its known distributional extent is below 500 km<sup>2</sup>. It has also been reported from Torna Fort in Pune district, but this record needs taxonomic confirmation. It may occur between these sites where patches of suitable habitat occur, but no records exist. It occurs at elevations between 800 and 1,100 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. It is mainly found during the monsoon season.

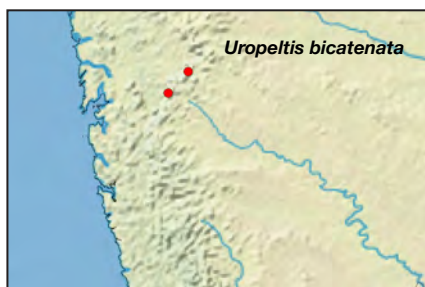
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits evergreen forests, mainly in leaf litter in areas with deep soils. It has also been seen occasionally on roads, and in and near waste heaps. It has been found very close to streams as well as under rocks and logs.

**Major Threats** The main potential threats to this species are forest fires set for non-timber forest products and collection of fuelwood for domestic use, but it is not known if these are causing any population declines.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species occurs in one protected area (Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary). Research is needed to establish its distribution, particularly since it was recently resurrected from synonymy.

**Assessors** S. Thakur, I. Agarwal & C. Srinivasulu.



### ***Uropeltis broughami***

(Beddome, 1878)

**Brougham's Earth Snake**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis broughami* was described as *Silybura broughami* based on specimens collected in the Sirumalai hills, near Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to

the Western Ghats, India and is known from the Sirumalai Hills and Palni Hills in Tamil Nadu. There are no recent sighting records of this species. The distribution given by Smith erroneously includes the Nilgiris.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

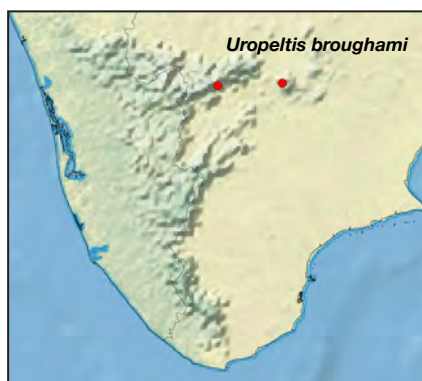
**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known only from two locations in the Palni and Sirumalai hills, Tamil Nadu that are not in the protected area network, however, they are in reserve forests. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is a need to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



### ***Uropeltis dindigalensis***

(Beddome, 1877)

**Sirumalai Hills Earth Snake**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis dindigalensis* was described as *Silybura dindigalensis* based on specimens collected in the Sirumalai hills, near Dindigul, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** *Uropeltis dindigalensis* is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known only from the Sirumalai Hills, Tamil Nadu. A recent report from High Wavy Hills needs taxonomic verification. This species occurs at elevations between 1,200 and 1,500 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species

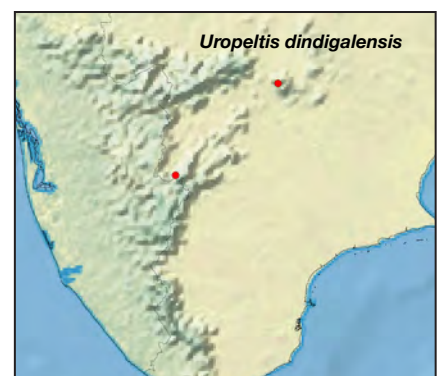
inhabits moist deciduous forests. Nineteen specimens were collected from Sirumalai Hills at 1,500 m from plantain cultivations and also from under rotting leaves, at edges of manure in abandoned graveyards; at a depth of 10 cm under ground. There was intermittent rain, the soil was loose and the temperature was 22-23° C. Three snakes were dissected; each contained 5-17 embryos in half-grown stage in right oviduct. Reports of farmers suggest young may be born in early or late June.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species. This species is currently not known from any formal protected area but is in forest reserves. It is an example of a range-restricted species with its extent of occurrence largely encompassing human modified landscapes. Though the species is speculated to be tolerant of cultivation, research is needed to establish its population trends and identify any threats. Tourism and tourism-related developmental activities in Sirumalai might pose a threat to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is known only from the Sirumalai hills, Tamil Nadu that is in reserve forests. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution, and also initiate actions to conserve this rare and endemic species. There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



### ***Uropeltis liura*** (Günther, 1875)

**Dark-bordered Earth Snake**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis liura* was first described as *Silybura liura* based on a

specimen collected from Madura Hills (=Meghamalai/High Wavy Mountains), Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known from the Meghamalai/High Wavy Mountains and Agasthyamalai/Ashambu Hills in Tamil Nadu. The latest collection of this species is from Manjolai in Kalakad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve. It occurs at elevations between 750 and 1,500 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species.

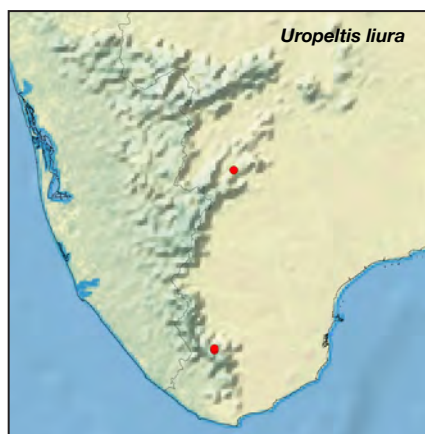
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits wet evergreen and shola forests. It has also been collected from tea gardens and cardamom plantations.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known from the Meghamalai and Thirunelveli hills in Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu that is in the Reserve Forests and from Manjolai in Kalakad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to conduct surveys to rediscover this snake and understand its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar



***Uropeltis macrolepis* (Peters, 1862)**  
Bombay Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis macrolepis* was described as *Silybura macrolepis* based on a specimen collected from unknown locality in Bombay Hills, Maharashtra, India. The publication year is erroneously reported

as 1861. Two subspecies, *U. m. macrolepis* (Peters, 1862) and *U. m. mababaleshwariensis* Chari, 1955 are recognized.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from many sites in northern Western Ghats from southern Gujarat to Raigad district in Maharashtra. Most records are from the state of Maharashtra, India. This species occurs at elevations between 10 and 1,350 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, except that it has been reported to be common in throughout its range.

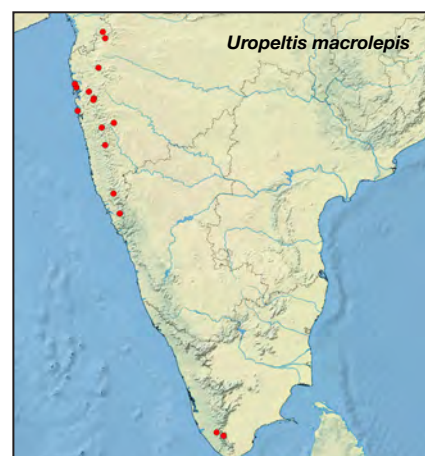
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi evergreen, evergreen and moist deciduous forests. It is a burrowing snake that feeds on earthworms. It prefers forested tracts and has been observed in leaf litter and also near streams in forests.

**Major Threats** The main threats to this species are development from tourism activities, vehicular traffic, and mining activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network including Saputara Wildlife Sanctuary (Gujarat), Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve and Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary (Maharashtra), Mollem National Park, Netravali Wildlife Sanctuary and Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary (Goa). This species could be more widespread than thought, and there is a need to determine the effect of threats on the population status. There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Giri, S. Thakur & N.U. Kulkarni.



***Uropeltis macrorhynchus***  
(Beddome, 1877)  
Anaimalai Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis macrorhynchus* was described as *Silybura macrorhyncha* based on a specimen collected from near Ponachi (=Pollachi), Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from the type locality in the Anaimalai Hills (1,200 m). There are no recent sighting records of this species.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

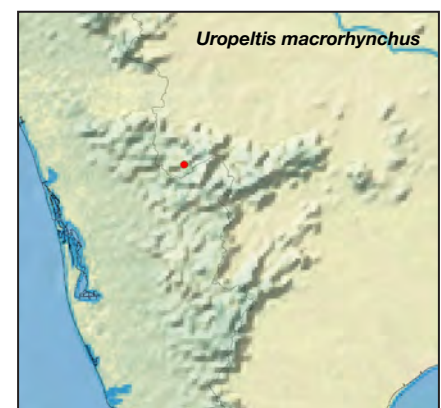
**Habitat & Ecology** It was collected in dense forest.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species, although tourism related developmental activities may pose a threat to this taxon.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from the Anaimalai hills in Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu, most of which is protected as Indira Gandhi National Park. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis maculatus***  
(Beddome, 1878)  
Spotted Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis maculatus* was described as *Silybura maculata* based on type series collected from the Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu, India. Although, the type locality has not

been assigned in original description, later Boulenger in 1893 included Anaimalai Hills as the type locality of this species.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from the Anaimalai Hills and the Travancore Hills (presently the western side of Agasthyamalaia Hills). It occurs at elevations between 1,800 and 2,000 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

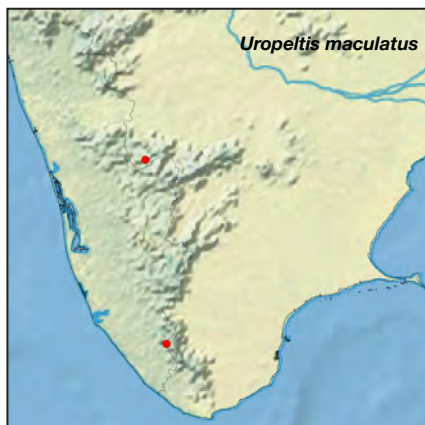
**Habitat & Ecology** It was collected in dense forest in the Anaimalai Hills, in plantations in Munnar, and in montane shola grassland in Grass Hills National Park.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species although tourism developments may pose a threat to the species.

**Use & Threat** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from the Anaimalai and Agasthyamalai hills in Western Ghats in Tamil Nadu and Kerala, which are parts of the protected area network. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, M. Ramesh, S.P. Vijayakumar & M. Prabhu.



***Uropeltis myhendrae***  
(Beddome, 1886)  
Barred Sheildtail

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis myhendrae* was described as *Silybura nilgherriensis* var. *myhendrae* based on type series collected from the Myhendra mountain (=Mahendragiri), Tirunelveli district,

Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** *Uropeltis myhendrae* is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and was known from the *Myhendra* (=Mahendra) mountains, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. The historical inclusion of Trevandrum (=Thiruvananthapuram) as a locality where the species occurs is doubted as the young specimen was purchased, not collected. The origin of this specimen cannot be traced. Nilgiris was included as one of the localities, which is attributed to the nomen *nilgherriensis* under which *myhendrae* was included as a variety. Other localities cited under *nilgherriensis* are inapplicable to *myhendrae*. There is a record from Bonnacord estate, 35 miles northeast of Trivandrum at 960 m asl. This is a part of the Western Ghats on the Kerala side far from Mahendragiri.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

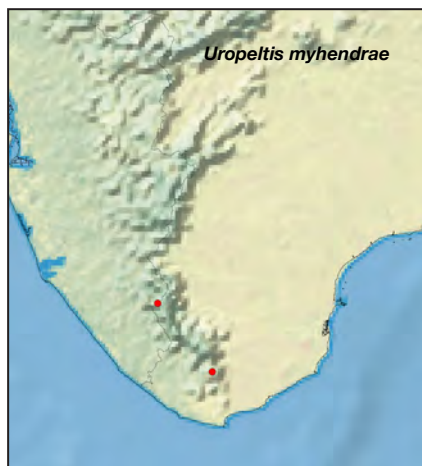
**Habitat & Ecology** It was collected in wet evergreen to montane forests of Mahendra and Agasthyamalai Hills. The snakes were hardy and active. They tried to escape when caught and attempted to dig vigorously even in gravelly soil.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species. The pristine forested habitat at Bonnacaud Estate has been converted into intensive plantations and has undergone change due to tourism-related development activities.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Research is needed to determine its distribution and population status. Site protection is also needed for this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis nitidus* (Beddome, 1878)**  
Southern Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis nitidus* was described as *Silybura nitida* based on type series collected from the Western side of the Anaimalai Hills near Nelliampathy, Palakkad district, Kerala, India.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from the Nelliampathy in Anaimalai Hills (at 1,300 m), Palakkad district, Kerala. There are no recent sighting records of this species.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species. However, many parts of Neliampathy Hills are covered by tea, coffee, cardamom and orange plantations, and tourism-related developmental activities are also being carried out. It is unknown whether these represent major threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known only from the Nelliampathy area in Western Ghats in Palakkad District, Kerala, which is a reserve forest tract and is presently a famous tourism spot. As this species has not been reported in the recent past, there is an urgent need to establish its existence and distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis ocellatus***  
(Beddome, 1863)  
Nilgiri Uropeltis

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis ocellatus* was described as *Silybura ocellata* based on specimens collected from the Walaghat, Nilgiri Hills Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats south of Nilgiri Hills. This species is found between 600 and 2,000 m. There is a doubtful record of this species in the Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, in Madhya Pradesh.

**Population** This species is fairly common throughout its range.

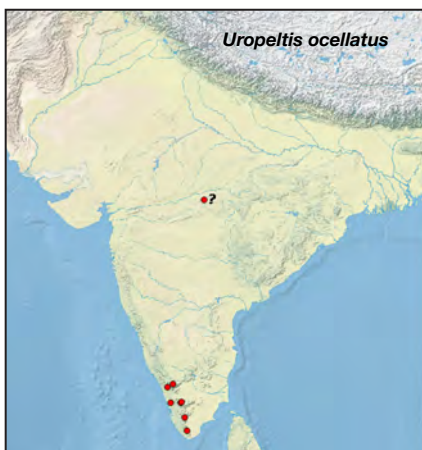
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moist soft soils of dense moist forests. This snake burrows in loose earth and is found in the soil or under stones and logs in the forest. It eats almost exclusively earthworms. This species is ovoviviparous and gravid females have been collected in July.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats. The fossorial nature of this species means it is often able to tolerate the alteration of primary to agricultural habitat, especially when agricultural practices maintain shade and soil moisture levels.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species, however, in places its distribution coincides with protected areas.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan, S.P. Vijayakumar & D.J. Gower.



***Uropeltis petersi*** (Beddome, 1878)  
Peters' Earth Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis petersi* was described as *Silybura petersi* based on type specimens collected from the Anaimalai Hills Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is only known from an imprecise locality within the Anaimalai Hills of Tamil Nadu. The hills range from 1,200 to 1,500 m above sea level, but there is no information on the elevational range of the snake itself.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species.

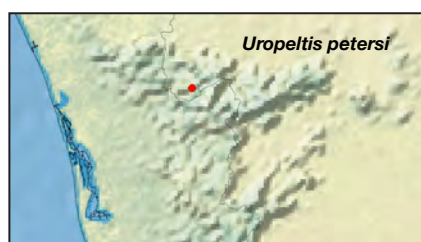
**Habitat & Ecology** In common with other members of the genus *Uropeltis*, this is presumed to be a burrowing species that inhabits moist soils (based on the general area where it was recorded historically, primarily in moist montane evergreen forests), but no information on this snake's ecology is available.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats, as both its distribution and ability to tolerate forest loss are essentially unknown. Large-scale conversion of forested tracts into commercial tea plantations is ongoing within the Anaimalai Hills. In certain areas the development of tourist infrastructure also places pressure on native forests, however, due to uncertainty over the precise location of the type locality it is not possible to determine whether this is likely to represent a threat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. The area where this species was collected is a protected area. Further research is needed to rediscover this species and obtain data on its distribution, population status, natural history and threats.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, V. Giri, N.U. Kulkarni & S. Thakur.



***Uropeltis phipsonii*** (Mason, 1888)  
Phipson's Earth Snake

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis phipsonii* was described as *Silybura phipsonii* based on type series collected from the Bombay Ghats between Bombay (=Mumbai) and Pune, Maharashtra, India. The specific epithet is sometimes erroneously listed as '*phipson?*'. This species has been earlier treated as a synonym of *Uropeltis rubrolineatus* (Günther, 1875) and later revalidated.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from Bombay Ghats between Bombay (=Mumbai) and Goa, and to the south up to the Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu. However, there are no clear locality records. Boulenger lists Bombay and Deccan (present day Ghats between Mumbai and Pune) in the present day Maharashtra, and North Canara and Biligirirangans in the present day Karnataka. This species has also been reported from Belgaum, Dharwar and Mysore in Karnataka and the Nilgiris, Anaimalai Hills and Kanyakumari district. Its distribution is restricted to hills of Bombay (=Mumbai) and Pune (=Poona) and other records need reconfirmation. Given this uncertainty the snake's extent of occurrence is unclear, but is provisionally considered to be around 16-18,000 km<sup>2</sup>. This species occurs at elevations between 400 and 700 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** *Uropeltis phipsonii* has been collected from hilly forested tracts. Recent records are from semi evergreen forests near Pune.

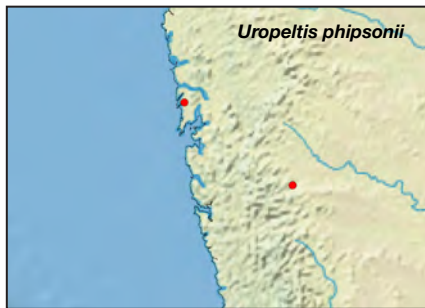
**Major Threats** This region where the species occurs is under pressure due to increasing tourism. There is a continuous decline in the quality of habitat from deforestation due to conversion into agriculture and, around Mumbai, from urban development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species does not occur in any protected area. This species is known only from the hills between Mumbai and Poona in the Western Ghats in Maharashtra. As the reports of its occurrence from other areas south of Poona needs confirmation

of species identity, there is an urgent need to study its distribution, and population trends.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, V. Giri, & S. Thakur.



***Uropeltis pulneyensis***  
(Beddome, 1863)  
Indian Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis pulneyensis* was described as *Plectrurus pulneyensis* based on specimens collected from the Palni Hills, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from Palni Hills, High Wavy Hills, Alagar Hills, Sennimalai Hills, Munnar and Travancore Hills. It occurs at elevations between 1,500 and 2,400 m.

**Population** Although this species has been reported to be common in Palni hills and at higher elevations in past, nothing is known about the present day population trends of this species, but it is presumed to be stable.

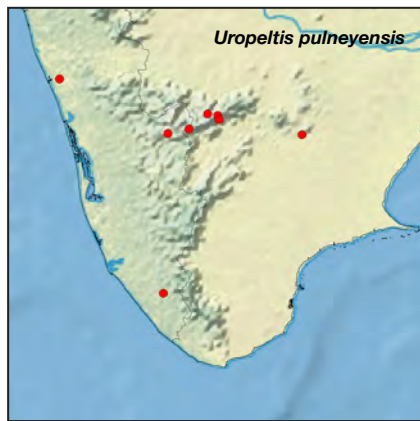
**Habitat & Ecology** This is a fossorial species that inhabits moist soils and is primarily found in moist montane evergreen forests. It has been encountered on the road sides, in gardens, and under rocks during wet weather. This species has been recently recorded as road-kill in tea and wattle plantations.

**Major Threats** There are no known specific threats for this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It does not occur in any protected area. Further research is required to determine its distribution, population status and the threats that this species faces.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh, S.R. Ganesh, & M. Madala.



***Uropeltis rubrolineatus***  
(Günther, 1875)  
Red-lined Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis rubrolineatus* was described as *Silybura rubrolineata* based on type series collected from the Western side of the Anaimalai Hills near Nelliampathy, Palakkad district, Kerala, India and Tirunelveli Hills (probably the present day Agasthyamalai Hills), Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. By lectotype designation the type locality has been restricted to Tirunelveli Hills, Tamil Nadu. *Uropeltis phipsonii* (Mason, 1888) was treated as a synonym of this species.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known from the south of Thana, Maharashtra to Marthandam, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu. This species occurs at elevations between 400 and 1,500 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

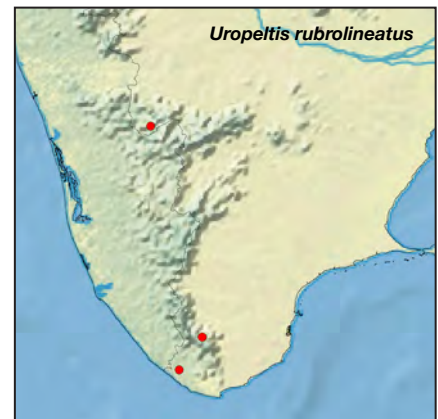
**Habitat & Ecology** This is a fossorial species that inhabits moist soils and is primarily found in moist montane and semi evergreen forests. This species was also collected from a coconut plantation.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species has been reported from Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary, Maharashtra, and locations falling in Kalakkad-Mundhunthurai Tiger Reserve and Indira Gandhi National Park, Tamil Nadu. Further research is required to determine its distribution, population status and the threats that this species faces.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis rubromaculatus***  
(Beddome, 1867)  
Red-spotted Earth Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis rubromaculatus* was first described as *Silybura rubromaculata* based on specimens collected from the Anaimalai Hills, Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from Koppa, Karnataka and the Anaimalai Hills, Nilgiri Hills and Meghamalai. It occurs at altitudes between 600 and 1,800 m. Recent records are from Munnar, Kerala where specimens were collected in a plantation.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species, but past observations reported that it is common in plantations.

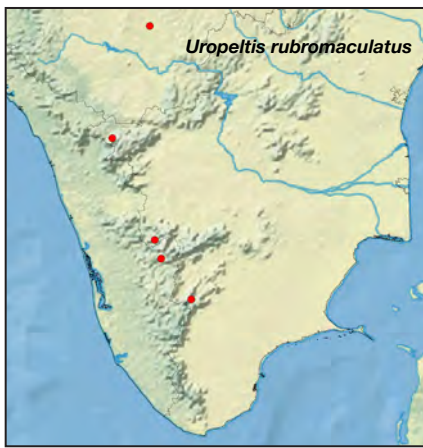
**Habitat & Ecology** It inhabits wet evergreen forests and is assumed to occur in montane shola forests and grasslands. It has been reported from plantations, cow dung pits, gutters, drains, and on roads. This fossorial species inhabits moist soils.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. A few sites where this species has been recorded from are within protected areas. Further research into population numbers and threats of this species are needed in order to establish whether the threats present in its restricted range are significantly affecting this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis smithi* Gans, 1966**  
**Smith's Earth Snake**

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** This is a replacement name for *Uropeltis grandis*.

**Geographic Range** This species is known only from Top Slip in the Anaimalai Hills. It is found between 1,200 and 1,400 m.

**Population** There is no population information available for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This fossorial species inhabits moist soils, and is primarily found in montane evergreen forests.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats. The known locality is a tourist site within a protected area, and it is not known whether tourism-related development poses a threat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are

no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species has been reported from Indira Gandhi National Park, Anaimalai Hills, Tamil Nadu. Further research into the population status of and threats to this species are needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.



***Uropeltis woodmasoni***  
**(Theobald, 1876)**

**Woodmason's Earth Snake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** There are doubts that this species is not distinct from *Uropeltis smithi* Gans, 1966.

**Geographic Range** *Uropeltis woodmasoni* is endemic to the Western Ghats of India and it has been recorded in the Anaimalai, Palani, Meghamalai, Nilgiri and Ashambu Hills (earlier as parts of Tinnevely Hills). This species occurs in the Palni Hills at altitudes greater than 1,860 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for

this species. It has been reported as common in Palani Hills.

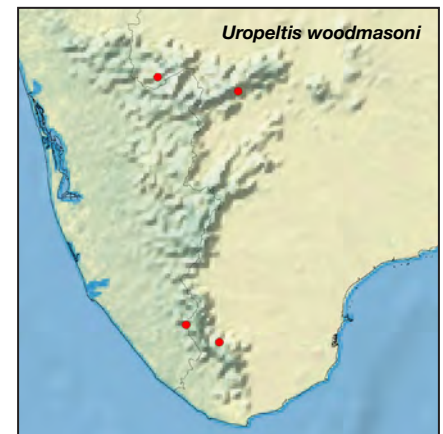
**Habitat & Ecology** This fossorial species inhabits moist soils, was primarily reported to be found in montane shola forests.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted by any major threats. However, tourism related developmental activities in certain parts of its range may pose a threat to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Although the range of this species includes many protected areas, it has yet to be recorded from any of these. Research is needed into taxonomy, population trends and threats of this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan, S.P. Vijayakumar & M. Prabhu



**VIPERIDAE**

***Peltopelor macrolepis***  
**(Beddome, 1862)**  
**Large-scaled Pit Viper**

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Peltopelor macrolepis* was described as *Trimeresurus macrolepis* based on specimens collected from Anaimalai Hills in Western Ghats. The genus *Peltopelor* Günther, 1864 was resurrected for the species *macrolepis*, as it is diagnosed by a combination of a long calyculate hemipenis and enlarged head scales.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known only in the Western Ghats from the Nilgiri Hills to Ashambu and Agasthyamalai Hills in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is found at elevations between 610 and 2,400 m.

**Population** This species has been reported to be uncommon in some areas, but appears to be common in plantations. It occurs in densities of one individual per 2 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi evergreen hill forest and shola patches. It is reported to be common in commercial plantations including tea, cardamom and coffee. It is a nocturnal and mostly arboreal and has been noted to feed on small rodents, birds and frogs which it catches by ambush. It has been reported to cause many bites to humans working in tea and cardamom plantations.

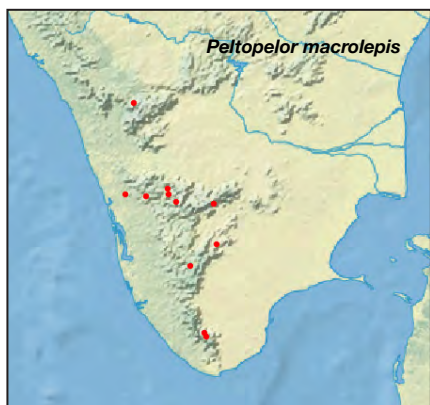
**Major Threats** It is one of the most frequently encountered roadkill species

in the Anaimalai Hills. People kill it when it is encountered.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range it occurs in many protected areas including Anaimalai Tiger Reserve and Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Eravikulam National Park in Kerala. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, G. Shankar & A. Das.



**Trimeresurus malabaricus**  
(Jerdon, 1854)  
Malabar Pit Viper

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Trimeresurus malabaricus* was described as *Trigonocephalus malabaricus* based on specimens collected from different localities in Western Ghats. *Coluber gramineus* has long been considered the type species of the taxonomically complex genus *Trimeresurus*, as the original type species has long been considered a synonym. Investigation of this assignment indicated that this was incorrect and that *T. viridis* (a combination that hasn't been used to describe a valid species since its original description in 1861), is instead a junior synonym of the Timorese species *T. insularis*. This recognition alters the generic identity of several taxa within the *Trimeresurus* genus complex, including *T. malabaricus*, therefore *T. malabaricus* is assigned to *Craspedocephalus* (treated as a subgenus but more commonly as a full genus). This taxonomy does not, to date, appear to have gained broad acceptance, and this account retains *T. malabaricus* within *Trimeresurus*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known only from south of Phansad Wildlife

Sanctuary, Maharashtra to Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. It is found at elevations of 100 to 2,134 m.

**Population** This species has been reported to be common from areas where it occurs. It has been recorded at a density of three individuals per hectare.

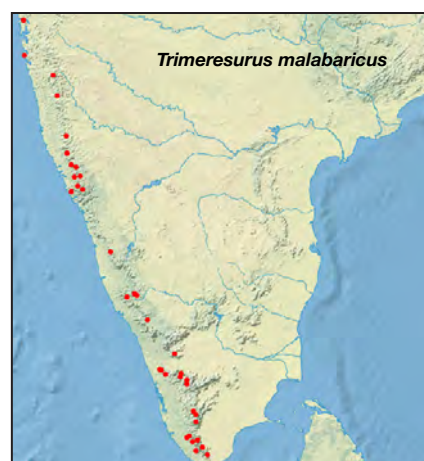
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in evergreen, semi evergreen hill forest and shola patches. It is also found in plantations (such as cardamom, banana, pepper, areca nut, teak and rubber). It can be found near human habitations (such as in sheds). It is nocturnal and semi arboreal and probably a terrestrial snake and has been noted to feed on small rodents, frogs, geckos, skinks and smaller snakes.

**Major Threats** It may be locally threatened by loss of forest habitats (through conversion of land to agricultural or urban use), however, it is adaptable and can occur in modified habitats.

**Use & Trade** The species is traded or used..

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Within its range it occurs in many protected areas, including Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Sahyadri Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra, Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary in Goa, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Anamalai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Eravikulam National Park and Parambikulam National Park in Kerala. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar, S. Thakur, N.U. Kulkarni & J. Jose.



**Trimeresurus strigatus**  
Gray, 1842  
Horseshoe Viper

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Trimeresurus strigatus* was described based on specimens collected from Madras Presidency. The generic assignment of this unusual species is in need of clarification: This species was included under the genus *Protobothrops*, which was later shifted to the genus *Trimeresurus sensu stricto*. This has generally been followed since (although a recent taxonomic arrangement reassigns all species in *Trimeresurus sensu stricto* to *Craspedocephalus*. *Craspedocephalus* is identical to the accepted concept of *Trimeresurus s.s.*, and explicitly includes *T. strigatus*). No genetic data is available, however, and both hypotheses regarding this species' generic assignment should be considered provisional.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Nilgiri Hills in the southern Western Ghats, India. It has been recorded between 1,100 and 2,400 m. Reports from the Bombay Ghats (also referred to as Deccan), Poona District, Maharashtra are not included in the distribution due to the lack of specimen-based records to confirm its occurrence in this area. Historical records from Shevroy Hills, Anamalai Hills and Ashambu Hills also need confirmation.

**Population** This species has been reported to be common in the Nilgiri Hills.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in semi-evergreen hill forest, shola patches and grasslands. It has been recorded from disturbed habitats. It is a nocturnal and probably terrestrial snake and has been noted to feed on small rodents, frogs and smaller snakes. Young snakes are seen





in August to September; it is not clear whether reproduction is oviparous or viviparous.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this species. It has been found in disturbed habitats.

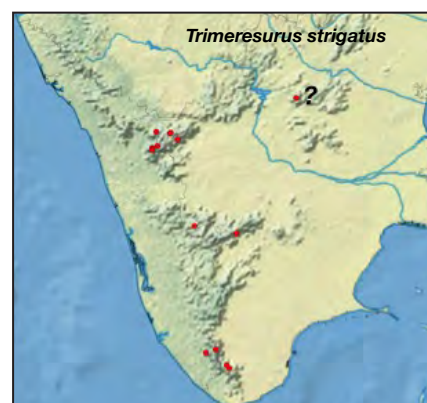
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Within its range, it occurs in Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve and has been reported from two protected areas, namely, Mukurthi National Park, The Nilgiris District, Tamil Nadu; Silent Valley National Park, Kerala. Further survey work is needed

to clarify its range, and understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.



**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, V. Deepak & N.S. Achyuthan.



***Xylophis captaini***  
Gower & Winkler, 2007  
Captain's Wood Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Xylophis captaini* was described from specimens previously assigned to *Xylophis stenorhynchus*.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known only in the southern Western Ghats from south of Kottayam, Kerala to Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. This species has been recorded from Ambadi estate, in Vannathipparai, Kanyakumari district, Tamil Nadu state and a road-killed specimen was recently sighted in Ponmudi foothills, Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala state. It has an affinity for low-elevation forested tracts. It has been found from sea level to 300 m.

**Population** This species is reported to be common.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in low-elevation shady plantations and disturbed habitats in the Western Ghats. It is a nocturnal and burrowing snake. It has been dug out from soil about 10 cm deep, and was also collected from leaf litter and humus. Only two of the known sites lie in evergreen forest. It mainly feeds on earthworms and possibly breeds in August.

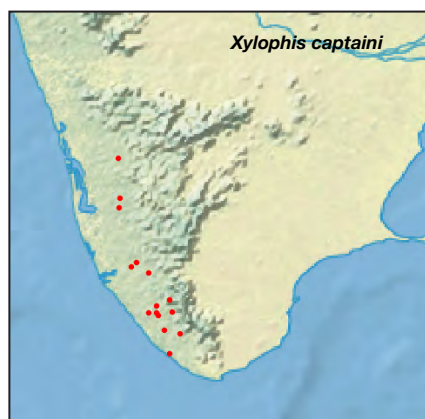
**Major Threats** Although it has a rather restricted range, there appear to be no threats to this adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. In its range it occurs in Agasthyamalai

Biosphere Reserve in Kerala and Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to better understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak & S. Thakur.



***Xylophis perroteti***  
(Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)  
Perrotet's Mountain Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Xylophis perroteti* was described as *Platypteryx perroteti* from the Western Ghats based on specimens from Nilgiri Hills, Tamil Nadu. This species is superficially the most distinctive species in the genus, having 13 as opposed to 15 scale rows and being much larger. It is suggested that a reassessment of the taxonomic status of *X. perroteti* is required.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats of India and is known from the Nilgiri Hills, the adjacent Wayanad Hills from Kerala and Palani

hills in Tamil Nadu. It has recently been recorded from Ooty and Kotagiri, both in the Nilgiri Hills. It has been recorded between 1,500 and 2,380 m.

**Population** This snake is restricted to high ranges and has been reported to be common. It is the best-known *Xylophis* species in terms of numbers of specimens.

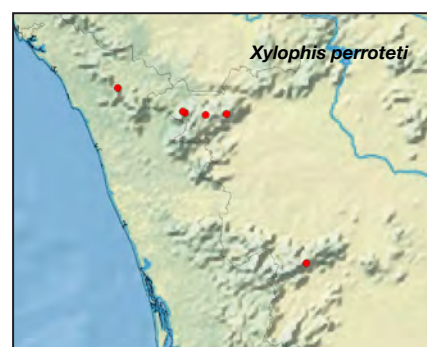
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in high elevation evergreen and shola forest patches in the Western Ghats. It has been collected from the side of a road in Ooty city. It is a burrowing snake preferring to move about in leaf litter. It mainly feeds on earthworms.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It has been reported from Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Kerala. Further survey work is needed to understand its taxonomy, distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, N.S. Achyuthan & V. Deepak.



**XENODERMATIDAE**

***Xylophis stenorhynchus***  
(Günther, 1875)  
Günther's Mountain Snake

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Xylophis stenorhynchus* was described as *Geophis stenorhynchus* from the Western Ghats based on specimens from Travancore, India that possibly is a location in Anaimalai Hills, Coimbatore district in Tamil Nadu. It is opined that *X. indicus* (treated as a junior synonym of *X. stenorhynchus*) may be valid, however this taxon is still known from only one specimen and more material is required to evaluate its validity. Additionally another new species, *X. captaini*, from material originally assigned to *X. stenorhynchus* was described.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Western Ghats, India and is known

only from south of Palghat Gap from the Valparai Plateau, Anaimalai Hills. Other specimens referred to this species are in doubt. Recent records from the Nilgiri Hills and Kulathupuzha (Kerala) need to be verified. It is found between 1,200 and 1,600 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in high elevation evergreen forest patches in the Western Ghats. It is a burrowing snake preferring to move about in leaf litter. It mainly feeds on earthworms.

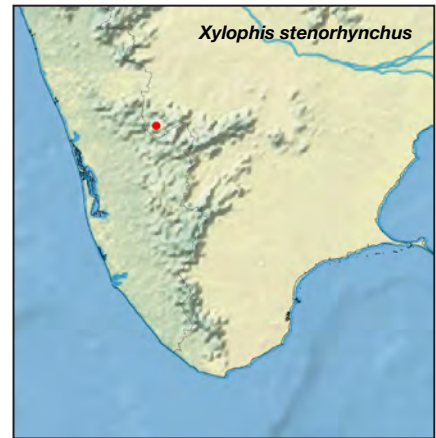
**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not

known from any protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its taxonomy, distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak & N.S. Achyuthan.



*Xylophis stenorhynchus*  
© N.S. Achyuthan

# Species Accounts - Western Ghats (Non-endemics)

## AGAMIDAE

***Calotes calotes* (Linnaeus, 1758)**  
**Common Green Forest Lizard**  
**Endemic to South Asia (India & Sri Lanka)**  
**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Calotes calotes* was originally described as *Lacerta calotes* from Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** This species is reported from southern India and Sri Lanka. The record of the species from Nicobar Islands is erroneous; unfortunately, there exist no voucher specimen to verify its presence in Nicobar Islands and it has not been recorded in the recent herpetological studies conducted there. In India, it is distributed in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and one site in Karnataka. This species occurs predominantly between 0 and 800 m, but there is one record at 2,500 m elevation.

**Population** This species is common throughout its range.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is primarily found in dry deciduous forests to wet evergreen forests and also man-made habitats. It is seen on shrubs as well as on trees and is majorly arboreal coming down to the ground to nest and lay eggs. Eggs are laid in a nest-hole specially dug for this purpose by the female in the ground strewn with leaf litter and having porous and loose soil. The breeding period extends between April to September and the clutch size varies between 6-12 eggs.

**Major Threats** There are no major threats to this species. It occurs in altered habitats.

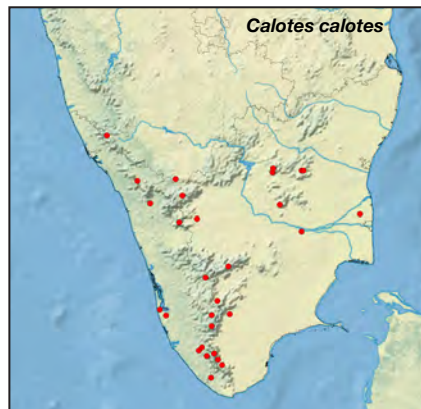
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network as



well as the reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Madala.



***Calotes rouxii* Duméril & Bibron, 1837**  
**Roux's Forest Lizard**  
**Endemic to India**  
**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Calotes rouxii* was described based on specimens from "India". The taxon *C. elliotti* Günther, 1864 was synonymized with *C. rouxii* Duméril & Bibron, 1837, but the latter species is now being recognized as a distinct, valid species unequivocally.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and is widely distributed in many localities in the Western Ghats of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and Eastern Ghats. Elsewhere in peninsular India it has been reported from the protected areas and reserve forests of Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Orissa. This species occurs at elevations between 100 and 900 m. We disregard Darjeeling, an extralimital record and Annam, Vietnam a questionable locality from the global distribution of this species.

**Population** Despite being a widely distributed species, very little data exists on the population status of this species. It is reported common in some sites in Western Ghats and in a few locations in peninsular India.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is a diurnal, semi-arboreal insectivore, seen in

moist evergreen, dry deciduous forests, tropical dry scrub, and secondary forests.

**Major Threats** There are no known specific threats to this species at present, but it might have been affected in the past by conversion of lowland forests to agriculture throughout its distribution.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network as well as the reserve forests.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh & S.R. Ganesh



***Calotes versicolor* (Daudin, 1802)**  
**Eastern Garden Lizard**  
**Afghanistan to Vietnam**  
**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Calotes versicolor* was first described as *Agama versicolor* based on specimens collected from India.

**Geographic Range** This species ranges widely through much of South, East and Southeast Asia. It is present, perhaps as relictual populations, in southeastern Iran and eastern Baluchistan (possibly introduced in antiquity), with a recent record from the area of Sarboz; Afghanistan, Pakistan (through Sind and the Punjab northward to Swat, Nepal, Bhutan, India (including the Andaman Islands), Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Thailand, western Malaysia, Viet Nam, southern China (including Hainan) and Indonesia (Sumatra). It is also present on the island

of Mauritius and has been introduced to the Dhofar region of Oman. It occurs at elevations from 0 to 1,200 m.

**Population** It is a common to abundant species over much of its range. In India, *Calotes versicolor* is known from many locations and its population is stable in many parts of the country.

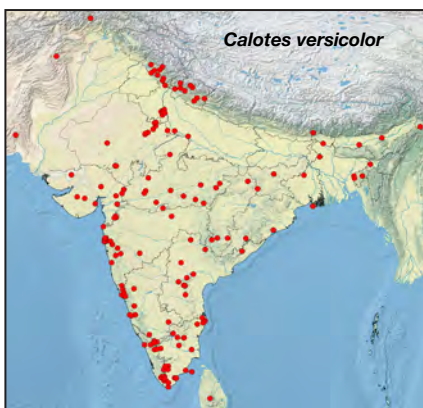
**Habitat & Ecology** This largely arboreal species is found in areas with trees or shrubs, and is most common in mesic areas close to streams, oasis and rural gardens. In India, it is very common and inhabits many different habitats, including urban areas. The female lays several clutches of between seven and 19 eggs.

**Major Threats** There are presumably no major threats to this very widespread and adaptable species globally. In urban areas domestic cats predate some individuals.

**Use & Trade** In India, this species is still being used as animal models in pre-university and university biology laboratories, and in some parts of the country it is also a victim of human apathy.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is present in a number of protected areas globally.

**Assessors** K.J.M. Al Rasbi, S.P. Vijayakumar, S. Anderson, T. Papenfuss & C. Srinivasulu.



**Draco dussumieri**  
**Duméril & Bibron, 1837**  
**Southern Flying Lizard**  
**Endemic to Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Draco dussumieri* was described based on specimens collected from Malabar.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to the Western and Eastern Ghats of India. It is known from many sites in the states of Goa, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and southern Andhra Pradesh where it is widely distributed both in protected areas and reserve forests. In Eastern Ghats, it is known from Talakona Reserve Forest in Chittoor district in Andhra Pradesh. There is a dubious record from Kanha National Park (Tiger Reserve), Balaghat District, Madhya Pradesh. This species occurs at elevations between 80 to 1,300 m.

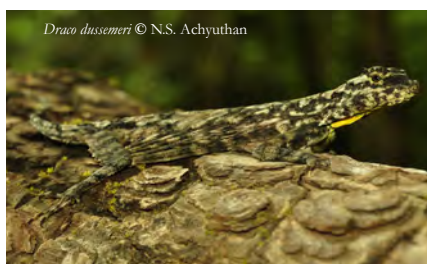
**Population** This species is common across many sites in the Western Ghats. In plantations in Valparai the density estimates for this species was 1.25 per hectare.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is a diurnal and arboreal lizard, which usually does not leave the treetops except for egg-laying, living from about 2m above the ground to the top of the trees. It is an accomplished glider being able to glide to a distance of 30m. It feeds primarily on ants but also feeds on different kinds of arthropods. It is found in plantations, secondary forests, in dry deciduous to moist evergreen forests. The breeding period extends from February to April with a clutch size varying from 1-6 eggs that are laid in the ground.

**Major Threats** The only known threat to this species is habitat loss due to tea plantations, mainly in the southern portion of its distribution.

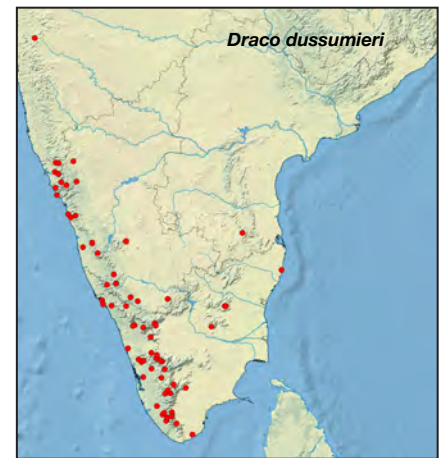
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is



known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network as well as the reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh, S.R. Ganesh, M. Madala & R. Sreekar



**Psammophilus blanfordanus**  
**(Stoliczka, 1871)**  
**Blanford's Rock Agama**  
**Endemic to India**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Psammophilus blanfordanus* was described as *Charasia blanfordana* based on specimens from central India. This species is very similar, morphologically, to *P. dorsalis* and may have been misidentified for this in some studies.

**Geographic Range** This species is distributed in Western Ghats, Eastern Ghats and in peninsular India between 100 and 1,200 m.

**Population** There is no data on the population size and trends for this common species. However, field observations in certain parts of its range between 1995-2008, in and around Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, nearly 30-40% decline in population has been observed due to loss of habitat caused by stone quarrying for upcoming residential setups.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is insectivorous, diurnal and found in rocky areas in tropical dry deciduous and evergreen forests, secondary forests and tea plantations. The breeding season is between April to June.

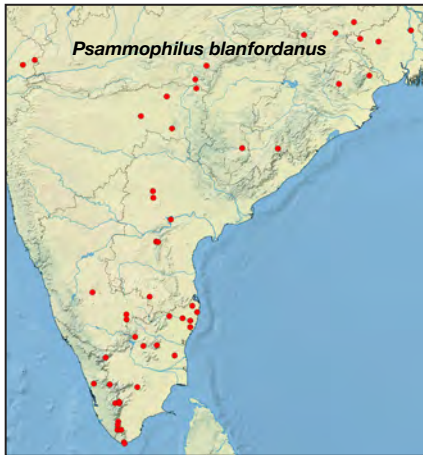
**Major Threats** Stone quarrying may pose localized threat to this species in and around rapidly urbanizing city of Hyderabad. No such observations have been reported from other areas, and so this is considered to be a highly localized

phenomenon. Forest fires in northern Western Ghats are also perceived as a threat for this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known from many sites that are in the existing protected areas as well as the reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Sreekar, P. Mohapatra & B.H.C.K. Murthy



***Psammophilus dorsalis* (Gray, 1831)**  
Southern Indian Rock Agama  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Psammophilus dorsalis* was described as *Agama dorsalis* based on specimens from India. This species is very similar, morphologically, to *P. blanfordanus* and may have been misidentified for this in some studies.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and is widely distributed in southern India. It is known to occur in southern Eastern Ghats and the Western Ghats southward to Kanyakumari in the extreme south of India up to 2,000 m.

**Population** This species is fairly common at low elevations especially so in the vicinity of Bengaluru. In Hyderabad, the status of the population of this species is fast changing as in urban tracts there is decline amounting to an average



of 80 percent or more in the recent years. A recent study in three areas around the village of Hampi found an average density of 90 individuals per hectare.

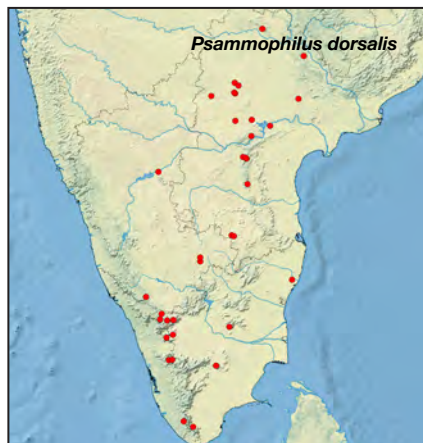
**Habitat & Ecology** This is a rock-dwelling agama. From its wide distribution, it is inferred that this species is found in a variety of habitats, including dry and moist forests, and shrublands.

**Major Threats** Stone quarrying and human residential expansion are resulting in the decline of the population and range in and around the major metropolis in its distribution range. Cats and dogs predate on this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in many protected areas and reserve forests.

**Assessors** R. Radder, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Sreekar & P. Mohapatra



***Sitana ponticeriana* Cuvier, 1829**  
Fan Throated Lizard  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Sitana ponticeriana* was described based on specimens from Pondicherry, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is widely distributed from Kanyakumari in southern India to the foothills of the Himalaya in Nepal, although it has not been reported east of the river Ganga in eastern India. It also occurs in Sri Lanka.



However, the presence of this species in Nepal is as yet uncertain. This species occurs in Pakistan. This species occurs at elevations between 0 and 600 m.

**Population** It is very common.

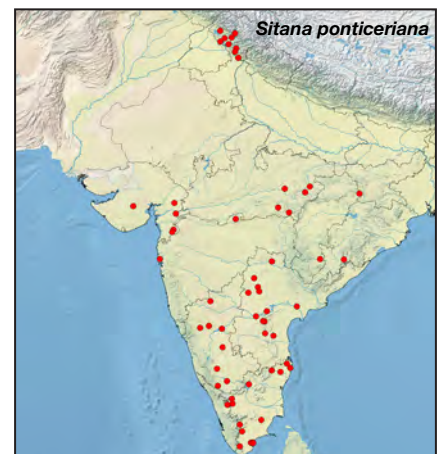
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits moderately moist scrub, rocky and sandy coastal areas, and open areas in dry forests and dry scrublands. In Sri Lanka, this species is restricted to warm lowland habitats and is most abundant in drier coastal areas. It is primarily a ground-dwelling species, but is sometimes found on trees. This species is capable of adapting to altered environments such as secondary forests, plantations, etc.

**Major Threats** This species does not appear to be under threat in Sri Lanka, but some populations on mainland India are facing declines due to urbanization. Long-term observations and monitoring in habitats in and around Hyderabad, India indicates 20-30 percent declines in their numbers and distribution due to urban sprawl.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in several protected areas and reserve forests.

**Assessors** R. Vyas, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh, M. Madala & R. Sreekar



***Eryx johnii* (Russell, 1801)**  
**Red Sand Boa**

**Near Threatened**

**Taxonomy** *Eryx johnii* was first described as *Boa johnii* based on specimen from Tranquebar (=Tharangambadi), India.

**Geographic Range** It ranges throughout most of Pakistan, and is present in adjoining parts of Afghanistan and Iran, ranging eastward through mainland India (except the northeast). In Iran, this species is known only by three specimens collected from Zabol and Sistan in Baluchistan Provinces. In India and Pakistan, it is not found above 150 m.

**Population** It is common in Pakistan and in west, central and southern India, but uncommon in the Eastern Ghats. The species is a human commensal and may benefit to some extent from land use changes that increase the abundance of rodent prey, however declines have been reported in southern India. Based on researchers' observations, sighting rates have declined by as much as 80% in some areas, and it is thought that illegal collectors have put increasing efforts into harvesting animals for trade.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is generally nocturnal and fossorial species found in flat desert with loose clay soil and sparse grasses. It can be found in sandy deserts and similar areas, although it is less common in these habitats and can be found in a wide variety of modified habitats. It is an ovoviviparous species. In India, the females bear 6 to 14 live young around June and September.

**Major Threats** In India, the species is threatened by illegal overcollection for the pet trade and for its use in traditional medicines in China and Southeast Asia.

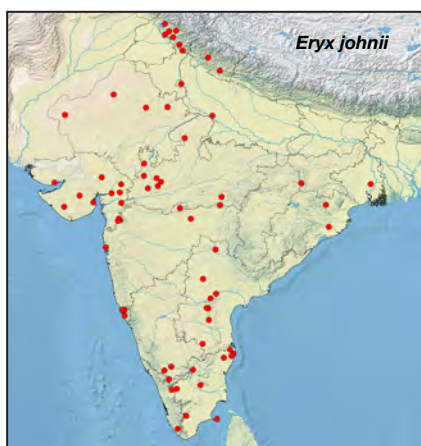
**Use & Trade** In India, this species is traded illegally for national markets (for medicine and snake charmers) and in international markets (such as China where it is believed to be an aphrodisiac). In India, it is collected also for the



national and international pet trade.

**Conservation Measures** It is not known if the species is present in any protected areas in Iran. It is present in protected areas in Pakistan. In India, it is protected by Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and is found in many protected areas. This species is listed on Appendix II of CITES.

**Assessors** S. Anderson, T. Papenfuss, C. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar, S. Thakur, S.R. Aengals, N. Kulkarni & P. Mohapatra.



***Gongylophis conicus***  
**(Schneider, 1801)**  
**Red Sand Boa**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Near Threatened**

**Taxonomy** *Eryx conicus* was described as *Boa conica* based on figures by Russell from Tranquebar, Tanjore district, southeastern Madras (presently Tharangambadi, Nagapattinam District, Tamil Nadu). The genus *Eryx* has undergone many taxonomic upheavals. Basing on osteological variation from the taxon *johnii* it was placed in the monotypic genus *Gongylophis* Wagler, 1830. It was assigned to the genus *Eryx* or *Charina* by a few, which was also supported by molecular phylogeny studies which proved that the genus *Eryx* represented a monophyletic group that included the morphologically divergent *Eryx conicus* rather than as a sister taxon to other members of this genus.

**Geographic Range** It is found in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal and Sri Lanka. In India, it is distributed throughout the country except the northeast and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It is found in elevations of 10 to 2,680 m (Nepal).

**Population** It is a common species in India.

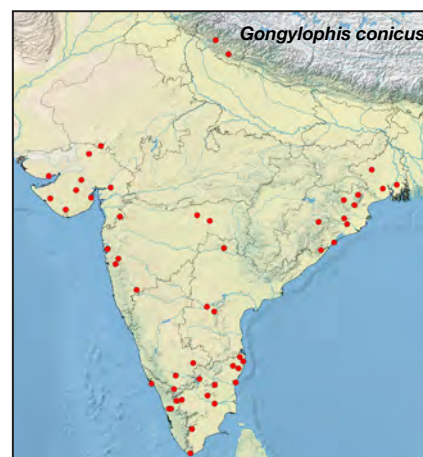
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is primarily nocturnal but is also active by day. It is found in varied habitat types from dry arid areas to areas where the annual rainfall is about 381 cm and the soil supports luxuriant vegetation. It can be found close to human habitats including agricultural fields and gardens. It is, to some extent, subterranean in nature for hunting purposes, which it does by ambush. It feeds on rodents, lizards, amphibians and ground feeding birds. Cannibalistic behaviour has also been observed in this snake. It is a viviparous snake. The breeding season extends from November to January after which 6-8 young are born from May to August.

**Major Threats** This species is under threat due to trade both locally as well as for the international market. Numerous individuals are being collected for pet trade and due to prevalent religious and superstitious beliefs. It is often mistaken for a venomous species (such as Russell's Viper) and killed.

**Use & Trade** It is illegally exported for pet trade. It is also collected illegally for the skin trade. This species is persecuted due to religious purposes and due to prevalent myths and superstitions.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range it occurs in many protected areas and reserve forests. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, G. Shankar, A. Das, B.H.C.K. Murthy & A. Aengals.



## CHAMELEONIDAE

### *Chamaeleo zeylanicus*

Laurenti, 1768

Indian Chameleon

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Chamaeleo zeylanicus* was described based on drawing by Seba, which represented a female specimen with no tarsal spur. The type locality is in Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** It is distributed in India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In India, it is known from south of river Ganga and is widely distributed in peninsular India. In India alone, this very widespread species has an extent of occurrence greater than 1,500,000 km<sup>2</sup>. This species occurs at elevations between sea level and 1,200 m.

**Population** There are no data on population size and trends although it is a

common species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is found in scrublands, dry deciduous and secondary forests. It is diurnal and arboreal, and feeds on termites, grasshoppers and other insects. Breeding takes place in the winter months and the eggs 10-40 in number are laid in a nest hole 22-30cm deep in the ground.

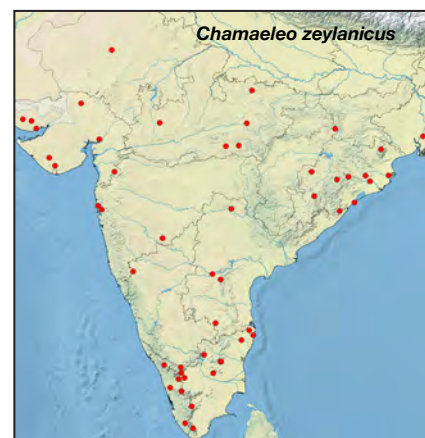
**Major Threats** The main threats to this species are pet trade, poaching for medicinal purposes, large scale deforestation and conversion of forest tract to plantations and forest fires.

**Use & Trade** This species is common in pet trade and is used for medicinal purposes. Numbers of exported (smuggled) individuals are very low, with an informal estimate of around 100 animals exported annually.

**Conservation Measures** It is known from many protected areas. Research is

needed to determine population size and trends for this species and to monitor the effect of current threats

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, G. Shankar, A. Das, B.H.C.K. Murthy & A. Aengals.



### *Ahaetulla nasuta* (Lacépède, 1789)

Green Vine Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ahaetulla nasuta* was described as *Dryophis nasuta* based on specimens collected from Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs from India and Sri Lanka eastward to Vietnam, and southward to the Isthmus of Kra in southern Thailand. In India, it is known from throughout the peninsular and south of the Indo-Gangetic plain, and is also known from Jalpaiguri in West Bengal and Assam in northeast India. The northeastern limit of this species in India is uncertain. It occurs in the foothills of the Himalaya

in Uttarakhand State in northern India. It has been recorded from 10-1,300 m.

**Population** This species is locally common in much of its range. It is uncommon in the foothills of the Himalaya in Uttarakhand, India.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in varied habitats from dry scrub forest, tropical dry deciduous forests, semi evergreen hill forest, evergreen forest and mangroves. It is also found in grasslands and near to human habitations, including gardens. It is a diurnal and arboreal snake and has been noted to feed on frogs, geckos and small birds, mice, tadpoles, fish, insects and other smaller snakes. The species is ovoviviparous and gives birth to up to 23 young between March and December.

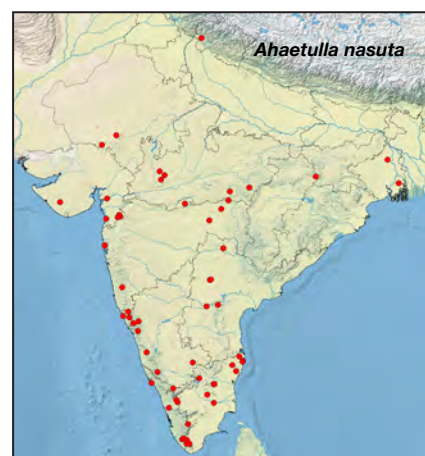
**Major Threats** There are no apparent threats to this adaptable snake, and exploitation occurs at only low levels that are not likely to threaten the population.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** No species-specific conservation measures are required. The species occurs in numerous protected areas across its large range.

**Assessors** B. Stuart, L. Grismer, M. Auliya, T. Chan-Ard, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & N.S. Achyuthan.

## COLUBRIDAE



### *Ahaetulla pulverulenta*

(Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)

Brown Vine Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ahaetulla pulverulenta* was described as *Dryinus pulverulentus* based on specimen from unknown locality. Type locality was restricted to "Ceylan" (=Sri Lanka) after the rediscovery of the holotype (MNHN 7565 coll. L.T. Leschenault) discovered in the Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle, Paris.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to South Asia, where it is known from Sri Lanka and India. In India, this species is known only in the Western Ghats, from



south of Gujarat to Agasthyamalai Hills in Kerala. It was reported to be common at Wayanad Hills and has been reported from semi-evergreen to evergreen forests, and also from dry deciduous forests in Gujarat. It has also been reported from Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Amboli, Kolhapur and Pune, in Maharashtra and from Goa. It has been recorded from the Anamalai Hills. Reports of this species from Rajasthan are considered to be in error. It has been recorded from low elevations to around 1,000 m.

**Population** This is an uncommon species, with little information available about population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This snake occurs in evergreen forest, semi-evergreen hill forest and tropical dry deciduous forests in plains and hills. It can be found close to human habitations. It is a diurnal and mainly arboreal snake. It feeds on lizards, frogs and small birds. It is ovoviviparous, with a brood size 6-12 young. Young are born in August and September.

**Major Threats** There appears to be no significant threats to this somewhat adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** It is captured for display by snake charmers.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in many protected areas, including Vansda National Park in Gujarat, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu, Meghamalai Wildlife Sanctuary in Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, and its population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan & R. Vyas.



**Argyrogena fasciolata (Shaw, 1802)**  
**Banded Racer**  
**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Argyrogena fasciolata* was described as *Coluber fasciolatus* based on Russell's drawing based on specimen from the vicinity of Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and northern Sri Lanka. In India, its distribution is mainly restricted to peninsular India, with some possible records from the foothills of the Himalaya that need to be verified. In the Western Ghats, it ranges between the Dangs in Gujarat to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu. It ranges from 50 to 1,200 m.

**Population** This species is reported to be common in some areas where it occurs. The population is stable in northern parts of its range, while it is declining in southern parts as it is becoming rarer in the south.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in varied habitats ranging from tropical dry deciduous to semi evergreen hill forests and also in woodland patches and human habitations. It is a diurnal and terrestrial snake and has been noted to feed on rodents; young feed on insects and frogs. It is shy, living in rat holes and stone crevices in bushes and grasslands. Two to six eggs are laid in October in southern India; it lays 5-12 eggs between February and April in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra, Goa and Karnataka.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this species. It is frequently killed by people who mistake it for a cobra.

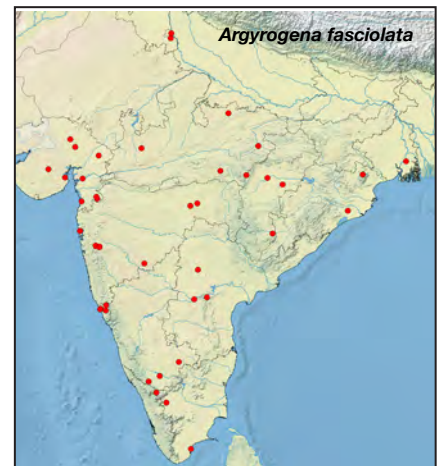
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This snake is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many protected areas, including Purna Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat, Sanjay



Gandhi National Park in Maharashtra, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu & C. Srinivasulu.



**Boiga beddomei (Wall, 1909)**  
**Beddome's Cat Snake**  
**Endemic to South Asia**

**Data Deficient**

**Taxonomy** *Boiga beddomei* was described as *Dipsadomorphus beddomei* based on specimens from Ceylon (Sri Lanka). Earlier it was considered a synonym of *Boiga ceylonensis* Günther, 1858. While presently considered valid, with a well-defined species concept, the identity of past locality records is in need of clarification due to confusion within the *Boiga ceylonensis*/*B.beddomei*/*B.nuchalis*/*B.andamanensis* species group.

**Geographic Range** This species was described based on five specimens from Sri Lanka and one from Matheran in India. These specimens are presumed lost, and the true distribution of this species is unclear. Although it reportedly occurs from Dangs in Gujarat to Kerala in the Western Ghats, and was reported from Odisha there have been no recent detailed studies to confirm the identity of records attributed to this species. Its occurrence in India is consequently considered uncertain pending re-examination of site records. In Sri Lanka, the species has been collected from Peradeniya. It is found at elevations of up to 800 m.

**Population** There is no information on the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits dry deciduous forest and moist forest in both India and Sri Lanka.

**Major Threats** The threats to this

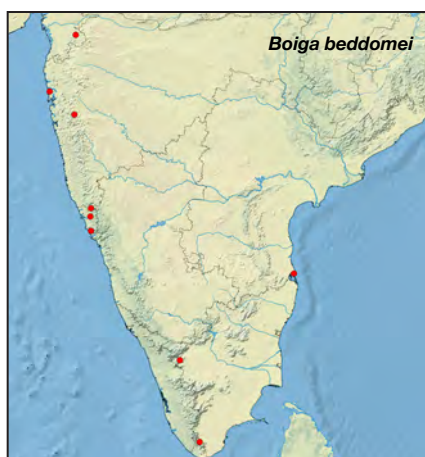


poorly known species require further study.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is found in some protected areas. Further research into the taxonomy, distribution, and threats affecting this species should be carried out, and population monitoring is recommended.

**Assessors** A. Captain, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Vyas, P. Mohapatra & N.U. Kulkarni.



**Boiga ceylonensis** (Günther, 1858)  
Sri Lanka Cat Snake  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Boiga ceylonensis* was described as *Dipsadomorphus ceylonensis* with the type locality as Ceylon. The status and distribution of several forms previously treated as synonyms (*B. beddomei*, *B. andamanensis* and *B. nuchalis*) has been unclear; all three are here treated as valid species.

**Geographic Range** It is distributed in India and Sri Lanka. In India, *Boiga ceylonensis* is distributed in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It is found at elevations of 600 to 1,400 m (India).

**Population** This is a common species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is nocturnal in tropical dry and moist montane forest. It is primarily arboreal but also frequents the forest floor. During the day light hours it has been observed among dense bushes and tree hollows. It feeds on lizards, frogs and small birds. It lays between 3-10 eggs.

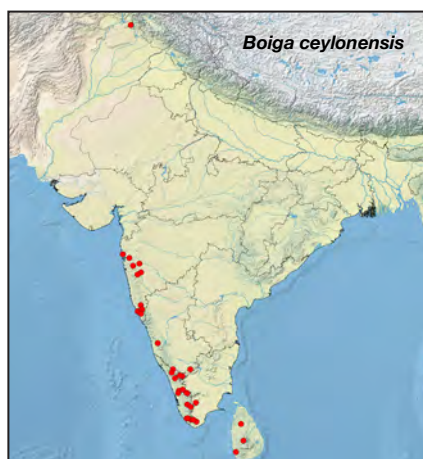
**Major Threats** This species is threatened by deforestation for conversion of land to agricultural use and

urbanisation.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is known from a few sites that are in the existing protected area network as well as the reserve forests. Further research is needed into the taxonomy of this species to establish the status of the named forms listed under the synonymy of this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar & P. Mohapatra.



**Boiga forsteni**  
(Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1854)  
Forsten's Cat Snake  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Boiga forsteni* was described as *Trigylphodon forsteni* based on a specimen collected from unknown locality. Four distinct colour morphs of this species have been recognized from Orissa, India, and variation within *B. forsteni* both in Orissa and elsewhere suggests that the taxonomy of this species warrants investigation.

**Geographic Range** *Boiga forsteni* is found in India, Sri Lanka and Nepal. In India, the species is widely distributed throughout the country with the exception of the northeast. It is found throughout Sri Lanka, however, was noted to be absent from a recent survey in the Knuckles Mountain Range. In Nepal, this species is known from the eastern and western Terai. It has been recorded from 150 to 2,000 m asl.

**Population** This species is fairly common.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species is found in both dry and wet forests,

open jungle, forest borders, caves and cultivated areas where it lives in small to medium bushes, scrubby vegetation and also on tall trees with profuse branching. It is said to be a common predator of poultry and other common birds (e.g., pigeons), as well as bats. This species usually rests inside tree holes, especially in *Ficus bengalensis* and other large trees.

**Major Threats** It has been reported that this species is often killed while forest is being cleared, due to the perception that it poses a threat to humans. However, due to the wide range of this species, localized events of persecution by humans should not be considered a major threat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. This species is found in a number of protected areas. There is a need for research on the taxonomy and threats to this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, S.P. Vijayakumar & P. Mohapatra.



**Boiga trigonata**  
(Schneider in Bechstein, 1802)  
Common Cat Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** In Middle Asia the species is represented by the subspecies *B. t. melanocephala* (Annandale, 1904), which might represent a distinct species.

**Geographic Range** This species is found throughout most of India (except the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and northeastern India), Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, southeastern Tajikistan,

and Iran. Within Iran, the species has been reported from Khorasan Province, Sistan and Baluchistan Province, Kerman Province and Hormozghan Province. The species is believed to occur throughout most of Pakistan, with the exception of higher elevations. The subspecies *B.t. melanocephala* is found from around 0-800 m. In India, the species is found up to 1,500 m.

**Population** In India, it is considered to be a common species. It is generally considered to be a rare species in Turkmenistan and appears to be uncommon in Iran.

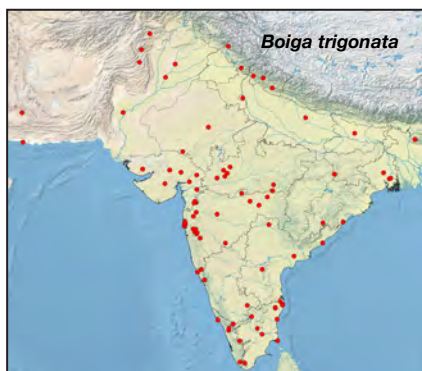
**Habitat & Ecology** This is a nocturnal and secretive species. In Pakistan, it is found in a range of habitats from gallery forest to sparse desert shrubland, generally avoiding highly arid, rocky or sandy areas. Animals can be found in urban gardens. In Iran, it is found in deserts, fields, rocky areas with soft sand and occasionally in grasslands and rural gardens. In Turkmenistan it can be found in areas of arid scrub vegetation, amongst sand dunes with sparse vegetation, and in rocky localities. It is an oviparous species. In India, it is found often in and around human habitations, spending the day coiled up in *Palmyra* fronds, among bushes, in thatched roofs, under tree bark or stones. Lays up to 11 eggs and in north India egg laying is in August or September.

**Major Threats** There are currently no major threats to this species as a whole. However, although it can survive in some modified habitats declines in habitat quality due to residential and commercial development and shifting agriculture pose localized threats to this species, and have resulted in its disappearance from some Indian sites.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species has been recorded from a number of protected areas in the Middle Asia. It is listed in the national Red Data Books of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. It is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been recorded from many protected areas in India.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, S. Thakur, A. Das, T. Papenfuss, S. Shafiei Bafti, M. Sharifi, N. Ananjeva & N. Orlov.



***Boiga wallachi* Das, 1998**  
**Nicobar Cat Snake**  
**Endemic to Nicobar Islands**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Boiga wallachi* was described based on specimens collected from Nicobar Island, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, India.

**Geographic Range** This snake is endemic to the Nicobar Islands (India), where it has been recorded from both Little and Great Nicobar. Following declines in the area of potentially suitable habitat resulting from the 2004 Boxing Day tsunami, surveys are needed to understand the current distribution of this snake on the islands.

**Population** The population currently seems to be stable. The species may however have been subject to a population decline in the recent past, as 20% of Little Nicobar and 40% of Great Nicobar were submerged for several months following the 2004 tsunami, and natural habitats in affected areas have yet to recover.

**Habitat & Ecology** This nocturnal species is found in undisturbed tropical moist forests, and snakes have been seen on the forest floor near freshwater bodies. It has been reported from human dwellings to raid chicken coups for eggs. It is however thought to be essentially a forest-dwelling snake that enters anthropogenic areas only to feed, and it may not be able to persist in modified habitats. None have been found on trees or bushes. It feeds on frogs and other small animals, as well as on eggs. Nothing else is known about its biology.

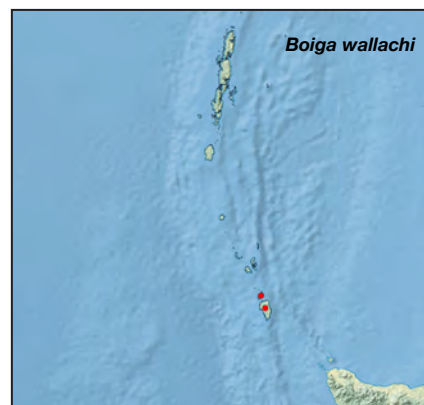
**Major Threats** This species is endemic to the two most heavily-populated islands in the Nicobar group, and reports of animals entering anthropogenic habitats to forage may be a symptom of declines in natural habitat quality and increased exposure to human disturbance. While

the species is found within the Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve, this is not a strict protected area and may not afford protection to this snake's forest habitat. There is, however, no information on specific threats. Habitat loss due to natural stochastic events, such as large tsunami, may destroy large areas of remaining natural habitat and increase human pressures on the remainder.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is an endemic Indian snake occurring in tropical moist forest of the Nicobar Islands that is the part of Great Nicobar Biosphere Reserve. The present distribution and population status along with its ecological tolerances need to be documented in detail.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, A. Das & P. Mohapatra.



***Chrysopelea ornata* (Shaw, 1802)**  
**Ornate Flying Snake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Chrysopelea ornata* was described as *Coluber ornatus* based on specimens collected from Sri Lanka and Java. Three subspecies, *Chrysopelea ornata ornata*, *Chrysopelea ornata ornatissima* and *Chrysopelea ornata sinhaleya*, are recognized. Further taxonomic work is required to establish whether this wide-ranging snake represents a species complex.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs from India and Sri Lanka across southern China, southward across the Southeast Asian mainland to northern Peninsular Malaysia. In India, it is found throughout Peninsular India, with the exception of the drier zones of the Eastern Ghats and the northwest, ranging into northeastern India. It has been recorded between 10 and 1,300 m.

**Population** This species is common and abundant, with a stable population.

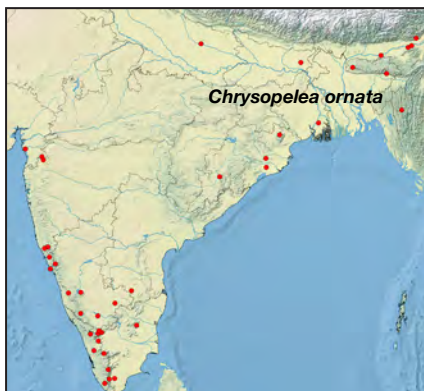
**Habitat & Ecology** This diurnal, arboreal species occurs in a variety of habitats ranging from evergreen, semi evergreen hill forest, tropical dry deciduous forests, plantations, and human modified environments, generally with at least some standing forest. It can even be found in urban areas, where it has been found in houses. It feeds on frogs, lizards and smaller birds and bats. Females lay 6-12 elongate eggs in June to July in India.

**Major Threats** As this species is highly tolerant of disturbed habitats, it is not threatened by habitat degradation. Although it is naturally arboreal, it adapts readily to at least some treeless environments. It is frequently killed in plantations where it is mistakenly considered to be a venomous species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** No species-specific conservation measures are required. In India, this species is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in protected areas within its range. Research is needed to clarify whether this widespread snake represents a species complex.

**Assessors** T.Q. Nguyen, N. Thy, T. Chan-Ard, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, G. Shankar, I. Agarwal & N.U. Kulkarni.



### **Coelognathus helena**

(Daudin, 1803)

Indian Trinket Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Coelognathus helena* was described as *Coluber helena* based on the drawings of Russell of specimen collected from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh. This species has been included under the

genus *Elaphe*, however, later the oriental ratsnakes have been reassigned to the genus *Coelognathus*. Two subspecies, *C.b. helena* and *C.b. monticollaris*, are recognized, and taxonomic research is required to clarify whether *C.b. monticollaris* warrants recognition as a full species.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs in Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Bangladesh. In India, it is known from throughout the country, including the Western Ghats as well as peninsular India. The subspecies *C.b. monticollaris*, is endemic to Western Ghats and has been reported from Gujarat (Dangs), Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. *Coelognathus helena* ranges from sea level to 2,500 m (India).

**Population** *C. b. helena* is known from many localities throughout India and is common in the Western Ghats.

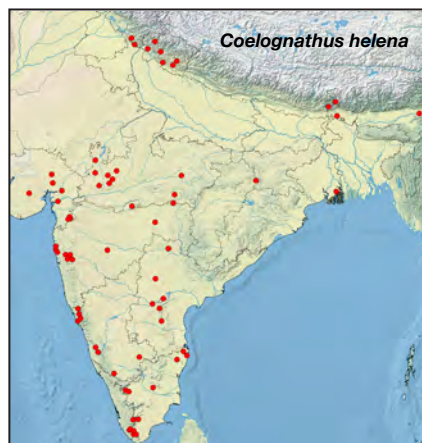
**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in varied forest habitats ranging from semi evergreen hill forest to tropical dry deciduous forests. It has been reported from human habitations. It is active both during day and night, and is easily observed both on the ground and in trees and bushes. It feeds on rats, mice, squirrel, frogs, geckos and smaller snakes. Lays 6-12 elongate eggs, and clutches may be laid throughout the year.

**Major Threats** There appears to be no major threats to this somewhat adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is included on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. This species occurs in many protected areas throughout India. Further survey work is needed to understand its taxonomy, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar, P. Mohapatra, A. Das & S. Thakur.



### **Coelognathus radiatus** (Boie, 1827) Copper-head Trinket Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Coelognathus radiatus* was described as *Coluber radiatus* based on specimens collected from Java, Indonesia. This species has been long included under the genus *Elaphe*, later the oriental ratsnakes have been assigned to the genus *Coelognathus*.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs from India across southern China to Hong Kong, then southward through Sumatra and Java to Borneo. It is widespread within this range. It has been recorded between 20 and 1,515 m.

**Population** This species is common throughout its range. Although it thrives in human-modified environments, it was formerly more abundant in Indochina than it appears to be now, likely as a result of exploitation. Subpopulations of this nationally protected snake in Thailand are stable or increasing.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs from sea level up to about 1,500 m in wet and dry forests, particularly in clearings and edges, and in grasslands, plantations, agricultural fields, and suburban and urban areas. It is often found in rural villages, where it consumes human commensalist rodents. It breeds throughout the year in warmer parts of its range, and lays 5-15 eggs. It is terrestrial, but climbs well. It is less common in forest than around human habitation and rice fields, as rats and other prey species are found in smaller numbers in natural habitats.

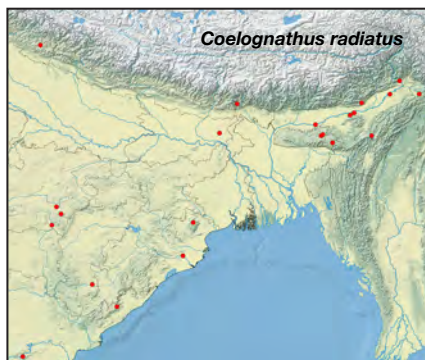
**Major Threats** There are no apparent threats to this species. Although it is harvested for food and medicinal purposes, it is abundant and tolerant of human-modified habitats, and is probably not threatened globally by this practice. It may however be at risk from overexploitation in Indochina where it is either not protected or protection is not enforced. Due to its association with agricultural areas, including rice fields, it may be exposed to pesticides and other pollutants in the more developed areas within its range.

**Use & Trade** Overexploited in Indochina

**Conservation Measures** In India, this snake is included on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is a protected species in Thailand

and Vietnam, where it is a valuable pest control agent. Protection has not historically been well-enforced in Vietnam, and this species is listed as Vulnerable in the country's national Red Data Book, a designation which has resulted in improved enforcement of trade restrictions in this snake. Species-specific protection is recommended elsewhere in its range, e.g. in Cambodia. The snake is known from many protected areas.

**Assessors** T.Q. Nguyen, N. Thy, T. Chan-Ard, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. Das & P. Mohapatra.



**Coluber bholanathi** Sharma, 1976  
Bhola Nath's Racer  
Endemic to India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Coluber bholanathi* was described based on three specimens (one male and two females) collected from Nagarjuna Hill, Andhra Pradesh. Additional work is needed on this species to validate its taxonomic placement with respect to *Coluber gracilis*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, where it is known only from the type locality of Nagarjuna Hill in Andhra Pradesh. It was collected at 105 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about this snake's population as the taxon has not been collected since the type series, which included one male and two females.

**Habitat & Ecology** The types were collected on a hillock that was partially submerged due to construction of the Nagarjunasagar dam. The habitat on the hill is dry deciduous forest. The types were collected while basking on a green patch in rocky habitat strewn with boulders and dominated by evergreen and deciduous xerophytic plants. The gut of a female contained a house gecko identified as *Hemidactylus brookii*.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. The type locality is in the buffer zone of the Nagarjunasagar-Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve. Further survey work is needed to rediscover this snake and better-understand its taxonomy, distribution, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & V. Giri.

**Editors' note** This species has been recently reported from Seshachalam hills in Chittoor district, Devarakonda in Nalgonda district, and Hyderabad urban conglomerate.



**Coluber gracilis** (Günther, 1862)  
Graceful Racer  
Endemic to India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Coluber gracilis* was described as *Zamenis gracilis* based on specimens collected from the Western Ghats in Poona, Poona district, Maharashtra. This species was described as distinct variety (Var. B) of *Coluber ventrimaculatus* in 1858 based on specimens collected from India (four individuals collected by W. Masters) and as *Coluber gracilis* in 1862 after discovery of an additional specimen in Chatham Museum, Fort Pitt purportedly collected from Karachi, Sindh, Pakistan. Six specimens in the British Museum, including one collected by Col. Sykes from India, four specimens by W. Masters, and the type from the Chatham Museum, noted as being from an unknown locality. Despite the doubt that this raises over the assignment of Sindh as the type locality, Günther's account that the species occurs both in India and Pakistan has been accepted by subsequent authors.

**Geographic Range** It is known with certainty only from India and is known from Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. This species is also found in Gujarat. A historical record reported to be from Sindh in Pakistan is not supported by the specimen, which is without locality data, and is thought to be in error. It is found from 250 to 900 m.

**Population** This snake is known only from a few specimens, hence there is no information on the status of the population.

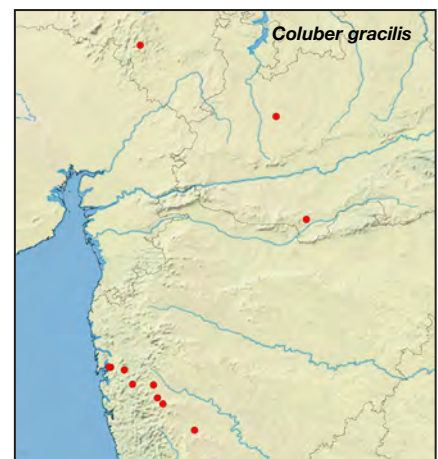
**Habitat & Ecology** Very little is known about the habitats and ecology. It is a diurnal species. It has been recorded from scrubland, in rock crevices in dry deciduous forests and newly-developed urbanised areas. It feeds on skinks and geckos and lays eggs.

**Major Threats** Threats for this species are not known. It has been recorded from modified habitats, but it is not known if it can persist here.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. This species does not occur in any protected area. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, R. Vyas & S. Thakur.



**Coronella brachyura** (Günther, 1866)  
Indian Smooth Snake  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Coronella brachyura* was described as *Zamenis brachyurus* based on specimens collected from Western Ghats in Poona, Poona District, Maharashtra.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, and is known from Poona and Visapur, Poona District; Wani, Yavatmal District; Kurduwadi and Chink Hills, Sholapur District; Andheri (West), Mumbai; Ahmednagar, Ahmednagar District and Nasik, Nasik District in Maharashtra; Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh and Surat, Ahmedabad and Bhavnagar in Gujarat. It is found at elevations of 10 to 650 m.

**Population** It is considered to be a rare species represented by only a few specimens.

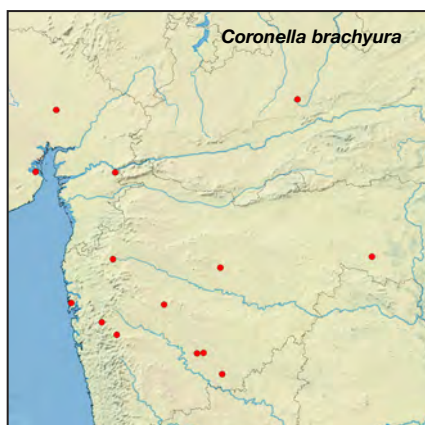
**Habitat & Ecology** Very little is known about the habitats and ecology. It has been mainly collected by snake rescuers in developing townships, where it has been found in stone piles and occasionally on trees. It probably feeds on geckos, skinks and garden lizards.

**Major Threats** Threats for this species are not known. It has been recorded from newly-constructed urbanized areas and so may be somewhat tolerant of disturbance.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. This species does not occur in any protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Vyas, R. & P. Mohapatra.



***Dendrelaphis caudolineolatus* (Günther, 1869)**

**Gunther's Bronzeback Tree Snake**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Data Deficient**

**Taxonomy** *Dendrelaphis caudolineolatus* was described as *Dendrophis caudolineolatus* based on specimens collected from Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to South Asia, occurring in Sri Lanka and India. In India, this species is known from three localities—hills near Ramnad, Ramanthapuram District in Tamil Nadu, Wayanad and Peermedu in Kerala. There have been no recent records from India. It has been recorded from 4 to 1,000 m.

**Population** In India, it is known from only a few specimens.

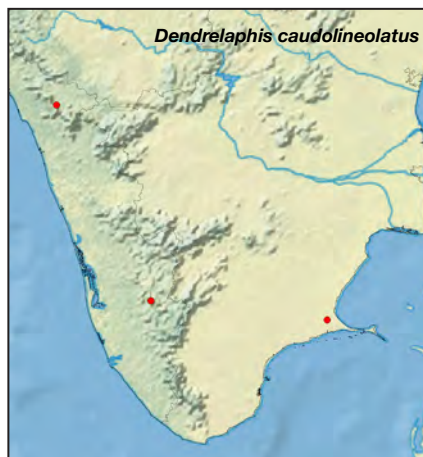
**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about the habitats and ecology of this species in India.

**Major Threats** The threats to this species are not known.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, it is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act. There is a record from Wayanad that may be within the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary. Further survey work is needed to understand its existence, distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Dendrelaphis tristis* (Daudin, 1803)**

**Daudin's Bronzeback**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Dendrelaphis tristis* was described as *Coluber tristis* based on the drawings of Dr. Patrick Russell in 1796

based on specimen from “Hyderabad (State)”, the present day Telangana. As the type is unavailable, the type locality (by designation of a neotype) has been assigned as Calcutta, India. Earlier also included *Dendrelaphis schokari* and *Dendrelaphis chairecacos* which are presently treated as distinct species restricted to Sri Lanka and southern India respectively. Two currently recognized synonyms of *Dendrelaphis tristis*, *Leptophis mankas* and *Dendrophis maniar* cannot be referred to either *Dendrelaphis tristis* or *Dendrelaphis schokari*. Records of this species from southwestern Kerala and Tamil Nadu needs to be verified as these records could refer to *D. chairecacos*.

**Geographic Range** *Dendrelaphis tristis* is known from India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal. In India, *Dendrelaphis tristis* is known from many localities in peninsular India (including Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Goa, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala and Gujarat) and eastern India from Sikkim and West Bengal. It is reported to be common and has been recorded from plains to hills up to 2,000 m asl. Two historical records exist for “Burma”, from Sima and Thandung Hills, however these records can no longer be verified due to the poor state of preservation of these specimens and there are no recent reports of this snake from Myanmar. The records from this country are probably a misidentification.

**Population** There are no data available on population size and trends for this species. However, it has been reported to be common. As no threats are known, the population is presumed to be stable.

**Habitat and Ecology** *Dendrelaphis tristis* occurs in varied habitats ranging from dry deciduous to semi-evergreen hill forest and shrub forests. It has also been reported from rural and urban gardens and parks. It is a diurnal and arboreal snake. It has been noted to feed on frogs, garden lizards (*Calotes* spp.), geckos and small birds. Females lay 6-8 eggs in April in tree hollows and rotting vegetation.

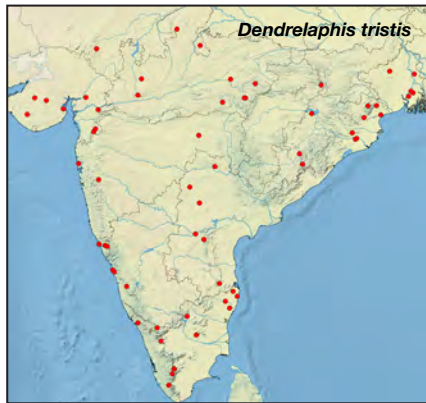
**Major Threats** There appears to be no major threats to this adaptable species. Animals are killed on sight by villagers who mistake it for a venomous species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, it is listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many

protected areas throughout its range.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Wogan & G. Vogel.



### **Dryocalamus gracilis**

(Günther, 1864)

Scarce Bridal Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Dryocalamus gracilis* was described as *Odontomus gracilis* based on specimens collected from Anamalais (Annamalai hills), Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** *Dryocalamus gracilis* has been recorded from India and Sri Lanka. In India, this species is known from the Anaimalai in Tamil Nadu, Cuddapah Hills in Andhra Pradesh and Berhampur (Berhampore) in Orissa. The total extent of occurrence of this species in India is estimated to be no more than 15,000 km<sup>2</sup> based on the known records. The only confirmed record from Sri Lanka is a specimen collected in 1888 in Haly, Jaffna (data from the specimen held in the country's National Museum). A recent Sri Lankan record from Ambanpola in Kununegala has been re-examined and found to represent *D. nympha*. Other recent Sri Lankan records, based on several roadkilled specimens collected from Dambulla are considered doubtful and are in need of confirmation. A record from False Island, off the Arakan coast of peninsular Myanmar, probably represents a misidentification given the location of this island.

**Population** Nothing is known about its population. It has been reported to be rare in both India and Sri Lanka. This species is known only from historic records, only two of which have been taken within the last 120 years

**Habitat and Ecology** In Sri Lanka, its known habitat has been described as "monsoon scrub jungle", where it has

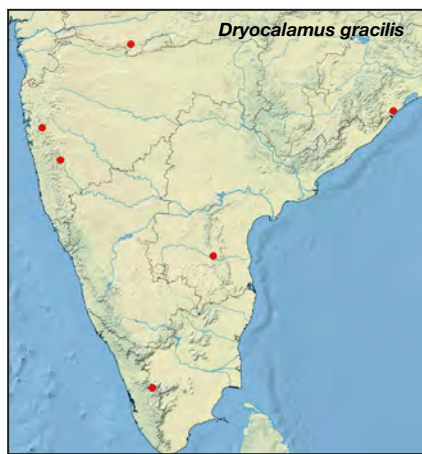
been recorded from dry scrub forest under logs.

**Major Threats** The threats to this species are not known.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. As this species is known with certainty only from historic records, research for determining its presence, distribution, population, habitat status, and threats should be carried out, and population monitoring is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. de Silva, R. Somaweera & G. Wogan.



### **Dryocalamus nympha**

(Daudin, 1803)

Vellore Bridal Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Dryocalamus nympha* was as *Coluber nympha* based on specimens collected from Vellore, Tamil Nadu. The purported neotropical species *Cochilophagus isolepis* was synonymised with *Dryocalamus nympha* and also designated a redescribed lectotype for *D. nympha*.

**Geographic Range** *Dryocalamus nympha* is endemic to the India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is known from a few localities in Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, Karnataka and Kerala. It is found at elevations of sea level to around 560 m asl.

**Population** Although widespread, this species has been reported to be rare in areas where it occurs.

**Habitat and Ecology** *Dryocalamus nympha* occurs in tropical dry deciduous forest from plains to low hills. In Orissa, a specimen was observed on a coconut

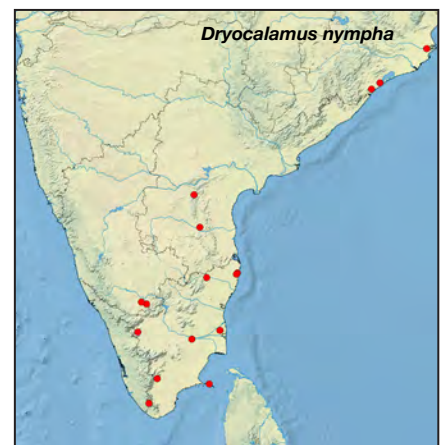
tree (at 6 m) close to mangrove forest, in Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary. It has been recorded from leaf litter. It is a nocturnal and a terrestrial snake and reportedly a good climber. It is often found in houses looking for gecko prey.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist. It appears tolerant to a degree of habitat modification, however it is generally killed on sight by people when they encounter it (mistaking it for a venomous species).

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range, it occurs in a few protected areas, including Biligirirangan Temple Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka, Bhitarkanika Wildlife Sanctuary in Orissa, Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh and Guindy National Park in Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, V. Deepak & N.S. Achyuthan.



### **Elachistodon westermanni**

Reinhardt, 1863

Indian Egg-eating Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Elachistodon westermanni* was described based on specimens collected from Rangapur, Bangladesh.

**Geographic Range** *Elachistodon westermanni* occurs in South Asia. In India, this species is known from Purnea in Bihar, Mal, Bardighi and Calcutta in West Bengal, Wardha, Akola and Amravathi in Maharashtra, and from Corbett National Park in Uttaranchal.

This species has recently been recorded from Surat and Bhavnagar, and also from Jesar, Mankhetra and Sasan in Gujarat and the Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh. There is a recent record from the buffer zone of the Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve in Chandrapur District, Maharashtra. It has also been recorded in Rangpur, Bangladesh (its type locality), and Chitwan, Nepal. It has been recorded from 40 to 1000 m.

**Population** This species is rare. In Gujarat it has been collected from at least six different localities over the last few years and is reported to be rare.

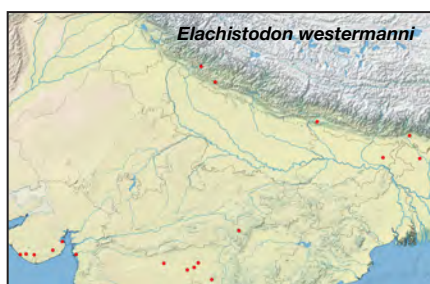
**Habitat and Ecology** This diurnal and semi-arboreal species inhabits both dry and moist broadleaf forests. It is also known to occur in dry thorny scrub land and deciduous forest. Animals have been recorded from urban areas.

**Major Threats** It is unlikely that any major threat is impacting this species. Some specimens have recently been collected as roadkill.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, of India. It has been recorded from Gir National Park, Gujarat and Kanha Tiger Reserve, Madhya Pradesh. Further research into the distribution, and population status of this species should be carried out, and population monitoring is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Vyas, S. Thakur, P. Mohapatra & V. Giri.



***Liopeltis calamaria* (Günther, 1858)**  
Calamaria Reed Snake

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Liopeltis calamaria* was described as *Cyclophis calamaria* based on specimens collected from Ceylon.

**Geographic Range** *Liopeltis calamaria* is endemic to India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is known from a few localities in Chhattisgarh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Tamil

Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala. Records from Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh need to be verified. It has been recorded from up to 1,400 m in India.

**Population** Although widespread, this species has been reported to be rare. Reports from the Western and Eastern Ghats are based on a small number of specimen records.

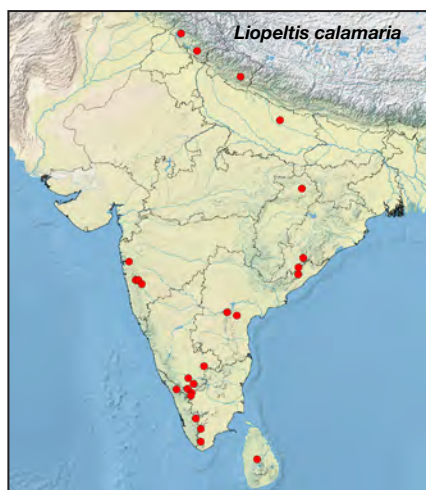
**Habitat and Ecology** This is a diurnal and a terrestrial snake. It is found on hilltop plateaus among shrub forest, below rock boulders. Its habitat includes tropical dry deciduous forest and semi-evergreen forests, and it is also found in shola grasslands

**Major Threats** In Orissa, the species is threatened by mining operations. In Maharashtra and Orissa, it is threatened by tourism in the plateau areas.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is listed on Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range it occurs in a few protected areas, including Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Andhra Pradesh, and Kalakad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve and Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve in Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Lycodon aulicus* (Linnaeus, 1758)**  
Common Wolf Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species has also been placed in the genus *Ophites*, although this has not gained wide acceptance.

*Lycodon capucinus* is often synonymized with or treated as a subspecies of this species, but they are here considered as distinct species. *Lycodon aulicus* may itself represent a complex of species.

**Geographic Range** This species occurs in Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Myanmar (north of 17° latitude), and throughout India (except for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands). It has been recorded from sea level up to 2,100 meters in elevation in Nepal. Reports of this species from Southeast Asia cannot be verified due to historical confusion with the similar *Lycodon capucinus*. It has also been introduced to the Australian territory of Christmas Island (near Java) and Mauritius, and also to other Mascarene islands and the Maldives. At least two historical records of this species exist from Grand Comore, the largest of the Comoros Islands, but a recent investigation at the named locality (in the capital, Moroni) failed to uncover evidence of this presumably introduced population, and it is thought to be extinct.

**Population** This species is common throughout much of its range.

**Habitat and Ecology** This nocturnal species is found in a wide range of habitat types, excluding extremely arid habitats, having been recorded from lowland tropical moist forest, monsoon forest, dry forest, cultivated areas, gardens, urban areas, agricultural plantations, secondary forest and similar disturbed environments. In Myanmar it can be found in good-quality subtropical forest, in degraded forest, and within and around villages. It feeds on geckos (including house geckos), skinks, mice and frogs, and sometimes becomes prey to large agamid lizards like the common bloodsucker (*Calotes versicolor*). It is found near stone piles, in hollow tree trunks, old wells and caves. It also frequents human habitation. This oviparous snake breeds twice a year and lays anywhere between 3-11 eggs that hatch after a period of 35 days.

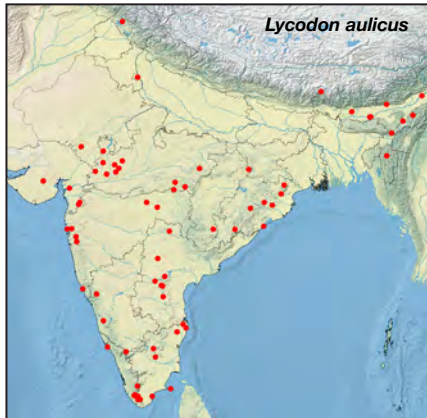
**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this widespread and highly adaptable species. It is often killed on sight by people who mistake it for a venomous snake.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is known from many protected areas. No

species-specific conservation measures are required. Research is needed to clarify the distribution of this species and *L. capucinus*.

**Assessors** G. Wogan, A.C. Diesmos, J.C. Gonzalez, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Lycodon striatus* (Shaw, 1802)**  
Barred Wolf Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lycodon striatus* was described based on drawings by Dr. Patrick Russell specimens from Visakhapatnam (then in Madras Presidency) and Hyderabad State. The population present in Middle Asia, *L. s. bicolor*, might represent a distinct species.

**Geographic Range** *Lycodon striatus* is widespread in Middle and South Asia. It has been recorded from northern Iran, Afghanistan, southern Turkmenistan (including the Kopet-Dagh Mountain Range), western Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka. Within Iran, this species has been recorded from Sistan va Baluchistan Province, with additional, unconfirmed, reports of the species from other parts of the country. In Pakistan, it is present in Baluchistan, Waziristan and the Indus Valley. It has been recorded up to 1,800 m in Middle Asia. In India, this species is widely distributed.

**Population** In the north of its range, this is a nocturnal, cryptic and fossorial snake, and as such it is considered to be a very rare species in Middle Asia, with little information available on Iranian populations. In India, the snake is reported to be common.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species has been recorded from semi-desert areas and dry fields, traditionally cultivated land, along canals, in mango groves, desert scrub, gravelly mountain slopes and oasis.

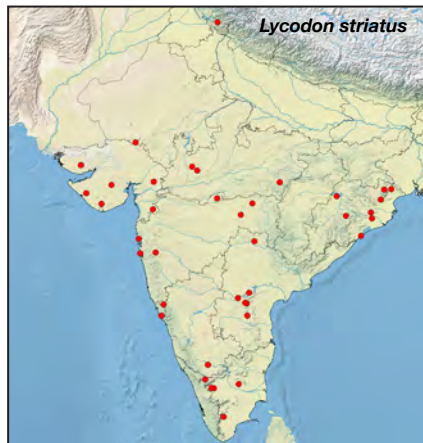
It hides among rocks during the day. It is an oviparous species. In India, the snake is nocturnal and terrestrial, it has been recorded from secondary forests. It feeds on lizards, females lay 2-4 eggs and both males and females have been observed to guard the eggs.

**Major Threats** There are no major threats overall to this widespread species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species has been reported from many protected areas. Further studies are needed in the northern part of the range, into the distribution, abundance, ecology, and threats to this poorly-known species.

**Assessors** T. Papenfuss, S. Shafiei Bafti, M. Sharifi, N. Ananjeva, N. Orlov, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. Vyas and N. Kulkarni.



***Lycodon travancoricus***  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Travancore Wolf Snake  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lycodon travancoricus* was described as *Cercaspis travancoricus* basing on specimens collected from Travancore Hills, (presently Ashambu Hills, Kerala). Earlier treated as subspecies of *Lycodon aulicus*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from a few localities in the Western Ghats ranging from Matheran in Maharashtra to Kanyakumari in Tamil Nadu, central India (Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh), and a few localities in the Eastern Ghats ranging from northern Orissa to Nallamala Hills, Andhra Pradesh. It ranges from 20 to 2,000 m.

**Population** It has been historically reported as common in the Nilgiri and Wayanad hills. Nothing is known about the current population status.

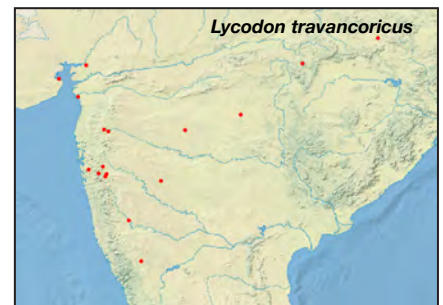
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in dry deciduous forest, evergreen and semi evergreen forests in the hills, and is also known from disturbed habitats. It is a nocturnal and terrestrial snake and has been noted to feed on skinks, geckos and frogs. The female lays 2-6 eggs in April to May.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no significant threats to this somewhat adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is included in Schedule IV of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many protected areas.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Oligodon arnensis* (Shaw, 1802)**  
Banded Kukri

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon arnensis* was described as *Coluber arnensis* based on specimens collected by Russell from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh and Arni in North Arcot district of Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** *Oligodon arnensis* is widely distributed in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Sri Lanka. In India, *Oligodon arnensis* is distributed widely and is known from throughout the country (up to an elevation of 1,300 m) except the extreme northeast and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

**Population** It is a common species.

**Habitat and Ecology** *Oligodon arnensis* is nocturnal, preferring termite mounds, caves, crevices, tree-holes and old dilapidated houses as shelters. It is found in dry deciduous forest, grasslands, scrub forest and often encountered near human habitations. Animals shelter below boulders, logs and leaf litter. It feeds chiefly on reptile and bird eggs and small reptiles, although it may take frogs and other small rodents. It has sharp,



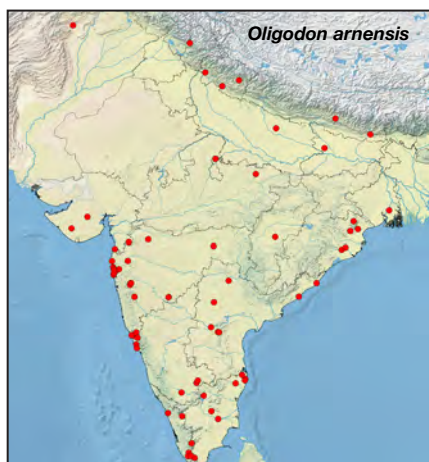
backward pointing teeth from which its name is derived. Mostly seen on the ground rarely takes to trees. Breeding season is between June and July after which it lays 3-6 eggs. Young hatch after approximately 60 days and feed on insects their larvae and spiders. Neonates take 3 years to mature.

**Major Threats** There are no major threats to this species. It can be easily mistaken for a venomous krait, and hence gets killed when it comes into human habitation for shelter.

**Use & Trade** This species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. *Oligodon arnensis* is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### *Oligodon taeniolatus*

(Jerdon, 1853)

Streaked Kukri Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Oligodon taeniolatus* was described as *Coronella taeniolata* basing on specimen probably collected from southern India.

**Geographic Range** *Oligodon taeniolatus* is a widespread species which has been recorded from eastern Iran, southern Turkmenistan, Afghanistan (where its distribution might be more continuous than is currently known), Pakistan, India and Sri Lanka. In Iran, it has been collected in the Dashley Boron region of Mazandaran Province. The species ranges up to 2,000 m above sea level. In India, this species occurs throughout the country except for the northeastern states Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir.

**Population** In South Asia, this species is common except in northwestern and eastern India. This is a very rare species within Central Asia and Iran.

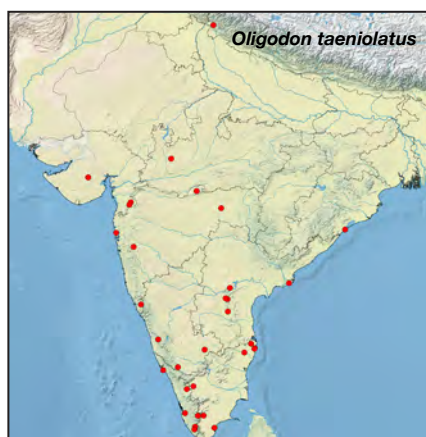
**Habitat and Ecology** This species is active both during the day and by night; most observed activity is crepuscular. It inhabits various habitats including dry deciduous forest, moist deciduous forest, shrublands, coastal plantations, modified landscapes and human habitations. The species has been recorded in flat clay desert, oases, traditionally cultivated fields and suburban gardens. It is an oviparous species, with females laying 3-9 eggs in late June. It feeds on smaller lizards and on the eggs of other reptiles; juveniles feed on insects and spiders.

**Major Threats** There are no major threats to this widespread species. In Central Asia, it is threatened in parts of its range by overgrazing.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In Turkmenistan, this species has been recorded from the Suntkhasazdag Nature Reserve and Badkhyz Nature Reserve. In India, it is reported from Periyar Tiger Reserve, Kerala; Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Maharashtra and Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, N.L. Orlov, N.B. Ananjeva, S. Shafiei Bafti & T. Papenfuss.



### *Platyceps ventromaculatus*

(Gray, 1834)

Spotted Whip Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Platyceps ventromaculatus* was described by as *Coluber ventromaculatus*. The type locality is unknown. This species is presently included in the

genus *Platyceps*. It is possible that western populations of *Platyceps ventromaculatus* differ from those of South Asia (India and Pakistan), and further studies may lead to the resurrection of *Coluber chesneii* for these populations.

**Geographic Range** *Platyceps ventromaculatus* ranges from the Arabian Gulf region (in southeastern Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, eastern Saudi Arabia [along the Arabian sea], Sir Bani Yas Island, United Arab Emirates, and southeast Iran) to Pakistan (presumably throughout), Afghanistan and India (Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh). The presence in Turkey and Syria requires further investigation. The range may be more continuous than shown due to limited survey effort in the area. It is found up to 1,000 m.

**Population** Little is known about this species. It has been commonly recorded from Jaisalmer District, Rajasthan, India

**Habitat and Ecology** This is a diurnal, semi-desert or sandy desert species known to sometimes hide under rocks and in crevices of rocks, generally found in steppe habitat with sparse vegetation. It can be encountered in date groves, farm buildings, agricultural land and rubbish dumps. In India, it has been found to frequent houses. It is oviparous and lays between four to six eggs. Predates largely lizards and geckos.

**Major Threats** Threats to this species include urbanization and general development.

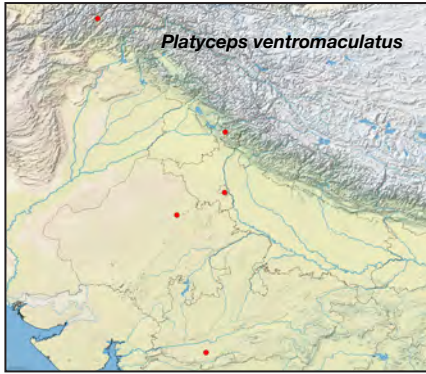
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, the species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. This species requires more research into its natural history including range, population, and basic ecology. It has been recorded from the Desert National Park in Rajasthan, India. Taxonomic studies are also needed, most especially for island populations.

**Assessors** S.J.Y. Behbehani, A.M.H. Al Johany, D.M. Egan, U. Kaya, G. Nilson, M. Sevinç, V. Tok, Y.L. Werner, B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, A.M. Disi, P.A. Crochet, I.H. Ugurtas, R. Sindaco &



S. Anderson.



***Ptyas mucosa* (Linnaeus, 1758)**  
**Oriental Ratsnake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ptyas mucosa* was described as *Coluber mucosus* based on specimens from India. Two subspecies are recognized: *P. m. mucosa* and *P. m. maximus*, the latter being endemic to Sri Lanka.

**Geographic Range** *Ptyas mucosa* is a widespread species ranging from Iran (where its presence is however unconfirmed) and Central Asia, through South and into Southeast Asia, where it ranges from Myanmar across southern China to Taiwan, and southward to Sumatra and Java. In Pakistan, it is found north to Chitral and west to Baluchistan. It occurs throughout India, including the Andaman, but not the Nicobar, Islands. In Turkmenistan, it is known only from the area of the Murgab and Kushka Rivers. In Iran, it might be present along the Murgab but has yet to be confirmed.

**Population** This species is common in much of its range. It is believed that the population is declining as a rate of heavy use. Rates of decline have not yet been quantified over most of this range, however declines are estimated to have exceeded 30% in China and 50% in Vietnam over the previous ten-year period as a result of overexploitation.

**Habitat and Ecology** This diurnal and crepuscular species is found in a great diversity of habitats, including forest, forest clearings and edges, open tropical



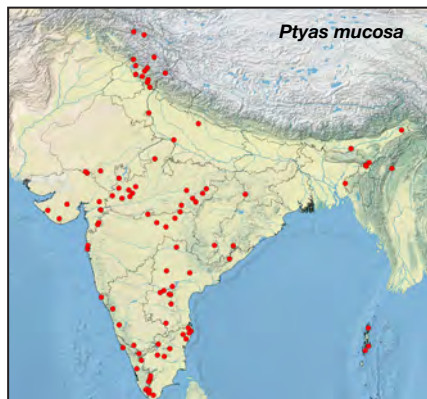
dry forests, savannahs, scrublands, plantations, villages and cultivated areas. It occurs up to 4,000 m elevation. It may be found in adjacent semi-desert or forest habitats in Central Asia. In Turkmenistan, it is mostly associated with oases. It feeds on rodents, but also eats birds, lizards, frogs, and other snakes. It lays several clutches per year of up to 18 eggs.

**Major Threats** This species may be threatened by over exploitation for food, skins, and medicinal purposes, as it is heavily traded and used throughout its range and is considered to have undergone significant population declines in parts of this area.

**Use & Trade** The species is collected for display.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this snake has been listed in Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 and the Indian population is listed in Appendix III of CITES. This species has been reported from many protected areas in India. It is listed as nationally Vulnerable in China, and as Endangered in Vietnam. In Vietnam commercial exploitation of this species is limited by a 2006 government decree. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, and to evaluate rates of population decline over the majority of its range. On the recommendation of the CITES Animals Committee, in 2011 this species was included in the next phase of the Review of Significant Trade, the first stage in the process that could lead to a reevaluation of its trade status, aimed at establishing whether CITES needs to collect further information on levels of exploitation and trade management practices.

**Assessors** G. Wogan, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, T. Papenfuss, S. Shafiei Bafti, N.L. Orlov, N.B. Ananjeva & V. Deepak.



***Sibynophis subpunctatus***  
**(Duméril & Bibron 1854)**  
**Black-headed Snake**

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Sibynophis subpunctatus* was described as *Oligodon subpunctatum* based on specimens collected from Malabar in the Western Ghats (now Kerala). It was earlier considered a synonym of *Sibynophis sagittarius*, a species originally described from Bengal, Northeast India. This species has been revalidated as distinct.

**Geographic Range** *Sibynophis subpunctatus* is distributed in peninsular India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is known from many localities; however due to historical confusion with *S. sagittarius* all peninsular Indian records of *Sibynophis* need to be rechecked. Found at elevations of 10 to 2,000 m.

**Population** This is an uncommon species.

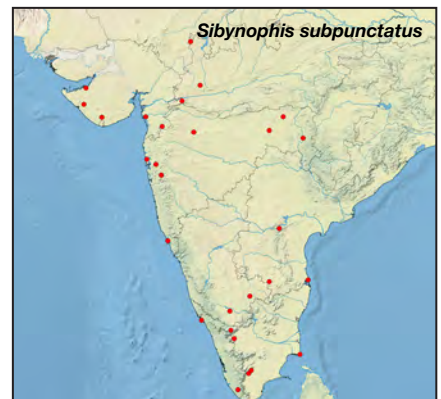
**Habitat and Ecology** *Sibynophis subpunctatus* is active both during the day and night. It has been recorded from dry scrub, mixed moist deciduous forest and human habitations. It has been found in leaf litter, and under rocks and logs. It feeds on skinks and other snakes (especially *Typhlops* spp.). Females lay 2-5 eggs.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is present in many protected areas. In India, it is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & R. Vyas.



***Bungarus caeruleus***  
(Schneider, 1801)  
Common Krait  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Bungarus caeruleus* was described as *Pseudoboa caerulea* based on the collections and description by Dr. Patrick Russell from Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

**Geographic Range** It is widely distributed in Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Nepal. In India, it is distributed widely and is known from throughout the country. It is found at elevations from sea level to 1,700 m.

**Population** It is common in many parts of India.

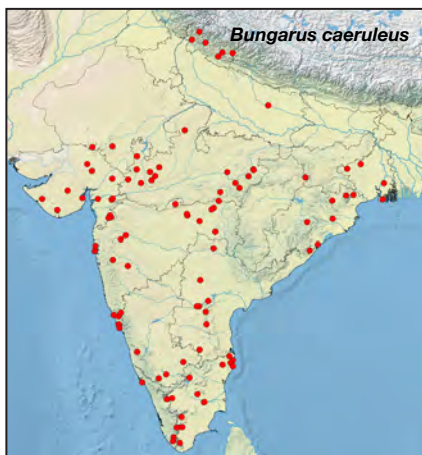
**Habitat & Ecology** This nocturnal snake inhabits a wide variety of habitats. It is usually seen in scrub jungle and sandy areas, taking refuge in termite mounds and rat burrows. It is also found in loose soil and also under debris. It also takes refuge in plantations. It is especially fond of water and is frequently seen in or near a water source. It sometimes enters human dwellings for shelter and in search of rodents. It is also found in agricultural fields searching for rodents. It primarily feeds on other snakes including other kraits, and on small mammals, frogs and lizards. The female lays 8-12 eggs in March-May that hatch in May-July.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this species. It is locally threatened by persecution by people.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is present in many protected areas

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Thakur, P. Mohapatra & A. Das.



***Bungarus fasciatus***  
(Schneider, 1801)  
Banded Krait

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Bungarus fasciatus* was described based on drawings and a description by Dr. Patrick Russell of specimens collected from Bengal, India

**Geographic Range** It occurs from India north of 17° latitude across southern China to Vietnam, and southward to Sundaland. It has a wide elevation range, having been recorded from 20 to 2,300 m.

**Population** This is a widespread but never abundant species, with no evidence of widespread population declines. In Vietnam, however, it is considered to have declined by more than 50% over 10 years as a result of overharvesting, although it is still observed regularly

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is nocturnal and terrestrial, and is known from varied habitats ranging from dry and moist deciduous forest, broadleaf forest and tropical scrub to human habitations and other disturbed or degraded habitats. It prefers open areas close to water. A clutch contains 4-14 eggs, and females stay with the eggs until they hatch.

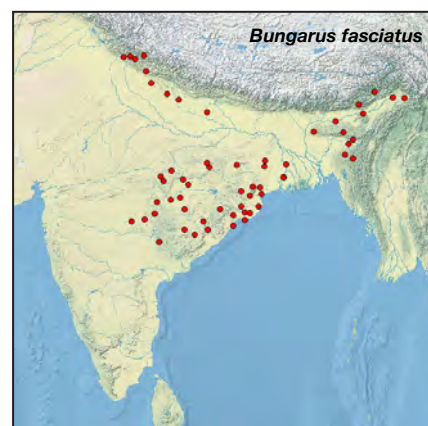
**Major Threats** The species is persecuted by people and there is mortality through roadkill. There may be a localized threat from overharvesting, although there is little evidence of decline in most of this snake's range.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is a protected species in Vietnam, where the national Red Data Book lists it as

Endangered. This widespread snake has been reported from many protected areas. Trade in this species requires investigation, particularly in areas adjacent to and exporting this snake to China, in order to determine whether this activity is significant and requires regulation.

**Assessors** B. Stuart, T.Q. Nguyen, N. Thy, Vogel, G. Wogan, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. Das, S. Thakur & P. Mohapatra.



***Bungarus sindanus*** Boulenger, 1897  
Sind Krait

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Bungarus sindanus* was described based on specimens collected from Umarkot and Sukkur, Sind, Pakistan. Presently three distinct subspecies, *B.s. sindanus* Boulenger, 1897, *B.s. walli* Wall, 1907 and *B.s. razai* Khan, 1985, are recognized. Sind Snake and Wall's Sind Snake occur in India.

**Geographic Range** This species is found in Afghanistan, Pakistan and India. In India, *B.s. sindanus* is known authentically only from one locality - Ajmer, Rajasthan, while *B.s. walli* is known from Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and West Bengal. It is found at elevations of 10 to 900 m.

**Population** This species is uncommon

**Habitat & Ecology** It is known from areas ranging from tropical scrub jungle to disturbed habitats, including human habitations. It is a nocturnal, oviparous and probably terrestrial snake. Nothing else is known about this species.

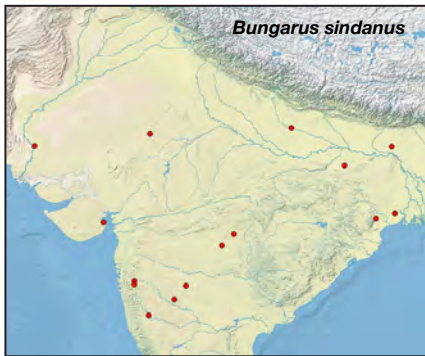
**Major Threats** The species is locally threatened by illegal venom extraction in Maharashtra.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.



**Conservation Measures** This snake is protected in India under Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has not been reported from any protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its taxonomy, distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S. Thakur, P. Mohapatra, A. Das & R. Vyas.



**Calliophis beddomei** Smith, 1943  
Beddome's Coral Snake  
Endemic to India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Calliophis beddomei* was described based on specimens collected from two locations, one each from Shevaroy Hills, Salem district, Tamil Nadu and Koppa, Chikamagaluru district, Karnataka.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known only from three localities: from Koppa in southern Karnataka, the Nilgiri Hills in Tamil Nadu (both in the Western Ghats) and Shevaroy Hills in Tamil Nadu. It is known from only a few specimens collected in mid-elevation forested tracts. It ranges from 550 to 1,100 m.

**Population** It is known only from a few specimens.

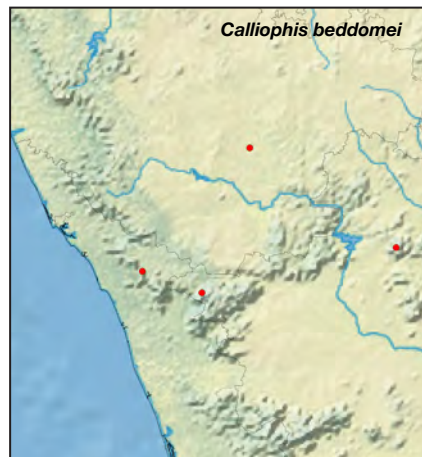
**Habitat & Ecology** *Calliophis beddomei* is known from semi-evergreen and tropical dry deciduous hill forests. It is probably a terrestrial snake. Nothing else is known about this species.

**Major Threats** It is not known whether any threats to this species exist.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is unclear whether it is present in any protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak & A. Das.



**Calliophis melanurus**  
(Shaw, 1802)  
Slender Coral Snake  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calliophis melanurus* was described based on the drawings of the snake from Nerva, Bengal. The exact location of the type locality cannot be traced.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to South Asia, being known from India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh. In India, this species is known from many localities, and has been reported from Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal. It has been recorded from sea level to 1,000 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species. Although it is known from many localities, most site records (and all recent ones) are represented by only one or two specimens, and no more than five specimens have been collected from any one historical locality.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is known from semi-evergreen forest to dry scrub and tropical dry deciduous hill forests. Animals have been recorded from urban gardens. It is a nocturnal and probably a terrestrial snake, found under rocks, leaf litter or decaying logs. Females lay 2-6 eggs.

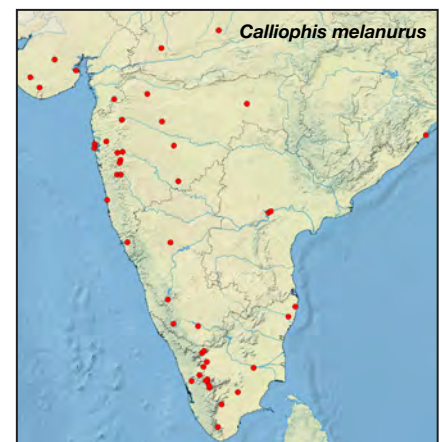
**Major Threats** There appears to be no significant threats to this somewhat adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been reported from Gir

National Park, Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Hingolghadh Wildlife Sanctuary and Vansda National Park in Gujarat, Indira Gandhi National Park and Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve and Sri Venkateshwara Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, R. De Silva, H.T. Milligan, O.R. Wearn, S. Wren, T. Zamin, J. Sears, P. Wilson, S. Lewis, P. Lintott, G. Powney, B. Collen, M. Ram, R. Vyas, A. Das & V. Deepak.



**Calliophis nigriscens** Günther, 1862  
Striped Coral Snake  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calliophis nigriscens* was described based on type specimen, the exact location of which is unknown; could be restricted to southern Western Ghats.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India, being known from Western Ghats of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu and from one site in the Eastern Ghats (Horsely Hills, Chittoor district, Andhra Pradesh). It occurs at elevations between 200 and 2,000 m.

**Population** This is a rare species

**Habitat & Ecology** It is known from evergreen and semi-evergreen to tropical dry deciduous hill forests. It has been recorded from plantations (cardamom and tea). It is a nocturnal and probably terrestrial snake, found under rocks or in leaf litter. Females lay eggs.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether any threats to this species exist, and it



has been recorded from plantations and other modified habitats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is included in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has been reported from Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary in Maharashtra, Mudumalai Wildlife Sanctuary, Anamalai Tiger Reserve and Kalakkad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and to determine whether it is subject to any threats

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Naja naja** (Linnaeus, 1758)  
Indian Cobra  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Naja naja* was described as *Coluber naja* based on drawings by Seba from India.

**Geographic Range** This species is widely distributed in South Asia, occurring in eastern Afghanistan, Pakistan, India (where it is widespread), Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, and Sri Lanka. It is found at elevations between 100 and 2,000 m.

**Population** This is a common species. Its population is thought to be stable across its range as a whole.

**Habitat & Ecology** The Indian Cobra is a highly adaptable species and is found in a wide variety of habitats ranging from moist evergreen forests, tropical dry deciduous forests, grassland habitat and dry scrub jungle to rice paddies. It is also found in artificial habitats and other agricultural lands. It is diurnal (often seen in late evening hours) and takes shelter in granaries, degraded termite mounds, earth dams, rock piles during the day. It is oviparous and lays eggs between the months of April and July. Females lay from 12 to 50 eggs underground in burrows and the eggs hatch 48 to 69 days later. The young disperse one or two weeks thereafter. It lays eggs more than once a year. It feeds on rodents, lizards, other snakes, frogs and small birds and their eggs.

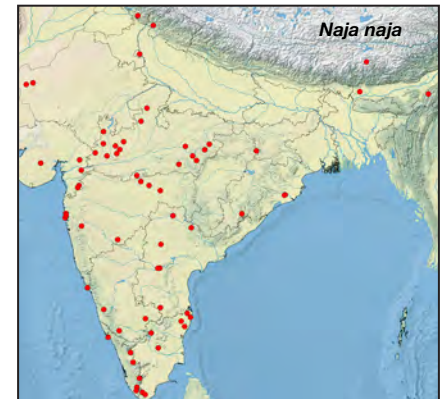
**Major Threats** This species is likely to be under localized pressure due to demand for venom collection and for the leather industry, despite bans on the legal collection of these snakes in India. Scores of individuals are collected, defanged and maintained by snake charmers for their livelihoods, but as this is a common and adaptable species this is unlikely to represent a major threat at a global scale. As venomous snakes that can be common in agricultural land, cobras are also subject to persecution.

**Use & Trade** Cobras are hunted and killed for their skins and used by snake charmers as a means of livelihood in India.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this snake is included in Schedule II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is present in many protected areas. It is an important agent of pest control, as a common snake that feeds on rodents in agricultural land. The venom of this species is used medicinally for

its anticoagulant properties, and is being clinically tested for treatment of carcinomas.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. Das, S. Thakur, N.S. Achyuthan, G. Shankar, P. Mohapatra, R. Vyas & A. Aengals.



**Ophiophagus hannah** (Cantor, 1836)  
King Cobra

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** Because of the wide distribution of this species, many herpetologists believe that this is a species complex.

**Geographic Range** This species is widely distributed in South and Southeast Asia, from Nepal (where it is found throughout the lowlands of the Terai region) and India (from Uttarakhand in western to Eastern Himalaya, down south along the Eastern Ghats up to northern Andhra Pradesh, and in the Western Ghats south of Maharashtra), across southern China (including Hainan Island), southward to the Philippines (where it is widespread) and Indonesia east as far as Sulawesi and Bali (where there are recent records from Negara, as well as the Malaysian territories of Sarawak and Sabah, and Brunei (where a recent record exists from Kuala Belalong Field Centre), on the island of Borneo. It occurs in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, but is absent from Little Andaman and from the Mentawai Islands off Sumatra. It has a maximum recorded elevation of 2,000 m.

**Population** The snake remains common in good habitat in Thailand, where it is a protected species, with no evidence of declines. However, this species is not frequently encountered anywhere else within its wide range. A population reduction of 30% over 75 years in India has been inferred from

the numerous threats to this species, including habitat destruction and harvesting of mature individuals from the wild. A study in northwestern India showed that even though the species has been recorded in diverse habitat types, analysis of observations revealed that the abundance of king cobras is strongly linked to the availability of undisturbed forests, indicating that the destruction of natural forests is likely to be causing significant declines in this species' population. In Nepal, a "very sharp decline" in larger individuals has been observed, which is likely to affect the population's reproductive fitness as large female reptiles typically produce the majority of offspring that survive to reproductive age. Local reports indicate that very large individuals can no longer be found in the Chitwan area of Nepal. In Viet Nam, the national Red Data Book estimates that this species has declined by more than 80% over 10 years as a result of habitat loss and overharvesting for the leather trade. The surviving population of this snake in Viet Nam may be very small, as it is encountered more rarely in forest surveys than in the past. The species is rarely seen in Cambodia, as few as three sightings in this country over ten years of surveys have been reported. Similarly, only three or four have been recorded in twelve years of recent surveys in Myanmar. It is very rare in Indonesia based on data from trade, where it is very much less frequently seen than species of *Naja*. The wild population in China was considered to be "very low" in the 1990s, which very probably reflects the impact of exploitation and trade of this snake in China for medicinal purposes. The snake is considered to have declined by over 50% over ten years in this country as a result of exploitation for both subsistence and regional trade. Population sizes in Peninsular Malaysia are reportedly small. Very little information is available on the status of the king cobra in Bali, where it was first reported. Presently, subpopulations appear to be small and fragmented, with the snake only known definitively from Negara in the island's west and from Bali Barat National Park. Due to hunting pressure and, particularly, deforestation for agricultural conversion, the snake is likely to be declining on this island.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is found in a variety of habitats, primarily in

pristine forests, but it can also be found in degraded forest, mangrove swamps and even agricultural areas with remnants of woodland. It has also been found swimming in rivers in non-forested land and probably occurs in palm oil plantations; however it is not yet clear whether oil palm plantations can support viable populations of this species. In India, this species has also been recorded from tea estates in the Western Ghats and Assam. In Nepal this species is poorly known, but has been reported primarily from undisturbed Sai forest and from dry high-altitude grasslands. Females build nests of dead leaves and stay with the eggs until they hatch, which takes 70 days at 28°C. Reproductive age in captivity has been estimated at 5-6 years, and this is here conservatively taken to be the generation length in the wild population, although true generation length is probably longer. One individual was reported to have a 6.3 km<sup>2</sup> home range, indicating that the species is likely to occur in low population densities, although it is unknown whether this is natural or a result of the depletion of wild populations.

**Major Threats** This species is threatened by destruction of habitat due to logging and agricultural expansion, as Southeast Asia is experiencing one of the highest rates of deforestation in the tropics and this species appears to be most abundant in forested habitats. Snakes can however survive in a range of degraded habitats and so this is unlikely to be the primary threat to this species globally. The extent to which degraded areas can maintain viable populations of this snake is unknown; in the Chitwan area of Nepal it has been observed that mostly young animals are encountered in agricultural lands, always close to forest, and these areas may simply be feeding grounds, or may be population sinks. Deforestation is however likely to exert strong pressure at local scales, particularly where snakes are also hunted, and is likely to lead to declines in many of the snakes on which this species feeds. In Nepal, the Terai lowlands have undergone a rapid increase in population since the eradication of malaria from this region, and most of this area is now under cultivation or exposed to pollution, with forests remaining only in protected areas. The King Cobra is, however, particularly at risk from the harvesting

of individuals for skin, food, pets, and especially traditional Chinese medicine. As the world's largest venomous snake, it is also suffers high levels of persecution by humans throughout its range. The possibility of this snake actually representing a complex of species makes all of these threats even more acute, as individual species within the complex will occur over a smaller area and as smaller populations than the currently recognized *Ophiophagus hannah*.

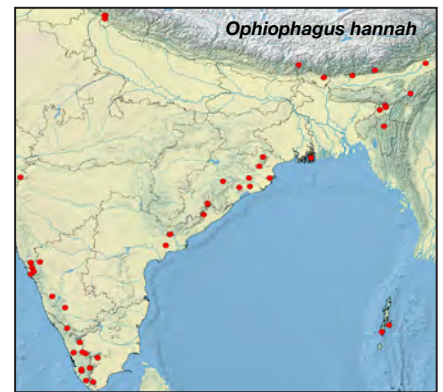
**Use & Trade** This species is harvested for skin, food, and especially medicinal purposes in China. It is heavily harvested for the medicinal trade in many parts of its range, particularly Viet Nam, Lao PDR, Cambodia and Myanmar, both for domestic purposes and for export to China. It is also traded in Java and exported to China for medicine, local consumption and trophies, which is not traceable and so is unregulated. In Bali, hunting takes place primarily to supply zoos and international collectors, but the snake is also occasionally found for sale in snake restaurants. It is also used in snake wine in Vietnam. It is found in the domestic and international pet trade throughout its range. Between 2000 and 2011, there was an annual quota of 90 specimens for the pet trade in Indonesia. Almost 2,000 live animals were exported for the pet and venom trade between 2000 and 2009 from Indonesia, and internationally the medicinal trade in this species is considerably larger. Three thousand specimens from Myanmar, reported to have been ranched, were found in a single shipment from Myanmar to Vietnam in 2006, although researchers in this area are unaware of the existence of snake farms in Myanmar. The major exporting countries for the pet trade are Indonesia and Malaysia, although it is exported from Peninsular Malaysia only in small numbers.

**Conservation Measures** The species is listed in CITES Appendix II. This species has been regionally assessed in India, China and Vietnam. The regional India preliminary assessment of Near Threatened was made by the BCPP CAMP, while in China it was assessed as Critically Endangered in the national Red Data Book, and as Endangered in the China Species Red List. It is listed as Critically Endangered in the national Red Data Book for Viet Nam, where it is a protected species. There are protected

areas within the range of this species which probably provide small safeguards from harvesting pressure. Conservation measures are required to reduce the rate of habitat destruction occurring within its range and to manage the trade levels of this species. Further research into, and monitoring of the population status of, this species is required, as well as research into sustainable harvesting levels. Taxonomic research is also needed to determine if this species actually consists of a complex of species. Educational programmes may help to minimise the

persecution of the species. In Royal Chitwan National Park the King Cobra is included in a new project focusing on ecological monitoring of and providing education about large reptiles, run by Nepal's National Trust for Nature Conservation, the park authority, and the Zoological Society of London.

**Assessors** B. Stuart, G. Wogan, L. Grismer, M. Auliya, R.F. Inger, R. Lilley, T. Chan-Ard, N. Thy, T.Q. Nguyen, C. Srinivasulu & D. Jelic.



**Eublepharis fuscus** Börner, 1981  
Western Indian Leopard Gecko  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Eublepharis fuscus* was described a subspecies of *Eublepharis macularius* Blyth, 1854 from 60 km north of Mumbai. This taxon is a distinct form and allopatric to *Eublepharis macularius*, hence has been elevated to a species. The taxa belonging to the genus *Eublepharis* are included under the family Eublepharidae since past 20 years.

**Geographic Range** It is known to occur in India over an area of more than 150,000 km<sup>2</sup>, and may be present in Pakistan. In India, it is known from several locations in the Western Ghats, namely, from northern Karnataka and parts of Maharashtra in Aurangabad and Jhalna districts, Toranmal in Nandurbar district, Saswad, Jajjuri in Pune District, Patnadevi and Gautala wildlife sanctuaries in Jalgaon District. Elsewhere it is known from Rajasthan, Gujarat from Hingolghadh, Jasdan, Rajkot, Kathiawar, Barda Wildlife Sanctuary, however, there is no data on specific sites from Rajasthan or from Pakistan. It occurs at elevations between 50 to 650 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species. It is common in some parts of its range.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is found in forested hill tracts, scrub, boulders and scrubland. It is nocturnal, terrestrial, feeds on scorpions and other arthropods. Juveniles are seen in December. Nothing else is known about its ecology.

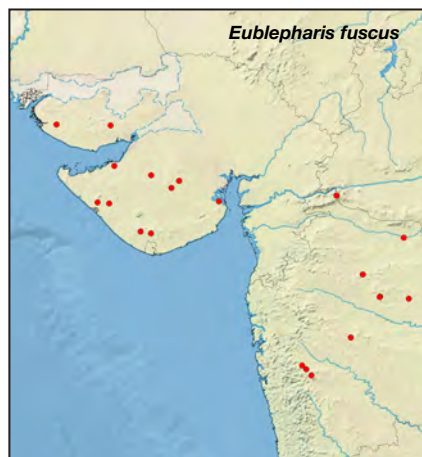
**Major Threats** Quarrying, watershed development works, persecuted as a highly venomous lizard are big threats

to the species throughout its range. The species used to be common earlier in the late 1990s as reported by the locals, but currently it is much reduced throughout its range.

**Use & Trade** The species is in trade as pet and for medicinal purposes.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Given the threats to the species, further studies to understand the distribution, population status and impacts of these threats are desirable.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Eublepharis hardwickii** Gray, 1827  
Eastern Indian Leopard Gecko  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Eublepharis hardwickii* was described based on specimens from Chittagong, Penang (Chittagong, now in Bangladesh).

**Geographic Range** It is found from the low mountain region of Chota Nagpur (around 1,150 m) in Jharkhand,

southern Bihar and West Bengal and across Odisha to the coast of the Bay of Bengal. It is also thought to inhabit areas of the adjacent states of West Bengal, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and around Madras in Tamil Nadu. However, it has been observed to occur only in Bihar, Odisha, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In Madhya Pradesh, the species has been reported from the Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve, although the colour pattern may suggest the specimen to be *E. macularius* instead. Similarly, earlier records from Madhya Pradesh (e.g. Bandhavgarh National Park) are also thought to be erroneous and are likely to refer to another taxon, so that the occurrence of the species in this state is uncertain, if not unlikely. The great similarities between the two species can easily lead to mistaken identification, so that the real range of *E. hardwickii* may be smaller than is currently suggested. It is found in elevations of 500 to 1,500 m.

**Population** This species was observed and reported from West Bengal after a lapse of 137 years, signifying interesting zoogeographical implications in terms of its occurrence and rarity. During surveys in the vicinity of the village Tikerpada, on the banks of the river Mahanadi in Odisha it was found to be not so rare and quite common in occurrence. It has been recently observed in good numbers in several localities in Odisha.

**Habitat & Ecology** This is a nocturnal insectivorous species that inhabits moist and dry deciduous forests where it can be found under big boulders and in hollows at the base of trees. It is known to enter human settlements.

**Major Threats** This species, as a member of the strikingly patterned

leopard geckos, is likely to feature in the pet trade, although it is thought that the majority of individuals are bred in captivity. It is therefore unlikely that this is a threat which impacts significantly on wild populations. This species is not listed by CITES. Rampant forest fires for hunting and clearing for roads in the mountains are likely to affect the species in Odisha. There are no specific major threats in Maharashtra.

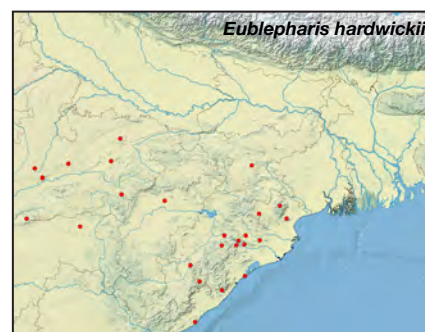
**Use & Trade** Because of its striking

pattern, it is likely that this species is collected for the pet trade.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species is known from the many protected areas in its range. Research recommendations include population surveys and life history studies. Further research is also needed on the distribution and threats of this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasul

& I. Das.



### **Calodactylodes aureus**

(Beddome, 1870)

Indian Golden Gecko

Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Calodactylus aureus* was described based on specimens collected from Tirupattur hills (=Tirupati hills), Eastern Ghats.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to peninsular India and is known from Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. It is fairly common in Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha. Since 2000, several new records have been reported. This species occurs at elevations between 50 and 1400 m.

**Population** This species is abundant in certain areas namely Maredumilli in East Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh and Rayagada in Odisha. It seems to be fairly common in its distribution range.

**Habitat & Ecology** It has been observed along streams, among rocky areas, and in human habitations. This species forages by ambushing the prey and is active during both day and night. It has been observed to feed on spiders; and adapting a mid-air twirl for which its long limbs have been adapted captures moths and other flying insects. It lays eggs in clusters attached to the ceiling of human habitation or walls and ceilings of caves and other rocky surfaces.

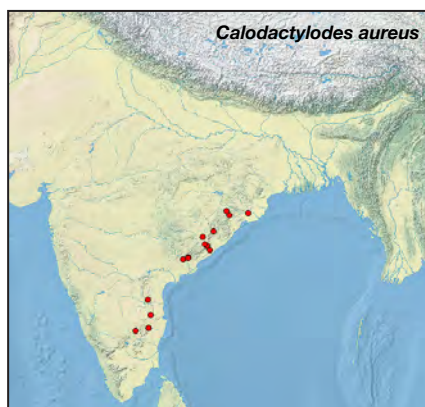
**Major Threats** Dam construction in Papikonda hills (Polavaram dam) is a major threat to the populations in West Godavari and Khammam districts. In Odisha, mining is a major threat to populations at Niyamgiri and several places in Rayagada District. Logging of riverine forests observed in Phulbani. Shifting agriculture in Orissa and northern and eastern Andhra Pradesh is rampant. In Ananthagiri hills,

Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh, human encroachment and conversion of streams into farmlands is a major threat for the habitat of this species. This species has been observed in and around human habitations at Ananthagiri and Tyda, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh. Here the population of this species is threatened due to clearing of the egg clusters by the locals.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is in Schedule I of the Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act (1972). It occurs in two protected areas namely, Sri Venkateswara Wildlife Sanctuary, Papikonda Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh. Although the distribution is wide, populations in several locations may be undergoing declines due to anthropogenic factors. Hence the populations need monitoring.

**Assessors** A. Bauer, C. Srinivasulu, I. Agarwal, A.D. Roy, B. Srinivasulu & P. Mohapatra.



### **Cnemaspis boiei** (Gray, 1842)

Boie's Day Gecko

Endemic to India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis boiei* was described from an imprecise locality ("India") and no extant populations

are known. Limited understanding of variation in the species precludes meaningful comparison with some congeners and the name may also apply to one or more recently described congeners.

**Geographic Range** No information regarding its distribution is available. No inference can be made with respect to area of occupancy, extent of occurrence, number of locations, range, etc.

**Population** Excepting the type specimens in BMNH (sites where they were collected is also not known) there exists no information regarding the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** Nothing is known about its habitats and ecology.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** The taxonomic validity of the species and distribution need to be established.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.

### **Cnemaspis mysoriensis**

(Jerdon, 1853)

Mysore Day Gecko

Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis mysoriensis* was described based on specimens collected from Bangalore, Karnataka, India. The holotype is missing and a neotype was designated.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India. Though it has been thought that this species is found in hills of southern India as far north as 13° latitude and up to an altitude of 900 m and though the presence of this species from other parts of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala has been reported, the identity of these reports is doubtful, due to the fact that



the type was lost and also because all these localities lie very far away from the type locality and occur in different habitat types from that of the type locality. Furthermore, confirmed sightings from Agara village, Indira Nagar, Kanakapura village and Sarjapura that are in and around Bengaluru city and one from Mysuru, have been reported. The species has been recently collected from Bannimantap (in Mysuru), T. Narsipur Taluk in Mysuru District. It occurs at elevations between 700 and 920 m.

**Population** It is reported to be common in and around Bengaluru from where it has been collected recently and redescribed. It is also common in Mysuru and is sympatric with *Hemidactylus brooki*.

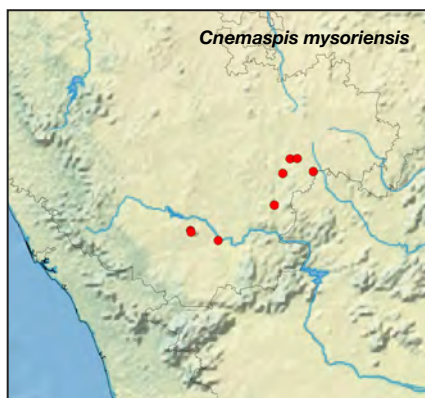
**Habitat & Ecology** Majority of the specimens were collected from among the prop roots of *Ficus* trees, in dry cement gutters and from rock walls. It is commensal in nature and can be found in human habitation, and also in relatively undisturbed areas in city outskirts. This species lays 20-30 eggs in communal oviposition sites, which have been recorded on the inner side of a moist bridge, in a crevice in the prop root of a large *Ficus bengalensis* tree, beneath a bark of a *Ficus religiosa* tree, and on a stone wall. Individuals of this species were observed throughout the day.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the threats to this species. It is partly commensal and its unclear how anthropogenic activities may impact the populations.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not known from any protected area. Surveys to determine distribution of the species are recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis otai* Das & Bauer, 2000**  
**Vellore Day Gecko**  
**Endemic to peninsular India**

**Vulnerable**

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis otai* was described based on specimens collected from Vellore, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from Vellore town, Tamil Nadu, India. It occurs at elevations between 200 and 225 m.

**Population** There is no population information available for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The types were collected from the rocks in the scrub jungle at the summit of Balamadi Hill, and at the bottom of the dry well at Vellore Fort. This species was found sympatric with *Calodactylodes aureus*, *Ophisops beddomei*, *Hemidactylus reticulatus*, *Lygosoma punctatum*, *Psammophilus blanfordianus* and *Sitana ponticeriana*.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. The hill from where the species is known is adjacent to the city with a historic fort, which may provide some protection to the site. However, given the proximity of the location to the city of Vellore there are anthropogenic pressures due to tourism-related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not known from any protected area. Further survey work is needed to determine extent of its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cnemaspis yercaudensis***  
**Das & Bauer, 2000**  
**Yercaud Day Gecko**  
**Endemic to peninsular India**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Cnemaspis yercaudensis* was first described from Yercaud Town, in the Shevaroyan (Shevaroy) Range, Salem District, Tamil Nadu.

**Geographic Range** It was till recently known only from the type locality, Yercaud Town, in the Shevaroyan (Shevaroy) Range, Salem District, Tamil Nadu. Recent observation and collections at Kolli Hills, Tamil Nadu extends its distribution range. It may possibly occur at high elevations in Shevaroy hills, Kolli hills and Pachamalai Hills, Tamil Nadu. It has been observed at elevations between 1,100 and 1,500 m.

**Population** Recent observations at Yercaud and Kolli hills (about 60 km from Yercaud) revealed that this species is common and abundant in occurrence.

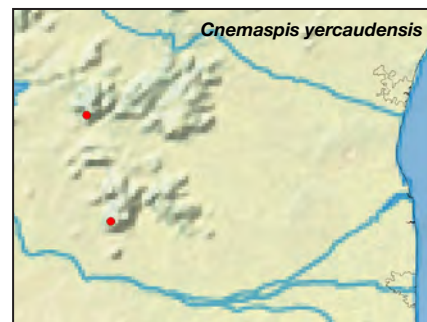
**Habitat & Ecology** It has been observed in rocky areas and also in the proximity of human habitation.

**Major Threats** There are no perceived threats to this species. It is found near human habitation in good numbers.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is not known from any protected area.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Cyrtodactylus nebulosus***  
**(Beddome, 1870)**  
**Clouded Indian Gecko**  
**Endemic to southern India**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Cyrtodactylus nebulosus* was described as *Gymnodactylus nebulosus* based on type specimen collected from Golkonda Hill, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, where it is widely distributed, and is known from numerous locations in the Eastern Ghats of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh and extending into the Satpuras in Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh. Isolated records of this species from Tamil Nadu and Kerala need verification. It occurs at elevations between 50 and 1,300 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species. It is locally abundant in parts of its range.

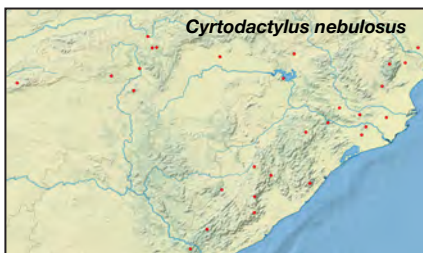
**Habitat & Ecology** It is found in forested hill tracts and has also been recorded around human habitation in the Eastern Ghats and Satpuras. They are found resting under stones during the day, and active at night found among leaf litter and on logs.

**Major Threats** The hill ranges from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities. In some areas habitats are affected due to conversion for plantations, paddy cultivation, rampant forest fires for hunting and clearing for roads in the mountains and for tendu leaf collection in the plains and in protected areas.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Geckoella collegalensis***  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Kollegal Ground Gecko  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Geckoella collegalensis* was described based on specimens collected from Balarangam near Yelandur (= Yelandur Hobli in Kollegal Taluk, Chamarajanagara District, Karnataka), State of Mysore. Beddome also described *Gymnodactylus speciosus* from Erode, Coimbatore District, Tamil Nadu, which was synonymized and considered as a colour morph. Species of *Geckoella* are sometimes allocated to the genus *Cyrtodactylus*. Molecular phylogenetic data reveal that *Geckoella* is embedded within *Cyrtodactylus*, but formal taxonomic action is pending. It has been reported from Sri Lanka, however, the taxonomic status of the Sri Lankan population is considered to be unresolved.

**Geographic Range** It has been

reported from India and Sri Lanka, however, it is considered that the status of this species in Sri Lanka is uncertain due to taxonomic issues. In India, this species is known from numerous sites in Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Madhya Pradesh. The Madhya Pradesh record requires verification. It occurs at elevations between 50 and 1,400 m. The extent of occurrence is unclear, but is known to exceed 20,000 km<sup>2</sup>. As the majority of records are very recent, it is likely that this species is more widespread than is currently known.

**Population** Until 2000, this gecko had been considered a rare species and restricted to areas of low elevations and known to occur south of 13°N. However, it has been reported from many localities in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Gujarat. Along with being widely distributed, this species is abundant in the sites from where it has been reported. It is probable that this species is distributed through much of central and southern India.

**Habitat & Ecology** A terrestrial species, this species seems to prefer dry deciduous to moist deciduous forests. Specimens were collected from under boulders in open deciduous scrub land patches, from teak plantations, under decaying logs in dry deciduous forest. It has been observed to move along forest pathways foraging among the leaf litter and hides among the curled leaves at the slightest disturbance. This is a crepuscular species being most active between 1800 to 2030 hrs. Clutch size is two eggs per clutch and it is probable that this species lays more than one clutch of eggs per season. It feeds on a variety of insects like cockroaches, grasshoppers, mantis nymphs, crickets, mealworms, termites and spiders.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species in India. However, the habitat in its distribution range is facing a decline in quality due to anthropogenic activities including farming and residential development. In Sri Lanka significant habitat degradation was recorded in 2004 at the historic locality of Nilaveli. This locality was subsequently destroyed by the tsunami of 2004.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation

measures in place for this species. It is known to occur in protected areas including Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Biligiri Ranganathaswamy Temple Wildlife Sanctuary, Karnataka, Gir and Vansda National Parks, Purna Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat, Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu. There is need for survey work to determine its range and the taxonomic status of the Sri Lankan population.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Geckoella jeyporensis***  
(Beddome, 1878)  
Jeypore Ground Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India  
Critically Endangered

**Taxonomy** *Geckoella jeyporensis* was described based on specimens collected from Pathinge Hill, Jeypore, Odisha. Species of *Geckoella* are sometimes allocated to the genus *Cyrtodactylus*. Molecular phylogenetic data reveal that *Geckoella* is embedded within *Cyrtodactylus*, but formal taxonomic action is pending.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Eastern Ghats, India. The type locality is probably Patinghe (Potangi) Hill near Jeypore in Odisha. The species had not been collected since it was originally found in 1877, and there were fears that it might be extinct. However, it was recently recorded from Deomali, Jeypore in Koraput District, Odisha about 10 km from the type locality. A further collection was also made in October 2011, 40 km away from the type locality at Galikonda, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh. Its known extent of occurrence is probably under 100 km<sup>2</sup>. Within this area, its occurrence appears to be highly restricted at the two known sites, with a recent two-day survey failing

to locate it in nearby areas and the area of occupancy is provisionally estimated to be around 20 km<sup>2</sup>. There are, however, other high peaks in this hill range where this species might be found. It occurs at elevations between 1,200 and 1,300 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population size or trends of this species, but it appears to be extremely scarce given the low number of specimens and sightings to-date.

**Habitat & Ecology** The type specimen was collected in a wood on top of Patinghe hill, near Jeypore. For the more recent collections, one individual was collected from under a rock in a patch of semi-evergreen forest at Deomali and one from a coffee plantation at Galikonda which still had many native shade trees. It therefore appears that this species is confined to semi-evergreen high altitude forests. All recent specimens were collected during the day and no animals were observed at night. Nothing else is known about the ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** The forest habitats where this species occurs are under extreme pressure. Neither of the new localities is in a protected area and both are severely deforested. Galikonda and the surrounding hills have been converted to coffee plantations and at Deomali there are grazing and fuel wood collection pressures. The hills in the Koraput District also face pressure from bauxite mining. Generally semievergreen forests in this region have been converted to plantations (with exotic species), agriculture or grazing lands and the remaining forest patches are impacted by fuel wood collection and occasional forest fires.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species and none of the known localities is in a protected area. There is an urgent need for survey work to determine its range, and protect the areas of presence.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, A.D. Roy & B. Srinivasulu.



### ***Gehyra mutilata* (Wiegmann, 1834)**

#### **Common Four-clawed Gecko**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Gehyra mutilata* was described as *Hemidactylus* (*Peropus*) *mutilatus* based on specimens collected from Manila, Philippines. It was suggested that western Indian Ocean populations, including those from Madagascar, may not be conspecific with true *G. mutilata*, which has a type locality in the Philippines, however, it was found that samples from Madagascar, the Seychelles and the Mascarenes were genetically indistinguishable from Philippine and mainland Asian populations. Studies have demonstrated that there are two deeply divergent clades, and found that the name *Gehyra insulensis* is available for one of these. Although this name has not been formally resurrected it is recognized by specialists working on Pacific reptiles, and the Pacific clade is treated separately, as *G. insulensis*, in these accounts. The taxonomic status of Indian populations has not been evaluated and it is unclear to which lineage they belong and research is needed into Southeast Asian populations to examine levels of genetic variation.

**Geographic Range** *Gehyra mutilata* is a tropical gecko occurring from Madagascar to eastern China and has been reported from tropical islands and the coastlines throughout this region. Low levels of genetic variation between Indian Ocean island populations suggest that the species is a recent colonist this part of its range, probably as a result of human-mediated dispersal. This species is also believed to be the *Gehyra* present in the Solomon Islands as a recent introduction. It occurs at elevations between sea level and 130 m. In India, this species is known from the Andaman and Nicobar islands and on the mainland based on a historic record from Kochi, Kerala. Recently *Gehyra mutilata* has been reported from the vicinity of Ponmudi in Thiruvananthapuram District, Kerala where it was observed to be common and commensal with humans. It has also been recorded from Unnao, Uttar Pradesh.

**Population** No information of population status of *Gehyra mutilata* on mainland India.

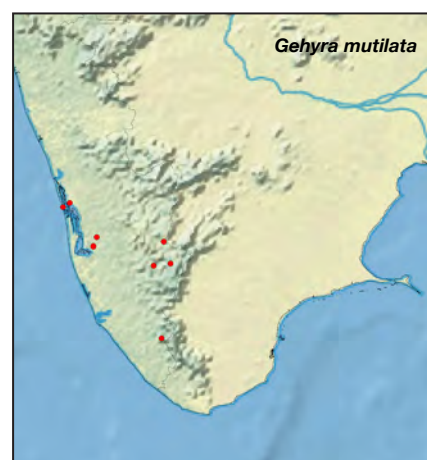
**Habitat and Ecology** This species occurs in rocky areas in forests, and is frequently seen in human dwellings.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species. Also, as it is a highly adaptable species and occurs in human dwellings, it might be persecuted as part of pest control activity else no obvious threat is present. In the Pacific it appears to be out competed by the Oceanic Gecko and House Gecko, and typically only occurs in their absence.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. *Gehyra mutilata* is recorded from Periyar Tiger Reserve.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### ***Hemidactylus aquilonius***

**(Zug & McMahan, 2007)**

#### **Northern Burmese Gecko**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus aquilonius* was described based on specimens collected from He Pu, Kachin, Myanmar. A taxonomic revision of the *bowringii* group precipitated a re-evaluation of Indian "*Hemidactylus bowringii*", and these populations were subsequently reallocated to *Hemidactylus aquilonius*.

**Geographic Range** It is distributed in the Nallamala Hills of Andhra Pradesh, Sikkim, Darjeeling and Jalpaiguri in West Bengal, Mizoram, Uttarakhand, Assam in India, as well as in Myanmar. Records of *H. bowringii* from Nepal are likely to represent *H. aquilonius* and require re-evaluation. It occurs at elevations between 800 and 2200 m.

**Population** These geckos are reasonably common in Guwahati, but rare in the Nallamalai Hills. Nothing is known about population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This human

commensal is strongly associated with buildings and is consequently found in urban areas. It has also been recorded from plantations, and from both disturbed and undisturbed moist deciduous and evergreen forest.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats to the species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** No conservation measures are in place or needed for this species. Research is needed to clarify the taxonomic identity of populations west of Sikkim.

**Assessors** A. Bauer, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.

### **Hemidactylus brookii** Gray, 1845 Brooke's House Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus brookii* was described based on specimens collected from Borneo. The traditional species concept for *H. brookii* being a very widespread, pantropical lizard, and its taxonomic history is confused. New World members of this lineage were elevated to species status (as *H. haitianus* and *H. leightoni*) in 1996; *H. haitianus* has also been confirmed as the lineage represented on Bioko Island, Equatorial Guinea, implying that this species likely represents a historical introduction to the West Indies. A 2006 study elevated African *H. angulatus*, previously a subspecies of *H. brookii*, to specific status, confining *H. brookii* to Asia, and confirmed that *H. angulatus*, *H. leightoni* and *H. haitianus* are only distantly-related to *H. brookii*. A recent examination of the taxonomic status of Asian forms resulted in raising of the taxon *parvimaclatus* Deraniyagala, 1953 to specific status, reporting it from south of Palghat Gap in India, and from Sri Lanka. This is probably also the form that occurs in the Comoros and Mascarene Islands based on genetic similarity to Sri Lankan populations. The Indonesian *H. tenkatei* was removed from synonymy with *H. brookii* on morphological grounds. The Burmese form *H. subtriadroides*, sometimes treated as a synonym of



*H. brookii*, has been synonymized with *H. tenkatei*. The Indian population previously treated as *H. mahendrai* is also included in the synonymy of *H. brookii*. The distributions of *H. brookii* and *H. parvimaclatus* in India remain unclear. A comprehensive review of all Indian taxa presently included within *H. brookii* is urgently required. On nomenclatural grounds, *Gecko tyleri* is retained within the synonymy of *H. brookii*, so also is *H. murrayi* from Gujarat as a junior synonym (in the absence of comparative material to confirm its specific identity). Two remaining names previously treated as synonyms of *H. brookii*, *H. gleadowi* and *H. kushmorensis*, were resurrected for Pakistani members of the *brookii* complex found to represent distinct species.

**Geographic Range** The natural distribution of this species is completely unknown. The species redescribed recently, is only known from Sarawak, Malaysian Borneo, however this is thought to represent an introduced population on biogeographical grounds. Morphologically this species resembles African forms currently included within the *H. angulatus* species complex. Forms retained within the synonymy of *H. brookii* and those of unknown status, are known from India north of the Palghat Gap, south China, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, Indochina and the Malay Peninsula. Populations from eastern Indonesia (representing probable introductions), Myanmar and Pakistan are now considered to represent the distinct species *H. tenkatei*, *H. kushmorensis* and *H. gleadowi*; however Philippine records are provisionally considered to represent *H. brookii*. A form previously assigned to *H. brookii* from Rajasthan in India represents a distinct, presently undescribed species. In India, forms considered to belong to *H. brookii* are known from 0 - 1,000 m.

**Population** It has been reported to be common throughout India. No other information on this lizard's population status is available.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is found in a variety of habitat types ranging from dry deciduous, dry grasslands, moist evergreen forests and secondary forests. It is also seen near and sometimes in human habitation. It predominantly feeds on insects and other small invertebrates, but may rarely take the young of other lizard species. This nocturnal gecko hides within crevices during the day.

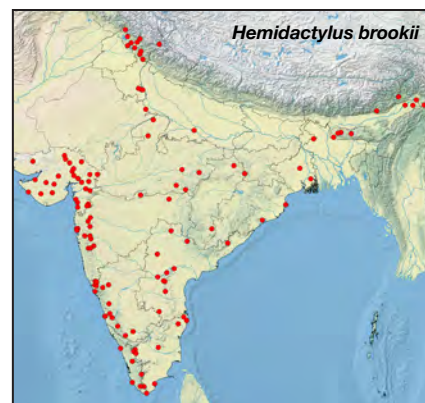
Morphologically, it is primarily adapted for a "litter-dwelling" lifestyle; away from human dwellings and typically encountered within leaf litter, beneath rocks and logs, or within the leaf axils of banana trees. A form from Gujarat, however, is more closely-associated with boulder fields and vegetation, and is only provisionally considered to belong to *H. brookii*. This species probably breeds throughout the year in different parts of its range. The breeding season in this species is from September to June.

**Major Threats** As this is a highly adaptable human commensal there are no perceived threats affecting this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species, as presently-defined, is widely distributed and is known from many protected areas as well as from reserve forests in India. Due to extreme taxonomic confusion there is an urgent need to review and revise the species complex throughout Asia, and to identify source populations conspecific with the introduced Malaysian type series.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### **Hemidactylus flaviviridis** Rüppell, 1835 Northern House Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* was described based on specimens collected from Massaua Island, Eritrea.

**Geographic Range** It ranges from Somalia through Djibouti and Eritrea into eastern Egypt and coastal Sudan (where it has a patchy distribution along the Red Sea), the coastal Arabian Peninsula, Iraq, Iran, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal and northern, central and southern India.

In Somalia it is known from Berbera (West Galbeed) and Bosaso (Bari). It is also present on Socotra Island, Yemen. It is generally found at sea level. It has been introduced by man to an undetermined part of its range, probably including the coastal Red Sea. It has been reported historically from Ethiopia, but this country is not included in the distribution, and is at present unknown in this country. It is suggested that it is native to central and southern India, and has become distributed westward along trade routes through human agency. It generally occurs below 1,000 m.

**Population** This species is expanding its range due to human activities, including transport of goods. The population is presumed to be increasing as a result. Locally the species can be quite abundant. It is thought likely to be common in Djibouti, although only two voucher specimens are known from this country.

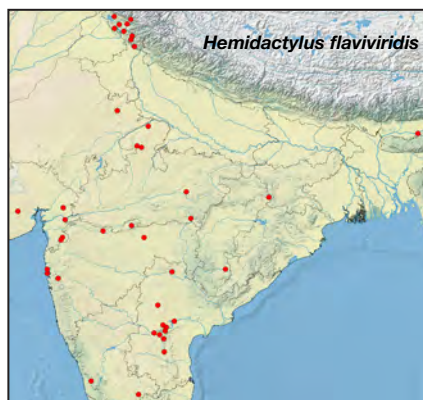
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is mostly associated with human habitations including houses and ruins. In relatively undisturbed areas it is observed in rocky areas and less frequently among trees.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species has been recorded from many protected areas. In its range in India, this species is known from a few protected areas, including, Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary, Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh, Hingolghad Nature Education Sanctuary, Vansda National Park, Jambhughoda Wildlife Sanctuary, Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, Shoolphaneshwar Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat, and Sanjay Gandhi National Park in Maharashtra.

**Assessors** S.J.Y. Behbehani, A.M.H. Al Johany, J. Els, M. Sharifi, T. Papenfuss, B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S. Baha El Din & S. Shafiei Bafti.



**Hemidactylus frenatus**  
Schlegel in Duméril & Bibron, 1836  
Pacific Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus frenatus* was first described based on specimens from Java. Earlier, the name *Hemidactylus javanicus* was used, but as no description or diagnosis was provided, the nomen is considered as nomen nudum.

**Geographic Range** This species is found worldwide in tropical and subtropical regions. It is native to southern and southeast Asia and the Indo-Australian Archipelago. This species also has a patchy distribution in the Pacific, which includes many regions of Polynesia, Micronesia, and Melanesia. It also occurs in Taiwan, the Ryukyu Islands, and the Philippines (a number of islands including Palawan, Panay and Luzon). This species has been transported widely by humans and introduced populations exist in Australia, eastern Africa, islands of the Indian Ocean, Mexico, and the United States (including Hawaii). This species is found between sea level and 1,600 m.

**Population** This species is common throughout most of its range.

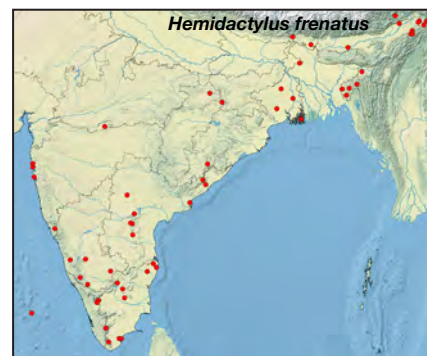
**Habitat & Ecology** This nocturnal species is found on boulders, beneath rocks or rotting logs, and on trees, however, it most commonly found on buildings. This species is found in both villages and large urban areas, it is usually found close to electric lights at dusk. In addition, this species occurs in a diverse range of natural habitats, including rain forests, savannas, and semi arid regions. This species has also been reported to be found on small palm trees in coconut plantations.

**Major Threats** It is unlikely that any major threat is impacting this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species, however, in places its distribution coincides with protected areas. No conservation measures are required for this species at present.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. Allison, B. Hollingsworth, R. Brown, A.C. Diesmos & O. Tallowin.



**Hemidactylus giganteus**  
Stoliczka, 1871  
Giant Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus giganteus* was described based on specimens collected from Godavari River valley near Bhadrachalam, Andhra Pradesh. There is potential confusion between this species and *H. aaronbaueri*, and the identity of historical records of *H. giganteus* from within the range of this more recently-described species requires verification.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from numerous localities across central and eastern peninsular India (distributed in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Karnataka). Localities from western Maharashtra, Chennai, Visakhapatnam, Bastar and Waynad are erroneous. It occurs at elevations between 500 and 1,200 m. The species has an estimated extent of occurrence of 36,048 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** It is common through much of its range.

**Habitat & Ecology** Historical reports describe this species as being found exclusively on trees. However the species is now considered to be largely rupicolous, only occasionally found on trees and among human habitation.

**Major Threats** Owing to its preference for rocky habitats, quarrying activities and habitat conversion for agriculture are the major threats, although these are

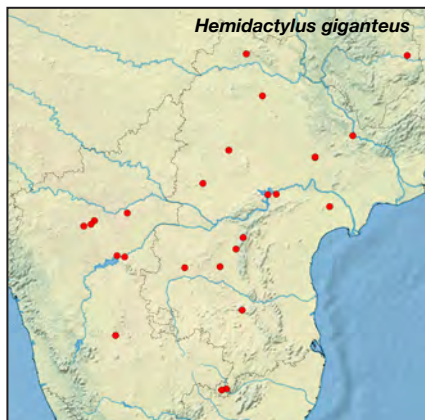


presently localized. Other anthropogenic factors including tourism related development could pose future threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It occurs in Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh. Studies on the impact of threats on the population of this species, its current population trends, distribution extent and habitat requirements need to be conducted.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Hemidactylus gracilis**  
Blanford, 1870  
Graceful Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus gracilis* was described based on specimens collected from southeast Berar and Raipur in Central Province (now in Chhattisgarh).

**Geographic Range** It is widely distributed in peninsular India including the northern Western Ghats, and over an area greater than 50,000 km<sup>2</sup>. Reports of this species from Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh and Shivpuri, Madhya Pradesh, need to be confirmed. It occurs at elevations between 40 and 700 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of the species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This ground-dwelling gecko occurs in grasslands, scrubland and dry forest, with a preference for well-wooded areas, where it is reported to occur under rocks, cracks and crevices in the ground.

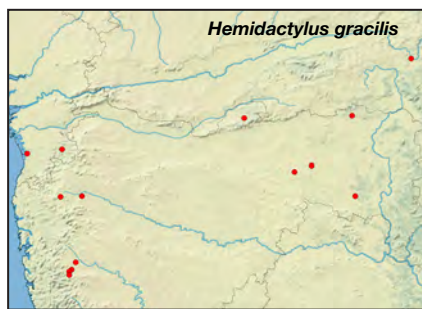
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the specific threats to this species. However, some localities from where the species is known are facing a decline in

quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including tourism related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Despite being widespread, within its range the gecko is apparently restricted to certain parts of peninsular India and the Western Ghats. This species is known from Melghat Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra and Purna Wildlife Sanctuary in Gujarat. Field surveys are therefore needed to clarify the distribution of this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Hemidactylus graniticolus**  
Agarwal, Giri & Bauer, 2011  
Granite-dwelling Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** The subspecies *Hemidactylus maculatus bunae* was described based on a holotype from Sri Lanka, and material from southern India were assigned to this new form. *H. graniticolus* was described based on six of these southern Indian specimens, restricting *H. bunae* to Sri Lanka, the remaining Indian material being found to represent *H. maculatus*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India where it is known from southern and southeastern Karnataka, northern Tamil Nadu and the extreme southwest of Andhra Pradesh. This is a cryptic species which has been confused with *H. maculatus*, and it might be more widespread than currently known. It has been recorded from 200 m in the Salem District to above 1,000 m on the Mysore Plateau. The currently known localities for this species based on voucher specimens are Harohalli (Bangalore Rural District), Ramnagaram (Ramnagaram District), Chamundi Hills and Kollegal in Karnataka state; Nilgiri District Masanagudi-Ooty road (Nilgiri District),

Yercaud (Salem District), Vellore (Vellore District) and near Gingee (Villupuram District) in Tamil Nadu and Kangundi (Chittoor District) in Andhra Pradesh. The overall extent of occurrence is unclear due to taxonomic uncertainty, but based on these confirmed records is greater than 20,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

**Population** This rupicolous species is reported to be abundant and widespread.

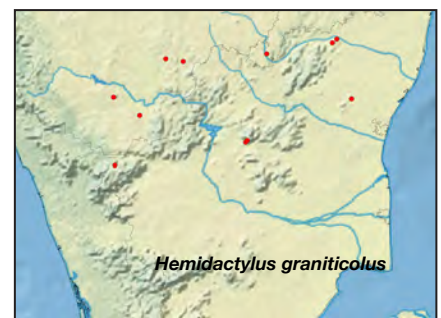
**Habitat & Ecology** The species appears to be strictly rupicolous, being recorded as occurring on granite boulders in both hills and rocky outcrops in the plains. These areas are characterized by sparse shrubby shrubland with few trees or occasionally deciduous forests. The species is active after dark on rock faces and occasionally culverts, whilst in the day they may be found in crevices among the boulders.

**Major Threats** Quarrying might represent a threat in parts of this lizard's range, but no impacts on the lizard's habitat have yet been documented.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species, which is not known from any protected areas. Since the species was only recently described, its distribution is not completely understood and further surveys are recommended. The population status of this species should be monitored to establish whether quarrying poses any risk.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Hemidactylus gujaratensis**  
Giri, Bauer, Vyas & Patil, 2009  
Gujarat Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus gujaratensis* was first described based on specimens collected from Vagheshwari Mata Temple, Junagadh City, Junagadh District, Gujarat.

**Geographic Range** This lizard is known only from Vagheshwari Mata Temple, Junagadh City, Junagadh District, Gujarat. It occurs at elevations between 100 to 110 m.

**Population** This gecko is locally very abundant, but nothing is known about population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This gecko has been collected from a wall of the temple located on one of the lower elevation hills (110 m), in rocky habitats near a small perennial stream surrounded by trees, bushes, and large boulders. This nocturnal lizard shelters during the day, emerging in the evening. It is chiefly active on boulders, but some individuals have been observed on the ground and on tree trunks in the dry mixed deciduous teak forest. Animals have been observed basking during the day on large boulders.

**Major Threats** Although threats to this species are unknown, the type locality is a well-known religious site and a tourist destination. Tourism therefore represents a potential threat to the type locality, which is presently unaffected.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This recently-described gecko is known only from the type locality, which falls within the Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary. Surveys are recommended to establish its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### *Hemidactylus leschenaultii*

Duméril & Bibron, 1836

Leschenault's Leaf-toed Gecko

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus leschenaultii* was described based on specimens collected from Sri Lanka. In a molecular analysis of South Asian *Hemidactylus*, it has been found that Sri Lankan and Indian samples were conspecific, however this research included only one sample from

each country and more comprehensive sampling of Indian populations is required to confirm whether these represent a single species.

**Geographic Range** It is known from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Oman. In India, it is known from the Eastern and Western Ghats and from Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh in peninsular India. Records from Uttarakhand and Nepal need verification. In Oman it is known only from two localities and it is possible that the species was introduced, however the two known Omani records are not from sites near human habitations. It occurs at elevations between 0 to 1,000 m.

**Population** This gecko is locally abundant in parts of its range.

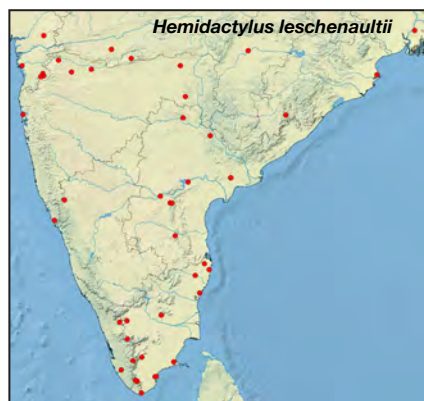
**Habitat & Ecology** It has been found in reasonably well preserved forested areas, in drier habitats and in homes. It is naturally arboreal and consequently prefers habitats with trees. It can sometimes be found frequenting human habitations around the edges of natural habitats. Females deposit eggs within crevices and cracks in trees and on walls.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats to this species, however, some areas where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to conversion of forested tracts into agricultural lands.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. In view of its wide range it is likely to occur in some protected areas. Further taxonomic research on Indian and Sri Lankan populations needs to be conducted to clarify their taxonomic identity.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & K.J.M. Al Rasbi.



### *Hemidactylus maculatus*

Duméril & Bibron, 1836

Spotted Leaf-toed Gecko

Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus maculatus* was described based on specimens collected from Bombay (presently Mumbai, Maharashtra), India. The subspecies *H. maculatus bunae* Deraniyagala, 1937 has recently been elevated to specific status and confined to Sri Lanka following the subsequent description of *H. graniticolus*. Variation within remaining Indian subpopulations requires further investigation.

**Geographic Range** It is distributed in both the Western and Eastern Ghats and in some parts of peninsular India. It has been confirmed from localities throughout the Western Ghats, although it is restricted to certain pockets of forests within this area. Further surveys are needed to understand its distribution. Disjunct records of this species from Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh represent an as-yet undescribed taxon. This lizard occurs from sea level to 1,200 m.

**Population** This gecko is locally abundant in many parts of its range, but there is no information on population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This largely rupicolous gecko has been recorded from dry deciduous, moist deciduous and wet evergreen forests, but is occasionally recorded on trees in other habitats and in houses.

**Major Threats** Although there are no known threats to the species in particular, the areas from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including tourism related infrastructure development and shifting agriculture practices.

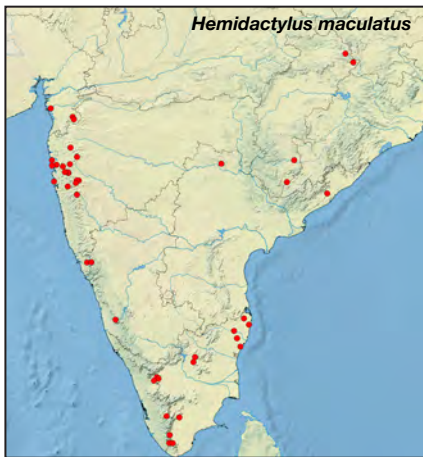
**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network. Further



taxonomic work is needed to characterize differences between true *H. maculatus* and closely related forms.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus parvimaculatus***

Deraniyagala, 1953  
Spotted Leaf-toed Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus parvimaculatus* was treated as a subspecies of *H. brookii* Gray, 1845 when it was first described and has been raised to species level recently.

**Geographic Range** This gecko is widespread across Sri Lanka as well as Mauritius and Reunion, and has a restricted distribution in the Seychelles. It is presumed to be a member of the *H. brookii* group that occurs in the Maldives, where it is widespread. There is a single verified Indian record, confirmed by molecular phylogenetics, from Kollam in Kerala. Its occurrence on the Indian Ocean islands probably reflects historical introductions. The actual extent of this species distribution within India remains undetermined due to potential confusion with Indian records presently assigned to *H. brookii*, and the origin of the Indian record (native or introduced) is unclear. It is known to occur at elevations ranging between 17 and 600 m.

**Population** In Sri Lanka and Reunion, this gecko is very widespread and locally abundant.

**Habitat & Ecology** This lizard is nocturnal and chiefly arboreal. It is most often found in domestic gardens and other disturbed and secondary vegetation types. This species has also been reported from semi-evergreen, moist lowland, dry deciduous, moist deciduous and

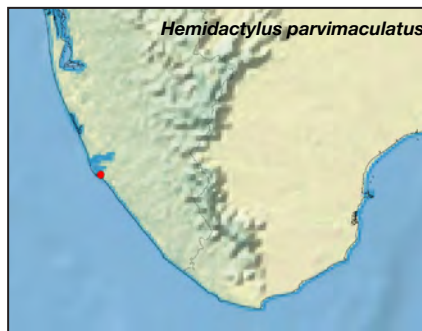
evergreen forests.

**Major Threats** This gecko is largely commensal with humans, and adapts well to many disturbed habitats. It is unknown whether it is subject to specific threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Surveys are recommended to clarify the distribution of this species in mainland India, and studies should be conducted to verify whether subpopulations in India and on other Indian Ocean islands represent introductions from Sri Lanka or whether the lizard is native in these areas. The natural history of this species in India should be clarified. Due to uncertainty about the limits of this lizard's range, it is unclear whether it occurs in any protected areas.

**Assessors** A. Bauer & C. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus persicus***

Anderson, 1872  
Persian Leaf-toed Gecko

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus persicus* was described based on specimens collected from Shiraz, Iran.

**Geographic Range** It ranges from the United Arab Emirates, northern Oman, Bahrain and Saudi Arabia to Iraq, southern Iran (Khuzestan, Fars, Kerman and Baluchistan Provinces) and Pakistan (Sind and Waziristan). It exhibits a marginal occurrence in India, where it has recently been reported from Jessore, Gujarat. It is found from lowland areas to around 1,000 m. It is found in mountains in Oman, but it is not clear if this represents the same species as populations elsewhere.

**Population** This is a common species in suitable habitats. In India it is uncommon and known only from one location in Gujarat. It is common in Iraq and Arabia in houses, but less so than *H. flaviviridis*.

**Habitat & Ecology** This gecko is

found in rocky deserts, around cliffs and oases, and in the transitional zone between desert and flood-plain forest. It is often found on trees. The species is common in tombs and ruins, and is occasionally found in rural houses. Animals may be found hiding under rocks and bark, and within clumps of euphorbs and other vegetation. In India it is found in scrub, deciduous forests and also in human habitation. In Arabia it is common in houses, in which it is found almost exclusively, but its natural habitat preferences in this region are unclear.

**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this widespread and somewhat adaptable species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This lizard is presumably present in several protected areas. In India, it is known from Jessore Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat. No direct conservation measures are currently needed for this widespread species as a whole. The taxonomic status of the form from Oman's northern mountains requires clarification.

**Assessors** M.M. Al Jumaily, T. Papenfuss, S. Shafiei Bafti, M. Sharifi, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Hemidactylus porbandarensis***

Sharma, 1981  
Porbandar Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** The validity of this species is unclear. It is known only from a population in a port area of India, to which it may have been introduced, and it is consequently uncertain whether this lizard belongs to a known taxon from elsewhere in the world.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is only known from the New Port area of Porbandar in Gujarat. Recent surveys have indicated its presence only



at the port, an area of only one sq km, and have not recorded it anywhere else. It is present only on rocks in the artificial landscape, at or close to sea level.

**Population** This lizard is common at the port, but population trends are unknown.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been found in rocky and disturbed habitat of the port area that has sparse xerophytic marshy vegetation.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is subject to any major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are currently no conservation measures in place for this species. If the validity of the species is confirmed, surveys to determine the distribution in natural habitat will be urgently required.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & R. Vyas.



**Hemidactylus reticulatus**

Beddome, 1870  
Reticulate Leaf-toed Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus reticulatus* was described based on a specimen collected from Kollegal, Karnataka.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to peninsular India, where it is has been recorded from several localities over a very wide area. The range of the species is 66,401 km<sup>2</sup>. Records of the species from the Western Ghats, Highway mountains and localities in Madhya Pradesh need verification.

**Population** No information is available on the overall population status of or population trends. In all known localities, the gecko is found in high numbers.

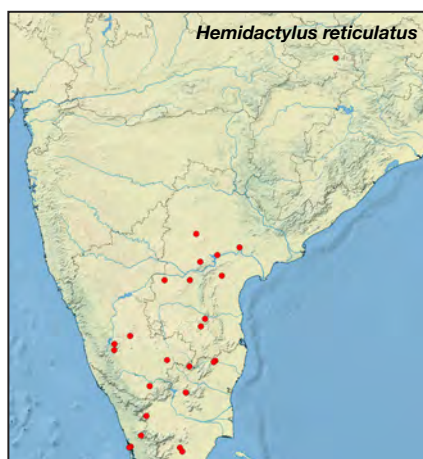
**Habitat & Ecology** Most specimens of this terrestrial, nocturnal gecko have been found in dry deciduous forests in leaf-litter, under rocks, in termite mounds, in open scrub, and in rocky outcrops.

**Major Threats** Localities from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including infrastructure and agriculture related developments.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. Further survey work is needed to determine its distribution in peninsular India, and to verify records from other parts of this country.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Hemidactylus scabriceps**

(Annandale, 1906)  
Scaly Gecko  
Endemic to South Asia

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus scabriceps* was described based on specimens from Ramnad (=Ramanathapuram), Madura district.

**Geographic Range** *Hemidactylus scabriceps* is found in Tamil Nadu in India, and in Sri Lanka. In Tamil Nadu this species is known from Adyar, near Chennai (Chennai District), Ramanthapuram (Ramanathapuram District), Mannampandal (Nagapattinam District) and Tuticorin (Tuticorin district). The gecko was historically recorded from Mariccukatti in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka, but no recent records of this species exist from this country.

**Population** In Tuticorin, these geckos are reasonably common under boulders in fallow land at the three known sites.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is very much a species of dry, sandy scrub-clad lowlands, and is so far known only from the coastal belt up to around 20 m. The historic record of this species in Sri Lanka is from

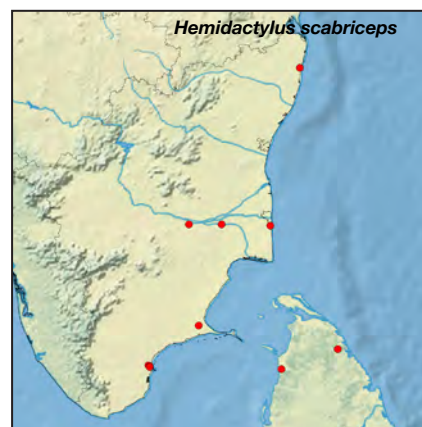
coastal sand flats.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether this species is being impacted upon by any major threats across its range, although urbanization is a major threat to coastal habitats in Tuticorin.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known conservation measures in place for this species, which is not known to occur in protected areas. Further research into the taxonomy and distribution of this gecko is needed, and into its exposure to threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & A. de Silva.



**Hemidactylus subtriadrus**

(Jerdon, 1854)  
Jerdon's Gecko

Endemic to peninsular India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus subtriadrus* was described as a distinct species based on specimens collected from Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. Most subsequent authors called the validity of the species in question regarding it as a probable or definite synonym of *H. triadrus*. Uncertainty as to the diagnostic features and geographic extent of *H. subtriadrus* relative to *H. triadrus* require a thorough taxonomic revision of both the species.

**Geographic Range** It inhabits southeastern peninsular India. Little is known about the distribution of this species. It is found in the Nellore and Ellore districts in the northern part of the Madras Presidency. Recent records from Bastar, Chhattisgarh, the Niyamgiri Hills, Orissa and the Ananthagiri Hills in northern Andhra Pradesh need confirmation. Uncertain records exist from Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, but both are doubtful. One specimen in

the Natural History Museum, London, has been collected from Kamarmat Sircar, west of Bhadrachalam in Andhra Pradesh. It occurs at elevations between 0 to 50 m.

**Population** The species is rare and its population status is unknown.

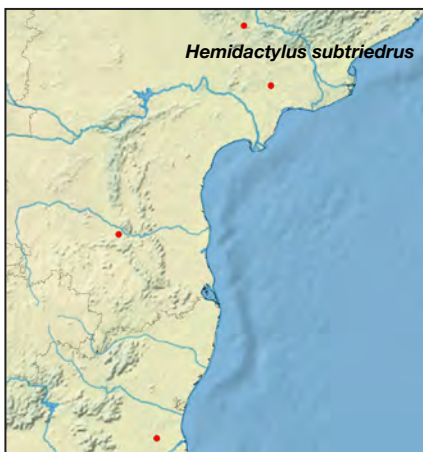
**Habitat & Ecology** This is a rock-dwelling, nocturnal and insectivorous species, and is presumed to inhabit dry forests.

**Major Threats** It is reported that the species is threatened by loss of habitat and human interference. Proposed mining activities, such as bauxite mining, could destroy valuable habitat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species does not occur in protected areas. Further research into the taxonomy and distribution is needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & I. Das.



### *Hemidactylus treutleri*

Mahony, 2009

Treutler's Gecko

Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus treutleri* was described based on specimens collected from Golconda Fort, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. This species was recognized as a distinct taxon from other members of the *Hemidactylus brookii* complex.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from a few localities in Andhra Pradesh. Besides Hyderabad and Rishi Valley, Chittoor district, this species has been also observed at many locations in Guntur, Krishna, Prakasam, Nalgonda, Medak, Karimnagar, Adilabad, Mahbubnagar, Kurnool, and Ananthapur

Districts, and Parelakhemundi, Gajapati District, Orissa. The lizard may have a wider range than is currently known. It occurs at elevations between 350 and 720 m.

**Population** This species is locally common wherever it occurs in Andhra Pradesh, but no information is available on population trends.

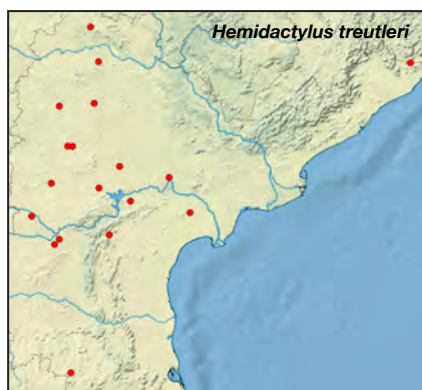
**Habitat & Ecology** It is found in a variety of habitat types ranging from dry deciduous and secondary forests to areas of human habitation, where it is sometimes found within buildings. It is rupicolous in suitable habitats, hiding in crevices during the day. It is nocturnal and feeds predominantly on insects and other small invertebrates.

**Major Threats** Stone quarrying is a potential threat to the species in some parts of its range. At the type locality, where a historic fort exists, renovation work that fills in crevices this lizard uses for shelter, and clearance of the surrounding scrub, represent localized threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species occurs in at least one protected area, Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh. Further research into this lizard's distribution is needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### *Hemidactylus triedrus*

(Daudin, 1802)

Blotched House Gecko

Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hemidactylus triedrus* was first described as *Gecko triedrus*. The type locality is unknown. A Sri Lankan subspecies, *H. t. lankae* Deraniyagala, 1953, has recently been elevated to

specific status. *H. subtriedrus* Jerdon, 1854 was described on the basis of morphological characters now considered to be variable within *H. triedrus*. As the type specimens of *H. subtriedrus* no longer exist, all modern references to this species are based on similarity to a specimen of "*H. subtriedrus*" described in 1885. This has recently been found to represent an unidentified species which cannot be considered conspecific with *H. subtriedrus* based on the original description of that species. This situation confounds the proposal by Aaron Bauer and colleagues, based on molecular evidence, that *H. subtriedrus* should be considered a valid species, as the identity of the sampled specimens requires morphological comparison with the original description of *H. subtriedrus* to resolve. Some authorities therefore argue that *H. subtriedrus* is a nomen dubium and a junior subjective synonym of *H. triedrus*, and this proposal is followed here. Indian populations of *H. triedrus* are known to exhibit high genetic diversity, and a taxonomic review of this species may be necessary.

**Geographic Range** It occurs in India and Pakistan. It is a wide-ranging species and in India it is distributed in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. Records from Bastar, Chhattisgarh, the Niyamgiri Hills, Odisha and the Ananthagiri Hills in northern Andhra Pradesh need confirmation. Uncertain records exist from Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh, but both are doubtful. It occurs at elevations between 0 to 1,000 m.

**Population** This gecko is locally abundant in parts of its range. Nothing else is known of its population status or trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is adaptable and occurs in dry deciduous forest, scrubland and grassland, as well as in and around human habitation. It is largely terrestrial, but is sometimes found on bushes, building walls, rocks and termite mounds.

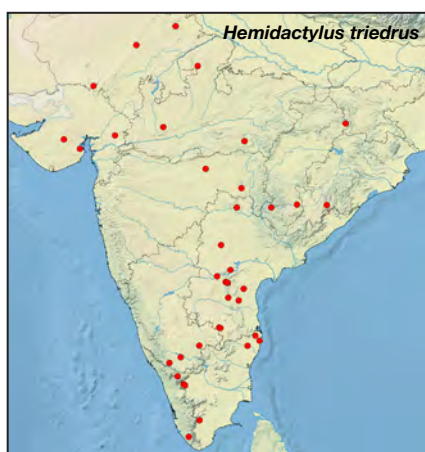
**Major Threats** The localities from where the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities, including agricultural expansion and residential development. It has been reported that (as *H. subtriedrus*) the species may be threatened by loss of habitat and

human interference, however it is unclear whether these activities pose a risk to the more adaptable *H. triedrus* as presently defined. Proposed mining activities, such as bauxite mining, could destroy valuable habitat.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species occurs in many protected areas. Research is needed into the taxonomy of this species, and to clarify its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Hemiphyllodactylus aurantiacus**  
(Beddome, 1870)  
Southern Ghats Slender Gecko  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species was treated for a time as a subspecies of *Hemiphyllodactylus*

*typus* and later considered to be a distinct species.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India. This species inhabits the Nilgiri and Anaimalai Hills of the Western Ghats and the Shevaroy (Shevarayan) and Kolli Hills of the Eastern Ghats, where it occurs primarily at higher elevations. This species has been observed over 900 m above sea level. It has been recorded from Nallamala Hills, Prakasam District, Mareduvilly, West Godavari, Araku Valley, Visakhapatnam District and Kangundi, Chittoor District, all in Andhra Pradesh. This species is likely to have a wider distribution than is currently recognized. It has also been reported from Bengaluru, although the origin of this species in the region is uncertain and is believed to represent an introduced population, especially as this gecko is found around human habitation and could have been transported easily, however as Bengaluru is just a northward extension of some of the southern Indian hills where this species is known to occur naturally, it is likely that the species occurs naturally in Bengaluru.

**Population** It is locally abundant and partially associated with humans in some areas. Hills above 900 m are very localized in southern India and therefore the population of this species may be highly fragmented and isolated.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits both moist and dry montane forests, where it can be found among rocks or under stones by daytime. This

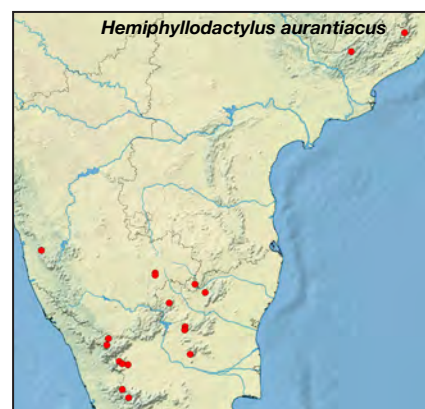
species may also be found around human habitation, including on buildings.

**Major Threats** Habitat loss and degradation due to fire, agricultural practices, infrastructure development and human disturbance may be locally affecting this species. However, as this species has a wide range in the Western and Eastern Ghats, and is known to inhabit anthropogenic structures, these threats are not thought to be causing significant declines at present. This species may also be under competitive threats from more widespread house geckos, both as a result of exclusion from suitable habitats and as prey for these species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species occurs in Topslip, Anamalai Tiger Reserve. Further research into distribution is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



## LACERTIDAE

**Ophisops beddomei** (Jerdon, 1870)  
Beddome's Snake-Eye  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ophisops beddomei* was described as *Pseudophiops beddomei* from Brahmagherry Hills in Wayanad, and it was later allocated to the genus *Ophisops* Ménétries, 1832.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, where it is restricted to the Western Ghats with the exception of a single locality in the Eastern Ghats. It has an estimated extent of 27,196 km<sup>2</sup>. This species occurs at elevations between 200 and 1,000 m.

**Population** There are no data on the population status or trends in this species. In some places in its range the species is reported to be common.

**Habitat & Ecology** This diurnal, ground dwelling lizard has been found in grassland habitat and in varied forest types, including moist deciduous and semi-evergreen forests, mixed semi-evergreen forests, and both dry and wet mixed deciduous forests. In all of these areas it prefers to live among rocky boulders, where it has been observed feeding on insects.

**Major Threats** The main threat to this species is stone quarrying leading to decline in habitat quality; while the

severity of any impacts on this species from this activity is unknown, it is rampant throughout the species' range and is presumed to have resulted in declines of up to 20% in the extent of rocky microhabitats within this area.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species is present in many protected areas. Research is needed to better determine the distribution, population size and threats.

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh.



**Ophisops jerdoni** Blyth, 1853  
Jerdon's Snake-Eye

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ophisops jerdoni* was described as *Ophiops jerdonii* based on specimens from Mhow, Indore district, Madhya Pradesh, India.

**Geographic Range** *Ophisops jerdonii* is widely distributed in the plains and semi-hilly regions of Pakistan and India. It has also been recorded from eastern Afghanistan. In India, it is known as far south as Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh. This species occurs at elevations between 200 and 700 m.

**Population** This lizard is widely distributed and is considered common in India, but there are no quantitative data on population size or trends for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** It is a diurnal species that inhabits rocky terrain, dry open forests (where it is common in leaf litter) and domestic gardens. It is oviparous, with a clutch size of two to seven eggs laid between March and August, which hatch between July and November.

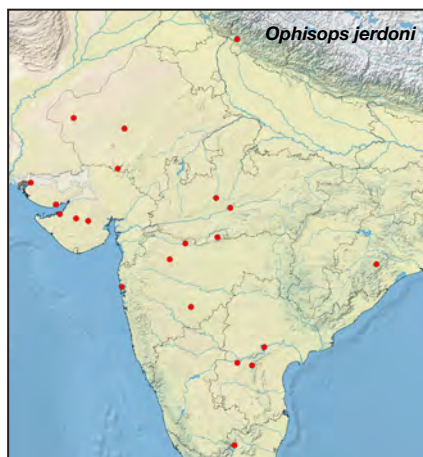
**Major Threats** It is unlikely that any major widespread threat is impacting this species. In India, however, stone quarrying and forest fires are likely to result in local impacts, by destroying local microhabitats and, in the case of fires, resulting in direct mortality.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. Its distribution in India coincides with protected areas including Machia Biological Park (Rajasthan), Hingolghadh Nature Education Sanctuary and Jessore Wildlife Sanctuary (Gujarat), Sanjay Gandhi National Park and

Melghat Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra), and Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve (Andhra Pradesh).

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh.



**Ophisops leschenaultii** (Milne-edwards, 1829)  
Leschenault's Snake-Eye  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lacerta leschenaulti* was described from Coromandel Coast. It was subsequently transferred first to *Cabrita* and then to *Ophisops*. All species of *Cabrita* in the Indian subcontinent are presently included under *Ophisops*.

**Geographic Range** It is found in India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is patchily distributed in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Tamil Nadu. This species occurs at elevations between 500 and 1,500 m.

**Population** This lizard is commonly seen on rocky hillocks, but there are no quantitative data on population size or trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** The species prefers open areas in scrub and dry deciduous forests, where it is restricted to rocky terrain. It is diurnal and is known to lay up to six eggs.

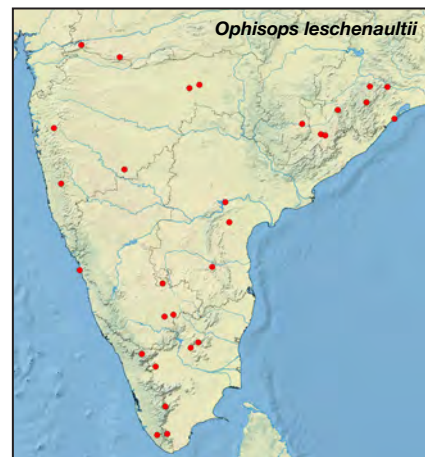
**Major Threats** The main threats to this species are stone quarrying, which degrades or destroys the rocky microhabitats where this lizard occurs, and forest fires, which results in species mortality.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. In India this species is present in Sahaydhri Tiger Reserve,

Bhimashankar Wildlife Sanctuary and Wan Wildlife Sanctuary (Maharashtra), Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve (Andhra Pradesh), and Basipalli Wildlife Sanctuary and Karlapat Wildlife Sanctuary (Odisha).

**Assessors** B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R. Ganesh & M. Ramesh.



**Ophisops microlepis** Blanford, 1870  
Small-scaled Snake-Eye  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ophisops microlepis* was described based on specimens from Korba, Bilaspur, Madhya Pradesh.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to western India and is found in Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. Its presence in Bihar needs to be validated. This species occurs at elevations between 200 and 500 m.

**Population** This species is reported to be common in many known sites. No other population information is available, although in the absence of major threats it is unlikely to be experiencing population declines.

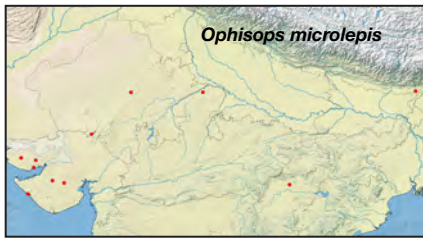
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits dry deciduous forests and scrublands.

**Major Threats** It is unlikely that any major widespread threat is impacting this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This lizard occurs in Hingolghadh Nature Education Sanctuary (Gujarat).

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, M. Böhm & N. Richman.



**Ophisops minor** (Deraniyagala, 1971)  
Least Snake-Eye  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Ophisops minor* is a replacement name for *Cabrita jerdoni* Beddome 1870. Two subspecies are recognized: *Ophisops minor minor* Deraniyagala, 1971 from Sri Lanka, and *Ophisops minor nictans* Arnold, 1989 from India.

**Geographic Range** This species is known from peninsular India and Sri Lanka. In India, it is distributed south of Chhota Nagpur plateau to southern Andhra Pradesh, an area greater than 20,000 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 500 and 600 m.

**Population** There is no quantitative population information available for this species, but in some parts of its range it has been observed to be common

**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits rocky terrain in scrub habitats and open forests, and is also found near agricultural fields.

**Major Threats** The main threats to this species are mining, quarrying and conversion of its rocky habitats into industrial areas.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species is present in Nagarjunasagar Srisaïlam Tiger Reserve.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Amphiesma stolatum**  
(Linnaeus, 1758)  
Buff Striped Keelback

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Amphiesma stolatum* was described as *Coluber stollatus* based on specimens from Asia. This species was formerly placed in the genus *Natrix*

**Geographic Range** This species occurs from Sindh in Pakistan, through India (although records from the Andaman Islands are doubtful), Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Nepal, Myanmar, northern Thailand, Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam, to China, where it occurs as far east as far east as Taiwan. On the Asian

mainland alone, its extent of occurrence exceeds 6.8 million sq km. There are also records from the islands of Marinduque and Batan in the Philippines, but these need confirmation and the presence of this species in the Philippines is therefore uncertain.

**Population** This species is common throughout its range.

**Habitat & Ecology** This is a diurnal, terrestrial and semi-aquatic snake. It is found in a variety of habitats from 100 to 2,000 m in elevation. It is typically found in close proximity to water sources and is associated with river banks, marshy areas and other wetlands, including streams, ponds, wells, and paddy fields,

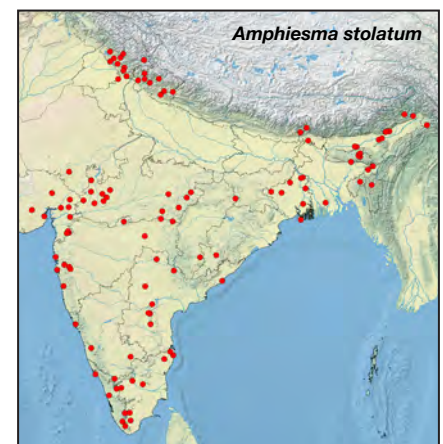
but is also commonly found in fields, open countryside and overgrown grassy patches. This species feeds on toads, frogs, insects and other small invertebrates.

**Major Threats** As it can be found in rice fields, this species may be threatened in some areas by intensive use of pesticides on crops.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is protected by Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is found in many protected areas. Field surveys are needed to determine if it occurs in the Philippines; it is presently considered Data Deficient in this country due to uncertainty about its presence and natural history in the Philippines.

**Assessors** B. G. Wogan, T.Q. Nguyen, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar, P. Mohapatra, A.C. Diesmos & J.C. Gonzalez.



***Atrretium schistosum* (Daudin, 1803)**  
**Olivaceous Keelback**  
**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Atrretium schistosum* was described as *Coluber schistosus* based on drawing by Russell. The type locality is not known.

**Geographic Range** *Atrretium schistosum* is found in India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal. In India, this snake is found in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Orissa, and Uttaranchal. It is thought to be absent from most of northern India. This species is known from all the provinces of Sri Lanka, however, it was recently noted to be absent from the Knuckles Mountain Range. In Nepal, a few records exist in the midlands from east to west. It has been recorded up to 1,000 m (India).

**Population** In India, this species is uncommon while in Sri Lanka it is common.

**Habitat & Ecology** This diurnal, aquatic snake is found among vegetation near freshwater and is found in proximity to saline pools and lagoons in the Jaffna Peninsula (Sri Lanka) and Orissa (India). This species is often found on land, and it has been observed in streams, ponds, wells, and paddy fields, and in close proximity to water sources. This species feeds on frogs and fish.

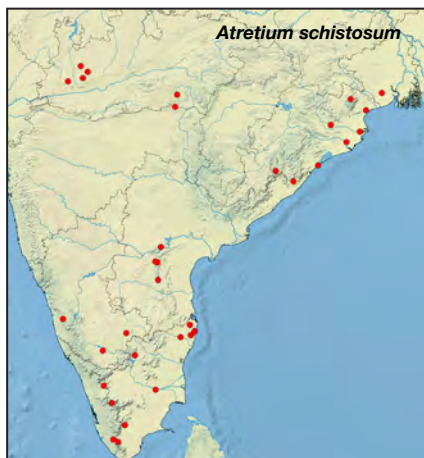
**Major Threats** Until 1972, upon the enactment of the Wildlife Protection Act in India, this species was one of many that were commonly used in the snake skin trade. Although some illegal exploitation may be ongoing, it is unlikely that current harvesting levels now represent. Extensive use of agrochemicals threatens this species in its wetland habitats.

**Use & Trade** CITES records indicate that the trade in this species, formerly exploited for leather, has nearly completely halted. According to the CITES database, the skins of this species were traded for handbags, shoes, garments and various leather products, however, trade seems to have stopped with the exception of 14 traded leather products. It is likely that there are still specimens traded illegally due to the formerly high demand for skins of this species, which may not have ceased.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is included in Schedule II Part II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Recently, this species was included

in CITES Appendix III. It is present in many protected areas.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & V. Deepak.



***Macropisthodon plumbicolor***  
**(Cantor, 1839)**

**Green Keelback**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Macropisthodon plumbicolor* was described as *Tropidonotus plumbicolor*, based on specimens collected from Sagar, Madhya Pradesh.

**Geographic Range** This species is distributed in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In India, the species is known from the Western Ghats and Peninsular India but is conspicuously absent along the east coast. It is found between 20 and 2,000 m elevation. Documented records from Assam reach the Myanmar border so it is likely to occur in this country. There are however no historical records of this snake from Myanmar, and it has not been recorded in recent surveys in this country.

**Population** In some areas this snake is common, although in most of its range it is uncommon. It is one of the more common aquatic snakes in India.

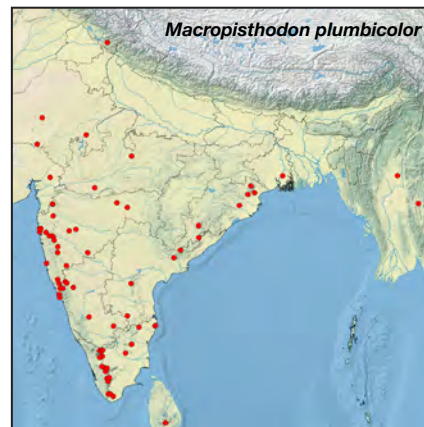
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is nocturnal and crepuscular. It mainly lives near water bodies as it is a semiaquatic animal, and inhabits both intact and degraded tropical forests. It can also be found in grass and low vegetation in intact habitat, and also in urban and rural gardens always near streams or rivers. It feeds mainly on toads and also other small animals. Its breeding season is between August and September and it lays 8-14 eggs.

**Major Threats** There are no apparent threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, it is listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many protected areas.

**Assessors** G. Wogan, I. Das, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & G. Shankar.



***Xenochrophis piscator***  
**(Schneider, 1799)**

**Chequered Keelback**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Xenochrophis piscator* was formerly placed in the genus *Natrix*. *Xenochrophis flavipunctatus* has been long treated as a subspecies of *X. piscator*. Literature records of this species and *X. flavipunctatus*, which occur in sympatry, are confused. The taxonomy of the *X. flavipunctatus-piscator* complex was worked upon and was divided into eight taxa. The extreme south Indian and Sri Lankan populations are considered to represent an undescribed species.

**Geographic Range** This species is distributed from eastern Pakistan and Afghanistan through Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos as far as the border with Vietnam, and in Yunnan in China. The snake occurs sympatrically with *X. flavipunctatus* in Myanmar, northern Thailand, northern Laos, and Yunnan. In India, it is widely distributed and is found throughout the country. The exact distributional limits of *X. flavipunctatus* and *X. piscator* are in need of further study. In India, it is found at elevations from sea level to 2,000 m.

**Population** This is a very common species that thrives in agricultural land, and occurs as a stable or possibly increasing population through most of its range. It is the most commonly encountered snake during surveys in Myanmar. However,

this snake has declined in China as a result of overharvesting. Though common throughout India, several local subpopulations are suffering declines as a result of rampant and unchecked collection for the skin trade.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is active both during the day and night, and is found in and around freshwater bodies and paddy fields. Many are killed on roads after the first rains arrive. Neonates feed on frog eggs, tadpoles, and water insects; older snakes eat fish, frogs, occasionally rodents and birds. They lay up to 90 eggs between December-March in rat holes, holes in wells, walls and field embankments. Eggs hatch in 60-70 days.

**Major Threats** This species is locally threatened by collection for the skin trade and for meat, and by the use of agrochemicals in agricultural fields, urbanization of former agricultural land, and drainage of wetlands. As conversion to rice cultivation is ongoing throughout this snake's range, and it benefits from this activity, the impact of threats is probably

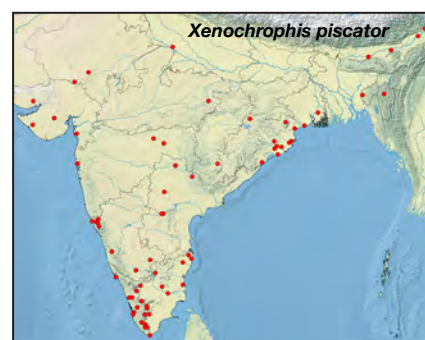
offset by population increases resulting from favourable habitat modification.

**Use & Trade** This species is collected primarily for skins; additionally there is some local collection for human consumption in Myanmar. There are no reports of this species being used or traded in Laos. An investigation in the market in Guangzhou City, Guangdong revealed an estimated annual sale quantity of the species in that city to be about 377.7 tons. This investigation was carried out on 22 people who live on catching snakes, and it was found that that this species is overexploited in China. However, due to more recent taxonomic changes it is uncertain whether the species involved is true *X. piscator*, which is not thought to occur in Guangdong, or whether these reports include *X. flavipunctatus* imported from Yunnan.

**Conservation Measures** In India, this species is listed in Schedule II Part II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network as

well as the Reserve Forests. This could be a species complex and there is a need to clarify its distribution following taxonomic changes as well as to conduct further taxonomic research in some parts of its range, such as India. More information is needed on this species' population status to clarify global trends in light of human activities expected to have competing effects on the population of this snake.

**Assessors** B. Stuart, G. Wogan, N. Thy, T.Q. Nguyen, G. Vogel, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, G. Shankar, P. Mohapatra & S. Thakur.



***Psammophis condanarus***  
(Merrem, 1820)

**Indo-burmese Sand Snake**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Psammophis indochinensis* is variously treated as a full species or as a subspecies of *P. condanarus*. However, the validity of the subspecific division of *P. condanarus* has not been critically assessed. Based on the disjunct distributions of the two taxa and morphological differences it is probable that the two forms represent different species and this scheme is followed here. A full revision is however needed to clarify the relationships of these two taxa.

**Geographic Range** This species is found in Pakistan in the area of the Indus Delta and lower Punjab, and ranges throughout northern India Nepal and southeast Asia to Viet Nam and Indonesia although it does not appear to inhabit southern Thailand. It is generally found below 2,000 m. In peninsular India, the distribution is marginal with reports from three sites in Maharashtra from Pune to Lonar Crater and a few records from Gujarat and one record from Karnataka (which needs confirmation). It is found at elevations of 250 to 1,830 m.

**Population** In India this is considered to be an uncommon species. In Myanmar, it is widespread and moderately abundant from the central region of the country to the Ayeyarwady delta.

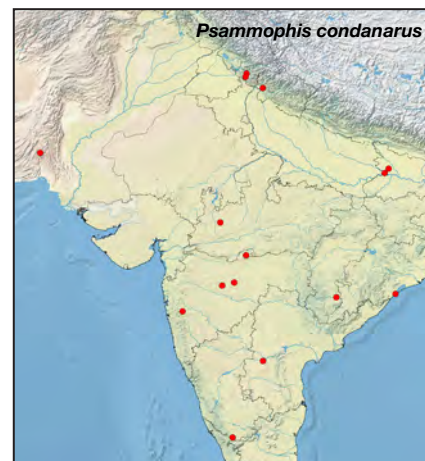
**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in diverse habitats including moist grasslands, shrublands and woodlands, mangroves and agricultural land. It is reported to "adapt" to rural-agricultural modifications. It appears to be partially arboreal and can be found climbing trees and bushes. It is a diurnal species, which in Pakistan shelters in the burrows of sand lizards while in India has been reported from trees. It feeds on lizards.

**Major Threats** Though habitat degradation is occurring in portions of its range, this species is tolerant of human-affected environments and it is unlikely that this species is being impacted upon by any major threats throughout its range.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** In India, it is listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Parts of this species' distribution range coincide with protected areas. Research into the taxonomy, natural history, distributional limits and population trends are needed in India.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, S. Thakur, M.S. Khan & T. Papenfuss.



***Psammophis leithii***  
Günther, 1869

**Leith's Sand Snake**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Psammophis leithii* was described based on the specimen collected from Sindh, Pakistan.

**Geographic Range** This species is found in India and Pakistan. In India, this species is known from Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Jammu

and Kashmir, and Maharashtra. Punjab was included in its Indian range, however this is based on a record in the Bombay Natural History Society collection from Campbellpore (presently in Attock in Pakistan). It is found between 10 and 600 m.

**Population** It is a rare species.

**Habitat & Ecology** It has been reported from marshes, grasslands, sandy desert and scrub jungles in India. It is diurnal, both terrestrial and arboreal, and has been noted to feed on geckos and skinks, and to raid bird's nests.

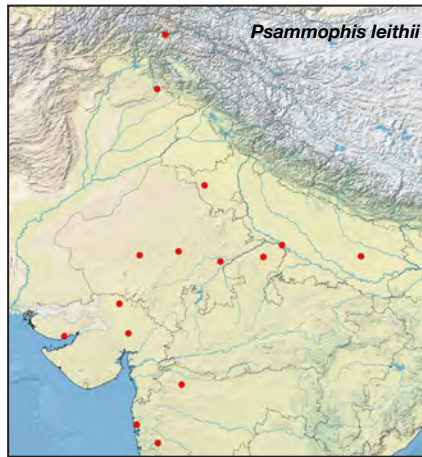
**Major Threats** Any threats to this species are not known.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range it has been reported from National Chambal Wildlife Sanctuary, Uttar Pradesh. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and to determine whether it is subject to any threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B.

Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & N.U. Kulkarni.



### ***Psammophis longifrons***

**Boulenger, 1896**

**Stout Sand Snake**

**Endemic to India**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Psammophis longifrons* was first described based on the head and neck collected from Cuddapah Hills, a location that many authorities feel might be wrong.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known only from a few localities in southern Gujarat, Daman and Maharashtra. Its occurrence in Andhra Pradesh is yet to be confirmed. It has been recorded from 4 to 560 m.

**Population** It is a rare species, known from only a few specimens.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species

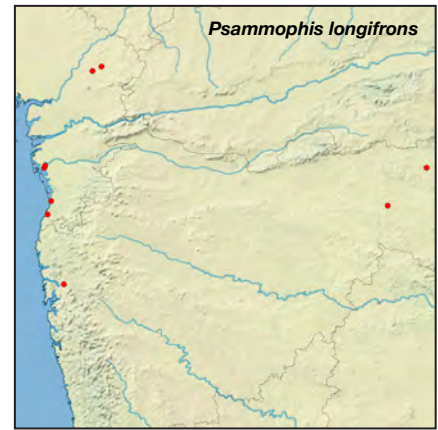
has been reported from secondary and disturbed dry deciduous forests in Gujarat, Daman and Maharashtra. It is terrestrial and arboreal and has been noted to feed on geckos and skinks.

**Major Threats** Any threats to this species are not known. It has been recorded from disturbed and secondary habitats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed in Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It has not been reported from any protected area. Further survey work is needed to understand its distribution, biology, ecology, population status and trends, and threats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, N.U. Kulkarni, S. Thakur & V. Deepak.



### ***Psammodynastes pulverulentus*** (H. Boie in F. Boie, 1827) **Common Mock Viper**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Psammodynastes pulverulentus* was first described as *Psammophis pulverulentus* based on specimens collected from Java. Its family assignment, based on genetic evidence, has been somewhat uncertain, although recent analyses place it in an indeterminate position within *Lamprophiidae*.

**Geographic Range** This very widespread species has been recorded from much of South and Southeast Asia. It occurs from Nepal, northeastern India, Bangladesh and Bhutan in the west, through Myanmar and into southern

China (Fujian, Yunnan, Guangxi, Guangdong, Hainan, Hong Kong), as far east as Taiwan, and southward throughout Indonesia to Borneo (Kalimantan, Sabah and Sarawak, presumably also Brunei), Sulawesi, Nusa Tenggara east to Lombok and Sumba, and the Philippines, where it is present on most islands. In India this snake is known from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya, Assam, Nagaland, Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh. The snake has a wide elevational range, from 500 to 3,000 m.

**Population** This species is common throughout much of its range. It is rare in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh in India, at the western limit of its range.

**Habitat & Ecology** This snake is found on the forest floor, or among low vegetation. It prefers woody areas and is commonly encountered in hilly districts within its distribution range, but is also known from lowlands. It can be common in disturbed and degraded forest habitats, close to forest edges and near human habitations, but it is absent from open and agricultural land. It feeds on frogs and lizards during the daytime, and sometimes on smaller snakes. At night, sleeping individuals are frequently encountered on leaves and small branches of low trees and bushes. This is a viviparous snake and give birth 3-10 young in July to September.

## **PSEUDOXYPHIIDAE**



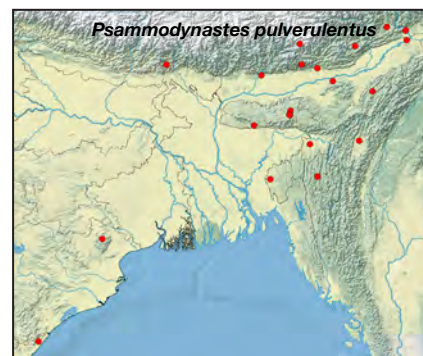
**Major Threats** There are presumably no major threats to this very widespread species as a whole. Some animals have been recorded in roadkill surveys.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is found in many protected areas in northeastern India, and in view of its wide distribution the species is likely to be present within numerous reserves throughout its range. In India, it is

listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In general, no direct conservation measures are currently needed for this species.

**Assessors** G. Wogan, L. Grismer, T. Chan-Ard, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, A. Das, I. Agarwal, P. Mohapatra, A.C. Diesmos, E.M. Delima, G. Tampos, J.C. Gonzalez & R. Jose.



**Python molurus (Linnaeus, 1758)**  
**Indian Python**  
**Endemic to South Asia**

**Near Threatened**

**Taxonomy** *Python molurus* was first described as *Coluber molurus* based on specimens collected from India.

**Geographic Range** *Python molurus* is widely distributed in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. In India, it is distributed widely and is known from throughout much of the country. It is found at elevations of 10 to 2,000 m.

**Population** Though it is a widely distributed species known from many localities throughout much of India, its population has undergone drastic decline due to illegal trade for skin, pet trade and due to decline in quality of habitat and general apathy.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is mostly found in forested areas, but is also found in mangroves, grasslands, marshes, streams and rivers. It is found in wet rocky areas near streams and pools, large rotting logs, large burrows, caves, crevices, old and ruined structures. It is a good climber and an expert swimmer. It is more nocturnal than diurnal. It feeds

on small to large mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians preferring to mostly feed on mammals. Breeding occurs between December to February after which it lays between 15-100 eggs in the months of March and June.

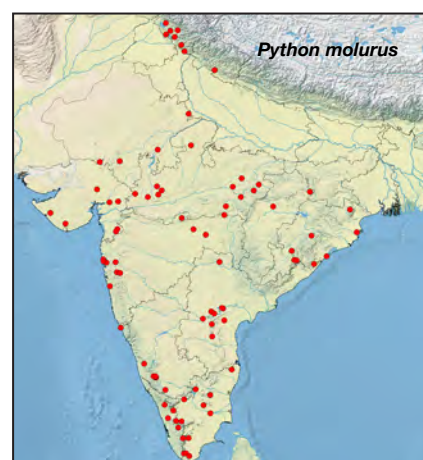
**Major Threats** Although, collection of snakes is legally banned in India, this activity still is in existence. This species is under threat due to local as well as international markets for the illegal demand in leather industry. Scores of individuals are collected, and smuggled for pet trade. It is eaten as subsistence food. Animals are killed when preying on livestock (chicken and goats). It is also under threat due to habitat degradation and habitat loss due to anthropogenic activities. It is threatened in dry deciduous areas by rampant forest fires. Mining is considered to be a threat to this species in the Eastern Ghats of India.

**Use & Trade** In some parts of India this species is used for local consumption (meat). It is in high demand for its skin that is used in the leather industry. Fat deposits of this snake are used in the pharmaceutical industry. Bones are used for local superstitions. It is smuggled, locally and at national level, extensively

for pet trade. It is collected for zoological gardens and as museum exhibits. It is often seen with snake charmers.

**Conservation Measures** In India, it is protected under Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It is listed on Appendix II of CITES. In its range it occurs in many protected areas. Further survey work is needed to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra, G. Shankar, A. Das, B.H.C.K. Murthy & A. Aengals.



**Barkudia insularis**  
**Anandale, 1917**  
**Legless Skink**

**Critically Endangered**

**Taxonomy** The type of *Barkudia insularis* was long considered lost, and records from Waltair in Visakhapatnam were assigned to this species, then considered a monotypic genus, by multiple authors. The rediscovery of the holotype allowed comparison of the Visakhapatnam material with the

type. Based on this comparison, it was determined that the material from Waltair is not conspecific with *B. insularis*.

**Geographic Range** *Barkudia insularis* is endemic to Orissa, India. It has been documented from only two locations, the type locality of Barkuda Island in Chilka Lake, Ganjam District, and the adjacent Nandan Kanan Biological Park, Cuttack District. Its extent of occurrence is unlikely to exceed 50 km<sup>2</sup>. It occurs at elevations between 10 and 50 m asl.

**Population** There is no information

available on the abundance or population trend for this species, which has only been collected opportunistically on Barkuda Island and is known from a single record from the mainland, at Nandankanan. It is known from only two localities, and forest habitat on Barkuda Island is extensively fragmented. The population is therefore considered to be severely fragmented.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species burrows in loose earth around the roots of trees. It is insectivorous and nocturnal.

## PYTHONIDAE

## SCINCIDAE

A recent collection from Barkuda Island was from scrub forest. In Nandankanan it was found in a semi-evergreen forest patch.

**Major Threats** The forests in Orissa are very fragmented, as there has been extensive deforestation for fuel-wood and to clear land for agriculture and settlements. In Barkuda Island especially, the habitat is extremely fragmented as slash and burn and clear felling is practiced and the habitat is under pressure due to livestock grazing. The impacts of these pressures on this skink are unknown, but as it has only been recorded from forest it is likely to be sensitive to forest clearance.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no species-specific conservation measures in place. It occurs in one protected area, Nandankanan Biological Park, Orissa. Further research on the distribution, threats and habitat trends are needed, and monitoring of the known population is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & I. Das.



**Barkudia melanosticta**

(Schneider, 1801)

Madras Spotted Skink

Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** The type of *Barkudia insularis* was long considered lost, and records from Waltair in Visakhapatnam were assigned to this species, then considered a monotypic genus, by multiple authors. The rediscovery of the holotype allowed comparison of the Visakhapatnam material with the type. Based on this comparison, it was determined that the material from Waltair is not conspecific with *B. insularis*. Thus confirmed the assignment of the neglected name *Anguis melanosticta* for this population and transferred the species to *Barkudia*.

**Geographic Range** It is known only from its type locality at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, and has recently been rediscovered in Visakhapatnam and is known to occur at elevations between 0 and 50 m.

**Population** There is no population information available for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The type locality of this limbless skink is characterized by scrub forest. A recent specimen was dug out from loose soil under the shade of a tree in a garden in Andhra University Campus, Visakhapatnam, India.

**Major Threats** It is unknown whether any threats are affecting the species. The type locality is undergoing a continuing decline in forest cover due to drastic changes due to expansion of urban areas in its surrounding, but the impacts on this lizard are unknown.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** The local protection given to this species precludes the collection of specimens. Further research on the distribution, population status, habitat and ecology of this species is needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & I. Das.



**Eutropis allapallensis**

(Schmidt, 1926)

Schmidt's Mabuya

Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Mabuya allapallensis* was described based on specimens collected from Allapally, near Chanda, Chandrapur district, Maharashtra. *M. allapallensis* was considered to be a variant of *M. macularia*, which it closely resembles, but was subsequently revalidated. Following revision of the genus *Mabuya*, this taxon is presently included within the genus *Eutropis*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to

India. It is widely distributed in central and peninsular India in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka (Sharavathi Wildlife Sanctuary, Agumbe, Jog) and Kerala. It occurs at elevations between 100 and 1,000 m.

**Population** This lizard seems to be common in some parts of Godavari river basin in northern Andhra Pradesh, and is considered locally abundant throughout its range.

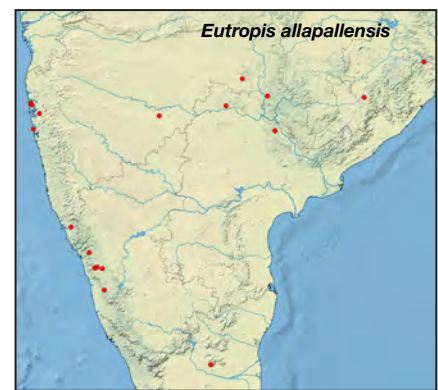
**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from tropical dry and moist deciduous and open scrub forests, and can be found near human habitations and in arable land. Nothing else is known about its habitat and ecology. It is sympatric with *E. macularia* in some areas.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats to the species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from a number of protected areas, including Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary and Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary in Andhra Pradesh, Satkosia Gorge Wildlife Sanctuary in Odisha, Sharavati Wildlife Sanctuary in Karnataka, and Bondla Wildlife Sanctuary in Goa. This species could be more widespread than thought as it has been often confused with *E. macularia* and there is a need to characterize its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Eutropis beddomii**

(Jerdon, 1870)

Beddome's Mabuya

Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This taxon was originally described as *Euprepes beddomii* and later assigned to genus *Mabuya*. Following

revision of the genus *Mabuya*, this taxon is presently included within *Eutropis* Fitzinger 1843.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India and Sri Lanka. In India it is restricted to peninsular India, where it has been reported from eight sites in southern Western Ghats of Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. It also occurs in some locations in the Eastern Ghats of Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. Records from Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary (Goa), Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary in Palakkad District and Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary in Kollam District (Kerala) need confirmation. It occurs at elevations ranging from sea level to 1,500 m.

**Population** Although no quantitative information is available on the population, this lizard seems to be common in parts of its range. There is no evidence of widespread declines, however no research has been conducted to investigate population trends of this skink.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported primarily from tropical rainforest and from drier forests in hilly areas of the Western and Eastern Ghats, and has not been recorded from degraded habitats. Nothing else is known about the habitat preferences or ecology of this species.

**Major Threats** Sites from which this species is known are facing a decline in the quality and extent of forest habitat due to a wide range of anthropogenic activities including conversion of forest lands into plantations, increased use of herbicides and pesticides, introduction of invasive alien species, forest fires, increase in tourism related activities, expansion of agriculture and human settlements, and small to large-scale logging for subsistence purposes and to clear areas for road-laying. Many of these activities are ongoing even in reserves. In Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary selective logging and reed collection in the lower reaches of the sanctuary have been observed. In Perambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary rampant grazing, forest fires



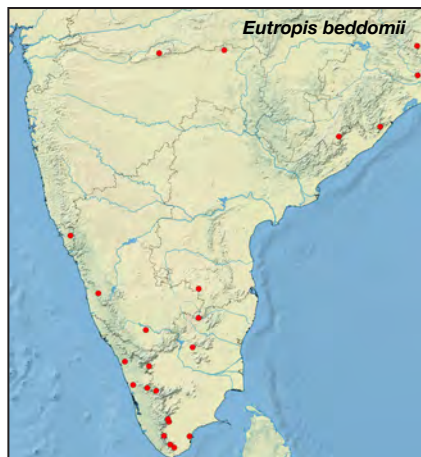
*Eutropis beddomii* © Sanjay Sondhi

set by locals for clearing land for grazing, fuelwood collection, and the spread of invasive species have all been reported. Overgrazing by cattle and firewood collection are also ongoing in Kalakkad-Mundanthurai and Periyar Tiger Reserves. Tourism, railroad traffic and the dumping of toxic waste all threaten habitats in Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures. It is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network including Bhagwan Mahaveer Wildlife Sanctuary (Goa), Kalakkad-Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli District (Tamil Nadu), Melghat Tiger Reserve, Amaravati District (Maharashtra), Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary, Periyar Tiger Reserve, Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary (Kerala), and Koundinya Wildlife Sanctuary (Andhra Pradesh). Some loss or degradation of forest habitat is however ongoing in most or all of these reserves. This species could be more widespread than thought, and surveys are needed to verify this.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



### *Eutropis bibronii* (Gray, 1838)

**Bibron's Skink**

**Endemic to South Asia**

**Least Concern**

**Taxonomy** *Eutropis bibronii* was first described as *Tiliqua bibronii*, however, the type locality is unknown.

**Geographic Range** *Eutropis bibronii* is endemic to India and Sri Lanka. This species is found along the east coast of India from north of Puri in Orissa to Kanyakumari in southern Tamil

Nadu, and in northern Sri Lanka along the eastern coast. Inland records need verification as all confirmed localities are in coastal areas between sea level and 20 m. Very recently, it has been sighted on a sandy riverbank habitat in Rasimanal, a site 490 m above sea level in the Eastern Ghats of Tamil Nadu. It is suggested that this record supports historical reports of the skink's occurrence at inland sites, but unfortunately the observed specimen was not collected.

**Population** This species is extremely rare in Sri Lanka, and there have been no recent collections since it was reported several decades ago. It is not uncommon in Rushikulya, Orissa.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species is found primarily along the coast, although reports exist from further inland. The species is fossorial and has been observed burrowing in low vegetation on sand dunes. The distribution of this species suggests that it inhabits a range of habitats from semi-evergreen rainforest to dry scrub and dry evergreen forests, as well as coastal dunes.

**Major Threats** A recent study has shown the effect of *Casuarina equisetifolia* plantations on the population of *Eutropis bibronii* at Vadanemmel beach located 42 km south of Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The study showed that the population of this species showed a significant decline due to changes in their habitat that included burning of *Spinifex littoralis*, a native plant growing on the sand dunes and also due to the shade provided by *Casuarina equisetifolia* that hindered the lizards from basking. Following wide protests in 2009, when the *Casuarina equisetifolia* plantations were removed, the lizard populations appeared to recover, and this has been attributed to the lack of shade following tree clearance and regeneration of the preferred plant species (*Spinifex littoralis*).

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. The identity of inland records attributed to this species requires verification. Further research into the specific habitat preferences,



*Eutropis macularia* © Sanjay Sondhi

exact distribution extent, ecology and life history studies of this species should be carried out. Additionally, the sites where this species occurs need to be identified and conserved.

**Assessors** A. de Silva, C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis carinata***  
(Schneider, 1801)  
Keel Indian Mabuya  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Eutropis carinata* was described as *Scincus carinatus* (in part), however, the type locality is unknown. This species has two subspecies: *E.c. carinata* (Schneider, 1801) and *E.c. lankae* (Deraniyagala, 1953).

**Geographic Range** It is a widespread species, which occurs throughout India, including the northwest, and is also found in Nepal, Bangladesh, the Maldives and Sri Lanka. It occurs at elevations between 27 and 2,300 m.

**Population** This skink is locally abundant, but is less common in northern parts of its range. There is no information on population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** This diurnal lizard is found in a range of dry and moist habitats from scrub to deciduous and evergreen forest. Although terrestrial, it is occasionally seen on trees, under bark as well as in tree holes. It is oviparous.

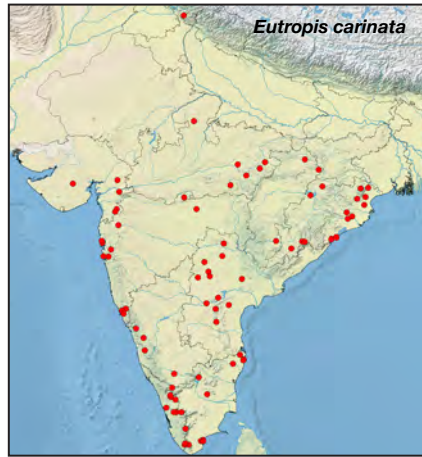
**Major Threats** There are no major threats known.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** It is reported from many protected areas in its range. Further research into the specific habitat preferences of this species should be carried out.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B.

Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis innotata***  
(Blanford, 1870)  
Blanford's Mabuya  
Endemic to peninsular India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Eutropis innotata* was originally described as *Euprepes innotata* from Penganga valley, Southeast Berar (presently Penganga valley in Yavatmal district of Maharashtra). The species was later placed in the genus *Mabuia*. This species was then assigned to the genus *Eutropis* following the revision of *Mabuia*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from three sites in Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh, and has been recently reported from a locality in Andhra Pradesh. This species has not been recorded from the Western Ghats. It occurs at elevations between 200 and 600 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, which has only been recorded once since the 1930s.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been reported from tropical dry deciduous forests and specimens were collected from under dry leaf litter. Nothing else is known about its habitat and ecology.

**Major Threats** Areas where this species has been recorded are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including illegal felling of trees, encroachment of forest land for expanding agriculture and human settlements, collection of firewood and non-timber forest produce, grazing, forest fires, tourism related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are

no known species-specific conservation measures. The lizard is known from one protected area in its range, Gundlabrahmeshwaram Metta Wildlife Sanctuary. This species may occur in many more localities than is presently known, and there is a need to conduct surveys to establish its distribution.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis macularia*** (Blyth, 1853)  
Bronze Mabuya

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Euprepes macularia* was originally described based on specimens from Rangpur, Bengal. The nomen was changed to *Mabuia macularia*, later the taxon was included under the genus *Mabuia* Fitzinger 1826. Following revision of the genus *Mabuia* this taxon is presently included within *Eutropis* Fitzinger 1843. This widespread species is apparently not monophyletic and so represents a species complex.

**Geographic Range** *Eutropis macularia* is a widely distributed species known from South and Southeast Asia. In south Asia, it is known from Bangladesh, India, Bhutan, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In India, this species is widely distributed and occurs almost countrywide. It ranges from 10 to 1,500 m.

**Population** This species is fairly common within its range. It is common both in the Western Ghats and elsewhere in peninsular India.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species is found in a variety of habitat types. It has been observed in tropical moist deciduous forests, tropical dry deciduous forests, to scrub and thorny scrub forest. It is also found around human

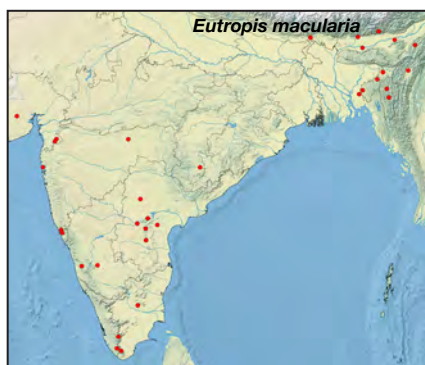
habitations. It is a diurnal species that breeds by direct development. Three or four eggs measuring 11 mm in length are deposited in a depression on the ground.

**Major Threats** There are no known threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Taxonomic research is recommended. It is known from protected areas as well as reserve forests.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis nagarjuni* (Sharma, 1969)**

Sharma's Mabuya

Endemic to peninsular India

Near Threatened

**Taxonomy** *Mabuya nagarjuni* was originally described based on specimens from Nagarjunakonda, Andhra Pradesh. This species was assigned to the genus *Eutropis* following the revision of *Mabuya*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from six to seven localities in Andhra Pradesh. It occurs at elevations between 120 to 520 m.

**Population** This lizard is reported to be uncommon in the vicinity of the type locality in Andhra Pradesh. No other population information is available.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is known from upland rocky areas on hills dominated by dry deciduous scrub forests, with a preponderance of xerophytic elements.

**Major Threats** The type locality is submerged under the backwaters of Nagarjunsagar Dam. The habitat of this species is under threat due to anthropogenic activities including stone quarrying, tourism related infrastructure development and grazing.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are

no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species occurs in Nagarjunsagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh. Research is needed into this lizard's population status, distribution and natural history.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



***Eutropis trivittata* (Hardwicke & Gray, 1827)**  
Three-banded Mabuya  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Tiliqua trivittata* was described based on drawings of specimens collected from Dum Dum, West Bengal, India. This species was assigned to the genus *Eutropis* following the revision of *Mabuya*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and is known from several sites in West Bengal, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It occurs at elevations between 500 and 1,200 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species has been observed in tropical moist deciduous forests, tropical dry deciduous forests, scrub and thorny scrub forest.

**Major Threats** The areas from which the species are known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including conversion of forested tracts to agriculture lands and rapid urbanization.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. This species does not occur in any protected areas.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu

& A.D. Roy.



***Lygosoma albopunctata* (Gray, 1846)**

White-spotted Supple Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Riopa albopunctata* was described based on specimen from "Madras", India. The taxon *Riopa* was later synonymized to *Lygosoma*.

**Geographic Range** It is a widespread species, occurring from India, Nepal and Bangladesh through Myanmar and Indochina to Viet Nam, and through the Sunda region including Malaysia and Thailand. This species may also occur in the Maldives. In India, this species is known from the Denkanikota Hills and from near Eluru, West Godavari (Andhra Pradesh), Bilaspur (Madhya Pradesh), Chilka Lake (Odisha), Purneah and Muzaffarpur (Bihar), Kolkata (West Bengal), Dibrugarh and Kokilamukh (Assam) and Mundiaghat (Uttar Pradesh).

**Population** This lizard seems to be common within its extent of occurrence. However, no other information about its population status is known.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species is forest and grassland dwelling and has been reported from fringe areas bordering forests, thick forested tracts and from sub-Himalayan tall grass (Bhabbar/Terai grasslands). In India, it is associated with tropical dry deciduous forests.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about threats to this species, however, given its wide distribution it is unlikely to be subject to major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. In India it is known from Orang National Park, Manas National Park and Kaziranga National Park, all in Assam.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Lygosoma ashwamedhi**  
(Sharma, 1969)  
Ashwamedh Writhing Skink  
Endemic to peninsular India

Vulnerable

**Taxonomy** *Lygosoma ashwamedhi* was described as *Riopa ashwamedhi*. The validity of this taxon has never been critically assessed.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to the Palnadu basin of Andhra Pradesh, India. It is known from the type locality five km southwest of Pullareddygudem, Guntur District, Anupu and its vicinity, Nandikonda Valley, Fringanmottu Hills and Eddenmottu Hills near Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve in Northern Nallamala Hills. This species occurs at elevations between 230 and 300 m.

**Population** There is no population information available for this species.

**Habitat & Ecology** The habitat of this species is reported to be predominately rocky scrub forest. Nothing else is known about this species.

**Major Threats** This species may be under threat due to alteration and destruction of its habitat from where it is known. The type locality has undergone drastic changes due to tourism related activities. Religious sites at Anupu were excavated to save them from flooding following dam construction; the species is likely to have been lost from this site and subsequent surveys have failed to record it. The other known sites are at risk due to quarrying for cement factories.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Although known only from a small number of historical records, it is considered to be under threat due to alterations in habitat

and habitat degradation due to tourism related activities. Hence it is necessary to initiate steps towards preservation of the habitat of this endemic species. There is a need for taxonomic research to determine the validity of this species, as well as research to rediscover it and clarify its distribution, population status and ecological requirements.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Lygosoma guentheri**  
(Peters, 1879)  
Günther's Writhing Snake  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lygosoma guentheri* was originally described as *Eumeces punctatus*. This name was subsequently found to be preoccupied, and a replacement name *Eumeces güntneri* was provided. It was later included within the genus *Lygosoma*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to peninsular India and is widely distributed across the Western and Eastern Ghats, Deccan, and central India. It occurs at elevations between 50 and 1,800 m.

**Population** This skink is very common in Mulher in Maharashtra, and in Saputara in Gujarat. No further population information is available.

**Habitat & Ecology** This terrestrial lizard prefers generally humid, well-wooded areas where water sources are present. It has been observed in thick forests, particularly those which are teak-dominated, near seasonal streams and southern tropical dry deciduous forests to thorny dry deciduous forest types. It seems to have an aggregated or clumped local distribution. This insectivorous lizard is active during the day and prefers to feed on ants belonging to the genus *Camponotus* and on termites. Animals can be found moving about in leaf litter on porous soil. Sometimes close to

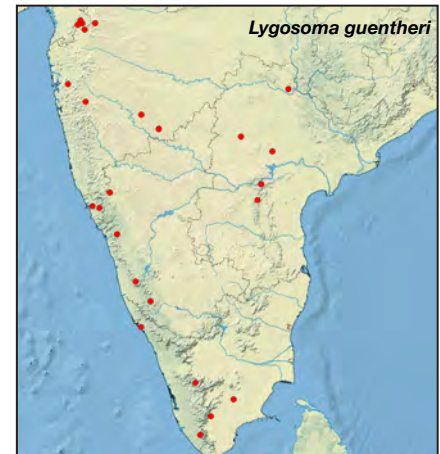
human habitation. Individuals have been observed to take shelter below boulders and stones surrounded by thick ground vegetation.

**Major Threats** The areas from which this species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities including conversion of forested tracts for human habitation, agriculture expansion and tourism related infrastructure development.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. It is known from many protected areas, including Gundla Brahmeshwaram Metta Wildlife Sanctuary, Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Andhra Pradesh; Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, Vansda National Park, Gujarat; and Pushpagiri Wildlife Sanctuary and Kudremukh National Park, Karnataka. Research is needed to establish its population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Lygosoma lineata**  
(Gray, 1839)  
Lined Supple Skink

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lygosoma lineata* was described as *Chiamela lineata*, and later allocated to the genus *Lygosoma*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India and has a known latitudinal distribution between 13°N and 21°N. Before 1960 it was known to occur only in North Kanara and Bombay District (including Poona). It has since been reported from various localities in Gujarat, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Maharashtra by various workers. The occurrence

of this species in Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu needs verification.

**Population** This species is widespread in the Western Ghats, but is not common anywhere within its range.

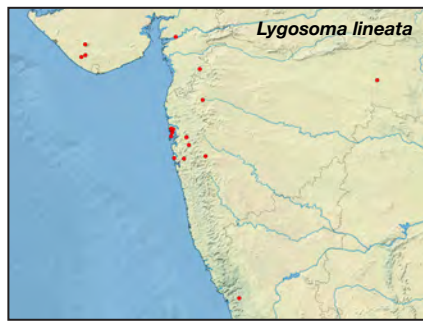
**Habitat & Ecology** These lizards can be found in a variety of habitats including hilly areas, coastal forests, grassland patches, scrublands, gardens, and can also be seen among large boulders. Animals actively forage near termite mounds in cooler parts of the day, feeding on small insects such as termites and flies (including mosquitoes). One record exists of a member of this species feeding on the blindsnake *Ramphotyphlops braminus*. Animals mostly shelter beneath rocks or woody material, or within leaf litter.

**Major Threats** Areas from which the species is known are facing a decline in quality of habitat due to anthropogenic activities that include expansion of human settlements. In certain areas as in Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Maharashtra, the major issue causing the destruction of habitat is encroachment of forest land for construction of human settlements, thereby leading to increased human activity, garbage, forest fires. It is proposed in Matheran, Maharashtra to create tourism related infrastructure development that involves construction of many man-made structures in the forest area. In other parts of its range grasslands are being converted into human settlements.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. In parts of its range, forest habitat is under threat due to expanding human settlements. Hence, surveys are needed to investigate the impact of the threats to the habitat on the populations of this species and to establish both the limits of its distribution and its occurrence within its known range. This species has been recorded from Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Mumbai, Maharashtra; Purna National Park & Wildlife Sanctuary, Dangs Dist., Gujarat; Phansad Wildlife Sanctuary, Raigad District, Maharashtra and Girnar Wildlife Sanctuary, Gujarat.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Lygosoma pruthi** (Sharma, 1977)  
Pruthi's Skink  
Endemic to peninsular India

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Riopa pruthi* was described based on material collected from Salem in Tamil Nadu, India. It was later transferred to the genus *Lygosoma*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India. It is known only from Chitteri Range, Salem District, Tamil Nadu, and has not been reported since its original description. The exact locality is unknown, but these hills range from 250 to 280 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this skink, which it is known only from the type collections.

**Habitat & Ecology** This lizard was collected from a forested area near Salem, Tamil Nadu. Nothing else is known about its ecology.

**Major Threats** Forest in the Chitteri Range is being affected by indiscriminate logging and grazing activities. The impacts of these activities on this lizard are unknown.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. As this species has not been reported since type description, surveys to verify its continued presence in the vicinity of the type locality is recommended, and its occurrence needs to be verified before further research or conservation actions can be proposed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Lygosoma punctata**  
(Gmelin, 1799)  
Common Snake Skink  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Lygosoma punctata* was described as *Scincus punctatus* based on Seba's illustrations fig. ii, pl. 12, fig. 6. It was later included under the genus *Lygosoma*.

**Geographic Range** It is distributed in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. In India, this species is widely distributed and is found throughout the country. It occurs at elevations between 10 and 2,500 m.

**Population** Although nothing is known about population trends in this species, it is fairly common within its range and is known from numerous localities.

**Habitat & Ecology** Animals have been found in tropical dry deciduous forests, moist evergreen forests and thorny scrub forests, near human habitation, in urban areas and in gardens.

**Major Threats** Forest alteration due to tourism related activities, conversion of forest lands to plantations and rampant use of pesticides and herbicides may affect this species at local scales.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It is known from many protected areas in its range, including Kumbalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary, Rajasthan, Nagarjunsagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve, Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary, Andhra Pradesh, Purna Wildlife Sanctuary, Vansda National Park, Gujarat, and Sanjay Gandhi National Park, Maharashtra. Research is needed into the population status, actual extent of distribution, and ecology of this widely distributed species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.





**Lygosoma vosmaeri** (Gray, 1839)  
**Vosmer's Writhing Skink**  
**Endemic to India**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Hagria vosmaeri*, was described based on specimens from “Java”, later corrected to Bengal, India. It has been noted that this species differs from *Lygosoma lineata* by only a single, variable character, and as such research is needed to verify whether *L. vosmaeri* is a valid species.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, and until recently was known only from the type locality, “Bengal”. In 2009, this species was rediscovered in Jaggayapet, Andhra Pradesh, far from the territories that made up historical Bengal.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population of this species. Repeated surveys in the vicinity of Jaggayapet since the skink was recorded there in 2009 have not yielded further sightings, and it is known from only one specimen from this site.

**Habitat & Ecology** Recently a single specimen was collected from open scrub jungle in rocky habitat near Jaggayapet, Krishna district, Andhra Pradesh. The animal was found under a rock.

**Major Threats** The area from where the species was rediscovered has undergone total habitat conversion due to open cast mining activities, which have been underway since late 2009, with scrub jungle surviving only at the margins of the mining area. The species has not since been recorded from this area.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. It is not known from any protected area. Surveys are required to determine the true range of this

species, and to obtain information on its exposure to and responses to threats. Studies on the habitat requirements, population status, ecology of this species need to be conducted. In addition, the site from where this species has been discovered needs to be resurveyed and species-specific action plans should be considered to conserve this endemic and rare species and its habitat. Taxonomic research is required to confirm whether the recent and historical records are conspecific.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.



**Sepsophis punctatus**

**Beddome, 1870**

**Spotted Limbless Skink**

**Endemic to India**

Data Deficient

**Taxonomy** *Sepsophis punctatus* was described based on specimens collected from Darrakhonda, Golkonda (=Galikonda) Hills, Andhra Pradesh, India.

**Geographic Range** *Sepsophis punctatus* is endemic to India and was until recently known only from the vicinity of Darrakhonda and the Gorge Hills near Galikonda, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh. The species was rediscovered in 2007, and this collection and records from 2009 extend its distribution to include the Kandhadhar Hills (Sundargarh District), Simlipal Tiger Reserve (Mayurbhanj District) and Chandragiri (Gajapati District), all in Orissa. No formal comparison with the type series was published until a recent collection was reported from the Visakhapatnam Hills, close to the type locality. It occurs at elevations above 600 m; in the Visakhapatnam Hills all records were from above 1,000 m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, which is known from only three recent

collections in 2007, 2009 and 2011, and one historical collection over 130 years earlier.

**Habitat and Ecology** This fossorial skink has been collected from hills in Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh; recent collections in Orissa were made in semi-evergreen forest and the species is thought likely to be restricted to deciduous, semi-evergreen and evergreen hill forest. The holotype was collected under a stone, and recent collections were made during targeted searches in loose soil or beneath logs, rocks and bricks in shaded areas of forest and coffee estates with closed canopies and sparse understorey cover. Collection sites were close to rivers, and the species was found in moist microhabitats. Animals may exhibit some clustering in suitable microhabitats; four animals were recorded within 6 m of one another in Andhra Pradesh, and another within 15 m, but no others were located in a survey of the surrounding 2 km area.

**Major Threats** Of the new site records, one locality is in a protected area, and forest in another is under threat from slash and burn agriculture practice. The known site in Sundergarh District is under heavy pressure from mining, leading to rapid declines in remaining forest cover. The species was recorded in coffee plantations in Andhra Pradesh, however it appears to rely on areas with dense canopy cover and deep leaf litter, and is not likely to survive once forest is cleared for farming or mining. Opportunistic searches of disturbed areas have not recorded this skink.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. A recent record comes from Simlipal Tiger Reserve. Further surveys are needed to establish the distribution and natural history of this species, and protection of the forests where this species occurs is recommended “immediately”.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu & B. Srinivasulu.





## TYPHLOPIDAE

***Grypotyphlops acutus***  
(Duméril, Bibron & Duméril, 1844)  
Beaked Worm Snake  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Grypotyphlops acutus* was described as *Onychocephalus acutus*. Since then it has been variously included under the genera *Typhlops* Oppel, 1811, *Rhinotyphlops* Fitzinger, 1843 and *Grypotyphlops* Peters, 1881 which came to be included under the genus *Typhlops*. The earlier accepted nomen for this taxon was *Rhinotyphlops acutus*. However, the genus *Grypotyphlops* was resurrected and this species was included under it.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, where it is known from many sites in the Western Ghats. Elsewhere it is known only from south of river Ganges, occurring throughout forested tracts in peninsular India. This species occurs at elevations between 10 and 700 m.

**Population** There are no data on population size and trends on this species.

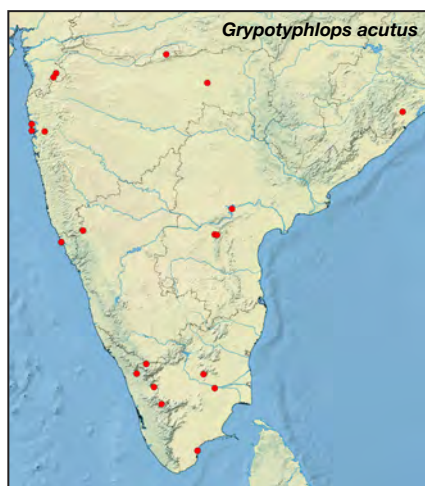
**Habitat & Ecology** This species is fossorial, and has been found in leaf litter, under dead trees, under stones or boulders in wet and dry habitats, both primary and modified. It feeds on ant larvae and pupae, worms and soft-bodied insects.

**Major Threats** Nothing is known about any threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place. This species occurs in many protected areas and reserve forests.

**Assessors** B Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, S.R., Ganesan & M. Madala.



***Ramphotyphlops braminus***  
(Daudin, 1803)  
Bootlace Snake  
Cosmopolitan

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** The species has also been recently placed in the typhlopidae genera *Typhlops* and *Typhlina*, *Typhlops kboratensis* is considered a junior synonym of *Ramphotyphlops braminus*.

**Geographic Range** It is native to tropical Asia (possibly Sri Lanka or southern India), but is invasive in many parts of the world and is now known from approximately 84 countries worldwide. This cosmopolitan distribution includes Old World tropical and subtropical regions, with encroachment into the Northern Hemisphere of the New World and adjacent temperate areas.

**Population** This species is native to Southeast Asia and considered to be the most successful disperser in the snake world and the most probable dispersal mechanism is in the root balls of ornamental or food plants transported by humans. The species is very common in India and it is likely to be locally very abundant where it occurs in much of its global range.

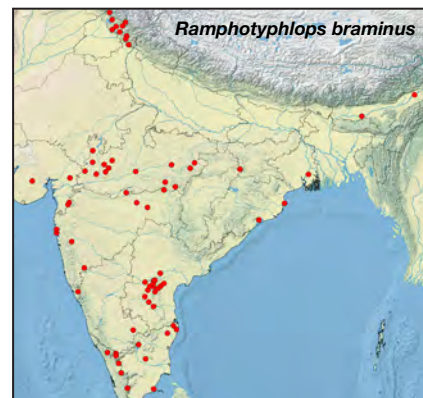
**Habitat & Ecology** This fossorial species is a human commensal and found in and around human habitation, also in gardens, loose soil, refuse heaps, decaying logs and trees, gutters and drain ditches, and under leaf litter, heaps of stones and piled up bricks, flower pots. Naturally occurs in all types of habitat from seashore dunes to tropical rainforest, frequently in disturbed areas and secondary growth, most commonly in moist soils. This is the world's only known unisexual (all-female) and smallest snake species. It has a wide elevational tolerance, and in India it occurs from sea level to 3,500 m elevation. It feeds on ants and termites. It is parthenogenetic and lays 2-8 eggs. It is beneficial to global agricultural, horticultural and architectural economies/businesses owing to being a human commensal that eats ants and termites.

**Major Threats** There are no threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** No conservation measures are required. It is present in numerous protected areas.

**Assessors** B. Stuart, T. Chan-Ard, G. Wogan, C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh, S.R. Ganesh, M. Madala, R. Sreekar, G. Shankar, A. Allison, A. Hamilton & O. Tallowin.



***Typhlops pammeces* Günther, 1864**  
South Indian Blind Snake  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species is distinct from *Ramphotyphlops braminus* and treated as a valid species. *Typhlops psammophilus* Annandale, 1906 and *T. tenuis* Gunther, 1864 are junior synonyms of *T. pammeces*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India. This species inhabit 'southeast India'. The type locality is marked as 'Madras'. However 'Madras' was applied in the 1860s to a wide area encompassing most of the area south of the rivers Thungabhadra and Krishna to Ganjam in Orissa along the southeast coast. As the exact type localities of this species and its junior synonym *Typhlops tenuis* Gunther, 1864 are not known, and the type locality of *Typhlops psammophilus* Annandale, 1906 (another junior synonym) is known from 'Ramnad, Madras', we propose to restrict the type locality of *Typhlops pammeces* to Ramnad (the present day Ramanathapuram) in south eastern Tamil Nadu from where the species has been observed in good numbers in the recent past. This species is presently known only from Ramanathapuram district in south eastern Tamil Nadu, India.

**Population** This species is known from many specimens from Ramanathapuram. There are no data on population size or trends for this species at present.

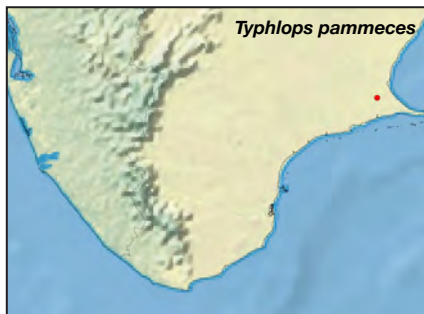
**Habitat & Ecology** This fossorial species inhabits the dry scrublands of southeast India.

**Major Threats** There are localized threats to this species, but none are having a significant impact.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Further research into the population, distribution and threats is recommended.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu & S.R. Ganesh.



***Typhlops porrectus***  
Stoliczka, 1871  
Stoliczka's Slender Blind Snake

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Typhlops porrectus* was first described from Nagri Valley below

Darjeeling, West Bengal, India at an altitude of about 5000 feet.

**Geographic Range** It occurs in India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, northern Myanmar and probably intervening Bangladesh. It is also present in northern Thailand where it has been recorded from Chiang Mai province. The species is also present in Mauritius. It has been recorded in southern Thailand, from a plantation in Bangkok. This record is considered to represent an introduction via plant pots, as this highland species is not otherwise known from lowland plantations. Records from Myanmar have not been confirmed in recent surveys.

**Population** This snake is believed to be common in northern Thailand and it is common in areas of suitable habitat of India. Nothing is known about population trends.

**Habitat & Ecology** In Thailand and Myanmar this snake has been collected in tropical montane forests and highland cultivated areas up to 1,500 m. However, it has also been recorded from wet lowland areas in India. The species is

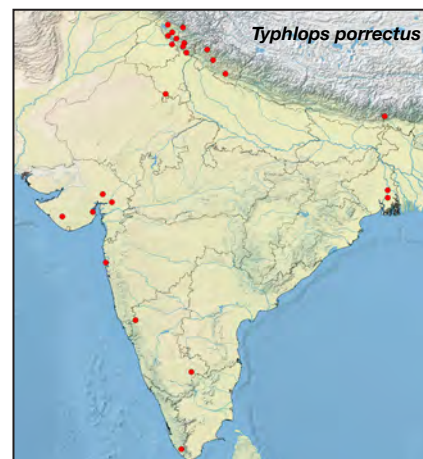
fossorial and presumably lays eggs like other members of its genus.

**Major Threats** There are no apparent threats to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** Field surveys to determine the distribution and natural history of this species are needed.

**Assessors** I. Das, G. Wogan, T. Chan-Ard, B. Srinivasulu, C. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesh, S.P. Vijayakumar & R. Vyas.



***Uropeltis ceylanicus*** Cocteau, 1833  
Cuvier's Sheildtail  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis ceylanicus* was described based on specimens supposedly from Sri Lanka, but as it is thought to be endemic to India, the original locality must be incorrect. The many different synonyms originating from hill ranges suggests the need for further taxonomic investigation. Recently *Uropeltis bicatenata* was removed from its synonymy.

**Geographic Range** It occurs in both Western Ghats and Eastern Ghats of India and it extends over a vast range from Castlerock in Karnataka to Ponmudi in Kerala, and also it is found in a few localities in the Eastern Ghats. This species is reported from Agumbe, Karnataka while the presence of this species in the Amboli hills, Maharashtra, is also reported. This species occurs at elevations between 700 and 1,200 m.

**Population** There are no quantitative data on population size and trends for this species. It has been reported to be common in some sites in Western Ghats.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species

inhabits wet evergreen forests. It is a burrowing snake that feeds on earthworms. It is viviparous and gravid females have been reported between June and August.

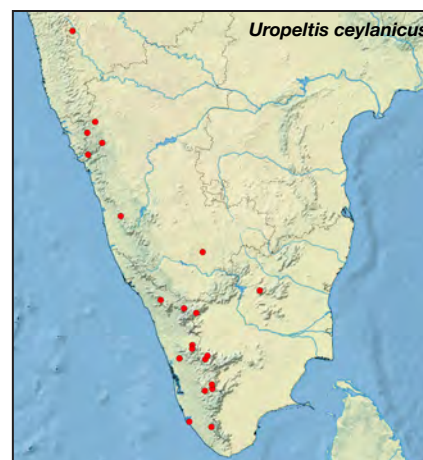
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species, although tourism related developmental activities in certain parts of its range may pose as a localized threat to this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is present in many protected areas throughout its range. There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. Research is needed into the taxonomy of this species.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.R. Ganesan & S.P. Vijayakumar.

## UROPELTIDAE



***Uropeltis ellioti*** (Gray, 1858)  
Elliot's Earth Snake  
Endemic to peninsular India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Uropeltis ellioti* was described as *Siloboura ellioti* based on specimens collected near Madras (=Chennai), Tamil Nadu, India.

**Geographic Range** This species is endemic to India. It extends over a vast range from south of Purna, the Dangs district in Gujarat to Kalakad-Mundunthurai Tiger Reserve, Tirunelveli



district in Tamil Nadu in the Western Ghats, and from the eastern spurs of Western Ghats in Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu to Ganjam, Ganjam district, Odisha in the Eastern Ghats. Vast areas from where the species is not reported occur in both the Western Ghats (the species has not yet been reported in the Western Ghats of Maharashtra) and Eastern Ghats (the species has not been reported in the Eastern Ghats of Andhra Pradesh south of river Godavari). Elsewhere in India this species is also reported from Devadanapettai hills, Villupuram District, Tamil Nadu and Chikaladhara, Amravathi District. This species has a wide elevational range being recorded from 100 up to 1,400m.

**Population** Nothing is known about the population status of this species, except that it has been reported as

common in some sites in the Western Ghats and in northern Eastern Ghats.

**Habitat & Ecology** This species occurs in semi evergreen, wet evergreen, montane and moist deciduous forests. It is a burrowing snake that feeds on earthworms. It prefers forested tracts and has been observed in leaf litter, and often while crossing the roads in forests.

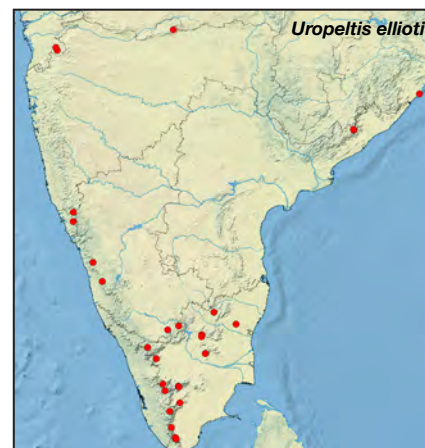
**Major Threats** Nothing is known about the general threats to this species, but it appears there are no major threats.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place for this species. *Uropeltis ellioti* is known from many sites that are in the existing protected area network as well as the reserve forests. This species could be more widespread than thought and could be a species complex, there is

a need to establish the taxonomic status of the populations outside the Western Ghats.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Giri, P. Mohapatra & I. Agarwal.



### **Varanus bengalensis**

(Daudin, 1802)

Common Indian Monitor

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species has two sub-species: *V. bengalensis bengalensis*, *V. bengalensis nebulosus*. *V. irrawadicus* Yang and Li, 1987 and *V. vietnamensis* Yang and Liu, 1994 were previously described as nominal species, but both were synonymized with *V. bengalensis*. The taxon *V. bengalensis nebulosus* was raised to full species status based on a *V. bengalensis bengalensis* specimen obtained from a market in Phuket (which is within the range of *V. b. nebulosus*), which was thought to prove the sympatry between the two forms, together with differences in hemipenial structure. However, it is widely accepted that it instead represents a geographic race of *V. bengalensis*, based on a very detailed study of geographic variation in *V. bengalensis* across its range.

**Geographic Range** This species is a wide ranging Varanid found from south-eastern Iran, through south central Asia (ranging from Afghanistan in the north as far south as Sri Lanka) and eastwards throughout Southeast Asia, as far as Java and the Anambas Islands in Indonesia. Although there are some old specimens purportedly from Sumatra, no recent records seem to exist. This species has an upper elevation limit of 2,150 m.

**Population** In some agricultural areas,

this species has been found to be common. Density estimates varied greatly between different habitats in northern India and Pakistan, from an average of two individuals per km<sup>2</sup> recorded on the edge of a seasonally flooded evaporation basin in Rajasthan to just under 40 individuals on average per km<sup>2</sup> in marsh habitat in Pakistan. Densities were also found to be relatively high in agricultural habitats, from around 14 to 30 individuals per km<sup>2</sup>. In the more arid parts of its range it probably occurs at reasonably low densities. Although present on Java, the species is reportedly very scarce and localized.

**Habitat and Ecology** This species is found in a variety of habitats, from arid areas to floodplains, scrubland to forests, at moderate to high elevations. It can also inhabit agricultural areas.

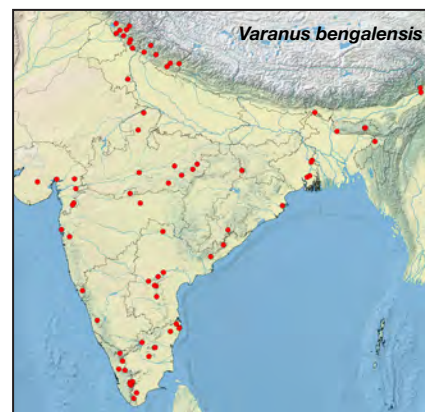
**Major Threats** The greatest threat to this species is hunting as it is hunted commercially for its skin, and its meat is commonly eaten. The fat of this species is also used in traditional medicine. In Iran, it is killed by people who mistakenly consider it to be dangerous; it is not hunted for food or skins in that country.

**Use & Trade** Local consumption and in pet trade..

**Conservation Measures** This species occurs in many protected areas across its extensive range and it is protected in a number of countries by national legislation because it is currently listed on

Appendix I of CITES. Further research into the harvest levels of this species is needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, S.P. Vijayakumar, M. Ramesh, S.R. Ganesan, M. Madala & R. Sreekar.



## VARANIDAE

***Daboia russelii***  
(Shaw & Nodder, 1797)  
Western Russel's Viper  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** This species was described within the genus *Vipera* Laurenti, 1768 with the specific epithet *russelii*, but was assigned to *Daboia* with the specific epithet *russelli* which was later corrected to *russelii*. The number of recognized subspecies of this wide-ranging snake, which was considered to have a heavily disjunct distribution in Southeast Asia, is variable, but six are traditionally accepted. Morphological analysis suggests that only two distinct forms exist, one restricted to the Indian subcontinent and the other (for which the name with priority is *D. r. siamensis*) found in the remainder of the snake's range. Till recently, *D. r. siamensis* was not elevated to a full species due to the lack of molecular research to support this conclusion. More recently, using both molecular and morphological data two distinct species were recognised namely, *D. russelii* (incorporating the former subspecies *D. r. pulchella* and *D. r. nordicus* as well as *D. r. russelii*) and *D. siamensis* (incorporating *D. r. limitis*, *D. r. sublimitis* and *D. r. formosensis*). However, distinct subspecies of either form are not recognised owing to low divergence between the members of each lineage.

**Geographic Range** The western Russel's viper occurs disjunctly from Pakistan to Bangladesh. In India, this species is widespread and in the Western Ghats and peninsular India it has been reported from many localities. In the Western Ghats it is known to occur from south of Gujarat to Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu. In the Eastern Ghats it ranges up to West Bengal. There is a single record from Manipur in northeast India, which needs to be verified. The species also occurs in Sri Lanka.

**Population** This widespread species has been reported to be common in some areas, but no other information is available.

**Habitat & Ecology** The western Russel's viper ranges from sea level to 2,756 m. It is not restricted to any particular habitat, and while it is mostly found in open, grassy or bushy areas it may also occur in secondary forests (scrub jungles), forested plantations and

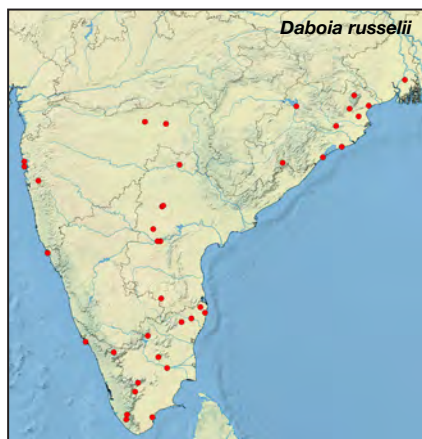
farmland. It avoids dense forests and is most common in plains, coastal lowlands and hills. This species is often found in highly urbanized areas and settlements in the countryside, where it feeds on rodents commensal with humans. The species is terrestrial and active primarily as a nocturnal forager. However, during cool weather it can be found during the daytime. Adults are reported to be persistently slow and sluggish unless highly agitated, after which they become very aggressive. Juveniles are generally more active and will bite with minimal provocation. The species feeds primarily on rodents, especially mice, but shrews, squirrels, domestic cats, land crabs, scorpions and other arthropods may also be consumed. Juveniles are crepuscular, feeding on lizards and foraging actively. This species is ovoviviparous. Mating generally occurs early in the year, although gravid females may be found at any time. The gestation period is more than six months. Young are produced from May to November, but mostly in June and July. It is a prolific breeder. Litters of 20-40 are common.

**Major Threats** This venomous species is persecuted by humans when encountered, but it is unlikely that this species is being impacted upon by any major threats across its range.

**Use & Trade** It is used for producing anti-venom.

**Conservation Measures** In India, the western Russel's viper is included in Schedule II Part II of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many protected areas.

**Assessors** C Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, P. Mohapatra & V. Deepak.



***Echis carinatus***  
(Schneider, 1801)  
Saw-scaled Viper

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Echis carinatus* was described as *Pseudoboa carinata* based on the drawings of the species by Dr. Patrick Russell. Records of this species from Middle Asia and northern Afghanistan are now considered to be the distinct species *Echis multisquamatus*.

**Geographic Range** It ranges from much of Iran (possibly Iraq) and parts of the Arabian Peninsula (United Arab Emirates and Oman) in the east of its range, through much of South Asia (southern Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh). It is found over much of southern, central and eastern Iran. It is present in Turkmenistan and southern Uzbekistan. The species is present throughout Pakistan, exclusive of the Himalayan region. It has been recorded to at least 1,800 m in Pakistan; and from sea level to 2,063 m in Iran. In India, it is found throughout the country except West Bengal and Northeast.

**Population** It is common throughout its range, plentiful in Pakistan and very common species in southern Iran. It is generally a common species in India.

**Habitat & Ecology** This adaptable species is found in both sandy and rocky desert areas with soft, sandy and alluvial soils, with vegetation ranging from sparse dry scrub to moderately dense grassland. In the northern Western Ghats this species is found in semi-evergreen forests on plateaus. Animals have been reported from mangroves in eastern and western India. Mainly nocturnal, it basks in the morning sun. Populations have also been recorded from clay deserts. Individuals may be found under rocks and among other ground cover, but can be encountered in small bushes (up to 3 m high). The species is ovoviviparous; females give birth to up to 23 young. May locally migrate, aestivate or hibernate, as in India as many as 2000 individuals were recorded in one week in Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra in July, but not a single snake was detected in December.

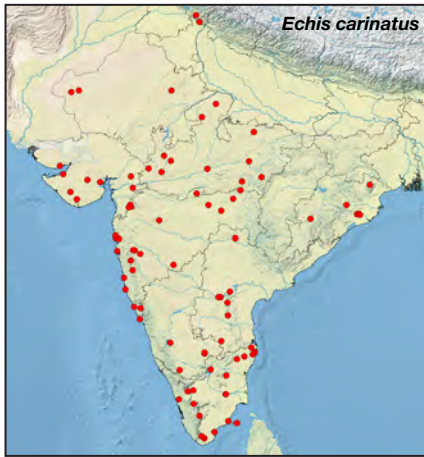
**Major Threats** There appear to be no major threats to this species as a whole. In some areas (such as Goa, India) habitat loss through conversion of plateau areas

for commercial use is considered to be a threat. In parts of its range, populations might be locally impacted by over-collection for their use in anti-venom production. Animals are often killed on sight by villagers.

**Use & Trade** It is used for producing anti-venom.

**Conservation Measures** This species is present in many protected areas. Other than general research activities, no direct conservation measures are currently needed for this species as a whole.

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**Hypnale hypnale**  
(Merem, 1820)  
Hump-nosed Viper  
Endemic to South Asia

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Hypnale hypnale* was described as *Cophias hypnale* based on specimens collected from Sri Lanka. This species was assigned to the genus *Hypnale* Fitzinger, 1843.



**Geographic Range** It is found in Sri Lanka and southern India (where it is restricted to the Western Ghats). It is known in the Western Ghats from Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary, Goa in the north to Ashambu and Agasthyamalai Hills in Kerala and Tamil Nadu in the south. It occurs from 150 to 1,250 m.

**Population** Although localized within its range, this species has been reported to be relatively common in some areas.

**Habitat & Ecology** It occurs in evergreen, semi evergreen hill forest, dry deciduous forests, shola patches, kulagars (conventional system of land development characteristic to Konkan and Goa involving terrace farming) and plantations (coconut, cashew, areca, cardamom, banana, rubber). It is nocturnal and terrestrial and sometime exhibits semi arboreal habit. It has been noted to feed on geckos, skinks, small rodents, frogs and reptile eggs. It has been observed to give birth to 4-18 young from March to September. The venom is quite toxic resulting in severe pain.

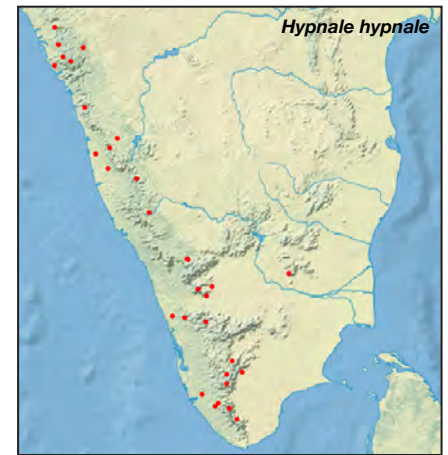
**Major Threats** It is threatened by habitat loss through mining and dam construction. It is frequently killed on sight by villagers (including while clearing weeds in cashew plantations). An additional threat is an increasing population of peacocks that feed on this species.

**Use & Trade** The species is not in use.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. In its range it occurs in a few protected areas, including Mhadei Wildlife Sanctuary in Goa, Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve, Kalakkad- Mundanthurai Tiger Reserve in Tamil Nadu and Periyar Tiger Reserve and Shendury Wildlife Sanctuary in Kerala. Further survey work is needed

to understand its biology, ecology, population status and trends.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, N.S. Sawant, S. Thakur, J. Jose & V. Deepak



**Trimeresurus gramineus**  
(Shaw, 1802)  
Common Bamboo Viper  
Endemic to India

Least Concern

**Taxonomy** *Coluber gramineus* has long been considered the type species of the taxonomically complex genus *Trimeresurus*, as the original type species *T. viridis* has long been considered a synonym. Investigation of this assignment indicated that this was incorrect and that *T. viridis* (a combination that hasn't been used to describe a valid species since its original description in 1861), is instead a junior synonym of the Timorese species *T. insularis*. This recognition alters the generic identity of several taxa within the *Trimeresurus* genus complex, including *T. gramineus*, and therefore *T. gramineus* is assigned to *Craspedocephalus* (treated as a subgenus but more commonly as a full genus). This taxonomy does not, to date, appear to have gained broad acceptance, and this account retains *T. gramineus* within *Trimeresurus*.

**Geographic Range** It is endemic to India, where it is known from the peninsular region; it is recorded in the Western Ghats from Dangs of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu, and also in the Eastern Ghats including Shevaroy, Javadi, Seshachalam and Nallamala Hills. This species has also been reported from Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary, Adilabad District, Andhra Pradesh and from Amravathi District, Maharashtra. It has been recorded from Achanakmar Tiger Reserve, Chattisgarh.

It has been recorded from Odisha as the northernmost record. Historically, this species has also been reported from Pachmarhi, Madhya Pradesh. It has been recorded from sea level to 1,400 m.

**Population** It is reported to be common in sites from where it has been reported.

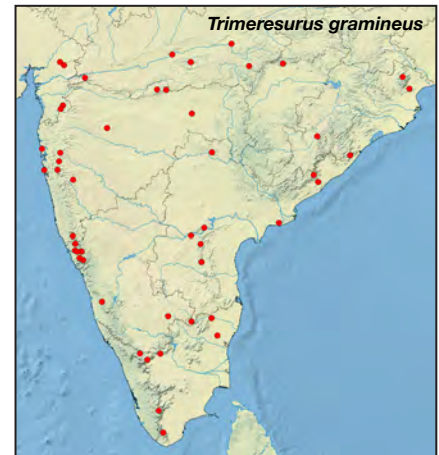
**Habitat & Ecology** This species inhabits hilly, forested tracts of Western and Eastern Ghats and also has been observed from dense forested patches in central India. It has been recorded from dry scrub forest, secondary forest and mangroves. It is an arboreal snake occasionally found on the ground. Following monsoons it can be found crossing the road. It has been noted to feed on small rodents, birds, frogs, geckos and smaller snakes.

**Major Threats** There appears to be no significant threats to this species. It is threatened in some parts of its range by habitat loss through mining, and degradation resulting from tourism.

**Use & Trade** It is used for producing anti-venom.

**Conservation Measures** This species is listed on Schedule IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. It occurs in many protected areas. Further research into its taxonomy, range and population size, threats, habitat status, biology and ecology is needed.

**Assessors** C. Srinivasulu, B. Srinivasulu, V. Deepak, N.S. Achyuthan, A. Das & N.U. Kulkarni.



*Trimeresurus gramineus* © N.S. Achyuthan

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# Data CD

- (i) Executive Summary
- (ii) Western Ghats Assessment Report PDF
- (iii) Species Summaries
- (iv) Species Maps and Point Localities
- (v) Species List

