

Gallotia bravoana

Region: 1

Taxonomic Authority: Hutterer, 1985

Synonyms:

Gallotia gomerana Hutterer, 1985

Common Names:

La Gomera Giant Lizard English
Lagarto Gigante de La Gomera Spanish

Order: Sauria

Family: Lacertidae

Notes on taxonomy: Following the ruling of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, the name of this species is Gallotia bravoana, not Gallotia gomerana.

General Information

Biome Terrestrial Freshwater Marine

Geographic Range of species:

This species, thought to be long extinct, was rediscovered as a living animal in 1999, and is known only from two separate inaccessible cliffs 2 km apart, close to the Valle Gran Rey, in the west of the island of La Gomera in the Canary Islands (Spain). The species is thought to have once ranged throughout much of La Gomera, and the present range is less than one hectare.

Habitat and Ecology Information:

This species is once widespread in many habitat types on La Gomera. It is now restricted to dry cliffs with sparse vegetation. The species is generally diurnal and mostly herbivorous. The females lay a single clutch annually of three to seven eggs on average.

Conservation Measures:

It is present in the Parque Rural de Valle Gran Rey. The species is protected by international legislation. A captive breeding programme has been established on La Gomera, and a species recovery plan is in place. There is a need to control cat populations in the vicinity of the remaining animals. Further surveys are needed on La Gomera within other isolated areas to determine if any more remnant populations of this species persist. The implementation of education programmes for local people has been recommended.

Threats:

The main threats to this species are predation by feral cats, and rock falls within its restricted range. The species historically declined through overgrazing, hunting, and predation by feral cats and rats.

Species population information:

The population of this species consists of only 90 wild individuals remaining in the wild. There is a captive population of about 44 animals (in 2004).

Country Distribution

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced	Vagrant
Spain	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

FAO Marine Habitats

	Native - Presence Confirmed	Native - Presence Possible	Extinct	Reintroduced	Introduced
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Major Lakes

Major Rivers

Upper Level Habitat Preferences

3.4	Shrubland - Temperate	Score	1
6	Rocky areas (eg. inland cliffs, mountain peaks)	Score	1

Lower Level Habitat Preferences

Score

Major threats

Code	Description of threat	Past	Present	Future
1	Habitat Loss/Degradation (human induced)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4	Livestock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.4.2	Small-holder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.4	Infrastructure development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1.4.3	Tourism/recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2	Invasive alien species (directly affecting the species)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Predators	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3	Harvesting (hunting/gathering)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.1	Food	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Conservation Measures

Code	Conservation measures	In place	Needed
1	Policy-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1	Management plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.1	Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.1.2	Implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2	Legislation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1	Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.1.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2	Implementation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.2.2.1	International level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	Communication and Education	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2.2	Awareness	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.1.1	Subsistence use/local trade	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3	Research actions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7	Natural disasters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.1	Taxonomy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
7.7	Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.2	Population numbers and range	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9	Intrinsic factors	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.3	Biology and Ecology	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.1	Limited dispersal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.4	Habitat status	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.2	Poor recruitment/reproduction/regeneration	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.5	Threats	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.7	Slow growth rates	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.8	Conservation measures	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9.9	Restricted range	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3.9	Trends/Monitoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					4	Habitat and site-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					4.1	Maintenance/Conservation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					4.2	Restoration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					4.4	Protected areas	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					4.4.2	Establishment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
					4.4.3	Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					5	Species-based actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					5.1	Re-introductions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					5.4	Recovery management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					5.7	Ex situ conservation actions	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					5.7.1	Captive breeding/Artificial propagation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
					6	Other	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Utilisation of Species

Purpose/Type of Use	Subsistence	National	International	Other purpose:	
Primary forms removed from the wild	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	<i>Other forms removed from the wild:</i>
Source of specimens in commercial trade	100%	>75%	51-75%	26-50% <25%	<i>Other source of specimens:</i>

Trend in wild offtake/harvest in relation to total wild population numbers over last five years:

Trend in offtake/harvest produced through domestication/cultivation over last five years:

CITES:

Red Listing

Red List Assessment: Critically Endangered (CR) Possibly Extinct

Red List Criteria: D

Rationale for the Red List Assessment: Listed as Critically Endangered because its population size is estimated to number fewer than 50 mature individuals, its populations are severely fragmented, and although it is no longer experiencing a continuing population decline, it has only been increasing since 2001.

Current Population Trend: Increasing

Date of Assessment: 12/17/2004

Assessor(s): Jose Antonio Mateo Miras, Valentin Pérez-Mellado

Notes on Red listing:

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