

## Family Lacertidae

### *Ichnotropis capensis* (Smith, 1838)

Cape Rough-scaled Lizard

■ LC – Least Concern (Regional)

Assessors: Tolley, K.A., Turner, A.A.

#### Previous Red List categories:

2021: Least Concern (Global IUCN assessment).

2014: Least Concern (SARCA).

**Assessment rationale:** Widely distributed and occurring in several large, protected areas. There are no known substantial threats to the species or its habitat.

**Taxonomic notes:** While previously thought to be in isolated subpopulations in South Africa (Turner 2014a), genetic data (K.A. Tolley, unpubl. data 2020) and new records from Mozambique (Pietersen et al. 2013) suggest the South African subpopulations are connected through Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana. *Other important names:* none.

**Distribution:** Widely distributed in southern Africa, from Angola south to South Africa and east to Mozambique. In South Africa it occurs in two areas, northern South Africa (mostly Limpopo province) and northern KwaZulu-Natal province (FitzSimons 1943; Branch 1998), and these areas are probably linked in the north. *EOO:* 151 000 km<sup>2</sup>; *Distribution:* 59 700 km<sup>2</sup>.

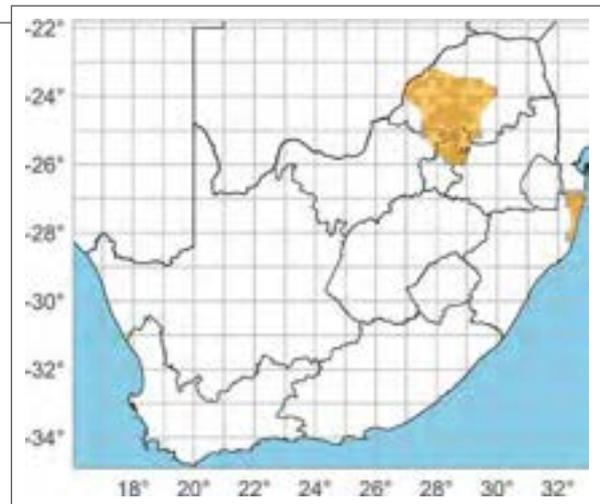
**Countries of occurrence:** Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

**Habitat and ecology:** Occurs on sandy or loose soil in areas with sparse vegetation. *Habitat:* Savanna.

**Threats:** There are no significant threats to this species.

**Population trend:** The population size is assumed to be stable because this is a widespread and abundant species that occurs in areas that are not heavily impacted by habitat transformation.

**Conservation and research recommendations:** No recommendations.



*Ichnotropis capensis*, Xai-Xai, Mozambique (© W. Conradie).

*Ichnotropis capensis*, juvenile colouration, Lephalale, Limpopo province (© L. Verburgt).

