

**U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
SPECIES ASSESSMENT
AND LISTING PRIORITY ASSIGNMENT FORM**

SCIENTIFIC NAME: *Scytalopus novacapitalis*

COMMON NAME: Brasília tapaculo

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DATE INFORMATION CURRENT AS OF: July 2022

STATUS/ACTION

Species petitioned for listing which we have determined is not a listable entity

Species petitioned for listing which we have determined does not warrant listing (does not meet the definition of a threatened or endangered species)

Non-listed species for which we have not received a petition but for which we have undertaken a species status assessment on our own initiative and which we have determined does not warrant listing (does not meet the definition of a threatened or endangered species)

Listed species petitioned for delisting which we have determined does not warrant delisting

Listed species petitioned for downlisting which we have determined does not warrant downlisting

Listed species petitioned for uplisting for which we have made a warranted-but-precluded finding for uplisting (this is part of the annual resubmitted-petition finding)

Listed species petitioned for uplisting which we have determined does not warrant uplisting

New candidate

Continuing candidate

Date when the species first became a candidate (as currently defined): May 21, 2004

Listing priority number change

Former LPN: ____

New LPN: ____

Candidate removal: Former LPN: ____

A – Taxon does not meet the Act’s definition of “endangered species” or “threatened species” because it is more abundant or widespread than previously believed or

not subject to the degree of threats sufficient to warrant issuance of a proposed listing or continuance of candidate status.

- U – Taxon does not meet the Act’s definition of “endangered species” or “threatened species” because it is not subject to the degree of threats sufficient to warrant issuance of a proposed listing or continuance of candidate status due, in part or totally, to conservation efforts that remove or reduce the threats to the species.
- N – Taxon does not meet the Act’s definition of “species.”
- M – Taxon mistakenly included in past notice of review.
- X – Taxon believed to be extinct.

Petition Information:

- Non-petitioned
- Petitioned; Date petition received: May 6, 1991

90-day substantial finding FR publication date: December 16, 1991 (56 FR 65207)
12-month warranted but precluded finding FR publication date: May 21, 2004 (69 FR 29353)

FOR PETITIONED CANDIDATE SPECIES:

- A. Is listing warranted?
Yes
- B. To date, has publication of a proposal to list been precluded by other higher priority listing actions?
Yes
- C. Why is listing precluded at this time?
Higher-priority listing actions—including court-approved settlements, and court-ordered and statutory deadlines, for petition findings and listing determinations—continue to preclude the proposed and final listing rules for this species. We continue to monitor populations and, if necessary, will change the status of the species or implement an emergency listing. The “Progress on Revising the Lists” section of the current CNOR (<https://endangered.fws.gov/>) provides information on listing actions taken during the last 12 months.

PREVIOUS FEDERAL ACTIONS:

On May 6, 1991, we received a petition from the International Council for Bird Preservation to list 53 different bird species, including the Brasília tapaculo (*Scytalopus novacapitalis*), as endangered or threatened species under the Act. On December 16, 1991, we published in the *Federal Register* (56 FR 65207) a 90-day finding in which we announced that the petition to add 53 species of foreign birds contained substantial information indicating that listing may be warranted for all species. This document constitutes our 12-month finding on the May 6, 1991, petition to list the Brasília tapaculo under the Act.

[ANIMAL GROUP AND FAMILY/PLANT GROUP, ORDER AND FAMILY]:

Birds, Tapaculos (Aves: Rhinocryptidae)

DISTINCT POPULATION SEGMENT (DPS)

N/A

BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

To assess Brasília tapaculo viability, we followed the species status assessment (SSA) framework and used the three conservation biology principles of resiliency, redundancy, and representation (Shaffer and Stein 2000, pp. 306–310). Briefly, resiliency supports the ability of the species to withstand environmental and demographic stochasticity (for example, wet or dry, warm or cold years, variation in demographic rates), redundancy supports the ability of the species to withstand catastrophic events (for example, droughts, large pollution events), and representation supports the ability of the species to adapt to both near-term and long-term changes in its physical and biological environment (for example, climate change, disease). A species with a high degree of resiliency, representation, and redundancy is better able to adapt to novel changes and to tolerate environmental stochasticity and catastrophes. In general, species viability will increase with increases in resiliency, redundancy, and representation (Smith et al. 2018, p. 306). Using these principles, we identified the species’ ecological requirements for survival and reproduction at the individual, population, and species levels, and described the beneficial and risk factors influencing the species’ viability.

The SSA process can be categorized into three sequential stages. During the first stage, we evaluated the species’ needs. The next stage involved an assessment of the historical and current condition of the species’ demographics and habitat characteristics, including an explanation of how the species arrived at its current condition (i.e., how threats and conservation actions have influenced the species). The final stage of the SSA involved assessing the species’ plausible range of future responses to positive and negative environmental and anthropogenic influences. This process used the best available information to characterize viability as the ability of a species to sustain populations in the wild over time. We use this information to inform our regulatory decision.

Species Description

The Brasília tapaculo is a gray, ground-dwelling bird about 12 centimeters (cm; 4.7 inches (in)) tall (BLI 2016, p. 1). It has a dark head and top plumage, paler under plumage, and dusky tail with some brownish feathers, and a dusky bill (BLI 2016, p. 1). The Brasília tapaculo is morphologically similar to two species that share its range—the mouse-colored tapaculo (*Scytalopus speluncae*) and the Planalto tapaculo (*S. pachecoi*) (Raposo *et al.* 2006, p. 51). The three species have black feathers in flanks, thighs, vent and upper tail coverts, but the Brasília tapaculo has more white on the abdomen (Raposo *et al.* 2006, p. 50). Additionally, the song of the Brasília tapaculo is distinctive, consisting of a series of slightly rising mechanic “shet” notes, repeated for as long as two minutes (BLI 2016, p. 1). On average, the song has 1.1 notes per second, which is considerably fewer than the mouse-colored tapaculo and the Planalto tapaculo (Raposo *et al.* 2006, p. 52).



Figure 1: Image of Brasília tapaculo (Macaulay Library 2021, unpaginated. Photo Credit, Daniel Branch)

Taxonomy

The Brasília tapaculo (*Scytalopus novacapitalis*) is a bird in the family Rhinocryptidae (tapaculos; Mauricio *et al.* 2012, p. 377). It was first described as a race of the white-breasted tapaculo (*Scytalopus indigoticus*) but was later recognized as a distinct species (Sick 1960, Meyer de Schauensee 1966 and King 1978–1979 as cited in Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 707). Several species in the *Scytalopus* genus exist from this same geographic area, and are not easily distinguished from each other (Raposo and Kirwan 2008, p. 80). The taxonomic standing of the Brasília tapaculo as a full species is well established (ITIS 2017, unpaginated, BLI 2016, p.1), and we consider it a valid taxon. In Brazil, this species is called tapaculo de Brasília or macuquinho de Brasília (Alves 2011, unpaginated; Biodiversitas 2016, p. 7; Bornschein *et al.* 2014, unpaginated; CONAMA 1986, unpaginated; COPAM 2010, p. 6; RECOR 2016, unpaginated).

Habitat/Life History

The Brasília tapaculo is endemic to the Cerrado (Cardoso Da Silva 1997, p. 440), the largest tropical savanna in the world with a mosaic of habitats composed mostly of savannas with patches of dry forests, ranging from a completely closed canopy through woodlands and open scrubland to grassland (Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, pp. 225–227). Within the Cerrado, the Brasília tapaculo is resident in its core habitat of dense, swampy gallery forests that occur on the edges of rivers and streams in narrow fringes; usually no wider than 200 meters (m; 656 feet (ft); Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, pp. 225–227). These narrow strips of gallery forest have thick streamside vegetation and occur at elevations of approximately 800–1,000 m (2,625–3,281 ft; BLI 2016, p. 2; de Faria 2008, p. 42; Cardoso Da Silva 1997, p. 443). The species is strongly

associated with permanently flooded areas dominated by *Blechnum* ferns and *Euterpe* palms, and a dense understory (Antas *in litt.* 2007; Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706).

Life history information for the Brasília tapaculo is limited. Tapaculos are ground-dwelling birds with limited flight ability (Mauricio *et al.* 2012, p. 377). Stomach contents of one Brasília tapaculo specimen included a small centipede, small spiders, termites, beetles, beetle larvae, fly larvae, and a small gastropod (Schubart *et al.* 1965, as cited in Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706). Its breeding season coincides with the rainy seasons which is from October to March (Cunha *et al.* 2021, p. 282).

Historical and Current Range/Distribution

There is very little data on historical range, as well as the historical extent of gallery forests in the Cerrado. Figure 2 represents the area of the Cerrado in green (approximately 1.86 million km²; Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, p. 225), the Amazon rainforest (blue), and Atlantic forest (orange). We could not find a map of gallery forests within the Cerrado.

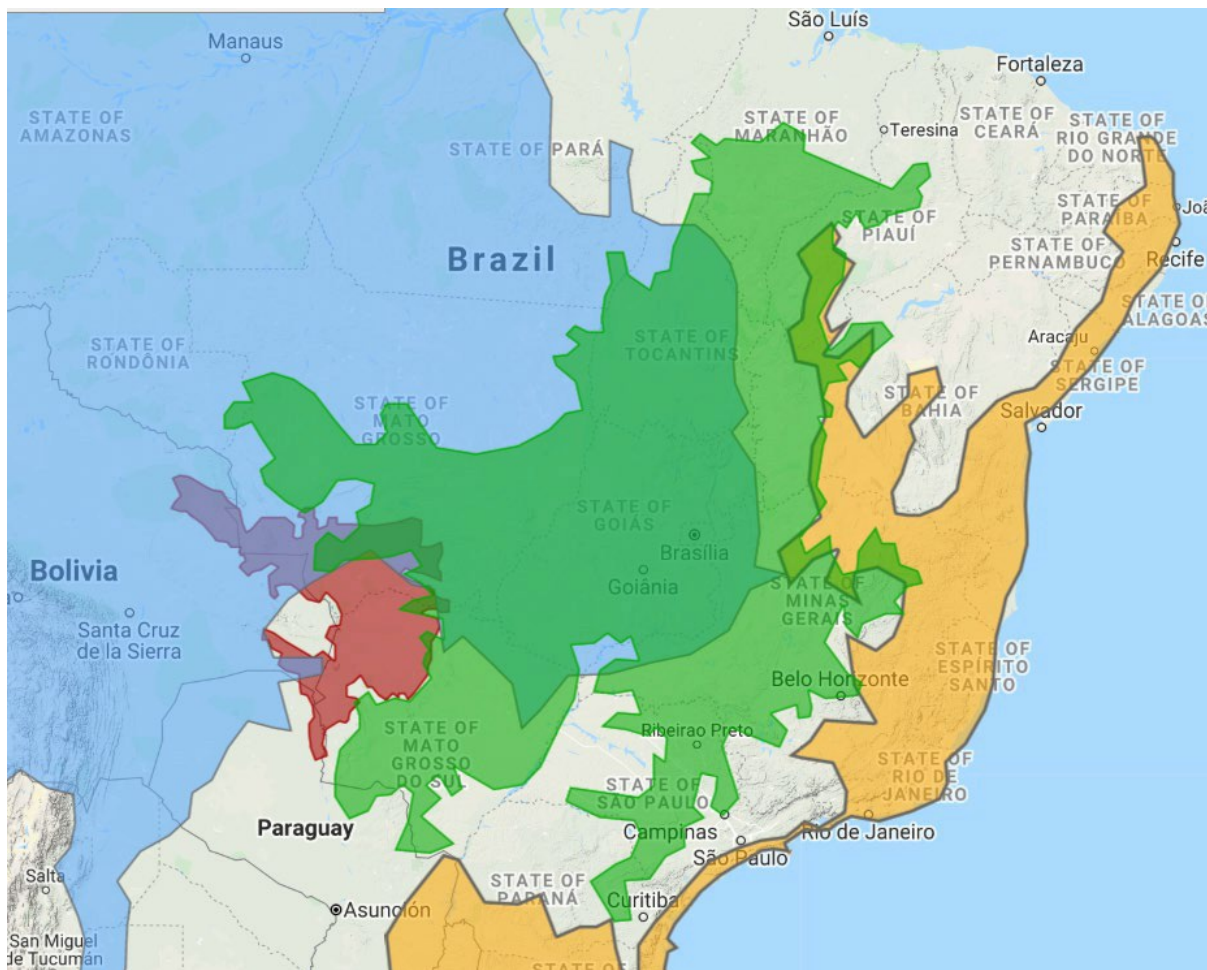


Figure 2: Area of the Cerrado in green. Reproduced from World Wildlife Fund (2020).

The current range of the Brasília tapaculo includes Brazil's Federal District and portions of the States of Goiás, São Paulo, and Minas Gerais (BLI 2016, p. 2; Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706; Figure 2). The International Union for Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List notes the extent of occurrence as 119,000 square kilometers (km²; 45,946 square miles (mi²); BLI 2018, unpaginated). The Brazilian Red List estimates the species' area of occupancy to be 72 km² (28 mi²; BLI 2018, unpaginated). Small portions of the species' range occur in six protected areas, but these areas are limited in extent and size (Wege and Long 1995, Machado *et al.* 1998 as cited by BLI 2018, unpaginated; Mittermeier *et al.* 2000 as cited in Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, p. 225). Research found that it was absent from unprotected areas (Alves 2011, unpaginated).

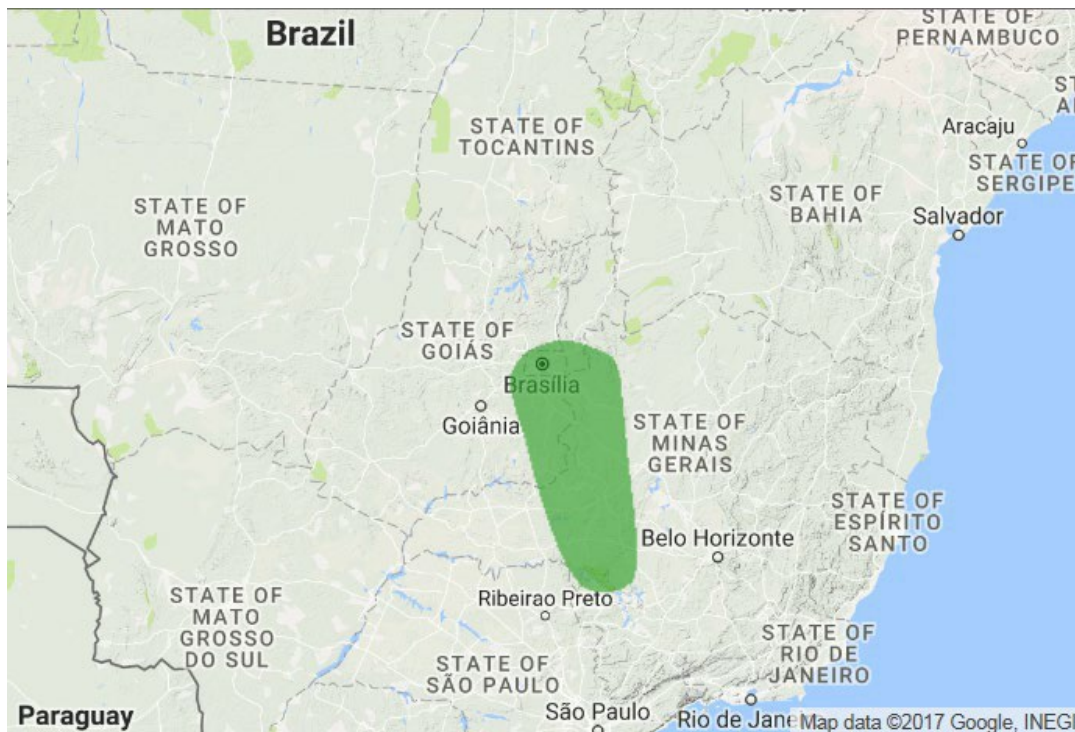


Figure 3. Current range of the Brasília tapaculo (native, resident) represented by the green polygon (BLI 2017a, unpaginated).

Population and Species Needs

The Brasília tapaculo depends on dense, swampy gallery forests dominated by *Blechnum* ferns and *Euterpe* palms. The gallery forests are usually no wider than 200 meters (m; 656 feet (ft)), at elevations of approximately 800–1,000 m (2,625–3,281 ft; BLI 2016, p. 2; de Faria 2008, p. 42; Cardoso Da Silva 1997, p. 443; Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, pp. 225–227). Brasília tapaculo feeds on small insects and spiders (Schubart *et al.* 1965, as cited in Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706). The population needs fairly wide gallery forests at specific elevation in the Cerrado. Within suitable habitat, the species needs the forest structure for breeding and feeding resources. To increase redundancy and representation, this species would benefit from increased gallery forests that are protected.

SUMMARY OF BIOLOGICAL INFORMATION

The Brasília tapaculo is a small, gray, ground-dwelling bird with limited flight ability. It is endemic to the Cerrado, the largest tropical savanna in the world with a mosaic of habitats composed mostly of savannas and patches of dry forests. Within the Cerrado, the Brasília tapaculo is resident in its core habitat of dense, narrow strips of swampy gallery forests that occur on the edges of rivers and streams in narrow fringes; usually no wider than 200 meters (656 feet) and occur at elevations of approximately 800–1,000 m (2,625–3,281 ft). The range of the Brasília tapaculo is located within six protected areas within the Cerrado. In the early 2000s, only 1.2 percent of the Cerrado was in protected areas; however, recent estimates are 6.5 percent. The Brasília tapaculo is described as rare, and the population size is unknown. However, the population is assumed to be declining because of the continued decline of the gallery-forest habitat.

FACTORS INFLUENCING THE STATUS

The Act directs us to determine whether any species is an endangered species or a threatened species because of any factors (or threats) affecting its continued existence (i.e., whether it meets the definition of a threatened species or an endangered species). We use the term “threat” to refer in general to actions or conditions that are known to or are reasonably likely to negatively affect individuals of a species. The term “threat” includes actions or conditions that have a direct impact on individuals, as well as those that affect individuals through alteration of their habitat or required resources. The term “threat” may encompass—either together or separately—the source of the action or condition or the action or condition itself.

However, the mere identification of any threat(s) does not necessarily mean that the species meets the statutory definition of an “endangered species” or a “threatened species.” In determining whether a species meets either definition, we must evaluate all identified threats by considering the expected response by the species, and the effects of the threats—in light of those actions and conditions that will ameliorate the threats—on an individual, population, and species level. We evaluate each threat and its expected effects on the species, then analyze the cumulative effect of all of the threats on the species as a whole. We also consider the cumulative effect of the threats in light of those actions and conditions that will have positive effects on the species—such as any existing regulatory mechanisms or conservation efforts. The Secretary determines whether the species meets the definition of an “endangered species” or a “threatened species” only after conducting this cumulative analysis and describing the expected effect on the species now and in the foreseeable future.

The Act does not define the term “foreseeable future,” which appears in the statutory definition of “threatened species.” Our implementing regulations at 50 CFR 424.11(d) set forth a framework for evaluating the foreseeable future on a case-by-case basis. The term foreseeable future extends only so far into the future as the Services can reasonably determine that both the future threats and the species’ responses to those threats are likely. In other words, the

foreseeable future is the period of time in which we can make reliable predictions. “Reliable” does not mean “certain”; it means sufficient to provide a reasonable degree of confidence in the prediction. Thus, a prediction is reliable if it is reasonable to depend on it when making decisions.

It is not always possible or necessary to define foreseeable future as a particular number of years. Analysis of the foreseeable future uses the best scientific and commercial data available and should consider the timeframes applicable to the relevant threats and to the species’ likely responses to those threats in view of its life-history characteristics. Data that are typically relevant to assessing the species’ biological response include species-specific factors such as lifespan, reproductive rates or productivity, certain behaviors, and other demographic factors.

Threats

The primary threat to Brasília tapaculo is ongoing habitat loss and fragmentation. The Cerrado is the largest, most diverse, and possibly most-threatened tropical savanna in the world (Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, p. 225). By 2000, only 20% of the Cerrado remained undisturbed (Beuchle *et al.* 2015, p. 121; Grecchi *et al.* 2015, p. 2865; Soares-Filho *et al.* 2014, p. 364; Pearce 2011, unpaginated; WWF–UK 2011, p. 2; Carvalho *et al.* 2009, p. 1393; Klink and Machado 2005, p. 708; Marini and Garcia 2005, p. 667; Myers *et al.* 2000, p. 854). The Cerrado is being converted mostly for soybean production; agriculture currently occupies 22 million hectares (ha) in the Cerrado, with 18 million ha dedicated to soy (WWF 2019, unpaginated). Agriculture causes direct effects to gallery forests from wetland drainage and the diversion of water for agricultural irrigation, as well as clearing and burning for agricultural space (Machado *et al.* 1998, as cited in BLI 2016, p. 2). From 2002 to 2008, the demand for land conversion in the Cerrado resulted in an annual deforestation rate of more than 14,200 km² (5,500 mi²; Beuchle *et al.* 2015, p. 117; MMA 2015, p. 9; WWF–UK 2011, p. 2). Between August 2017 and July 2018, 6,657 km² (2,570 mi²; 665,700 ha) of Cerrado forest was destroyed (INPE Projecto PRODES 2018, unpaginated). Between August 2018 and July 2019, 6,484 km² (2,504 mi²; 648,400 ha) was destroyed (WWF 2019, unpaginated). While these rates of conversion continue, it is unclear how much core gallery forest has been destroyed, Brasília tapaculo appears to be sensitive to disturbances adjacent to its core habitat because the species was seen only in wet and dense gallery forests embedded in well-preserved savanna (Alves 2011, unpaginated).

In the early 2000s, only 1.2% of the Cerrado was in protected areas (Mittermeier *et al.* 2000 as cited in Cardoso Da Silva and Bates 2002, p. 225). Recent estimates put the percentage of the Cerrado within protected areas at 6.5% (Françoso *et al.* 2015, p. 36). Just a small portion of the Brasília tapaculo’s range is within protected areas, such as Serra da Canastra National Park (Wege and Long 1995, Machado *et al.* 1998 as cited by BLI 2018, unpaginated). We are not aware of a management plan that clearly addresses conservation of the Brasília tapaculo or its core gallery forest habitat. Most of the Cerrado is privately owned and Brazil’s 2012 Forest Code – rules that limit private landowners’ ability to convert or develop their natural land – requires just 20-35% of Cerrado land to be protected (depending on exact location; Soterroni *et al.* 2019, unpaginated). Overall, the Forest Code is poorly enforced (WWF 2019, unpaginated).

Nonnative species such as feral pigs, *Sus scrofa*, have become an issue in Serra da Canastra National Park, where they can severely alter forest soil and understory vegetation (Cunha *et al.* 2020, unpaginated). One recent study found that Brasília tapaculo occupancy decreased in areas of the park where feral pigs had occupied (Cunha *et al.* 2020, unpaginated). However, it is unclear how much gallery forest feral pigs have altered, the rangewide effect on Brasília tapaculo, and whether or not the Brazilian government is in control of the feral pig population in the area.

With the Brasília tapaculo's gallery forest habitat becoming more fragmented and continuing to decline in area and quality, the species' small and increasingly isolated population is likely subject to both demographic and unpredictable environmental events that can lead to extirpations (Davies *et al.* 2004, pp 265-271). Small populations are generally at greater risk of extinction from habitat loss, predation, disease, loss of genetic diversity, and stochastic (random) environmental events such as storms (Davies *et al.* 2004, pp 265-271). Although we have little information on population sizes, the bird is described as rare and its numbers are believed to be declining (BLI 2017a, unpaginated; Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706). We considered specific stressors that may affect the small population size for the Brasília tapaculo and conclude that effects from habitat loss and destruction will exacerbate risks to the Brasília tapaculo.

International trade is not a significant threat to the species, and the species is not included in the Appendices to CITES.

Conservation Measures and Existing Regulatory Mechanisms

Conservation for the Brasília tapaculo are limited. The range of the Brasília tapaculo is located within six protected areas within the Cerrado. Most of the Cerrado is privately owned and the Forest Code only requires a small percentage of the forest to be protected and is poorly enforced. There are currently no known management plans that clearly address conservation of the Brasília tapaculo or the core gallery forest habitat within its range.

Cumulative Effects

Continued habitat loss and degradation due to expanding agricultural activities as well as alteration of forest soil and understory vegetation caused by nonnative species (feral pigs) affects the population of Brasília tapaculo. Conservation of the species is limited. The range of the Brasília tapaculo is located within six protected areas in the Cerrado; however, there are currently no known management plans that clearly address conservation of the Brasília tapaculo or the core gallery forest habitat within its range. Additionally, existing regulations of the Forest Code are poorly enforced. Therefore, after analyzing the factors that affect the species, and the small population size and limited geographic range of the species, we have determined that the interactions and combinations of factors decrease the viability of this species and further warrant listing.

CURRENT CONDITION

Resiliency: The species' resiliency to withstand stochastic events is likely low because it depends on specialized suitable habitat. Population size of the Brasília tapaculo is unknown, although based on the best available information, the population is small and decreasing. The species occupies dense gallery forests that are fragmented and continue to decline in area and quality. The species relies on gallery forests for breeding and feeding. Thus, despite a lack of reliable data on historical population trends, a decline of the species' population is suspected because of the substantial habitat loss and degradation in the Cerrado (BLI 2017a, unpaginated; Collar *et al.* 1992, p. 706).

Redundancy: We do not have information on the number of extant populations across the species range, and there is no information that suggest multiple self-sustaining populations exist. The species is known to occur in six protected areas within areas that are very limited in size. However, due to this species' localized range, limited habitat area, and continuing habitat loss, we assume that the species likely has low redundancy.

Representation: The species is restricted to a small range and uses limited and restricted habitat in gallery forests. Thus, representation is likely low. Additionally, no information on genetic or ecological diversity of the species/population exists, but diversity in the population and within the small range of the species is expected to be low.

FUTURE CONDITION

Condition of the Brasília tapaculo is expected to decline in the future as habitat loss and degradation due to ongoing agricultural activities as well as alteration of forest soil and understory vegetation caused by nonnative invasive species. The cumulative effect of the stressors to the species will continue to reduce the size of the population. We could not find a management plan that clearly addresses conservation of the Brasília tapaculo or its core gallery forest habitat, which is mostly on private land. The existing regulations (Forest Code) only requires a small subset of forest to be set aside for conservation and the code is poorly enforced. Therefore, it is very likely that the species future population size and habitat availability/quality will be less than current conditions.

FINDING

Regulatory Framework

Section 4 of the Act (16 U.S.C. 1533) and its implementing regulations (50 CFR part 424) set forth the procedures for determining whether a species is an "endangered species" or a "threatened species." The Act defines an endangered species as a species that is "in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range," and a threatened species as a species that is "likely to become an endangered species within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range." The Act requires that we determine whether any species is an "endangered species" or a "threatened species" because of any one or a combination of the following factors:

- (A) The present or threatened destruction, modification, or curtailment of its habitat or

range;

(B) Overutilization for commercial, recreational, scientific, or educational purposes;

(C) Disease or predation;

(D) The inadequacy of existing regulatory mechanisms; or

(E) Other natural or manmade factors affecting its continued existence.

These factors represent broad categories of natural or human-caused actions or conditions that could have an effect on a species' continued existence. In evaluating these actions and conditions, we look for those that may have a negative effect on individuals of the species, as well as other actions or conditions that may ameliorate any negative effects or may have positive effects.

Status Assessment

After evaluating threats to the species and assessing the cumulative effect of the threats under the section 4(a)(1) factors, we determined that the Brasília tapaculo experiences habitat loss and degradation (due to agricultural clearing and burning and feral pigs). Conservation plans for the Brasília tapaculo are limited. The range of the Brasília tapaculo is located within six protected areas within the Cerrado. However, there are currently no known management plans that clearly address conservation of the Brasília tapaculo or the core gallery forest habitat within its range. Thus, after assessing the best available information, we conclude that Brasília tapaculo is warranted for listing, but precluded by other higher priority actions.

RECOMMENDED CONSERVATION MEASURES

- Create new/enhance existing habitat management plans in protected areas.
- Extend protected areas and increase on the ground protection from anthropogenic land conversion.
- Create new Forest Code with stricter rules for land conversion.
- Practice consistent on the ground enforcement of Forest Code.
- Increase public accessibility of information about the importance of conserving the Cerrado.
- Encourage and fund further research to estimate Brasília tapaculo's current population and identify inhabited forest patches.
- Closely monitor the population and all gallery forest areas.
- Eradicate feral pigs in and around Brasília tapaculo's range.

LISTING PRIORITY

THREAT			
Magnitude	Immediacy	Taxonomy	Priority
High	Imminent	Monotypic genus	1

	Non-imminent	Species Subspecies/population Monotypic genus Species Subspecies/population	2* 3 4 5 6
Moderate to Low	Imminent	Monotypic genus Species Subspecies/population	7 8 9
	Non-imminent	Monotypic genus Species Subspecies/population	10 11 12

Rationale for listing priority number:

In the previous Assessment (81 FR 71457), the Brasília tapaculo was assigned an LPN of 2. After reevaluating the available information, we have determined that no change to the LPN is warranted for this species at this time. The population size of Brasília tapaculo is unknown, but appears to be very small and found only in or next to a handful of protected areas. The species is reported as “rare”, even in protected areas such as Serra da Canastra National Park where the population is believed to be below 100 mature individuals. Threats to the species – mainly the ongoing destruction and severe fragmentation of its habitat for agriculture and livestock – are high in magnitude and are imminent.

Magnitude: The species is endemic to the Cerrado, has a relatively small geographic range, and its core habitat of narrow gallery forests is a very small component of the Cerrado. The widescale conversion of the Cerrado for agriculture and grazing is ongoing, putting more and more pressure on gallery forests. Feral pigs have also become a threat to gallery forest habitat because they alter forest soil and consume understory vegetation.

Imminence: Threats associated with the drastic conversion of the Cerrado for agriculture and grazing is currently affecting the species and are expected to continue in the future. Brazil’s 2012 Forest Code allows conversion for agriculture on 65–80% of the Cerrado; and there is belief that the Forest Code is not being enforced. Therefore, threats to Brasília tapaculo are considered imminent.

Rationale for Change in Listing Priority Number

N/A

Is **Emergency Listing** Warranted?

No; There is currently no emergency posing a significant risk to the conservation of the Brasília tapaculo.

DESCRIPTION OF MONITORING

The candidate notice of review (CNOR) and accompanying species assessment forms constitute the Service's system for monitoring and making annual findings on the status of petitioned species under sections 4(b)(3)(c)(i) and 4(b)(3)(c)(ii) of the Act. We review all new information on candidate species as it becomes available, prepare annual species assessments that reflect monitoring and research results and any other new information.

We are not aware of ongoing monitoring for the Brasília tapaculo.

COORDINATION WITH STATES

No countries provided information or comments on the species or latest assessment.

The range country, **Brazil**, did not provide information or comments.

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All SAFs supporting 12-month findings or candidate notices of review will be signed by the Director. SAFs should continue to be surnamed by Regional and Headquarters staff and leadership.



Martha Williams, Director
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

June 20, 2023
Date