

## *Oecobius selvagensis*

Assessment by: Cardoso, P., Crespo, L.C., Silva, I., Borges, P. & Boeiro, M.



View on [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org)

**Citation:** Cardoso, P., Crespo, L.C., Silva, I., Borges, P. & Boeiro, M. 2018. *Oecobius selvagensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018: e.T58048910A58061082.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2018-2.RLTS.T58048910A58061082.en>

**Copyright:** © 2018 International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources

*Reproduction of this publication for educational or other non-commercial purposes is authorized without prior written permission from the copyright holder provided the source is fully acknowledged.*

*Reproduction of this publication for resale, reposting or other commercial purposes is prohibited without prior written permission from the copyright holder. For further details see [Terms of Use](#).*

*The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the [IUCN Global Species Programme](#), the [IUCN Species Survival Commission \(SSC\)](#) and [The IUCN Red List Partnership](#). The IUCN Red List Partners are: [Arizona State University](#); [BirdLife International](#); [Botanic Gardens Conservation International](#); [Conservation International](#); [NatureServe](#); [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew](#); [Sapienza University of Rome](#); [Texas A&M University](#); and [Zoological Society of London](#).*

*If you see any errors or have any questions or suggestions on what is shown in this document, please provide us with [feedback](#) so that we can correct or extend the information provided.*

## Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Animalia	Arthropoda	Arachnida	Araneae	Oecobiidae

**Taxon Name:** *Oecobius selvagensis* Wunderlich, 1995

### Taxonomic Source(s):

Platnick, N.I. 2014. The World Spider Catalog, Version 14.5. P. Merrett & H.D. Cameron (eds). American Museum of Natural History. Available at: <http://research.amnh.org/iz/spiders/catalog/index.html>. (Accessed: 31 March 2014).

## Assessment Information

**Red List Category & Criteria:** Critically Endangered B1ab(i,ii,iii,v)+2ab(i,ii,iii,v) [ver 3.1](#)

**Year Published:** 2018

**Date Assessed:** January 18, 2018

### Justification:

*Oecobius selvagensis* is probably restricted to two caves on the Selvagem Grande Island (Portugal). This species has a restricted geographic range, with an extent of occurrence (EOO) and area of occupancy (AOO) of only 4 km<sup>2</sup>. The major threat is the spread of the invasive congener *O. navus*, which may be outcompeting the species in part of its range. Due to this threat, *Oecobius selvagensis* occurs in only one location and there is a continuing decline in EOO, AOO, number of mature individuals and the extent of the habitat. This species is therefore assessed as Critically Endangered (CR). More research on the distribution and threats is urgently needed. The habitat and the species should be protected and properly managed to avoid any future declines.

## Geographic Range

### Range Description:

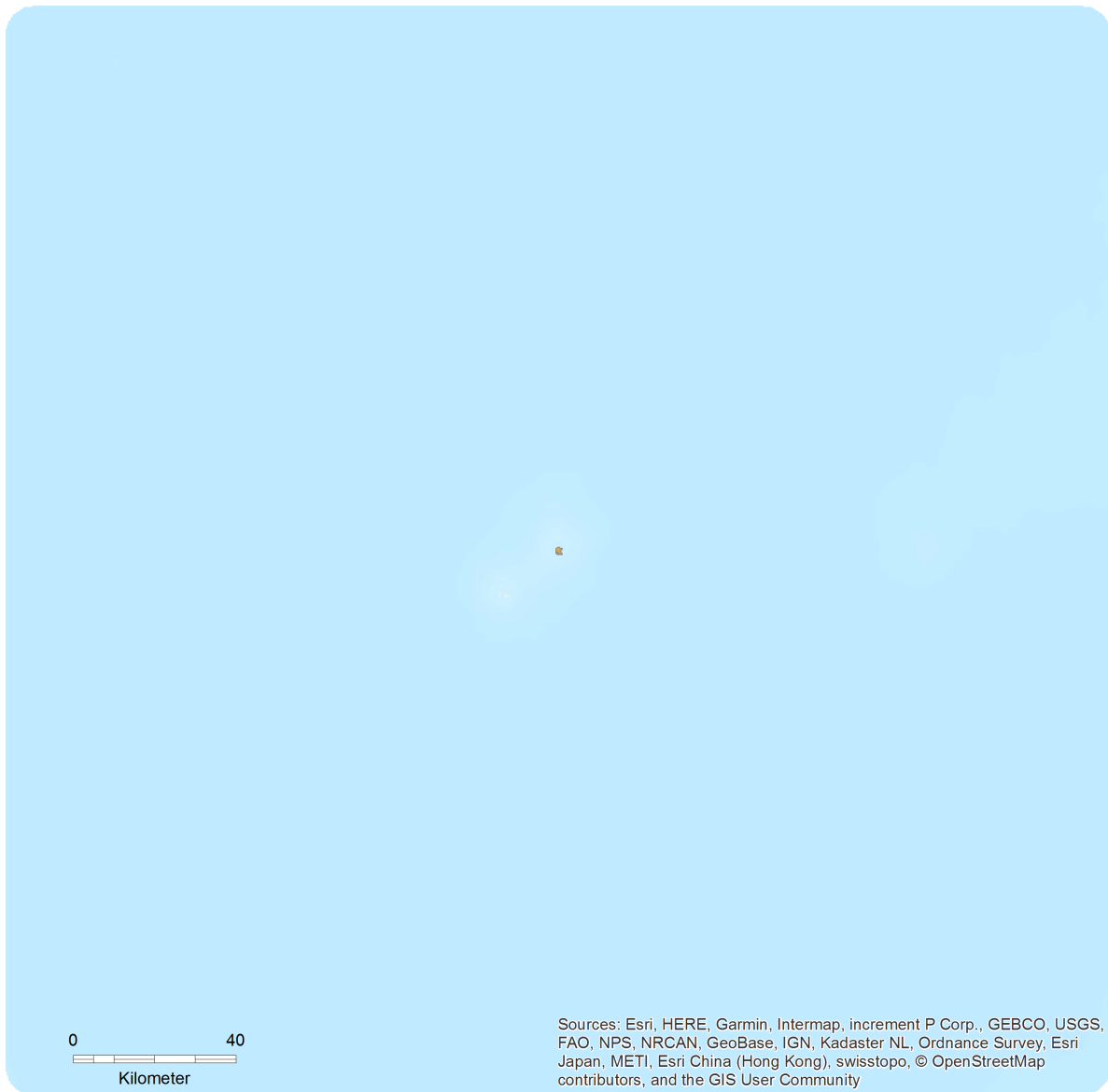
The species is probably restricted to the Selvagem Grande Island (Portugal) between Madeira and the Canary Islands, where it was found in an unnamed erosion coastal cave in 1958 (Denis 1963, Rambla 1978, Wunderlich 1992). Two caves are now the entire known range of the species. The extent of occurrence (EOO) and area of occupancy (AOO) are both 4 km<sup>2</sup>.

### Country Occurrence:


**Native:** Portugal (Selvagens)

# Distribution Map

*Oecobius selvagensis*



## Range

 Extant (resident)

## Compiled by:

IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature)



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



## Population

No population size estimates exist, but the population is assumed to be declining due to the threat of invasive species.

**Current Population Trend:** Decreasing

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

This species is only known from two caves. It is probable that this is a species that lives underground due to the two known localities being inside of caves and it being largely depigmented. Congeners build small flat webs where they hunt for small insects.

**Systems:** Terrestrial

## Use and Trade

This species is not utilized.

## Threats (see Appendix for additional information)

The cosmopolitan congener *O. navus* is now commonly seen, even in caves, after being detected on the island for the first time before 1978. It is possible that there is a gradual replacement of one species by the other, although this, for now, is only suspected. Therefore the cosmopolitan *O. navus* may be outcompeting the species in part of its range.

## Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

No specific conservation measures are in place for this species, but the island of Selvagem Grande is part of the Selvagens Nature Reserve. If competition is confirmed, the invasive *O. navus* should be controlled. As this task is probably impossible, ex-situ conservation with eventual reintroduction and recovery might be the only feasible measure to prevent further reduction of *O. selvagensis*. The current distribution of the species and possible threats from the invasive congener should be thoroughly studied. If outcompeted, *O. selvagensis* should be the target of a species conservation plan with consequent area management actions.

## Credits

**Assessor(s):** Cardoso, P., Crespo, L.C., Silva, I., Borges, P. & Boieiro, M.

**Reviewer(s):** Henriques, S. & Russell, N.

## Bibliography

Denis, J. 1963. Spiders from the Madeira and Salvage islands. *Boletim do Museu Municipal do Funchal* 17: 29-48.

IUCN. 2018. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2018-2. Available at: [www.iucnredlist.org](http://www.iucnredlist.org). (Accessed: 15 November 2018).

Rambla, M. 1978. Aracnidos de las Islas Salvajes (Opiliones y Araneidos). *Aula de Cultura de Tenerife* 10: 129-137.

Wunderlich, J. 1992. Die Spinnen-Fauna der Makaronesischen Inseln. *Beiträge zur Araneologie* 1: 1-619.

## Citation

Cardoso, P., Crespo, L.C., Silva, I., Borges, P. & Boieiro, M. 2018. *Oecobius selvagensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018: e.T58048910A58061082. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2018-2.RLTS.T58048910A58061082.en>

## Disclaimer

To make use of this information, please check the [Terms of Use](#).

## External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the Red List website.

# Appendix

## Habitats

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

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
13. Marine Coastal/Supratidal -> 13.2. Marine Coastal/supratidal - Coastal Caves/Karst	Resident	Suitable	Yes

## Threats

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

Threat	Timing	Scope	Severity	Impact Score
8. Invasive and other problematic species, genes & diseases -> 8.1. Invasive non-native/alien species/diseases -> 8.1.1. Unspecified species	Ongoing	Majority (50-90%)	Rapid declines	Medium impact: 7
	Stresses:	2. Species Stresses -> 2.3. Indirect species effects -> 2.3.7. Reduced reproductive success		

## Conservation Actions in Place

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

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Research, Monitoring and Planning
Action Recovery plan: No
Systematic monitoring scheme: No
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Conservation sites identified: Yes, over entire range
Occur in at least one PA: Yes
Percentage of population protected by PAs (0-100): 91-100
Area based regional management plan: Yes
Invasive species control or prevention: No
In-Place Species Management
Harvest management plan: No
Successfully reintroduced or introduced benignly: No
Subject to ex-situ conservation: No
In-Place Education

<b>Conservation Actions in Place</b>
Subject to recent education and awareness programmes: No
Included in international legislation: No
Subject to any international management/trade controls: No

## Conservation Actions Needed

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

<b>Conservation Actions Needed</b>
2. Land/water management -> 2.2. Invasive/problematic species control
3. Species management -> 3.2. Species recovery
3. Species management -> 3.3. Species re-introduction -> 3.3.1. Reintroduction
3. Species management -> 3.4. Ex-situ conservation -> 3.4.1. Captive breeding/artificial propagation

## Research Needed

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

<b>Research Needed</b>
1. Research -> 1.2. Population size, distribution & trends
1. Research -> 1.5. Threats
2. Conservation Planning -> 2.1. Species Action/Recovery Plan
2. Conservation Planning -> 2.2. Area-based Management Plan

## Additional Data Fields

<b>Distribution</b>
Estimated area of occupancy (AOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 4
Continuing decline in area of occupancy (AOO): Yes
Extreme fluctuations in area of occupancy (AOO): No
Estimated extent of occurrence (EOO) (km <sup>2</sup> ): 4
Continuing decline in extent of occurrence (EOO): Yes
Extreme fluctuations in extent of occurrence (EOO): No
Number of Locations: 1
Continuing decline in number of locations: No
Extreme fluctuations in the number of locations: No

<b>Distribution</b>
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 160
<b>Population</b>
Continuing decline of mature individuals: Yes
Extreme fluctuations: Unknown
Population severely fragmented: Unknown
Continuing decline in subpopulations: Unknown
Extreme fluctuations in subpopulations: No
All individuals in one subpopulation: Unknown
<b>Habitats and Ecology</b>
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: Yes
Generation Length (years): 1
Movement patterns: Not a Migrant

## The IUCN Red List Partnership



The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™ is produced and managed by the [IUCN Global Species Programme](#), the [IUCN Species Survival Commission \(SSC\)](#) and [The IUCN Red List Partnership](#).

The IUCN Red List Partners are: [Arizona State University](#); [BirdLife International](#); [Botanic Gardens Conservation International](#); [Conservation International](#); [NatureServe](#); [Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew](#); [Sapienza University of Rome](#); [Texas A&M University](#); and [Zoological Society of London](#).