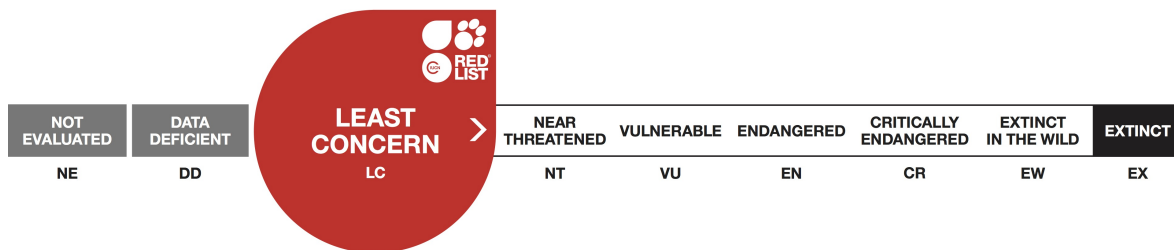


## *Zootoca vivipara*, Viviparous Lizard

Assessment by: Agasyan, A. *et al.*



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**Short citation:** Agasyan, A. *et al.* 2010. *Zootoca vivipara*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2010*: e.T61741A12552141. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2010-4.RLTS.T61741A12552141.en> [see full citation at end]

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## Taxonomy

| Kingdom  | Phylum   | Class    | Order    | Family     |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|------------|
| Animalia | Chordata | Reptilia | Squamata | Lacertidae |

**Taxon Name:** *Zootoca vivipara* (von Jacquin, 1787)

### Synonym(s):

- *Lacerta vivipara*

### Regional Assessments:

- [Europe](#)

### Infra-specific Taxa Assessed:

- [Zootoca vivipara ssp. pannonica](#)

### Common Name(s):

- English: Common Lizard, Viviparous Lizard
- Spanish: Lagartija de Turbera

### Taxonomic Notes:

This species is placed in the genus *Zootoca*, rather than *Lacerta*, following Mayer and Bischoff (1996). The species contains a number of different lineages, some of which might constitute separate species (see Bea *et al.* (1990), Surget-Groba *et al.* (2001, 2002), Mayer and Böhme (2000), and Mayer *et al.* (2000) for further details).

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2010

**Date Assessed:** June 30, 2009

### Justification:

*Zootoca vivipara* is listed as Least Concern in view of its wide distribution, tolerance of a broad range of habitats, presumed large population, and because it is unlikely to be declining fast enough to qualify for listing in a more threatened category.

### Previously Published Red List Assessments

1996 – Lower Risk/least concern (LR/lc)

## Geographic Range

### Range Description:

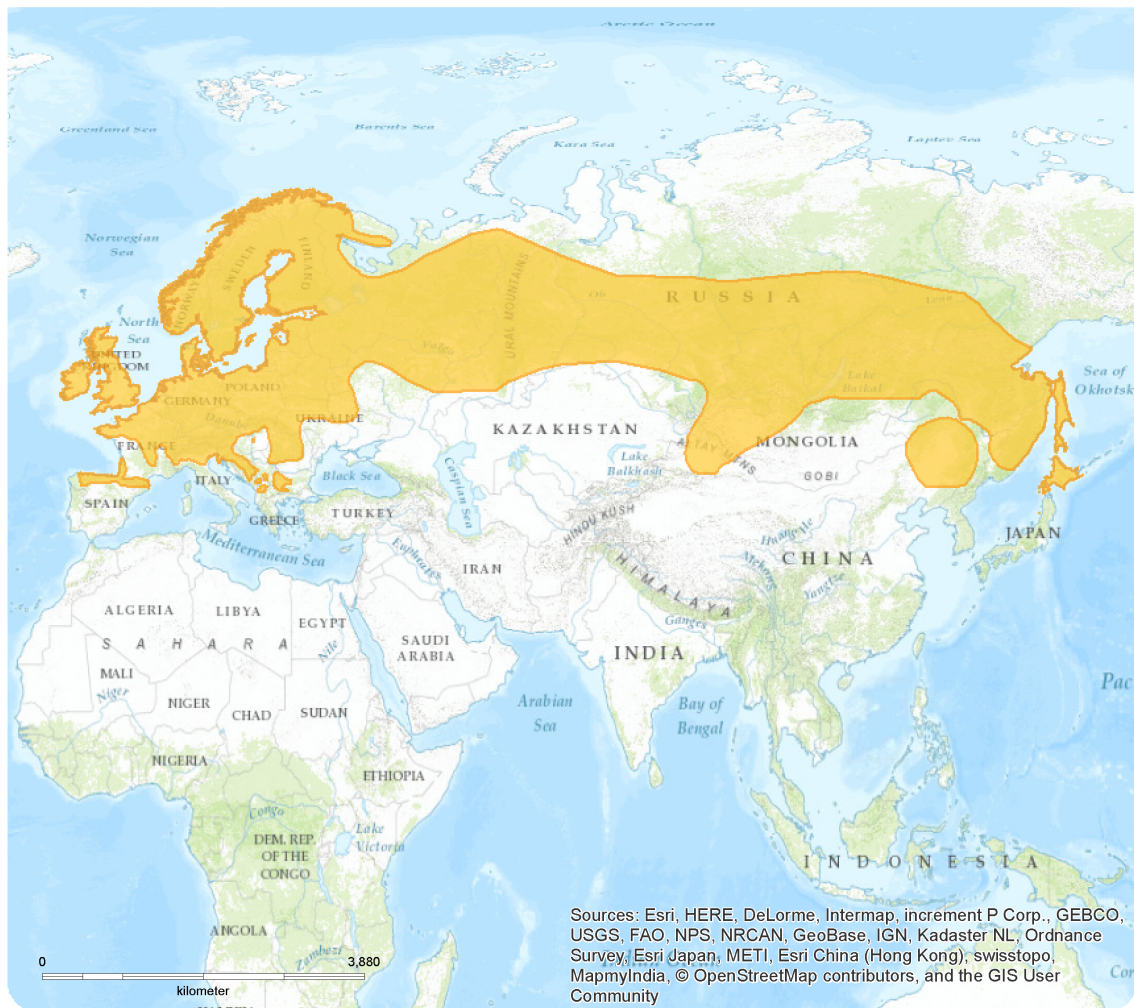
This extremely widespread species ranges from much of northern, western, central and eastern Europe, across most of northern Asia to China and Japan (Hokkaido Island). In Europe it occurs as scattered

populations throughout Britain and Ireland, and through most of Scandinavia, the southern limit of its main distribution running through central France, southeastern Austria, northern Italy, along the Dinaric Alps (in Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and northern Albania), western Hungary, southern and central Romania, northern Moldova, and central Ukraine. Isolated populations occur in northern Spain and southwestern France, and also in Serbia, western Bulgaria and extreme northeastern and northwestern Macedonia. It can be found from sea level up to 2,900 m asl (Bulgaria).

**Country Occurrence:**

**Native:** Albania; Austria; Belarus; Belgium; Bosnia and Herzegovina; Bulgaria; China; Croatia; Czech Republic; Denmark; Estonia; Finland; France; Germany; Hungary; Ireland; Italy; Japan; Latvia; Lithuania; Luxembourg; Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of; Moldova; Montenegro; Netherlands; Norway; Poland; Romania; Russian Federation; Serbia (Serbia); Slovakia; Slovenia; Spain; Sweden; Switzerland; Ukraine; United Kingdom

# Distribution Map



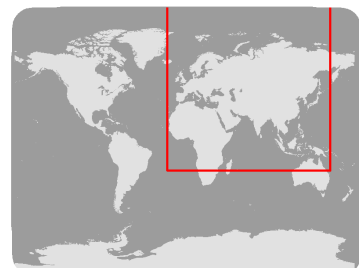
## *Zootoca vivipara*

### Range

■ Extant (resident)

### Compiled by:

IUCN & Red List Index (Sampled Approach), Zoological Society of London



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



## Population

This can be a locally abundant species. Populations have locally declined in parts of its range (e.g., in the Netherlands) (Council of Europe 2003). The lowland populations in Italy (Po plain) are almost extinct.

**Current Population Trend:** Decreasing

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

This species has been recorded from a wide variety of habitats including grassland, meadows, humid scrubland, hedgerows, open woodland, woodland edges, peat bogs, stream edges, coastal areas (sea cliffs and sand dunes) and rural gardens.

In most areas the female gives birth to between three and 11 fully formed young. In northern Spain, adjacent France, Austria, Italy and Slovenia, the female lays between one and 13 eggs in a single clutch. In the northern portion of the range and at high altitude it is viviparous, in the southern portion it is oviparous.

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is locally threatened in parts of its range by habitat loss resulting from agricultural intensification, urbanization and development of tourism facilities (for example in alpine regions). It is suspected that populations have declined in the U.K. (J. Wilkinson pers. comm.). Some populations of this species that could be specifically distinct might prove to be threatened. This species is categorized as Least Concern in Switzerland (Monney and Meyer 2005).

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

This species is listed on Annex II of the Bern Convention, and on Annex IV of the European Union Habitat and Species Directive. It is protected by national legislation in some range countries (e.g., Switzerland). It occurs in many protected areas.

## Credits

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**Reviewer(s):** Cox, N., Temple, H.J. (Global Reptile Assessment Coordinating Team) & Böhm, M., Collen, B., Ram, M. (Sampled Red List Index Coordinating Team)

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## Citation

Agasyan, A., Avci, A., Tuniyev, B., Crnobrnja Isailovic, J., Lymberakis, P., Andrén, Dan Cogalniceanu, C., Wilkinson, J., Ananjeva, N., Üzümlü, N., Orlov, N., Podloucky, R., Tuniyev, S., Kaya, U., Böhme, W., Nettmann, H.K., Crnobrnja Isailovic, J., Joger, U., Cheylan, M., Pérez-Mellado, V., Borczyk, B., Sterijovski, B., Westerström, A. & Schmidt, B. 2010. *Zootoca vivipara*. *The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2010*: e.T61741A12552141. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2010-4.RLTS.T61741A12552141.en>

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## External Resources

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## Appendix

### Habitats

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

| Habitat   | Season | Suitability | Major Importance? |
|---|--------|-------------|-------------------|
| 1. Forest -> 1.4. Forest - Temperate  | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 3. Shrubland -> 3.4. Shrubland - Temperate  | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 4. Grassland -> 4.4. Grassland - Temperate  | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.4. Wetlands (inland) - Bogs, Marshes, Swamps, Fens, Peatlands | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.2. Artificial/Terrestrial - Pastureland                | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.3. Artificial/Terrestrial - Plantations                | -      | Suitable    | -                 |
| 14. Artificial/Terrestrial -> 14.4. Artificial/Terrestrial - Rural Gardens              | -      | Marginal    | -                 |

### Threats

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

| Threat   | Timing    | Scope   | Severity | Impact Score |
|--|-----------|---|----------|--------------|
| 1. Residential & commercial development -> 1.1. Housing & urban areas                                    | Ongoing   | -   | -        | -            |
|  | Stresses: | 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion<br>1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation |          |              |
| 1. Residential & commercial development -> 1.3. Tourism & recreation areas                               | Ongoing   | -   | -        | -            |
|  | Stresses: | 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion<br>1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.2. Ecosystem degradation |          |              |
| 2. Agriculture & aquaculture -> 2.1. Annual & perennial non-timber crops -> 2.1.3. Agro-industry farming | Ongoing   | -   | -        | -            |
|  | Stresses: | 1. Ecosystem stresses -> 1.1. Ecosystem conversion<br>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                 |
| In-Place Education                            |



|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Conservation Actions in Place</b> |
|--------------------------------------|

|  |
|--|
| Included in international legislation: Yes |
|--|

## Research Needed

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

|                        |
|------------------------|
| <b>Research Needed</b> |
|------------------------|

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| 1. Research -> 1.1. Taxonomy |
|------------------------------|

|   |
|---|
| 3. Monitoring -> 3.1. Population trends |
|---|

## Additional Data Fields

|                     |
|---------------------|
| <b>Distribution</b> |
|---------------------|

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| Lower elevation limit (m): 0 |
|------------------------------|

|                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| Upper elevation limit (m): 2900 |
|---------------------------------|

|                   |
|-------------------|
| <b>Population</b> |
|-------------------|

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| Population severely fragmented: No |
|------------------------------------|

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