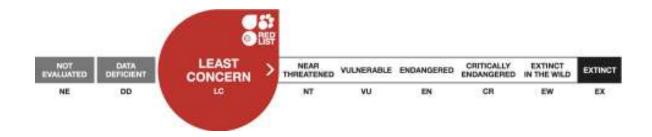


# Xenochrophis punctulatus, Spotted Keelback Water Snake

Assessment by: Wogan, G. & Pauwels, O.S.G.



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## **Taxonomy**

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Chordata	Reptilia	Squamata	Natricidae

**Taxon Name:** Xenochrophis punctulatus (Günther, 1858)

#### Synonym(s):

- Fowlea peguensis
- Natrix punctulata
- Nerodia punctulata
- Tropidonotus punctulatus

#### Common Name(s):

• English: Spotted Keelback Water Snake

#### **Taxonomic Notes:**

This species was formerly placed in the genus Natrix.

### **Assessment Information**

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern ver 3.1

Year Published: 2012

Date Assessed: July 1, 2009

#### Justification:

Xenochrophis punctulatus is listed as Least Concern, as it has a large extent of occurrence and is reported to be common, despite habitat loss and degradation. This species is abundant in areas of suitable habitat and populations are believed to be stable. However, more research is needed to study how is habitat loss impacting known populations as mangroves are intensively used by people. Research into population trends in this species is strongly recommended.

#### **Previously Published Red List Assessments**

2010 - Least Concern (LC)

# **Geographic Range**

#### **Range Description:**

This species has been recorded from Myanmar and adjacent western Thailand (Smith 1943; Pauwels *et al.* 2001, 2004). The record from Thailand, from Mae Hong Son Province (Pauwels *et al.* 2001), is however doubtful as this tidal species has only definitively been recorded in tidal palm forests along the cost of Myanmar.

#### **Country Occurrence:**

Native: Myanmar

# **Distribution Map**



# **Population**

This species can be common in suitable habitat (G. Zug and O. Pauwels pers. comms. 2010).

**Current Population Trend: Stable** 

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

This species is a brackish water dweller that inhabits tidal forests (G. Zug and O. Pauwels pers. comm. 2010, Pauwels *et al.* 2004).

Systems: Freshwater, Marine

### **Use and Trade**

There are no reports of this species being utilised.

### Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

The habitat of this species is threatened by deforestation due to the encroachment of agriculture, illegal logging, and general over-exploitation of mangrove forest resources by a growing human population. People in this area rely heavily on mangrove resources and this may be reducing suitable habitat and therefore affecting the known populations.

# **Conservation Actions** (see Appendix for additional information)

There are no known species-specific conservation measures in place, however it may occur in protected areas within its range. Research into the population of this species and its ability to withstand disturbance to its mangrove habitat should be undertaken, as this snake may be susceptible to significant population declines if pressures on its mangrove habitat increase in the future.

#### **Credits**

Assessor(s): Wogan, G. & Pauwels, O.S.G.

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

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Wilson, P., Lewis, S., Lintott, P. & Powney, G.

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### **External Resources**

For <u>Images and External Links to Additional Information</u>, please see the Red List website.

# **Appendix**

### **Habitats**

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

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
1. Forest -> 1.7. Forest - Subtropical/Tropical Mangrove Vegetation Above High Tide Level	-	Suitable	Yes

# **Threats**

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.2. Small-holder farming	Ongoing	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion		
	1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation		stem degradation	
5. Biological resource use -> 5.3. Logging & wood harvesting -> 5.3.3. Unintentional effects: (subsistence/small scale)	Ongoing	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
	Stresses:	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	

### **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	

# **Additional Data Fields**

Population
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes

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