

For immediate release: 9 October, 2008

Review of the 2008 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™

Background: The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is long established as the world's most comprehensive information source on the global conservation status of plants and animals. This showcase event is a chance to preview the release of the **Review of the 2008 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™**. Each section explores a different aspect or biodiversity realm of the IUCN Red List, including:

- The IUCN Red List: a key conservation tool
- State of the world's species
- Freshwater biodiversity: a hidden resource under threat
- Status of the world's marine species
- Broadening the coverage of biodiversity assessment
- Species susceptibility to climate change impacts
- The Mediterranean: a biodiversity hotspot under threat
- Biodiversity indicators: what does species information tell us?

Key Issues:

- The 2008 Review of The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ provides an in depth analysis of the main findings of this year's IUCN Red List
- Meet the authors of the review talking about their work and Q & A sessions
- The Mediterranean is spearheading the regional Red List approach. With particular pertinence to this year's Congress, the author will examine the biodiversity richness of the region, the threats to its species and the conservation actions that are making a difference.

When: Thursday, 9 October, 13:00-14:30, at the Species Pavilion (refreshments provided)

Spokespeople:

Dr Jane Smart (Head of IUCN Species Programme), **Dr Jean-Christophe Vié** (Chief editor of The Review), **Lead authors:** Craig Hilton Taylor, Will Darwall, Beth Polidoro, Ben Collen, Wendy Foden, Annabelle Cuttelod, Rosamunde Almond.

Materials for the Media:

The IUCN Red List can be viewed in its entirety at www.iucnredlist.org
Downloaded the review brochures and factsheets at www.iucn.org/redlist

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About IUCN

IUCN, the International Union for Conservation of Nature, helps the world find pragmatic solutions to our most pressing environment and development challenges by supporting scientific research; managing field projects all over the world; and bringing governments, NGOs, the UN, international conventions and companies together to develop policy, laws and best practice.

The world's oldest and largest global environmental network, IUCN is a democratic membership union with more than 1,000 government and NGO member organizations, and almost 11,000 volunteer scientists and experts in some 160 countries. IUCN's work is supported by over 1,000 professional staff in 60 offices and hundreds of partners in public, NGO and private sectors around the world. IUCN's headquarters are located in Gland, near Geneva, in Switzerland.