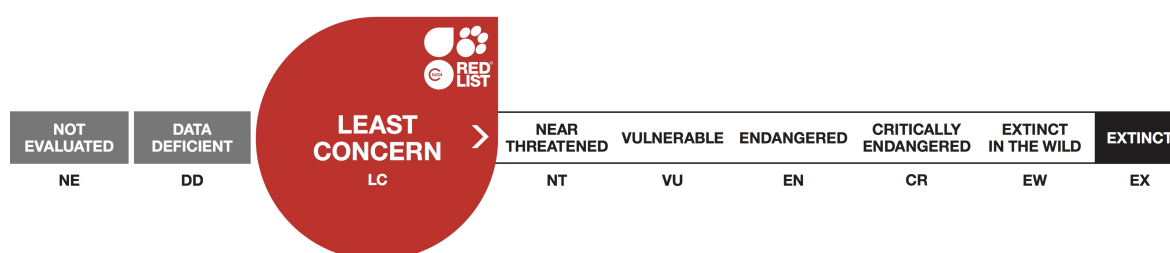


Hydromys chrysogaster, Common Water Rat

Errata version

Assessment by: Burbidge, A.A.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

Citation: Burbidge, A.A. 2016. *Hydromys chrysogaster*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2016: e.T10310A115097054. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T10310A22401780.en>

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Rodentia	Muridae

Taxon Name: *Hydromys chrysogaster* É. Geoffroy, 1804

Common Name(s):

- English: Common Water Rat

Taxonomic Notes:

The population on Obi Island, Indonesia, may represent a separate species. There is also a distinct population on the Atherton Tableland, Australia that may represent a separate species (previously described as *Hydromys longmani*) (K. Aplin and K. Helgen pers. comm.).

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2016

Date Assessed: September 8, 2016

Justification:

Listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, presumed large population, and because it is unlikely to be declining at nearly the rate required to qualify for listing in a threatened category.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2008 – Least Concern (LC)
<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T10310A3191803.en>

1996 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

Geographic Range

Range Description:

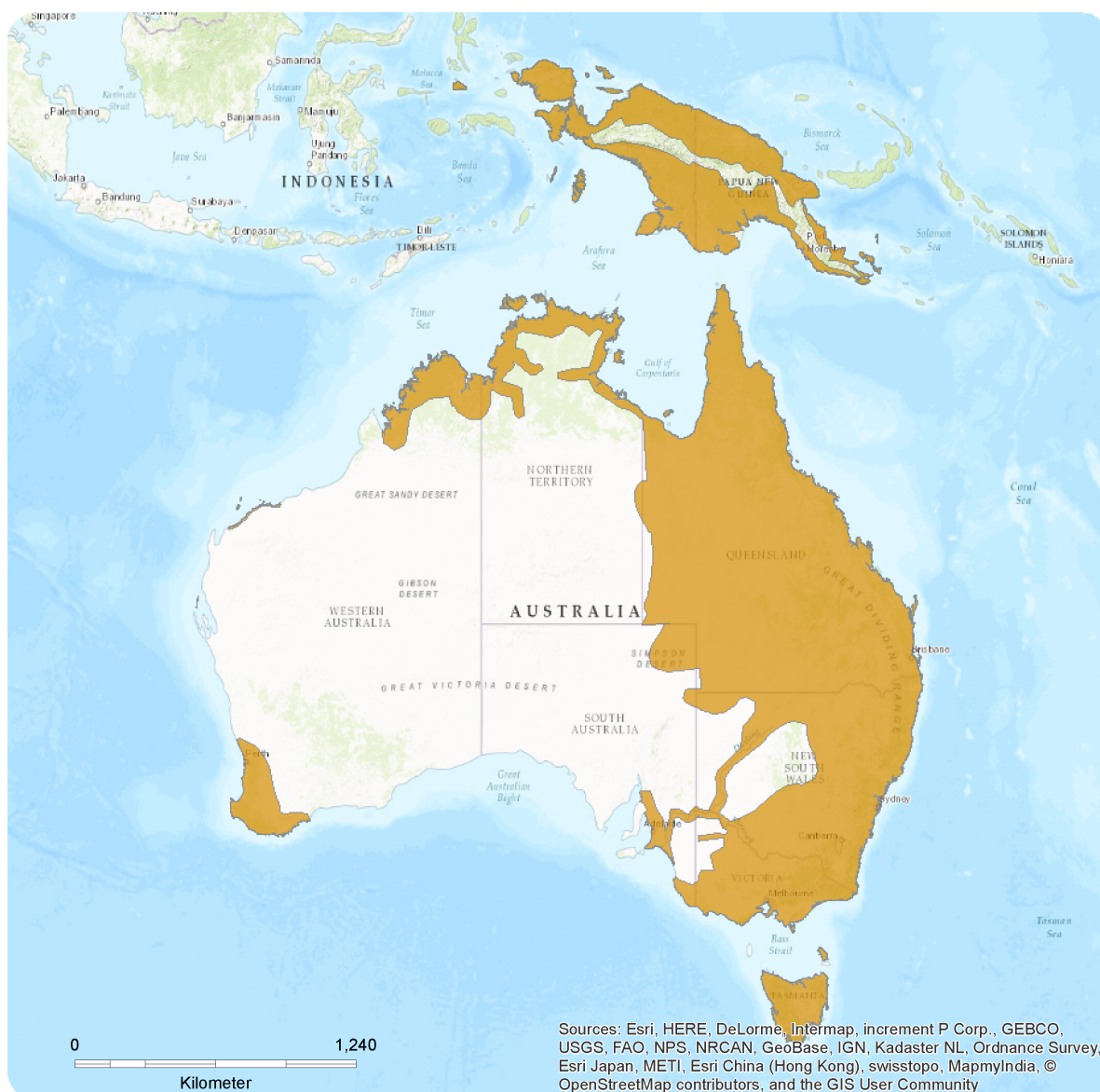
This species is present on Obi Island in the Moluccan Islands of Indonesia, the Kai Islands (Indonesia), the Aru Islands (Indonesia), the islands of Biak-Supiori and Yapen (Indonesia), it is found over much of the island of New Guinea (Indonesia and Papua New Guinea), on the D'Entrecasteaux Islands and the Trobriand Islands (Papua New Guinea), and ranges through parts of northern, eastern, south-eastern and south-western Australia, including the island of Tasmania and a number of offshore islands (e.g., Bernier Island, Western Australia). It ranges from sea level to 1,900 m asl.

Country Occurrence:

Native: Australia; Indonesia; Papua New Guinea

Distribution Map

Hydromys chrysogaster

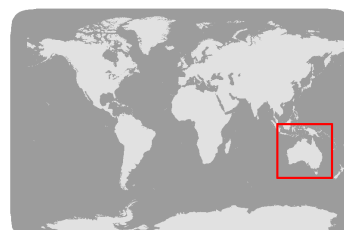


Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

It is generally a common, but sparsely distributed, species. There have been some declines in parts of Australia.

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is associated with a wide variety of permanent aquatic habitats. It can be found in most types of freshwater habitats, including artificially irrigated sites, and can also occur in mangrove and estuarine areas (Flannery 1995a,b; Olsen 2008). Animals nest in bankside tunnels or logs, and while most food is taken from the water, they may forage in riparian vegetation (Olsen 2008). Females may annually have up to five litters (usually one or two) of three or four young (Olsen 2008).

Systems: Terrestrial

Threats

There are no major threats to this species. In New Guinea, some populations are locally threatened by aquatic pollution resulting from mining activities. In south-western Western Australia, populations have declined likely due to increased salinity from clearing in agricultural areas. Extinction in the Montebello Islands (Western Australia) was probably due to a high density of introduced black rats (*Rattus rattus*) and cats.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

It is present in many protected areas in Australia and New Guinea. Further studies into the taxonomy of this species are needed.

Credits

Assessor(s): Burbidge, A.A.

Reviewer(s): Amori, G.

Contributor(s): Aplin, K., Copley, P., Robinson, A., Morris, K., Woinarski, J., Friend, T., Ellis, M. & Menkhorst, P.

Bibliography

Flannery, T.F. 1995. *Mammals of the South-West Pacific and Moluccan Islands*. Comstock/Cornell, Ithaca, Ny, USA.

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Olsen, P. D. 2008. Water Rat, *Hydromys chrysogaster*. In: S. Van Dyck and R. Strahan (eds), *The mammals of Australia. Third Edition*, pp. 662-664. Reed New Holland, Sydney, Australia.

Citation

Burbidge, A.A. 2016. *Hydromys chrysogaster*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2016*: e.T10310A115097054. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2016-3.RLTS.T10310A22401780.en>

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
13. Marine Coastal/Supratidal -> 13.5. Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Coastal Freshwater Lakes	-	Suitable	-
13. Marine Coastal/Supratidal -> 13.4. Marine Coastal/Supratidal - Coastal Brackish/Saline Lagoons/Marine Lakes	-	Suitable	-
9. Marine Neritic -> 9.10. Marine Neritic - Estuaries	-	Suitable	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.7. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	-	Suitable	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.5. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Freshwater Lakes (over 8ha)	-	Suitable	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.4. Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands	-	Suitable	-
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.1. Wetlands (inland) - Permanent Rivers/Streams/Creeks (includes waterfalls)	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.8. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Swamp	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.7. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Mangrove Vegetation Above High Tide Level	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Suitable	-

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range

Research Needed

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 14185388
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 1900
Population
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Generation Length (years): 3

Errata

Errata reason: This errata assessment has been created because the map was accidentally left out of the version published previously.

The IUCN Red List Partnership



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