

Family Lacertidae

Nucras holubi (Steindachner, 1882)

Holub's Sandveld Lizard

■ LC – Least Concern (Regional)

Assessors: Burger, M., Tolley, K.A.

Previous Red List categories:

2021: Least Concern (Global IUCN assessment).

2014: Least Concern (SARCA).

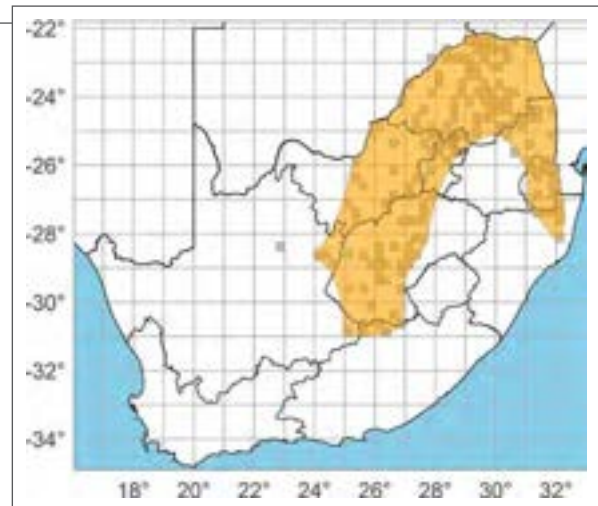
Assessment rationale: This species is widespread with no substantial threats.

Taxonomic notes: The disjunct *N. holubi* population in northern Namibia is now referable to *N. damarana* (Bauer et al. 2020). Recent phylogenetic studies have shown two divergent clades in *N. holubi* that require further investigation (Branch et al. 2019b) and that *N. holubi* may be polyphyletic with respect to *N. damarana* (Bauer et al. 2020). *Other important names:* none.

Distribution: Widespread in the mesic eastern areas of southern Africa, possibly extending into Mozambique. In the region, it occurs from the central part of South Africa, extending northwards into Limpopo province, Eswatini and northern KwaZulu-Natal province. *EOO:* 586 000 km²; *Distribution:* 361 000 km².

Countries of occurrence: Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, South Africa, Zimbabwe.

Habitat and ecology: Often associated with rocky terrain in Mesic Savanna in the north and sandy plains in the south. As is typical for most *Nucras*, this species



shelters in burrows in the ground or under rocks and probably occurs at low densities. *Habitat:* Grassland, Savanna.

Threats: There are no substantial threats to this species.

Population trend: Although there is some habitat transformation in parts of the range, the population size is assumed to be stable because this is a widespread species, and the extent of habitat transformation is small in relation to the large range.

Conservation and research recommendations: No recommendations.

Nucras holubi, Oviston Nature Reserve, Eastern Cape province (© W. Conradie).

Nucras holubi, Greater KuduLand Safaris, Limpopo province (© M. Burger).

