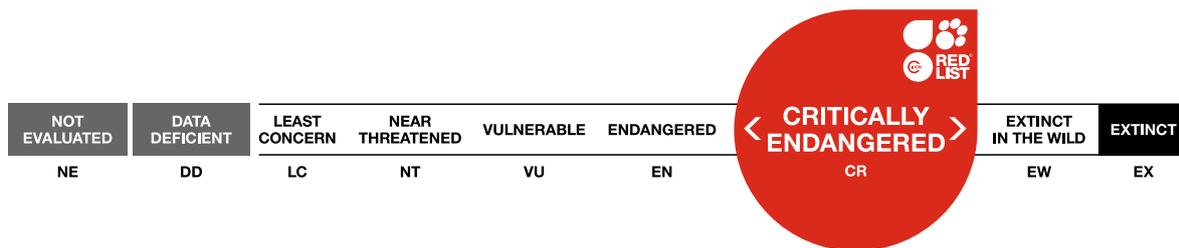


Macaca fascicularis ssp. fusca, Simeulue Long-tailed Macaque

Assessment by: Amey, T., Hansen, M.F., Ang, A. & Gumert, M.D.



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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Mammalia	Primates	Cercopithecidae

Scientific Name: *Macaca fascicularis ssp. fusca* (Miller, 1903)

Synonym(s):

- *Macaca fascicularis ssp. fuscus* (Miller, 1903) [orth. error]
- *Macacus fuscus* Miller, 1903

Parent Species: See *Macaca fascicularis*

Common Name(s):

- English: Simeulue Long-tailed Macaque
- Indonesian: kera, monyet ekor panjang

Taxonomic Notes:

One of the seven recognized insular subspecies of the long-tailed macaque (*Macaca fascicularis*). Diagnostic features include a blackish trunk with pale yellowish hair annulations, the preauricular hairs usually are directed posteriorly, partly covering ears. Cheek hair often forms an infrazygomatic lateral facial crest, similar to the Burmese and Nicobar subspecies; however, some specimens show a transzygomatic lateral facial crest as well. The subauricular hairs are pale gray and not elongated, the outer surface of thighs and shanks blackish (Fooden 1995).

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Critically Endangered A2ac [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2022

Date Assessed: March 14, 2021

Justification:

Macaca fascicularis fusca is listed as Critically Endangered due to a suspected population decline of at least 95% over a three-generation period on the basis of surveys taken between 1982/1984 and 2017, which have shown a decline of total population from an estimated 50,000 individuals down to less than 250 individuals in recent years (though up to 1,000 individuals may remain in the wild, according to researchers on-the-ground). In addition, the subspecies has an Area of Occupancy that is less than 2,000 km², it is only found in one location (Simeulue Island, which is also susceptible to earthquakes and tsunamis) and there are suspected declines in the number of mature individuals (the subspecies is often persecuted due to human-wildlife conflicts, especially in agricultural settings) and decline in habitat quality continues due to development and plantations.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2020 – Data Deficient (DD)

<https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2020-3.RLTS.T39786A195344878.en>

2008 – Data Deficient (DD)

<https://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2008.RLTS.T39786A10257193.en>

2000 – Data Deficient (DD)

Geographic Range

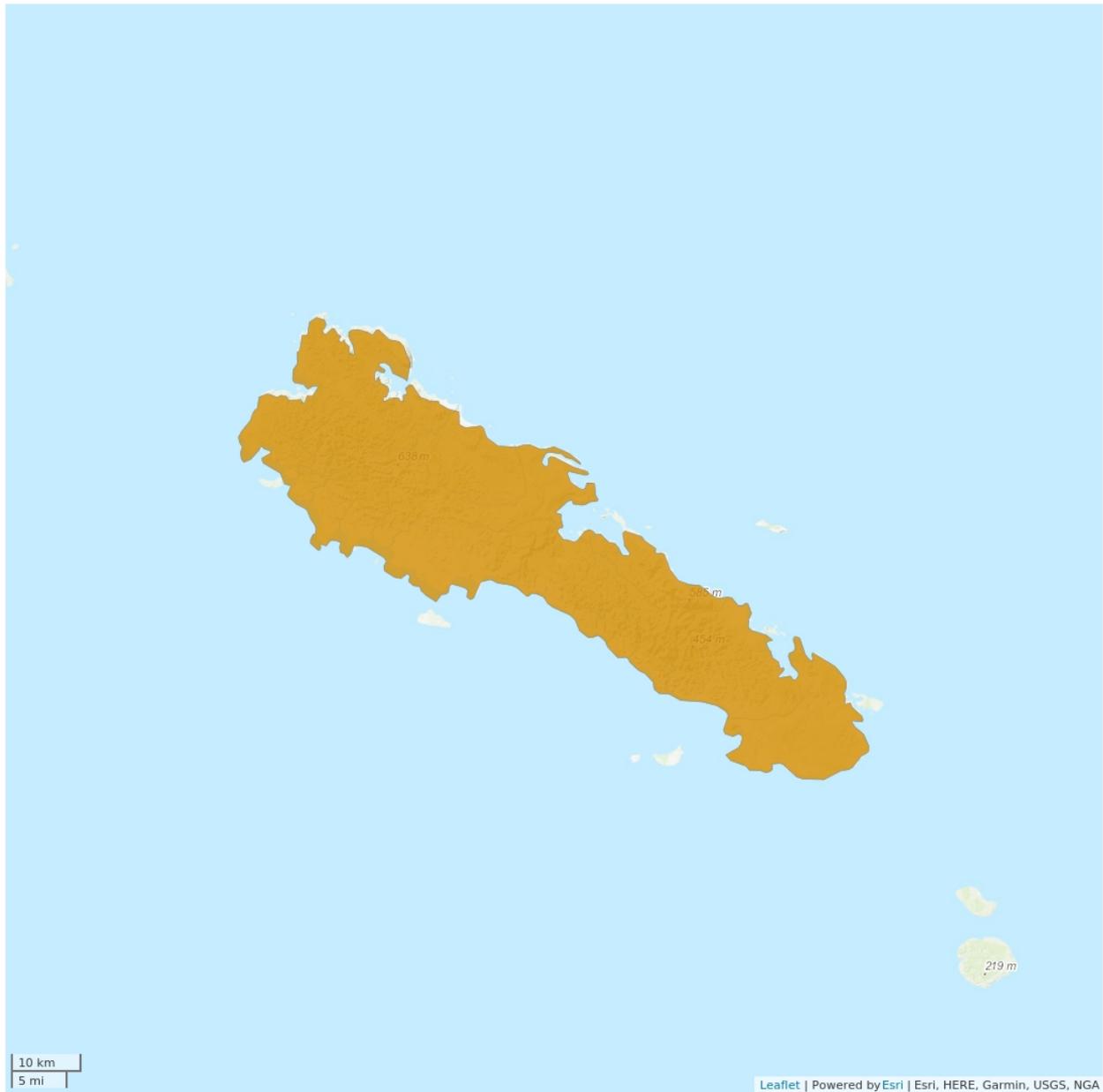
Range Description:

This subspecies occurs on Simeulue Island, off the northwestern coast of Sumatra, Indonesia (Groves 2001). Due to human settlements and plantations, the subspecies now mostly occurs in the northern part of the island, where suitable forest still remains (T. Amey, pers. obs. 2021). Extent of Occurrence and habitat quality are suspected to be undergoing continuous decline.

Country Occurrence:

Native, Extant (resident): Indonesia (Sumatera)

Distribution Map

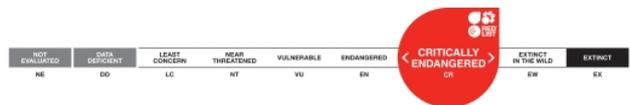


Legend

■ EXTANT (RESIDENT)

Compiled by:

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) 2021



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



Population

This subspecies was considered abundant during surveys conducted in January 1982 and between March and April 1984 (Sugardjito *et al.* 1989). Even though *M. fascicularis fusca* appeared to live in smaller groups of 10–15 individuals as compared to other *M. fascicularis* subspecies, it was estimated that there were around 50,000 macaques on Simeulue Island (Sugardjito *et al.* 1989). This figure was based on a reasonably undisturbed 100,000 ha of forest covering over half of the island at that time. However, Simeulue Island lost 13,800 ha of tree cover from 2001 to 2019, which is equivalent to an 8.2% decrease in tree cover since 2000 (Global Forest Watch 2021). As such, populations are suspected to be undergoing ongoing decline. A recent survey portrays a very dire scenario now, as the population was recently estimated to be fewer than 250 individuals. This was based on an expedition that explored 50% of the island, but only found 60–90 monkeys in three groups (LIPI 2017). In 2021, researchers in the area believed there could be more than 250 individuals (but no more than 1,000) remaining in the wild, but surveys have not been done since 2017. If the 1989 and 2017 population estimates are accurate, the population may have experienced a 99.5% decline in the last 40 years (with a three-generation period being *ca* 42 years).

Current Population Trend: Unknown

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

Undisturbed alluvial and limestone forests were prime habitats for the subspecies in Simeulue Island, but it was virtually absent in extensive mangroves in clear water and lived at low densities in mangroves in muddy estuaries; no monkeys were seen in a heavily exploited swamp forest and a young secondary forest during the surveys (Sugardjito *et al.* 1989). In 2017, monkeys were observed in mangrove, coastal forests and agricultural areas (LIPI 2017).

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

Use and trade in this subspecies is not known.

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

There is human-wildlife conflict as it pertains to this species, and the attitude of local communities towards the macaques tends to be negative because of crop raiding. In response, macaques are often poisoned and trapped in response (Sugardjito *et al.* 1989). In 2021, trapping is still used to capture crop foraging macaques (T. Amey, pers. obs. 2021), and reports of coconut farmers poisoning macaques are common (pers. comm. Jane Dunlop 2021).

Land clearing for agriculture and hunting of crop foraging macaques remain the largest threat to the population (LIPI2017). As a result, habitat quality is suspected to be declining due to development and plantations.

According to the Global Forest Watch (2021), Simeulue Island lost 13,800 ha of tree cover from 2001 to 2019, which was equivalent to an 8.2% decrease in tree cover since 2000.

In addition, Simeulue Island is susceptible to earthquakes and tsunamis, which can rapidly destroy habitats and wildlife populations in severe events.

The population may have experienced a dramatic decline in the last 40 years.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

Basic research is needed to collect information on population status and threats affecting this subspecies.

Credits

Assessor(s): Amey, T., Hansen, M.F., Ang, A. & Gumert, M.D.

Reviewer(s): Reuter, K.E.

Contributor(s): Ong, P., Richardson, M. & Rylands, A.B.

Authority/Authorities: IUCN SSC Primate Specialist Group

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Citation

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External Resources

For [Supplementary Material](#), and 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?
1. Forest -> 1.6. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Moist Lowland	-	Suitable	-
1. Forest -> 1.7. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Mangrove Vegetation Above High Tide Level	-	Suitable	Yes
1. Forest -> 1.8. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Swamp	-	Suitable	-

Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.2. Wood & pulp plantations -> 2.2.2. Agro-industry plantations	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6
5. Biological resource use -> 5.1. Hunting & trapping terrestrial animals -> 5.1.3. Persecution/control	Ongoing	Minority (50%)	Slow, significant declines	Low impact: 5
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.1. Intentional use: (subsistence/small scale) [harvest]	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Slow, significant declines	Medium impact: 6

Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Action in Place
In-place research and monitoring
Action Recovery Plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-place land/water protection
Conservation sites identified: No
Area based regional management plan: No
Occurs in at least one protected area: Unknown
Invasive species control or prevention: No
In-place species management
Harvest management plan: No

Conservation Action in Place
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-place education
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: Yes
Subject to any international management / trade controls: Yes

Conservation Actions Needed

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

Conservation Action Needed
1. Land/water protection -> 1.1. Site/area protection
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management
4. Education & awareness -> 4.2. Training
4. Education & awareness -> 4.3. Awareness & communications

Research Needed

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

Research Needed
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
1. Research -> 1.6. Actions
2. Conservation Planning -> 2.2. Area-based Management Plan
3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends
3. Monitoring -> 3.4. Habitat trends

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km ²): 2464
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Yes
Number of Locations: 1

Distribution
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 567
Population
Number of mature individuals: 200
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 13.9

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