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## Preface

Tanzania offers outstanding opportunities for some of the most spectacular wildlife watching in the world, and is justifiably famous as an African safari destination. We have written this book to help people visiting or living in Tanzania to find and identify mammals in the country. Our goal is to stimulate a passion for watching wildlife, as well as to encourage an interest in the conservation of these species and their habitats. This is the second book in the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS)–Tanzania Programme field guide series, following the *Orchids and Wild Flowers of Kitulo Plateau*, also published by Princeton **WILD**Guides.

This book covers over 135 species of ‘larger’ mammal: anything from approximately the size of a hedgehog to the Humpback Whale. Although over 340 species of mammal have been recorded in Tanzania, nearly 60% of these are rodents, bats and shrews. With the exception of three of the larger rodents (Cape and Crested Porcupines and Springhare), which a visitor may encounter on safari, we have not included rodents, bats or shrews in this book as data were not sufficient to cover them to the same level of detail. For information on small mammal species in Tanzania, we encourage you to visit the website of The Field Museum, Chicago (see below), which includes a useful identification guide and distribution maps. Whales, dolphins and other marine mammals are included in this book, although we add the caveat that very little is known about these species in Tanzanian waters; the information presented is therefore almost certainly an under-representation of the diversity of marine mammals in this country.

The majority of the distribution data included in this book were collected by the Tanzania Carnivore Project and Tanzania Mammal Atlas Project, which received substantial funding from the British Government’s Darwin Initiative and was a collaboration between the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), the Zoological Society of London (ZSL) and the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS). The mammal distribution database created by these projects now has over 50,000 records, including 15,000 camera trap photographs. WCS has also provided extensive information from its long-term conservation programme in the Southern Highlands and from its other four programmes across the country. There are still many gaps in our knowledge on the distribution of mammals in Tanzania, and we encourage readers to submit any interesting sighting records to [info@tanzaniamammals.org](mailto:info@tanzaniamammals.org)

All author royalties received from sales of this book will be donated to the Wildlife Conservation Society and used to support the Tanzania Carnivore Project or other wildlife conservation projects in Tanzania. For more information about the work of WCS, ZSL or TAWIRI, please visit the websites listed below.

[www.wcstanzania.org](http://www.wcstanzania.org)

[www.wcs.org](http://www.wcs.org)

[www.zsl.org](http://www.zsl.org)

[www.tawiri.or.tz](http://www.tawiri.or.tz)

[archive.fieldmuseum.org/tanzania/index.html](http://archive.fieldmuseum.org/tanzania/index.html)

[darwin.defra.gov.uk](http://darwin.defra.gov.uk)



*Quick Response (QR) code. Scan the code with a QR reader on a smart phone, computer tablet or other similar device to go to the WCS Tanzania website.*