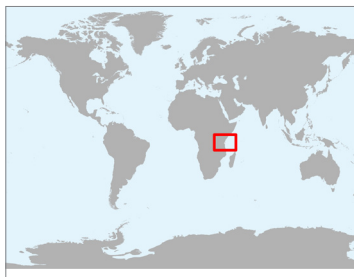




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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	<b>&lt; VULNERABLE &gt;</b>	ENDANGERED	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
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Geographical range

## Amazing Species: Pemba Flying Fox

The **Pemba Flying Fox**, *Pteropus voeltzkowi*, is listed as 'Vulnerable' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. As the name suggests, it is endemic to the island of Pemba in the Western Indian Ocean and roosts in several tree species, including large non-native trees (such as Mango).

The Pemba Flying Fox is one of the success stories of conservation. In the early 1990s it was thought that the population had been reduced by habitat destruction and overhunting, particularly in the past with the use of shotguns replacing traditional hunting methods, to a few hundred individuals. The species was considered to be 'Critically Endangered' and a captive breeding programme was planned. However, due to the results of exhaustive surveys, the population was larger than initially expected and in 1997 was estimated to consist of approximately 5,000 individuals.

Environmental education programmes have helped to raise awareness of this endemic bat and the need for sustainable hunting. As a result, the population has continued to increase and reached 19,000 individuals by 2006. The Pemba Flying Fox is one of the few species of fruit bats whose numbers are increasing.

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