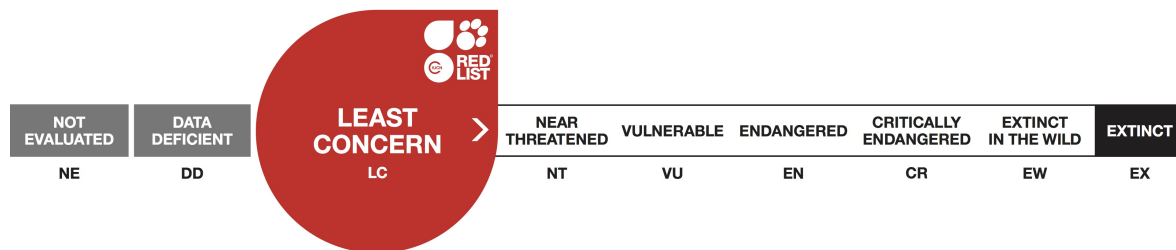


Pristurus carteri, Carter's Semaphore Gecko

Assessment by: Sindaco, R., Wilms, T. & Mohammed, S.F.



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Taxonomy

| Kingdom | Phylum | Class | Order | Family |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| Animalia | Chordata | Reptilia | Squamata | Sphaerodactylidae |

Taxon Name: *Pristurus carteri* (Gray, 1863)

Common Name(s):

- English: Carter's Semaphore Gecko

Assessment Information

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

Year Published: 2012

Date Assessed: February 8, 2012

Justification:

Listed as Least Concern on the basis that it is abundant, widespread and subject to no major threats.

Geographic Range

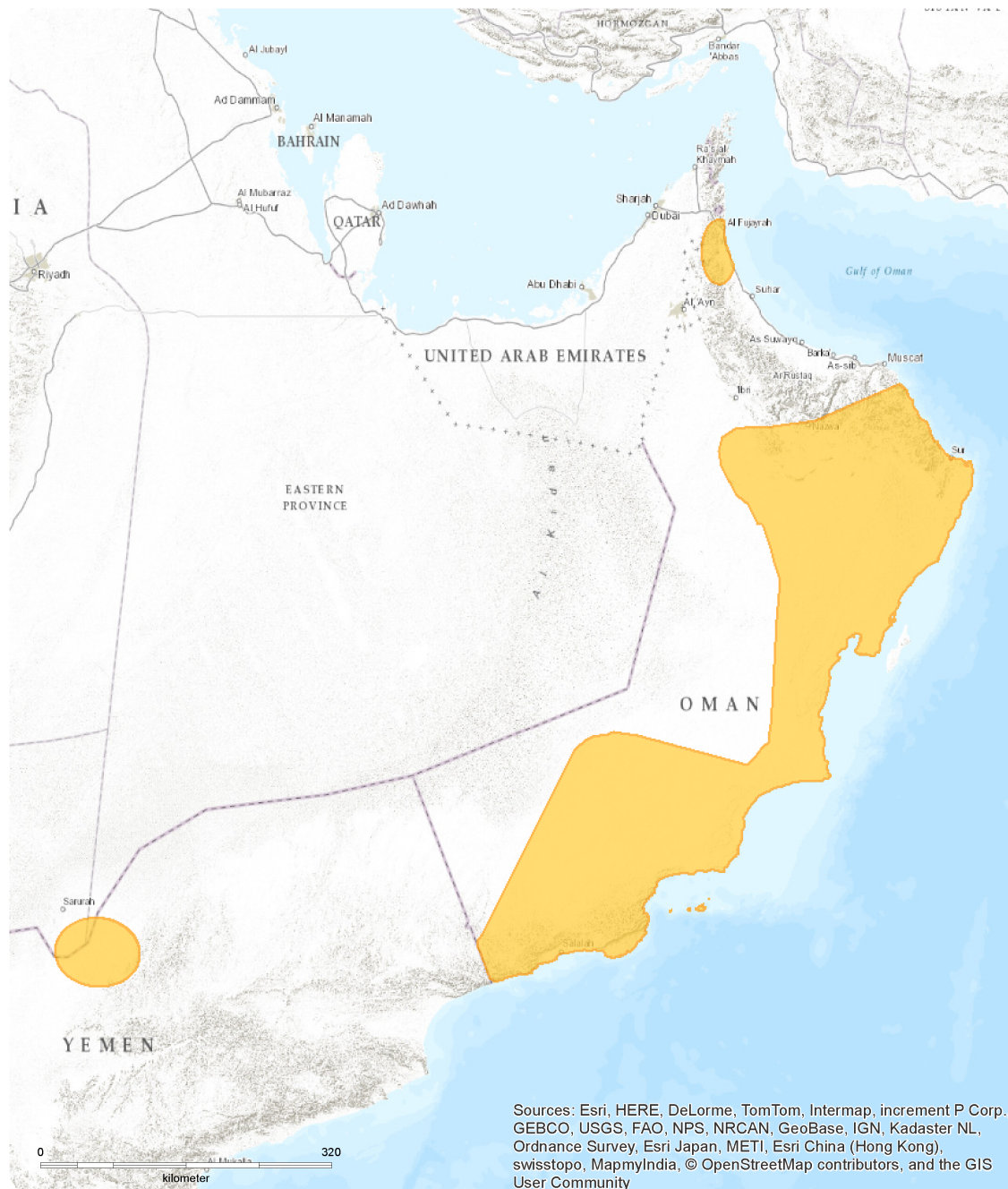
Range Description:

This species is endemic to the southern Arabian Peninsula, where it ranges from central Oman from Dibab southwards, via Masirah Island, and the adjoining mainland (van der Kooij 2000). A disjunct population occurs in north Yemen, where it is known from two records (Arnold 1980). There is a single record from the United Arab Emirates, on the border with Oman (Gardner 2009).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Oman; Yemen

Distribution Map

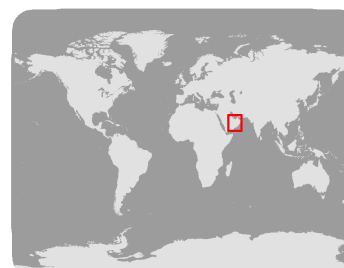


Pristurus carteri

Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:
IUCN, CI



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



Population

Gardner (2009) suggests that it is not uncommon in suitable habitat. Arnold (1980) notes that in suitable habitat it can be an abundant species. It is found in high densities throughout its range (T. Wilms pers. comm. February 2012).

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It is ground dwelling and exclusively diurnal (Arnold 1986, T. Wilms pers. comm. February 2012). This species is associated with gravelly habitats with little or no vegetation (van der Kooij 2000). Arnold (1980) recorded it from open, dry flattish areas although occasionally found on slopes as well if the gradient is not too abrupt. Gardner (2009) recorded it from rocky plateau outcrops and from wadi gravels and outwash.

Systems: Terrestrial

Use and Trade (see Appendix for additional information)

These geckos fetch high prices in Europe and the United States (T. Wilms pers. comm. February 2012), and there is also demand in Japan (S. F. Mohammed pers. comm. February 2012). Export is presently banned from Oman. The animals are hard to keep and breed in captivity, and individuals occasionally found at reptile fairs are presumed to be illegally collected (T. Wilms pers. comm. February 2012).

Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

It is threatened in parts of its range, such as the United Arab Emirates, by habitat loss resulting from gravel extraction, construction, over-grazing and farms. There are unlikely to be any major threats, as this is a widespread and common gecko and there is little or no land conversion in most of its range.

Conservation Actions

It is known to occur in several protected areas in Oman. Export of this lizard from Oman is banned. No other conservation measures are required.

Credits

Assessor(s): Sindaco, R., Wilms, T. & Mohammed, S.F.

Reviewer(s): Bowles, P. & Cox, N.A.

**Facilitators(s) and
Compiler(s):** Bowles, P.

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Gardner, A.S. 2009. Two new gecko species records for the United Arab Emirates: *Pristurus carteri* (Gray, 1863) and *Hemidactylus persicus* Anderson, 1872. *Tribulus* 18: 18-23.

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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? |
|--------------------------------|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| 8. Desert -> 8.1. Desert - Hot | - | Marginal | - |

Use and Trade

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

| End Use | Local | National | International |
|------------------------------------|-------|----------|---------------|
| Pets/display animals, horticulture | No | No | Yes |

Threats

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

| Threat | Timing | Scope | Severity | Impact Score |
|---|---------|----------------|----------|--------------|
| 2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.3. Livestock farming & ranching -> 2.3.2. Small-holder grazing, ranching or farming | Ongoing | Minority (50%) | Unknown | Unknown |
| 3. Energy production & mining -> 3.2. Mining & quarrying | Ongoing | Minority (50%) | Unknown | Unknown |

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 |

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