

Regmi G. R. & Ale P. B. 2021. Experts' opinion on status and threats of marbled cat. Cat News 74, 42-44. Supporting Online Material.

SOM 1. Survey Questionnaires

1. Salutation

- Mr
- MS
- Mrs
- Dr
- Other

2. Where do you work?

- Government conservation/park office
- NGO/INGO
- University
- Research Institute
- Freelancer
- Others (Please specify)

3. Country of living

4. Country of current or past working in the conservation field

5. Email (Optional)

6. Experience in conservation field

- <1 year
- 1-5 years
- 5-10 years
- >10 years

7. Do you have a general idea about small wild cats?

- Yes
- No

8. To date, how many small wild cats do exist or are known in your country?

(The country means here it is either your own country you living or working in the conservation field in that country as a job holder or a researcher/expert or an academic scholar such as MSc or PhD student)

- Don't know
- ----- small cats

9. Are these small wild cats getting attention for research and conservation in your country?

- Yes
- No

10. If yes, in comparison to big cats, how much do you satisfy with the small wild cats' research and conservation efforts taking by biologists, NGO/INGOS and government park managers in your country?

- Very satisfied
- Somewhat satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Somewhat dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

11. If no to Q.N. 6., to the best of your knowledge, why small wild cats are not getting attention? Please choose all that apply.

- Small wild cats are not as beautiful as big cats like tiger, snow leopard, lion, jaguar, etc.
- Small wild cats are not as important as big cats for ecosystem functioning
- Small wild cats still exist in large numbers in the forests, so no need to study and conserve
- There is no sufficient funding for small wild cats as big cats to study and take conservation actions
- Small wild cats are so rare and elusive that they are very difficult to detect and study in the wild
- Others (Please specify)

12. Could you please rank these causes from 1-5 (1 most important cause, 5 least important cause)?

- Small wild cats are not as beautiful as big cats like tiger, snow leopard, lion, jaguar, etc.
- Small wild cats are not as important as big cats for ecosystem functioning
- Small wild cats still exist in large numbers in the forests, so no need to study and conserve
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- Small wild cats are so rare and elusive that they are very difficult to detect and study in the wild
- Others (Please specify)

13. Do you know Marbled cat (*Pardofelis marmorata*)?

- Yes
- No

14. If yes, does a Marbled cat live in the wild in your country?

- Yes
- No

15. If yes, what is the known elevation range for Marbled cat distribution in your country?

- <1,000 m asl
- <2,000 m asl
- <3,000 m asl
- <4,000 m asl

16. To the best of your knowledge, can you estimate the population of Marbled cat in your country?

- <50
- 50-100
- 100-1,000
- >1,000

17. Marbled cat has been facing serious survival threats in all of its range countries.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

18. In your opinion, what is the main survival threat for a Marbled cat in your country? Please choose all that apply.

- Lack of empirical data and knowledge
- Lack of well-trained habitat country biologists
- Hunting, poaching and Illegal trade
- Keeping as pet animal
- Logging and deforestation
- Road networks and road-kills
- habitat fragmentation and inbreeding depression
- Slash-burn agriculture practices
- Palm oil cultivation
- Commercial forest farming
- Mining
- Hydro-dams and hydro-electric projects
- Lack of sufficient preys
- Human-Marbled cat conflict over livestock depredation
- Forest fire
- Feral dogs
- Zoonotic diseases
- Climate change
- Others (Please specify)

19. Could you please rank these threats from 1-18 (1 most serious threat, 18 least serious threat)?

- Lack of empirical data and knowledge
- Lack of well-trained habitat country biologists
- Hunting, poaching and Illegal trade
- Keeping as pet animal
- Logging and deforestation
- Road networks and road-kills
- Habitat fragmentation and inbreeding depression
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- Lack of sufficient preys
- Human-Marbled cat conflict over livestock depredation
- Forest fire
- Feral dogs
- Zoonotic diseases
- Climate change
- Others (Please specify)

20. In your opinion, what conservation measures are urgently needed for reducing and overcome these Marbled cat threats? Please choose all that apply.

- Large scale study to collect species ecology and behaviour data and preys monitoring
- Periodic training to habitat country biologists for wild cat monitoring techniques
- Effective implementation of wildlife poaching and illegal trade laws by the authorities
- Afforestation and habitat connectivity programs
- Control of forest fire and feral dogs
- Identification of hotspots and declaration of 'No Go Zones' in the species potential breeding and nesting habitat
- Alternatives to slash-burn agriculture practices
- Community outreach and awareness campaign
- Initiation of captive rear and release methods
- Others (Please specify)

21. Could you please rank these conservation methods from 1-9 (1 most important; 9 least important)

- Large scale study to collect species ecology and behaviour data and preys monitoring
- Periodic training to habitat country biologists for wild cat monitoring techniques
- Effective implementation of wildlife poaching and illegal trade laws by the authorities
- Afforestation and habitat connectivity programs
- Control of forest fire and feral dogs
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- Alternatives to slash-burn agriculture practices
- Community outreach and awareness campaign
- Initiation of captive rear and release methods
- Others (Please specify)

22. Have you [actively] ever [or part-time engaged] in Marbled cat RESEARCH?

- Yes
- No

23. If yes, what research are you doing in Marbled cat? Please choose all that apply.

- Population and abundance
- Genetics
- Habitat use and distribution
- Behaviour
- Diet
- Diseases and parasites

- Assessment of people perceptions and attitudes
- Other (Please specify)

24. Have you received any funding or in-kind support (e.g. field equipment, training, etc.) for your Marbled cat research work?

- Yes
- No

25. If yes, could you please name the funding agencies? (Optional)

- Name of funding Organizations/agencies
- I don't want to disclose the name of donors

26. Have you shared your Marbled cat research data (METADATA) to IUCN Cat Specialist Group or any other public and online platform such as Global Biodiversity Information Facility (www.gbif.org)?

- Yes
- No

27. If no, are you planning to share your data with IUCN Cat Specialist Group or any other public and online platform in the future?

- Yes
- No

28. Sharing data on public online forum supports to enhance species research and to improve conservation methods and management approaches.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

29. Have you ever [actively or part-time] engaged in marbled cat conservation?

- Yes
- No

30. If yes, what conservation methods/actions/interventions have you been applying to reduce the threats of marble cat? Please choose all that apply.

- Habitat conservation through afforestation
- Developing connectivity between forest patches where Marbled cat and its preys live and move
- Controlling forest fires
- Stopping slash-burn agriculture practices
- Creating water holes and their management in the forest
- Controlling feral dogs in the forest
- Monitoring and reporting on hunting, poaching and illegal trade of Marbled cat/small wild cats to the relevant authorities

- Encouraging the relevant authorities for the effective implementation of illegal wildlife trade laws
- Rescue, treatment and rehabilitation of confiscated and or injured Marbled cats and orphan kittens
- Management of Farmer-Marbled cat conflicts
- Deworming of parasites and disease control
- Community outreach, school education and public awareness campaign
- Providing required training to habitat country biologists for monitoring and collecting data on Marbled cat and its preys
- Supporting Marbled cat/small wild cat biologists in fund-raising for their conservation works
- Others (Please specify)

31. Formation of Marbled Cat Working Group (MCWG) to initiate the global accumulative efforts will be beneficial for Marbled cat research and conservation

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

32. Are you willing to be a member of Marbled Cat Working Group and to contribute to the conservation of Marbled cat in the future?

- Yes
- No

33. If yes, how are you planning to contribute to this Marbled Cat Working Group and in Marbled cat conservation? Please choose all that apply.

- I will be active in Marbled cat research and conservation in my country
- I will share and contribute the Marbled cat data and information to the Marbled Cat Working Group, IUCN Cat Specialist, Global Biodiversity Information Facility, etc.
- I will support in organizing and fundraising for workgroup meetings and conferences
- I will support for training habitat country biologists
- Others (Please specify)

34. Any other comments?

Thank you for your participation! Your responses will be analysed and the findings will be taken as the important guidelines for small wild cats and marbled cat conservation in Nepal and for all range countries.

SOM T1. Geographic distribution of respondents

SN	Country	#respondents
1	Nepal	82
2	India	11
3	United Kingdom	4
4	United States	4
5	Thailand	3
6	Japan	2
7	Sweden	2
8	South Africa	2
9	Singapore	2
10	Russia	1
11	Sri Lanka	1
12	Angola	1
13	China	1
14	Costa Rica	1
15	Pakistan	1
16	Netherlands	1
17	Cambodia	1

SOM T2. Rough estimation of marbled cat population by the respondents (N=83)

Estimated marbled cat population	Number of respondents (%)
<50	35 (42%)
50-100	20 (24%)
100-1000	17 (21%)
>1000	11 (13%)
Total	83 (100%)