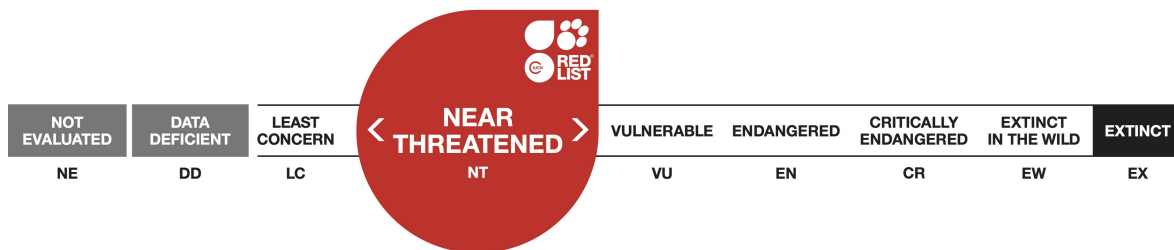


## *Cordylus macropholis*, Large-scaled Girdled Lizard

Assessment by: Mouton, P.L.F.N.



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## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia	Squamata	Cordylidae

**Taxon Name:** *Cordylus macropholis* (Boulenger, 1910)

**Synonym(s):**

- *Zonurus macropholis* Boulenger, 1910

**Common Name(s):**

- English: Large-scaled Girdled Lizard

**Taxonomic Notes:**

A phylogenetic study of the apparently isolated subpopulations is needed.

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Near Threatened [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2017

**Date Assessed:** May 16, 2013

**Justification:**

The extent of occurrence (EOO = 20,528 km<sup>2</sup>) and the area of occupancy (AOO = 2,700 km<sup>2</sup>) are close to the Vulnerable thresholds and there is continuing decline in area, extent and quality of habitat [B1b(iii), B2b(iii)] due to coastal developments and mining activities. The species is thus considered Near Threatened.

## Geographic Range

**Range Description:**

Endemic to the west coast of South Africa, in the Northern and Western Cape provinces. Occurs in three subpopulations along the West Coast, from Port Nolloth in the north to Yzerfontein in the south. The distributional gap between northern and southern subpopulations appears to be real.

**Country Occurrence:**

**Native:** South Africa (Northern Cape Province, Western Cape)

## Population

According to Mouton *et al.* (2000) this taxon occurs in high numbers in areas where *Euphorbia* plants are abundant.

**Current Population Trend:** Decreasing

## Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

A terrestrial cordylid, preferring the succulent plant *Euphorbia caput-medusae* and related species as shelter (Mouton *et al.* 2000). It may also shelter beneath calcrete rocks and in stick-nests of Vlei Rats (*Otomys* species) (P. le F.N. Mouton pers. obs.).

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

The species is in the pet trade.

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

Coastal development (including mining) poses a major threat.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is listed in CITES Appendix II. Draw up a Species Management Plan (BMP-S). Provide increased habitat protection, e.g. do not allow coastal developments to impact on any populations. Conduct basic research on the biology and ecology of the species.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Mouton, P.L.F.N.

**Reviewer(s):** Bates, M.F.

## Bibliography

Bates, M.F., Branch, W.R., Bauer, A.M., Burger, M., Marais, J., Alexander, G.J. and de Villiers, M.S. (eds). 2014. *Atlas and Red List of the Reptiles of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland*. Suricata 1. South African National Biodiversity Institute, Pretoria.

IUCN. 2017. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2017-1. Available at: [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org).

Mouton, P. le F.N., Flemming, A.F. and Nieuwoudt, C.J. 2000. Sexual dimorphism and sex ratio in a terrestrial girdled lizard, *Cordylus macropholis*. *Journal of Herpetology* 34: 379-386.

## Citation

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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?
3. Shrubland -> 3.5. Shrubland - Subtropical/Tropical Dry	-	Suitable	-

### Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
1. Residential & commercial development -> 1.1. Housing & urban areas	Ongoing	Unknown	-	-
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		
3. Energy production & mining -> 3.2. Mining & quarrying	Ongoing	Unknown	-	-
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		

### Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Yes
In-Place Education
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 Actions Needed
2. Land/water management -> 2.1. Site/area management
3. Species management -> 3.2. Species recovery

### Research Needed

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

<b>Research Needed</b>
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.3. Life history & ecology
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
2. Conservation Planning -> 2.1. Species Action/Recovery Plan
3. Monitoring -> 3.4. Habitat trends

## Additional Data Fields

<b>Distribution</b>
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 2700
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Yes
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 20528
Number of Locations: 1-10
<b>Population</b>
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Yes
Population severely fragmented: No
No. of subpopulations: 2-3
All individuals in one subpopulation: No
<b>Habitats and Ecology</b>
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 6

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