

Caracal

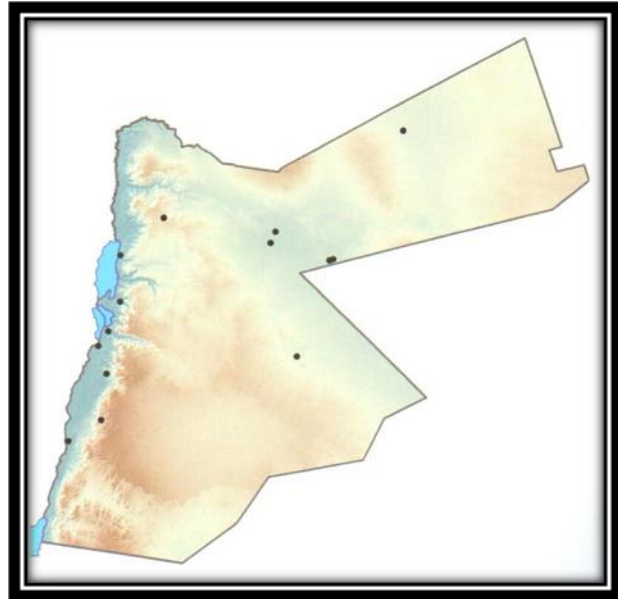
- **Common name:** *Caracal*
- **Scientific name:** *Caracal caracal*
- **Scientific classification**
 - *Kingdom: Animalia*
 - *Phylum: Chordata*
 - *Class: Mammalia*
 - *Order: Carnivora*
 - *Family: Felidae*
 - *Genus: Caracal*
 - *Species: Caracal*

- **Distribution:**

Aden, Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Arabia, Botswana, Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, India, Iran, Iraq, Palestine, Kenya, Kuwait, Libya, Malawi, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Pakistan, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, Sudan, Syria, Tanzania, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Zaire, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

- **Localities:**

Amman, Al Hazim, Ashawmari Wildlife Reserve, Al Dahik , Hasida, Dana Wildlife Reserve, New records .Qaser Burqu .



- **Diagnosis:**

Medium sized cat. Ear back is black; ears with long black tufts. Pupil of the eye is rounded. Body colouration is reddish brown and sometimes creamy



yellow, ventral side lighter. Face with black markings. Except for a few spots on the chest and inner side of front legs there are no patterns on the body. Limbs are long and slender. Soles of feet hairy.

- **Feeding habits:**

The main food items are gazelles, hares, rodents, rock hyraxes, birds and reptiles. The availability of large prey species and water effect its distribution. They were also reported to feed on carcasses.



- **Human interaction:**

It seems that population of this species are declining with very few observations in the past few years..

- **Status:**

(Least Concern) that depends on the IUCN Red List.