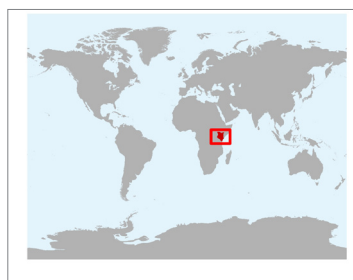




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NOT EVALUATED	DATA DEFICIENT	LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	<b>&lt; ENDANGERED &gt;</b>	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT
NE	DD	LC	NT	VU	<b>EN</b>	CR	EW	EX



Geographical range

## Species of the Day: Maathai's Longleg

**Maathai's Longleg**, *Notogomphus maathaiae*, is classified as 'Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. This dragonfly was named in honour of Wangari Maathai, the Nobel Peace laureate for 2004 and the first African woman to be awarded this prize. Wangari was recognised for her efforts to advocate sustainable human development by focussing on the protection of Africa's last remaining and fast-shrinking forests. This species can only be found in the Kenyan highlands, where Maathai was born and worked.

Maathai's Longleg is only known from clear streams in three high-mountain forests. Such habitats have been widely destroyed in recent decades and, as deforestation continues in the densely populated highlands, this rare dragonfly may become Critically Endangered. It therefore serves as an indicator of healthy streams and as a flagship species for urgent watershed protection.

Conserving riverside forests not only helps this dragonfly, but also the people of the foothills, by guaranteeing stable soils and a clean and dependable water source. To this end, dragonflies are dubbed "guardians of the watershed".

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