



Iberian Lynx

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Recently, the **Iberian lynx** (*Lynx pardinus*), one of the rarest cat species globally, has moved from being 'endangered' to 'vulnerable' on the [International Union for Conservation of Nature \(IUCN\) Red List](#).

- Since 2001, the number of mature Iberian lynxes has risen from 62 to 648 in 2022. Currently, there are over 2,000 lynxes, including young ones, across Spain and Portugal.
- **About Iberian Lynx:**
 - It belongs to the family **Felidae**.
 - It is the most dangerous of feline species (family of flesh-eating mammals).
 - **Distribution:** The Iberian Lynx is restricted to two separate regions of southwestern Spain, namely eastern Sierra Morena and the coastal plains west of the lower Guadalquivir.
 - **Protection Status:** These are protected under [Appendix II of IUCN Red List](#) and it is listed on [CITES Appendix I](#).
 - Threats: Poaching, road accidents, habitat loss and climate change.
- IUCN created in 1948 is the global authority on the status of the natural world and the measures needed to safeguard it.

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Photo Dr. Alex Silva

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