

tion measures to reduce conflicts, but accepts that lethal control may be required in some situations. Given the complex social issues surrounding large carnivore conservation the LCIE strongly recommend that appropriate attention be paid to studies of both the human dimension and ecology when making management decisions.

\* This position statement was prepared by the LCIE core group and does not necessarily reflect the views of all LCIE member organisations or individuals.

## The Cat Specialist Group Digital Library as a Measure of Cat Conservation Effort

by Kristin Nowell\*

**R**esearch effort for cat species can be measured by the number of documents (including publications and reports) in the current holdings of the Cat Specialist Group Digital Library, which has been built up from documents held by the former Chairman, Peter Jackson, Cat Specialist Group.

Research effort is a good guide to cat conservation effort as most effort specifically focused on cat species yields a paper trail. The Cat SG Library, while not yet complete, is the most comprehensive collection of cat conservation literature available. The following tables provide an overview of cat conservation effort (measured by research effort), currently and in comparison to the mid-1990s, when the Cat SG's Cat Action Plan (CAP) (Nowell and Jackson 1996) was being prepared.

**Table 1** lists the 36 species by their 2002 Red List classification, starting with the most threatened. The second column shows the number of papers in the library I came up with searching for a species name in the keyword column of the bibliography file <01\_catlib\_del.txt>, available under the "Instructions and Database" section of the library. The third column lists the approximate number of existing papers in the mid-1990s (Nowell and Jackson 1996: Chapter 3 Table 1).

Table 1. Comparison of mid-1990s to current cat research effort

Red List classification	No. papers Cat SG Library (2002)	CAP Research effort 1996
<b>CRITICALLY ENDANGERED</b>		
<i>Lynx pardinus</i>	66	50-100
<b>ENDANGERED</b>		
<i>Catopuma badia</i>	11	< 15
<i>Oreailurus jacobita</i>	27	< 15
<i>Uncia uncia</i>	182	100-200
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	939	200+
<b>VULNERABLE</b>		
<i>Felis bieti</i>	9	< 15
<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	49	15-50
<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>	13	< 15
<i>Prionailurus rubiginosus</i>	0	< 15
<i>Catopuma temmincki</i>	4	< 15
<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i>	10	< 15
<i>Profelis aurata</i>	16	< 15
<i>Felis nigripes</i>	27	< 15
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	235	100-200
<i>Oncifelis guigna</i>	15	< 15
<i>Panthera leo</i>	419	200+
<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	9	< 15
<b>NEAR THREATENED</b>		
<i>Otocolobus manul</i>	11	< 15
<i>Lynx lynx</i>	230	100-200
<i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i>	18	15-50
<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i>	8	< 15
<i>Oncifelis colocolo</i>	29	< 15
<i>Panthera onca</i>	106	50-100
<i>Puma concolor</i>	411	200+
<i>Felis margarita</i>	26	15-50
<b>LEAST CONCERN</b>		
<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	48	100-200
<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>	25	< 15
<i>Herpailurus yagouaroundi</i>	24	< 15
<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	31	15-50
<i>Felis chaus</i>	25	15-50
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	353	100-200
<i>Lynx rufus</i>	39	200+
<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	143	15-50
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	45	15-50
<i>Caracal caracal</i>	66	50-100
<i>Felis silvestris</i>	372	50-100
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,041</b>	

Table 2 classifies the species into those which have seen a measurable increase in conservation effort (in terms of research effort) since the mid-1990s, and those that have not. To some extent I have corrected for gaps in library coverage of certain species. For example, the International Snow Leopard Trust's digital library contains over 400 documents for this species

<<http://www.snowleopard.org/islt/slss/bibliography.html>>.

Table 2

Species with increased conservation effort since CAP publication	Species with no change
<i>Oreailurus jacobita</i>	<i>Lynx pardinus</i>
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	<i>Catopuma badia</i>
<i>Uncia uncia</i>	<i>Felis bieti</i>
<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>	<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>
<i>Felis nigripes</i>	<i>Prionailurus rubiginosus</i>
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	<i>Catopuma temminckii</i>
<i>Oncifelis guigna</i> ?	<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i>
<i>Panthera leo</i>	<i>Profelis aurata</i>
<i>Lynx lynx</i>	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>
<i>Oncifelis colocolo</i>	<i>Otocolobus manul</i>
<i>Panthera onca</i>	<i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i>
<i>Puma concolor</i>	<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i>
<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>	<i>Felis margarita</i>
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>
<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	<i>Lynx rufus</i>
<i>Felis silvestris</i>	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>
<i>Herpailurus yaguarondi</i>	<i>Felis chaus</i>
	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>
	<i>Caracal caracal</i>

Table 3 lists species in the order of most to least number of research papers in the Cat SG library alongside their Red List classification. The different Red List groupings are separated by font changes. It is apparent that research and conservation effort have in most cases not been focused on the most threatened felids. The main exception is the tiger (*Panthera tigris*), and also the snow leopard (*Uncia uncia*), to a somewhat lesser extent.

Table 3. Species grouped by threat status and research effort, from most to least

Species ranked by threatened status	Species ranked by research effort
<i>Lynx pardinus</i>	<i>Panthera tigris</i>
<i>Catopuma badia</i>	<i>Panthera leo</i>
<i>Oreailurus jacobita</i>	<i>Puma concolor</i>
<i>Uncia uncia</i>	<i>Felis silvestris</i>
<i>Panthera tigris</i>	<i>Panthera pardus</i>
<i>Felis bieti</i>	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>
<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>	<i>Lynx lynx</i>
<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>	<i>Uncia uncia</i>
<i>Prionailurus rubiginosus</i>	<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>
<i>Catopuma temmincki</i>	<i>Panthera onca</i>
<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i>	<i>Lynx pardinus</i>
<i>Profelis aurata</i>	<i>Caracal caracal</i>
<i>Felis nigripes</i>	<i>Neofelis nebulosa</i>
<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>
<i>Oncifelis guigna</i>	<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>
<i>Panthera leo</i>	<i>Lynx rufus</i>
<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>
<i>Otocolobus manul</i>	<i>Oncifelis colocolo</i>
<i>Lynx lynx</i>	<i>Oreailurus jacobita</i>
<i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i>	<i>Felis nigripes</i>
<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i>	<i>Felis margarita</i>
<i>Oncifelis colocolo</i>	<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>
<i>Panthera onca</i>	<i>Felis chaus</i>
<i>Puma concolor</i>	<i>Herpailurus yaguarondi</i>
<i>Felis margarita</i>	<i>Oncifelis geoffroyi</i>
<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	<i>Profelis aurata</i>
<i>Leopardus wiedii</i>	<i>Oncifelis guigna</i>
<i>Herpailurus yaguarondi</i>	<i>Pardofelis marmorata</i>
<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	<i>Catopuma badia</i>
<i>Felis chaus</i>	<i>Otocolobus manul</i>
<i>Panthera pardus</i>	<i>Prionailurus planiceps</i>
<i>Lynx rufus</i>	<i>Felis bieti</i>
<i>Prionailurus bengalensis</i>	<i>Prionailurus viverrinus</i>
<i>Leopardus pardalis</i>	<i>Leopardus tigrinus</i>
<i>Caracal caracal</i>	<i>Catopuma temmincki</i>
<i>Felis silvestris</i>	<i>Prionailurus rubiginosus</i>

**Cat Specialist Group  
Online Library**  
<[www.ibackup.com](http://www.ibackup.com)>  
Login "catsglib"  
Password "catsglib"

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